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Vaisakha 7, 1937 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Fourth Session

(Sixteenth Lok Sabha)

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LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

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CONTENTS

Sixteenth Series, Vol. IX, Fourth Session, 2015/1937 (Saka)

No.25, Monday, April 27, 2015/Vaisakha 7, 1937 (Saka)

SUBJECT	PAGES
OBITUARY REFERENCE	22-25
ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	
*Starred Question Nos.461 to 464	26-65
WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	66
Starred Question Nos.465 to 480	
Unstarred Question Nos.5291 to 5520	

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

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE 67-81

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

14th to 16th Reports 82

STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

10th and 11th Reports 83

STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE

6th to 9th Reports 84-86

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

5th and 6th Reports 87

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOOD, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

3rd and 4th Reports 88

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

3rd and 4th Reports 89

STANDING COMMITTEE ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT

4th to 6th Reports 90

STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES

(i) 3rd Report 91

(ii)Statement 92

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY

264th to 266th Reports 92

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

254th Report 93

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 97th, 159th and 212th Reports of the Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture

Dr. Mahesh Sharma 94-96

SUBMISSION BY MEMBERS

Re: Loss of lives due to earthquake in Nepal, some parts of India and steps taken to prevent damages caused by earthquakes 96-138

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377 139-159

(i) Need to undertake development of Jasidih railway station, Jharkhand

Shri Nishikant Dubey 140-142

(ii) Need to augment railway services providing better railway connectivity to Mandsaur Parliamentary Constituency, Madhya Pradesh

Shri Sudheer Gupta 143-144

(iii) Need to enact a law ensuring adequate medical facilities and efficient medical staff in Ambulances

Shri Rajendra Agrawal 145

(iv) Need to build a memorial of Swami Dayanand Saraswati at Bhinoy Kothi, Ajmer, Rajasthan

Shri C. R. Choudhary 146-147

(v) Need to exempt Gujarat Safai Karamchari Vikas Nigam from Income Tax Act, 1961

Dr. Kirit P. Solanki 148-149

(vi) Need to provide compensation to farmers whose crops have been damaged due to excessive rains, hailstorms and pest attacks

Shri Bodh Singh Bhagat 150-151

(vii) Need to take necessary steps for creation of employment opportunities in various sectors of economy for unemployed youth belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

Dr. Virendra Kumar 152

(viii) Need to accord approval of Cauvery, Vaigai and Gundar rivers interlinking project and canal modernization projects in Tamil Nadu

Shri P. R. Senthilnathan 153-154

(ix) Need to provide compensation and announce loan waiver scheme for farmers whose crops have been damaged by unseasonal rains and hailstorms in the country

Prof. Saugata Roy 155-156

(x) Need to allocate funds from the Central Road Fund to construct roads linking Dhenkanal to Joda in Odisha

Shrimati Sakuntala Laguri 157

(xi) Need to provide a comprehensive policy framework for investment and sustainable economic growth of Andhra Pradesh

Shri Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu 158

(xii) Need to introduce an additional train from Vishakhapatnam to Araku in Andhra Pradesh

Shrimati Kothapali Geetha 159-160

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL), 2015-16 (Ministry of Human Resource Development) 161

Shri Laxmi Narayan Yadav 161-167

Shri Mullapally Ramachandran 168-173

Shri Rattan Lal Kataria 174-178

Shri S. R. Vijaya Kumar 179-182

Shri Shrirang Appa Barne 183-186

Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab 187-192

Kumari Shobha Karandlaje 193-198

Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat 199-204

Shrimati Santosh Ahlawat 205

Shri C. R. Choudhary 206-210

Shri Gourav Gogoi 211-212

Shri Jai Prakash Narayan Yadav 213-217

Shri Virender Kashyap 218-223

Shrimati Jayshreeben Patel 224-228

Shrimati Anju Bala 229-238

Shrimati Rekha Verma 233

Shri Adhalrao Patil Shivajirao 234-235

Shri Asaduddin Owaisi 236-240

Shri Tej Pratap Singh Yadav 241-245

Dr. Virendra Kumar 246-252

Shri Prem Singh Chandumajra 253-258

Shrimati Darshana Vikram Jardosh 259-260

Adv. Joice George 261-263

Shri D. K. Suresh 264-269

Dr. Ratna De (Nag) 270-275

Dr. Arun Kumar 276-278

Shri Shivkumar Udasi 279-283

Shri N. K. Premachandran 284-288

Shri Md. Badaruddoza Khan 289

Dr. Prasanna Kumar Patasani 290-296

Shri Kaushalendra Kumar 297-299

Shri P. Karunakaran 300-303

Shri Jose K. Mani 304-306

Sadhvi Savitri Bai Phule 307-315

Shri E. T. Mohammad Basheer 309-311

Dr. Udit Raj 312-313

Dr. Shashi Tharoor 314-320

Shri Pralhad Joshi 321-330

Prof. Chintamani Malviya 331-334

Shri S. P. Muddahanume Gowda 335-336

Shri Sunil Kumar Singh 337-354

Shrimati Rama Devi 354-357

Shri Sharad Tripathi 358-371

Shri Daddan Mishra 363-369

Shri Ashwani Kumar Choubey 370

Shrimati Smriti Zubin Irani 371-405

Cut Motions – Negatived 405-406

Demands-Voted 407

(ii) Ministry of Home Affairs 408-415

Shri Mallikarjun Kharge 409-427

Cut Motions 428

Shri Hukum Singh 429-438

Shri Nishikant Dubey 439-455

Shri Rattan Lal Kataria 456-451

Dr. Kirit P. Solanki 452-453

Shri Shrirang Appa Barne 454-457

Shri Rabindra Kumar Jena 458-468

Shri Prasanna Kumar Patasani 469-474

Shrimati Supriya Sule 475-482

Dr. J. Jayavardhan 483-504

Shri Ajay Misra Teni 495-496

Shri Tathagata Satpathy 497-512

Shrimati Santosh Ahlawat 503-504

Prof. Saugata Roy 505-513

Shri Baijayant Jay Panda 514-522

Shri Jugal Kishore 523-524

Kumari Shobha Karandlaje 525-531

Shrimati Jayshreeben Patel 532-538

Shri Vinayak Bhaurao Raut 539-541

Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra 542-545

Shri Ganesh Singh 546-549

Shri T. G. Venkatesh Babu 550-563

Shrimati Riti Pathak 564-565

Shri Thota Narasimham 566-569

Shri P. R. Sundaram 570-572

Shrimati Ranjanben Bhatt 573-574

Shrimati Pratyusha Rajeshwari Singh 575-576

Shri Ram Prasad Sarmah 577

Shri Mohammad Salim 578-584

Shri P. P. Chaudhary 585-594

Dr. Kulamani Samal 595-599

Shri K. Parasuraman 600-602

Shri Sharad Tripathi 603

Shri Y. S. Avinash Reddy 604

Shri P. Karunakaran 609-612

Shri Shailesh Kumar 613-616

Shri Badruddin Ajmal 617-621

Shri Naranbhai Kachhadia 622-623

Shri Jai Prakash Narayan Yadav 624-625

Shri Prem Singh Chandumajra 626-629

Shri R. K. Singh 630-643

Shri D. K. Suresh 644-647

Shri M. I. Shanavas 648-651

Shri Kaushalendra Kumar 652-654

Shri R. Radhakrishnan 655-657

Shri E. Ahamed 658-664

Shri Ninong Ering 665

Shri Asaduddin Owaisi 666-669

Adv. Joice George 670-671

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank 672-679

Shri Satyapal Singh 680-685

Shri Md. Badaruddoza Khan 686

Mohammed Faizal 687-690

Shri Bishnu Pada Ray 691-693

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, April 27, 2015/Vaisakha 7, 1937 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven O'Clock

[HON. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members as you are aware on 25 April, 2015 in one of the worst ever natural disasters in recent times, a powerful earthquake measuring 7.9 on Ritcher scale rocked Nepal sending strong tremors in India, Bangladesh, Tibet and Myanmar. The earthquake having epicenter 77 kms. northwest of Kathmandu, ripped through the upper part of South Asian peninsula that shook even the Mount Everest setting of avalanches on Everest peak. A major earthquake struck again on 26 April and several aftershocks are still being felt in the region.

This catastrophic Himalayan tragedy resulted in over 3,200 deaths in Nepal flattering houses, destroying Dharahara Tower, most of the ancient temples in Durbar Square and other centuries old structures, causing widespread destruction across the nation. The resultant avalanches triggered by the earthquake also caused death of more than 25 deaths at the Everest base camp.

Earthquakes in their wake have also caused devastation in India causing deaths of over 67 people, with highest causalities of around 50 in Bihar, followed by UP, large parts of North India from

Himachal Pradesh to Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and having impact in Delhi too.

The House expresses its solidarity and full support with the Government and the people of Nepal and all the affected people in various parts in our own country and our neighbouring countries in this hour of grief. The House also expresses its profound sorrow over the huge loss of lives which is feared to run into several thousands, widespread destruction and conveys heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and wish speedy recovery of the injured.

This House will now remain silent for a while in honour of the departed souls.

11.04 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for short while.

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Madam, can we also speak for five minutes each?

HON. SPEAKER: Yes, I will allow you.

I have received notice of Adjournment Motion from Prof. Saugata Roy. [Translation] Your name is there to speak on this topic even during zero hour. The objective of Shri Jai Prakash Narayan Yadav and Shri P. Venugopal ji are different, but I want to say that we have just paid tribute. At 12 o'clock I will give time to all of you to express your condolences on the natural calamity that has occurred. If the Government also wants to say something, I will give you all a chance for that too. Therefore, without taking an adjournment motion now, we will express our sentiments on this issue at 12 o'clock. I will give a chance to all of you. This is my request.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV: Hon. Madam Speaker, there can be no greater tragedy than the condition created by the earthquake. Therefore, I propose to stop all work and discuss the biggest crisis the country is facing today, the deaths that have taken place, and the state that has shaken the country.

HON. SPEAKER: Jai Prakash ji, please understand my point. Please sit down.

. . . (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: This topic is such that right now perhaps earthquake tremors are coming, there is still something happening. I think that the complete assessment of the situation may not have reached the Government yet, I don't know, if it has, then we will tell you. The complete assessment is also going on, whether it is in Bihar, or anywhere else in the country. Not only is this but there still one atmosphere of panic somewhere. Yesterday there were tremors three to four times during the day, which were felt in Delhi as well. In a way this is still going on yet our sympathies and if we want to give one suggestion to the Government, At 12 AM I will allow all of you to speak. Till then the Government should also gather more information.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): Madam, this is not a matter of dispute. We will discuss comfortably in such a peaceful atmosphere.

11.07 hrs

*ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Now, we will take up Question Hour, Shrimati R. Vanaroja.

(Q.461)

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: Madam, this question is relating to the Ministry of Petroleum. Why is the Minister of Power replying?

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: I have their request, I have their letter, and no such permission has been given.

. . . *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: He has given notice that he is not in town because there was some very important official work which is why we have sought the Hon. Speaker's permission.

HON. SPEAKER: Yes.

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

[Translation]

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: Madam, this should not happen. I fail to understand what role the Petroleum Minister has in the context of an earthquake, as it is far more important to focus on remaining at home and ensuring personal and public safety. ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: I am surprised that a senior Member is talking like this.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: You should receive an answer, and I am aware of that as well. Permission has already been granted from my side, so such remarks are unnecessary. I urge Members to have trust in me. I have also been observing the proceedings of this House for the past 25 years.

[English]

SHRIMATI R. VANAROJA: Respected Madam Speaker, while replying to my Question, the Hon. Minister has agreed that oil marketing companies have received complaints pertaining to the retail

outlet allotment selection but he has not mentioned what action has been taken by the Government with regard to the said complaints.

Therefore, I would like to make a request to the Hon. Minister to inform about the action taken by the Government in this regard.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Madam Speaker, the Hon. Member has raised a very important issue regarding irregularities. These are all Maharatna Companies which run independently. The Government does not directly deal with the complaints or receive the complaints or act on the complaints. But to inform the Hon. Members, the Government has taken the information from all these three Companies. The information that we have shows that in the last three years, we have received complaints in IOCL, BPCL and HPCL regarding irregularities in allotments.

There are two types of actions that have been taken. In several cases the Merit Panel itself has been scrapped wherever it was found that the irregularity has some substance. In some cases, we had to terminate the dealership if the Merit Panel work had already progressed. I am happy to inform the Hon. Members that in the last one year, since the new Government came in, the number of complaints has drastically reduced. Against 220 complaints received in 2012-13 by IOCL, only three complaints were received in the last

one year. Similarly, against 29 complaints in BPCL, we received only one complaint in last year. In HPCL, in 2012-13, against 79 complaints, we received no complaints in the last one year. Even the four complaints that were received in the last one year, all four merit panels have been cancelled. In the erstwhile years several merit panels had been cancelled. In some cases there was no change and in some cases dealerships were terminated.

SHRIMATI R. VANAROJA: Madam, Speaker, what we have been seeing today is that there are many petrol pumps in a row in a location but in some places the people have to travel many kilometres for getting fuel. So, there should be a uniform policy on this. The representatives of the people should also be made a part of selection of oil retail outlets. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government is considering to introduce a uniform policy for the allotment of retail outlet with active participation of people's representatives.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: In the erstwhile days the selection was done through a very subjective process where there were selection guidelines for RO dealership and marks were given. There were certain parameters like capacity to provide land and infrastructure, capacity to provide finance, educational background, capacity to

generate business. All of these are subjective issues. A lot of irregularities were being observed because of the subjective nature. In such a subjective scheme possibly the Hon. Member's suggestion to involve people's representatives may have been a good idea. But I am happy to inform the Hon. Members and the House through you that in this year, 2014-15, we have done away with the system of selection through a subjective process and we now have a completely transparent system where there are certain criteria laid down. People are free to approach with applications for RO outlets and based on the criteria, objectively it is decided whether a person is eligible to be considered or not eligible. After that, for people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, it is by draw of lots and for all others in the A category cities it is by way of online process, by bidding and therefore there is no possibility of even a Member of Parliament influencing the process of selection and there is no role for an MP any more. It is a transparent and an honest process that we have run and the proof lies in the fact that the complaints have fallen so drastically.

[Translation]

SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIA: Hon. Madam Speaker, Be it Government or private, if crude oil, petrol or diesel is smuggled then

the responsibility of stopping it lies with the Petroleum Ministry of the Government of India. Pipavao Port and Pipao CPR, in my Parliamentary Constituency in Gujarat, last year 22-10-2014 A large quantity of diesel was stolen, which was imported and sold in the black market. Similarly, on 5-6-2014, an incident happened, under a police complaint was lodged against him, and a FIR was also lodged. I have written letters to the department twice regarding this, but till date I have not received any reply nor has any action been taken. Even today smuggling of diesel and crude oil is taking place in Pipavao Port and Pipao CPR. I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether any action will be taken to stop this or not?

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: I am happy to inform you that the Government has taken strict action against such activities and we have introduced several technological and regulatory measures to prevent such adulteration. The Government imposes very strict penalties in regulatory measures. Automation is being done at retail outlets. With this automation we can check what is the quality of petrol? According to the latest reports, kerosene adulteration has reduced significantly across the country. As of today, there are around 25927 retail outlets which dispense more than 100 kilolitres of petrol or diesel per month; out of these 14286 have been automated and Nano scheme has been

introduced in the remaining 11213, thereby almost controlling kerosene adulteration. Along with this, we have introduced things like tamper-proof locking systems, third party certification, retail outlets, GPS tracking system in trucks carrying petrol and diesel, so that it cannot be misused. I am confident that the company would be investigating the specific complaint of the Hon. Member. I will get the latest information about it from the concerned Hon. Minister and inform him.

[English]

SHRI GOURAV GOGOI: Madam Speaker, the Question relates to the irregularities in the allotment of petrol pumps. The Minister has given his reply but in today's environment, it is not only in the allotment of petrol pumps where we see irregularities but it is also there in the allotment of oil tankeRs. Specifically, when it comes to oil refineries such as the refineries in my State of Assam where there are many, specifically in my constituency of Kaliabor, we see oil tankers being allotted on a very arbitrary basis, on a very opaque basis. There are no clear set of guidelines on the basis of which oil tankers are being given to the public. So, will the Ministry look into the allotment of oil tankers as well?

Coming to the Numaligarh Refinery, last week, the Hon. Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas stated that he had visited the Numaligarh Refinery to look at many issues and projects. Numaligarh Refinery is situated in my constituency. While we appreciate the visit of the Minister, it was deeply unfortunate and regretful that I was not invited to the Refinery situated in my constituency when the Minister had visited along with two Members of Parliament from the ruling party from the neighbouring constituencies.

Therefore, it was highly unfortunate that I was not invited. I would have been able to raise many issues of oil, natural gas and other issues relating to Nomaligarh Refinery also but I failed to do so. The Minister visited my constituency with other MPs from neighbouring constituencies. I hope that this will not happen in future with other Ministries as well.

We hope that there are clear and transparent criteria for distribution of oil tankeRs.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: The Hon. Member has raised a very important point about the oil tankeRs. I would like to inform the Hon. Member through you Madam that no tanker can ever be given on an arbitrary fashion. There is a proper process for it; the process is followed. The process has certain criteria in terms of competitiveness

of the supplieRs. If there is any case of irregularity, I would urge the Hon. Member to please write to us so that the Government will take suitable, most appropriate and tough action on that.

As regards the visit of the Hon. Minister to Assam, the Hon. Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas whom I am representing here today has taken very serious interest to solve the problems of the entire State of Assam. He has spent more than two hours with the Hon. Chief Minister of Assam discussing various issues relating to Assam and various refineries including the Refinery situated in the constituency of the Hon. Member. … (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: It is not only your problem.

… (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: I would like to tell the Parliamentary Affairs Minister to take note of this and perhaps your senior also took note of this on that day. Not only this, many other people also raised this issue. Some of the shortcomings that have remained are that when a Minister goes to attend a programme in the constituency of the concerned Hon. Member, there is a lacuna in the information reaching the Hon. Member. That day the Hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister himself

had said that he would take reference of it, but today once again this issue has been raised so I would like that you just take note of it.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): Madam, you had said this in the meeting the other day and the Parliamentary Affairs Minister had discussed it that communication does not take place and at times, the importance that should be given to MPs is not being given. We have reiterated your request to the Government and we will coordinate it, but the answer given here is a different topic, which the Hon. Minister has just said ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: No, that's not the point.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: If there is no communication between the people at home ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Please listen to me for a minute, no matter which party the Member belongs to, I would like to say one thing that I reMember that on that day, while answering the question, the Hon. Minister had said that I am coming to your area. I reMember this, Gaurav ji, I myself also reMember a little and it was said that I am coming to your area. So much was discussed here, but perhaps

something remained to be informed later, I am only telling that to you. You note it down.

(Q.462)

SHRI KIRTI AZAD: Hon. Madam Speaker, in the current tragedy, ten districts were given to Nepal by the British in the Sugauli Pack in 1816 and one of them is Janakpur, where Ram, Janaki Ramayana Circuit is being built. In those ten places, there are many remains from the Treta Yuga period till today that have not been seen and which can be promoted from the tourism point of view. By the way, there is a lot of it in our region Darbhanga district too, which is called Ahalya Sthan, where Lord Rama had stepped on the stone and Ahalya had come back to life. There is Gautam Kund, the ashram of Maharishi Valmiki ji, where Luv and Kush grew up and received initiation. This is the place of Mandana Mishra ji, where Adi Shankaracharya had lost to him in a debate and accepted him as his Guru. Kokil is the place of poet Vidyapati. Saugata Roy and other Hon. Members are sitting here,

Maithili script is used all over Nepal, Bengal, Assam, even in Bangladesh, but we are deprived of it. There are many tourist places, dating back to the Ramayana period, which are being ignored by the state Government.

I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether you will take up these topics and include them in the Ramayana Circuit. Do you have any such arrangement that you will connect all these areas in the Ram Janaki Circuit that you are building and in Janakpur, where Lord Ram and Sita Maa were married?

DR. MAHESH SHARMA: Hon. Madam Speaker, there is no question mark on the spiritual and religious heritage of Bihar and it is a matter of pride for our country. The issue raised by the Hon. Member of Parliament has actually been a point of our National Pride and Spiritual Centre. Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, ever since the new Government has come, Swadesh Darshan Scheme has been announced through it and an amount of Rs. 600 crore has been announced in its first phase, this time five circuits have been declared in it, in which Buddhist Circuit, Krishna Circuit, Coastal Circuit, Himalayan Circuit and North-East Circuit have been declared. The next plan is the proposed Ramayana Circuit, in which Ramrekha Ghat, Sitakund, Sitamarhi, Ahilya Sthan, Valmiki Nagar, Pretshila Ghat are

being considered and a proposal has also been made by the State Government and Government of India with our Indian Finance Division for a Mega Circuit Nalanda, Tilera, Barbara at a cost of Rs. 37.56 crore, Ram, Janaki Magh Ramayana Circuit at the cost of Rs. 579.38 lakhs, Heritage Tourism Darbhanga, Rajnagar and Madhubani at the cost of Rs. 460.35 lakhs, Sufi Circuit Hasanpura, Siwan, Sati at the cost of Rs. 220.00 lakhs and Bekul Dham, Sukeshwar Sthan at the cost of Rs. 681.21 lakhs. I understand the concern of the Hon. Member of Parliament and if he has any other suggestions related to Ram, Janaki Kund or the dignity of Lord Ram, please bring them to our notice, the Ministry will try to take them up.

SHRI KIRTI AZAD: Hon. Madam Speaker, I thank the Hon. Minister, he has said that if more help is needed he will do it. To promote tourism, at least there should be such facilities so that tourists can come there. Despite having a big airport in Darbhanga, there is no air traffic service there and fortunately our Minister, the Minister of Civil Aviation, is also sitting here. Along with this, there was talk of upgrading the Chandradhari Museum in Darbhanga. What action has been taken so far in this regard, what has happened to at least one tourism spot that was to be built there, when will that work be completed, how much money has been given for that? At the same

time, if air traffic is also started then people can get information about the Ramayana Circuit of Treta Yuga and can see the tourist spot.

DR. MAHESH SHARMA: Hon. Madam Speaker, the Hon. Member has talked about the development of Darbhanga Airport. Our cabinet Ministers are also sitting here. After thinking over this issue in my meeting, I will inform the respected Member about how development can be carried out there. But our Government, giving priority to connectivity, wants to increase air connectivity to Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities as well. But there are many reasons for that. This can happen only after looking at its economic viability. But respecting the sentiments of the Hon. Member, I will discuss it with the Hon. senior Minister. At present there is no proposal regarding Chandradhari Museum in this plan but on the suggestion of the Hon. Member, I will consider this proposal in the next meeting.

SHRIMATI KAMLA PATLE: Hon. Madam Speaker, Through you, I would like to know from the Hon. Tourism Minister whether the Government has any special plans for investment in tourism and infrastructure development in the country's multi-dimensional tourism sector, especially for the only and rare crocodile park Kotmi Sonar located in Chhattisgarh and will it consider any measure to showcase it in the country and abroad?

DR. MAHESH SHARMA: Hon. Madam Speaker, The idea that the respected Member has brought to my notice about Chhattisgarh, the projects that we currently have in Chhattisgarh are Giraudhpuri Tourist Destination, Chhattisgarh Destination Circuit and a plan to build a Convention Center in Raipur, which are projects worth about Rs. 4 crore 40 lakh and Rs. 5 crore respectively. I will consider the proposal of the Hon. Member.

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Hon. Madam Speaker, Tourism is a very important issue for the development and progress of the country. When the Hon. Minister himself has said that employment opportunities for 6-7 crore people are generated from this sector, I am surprised and saddened that the Hon. Minister has written in his reply that promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Government, not the Union Government. This is a matter of great regret. Along with that he has said in his reply that we do not have employment data for the years 2013-14 and 2014-15. What is the state of the Government's information system that we are not able to present even the data of two years ago in the House? Along with this, I would like to ask a question that there is a lot of confusion regarding the Tourist Visa on Arrival scheme announced by the Government because when tourists come to the country from abroad, they think

that they have already got the visa. They have to stay at the airport for two-three days and some are sent back from there itself. In this scheme, either you get the visa in advance or change the name of this scheme and call it e-visa, not tourist visa on arrival, because people do not get visa on arrival. Along with this, currently the international flights which come to the country, come to only two-three cities. Tourists have to spend the night in Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad and Bangalore and spend money unnecessarily. Why can't we provide direct connectivity to international flights to tourist spots? We also want an answer to this question, so that tourism can increase across the country. Is the Government going to evaluate it? What concrete steps is the Government going to take to provide direct connectivity to the tourism sector and to completely eliminate the confusion regarding e-visa and tourist visa on arrival?

DR. MAHESH SHARMA: Hon. Madam Speaker, The respected Member has asked a question. We have data till 2012-13, in which about 66.96 million people were employed through tourism. Let me tell you the method, we get these figures through Tourist Satellite Account of India. Based on these available data, we have figures for the years 2010-11, 2011-12, and 2012-13 that employment in tourism was 57.94 million, 62.04 million, and 66.96 million respectively.

Other data has been obtained. Let me tell the House that as soon as we obtained those figures, we will Announcement them before them.

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Does the Government not have any information system regarding how many tourists visit publicly? ... *(Interruptions)*

DR. MAHESH SHARMA: This is the information medium of the Government.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Minister, please answer here.

. . . *(Interruptions)*

DR. MAHESH SHARMA: Secondly, let me tell you that as per the information given by the Opposition, the anomaly that was found in Visa on Arrival, seven days ago, the name of that scheme has been declared as e-Tourist Visa. Now that visa is not on arrival, there were some discrepancies in that.

The third issue raised by the Hon. Member is [English] about connectivity at Tier II or Tier II city at ultimate site of destination, I think, he will understand that it is not possible but we have provided a scheme of E2E tourism (End to End tourism) which has started progressing in Buddhist circuit. We would receive all those tourists at

a destination and will ensure - [Translation] That they can go from there to their destination either by train or by other means and for which the Ministry of Tourism has a special plan, our three strengths of tourism are cleanliness, safety and hospitality. We have linked cleanliness with the Prime Minister's cleanliness campaign. For security, an Incredible India Helpline 1363, which is presently available in two languages and will be expanded to 12 languages, has been started. If you go to the immigration counter, you will find a booklet titled “Welcome to India Tips for Tourists” which will contain do's and don'ts and a welcome card. We are concerned about the question raised by the esteemed Member, but while giving information about the subject, I have told that as per our structure, this is a subject of the states, but still the Government of India is doing it with full responsibility and seriousness. I would say that if there is one person who is the biggest ambassador for tourism and for the country at this time, then it is the Prime Minister of the country, Hon. Narendra Modi Ji. It is a matter of pride for us that the perception of Indianness from the tourism perspective has reached great heights.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Sultan Ahmed ji, would you like to ask a question?

. . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SULTAN AHMED: Hon. Madam Speaker, I couldn't hear your voice.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Nothing else is going on record, only what Sultan Ahmed ji said will go on record.

(Interruptions) ... *

HON. SPEAKER: Whatever cross-talking takes place will not go on record.

(Interruptions) ... *

SHRI SULTAN AHMED: Madam, the Hon. Minister has given the figures, Year 2012-13 and 2013-14 they have given grant-in-aid to various states, in the year 2012-13, 2013-14 West Bengal has not received even a single rupee grant in these two years. I want to ask the Hon. Minister that the Year 2015-16 they have not kept any budgetary grant, because Bengal holds a place among the tourist destinations of our country. There is Darjeeling, Dwars, beaches, sundarvan, it has been included in the Seven Wonders of the World. Why is this happening with Bengal that you did not give anything even last year,

* Not recorded.

before this even in UPA-2, nothing was given. We want to ask if you are thinking of giving something to Bengal this year.

HON. SPEAKER: You just ask question. Hon. Minister, if you have given anything to Bengal then please tell me.

DR. MAHESH SHARMA: All states are equal for the Ministry. There is a process where DPRs are invited for tourism schemes for various tourist circuits from all the states and when those DPRs are received, sometimes DPRs are not received from some of the states. In the year 2012-13, an amount of ₹ 46.94 crore was released to West Bengal through one circuit and two festivals. No DPRs are proposed to us or considered appropriate in the year 2013-14. If theHon. MP has any such scheme from the state Government, then he should bring it to our notice.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARJUN LAL MEENA: Hon. Madam Speaker, First of all, I would like to thank the Hon. Minister because our State Rajasthan is a hub of tourism and the tourists who come to the country definitely visit Rajasthan. Through you, I would like to seek information from the Minister that Mangarh Dham, which is situated on the border of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh, is where on 17 November, 1913, the freedom movement was fought under the leadership of Govind Guru, where a massacre more heinous than the Jallianwala

Bagh took place in which 1500 tribals were martyred, where the Gujarat Government, under the leadership of the then Chief Minister of Gujarat, Narendra Modi Ji, constructed a garden for tourism and the successful Chief Minister of the Rajasthan Government, Vasundhara Raje Ji, has also made a provision in this budget. I want to ask whether the Government has any idea of including this monument Mangarh Dham as a national monument.

DR. MAHESH SHARMA: The issue which is in question, which has been brought to my notice by the Member, I will decide it in my meeting through the State Government. However, the Tourism Ministry is going to start a scheme named Desert Circuit which will prove useful for Rajasthan. I would also like to tell my friends from West Bengal that West Bengal will also benefit from the Rs 200 crore schemes of the Government of India through Coastal Circuit and Himalayan Circuit.

[English]

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Madam Speaker, Kerala is considered as the God's own country as far as tourism is concerned. Many of the Hon. Members and Ministers have also visited Kerala, especially the important tourist destinations in Kerala. But at the same time, in the reply given by the Hon. Minister, the details regarding the projects

sanctioned for tourism development and the amount allocated have been given.

As far as the State of Kerala is concerned, there were projects sanctioned in the years 2012-13 and 2013-14. But I am sorry to say that there is no project sanctioned for Kerala in the year 2014-15. There is ample potential for development of tourism in Kerala and as far as tourism is concerned, Kerala is not only nationally well known but it is also internationally accepted as one of the best tourist destinations in the world. So, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister, through you, as to what is the reason for not sanctioning any project to Kerala.

[Translation]

DR. MAHESH SHARMA: The Ministry attaches great importance to the tourism importance of the State of Kerala. In 2013, an amount of Rs 40 crore 65 lakh was released for Kerala through 10 projects. Despite the circuits that were brought before us in 2014-15, as I said, the Government of India has allocated Rs 100 crore for the Coastal Circuit.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Minister, you look here. No answers are given to such questions.

. . . (Interruptions)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: He is answering. Let him complete. Please do not disturb him.

… (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

DR. MAHESH SHARMA: Hon. Madam Speaker, this is a matter that when projects come to us, DPRs come, it is decided in our prioritization meetings that how we can distribute the amount that we have to which states, this is decided in the prioritization meetings. Many times DPRs do not arrive on time, many times those DPRs or projects are not viable or are unable to prove their utility. Their officers also come, their Ministers also come and these prioritization meetings are decided after sitting with them. The whole country is before us and the Ministry on this issue and funds are released to various states as per its availability, DPR and their utility.

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Please do not disturb like this. Please take your seat.

… (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: I am trying to accommodate all the states.

Shri K. Parasuraman.

. . . *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: You can meet me later regarding Kerala.

. . . *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI K. PARASURAMAN: Madam Speaker, I am very thankful to you for giving me this opportunity. As far as my constituency Thanjavur in Tamil Nadu is concerned, it has a historical value as there are a number of religious places and temples constructed during the First Century. So, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Union Government has any plan to promote rural tourism in the nine temples of celestial bodies located in Thanjavur District of Tamil Nadu.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Please tell me, if there is anything for Thanjavur district.

. . . *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Everyone would like to know this, and therefore a discussion on the matter should be sought.

. . . *(Interruptions)*

DR. MAHESH SHARMA: Let me tell you that at present we do not have any proposal from Thanjavur district before us. Let me give one more information to my friends from Kerala. … *(Interruptions)*

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Venugopal ji, this is not the way. Do not answer like this.

… (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

DR. MAHESH SHARMA: Hon Speaker, the proposal for Thanjavur District has just come. For Kerala, let me tell you that we received the Utilization Certificate in December. They should ask their state Governments why they were unable to provide the utilization certificate on time.

[English]

SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH: Madam Speaker, in July 2014, the Government had launched a strategy for integral tourism development of the Buddhist sector in UP and Bihar. I would like to your attention to Sravasti which is an integral part of this circuit. It is located in Balrampur district and also in a very backward area of Uttar Pradesh. Sravasti is a place where Gautam Buddha spent 24 years of his life preaching there. The famous incident of Daku Angulimaal also happened here. Every year, thousands of tourists from South East Asian countries, from Japan, from Sri Lanka come to Sravasti. But they face a huge problem because the nearest airports of Varanasi and Lucknow are eight to ten hours away and they have to travel by bus over these very bad roads. There is already an airstrip located in Sravasti.

So, through you, Hon. Speaker, Madam, I would like to ask the Hon. Minister that under the strategy for integral tourism development of the Buddhist circuit, what is the budget allocation for this sector in UP and Bihar. Sepcifically, is there any programme to upgrade the airstrip at Sravasti to an airport? Thank you very much.

[Translation]

DR. MAHESH SHARMA: In response to the concern expressed by the Hon. Member regarding the Buddhist Circuit, I would like to

inform the House that the Government of India has included the Buddhist Circuit under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme during the current phase. An amount of Rs. 120 crore has been released for this purpose. Out of the eight identified locations, seven are in Bihar and four are in Uttar Pradesh, including Shravasti. I would further like to inform the Hon. Member that the Government of India has formulated a plan to connect Bihar and Uttar Pradesh through the Buddhist Circuit, and the Governments of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are working in coordination with the International Finance Division of the Ministry. An agreement has been reached with the respective Governments, and the first phase has already been completed. However, at present, the matter relating to the airport is not under consideration, and I wish to place this on record for the information of the Hon. Member. The Government of India and the Ministry of Tourism remain fully committed to the development of Shravasti under the Buddhist Circuit.

HON. SPEAKER: Question 463

Shri Dharmendra Yadav – Not present.

Shri Anandrao Adsul

HON. SPEAKER: Please state the question number first, as Dharmendra Ji is not present in the House..

SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL: Q. 463.

HON. SPEAKER: Now please ask the question. You may ask two questions.

(Q. 463)

[English]

SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL: Madam, nowadays there is a good network of the Indian Railways right from Jammu & Kashmir to Kanyakumari and from Kutch to Kolkata. The Indian Railways are the lifeline and the helpline of the Indian people. The passenger transport and goods transport is preferably safe and the cheapest. But, nowadays, there is a mismatch.

I will bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister, as I told, the Indian Railways are the network for the Indian people unless tariff is affordable to the common people. But nowadays it is essential to have a new regulatory authority for this mismatch in passenger tariff and the goods tariff. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister, in the Budget of 2015-16, you have announced the regulatory mechanism for this one. But, will it be competitive in the case of road transport

and water transport? The Railways will get good income out of it. It will also be affordable to the common people.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Madam, it is absolutely true that Railways have a structure of fare and freight which is essentially favouring the passengers. We overcharge a bit to the freight. This overcharged freight cross subsidizes the fares of the passengers travel at a lower rate. Therefore, to make that happen, the people who actually send their goods by train, they will have to pay a little more. Over a period of time, we have seen that the fares remained more or less the same and the freight charges have gone up considerably. It is in the interest of our national economy. We should make sure that we actually have a very rational structure to decide who should pay how much. For that same reason, as I had mentioned in my Budget Speech, we have already decided to appoint a regulatory framework to come out with a proper structure and also the costing structure. When we want to decide what should be the freight and fare, we must have a proper structure to decide as to what is the cost which goes into each of these two. So, we have already decided to do that. We are already in the process of deciding as to how we should move on this. Mr. Arvind Panagariya, Vice-Chairman of Niti Aayog, is the one who is

actually suggesting us the framework for this and we will make it happen.

The point that you have mentioned whether common people will be benefited out of this, I would like to tell you that this cross-subsidization is not unusual in this world. Countries like China, Russia, USA and Japan have charged more or less a little more to the passengers and they cross subsidize the freight. In India, the situation is exactly the opposite. We actually overcharge a little to the freight and cross subsidize the fare of the passengers. This cross subsidization is not uncommon. This is something which is unique in India that we charge a little more freight than what we charge to passengers.

In fact, even in power sector, the same situation is there. Mr. Jyotiraditya Scindia was also the Minister of Power. He knows that there has been a cross subsidization even in this sector. I think, we really need to find out the way of coming out of this situation. I think, the House will agree with me that we must have a very transparent system to do that. This is the legacy of our past. We have been doing this for so many years. Therefore, we must make sure that we move out to this system which will be fair to both, passengers as well as to the freight operatoRs. But loading a lot of money on the freight discourages more investment and increasing the cost of business. It

does not allow more employment to be created. So, we must have a transparent system in place.

SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL: Madam, somehow, I agree with the Hon. Minister but then a question arises. Indian Railways have been a loss-making organisation for a long time now. Nowadays, other modes of transport like road transport and shipping are also coming into picture. That is why Railways must be commercially viable. We will have to regulate our authorities in a way that they will charge the freight which will be affordable to the common people.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Madam, today the whole exercise is directed to make sure that common people get benefited. They are paying far less than the actual cost of transportation. In fact, the people who pay the least are the people who travel more by the economy class not the high-ended passengers. There is a very small subsidization for the first class passengers. So, it has already been done. But to make sure what Hon. Member is saying happens, the concerned authority will definitely look into that.

As pointed out by the Hon. Member about the transport sector, it is really alarming that the total share of railways in the investment, which has gone into the country in terms of transportation sector, has come down dramatically in the last few years. In the year 1950, the

share of freight was 89 per cent. It has come down to 36 per cent in total transportation because there is no way to handle more freight. This has nothing to do with tariff. This is the capacity of the Railways to handle it. In the year 1950, the increase in freight handling had increased by 15 times. There was an increase of passenger numbers by 15.7 times whereas the route kilometres were increased only by 1.23 times. Just imagine, the investment in Railways was only 1.23 times more whereas the amount of passengers and the amount of freight that we handle had gone up to 15 to 16 times. How are we going to manage it? Therefore, the solution lies, as you have said, in terms of making investment. This Budget talks about Rs. 8.5 lakh crore of investment in the next five years. That is precisely for the reason to decrease the congestion that has happened. In fact, 16 per cent of the total route kilometres handle 60 per cent of traffic. So, this is something which is unviable and undoable. That is why, what you are saying is right. We will make sure that other modes of transportation like road and sea transport take place. We will also not compete. In fact, Railway should come up. The only solution lies in terms of more investment in Railways.

[Translation]

SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA: Hon. Madam Speaker, the Railways have enhanced several facilities for freight and goods transportation. My Parliamentary Constituency is Mandsaur, where many trains have been developed for freight movement; however, there has been a decline in passenger train services. There is also a significant tourist circuit from Udaipur to Ujjain. I would like to ask whether the increase in freight charges will lead to a reduction in the number of passenger trains.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Hon. Madam Speaker, when goods trains operate, nearly two thirds of the Railways' income is generated from freight services. It is because of this substantial freight revenue that passenger train services are also operated through cross subsidisation. If there is no growth in freight operations to support passenger services, it will not be possible to run passenger trains. The Hon. Member has referred to issues relating to Udaipur, and I assure the House that these will be examined. I would also like to state that the distortions that have arisen in freight and passenger fares need to be corrected. At the same time, it is essential to protect and sustain freight services, which are the main source of revenue for the Railways.

[English]

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY: Madam Speaker, the Hon. Minister, in his reply, stated that Indian Railway is unlike most other Government Departments has to meet its working expenditure through its own revenues. So, cross subsidization has been going up for decades. The Hon. Minister has been devising many innovations. May I ask the Hon. Minister whether he is proposing to the Government that in order to meet the social obligations – because it meets social services also – to cough up the formidable amount of cross subsidization from the central exchequer so that you Railway could save its own revenues?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Madam, again this is a very important point. I fully appreciate the point of the Hon. Member. The Hon. Member had been the Railway Minister himself. So, he knows it better than anybody else. Therefore, we must find out a non-tariff, non-fare based revenues for the Railway also. We are thinking about advertisement. In fact, this time, the target is very high. We are trying to find out unconventional ways of raising resources. We will definitely look into this. The Hon. Member is right that we must find out the way. But, at the same time, we must also have, over the period of time, a cost-based structure for deciding the difference between freight and fare, and we must have a system for that. To avoid any

arbitrariness on this, we must have an independent regulatory system based on costing. So, this is again will not be arbitrary, not personality-oriented. This will be a very objective system. We have to avoid subjectiveness and to make sure that it is based on costing and based on certain system. Then, we can arrive at this.

(Q.464)

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD TRIPATHI: Madam Speaker, through you, the Hon. Minister has responded to the fundamental issue relating to labour disputes and production loss, and I would like to state that I agree with the reply given. The figures placed before the House are extremely alarming for the country. In the year 2013, there were 200 labour disputes, resulting in the loss of 37,02,094 man days, a wage loss of Rs. 1,77,84,91,363, and a production loss of Rs. 4,31,35,13,582. These losses occurred prior to the formation of our Government. Thereafter, the figures have shown a steady decline, for which I would like to congratulate the Hon. Prime Minister and the

Hon. Minister. After our Government was formed in 2014, the number of labour disputes came down to 146, the number of workers involved was reduced to 10,50,000, the wage loss declined to Rs. 1,88,49,61,389, and the production loss was reduced to Rs. 2,00,39,71,899. By the year 2015, the number of disputes further declined to 20. For this significant improvement, I would like to especially congratulate the Hon. Minister and the Hon. Prime Minister, as the number of disputes inherited at the level of 200 has now been reduced to just 20. In countries such as Japan, when workers go on strike, they do not stop work but instead increase production. I would like to ask the Hon. Minister whether the Government proposes to introduce any such provision in our country, either through inspiration or through appropriate legal measures, whereby during a strike, workers contribute by increasing production, and in such cases, whether a special incentive or wage structure could be considered for those workers who enhance productivity during such periods.

[English]

SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA: Hon. Madam Speaker, the Hon. Member has asked a very pertinent question. I appreciate him. Whatever answer was required, I have already given it in my written reply.

But the point is that in India, for disputes and settlements, we have the Grievance Redress Mechanism, which has been provided. At the same time, I also wanted to inform the Hon. Member that there are a large number of processes into the Act itself. As per the Committee, a mechanism is there among the factories itself that the workers and employers both will have a Committee where there will be a redressal system.

The second part is the conciliatory method. At any juncture, if it fails, then it goes to Tribunal, courts or settlements. But according to this process, we are continuing.

Madam, I am happy to inform the House about the very trend in the country that the maturity has increased among the employees and employeRs. Now, the trade unions are also coming with the right spirit. That is why I feel that the system is doing well.

On the issue which he had raised about Japan, in spite of the strike there, they would go for production. As regards any amendment can be made, any law can be got into the ambit into our system, I would see to it. Ours is a Tripartite mechanism. If it is agreed there, we can think about going ahead.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD TRIPATHI: I am satisfied with the Hon. Minister's reply. Through you, I wish to know how many industrial establishments have benefited from the amended Industrial Disputes Act provisions, what steps the Government is taking to popularize this mechanism so more employees can avail it, and whether a special court will be set up to expedite the resolution of labour disputes.

[English]

SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA: It is also a new initiative, which we have taken up. About the Shram Suvidha Portal, I have already mentioned.

So, about this also we will examine it.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri K. N. Ramachandran – Not present

12.00 hrs.

[Translation]

DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR: Hon. Madam Speaker, Regarding the processes that are going on for settlement and resolution of disputes that arise between workers and management, I would like to say that the job of the worker is to work and the responsibility of the management is to work in the interest of the welfare of the workers.

Where there is a deadlock, conflicts occur and disputes arise. I want to tell the Hon. Minister through you that the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 was enacted. You made several arrangements in that, but will you create a system which acts as a bridge between the workers and the management so that such a situation does not arise?

[English]

SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA: Madam, I have already intimated him. In spite of that, I tell him that a mechanism already exists. At many levels, these are examined. And, if any lacunae are there, there are some rules and norms which have come into force. Then we will take it under this mechanism itself.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you. Question Hour is over.

*WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Starred Question Nos. 465 to 480

Unstarred Question Nos. 5291 to 5520

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

12.0 ½ hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

HON. SPEAKER: Now, Papers to be Laid on the Table.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA): Hon. Madam Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table: -

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

(i) (a) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Integrated Development Corporation Limited, Port Blair, for the year 2013-2014.

(ii) Annual Report of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Integrated Development Corporation Limited, Port Blair, for the year 2013-2014 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2334/16/15]

(ii) (a) Review by the Government of the working of the Omnibus Industrial Development Corporation of Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli Limited, Nani Daman, for the year 2013-2014.

(ii) Annual Report of the Omnibus Industrial Development Corporation of Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli Limited, Nani Daman, for the year 2013-2014, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for the delay in laying the papers on the Table mentioned in (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2335/16/15]

(3) (One) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Hyderabad, for the year 2013-2014, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Hyderabad, for the year 2013-2014.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2336/16/15]

(5) (One) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Rural Industrialisation, Wardha, for the year 2013-2014, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Rural Industrialization, Wardha, for the year 2013-2014.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2337/16/15]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): Madam Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table, a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the National Scheduled Tribes Finance and

Development Corporation and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the year 2015-2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2338/16/15]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table: -

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the V. V. Giri National Labour Institute, Noida, for the year 2012-2013, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the V. V. Giri National Labour In Institute, Noida, for the year 2012-13.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2339/16/15]

(3) A copy of the Financial Estimates and Performance Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 2015-2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2340/16/15]

(4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation, New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation, New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014, together with Audit Report thereon.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2341/16/15]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE OF 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: -

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

(i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2015-2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2342/16/15]

(ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Indian Oil Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2015-2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2343/16/15]

(iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Biecco Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2015-2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2344/16/15]

(iv) Memorandum of Understanding between the Balmer Lawrie and Company Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2015-2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2345/16/15]

(v) Memorandum of Understanding between the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2015-2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2346/16/15]

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

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited, Noida, for the year 2013-2014.

(ii) Annual Report of the Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited, Noida, for the year 2013-2014 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2347/16/15]

(4) A copy of the Kerosene (Restriction on Use and Fixation of Ceiling Price) Amendment Order, 2015 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 41(E) in Gazette of India dated 19th January, 2015 under sub-section (3) of Section 6 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 together with a corrigendum thereto

published in Notification No. G. S. R.89 (E) (Hindi version only) dated 13th February, 2015.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2348/16/15]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Oil Industry Development Board, New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Oil Industry Development Board, New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2349/16/15]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY

OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table: -

(1) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Airports Authority of India and the Ministry of Civil Aviation for the year 2015-2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2350/16/15]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Museum, Kolkata, for the year 2013-2014, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Museum, Kolkata, for the year 2013-2014.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2351/16/15]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND STEEL (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): Madam Speaker, on behalf of my colleague Shri Vishnu Dev Sai I beg to lay on the Table: -

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

(i) Memorandum of Understanding between Rashtriya Steel Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Mines for the year 2015-2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2352/16/15]

(ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the NMDC Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2015-2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2353/16/15]

(iii) Memorandum of Understanding between Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2015-2016

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2354/16/15]

(iv) Memorandum of Understanding between the Steel Authority of India Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2015-2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2355/16/15]

(v) Memorandum of Understanding between the MSTC Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2015-2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2356/16/15]

(vi) Memorandum of Understanding between the KIOCL Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2015-2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2357/16/15]

(vii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Mines for the year 2015-2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2358/16/15]

(viii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Hindustan Copper Limited and the Ministry of Mines for the year 2015-2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2359/16/15]

(xi) Memorandum of Understanding between the National Aluminium Company Limited and the Ministry of Mines for the year 2015-2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2360/16/15]

(x) Memorandum of Understanding between the MECON Limited and the Ministry of Mines for the year 2015-2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2361/16/15]

(2) A copy of the Notification No. S. O.423(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2015, under sub-section (1) of Section 28 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, declaring the 31 minerals specified therein as minor minerals.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2362/16/15]

12.01 hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

14th to 16th Reports

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Hon. Madam Speaker, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Public Accounts Committee (2014-15): -

(1) 14th Report on the subject 'Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme' based on C&AG Report No.22 of 2012-13.

(2) 15th Report on "Railway Finances" based on C&AG Report No. 12 of 2013..

(3) 16th Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the 95th Report (15th Lok Sabha) on 'Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008'.

12.01 ½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

10th and 11th Reports

SHRI HUKMDEO NARAYAN YADAV (Madhubani): Hon. Madam Speaker, I beg to present the following Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (Sixteenth Lok Sabha): -

(1) 10th Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2014-15) on Demands for Grants (2015-2016) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agricultural Research and Education).

(2) 11th Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2014-15) on Demands for Grants (2015-2016) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries).

12.01 ¾ h Rs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE

6th to 9th Reports

MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI AVSM (GARHWAL): Hon. Madam Speaker, I beg to

present the following reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Defence (2014-2015): -

(1) Sixth Report on 'Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence for the year 2015-2016 on Civil Expenditure and Capital Outlay on Defence Services (Demand Nos.21, 22 and 28)'.

(2) Seventh Report on 'Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence for the year 2015-2016 on Army (Demand No.23).

(3) Eighth Report on 'Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence for the year 2015-2016 on Navy and Air Force (Demand Nos.24 and 25).

(4) Ninth Report on 'Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence for the year 2015-2016 on Ordnance Factories and Defence Research and Development Organisation (Demand Nos. 26 and 27).

12.02 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

5th and 6th Reports

DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA (MUMBAI NORTH EAST): Hon. Madam Speaker, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Energy (2014-15): -

(1) Fifth Report on Demands for Grants for the year 2015-2016 pertaining to the Ministry of Power.

(2) Sixth Report on Demands for Grants for the year 2015-2016 pertaining to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

12.03 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOOD, CONSUMER AFFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

3rd and 4th Reports

[English]

SHRI J. C. DIVAKAR REDDY (ANANTAPUR): Madam, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (2014-15): -

(1) Third Report on Demands for Grants (2015-16) of the Department of Food and Public Distribution (Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution).

(2) Fourth Report on Demands for Grants (2015-16) of the Department of Consumer Affairs (Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution).

12.03 ½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

3rd and 4th Reports

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI (DHARWAD): Madam, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas: -

(1) Third Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Nineteenth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas (2014-15) on 'Allocation and Pricing of Gas'.

(2) Fourth Report on 'Demands for Grants (2015-16)' of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas

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12.04 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT

4th to 6th Reports

SHRI PINAKI MISRA (PURI): Madam, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Urban Development (2014-2015): -

(1) Fourth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Second Report (16th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2014-2015) of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation.

(2) Fifth Report on 'Demands for Grants (2015-2016)' of the Ministry of Urban Development.

(3) Sixth Report on 'Demands for Grants (2015-2016)' of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation.

12.04 ½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES

(i) 3rd Report

[Translation]

SHRI HUKUM SINGH (KARANA): Hon. Madam Speaker, I beg to present the Third Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Water Resources (2014-15) on 'Demands for Grants (2015-2016)' of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.

(ii) Statement

SHRI HUKUM SINGH: Hon. Madam Speaker, I beg to present a Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing Further Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Second Report (16th Lok Sabha) on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the 21st Report (15th Lok Sabha) on 'Review of Ganga Flood Control Commission'.

12.05 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY

264th to 266th Reports

[English]

SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA (BALASORE): I beg to lay the following reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Industry: -

(1) Two Hundred and Sixty-fourth Report on Demands for Grants (2015-16) pertaining to the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

(2) Two Hundred and Sixty-fifth Report on Demands for Grants (2015-16) pertaining to the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises (Department of Heavy Industry).

(3) Two Hundred and Sixty-sixth Report on Demands for Grants (2015-16) pertaining to the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises (Department of Public Enterprises).

12.06 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

254th Report

KUMARI SUSHMITA DEV (SILCHAR): I beg to lay on the Table the Two Hundred Fifty-fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Science & Technology, Environment & Forests on Demands for Grants (2015-2016) of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.

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12.07 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 97th, 159th and 212th Reports of the Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): I beg to lay the following statements regarding:

(1) The status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 97th Report of the Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the 90th Report of the Committee on `Development of Airport Sector with Special Emphasis on new Modern Airports, pertaining to the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See Nos. LT (1) 2363/16/15, (2)2364/16/15 and (3) 2365/16/15 respectively.

(2) the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 159th Report of the Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the 131st Report of the Committee on `Closure of Bangalore and Hyderabad Airports'; 141st Report of the Committee on `Modernisation of Airports'; and 142nd Report of the Committee on `Functioning of Private Airports', pertaining to the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

(3) the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 212th Report of the Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on `Development of Tourism in Darjeeling and Sikkim, pertaining to the Ministry of Tourism.

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

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD SALIM (RAIGANJ): Hon. Madam Speaker, I have a question of order.

HON. SPEAKER: Is it on the statement?

SHRI MOHAMMAD SALIM: It's not on the statement. Here we discuss the budget cum grants of various departments. The standing committees discuss it in details. But while we are concluding the discussion, the Standing Committee reports are coming in, the excise is becoming futile. You may kindly instruct all the Chairmen that all the reports should be submitted before the second session of the Budget, so that the House and the public may know about them.

12.08 hrs.

SUBMISSION BY MEMBERS

Re: Loss of lives due to earthquake in Nepal, some parts of India and steps taken to prevent damages caused by earthquakes

[English]

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): Madam, I am drawing the attention of the House to the terrible human tragedy that happened in our neighbouring country of Nepal on the 25th April, 2015.

I have given notices both on Adjournment Motion and Zero Hour and I thank you for allowing me to read the same. The earthquake with the epicenter near Pokhara in Nepal caused by shifting of tectonic plates in Himalayas has caused immense damage in that country with number of deaths crossing 2400 and thousands injured. A huge amount of property has been destroyed in that country. It is good that the Government of India has sent relief and rescue teams with relief materials to Nepal through the Indian Air Force as a humanitarian gesture. The earthquake has affected India also with at least 63 people dead – 46 in Bihar, 13 in Uttar Pradesh and two each in West Bengal and Rajasthan – and 156 people injured in Bihar, 43 in Uttar Pradesh, 52 in West Bengal and also some in Sikkim.

The Government of India has been in touch with the States for relief. More needs to be done in the form of disaster relief. The Chief Minister of West Bengal has gone to North Bengal where the earthquake happened near Siliguri, to o supervise relief and rescue operations. I am told that the National Disaster Management Authority is supervising the relief work in Nepal and in India, but I would like to know how much money has been released from National Disaster Relief Fund for different States.

Madam, earthquakes cannot be prevented, but with modern developments in science and technology, they can be predicted. I am surprised that there was no previous warning about the earthquake in India which took us all by surprise. Also, in cities like Delhi and Kolkata, there are large numbers of high-rises as well as illegal constructions. So, the Government should examine whether these buildings are earthquake resistant and whether proper disaster management teams are in place in the big cities which will be affected more by the earthquakes. In Nepal, it is mainly in Kathmandu and other cities where most people have lost their lives rather than in villages.

I express deep sorrow at the deaths, including of those who died at the Everest Base Camp and the expeditionists. I would like the House to consider this.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Shri P. K. Bijju, Dr. A. Sampat, Shankar Prasad Datta, M. B. Rajesh, and Shrimati P. K. Shrimathi Teacher are permitted to associate with the issues raised by Prof. Saugata Roy.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): Hon. Madam Speaker, the entire House is concerned about a very serious issue and I want to raise that issue before you. The devastating earthquake that

hit Nepal on Saturday, measuring 7.9 in magnitude, has led to a continuous increase in the number of casualties. There are concerns about the death of more than 2600 people and injuries to more than 7000 people. This number is constantly increasing. This is being described as the most devastating natural disaster in Nepal's 80-year history. In the last fifty years, there have been eight such earthquakes in the Himalayas, whose intensity was above 8. The earthquake struck at 11.56 am on Saturday with its epicenter being Lamjung, 80 km north-west of Kathmandu. The earthquake affected many cities of Bihar, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh and also many cities of Rajasthan. Earthquake tremors have been felt in eastern and northern India. Earthquake tremors were also felt on Sunday morning. There are reports of more than 70 people being killed in Bihar, UP and West Bengal and new figures have not been revealed yet. Perhaps the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs or the Prime Minister will tell this in the House.

Pictures of the devastation in Nepal are heart-wrenching and there has been huge loss of life and property. I can't even imagine what the people affected by this disaster in Nepal and India must be going through. We are proud that we are standing with Nepal in this hour of crisis and the whole country is standing with Nepal because it is not

only our neighboring country but Nepal also plays a very important role in our defense. I hope that the Home Ministry will try its best in the rescue operation. Indian Army has promised to launch Operation Maitri for rescue operations in Nepal, I think maybe they are working in this direction. Our brave soldiers of the National Disaster Response Force are engaged in relief and rescue work. I hope that in this hour of crisis, we all will perform our duty and rise above party lines and together help our neighbouring country and the people in India who have been affected. The affected people cannot be helped by just one person, so everyone has to contribute. We need to encourage the brave soldiers of India and we also need to think whether in this race of development we have harmed nature, the answer to which we have got through this destruction. Are we running in the wrong direction in the race of technology? Are we also moving towards modern early warning system? Can't we issue a warning in advance, can't we minimise the loss of life and property?

[English]

In case of India, the human and economic losses from disasters are high in comparison to many other developing nations. According to an estimate by the World Bank, direct losses from natural disasters are up to 2 per cent of India’s GDP. Those most affected are poor

children, disabled people and women. It is often said that earthquakes do not kill, but buildings do. Meaning, there is not as much danger from earthquake as there is from our buildings. The Government should take necessary steps in this regard. [English] The National Policy on Disaster Management prepared by the National Disaster Management Authority, Government of India and approved by the Cabinet in 2009 was formulated with the vision to build a safe and disaster-resilient India. [Translation] Our vision in this was that more than relief and rehabilitation, work should be done to ensure that such incidents do not happen in future. Today, our country is in dire need of disaster management professionals. The Disasters Management Authorities have not yet been formed at the state level. Many states have not yet constituted this committee. As a result, it is very difficult to implement. At least now all the states should do this and the Union Government should also tell them to constitute it as soon as possible and work to prevent such disaster or incident.

Finally, I would just like to say that India stands with Nepal. We all have to face this disaster together. You also know that in the year 1993 a major accident took place in Latur, Maharashtra. At least 30,000 people were killed in it, similarly in 2001 in Gujarat 30,000 people were killed in Earthquake and Uttarakhand was also a victim

of the same. Such big accidents have happened here, we tried to face them with strength and the people of India have also tried to solve it with full force. Therefore, I hope that the Ministry of Home Affairs actively participates in this rescue operation, facing no obstacles and ensuring that there is no shortage of funds either. The Finance Department also came forward to do so. I got to hear that a lot of help material has been sent to Nepal. There is not much information about what the situation is in states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan etc. As more and more news in the paper and on TV channels is coming about Nepal. This is a significant tragedy, so we all are united in addressing and resolving this issue together. I hope the Government responds on what steps have been taken, how are they working and why the committees have not yet been formed in the states? Tell them about it. I am completely with the House. We all are involved in this, and we offer our condolences to those who have lost their lives.

HON. SPEAKER: Ms. Sushmita Dev, Advocate Joyce George, Shri Nishikanta Dubey, Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Shri Rabindra Kumar Jena, Shri Md. Badruddin Shah Khan, Shri Ajay Mishra Teni, Shri Prahlad Singh Patel, Dr. Kirit P. Solanki, Shri Jagdambika Pal, Shri Virendra Kashyap, Shri Sharad Tripathi, Shri Ganesh Singh, Ms. Shobha Karandlaje, Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma, Shri Gajendra

Singh Shekhawat, Shri Ramcharan Bohra, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Shri Rahul Kaswan, Shri Arvind Sawant, Shrimati Riti Pathak, Shri Rajendra Agrawal, Shri Janardan Singh Sigriwal, Shrimati Santosh Ahlawat and Dr. Virendra Kumar are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Mallikarjun Kharge.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (AZAMGARH): Hon. Madam Speaker, Please give me a minute to speak. If it goes on for more than a minute, please stop me.

Hon. Madam Speaker, we are all sad. When such a disaster occurred, we also cooperated. Today, we should also decide that whatever you or the Government suggests, all of us, who are Members of the Lok Sabha, should donate a part of our salary so that the people of entire India stand together in this matter. I propose that I will send my one month's salary for the people of Nepal.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV (BANKA): Hon. Madam Speaker, A terrible tragedy has occurred in different parts of the country, especially in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and the neighboring country Nepal. The devastating earthquake wreaked tragic havoc. The Hon. Minister of Home Affairs visited Bihar and conducted an assessment of the situation along with the Hon. Chief Hon. Minister of Bihar. First of all, I express my condolences to our brothers from

Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and other states and Nepal who have died in the earthquake. The largest earthquake since 1934occurred, leaving a torrent of tears in its wake. No area of Bihar was left out, be it Seemanchal, Purvanchal, Mithila or the Kosi region, many deaths occurred everywhere, lives were lost, people were injured. On 25th and 26th, people remained outside their homes throughout the night. Thousands of people were lying with their children in the Gandhi Maidan.

Hon. Madam Speaker, Along with this, there was huge destruction, devastation and loss of life and property in Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Delhi and everyone's homes were destroyed. A terrible play of nature happened. The entire nation is united in this hour of crisis. All of us have risen above party and group and are together to face the devastation caused by this devastating earthquake in the country, especially in Bihar and Nepal, and are also helping the neighbouring states. Many of our mountaineers and foreign tourists are stranded there. In today's time, humanity says that on such occasions we should unite and help completely. Along with this, I also want to say that we should not pay attention to any kind of rumour, because yesterday people got such a message from mobile that there will be an earthquake again at 12 p.

m. Or 1 p.m. Therefore, attention should not be paid to such rumoRs. The Chief Minister of Bihar has given funds to provide relief to the people suffering from the earthquake and the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh has also announced an amount of seven lakh rupees each. We would urge the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs to declare it a national disaster. This tragedy in Bihar has created a severe crisis, people have been disturbed, so special package should be given to them. Many thousands of people from Bihar are still stranded in Nepal. We will demand that the victims be given Rs 25-25 lakh each and those whose houses have been destroyed should be provided interest-free loans for reconstruction. In such times, everyone should come together and carry out relief work promptly. Along with this, advise scientists to make efforts so that information about earthquakes can be obtained in advance. While we express our condolences to the victims, let us also come together to launch relief operations to save people from the devastation caused by this devastating calamity in Nepal, Bihar and other parts of the country.

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (DOMARIYAGANJ): Hon. Madam Speaker, I should also be given an opportunity to express my views, as my Parliamentary Constituency borders Nepal.

DR. BHOLA SINGH (BEGUSARAI): Hon. Madam Speaker, I would like to request through the Chair that on the 25th, The scenes of devastation, destruction, and ruin caused by the earthquake in Nepal and the Indian states of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Rajasthan, and Madhya Pradesh are filled with considerable pain, terror, and dread. At that time, darkness prevailed everywhere, and in that darkness, the challenge of nature plunged this region into terror and dread, inflicting severe damage to human property as well. In such times, the light of trust, faith, and assistance, ignited by those personalities who stood up amidst this terror and took steps to alleviate this suffering, is not just appreciated in our country but is undoubtedly praised throughout the world. That person, none other than the Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi. I want to say this because Indian culture knows no bounds, it doesn't know caste, it doesn't know color, it doesn't know animosity between humans. Today, our Prime Minister has taken a step towards wiping the tears of the affected people in Nepal, Yemen, Bihar, and other states of the country in a manner that certainly heralds a new culture, a new perspective, and outlines a new political paradigm. I can say this. I don’t know how many times we have been criticized. Who knows how many times fingers have been pointed at us. We haven't seen God, but

we have surely seen God in the influence of nature. If God is the play of nature, if God is the genius of nature and if nature itself wants to cause destruction, then in that play, in that destruction, one person is present in this hour of pain by taking up the entire administrative machinery and the entire public to face it.

Hon. Madam Speaker, the current situation is quite terrifying. We are in terror. Today the natural structure itself is in a state of collapse. When the present is filled with terror, the future doesn't seem promising either. And the future seems painful to us. Therefore, we would like to appeal to the Prime Minister and the entire House to collectively end this terrifying present situation, bring faith in people that the entire human race is one, the entire human race is a part of one social culture and believing in that, we should soothe the pain of the present. There should not be this fear in future, there should not be this terror in future, there should not be this pain in future, for this whatever technology is there, whatever scientific means are there, whatever science is there, we should use it to secure the future, secure the future wealth and the steps taken by the Prime Minister for the security of entire human race, he has broken the boundaries of the country, he has broken the caste system, he has broken the boundaries of the country, we should respect such a culture. Through this we

would like to thank the Prime Minister for his achievements and the steps taken by him and the entire House in one voice and together. With these words, I conclude my speech.

[English]

DR. P. VENUGOPAL (TIRUVALLUR): Hon. Speaker, Madam, on behalf of my Party the AIDMK and on my own behalf, I also join the House in expressing my deep condolence on the sad death and destruction caused by the massive earthquake that has shaken Nepal on Saturday. The tragedy is compounded by aftershock and the heavy rain that is pouring in Nepal, which is hampering the rescue effort that is being undertaken there. This tragedy has already taken 3,200 lives in Nepal, 25 lakhs in the Everest Base Camp and more than 20 lives in Bihar and other States in India. We mourn the loss of live. It is a great havoc befell on peace loving country of Nepal. In this hour of crisis, all of us join hands in extending support to the stranded people of Nepal. I would request that the Government of India may extend full support to the nation. The Indian Government should undertake relief and rescue efforts and should also send food and medicines to the people of Nepal.

On its part, the Government of Tamil Nadu is also with the grief-striken people of Nepal and in India. It is ready to extend all possible

help and assistance. In this regard, it has already set up a control room in New Delhi for this purpose. I once again convey my deepest condolence to the people of Nepal and mourn the loss of life due to this great disaster.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Madam, we all know that an earthquake cannot be predicted nor can it be prevented. The tremor that occurred between Kathmandu and Pokhora is still being felt not only in Nepal but also in the Northern borders of our country. The tectonic plates that shift periodically have caused large scale destruction under the Himalayan Plateau. I would say that it is not only Nepal's tragedy but it is India's grief also. When the earthquake struck at noon last Saturday, severe as it was, the initial intensity was 7.5 and later it was revised to 7.9, which is very huge. More worrisomely, the earthquake had occurred at a shallow depth of 9.5 miles, tremors are still being felt in Nepal and in some northern border areas of our country. States in the North to East and Northeast also are witnessing it. People are in distress. They need support. Both food and medicines are required. Human support is essential.

I would congratulate the Government of India on its swift and wholehearted involvement in Nepal, and that is a very welcome step. Operation Maitri is in action. India is doing a creditable job no doubt

and has to operate the with cooperation of Nepalese Army. Already 72 hours have passed.

The whole world is aware about the destruction that has occurred in Kathmandu and Pokhara. These places are approachable. Media is present there. However, large tracts are affected in rural Nepal especially in those areas which are bordering Tibet. My suggestion is that India should focus on the overall disaster management. Our expertise will help Nepal to reconstruct itself. First is rescue, then relief, and then the reconstruction will follow.

Odisha Chief Minister, President of Biju Janata Dal, on that day itself had expressed grief and offered to the Union Government that Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force (ODRAF) is ready provided you allow it to go to Nepal and to those affected areas. ODRAF is a trained force. When the cyclone hit Andhra and also parts of Odisha, ODRAF did a commendable job and this was appreciated by the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh.

Nepal’s tragedy, as I said, is our grief. We are aware about the destruction of Nepal but very little is known about the situation in Tibet. Nothing is there in public domain. India should bring to light the damage that has occurred in Lhasa and other parts of that Himalayan plateau.

I would also express my thanks to the Government, especially the External Affairs Ministry, for bringing back home the under-14 girls football team which was in Kathmandu at the time of earthquake. Five of those girls are from Odisha. They stated themselves that they were saved because they were in the field and not inside the hotel where they were put up. They were in training. Their coach Shraddhanjali Samantray, who had been felicitated by the Union Government, hails from Odisha. Janaki Murmu, Iva Panna, Banya Kabiraj, Shanti Murmu were all from Odisha. All the girls who were there participating in that tournament were below the age of 14 years. A special provision was made by the Indian Government to bring them back. We got the information *via* Mumbai because telephonically the contact was not being made. I express my grief and I would say that here is a time when India has stood up to be with Nepal. We should also stand up to be with those people who have been affected in Lhasa in Tibet. Adequate steps should also be taken to provide shelter, medicine and food to the affected people including those who have been affected in Bihar, Rajasthan, in Siliguri area of West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh. I express my sorrow and grief to those who have been bereaved.

[Translation]

SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT (RATNAGIRI-SINDHUDURG): Hon. Madam Speaker, I rise on behalf of the Shiv Sena party to pay tribute to the victims of the recent earthquake in Nepal and in several regions of India, where thousands of lives were lost, and I also pray for the speedy recovery of those seriously injured. Just as Nepal has suffered, similar disasters have occurred earlier in Latur, Maharashtra, and Bhuj, Gujarat, where thousands lost their lives overnight due to earthquakes, which shows that nature's course is changing. Despite various interventions, human activities, including alterations and experiments, have adversely affected nature, resulting in frequent calamities. In Latur, over 35,000 people were buried overnight, and Bhuj experienced a similar tragedy. In this context, I express my gratitude to Hon. Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his leadership in extending timely support to Nepal and providing a strong foundation for relief and rescue operations. Efforts are also underway to evacuate stranded Indian tourists, yet many citizens from Pune, Yavatmal, Nashik, and other districts of Maharashtra remain in Nepal, and the Government must continue urgent measures to bring them home. India and Nepal share close cultural and geographical bonds, and it is India's duty to stand by Nepal not only today but also

in the future until the country fully recovers. Our party President, Hon. Uddhav Thackeray ji, rightly appreciated the Prime Minister's prompt response in providing relief, and accordingly, Shiv Sena MPs have contributed one month's salary to the Prime Minister's Relief Fund to support these efforts.

Hon. Madam Speaker, I would also like to mention that Shiv Sena has fulfilled its duties in the past as well. When an earthquake struck Bhuj, Shiv Sena adopted a village there and undertook its complete reconstruction. Similarly, the party has worked to rebuild a village in Latur. The Government of Maharashtra, along with teams from Mumbai, has also prepared rescue teams for Nepal, and I draw the attention of the House and the Government to these efforts. As nature's course has changed, I am concerned about the plans to establish a nuclear energy project in Jaitapur, Ratnagiri, which is classified as an earthquake grade four region and has experienced earthquakes measuring up to 5.5 on the Richter scale in the past. My fear is that if a nuclear project is set up there, any accident could have catastrophic consequences, which I cannot even imagine. My prayer is that, in order to protect this land and all its residents in the future, the Government must take serious measures to ensure its safety. I urge

the Government to give this matter the utmost consideration. Thank you.

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Dr. Ravindra Babu. Please be brief; We must conclude within two minutes. Everyone just express their condolences.

DR. RAVINDRA BABU (AMALAPURAM): Thank you, Madam, for giving this opportunity.

On behalf of the Telugu Desam Party, we express solidarity and grief over the sudden deaths. There is a strong message in this earthquake. We read in geography books that there are certain specific areas which are earthquake prone and tectonic plate movements cause earthquakes. These are the two things which uusually produce earthquakes but the recent phenomenon is a grim reminder of human limitations over nature's might. It is happening everywhere; maybe, because of, reckless development of human activity, maybe reckless development of urban growth, maybe reckless growth of multi-storeyed buildings, or drilling operations or mining operations or building of reservoiRs. There are many activities which may be going against nature. So, we have to learn a lot of strong lessons from this earthquake.

We have to be very careful while tinkering with Mother Earth. We have to deal with Mother Earth very gently, very scientifically, without going emotional about growth and the mad rush to imitate the Western countries. India cannot afford to have this type of artificially induced earthquakes and artificially induced global warming. We should strongly protest that sort of development. We must always live in harmony with Mother Earth so that Mother Earth will be kind enough and will not produce any further earthquakes. Our area where earthquakes are happening is never known to be earthquake prone or seismicity prone. Still it is happening in this unusual area. Therefore, this is my strong appeal to all Hon. Members and my strong appeal to the Government.

Of course, the Government is making disaster management very fast, very quick and very effective. We have been managing disasters very effectively. The way our Leader Shri Chandrababu Naidu managed recently the Hudhud Cyclone has been taken note of by the whole world. It was really wonderful. I think, the Nepal Government also must be doing it the same way with the help of our Government. I wish them all the best. At the same time, the Telugu Desam Party expresses solidarity and grief over the sudden deaths.

Let us remind ourselves that we are very small before the mighty Mother Earth. Let us not tinker with this. Let us not tamper with that.

Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD SALIM (RAIGANJ): Hon. Madam Speaker, disasters of this nature, especially earthquakes, affect not only infrastructure but also human lives, and when you expressed your condolences from here, we all deeply felt it. Earthquakes may cause cracks in doors and walls, yet they also provide an opportunity to connect hearts. Nepal is not only our neighbour but also a friendly country, and in India, the impact was felt in many regions including Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, North Bengal, Rajasthan, and Madhya Pradesh. The loss suffered cannot be fully compensated by any relief measures. Reports indicate that the earthquake measured 7.9 to 8.1 on the Richter scale, and the number of casualties has been increasing over the past 48 hours. While the Home Minister tweeted within an hour that the damage in our country was not significant, I also noted that premature conclusions should be avoided as accurate information from interior and backward regions often comes late. It is observed that coverage is higher for cities, while the full extent of the impact in remote areas of South Asia may not yet be known.

Shri Saugata Roy mentioned that villages suffer less damage while cities are more affected. This is because traditional construction methods have historically protected people, whereas many modern constructions in cities are not even earthquake-proof. While we cannot prevent earthquakes, we can certainly prevent deaths, and this must be a lesson for us. Especially in the Himalayan region, whether the construction is undertaken by the Government, state Governments, or the Union Government, we must exercise caution. Instead of relying solely on modern materials like concrete, which can sometimes cause more harm than good, we should adhere to traditional methods and use local materials. I acknowledge that the Government of India responded promptly, and international coordination is also ongoing. India should take a leading role in providing relief during such major disasters in South Asia and explore how rehabilitation can be supported using modern technology and information systems. Rescue operations are underway, but additional support for relief and rehabilitation would be beneficial. If the House directs, one month's salary can be contributed to the relief fund. While compensation is being provided for losses in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, or North Bengal, the Government of India must also address damages to bridges and other infrastructure. With these remarks, I thank you all.

SHRI CHIRAG PASWAN (JAMUI): Hon. Madam Speaker, I would like to express my concerns on behalf of my party regarding this tragic event. When the earthquake struck, I was in my ancestral village Shaharbanni in Khagaria district of Bihar and experienced its devastating effects firsthand. Following this, I personally visited Purnia and met the injured and affected people, and also toured the impacted districts. Our National President, Ram Vilas Paswan ji, visited several areas including Katihar, Araria, Supaul, Darbhanga, and Samastipur to assess the situation and extend support.

Hon. Madam Speaker, all I wish to convey through you is that we need to accelerate the rehabilitation work in the affected areas. Extensive rehabilitation is ongoing, and infrastructure has been severely damaged, but healthcare services remain inadequate. During my visits to several hospitals, I observed a lack of prompt medical care, which is critical in such situations. I therefore request the Government to strengthen these services and express my gratitude to the Hon. Prime Minister for his timely relief efforts in Nepal, as well as to our Hon. Minister of Home Affairs for personally inspecting the affected areas in Bihar. I would also like to highlight that the Seemanchal region of our state, which includes several districts, has repeatedly suffered natural calamities, from floods to hailstorms and

now the earthquake, leaving this region extremely vulnerable. I urge that, if possible, a special rehabilitation package be provided to our state and that it be declared a national disaster. With this, I, Chirag Paswan, on my behalf and on behalf of my party, the Lok Janshakti Party, express condolences to the families of the deceased and hope for the speedy recovery of the injured.

SHRI PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (ANANDPUR SAHIB): Hon. Madam Speaker, On behalf of my party Shiromani Akali Dal, I join the grieving families and express my condolences to those who have suffered loss of life and property due to the earthquake situation in Nepal, Bihar, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. I believe that in our culture, our sages, saints, gurus and prophets have taught us that in times of sorrow, in times of disaster, we should not see caste, colour or borders; everyone should come together as humanity.

I believe that our Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, recognizing that culture of our country, is the first Prime Minister of any country in the world to express sympathy in practical form in this sad hour, for Nepal he is the Hon. Narendra Modi. I understand that we have many NGOs that work during such tragic times.

Just now the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, our largest Sikh organization in Amritsar, has sent trucks to provide daily

ration for 25000 people. Now, on the direction of Sardar Prakash Singh Badal Ji, our President of Shiromani Akali Dal, Hon. Deputy CM Sardar Sukhbir Singh Badal, on behalf of Delhi Sikh Gurudwara Management Committee, ration for 25000 people will be sent from Delhi to Rakabganj Sahib and two trucks of medicines will be sent here daily. In such a situation, I want to make a request to the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs, first when such a calamity happened in Jammu and Kashmir, then also the Shiromani Committee helped there and still sent medicines there. Ration was also sent there. The same happened in Uttaranchal. As Hon. Shri Mulayam Singh ji said, it is alright. I also agree from the standpoint of my party that if the salary of MPs is donated for one month, it's a good thing. However, the Government alone cannot function during such times, the administration cannot function alone. Until society gathers together, until all people come together on a humanitarian basis, at times like these, the NGOs are important. Hon. Minister of Home Affairs ji, sometimes honor and encourage such organizations by bringing them together, so that during such calamities, as per our culture, we as a nation can come together to alleviate their suffering. Thank you.

DR. ARUN KUMAR (JEHANABAD): Hon. Madam Speaker, on this occasion of disaster, you have given me the opportunity to express

condolences on behalf of my party Rashtriya Samta Party. Certainly we have had a tradition, the tradition of our forefathers, we have expressed faith in the idea of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam and under that the country and the Hon. Prime Minister have expressed their cooperation with the urgency with which they have expressed without spending a moment in this hour of grief of Nepal, is definitely friendly to our tradition and we are carrying forward that tradition.

Today, on behalf of all the MPs from our party, I announce that we will donate our one month's salary. We will have to give priority to the crisis in Bihar and the north-eastern states, as this incident has happened especially after the storm in Bihar, after the hailstorm and a lot of damage has been caused in North Bihar. In fact, this has been affecting the entire North India and the east. Several Hon. MPs have stated that undoubtedly, our blind pursuit of development, without considering the consequences to nature, is also contributing to our current distress. The Government as well as all public representatives should express concern over this.

With this, I again express my grief on behalf of my party towards all the affected families and wish for the speedy recovery of the injured.

SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR (NALANDA): Hon. Madam Speaker, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak in this hour of grief.

Especially coming from Bihar, the incident in Nepal and the events in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan deeply sadden me. I express my condolences to all those affected, and I congratulate the Indian Government for standing by the Government of Nepal in this time of sorrow. I also want to extend my gratitude to the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs for his visit to Bihar, where he showed empathy towards the people along with his colleagues.

13.00 hrs.

Around 51 people have died and 180 people have been injured in Bihar. There has been a lot of damage. The day after the incident occurred there, I reached out to help.

In this context, I would like to make two points to the Government of India. I thank the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs for personally visiting the affected areas and for being fully aware of the situation. I urge that the recent incident in Bihar be declared a national disaster. I also express my solidarity with the Government of Nepal in this hour of grief, and our party stands with the relief efforts. We announce on behalf of our party that all members are willing to donate

one month’s salary to support relief work. I request the Government to take an appropriate decision, and if the House agrees, all Members should contribute one month’s salary to assist those affected.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV: Hon. Madam Speaker, we support the Hon. Member's point.

HON. SPEAKER: Yes, it’s okay.

[English]

SHRI MEKAPATI RAJA MOHAN REDDY (NELLORE): Madam, a great tragedy has occurred and a very grim situation has arisen by a severe earthquake that has hit our neighbouring country, Nepal and our own States like Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Bengal and Rajasthan. The reported loss of human lives, property and other infrastructure is huge. Nepal has been paralysed.

Natural disasters are a universal reality. The immediate challenge is providing affected persons with basic amenities before the actual enormous task of reconstruction starts.

I praise the timely action taken by the Government of India by sending relief materials to Nepal. Our Prime Minister has promised all possible help in its hour of grief.

In our own country, natural calamities like earthquakes, Tsunami, floods and drought are a regular feature. While nature's fury picks no favourites, damages can be minimized and rehabilitation can be effectively met with an organized disaster management plan.

On behalf of our Party, Y. S. R. Congress Party, I express and convey our condolences to the families of those who lost their kith and kin in the tragedy.

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Madam Speaker, I also express my deep sorrow and condolences to the people of Nepal who have been affected by the earthquake which had an magnitude of 7.9 Richter scale.

I also had the experience day before yesterday in Khan Market when I was sitting on a chair in a saloon. I got the experience of shaking of my chair and the lights colliding with each other. So, feeling the fear psychosis which I had at the time of this tremor, we can very well imagine the pathetic conditions or the situation of the people of Nepal.

I would like to take this opportunity to express our solidarity to the people of Nepal in rebuilding, reconstructing and rehabilitation the country of Nepal especially Kathmandu and other nearby places.

I appreciate the stand taken by the Government in having an immediate intervention supporting the people of Nepal. I urge upon the Government to render entire support for the rescue operations, relief operations, reconstruction and rehabilitation of Nepal in the original situation.

I would like to endorse and express my views in respect of the Hon. Member from the TDP who has cited that, ignoring the ecological and environmental protection, if we are concentrating on development in the way of GDP growth, definitely this will happen. From Koyna Dam disaster to Latur and Kutch disaster and now upto Nepal disaster, the lesson which we have to learn is that we have to be concerned about ecological and environmental protection when we try to reach our development goal.

With these words, I would once again express my solidarity in rebuilding the State of Nepal.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYANATH (GORAKHPUR): Hon. Madam Speaker, The tragedy that struck Nepal and North India with the earthquake on April 25 is a natural tragedy. We can assume that human beings have no control over the evolutionary tragedies, but it can be reduced by rescue and relief. We are all grateful to the Hon. Prime Minister and

Hon. Minister of Home Affairs that they have made the world feel the strength of India once again by starting immediate relief and rescue work. We live right in the neighborhood of Nepal. Eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar were shaken by the earthquake tremors, but we also felt the sentiments inside Nepal, which the Indian Government expressed by immediately starting relief operations there and expressing its sentiments towards the citizens there.

Hon. Madam Speaker, many questions arise before all of us when such tragedies occur. It is said that the Himalayan region is quite sensitive to disasters like earthquakes, and the entire belt in that zone is prone to such occurrences. Despite repeated warnings, when attention is not paid in that direction and we invite such disasters, it becomes even more unfortunate. Lhasa, Tibet, which is the roof of the world, has been completely denuded of forests and is being destroyed by tampering with in this manner. Now a new plan is underway to connect China through Nepal by building a tunnel on Everest. This is a direct attempt to invite more such tragedies.

I would like to request through you that this must be discussed once again that whenever there will be any tampering with the Himalayas, it is the most modern mountain, it is a mountain so when such tampering will happen with the environment and nature, then we

will not be able to stop such natural calamities from occurring. This is a tragedy. The best thing in this has been the initiative of the Government of India. NDRF rapid response teams provided assistance inside Nepal. We have an emotional connection with Nepal. The relationship between Nepal and India is like that of brotheRs. There was some haze over these relations for some time in between. The continuous visits of Hon. Prime Minister Ji to Nepal have strengthened those relations and this time the efforts made have instilled in the minds of the people there not only a heartfelt connection but also the belief that India truly has their best interests at heart and can provide genuine guidance. Relief work is going on till Kathmandu Valley and Pokhara. The main centre which was Lamchung and the surrounding areas like Gorkha etc., the area where the foundation of modern Nepal was laid, has been completely destroyed. There is nothing left there. Nobody is able to reach there right now because there are no means to go there.

The way all the people have expressed their feelings here, Nepal is culturally, emotionally, spiritually our brother and even today it stands as an impenetrable, strong fortress in the Himalayas for the protection of all of us. We all should support them and give them maximum help in this time of grief. They should be made aware that

India is fulfilling its duties as a big brother to them. Once again, on behalf of my party, I express my tribute to all those who have been victims of this tragedy. Whatever support we can provide, we will help fully. It would be good if a parliamentary team from here also goes to those areas and helps in the relief work. We will cooperate fully in this.

SHRI DADDAN MISHRA (SRAVASTI): Hon. Madam Speaker, Thank you for giving me the opportunity to express my condolences on this tragic incident. The devastating earthquake that struck on Saturday 25th April. The focal point of this was Nepal. Since our Parliamentary Constituency is completely adjacent to the Nepal border. Its widespread impact was seen in our area. Nisha, daughter of Nanke Kashyap, aged 15 years, a class 9 student, of Majhaua Sumal village in the Ikouna tehsil of our region was washing utensils sitting next to her mud house. The wall of the mud house collapsed due to the earthquake. His cousin Vinay Kumar, son of Sohan Lal, aged 25, was also standing next to him. Both of them were buried under a heap of soil. Both of them were immediately taken out and rushed to CHC Ikouna, where Nisha was declared dead and her brother was admitted.

Hon. Madam Speaker, while praising the efforts of the Hon. Prime Minister and the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs, I would like

to say that they have worked to provide relief with the same speed at which the earthquake struck. I want to say one thing that many housing schemes are being run by the Government of India and the State Governments but even after so many years of Independence, we have not been able to provide proper houses to the poor eligible people. Even today people are forced to live in Mud houses. Another tragedy has started in our area which is the incidents of fire from the month of March-April till the monsoon arrives, as there are Mud houses there. ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRIMATI MALA RAJYALAKSHMI SHAH (TEHRI GARHWAL): I would thank you, Madam, for allowing me to speak today.

I would, first of all, like to thank the Hon. Prime Minister and the Hon. Home Minister for helping Nepal. It has been a great tragedy. Within these two years – a year back or so after that it happened – we had a big tragedy in Uttarakhand to which I belong. Just two days before, we had this teriffic tragedy in Kathmandu in Nepal as well as in India. I would like to convey my condolences to all the peoples of Nepal and India who have lost their kith and kin. I am very glad – and I think - that India is the first one to help the people of Nepal.

Madam, I was born in Nepal. I would like to tell you all. It has a very close connection with India. I am thankful and I am very happy that the Hon. Prime Minister has helped. Even in the case of the Uttarakhand tragedy, he was the first one to help. When I called him up, he said he would come and he has helped Uttarakhand people. I would like to thank the Army and the Air Force people again. I am very much grateful to every one. As the rest have said, we will all give one month's pay. What we did in the case of the Uttarakhand tragedy, we would also like to do that now. I would like to thank everyone. I

would like to tell you that I have still not been able to find my brother who is in Kathmandu.

HON. SPEAKER: I know that. Because of that, I allowed you.

SHRIMATI MALA RAJYALAKSHMI SHAH: Even now, I have still not been able to find him. Thank you.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: All other Members can express their condolences by writing their names and also associate here.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): In this regard, as the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs is about to reply, I, as a Parliamentary Minister, request all Hon. Members, as Mulayam Singh ji and others have suggested, that on behalf of the entire Parliament, every Member donate one month's salary. If officially endorsed, it would be a commendable gesture, and it would be even better if all political parties formally announce their support for this initiative.

[English]

I appeal to all the sides of Parliament that we all contribute one month's salary from the MPLAD Fund. Subsequently, what is to be done with regard to MPLAD Fund and all, we can discuss later. I hope the entire House agrees to this appeal.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

[Translation]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): What the Hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has just stated reflects our collective sentiment. Leaders of the JDU and RJD have already expressed, and our party leaders have also affirmed, that every Member should donate one month's salary to the relief fund, and we fully support this initiative.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): Hon. Madam Speaker, the events that occurred in India and Nepal on the afternoon of 25 April 2015 cannot be considered a mere crisis but must be regarded as a major disaster. Many respected Members of this House, including Shri Mallikarjun Kharge, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, Shri Jayaprakash Yadav, Shri Vinayak Raut, Shri Ravindra Babu, Mohammad Salim, Shri Chirag Paswan, Shri Chandumajra, Shri Arun Kumar, Shri Kaushlendra Kumar, Shri

Rajmohan Reddy, Shri Premachandran, Shri Yogi Adityanath, Shri Dadan Mishra, and Shrimati Mala Rajyalakshmi ji, have expressed their views and condolences to the bereaved families. I too express my heartfelt condolences on behalf of the Government and the country to all those affected and injured. It is important to note that just five minutes before the incident, the Hon. Prime Minister and I were present at the inauguration of a new building complex of the National Intelligence Academy, and immediately after the programme, the Prime Minister called me at home to convene a meeting at three o'clock, having already been informed of the disaster. I acknowledge that I did not have prior information before reaching home, but the Prime Minister's promptness ensured that a meeting was immediately held to coordinate relief efforts. I assure the House that as a nation, we consider those affected by this earthquake in India, as well as the people of our neighbouring country Nepal, as part of our own family. While we offer condolences to all who have lost their lives, we also affirm that in this hour of crisis, the Government of India stands firmly with the people of India and Nepal.

Today, I would also like to mention that immediately after the incident, the Hon. Prime Minister personally spoke over the phone with 11 or 13 Chief Ministers. On the following day, I also contacted

the Chief Ministers of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Uttarakhand, Shri Akhilesh Yadav, Shri Nitish Kumar, and Shri Harish Rawat respectively, to seek their cooperation. I suggested that rescuing all affected people solely by air may not be feasible and that buses from these three states, which border Nepal, could be deployed to evacuate people, including foreigners, who wish to come to India. The Prime Minister also provided for gratis visas to facilitate their entry and immigration centres were set up at key locations. All these decisions were implemented promptly and I wish to express my gratitude, through this House, to the Chief Ministers of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Bihar for the speed and efficiency with which they dispatched buses and relief materials to Nepal. I congratulate them for their commendable support and assistance.

Hon. Madam Speaker, I know that this House would like to have some detailed information about this incident on the basis of the reports received so far. So I would like to submit the statement here.

A massive earthquake of 7.9 magnitude on Richter scale struck Pokhara region of Nepal on 25.04.15 at 11.45 am Indian time. This earthquake not only caused massive destruction in Nepal but also affected many states in India.72 deaths have been reported in India so far.56 people are reported injured in Bihar, 12 in Uttar Pradesh, 3 in

West Bengal, 1 in Rajasthan and more than 280 people are injured. This number can be greater than 300. Buildings and other constructions have also been damaged in Sikkim, West Bengal, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. The concerned State Governments are taking necessary steps. Five NDRF teams have been sent by the Government of India, out of which four are posted in Bihar and one in Uttar Pradesh. I would also like to inform that in Uttar Pradesh the team has been sent to Gorakhpur and in Bihar it is to Gopalganj, Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur and Supaul. We are also in constant touch with the State Governments and we have promised all possible help. The National Disaster Management Authority, i.e., the National Disaster Management Committee is continuously assessing the entire situation. All Indians stand with our Nepali brothers and sisters in this hour of grief and disaster. Hon. Prime Minister himself is monitoring this situation and he has ordered that we will give all possible help to our Nepali brothers and sisters.

As far as our rescue and relief efforts are concerned, ten NDRF teams from India have reached Kathmandu. NDRF teams have so far evacuated ten persons and retrieved 46 bodies. I think that number has increased. Six other NDRF teams are being sent to Nepal. The Indian Army has appointed an Engineering Task Force and 18 medical teams

to Kathmandu.22 tons of food items and ration packets, 50 tons of mineral water, 02 tons of medicines and medical equipment, 1400 blankets and 40 tents have been sent to Nepal. Several teams from the Army, Air Force and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare have also been sent to Nepal for medical assistance. All these teams are equipped with medicines, statures, beds, etc. An unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), also known as an Unmanned Air Vehicle, is also on its way to Nepal for rescue purposes. A high-level inter-Ministerial team led by Additional Secretary Home, comprising senior officials from the Ministry of External Affairs and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare along with communication experts has been sent to Nepal to coordinate rescue and relief operations. These teams have taken with them 250 very high frequency wireless sets and 15 high frequency wireless sets.

As far as the evacuation of Indians stranded in Nepal is concerned, we have so far succeeded in evacuating more than two and a half thousand Indians. By now, this number must have increased considerably. We are also making arrangements to evacuate them by air and road. We have requested the Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Uttarakhand to send buses and ambulances via road to Kathmandu ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY (BAHARAMPUR): Have you made any contact with the Government of Bengal? ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJNATH SINGH: The Hon. Prime Minister had spoken to the Chief Minister of West Bengal, but I could not talk. I have no objection in accepting the reality. We have asked the Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Uttarakhand to evacuate Indians and other foreign nationals stranded in Nepal from Kathmandu and other areas by road through buses and ambulances. We have also arranged free visas for foreigners to come to India from Nepal. Similar facilities have also been provided to foreigners coming by road through the India-Nepal border. The Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have been advised to set up relief camps for the people coming by road on the borders of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar and I am very happy to inform the House that these State Governments have made arrangements for relief camps there. The Border Security Force has been asked to facilitate the movement of people and to set up medical relief camps for earthquake victims in the border areas and to provide first aid and other medical assistance in the border areas.

Hon. Madam Speaker, the Hon. Prime Minister has announced compensation of four lakh rupees to the next of kin of each person

who died in the earthquake, as per the provisions of the NDRF, and two lakh rupees to other affected individuals from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund. I would like to assure the House that the Government of India will extend all possible help to the families of the deceased. It will not only help the families who have died, but also help those whose houses have been damaged. I offer my heartfelt condolences to the grieving families in the affected states and also to our friendly neighbouring country Nepal in this hour of grief.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (AZAMGARH): Three trucks carrying water bottles and biscuits have reached Nepal from the Uttar Pradesh Government. Those who died due to earthquake in Uttar Pradesh have been given Rs 7 lakh each.

HON. SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister has thanked everyone.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: The treasury of the Indian Government is full. You should give Rs 10 lakh each to the victims.

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, there will be no lunch time today.

13.25 hrs

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the Matters under Rule 377 shall be laid on the Table of the House. Members, who have been permitted to raise matters under Rule 377 today and are desirous of laying them, may personally hand over text of the matters at the Table of the House within twenty minutes.

Only those matters shall be treated as laid for which text of the matters have been received at the Table within the stipulated time. The rest will be treated as lapsed.

* Treated as laid on the Table.

(i) Need to undertake development of Jasidih railway station, Jharkhand

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA): The Jasidih railway station on the Delhi-Howrah via Patna main line is of paramount and strategic significance on a number of counts. As many as five railway lines are proposed to meet here. These are:

1. Doogarh-Dumka
2. Pirpainti-Jasidih
3. Bhagalpur-Jasidih via Banka
4. Sultanganj-Jasidih via Banka
5. Sultanganj-Jasidih via Asarganj

Over 50 million people visit Deogarh Jyotirling every year for darshan. Thus, the Jasidih Station is perhaps as important as the Jammu and Katra Railway stations for Mata Vaishno Devi darshan. Unless, measures are taken for management of flow of huge number of passenger at this station, the yatra of these devotes will be hampered. Imagine the situation that will be created when the five new

railway lines are commissioned and the number of yatris increases manifold in the years ahead.

Not only this, this station has other strategic significance, including for the movement of security forces and also for transportation of coal which is extremely important for power-generation. The Eastern Coalfield Company has already said that it wants to produce and transport 30 million tonnes of coal over five years but does not have Railway infrastructure to do so in this region. I would like to quote the Railway Minister "Second, we will partner with PSUs to ensure that sufficient capacity is built to transport critical commodities like coal, iron, ore, and cement, etc., from where they are extracted or imported to where they are consumed or processed." In the absence of infrastructure, railway line for Godda-Pakur (survey yet to be carried out) and Pirpainti to Naugachia via Bateshwarsthan is not possible.

Accordingly, I would draw your kind attention towards this matter and a direction to the concerned authority for the laying of above said railway lines.

The mineral rich state of Jharkhand is the single largest revenue contributor to the Indian Railways and yet has been at the receiving end of a step-motherly treatment all long. The state is afflicted with

Naxalism. In contrast, relatively more developed regions in the adjoining states have taken a lion's share of the projects, without any cost sharing.

(ii) Need to augment railway services providing better railway connectivity to Mandsaur Parliamentary Constituency, Madhya Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA (MANDSOUR): Today, railways are an important means of transporting passengers and goods in the country and are continuously expanding and improving. However, in my Parliamentary Constituency of Mandsaur in Madhya Pradesh, which falls on the Western Railway and West Central Railway zones, goods traffic is increasing and passenger traffic is also rising on the Western Railway, but the expected increase in the number of passenger trains has not occurred. I would like to know the reason for this and request the Hon. Minister to consider whether passengers travelling from Mandsaur, one of the largest parliamentary constituencies in the country, as well as from the district centres of Mandsaur and Neemuch and the main centre of Jakhra, can hope for better passenger train services. I would also like to know if the demand for doubling the Neemuch to Chittaurgarh route has been considered, as the double line survey from Ratlam to Chittaurgarh has already been completed. A decision should be taken soon regarding the remaining section from

Ratlam to Neemuch in the construction plan. I also present my suggestions for running additional passenger trains in this region:-

1. Ajmer to Tirupati new train
2. Kota-Neemuch Passenger and Udaipur-Neemuch Passenger will be operated till Mandsour station
3. To correct the time table of train no. 19327 and train no. 12964 and ensure matching at Chittaurgarh Junction.

(iii) Need to enact a law ensuring adequate medical facilities and efficient medical staff in Ambulances

SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL (MEERUT): Ambulance service is a very important service indirectly linked to health services. It is very important to have ICU related facilities in the ambulance so that the life of the patient can be saved while taking him from one place to another. But for this, there is no such rule or law, which mentions the requirements of necessary equipment and arrangements in the ambulance. Any vehicle can operate as an ambulance after obtaining a vehicle fitness certificate from the Transport Department, whether it has the necessary health equipment and skilled staff or not. As a result, the life of the patient who is unaware of all this and is forced to take their services remains in danger.

Therefore, I request the Union Government to take the trouble of making an effective law to control the ambulances which are running illegally and without necessary health equipment and skilled health staff.

(iv) Need to build a memorial of Swami Dayanand Saraswati at Bhinoy Kothi, Ajmer, Rajashtan

SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY (NAGAUR): I would like to bring to the notice of the Government that the first visionary of independence, the pioneer of total revolution, the pioneer of renaissance, Maharishi Swami Dayanand Saraswati Ji attained nirvana in 1883 at Bhinay Kothi in Ajmer (Rajasthan). The whole life of Swamiji was engaged in the upliftment of mankind. Swami Ji gave the mantra of total revolution and not only rejected casteism and untouchability but also raised awareness in the society against untouchability and casteism. Along with social revolution, Swamiji's history of propagating education is still paramount in the country. A saint who awakened the light of spiritual and social revolution simultaneously, there is none other like him in the history of India. Not only this, the contribution of Swami Dayanand Saraswati and Arya Samaj established by him in the freedom movement can never be forgotten. Shri Bal Gangadhar Tilak's slogan "Swarajya is my birth right" The word Swarajya was first used in "Satyarth Prakash" written by Swami Dayanand Saraswati. This place of nirvana of Maharishi Dayanand ji is a center of faith for the Aryans. The Aryas consider it not only as the place of

Nirvana of their beloved Rishi but also as a place of inspiration and want that a grand memorial of the beloved Rishi be built at this place which would be a place of inspiration for the world and a living memorial for the construction of new society. Most of the Bhinaay Kothi is not currently owned by the Aryans.

Therefore, I request the Union Government to acquire this entire area and give it to the Arya world so that a grand memorial of Maharishi Dayanand Ji, the first visionary of independence and pioneer of social revolution, can be built.

(v) Need to extempt Gujarat Safai Karamchari Vikas Nigam from Income Tax Act, 1961

DR. KIRIT P. SOLANKI (AHMEDABAD): Despite the best efforts made by the Gujarat Government, the issue of income tax exemption to Safai Karamcharis of Gujarat under Section 10(26B) of the IT Act, 1961 is still mired in controversy. Under the above clause, all the states of India are committed to uplift the poor, Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Other Backward Class people, but the Income Tax Department, Government of Gujarat completely ignored the above clause and imposed full Income Tax on Cleaning Staff which includes the people of Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Other Backward Class.

Gujarat Government has written several letters in this regard to the Government of India so that these sanitation workers get income tax exemption. Gujarat Safai Karamchari Vikas Nigam was created specifically for the upliftment and development of manual scavengers, rag pickers and people engaged in dirty jobs. Many recommendations from the State Government have been sent to the Union Government to remove the poor section of people from income tax in the appointment of Gujarat cleaning workers, which are pending so far.

Therefore, I request the Union Government to exempt Gujarat Safai Karmachari Vikas Nigam from income tax without any condition.

(vi) Need to provide compensation to farmers whose crops have been damaged due to excessive rains, hairstroms and pest attacks

SHRI BODH SINGH BHAGAT (BALAGHAT): The Rabi season crops such as wheat, gram, peas, mustard, pigeon pea, linseed, fruits and vegetables etc. have been completely destroyed in the villages of many districts of many states in the country in February-March 2015 due to hailstorm, heavy rains and pest infestation caused by bad weather. Farmers have suffered huge losses. A crisis has arisen for the farmers due to lack of any means of livelihood. The farmer is very worried and troubled. There is anger and resentment among the farmeRs. The farmer is committing suicide. At present, the Government is giving compensation only to hailstorm affected farmers which is not sufficient. The farmers affected by torrential rains and pest infestation are not getting compensation because there is no provision in the revenue circular.

Therefore, I request the Union Government to amend the Revenue Circular and implement the recommendations of Dr. Swaminath Commission to provide compensation to farmers affected

by torrential rains and pest attacks so that farming can become a profitable business and farmers do not have to commit suicide.

(vii) Need to take necessary steps for creation of employmet opporunities in various sectors of economy for unemployed youth belonging to Scheduled Castes and Schduled Tribes

[English]

DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR (TIKAMGARH): It is well known that despite reservation in Government services for SC/STs, the problem of increasing number of unemployed youth of this community has not been solved. In the absence of any alternative income, young boys and girls who are qualified hope to get employment. This situation of unemployment in our country is the root of many social problems. It is proposed to give a preference in the Government sector which may encourage the entrepreneurial spirit in them and give them alternate means of livelihood.

Therefore, I request the Union Government to take immediate action in this matter and make proper arrangements to provide livelihood to the unemployed youth of Scheduled Caste / Scheduled Tribe through self-employment or business directly or indirectly.

(vii) Need to accord approval of Cauvery, Vaigai and Gundar rivers interlinking project and canal modernization projects in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI P. R. SENTHILNATHAN (SIVAGANGA): As water is becoming a precious commodity, It is prudent on the part of any Government to use its water resources potential to its optimum level. With this in mind our visionary leader Makkalin Muthalvar Amma has taken up with Centre the matter relating to permission and funding of the interlinking of rivers within Tamil Nadu, This can serve as the pioneering model project for the linking of major rivers of India. The flood waters of Cauvery must be diverted to the drought prone areas of Tamil Nadu by way of linking cauvery with the rivers Gaigai and Gundar. This will greatly benefit the rain fed agricultural land in the districts of Tiruchi, Pudukottai, Madurai, Sivagangai, Ramanathapuram and Virudhunagar. A detailed project report along with the cost estimates of Rs. 5,166 crore has been sent to the Centre for approval. Similarly, modernisation of canals at a cost of Rs. 11,421 crore has also been sent to the Centre for its approval at the earliest. So is the case with Pennaiyar and Palar link scheme and Athikadavu-

Avinashi flood canal scheme. I urge upon the Centre to accord approval and provide funds for the early completion of these projects.

(ix) Need to provide compensation and announce loan waiver scheme for farmers whose crops have been damaged by unseasonal rains and hailstroms in the country

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): The recent suicide by a farmer from Rajasthan has highlighted the losses, the farmers have suffered due to unseasonal rains and hailstroms across 13 states in North India in February-March. States like Gujarat, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jammu & Kashmir and West Bengal have been affected by the calamity. What is needed now is not only compensation but also loan waiver. The Secretary (A&C) has written on 30.03.2015 to Secretary, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance highlighting major difficulties faced by the farmers in repayment of crop loans taken by them and requested to issue directions to banks in this regard as well as consider whether the benefit could be considered for restructured loans. But there has been no response so far. The West Bengal Chief Minister has written to Union Finance Minister on 09.04.2015 on the plight of the farmers, mentioning the losses suffered by potato farmers due to bumper crop and the steps State Government has taken to give them relief. She has also asked for waiver of loans of farmeRs. The Centre should

announce a decision immediately regarding payment of compensation to farmers and waiver of bank loans.

(x) Need to allocate funds from the Central Road Fund to construct roads linking Dhenkanal to Joda in Odisha

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAKUNTALA LAGURI (KEONJHAR): To develop the tribal areas of Odisha State, it is essential to construct roads in Dhenkanal, Joda via Kankrahad, Telqui, Baspal, Bamebari through Central Road Fund, but the Union Government has not yet taken a decision on this. Due to this pending work, the development of tribal dominated areas of Odisha is stalled. This area has immense reserves of many valuable minerals, but due to the lack of proper roads, instead of setting up any industry here, the minerals are transported away from here. The development of roads in these above mentioned tribal dominated areas will be possible only by constructing roads through Central Road Fund. This will help in industrialising this region, which will provide direction to the balanced development of the country.

Therefore, I request the Union Government to grant approval for construction of these roads through Central Road Fund.

(xi) Need to provide a comprehensive policy framework for investment and sustainable economic growth of Andhra Pradesh

[English]

SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU (SRIKAKULAM): I would like to bring to the notice of the Government that Andhra Pradesh Re-organisation Act, 2014 has done serious injustice to the residual Andhra Pradesh. It distributed assests based on location while apportioning liablities on the population ratio. Considering that virtually all the major assets are located in and around Hyderabad city which has since become an integral part of Telengana. Despite it being the common capital, Andhra Pradesh has forfeited all major economic assets and inherited huge liability without having the wherewithal to service the debt. Further Andhra Pradesh, by virtue of its location, is vulnerable to serious natural calamities. Therefore, the Union Government needs to create a level playing ground through a proactive policy framework and substantial financial package, apart from creating an ecosystem for investment and sustainable economic growth. Andhra Pradesh is likely to plunge into deep financial crisis with adverse consequences for its citizens especially the poor and vulnerable. So kindly do justice to Andhra Pradesh.

(xii) Need to introduce an additional train from Vishakhapatnam to Araku in Andhra Pradesh

SHRIMATI KOTHAPALI GEETHA (ARAKU): I would like to draw kind attention of the Government towards the dire need to sanction an additional train from Visakhapatnam to Araku and vice-versa to improve the tourism.

In this regard, I would like to bring to notice that Araku situated in Andhra Pradesh is a fast growing tourism destination. At present, there is only one train (one trip per day) operating between Visakhapatnam and Araku and it runs with full passenger capacity. This train runs through beautiful hills and valleys, natural water falls and greenery and many of the visitors prefer travelling by train to enjoy the beautiful nature. It is the dream of the Araku people that one day the Government will promote a glass train which becomes very successful and pride of Andhra Pradesh. Many private organizations are also ready to invest for the train in PPP mode also and this proposal is pending with Railway Ministry for the past 3 decades. Though many promises have been made but all in vain.

The bookings finish well in advance and many tourists end up in disappointment of not getting a chamce to travel. Hence, I request the

Government to immediately conduct a viability check on this route and provide for second train on this route. I also request to kindly examine the possibility of introducing a glass train in PPP mode, which will certainly boost up tourism in the area.

Keeping in view the position explained above, I request the Hon'ble Minister of Railways to kindly consider and do the needful urgently.

13.26 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL), 2015-16

(i) Ministry of Human Resource Development – Contd.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Now we are taking up the demands for grants of HRD. Nearly ten Hon. Members have spoken and more than twenty honourable Members have given their speeches. My only request is that we will finish this before 2.30 or 3 pm and take up the demands of other ministries.

SHRI LAXMI NARAYAN YADAV (SAGAR): Hon. Madam Speaker, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak about the grants of the HRD Ministry. I wholeheartedly welcome and support the demands for the Ministry's grants.

13.27 hrs. (Hon. Deputy Speaker *in the Chair*)

Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, Since time is very limited, I would only like to say that in the last one year, since the present Government has come to power, the Government has brought about qualitative changes in the field of education at all levels from primary education to middle, high and university level education with a view to

expanding and providing better education to children. For this, I applaud the Government. Since the list is very long and time is limited, I will present my views before the House briefly.

I would definitely like to bring some things to the notice of the Hon. Minister about which I want him to pay attention. Sir, yesterday, when Nishank Saheb was speaking, he said that unless we have human value-based education, education will have no meaning. Sir, I completely agree with his statement and I have only one demand and advice from the Hon. Minister that in every school, from primary to high school, when all the children assemble for prayer in the assembly, they should introduce Mahatma Gandhi's bhajan 'Vaishnav Jan To Tene Kahiye Peer Parayi Jane Re'.

Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, This is the kind of bhajan which can help in creating the best of humanity, so I request them to consider it. One more advantage of this can be that when you introduce such a good bhajan of Mahatma Gandhi and order people to pray, then the accusation of Saffronization which is made on you will not be made because if there is any symbol of secularism in India, then it is Mahatma Gandhi and this bhajan of his. I will request the Hon. Minister to please pay attention to this matter. Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, In the budget that has been presented, I would like to draw

attention to some of my pain and also to some of the weaknesses of the department. By the way, I am very sorry about this and I would like that the Government of India, the Government of Hon. Shri Narendra Modi ji has made cuts in the field of education, this should not have happened. Cuts in the Human Resources Department or the Education Department mean that we cut down on our beautiful future, a civilized future. I would also like to draw the attention of the Minister to the fact that in the papers circulated by her, there is an Appendix IX(J) I do not understand that on the one hand, the Government is short of money and on the other hand, what kind of work is being done in the name of Jan Shikshan Sansthans? Today it has been 65-66 years since our independence. After that, education has expanded so much, yet still, in the name of adult education, the Government spends a sum of Rs. 114 crores in the name of giving it to public education institutions. I have seen in many areas, I have asked many MP friends around my Parliamentary Constituency who I know, that these types of Jan Shikshan Sansthans are not doing anything. They only take grants from here and consume it. My suggestion is that you should investigate this. If there is a very good institution, then definitely release the amount to it. I am well aware of my Parliamentary Constituency. There is also a Jan Shikshan

Sansthan and there are many institutions around it; they are of no use. Therefore, the Hon. Minister should consider this and pay attention to it. The cuts that have been made have been under the guise of devolution, but I don't want this to happen in the name of devolution. The various schemes that are ongoing should not face any shortage of funds in any way.

Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I would like to convey through you to the Hon. Minister one more thing that, as we are witnessing, it is a matter of honesty, of truthfulness, and it should be acknowledged that providing education at the rural level is the responsibility of state Governments. There are many flaws, many deficiencies at this level of education. We do not see good results of children in schools at the rural level. Children from such schools cannot become good students.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Member, please be very brief. Hon. Minister is going to reply at 2.30 p. m. Still 20 Members are there to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMI NARAYAN YADAV: Therefore, I want that the Indian Government should start one Navodaya Vidyalaya in every block to provide new type of good and quality education to the

villageRs. What will happen is that the students who are good and talented at that block level will also get good education and will get an opportunity to progress.

After this, I want to say that ever since RTE has been implemented, such instructions have been given that no child should be stopped till the eighth class. This has had a consequence; I have visited twenty-five schools and observed that children up to the eighth grade do not even know how to write their names properly. I request you that students should not be stopped till first, second and third class, but children of the classes after that should be examined and they should be forced to become capable so that they can become literate children.

I also want to say one thing about university education. Although there was a lot to say, but you have taken my time too short, so I will say my point briefly.

In 2009, the Government of India has taken over 30 new universities. I want to tell you that the situation of those universities is very poor. I know about three or four of those universities. The situation is so bad in some places, our Vice Chancellor of Sagar is in jail. I have also been told that CBI investigation is also going on against the Vice Chancellor of Bilaspur University. I want to tell you

that the only reason for this is that you did not maintain any control over those universities. The Executive Council, which is supposed to control there, is formed at the will of the Vice-Chancellor. These institutions should stay away from politics, hence local politicians are not appointed in them. The people whom the Vice-Chancellor nominates are mostly his subordinates and they get anything done from those subordinates. Many of our professors have come under the ambit of CBI investigation because the Vice-Chancellor has got them to sign. Even though I know that they are not at fault, the Vice-Chancellor told them to sign and they did sign. Therefore, I would like to say to the Minister that you should make changes in this Act and include local MPs and other good people in the Executive Council. Only professors will not suffice and your officers do not have the time to look into it seriously. Today a lot of private universities have opened in this country, as it is called mushroom growth, their growth has become even more than that. This should be stopped. For this, a good regulatory authority should be formed which can control them, otherwise tomorrow the children educated here will roam around with degrees and the students of good universities will also roam around with degrees. Who will see their degrees?The first one among them will say that I am an M.A, LLB pass and the second one will also say

that I am an M.A, LLB pass or a PhD, in that case there will be devaluation of education. Therefore, I urge you to consider having a strong regulatory authority for private universities so that they can truly become institutions of education. I conclude my statement here. I request the Minister to pay attention to these matters and I support the demands for grants of this Department.

[English]

*__SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (VADAKARA)__: Education is the most important tool to bring about social transformation, development and growth. Any change made in the educational sphere will have far reaching ramifications in society. Therefore it is through education that we are going to build a resurgent nation which can meet the challenges of tomorrow.

The demographic dividend is a great advantage of our country. And the great potential and talent of our budding generation could be properly tapped only through education which is qualitative.

While participating in the Demands for Grants-2015, I remind this Government that ample caution needs to be taken before finalizing the proposed New Education policy of this Government. We should not forget the fact that we live in a pluralistic society and ours is a composite culture. Therefore, the New Education policy will have to take into account our secular ethos and cultural heritage. It should also promote scientific temper in the minds of the children.

This was exactly what our late Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi had done in the year 1986. While envisaging and finalizing the then New

* Speech was laid on the Table

Education Policy he had wide ranging discussions across the spectrum. And the great leap forward in the educational system gathered momentum through these wide consultations and interactions.

The Total Literary programme and the establishment of the Navodaya Vidhyalayas in each district for rural children were landmark achievements of Rajivji's National Education policy.

The Right to Education is a bi-product of this policy and we can be proud of the fact that a huge democratic country like ours, with the second largest population in the world, could ensure universal, compulsory and free education to all children between 6 and 14. Nutritious food, books, uniforms etc. are also provided by the Government free of cost.

Right to Education Act to my mind, is the greatest legislation that independent India has ever made. And the destiny of India is going to be determined in the classrooms.

It was Rajiv Gandhi who converted the Ministry of Education into the Ministry of Human Resource Development. This was intended to build a vibrant, strong nation through human resource development.

Keeping in view India's rich demographic dividend, the HRD Ministry is the most critical Ministry and it holds the key to the progress of our country.

If, however, one looks at the allocation made for education it is shocking to note that there is a savage cut in the budgetary allocation.

There is 22.14% reduction in allocation for SSA over the last year. With such a huge cut, how is it possible to increase the focus on enhancing the quality of education to address the poor learning levels of our children?

Compared to the previous year the amount allocated for Rashtriya Madyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, a flagship programme of the previous Government, is 29% lower this year. For the Rashtriya Uchha Siksha Abhyan (RUSA), the decrease is a staggering 48%. It is astonishing to note that the allocation for mid-day meals has also been drastically cut.

The argument of the Government is that the state will be getting their due share following the recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission. In reality this is not going to happen.

India has the maximum number of Universities in the world, according to UNESCO estimates. But it is alarming to know that not one of these Universities figure among the 200 Best Universities in

the world. No doubt we have institutes of excellence like IITs, IIMs etc. But when it comes to the question of universities we have a long way to go.

If you look at the best universities in the world you will find that many of these universities do have professors and academics from India. Why this brain drain? Serious introspection is to be made and all out efforts are to be taken to bring these talents back.

Right to education assures 25% reservation in all educational institutions for children belonging to disadvantaged section of society. It is a paradox to see that many of the private institutions do not adhere to these rules and they charge huge capitation fee for admission to these schools. If such a situation prevails how could the children from vulnerable sections benefit from this landmark Act. Government should pay special attention to this point and strict instructions should go from HRD Ministry to implement the same in letter and spirit. If education is run on commercial lines the cardinal principles of equity, excellence and expansion would remain only on papeRs.

A lot of criticism has been raised against the HRD Ministry by the academic community and the intellectual strata that the Government is impinging on the autonomy of many of the educational institutions.

The controversy relating to treatment meted out to the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai, renowned Nuclear Scientists Sri Anil Kakodkar, is a case in point.

The Director of NCERT, Prof. Parvin Sinclair, was unceremoniously sent out of office two years before her term ended. She was not allowed to defend herself before the decision to terminate her.

The resignation of the Director, IIT, Delhi, Sri Shevgaonkar, two years ahead of tenure triggered another controversy.

The Four Year Undergraduate Programme in Delhi University created lot of controversy and ultimately was withdrawn by the Government exposing its inept handling of academic Affairs in the university.

The revamping of Indian Council of Historical Research was another major issue on which this Government was under attack from Historians from across the spectrum. The appointment of Sri Y. Sudarshan Rao as Chairman of ICHR generated a lot of heat as his academic records revealed that he was not a distinguished Historian. Anyone could see how surreptitiously this Government is attempting to saffronise an important academic Body like ICHR.

The deliberation at the All India Science Congress in Mumbai also reveals that this Government is taking such an important event in a cavalier manner. The scientific community was totally disenchanted with this year's science Congress. I am emphasizing this point as science and education is integrated.

I have good number of other instances wherein this Ministry is going in for saffronization of educational system at a rapid speed.

While concluding, I would say that any reorientation of education should begin with the New Education Policy of 1986 as laid down by Rajiv Gandhi, which was a road map for the overall development of our country through Human Resource Development.

[Translation]

*__SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA (AMBALA)__: I support the HRD Ministry's grants. Education is a challenge in a large country like India which has diversity and different languages. The Prime Minister of the country has focused on skill development education which provides quality and employment to the people of the country. That is why it has been decided to upgrade 80,000 schools in the country. And decisions have been taken to set up world class institutions like 6 thousand model schools, IIMs, IITs, Triple IT in every state. We can gauge the vision of the Prime Minister from the fact that immediately after becoming the Prime Minister, he gave Bharat Ratna to Mahamana Madan Mohan Malaviya, who had laid the foundation stone of Banaras Hindu University. The President has also emphasized on higher education and quality education while presenting the vision of the Government in both the houses of the Parliament. Similarly, our former President Dr Abdul Kalam has also said that education should be such that which brings smile on the faces of the students. The budget has laid emphasis on education and social security so that the ground level situation can be changed and education and skill development can be made the basis of education.

* Speech was laid on the Table.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is playing a revolutionary role in the field of education, hence Rs. 22 thousand crores have been allocated for this purpose in the budget. A provision of Rs. 9 thousand crore has been made for Mid Day Meal in 3565 crore technical education, Rs. 2200 crore in National Secondary Education, Rs. 1155 crore in National Secondary Education, Rs. 200 crore for Information Technology Mission. I believe that quality oriented education system is the power booster that will transform India as a leading nation in the world. The way digital revolution has taken place in the world today, India is also moving towards that digital revolution. This technology will provide good education and good values to our students and will prove useful in shaping their future. Our education policy emphasizes on output rather than input, hence (Padhe Bharat, Badhe Bharat) is a great step to create an environment of literacy and mathematical proficiency. I am happy that the Prime Minister identified Haryana for the 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' programme and made the whole world aware of this resolve of India.

While the Government has given priority to the education sector, the picture that is visible after independence is blurred. The latest report has warned about the falling standard of education in Government schools. We have to make the level of basic education a

serious challenge. Today, it saddens me a lot when reports show that our fifth grade children cannot read second class books. The foundation of Mathematics and English of our children is very weak. In this, the lack of training of teachers is also adding fuel to the fire. It has also come in the survey that 20 percent of teachers cannot pass their qualifying test. It is a matter of great concern for the country. Therefore, there is a need for significant changes in the education sector. In this era of commercialization, parents also consider education as a means to fulfill their ambitions through their children. Although it has been termed as a wrong trend because commercialization of education can hinder the holistic development of a child.

It is true that education is a shared responsibility between the central and state Governments. However, the 14th Finance Commission has increased the financial powers of the States from 32 percent to 42 percent. Due to this, the responsibility of the states to spend on education has increased further. Although our critics are targeting us by saying that there is reduction in the budget in items like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Mid Day Meal, Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, Teacher Training etc. We need to clear this misconception by talking concretely with the states and increase the

availability of funds in this sector, whatever technology we have to adopt. We will also have to bring transparency in the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and while recruiting teachers, we will also have to emphasize on the recruitment of qualified teachers. I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister that even after 68 years of independence, we still see in rural areas that either there are no schools in villages or if there are, there is only a single teacher, and there is a lack of basic infrastructure. We need to focus on this aspect. I would also like to congratulate the Minister that the Government has taken a revolutionary step to make toilets for school children under the Swachhta Abhiyan adopted by the Prime Minister. I would also like to request the Government to end the notion that quality education is available only in private schools. As per the RTE Act, we will have to maintain the ratio of 1.30 between teachers and students in the class and whatever plan we have made for education, we will have to implement that plan within a specific time so that no plan gets left behind.

I am elected from Ambala Lok Sabha constituency which is a reserved constituency. The development of my area has been stagnant for the last several decades. When Haryana was formed in 1966, Ambala was called the Gateway of Haryana. This was an advanced

Lok Sabha constituency in the state in every area, but today there is neither any IIM nor any IIT nor any institute for skill development. There is no university for girl students either. Panchkula district of my Lok Sabha is called the mini capital of Haryana. Then why has no big institution come there in the field of education till date? Today the Government of India is going to celebrate the 125th birth anniversary of Baba Saheb Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar. The Indian Government has taken many positive steps in this direction. I will request the Hon. Minister in this anniversary year to establish a university in my area in the name of Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar. A women's university should be established and institutions like IIM and IIT should be brought in. I would also demand that scholarships for dalit students be increased and modern hostels be built for them. So that they do not face any problem in the field of higher education. Therefore, I support these demands.

[English]

*__SHRI S. R. VIJAYA KUMAR (CHENNAI CENTRAL)__: I thank our beloved leader Hon. Makkalin Mudalvar Idhaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. Amma for having given me an opportunity to represent Central Chennai Lok Sabha Constituency in this august House and also for enabling me to express my views on the Demands for Grants for the Ministry of Human Resource Development for the year 2015-16.

The Ministry of Human Resource Development comprises two Departments viz. the Department of School Education and Literacy and the Department of Higher Education.

The Budget Estimates for the Department of School Education and Literacy stands at Rs. 42,219.50 crores out of which Rs. 39,038.50 crores for Plan outlay and Rs. 3,181.00 crores for Non-Plan outlay. The total Budget Estimates for this Department has been reduced from Rs. 55,115.10 crores for the fiscal 2014-15 to the present Rs. 42,219.50 crores. The Government intends upgrading over 80,000 secondary schools and add or upgrade 75,000 junior/middle to the senior secondary level to ensure that there is a senior secondary school

* Speech was laid on the Table

within 5 km reach of each child. In order to achieve universal school education and continuing the many ongoing schemes under this Department, the Budget allocation for the year 2015-16 has been increased from the previous fiscal. Let us hope for rethink on this matter and enhancement of the outlay for the year 2015-16.

Enhancing the outlay for this Department is a must to meet the school education related issues including mid-day meals. The shining example of the State of Tamil Nadu is providing mid-day meal to the school children with balanced nutrition and also providing the students free of cost with all necessary things like bicycles, books, mathematical instruments, atlas, uniform, bags, shoes etc. to all school going children and even laptop, computers to higher secondary, ITI, Polytechnic and College students should be studied by the Union Government for universal implementation.

The Budget Estimates for the Department of Higher Education stands at Rs. 26,855.26 crores out of which Rs. 15,855.26 crores for Plan outlay and Rs. 11,000.00 crores for Non-Plan outlay. The total Budget Estimates for this Department has been reduced from Rs. 27,656.00 crores for the fiscal 2014-15 to the present Rs. 26,855.26 crores.

There are numerous proposals like setting up of new IIT in Karnataka and upgradation of Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad into a full-fledged IIT, setting up of Institutes of Science and Education Research in Nagaland and Odisha, a Centre for Film Production, Animation and Gaming in Arunachal Pradesh and Apprenticeship Training Institute for Women in Haryana and Uttarakhand, setting up All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh and Assam. I fervently appeal for sanction of one more IIT for the state of Tamil Nadu and setting up the proposed All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) within this fiscal.

It is observed that the total slash in the education sector as compared to the revised allocation in 2014-15 fiscal is 2.02%. In total, the school education and literacy department and higher education department have got a total of approximately Rs. 69.074 crores. The revised estimate for 2014-15 was approximately Rs. 70,505 crores. The cut is, however, about 16.54% if compared with the actual outlay the 2014-15 fiscal.

The huge reduction in the outlay for both the school education and literacy department and the higher education department will

delay our efforts in achieving the objectives of providing a better school education and state of the art higher education.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Government to revisit the allocation matter and enhance it to reasonable higher levels so as to help the important education sector.

I would once again thank our revered leader Dr. Amma and the Chair for this opportunity and conclude.

[Translation]

***SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE (MAVAL)**: Education is not only a means of increasing efficiency; it is also a tool to broaden the participation of the general public and to make the overall quality of the individual society effective. Only through education can any society be made civilized and well developed. Keeping this thought in mind, the present Government is working.

There are two departments under the Ministry of Human Resource Development namely Department of Education and Literacy and Department of Higher Education. The objective of the Department of School Education and Literacy is to provide equal education to all to make full use of the human potential of the nation and the objective of the Department of Higher Education is to utilize the human potential of India in the field of education with equality and excellence. And in today's highly competitive environment, a good quality human resource base is very essential. The concept of development has evolved in this direction for the last several decades.

While on one hand new schemes are being made to improve the quality of education and increase the level of education, on the other

* Speech was laid on the Table.

hand we need to understand the ground reality regarding education. This question forces us to think whether we will get better education in the Government educational institutions of the country or not. Currently, there is no school building. Children are forced to study in open fields or under trees and if there is a school building somewhere, it is in a very dilapidated condition. Furniture is not available to sit in the school. Students study sitting on the ground, so the Government will have to consider this reality and make comprehensive programs to deal with this situation. Only then will the schemes run by the Government prove successful.

Various schemes are being implemented by the Education Department but I want to draw the attention of the Government towards the shortage of teachers in schools. Today, there are many schools in the country where only 2 or 3 teachers are available to educate nearly 500 students. A single teacher teaches many subjects to so many students. We also need to understand this serious situation; if a single teacher teaches many subjects then what will be the level of education. This is understandable in itself, hence the Government will first have to fill the shortage of teachers in schools so that children can get a good education.

Commercialization of education has increased over the past few years. Many private schools have opened everywhere and these private schools have started the business of education full-fledged. In today's time, private schools provide all the education which is necessary for human upliftment. But in lieu of this education, private schools charge a hefty amount from the parents by levying annual charges and other charges and are increasing the fees from 20 to 30 per cent every year. My suggestion is that the Government should take appropriate action to prevent private schools from arbitrarily increasing fees and should curb the commercialization of education by increasing control over private schools.

It cannot be denied that the condition of Government schools is still lamentable, and we are talking about high-quality education. Even today, all Government schools in the country are lacking in necessary facilities. In all the Government schools in the country, there is a severe lack of toilets, drinking water, proper laboratories, libraries, sports equipment and playgrounds, as well as sports coaches, and only 35-40 computers are available for around 700-800 children. Due to this, people prefer not to send their children to Government schools, and I believe that until these facilities are provided, the standard of education will not improve, and citizens, especially those

living in urban areas, will not trust Government schools. If we have to increase the trust of the people in these Government schools, then we have to increase the number of teachers along with all the necessary facilities in all Government schools.

The standard of education in Kendriya Vidyalaya and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya is better than other Government schools and the Ministry of Human Resource Development has set a quota of 6 seats every year for every MP to get admission in Kendriya Vidyalaya in his area. For these just 6 seats we have an application of 400-500 people every year and this becomes a difficult situation for us. Therefore, I would request the Human Resource Development Minister that every MP in Kendriya Vidyalaya should be made a quota of 10-10 seats for every Kendriya Vidyalaya school coming in his area so that there is no resentment among the people of the area and the children can also get a better education.

[English]

*__SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK)__: All the Governments around the world recognize the importance of education. Only those societies that have acquired the relevant knowledge and skills can compete successfully in the global market today and it depends on the quality and standard of education that the children and youth received. Therefore investments on education has emerged as a power mechanism for accelerating growth and development of a nation. Education is not only an instrument of enhancing efficiency but also an efficient tool for augmenting and widening democratic participation and upgrading the overall quality of individual and society. India has a vast population and to capture the potential demographic dividend to remove the acute regional, social and gender imbalances, there is a need to make concerted efforts for improving the quality of education as mere quantitative expansion will not deliver the desired results in view of fast changing domestic and global scenario.

While primary education is fundamental to the nation, higher education determines its economic and technological progress in the globalized era. The Ministry of Human Resource Development has

* Speech was laid on the Table

two departments, that is, Department of School Education and Literacy and the Department of Higher Education. I would like to deal with these two departments, separately and specifically on this year's budgetary allocation. Union Budget 2015-16 has brought mixed reactions. While Higher education, skill development and jobs have received more importance, I feel, basic issues in the educational sector have been neglected or is seen as very less important. A total of Rs. 68,968 crore has been allocated to the education sector. Higher education department has got Rs. 26,855 crore in 2015-16 which is 13.31 per cent higher than the previous year when it got Rs. 23,700 crore in 2014-15. The focus towards quality education is demonstrated by planning to upgrade over 80,000 secondary schools and add or upgrade 75,000 junior/middle to senior secondary level. Sarva Shiksha Abiyan (SSA) has been allocated Rs. 100 crore as compared to Rs. 93.14 crore last year. Yet, I would say there has been a marginally reduction on the overall allocation towards education. About 22% increase towards higher education is there and this indicates that there is a shift in focus from school to higher education. The Government has set aside Rs. 42, 219.5 crore for the Department of School. Education for 2015-16 as compared to Rs. 46.805 crore last year. The allocation in the school sector was cut by around 10% in the

planned outlay from Rs. 43, 517.9 crore in the last budget to Rs. 39,038 crore. The Mid-day Meal Scheme suffered a drastic fund cut from Rs. 1296.5 crore last year to Rs. 133 crore this year. There is great deal of talk to provide quality education. But there is little mention of how to make education to all at the grass-root level.

The deteriorating learning quality in Government schools is currently one of the most discussed issues in the education sector. Economic Survey 2014-15 also has flagged issues like how more than one crore children are missing out on the benefits of legislation like RTE Act. Though there are improvement in Literacy rate and school enrolment, learning scenario in India is dismal in international comparison. NCERT also has pointed out that learning is a big challenge in the Indian Education sector. The levels of learning vary across states, gender, social ground and regions. The situation is more severe in higher levels of education. In a Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) of CBSE for 2 lakh students in Class IX, only 90 thousand could pass the evaluation. Poor learning at earlier stages of education was identified as a key reason for this failure.

Elementary education is a fundamental right of every child in the age group 6-14 years. The total population of children in this age

group in approximately 237 million. Total population of children of age group of 0-18 years is 442 million. Right to Education Act is in force since 2009. Though many circulars have been issued by the Central and State Governments for effective implementation of the Act, very little progress has been made. Though the demand for education is expanding the enrolment in Government schools has been decreasing over time. As per Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) data, private school enrolment in rural India is increasing at an annual rate of 10 per cent. In 2014, more than 30 per cent of children in rural areas were enrolled in private schools. The poor quality of output in the form of learning outcomes is one of major reasons for this preference shift. Therefore, there is need to make adequate allocations for universalisation of elementary and secondary education across the country. The recommendation of Kothari Commission in 1966 for 6 per cent of GNP for public expenditure on education is still unmet. At present, the Union Government bears only one fourth of the total Government spending on education, whereas the rest three fourth of the spending come from the state Governments.

As education is in concurrent list, the Union Government needs to take a larger responsibility towards promising financial resources for education. They constitute 39 per cent of India's population,

making the country home to 20 per cent of the world's child population, but children received the lowest share in the Budget this time. The education sector has 2% cut in the outlay in this Budget even as the Government propose to set up new IITs and IIMs in some states. This year's budget has marginally reduced overall allocation towards education but increased the planned higher education budget by nearly 22%. This shows there is a shift in focus from school to higher education, but increase of about Rs. 3000 crore, from revised estimate of Rs. 23,400 to Rs. 26,855 crore, will not be enough to power the new IITs, five new IIMs. On an average one IIT costs Rs. 1750 crore and an IIM nearly Rs. 1000 crore. So is the case of establishing new Indian Institutes of Science and Education Research in Bhubaneswar and one in Nagaland. This will entail big expenditure. Where is the money? Larger problem afflicting higher education is the pathetic condition of state universities. In its last leg UPA-II had come up with an ambitious Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) to state universities. Many states have come on board, but this Government seems less enthusiastic about RUSA.

While discussing Demands for Grants on HRD, I would say the overall provision for education in the budget is not that encouraging. Though the focus on higher education is appreciable, but

strengthening of the state higher education institutions- a dire necessity of time- is not seen in the budget. Now states have to spend more on key school schemes. UGC stares at fund crunch as Government does not budget for its costs.

It is not that higher education is only in difficulty, technical education is in shambles. Indian education, be it school education, higher education or technical education, requires a serious change in the mindset. Education is the foundation of society, its values, culture and progress. It is time we bring back the archetypal school teacher. It is also time to realize that education too is serious a business to be left to the private sector.

*__KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE (UDUPI CHIKMAGALUR)__: The quality of primary education in India has been a cause for concern for quite some time. While the current policy, including a new legislation for Universal Education, lays out a grand vision of raising children's education profile, it barely lays emphasis on developing their skills to learn.

There is rapid fall in quality of education in a country where education is a constitutionally guaranteed fundamental right. Poor families in rural India are spending a lot of hard-to-find cash to get half-baked education for their children. Even as the Government undertakes to educate all its children under the Right to Education (RTE) Act, private schools are mushrooming in rural India and attract 10% more students every year, compared to the previous year.

There has been a feeling that RTE may have led to relaxation of classroom teaching since all exams and assessments are scrapped and no child is to be kept back. Teaching learning of basic foundational skills should be the main agenda for primary education in India. There is a national crisis in learning. The quality of education and performance of the students in both Government and private schools have to improve and the Government has to check the invasion of the

* Speech was laid on the Table

sector by private capital. With or without RTE, even the primary school education is moving in the same direction.

The Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) released in 2013 had some startling observations on reading and math levels in all Indian States. In 2010, nationally, 46.3 per cent of all children in Class V could not read a Class-II level text. This proportion increased to 51.8 per cent in 2011 and further to 53.2 per cent in 2012. This decline in reading levels is mainly in States such as Haryana, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Kerala, which happens to be the most literate state in the country. In Maths, the situation seems as grim, especially in Government schools.

Clearly, the public education sector has failed in building strong institutional mechanisms to promote learning skills. New policy initiatives do not inspire confidence either. The Right to Education Act, for instance, requires School Management Committees (SMC) to be set up to co-ordinate activities in every Government school. The SMC oversees the operations of the schools and receives funding from the State and Union Government. Three-fourths of the SMC should consist of parents and the rest local authorities, teachers and educationists. The idea was to have increased community participation in the school's operation. A working paper by the Delhi

based Centre for Civil Society says that School Development Plans are barely functional in SMCs and that Members are unaware of their responsibilities.

The teaching system needs to cater to students with unique skill sets and these skills need to be developed at the primary level. For that to happen, the teaching evaluation system has to be overhauled. Over 99 per cent of the 7.95 lakh teachers who appeared for the Central Teacher Eligibility Test in 2012, a benchmark for teacher eligibility, failed to clear the exam. This is largely due to the outdated B. Ed degree system. An NCERT paper says the B. Ed Programme is too short and focuses on 'rote memorization' rather than 'teaching for understanding'.

The National Curriculum Framework for Teacher Education of 2009 recommended longer preparation for teachers, but the B. Ed curriculum structure continued to be for a single year. There is also a lack of enough skilled trainers and preparation to develop skills, abilities and attitudes to teach students.

Clearly, the primary education system in the country is broken and attempts to fix it are feeble. Unless the problem is addressed quickly, these young ones would grow to join the swelling ranks of the educated unemployables in the country.

Four steps that could transform India's education system from a mediocre to a world-class system are: -

First, it is important not only to invest more in education but to do so more strategically. Government should invest more resources in teacher education and development, principal training, ICT in education and assessments. Furthermore, a portion of the budget allocation to states should be contingent upon the adoption of progressive education policies and improvement of outcomes.

Second, improve quality standards through nationwide assessments. Assessments need to be at the core of any planning exercise for improving India's education system. The Government should introduce state-wide learning assessments that are undertaken at regular periods during a child's school journey, which can also contribute to remediation and improvement in teaching. Additionally, a school rating system should be instituted to set targets for school level improvements.

Gujarat Government has already taken a lead in this regard with the Gunotsav Programme, an accountability framework for quality of primary education that includes learning outcomes of children as well as co-scholastic activities, optimal use of financial resources and community participation. This model can be replicated in other states.

Third, equip school principals to become efficient school leadeRs. Great leaders make great institutions, in every sphere. In schools, principals are the highest point of leverage, yet their role is often restricted to administrative functions. There is a need to re-imagine the role of the principal- as an instructional leader, rather than an a administrator. Moreover, we need to institute stricter guidelines for recruitment of school leaders that prioritize merit over seniority. Gujarat has again taken the lead by establishing the Headmaster eligibility test for selection of its principals. The Government should set up centres for school leadership in every State and mandate induction as well as ongoing training for all principals.

Fourth, improve teacher quality for better learning outcomes. It is unfortunate that teaching today does not attract the best talent. We need public awareness campaigns in India that are able to effectively project teaching as a rewarding and meaningful profession. Centres of Excellence need to be created for teacher education in prestigious universities across India. Our Teacher Education Institutes (TEI) capacity is extremely fragmented with over 11 lakh seats in 14,000 TEIs. Most of this capacity is of poor quality that has been created through non-transparent, poorly formulated TEI recognition procedures. Government should build and scale high-quality institutes

at top 10 Central Universities and strengthen SCERTs and DISEs (District Information System of Education).

I believe that every child in India deserves excellent education. I also believe that given the vastness and diversity of our country we can only succeed through experimentation and analysis, rather than a mere adoption of predefined rules. Our country needs bold reforms and focused implementation with clear targets for learning outcomes to achieve this goal.

Our emerging market peers- China, Brazil and Poland, among others - have mad education reform a priority as they recognize it as the surest path to sustained economic development. The future of 240 million children is at stake, and as concerned citizen, I urge Government's attention to these bold steps that can truly improve their lives. With these words, I conclude.

***SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT (JODHPUR)**: Why is India still a developing country and what is stopping it from being a developed country? [Translation] This particular question strikes me every time when I read something about India's education system. I see India's education system as a stalling block towards its objective of achieving inclusive growth.

Let me inform the Government which all of us realize about certain startling facts. India is going to experience a paradox of nearly 90 million people joining the workforce but most of them will lack requisite skills and the mindset for productive employment according to a report in DNA. India has about 550 million people under the age of 25 years out of which only 11% are enrolled in tertiary institutions compared to the world average of 23%.

I wouldn't be laying too much emphasis on the drawback of India's public education system and its history or its origin because it has been an issue well debated in the past and the main flows has already been pointed out before I will be focusing on how the education system's failure is leading to anther social issue of income

* Speech was laid on the Table

inequality and hence, suggest certain policies to improve India's education system and reduce inequality.

The really critical aspect of Indian public education system is its low quality. The actual quantity of schooling that children experience and the quality of teaching they receive are extremely insufficient in Government schools. A common feature in all Government schools is the poor quality of education, with weak infrastructure and inadequate pedagogic attention. What we are not realizing right now is the education which is a source enriching the human capital can create wide income inequalities. It will be surprising to see how income inequities are created within the same groups of educated people.

Certain policy measure needs to be taken by the Government. The basic thrust of Government education spending today must surely be to ensure that all children have access to Government schools and to raise the quality of education in those schools.

Another reason for poor quality of education is the poor quality of teachers in Government schools. Our Government schools are unable to attract good quality teachers due to inadequate teaching facilities and low salaries. The Government currently spends only 3% of its GDP on education which is inadequate and insufficient. To

improve the quality of education the Government needs to spend more money from its offers on education.

Most economist feel that only panacea to the ills of the public schooling system is the voucher scheme. Under the voucher system, parents are allowed to chose a school for their children and they get full or partial reimbursement of their expenses from the Government. The present education system in India has come a long way and age old traditions have undergone a makeover to produce an ecosystem that is evolving every single day.

Initiatives like the 'Right to Education Act' have provided that emptive to growth and progress by laying special emphasis on elementary education in India, but this is not sufficient. 25% of the Indian population is illiterate. Only 7% of the population that goes to school managed to graduate and only 15% of those who enroll manage to make it to highs school and achieve a place in the higher education system.

A few reasons why education in India is given less importance in some area as follows: 80% of the schools are managed by the Government. Private schools are expensive and out of reach of the poor. More hand to earn remains the mentality amongst many families and therefore little kind are set out to fend for the family once over

going to schools to garner adequate education in the most literate sense of the word. Infrastructure facilities at schools across rural areas and in slum dispense very poor quality of education. The teachers are not well qualified, and therefore not will be paid and therefore are not willing to work hard enough. This has been a classical Catch-22 problem that the Government has been trying hard to fight against.

The type of Education system in India can be classified as: (1)Pre Primary education in India; (2)Primary education in India; (3)Elementary education (4)Secondary education in India; and (5)Higher education in India

What do we need to change about the Indian Education System: -Focus on skill based education; reward creativity, original thinking, research and innovation; get semester people to teach; implement massive technology infrastructure; re-define the purpose of the education system; effective deregulation; take mediocrity out of the system; and allow private capital in education.

Education system in India is quite different from the curriculum followed in other countries of the world. Education system in India focus more on theory then other activities whereas countries like USA and Canada have divided their syllabuses into content, practical as well as sports and other curricular activities like music, dance, drama

and so on. There are many other systems followed by other countries. So let us discuss the system adopted by a few countries to understand the Indian Education system.

United State divides their years of study into three stages: 1) Elementary school

2) Middle School; and 3) High school

This concept builds a sense of progress in the kids from quite young age.

Australia - follows quite a different method in terms of their educational system. Australia is very famous and reputed about the education pattern followed there. It is divided into 3 parts: 1) The primary school; 2) Secondary school; and 3) College

Australia gives great importance to sports like cricket, hockey, boxing and offer scholarships to make students ready for events like Olympics making then the leader in many games played in the world.

Talking about education system followed in India it is focused mostly on theory and offers degrees in different fields which help children to aspire and take up relevant jobs in future. Educational years in India are divided into Kindergarten, primary, secondary, college, university level and finally post graduation.

The Indian Education system mainly focuses on cramming and not on the concept. Here the emphasis is more on getting good grades in the exams. Children are overburdened with theoretical knowledge with no trace of practical knowledge. As a result, when they are employed in firms requiring the use of practical knowledge they are out of the race.

I strongly feel that in this era of transition our country is undergoing, we must discuss the issue at length and rethink about the future of our education system for the future of the nation.

[Translation]

*__SHRIMATI SANTOSH AHLAWAT (JHUNJHUNU)__: While conveying my best wishes for the Budget 0presented by Shri Arun Jaitley, the Minister of Finance under the leadership of our popular Prime Minister, Hon. Shri Narendra Modi, I appreciate the efforts being made in the field of education by Hon. Human Resource Development Minister, Smriti Irani. I congratulate the Government of India for running various campaigns like Mid Day Meal, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, etc. smoothly.[English]

[Translation] My Parliamentary Constituency Jhunjhunu is playing a leading role in the field of education. People educated from here are providing their services in every corner of the country. Taking this chain of education forward, I request the Hon. Minister to open a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Buhana in my Parliamentary Constituency Jhunjhunu so that we can further develop the field of education and give educated citizens to the country.

* Speech was laid on the Table.

SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY (NAGAUR): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on the Demands for Grants of the HRD Ministry.

Some of our colleagues seemed more concerned about budget cuts, but the reality is that the budget is prepared keeping in mind the amount of money spent in the previous year. The budget could not be fully exhausted in the year 2014-15, due to which the Finance Minister may have made some cut in the budget. Secondly, there is no need to worry about the Budget when our flagship schemes, which have been implemented by the Hon. Prime Minister and the HRD Minister, are very stimulating and good schemes. Then definitely our Government is committed, no shortage of budget will be allowed in any way, provided it is spent in the right place, only then the budget can be given again. [English] Thirdly, share of the state is being enhanced from 32 percent to 42 percent, which was announced by our Hon. Prime Minister and by the 14th Finance Commission. [Translation]

Because of this, ten percent more money is going to the states. If any shortcomings are noticed in the states, they can be rectified to fulfill them completely. So, that is my request to our colleagues who have expressed concern about the Budget.

Today my main importance will be on quantitative and qualitative education, today I would like to request you about this. After independence, there has indeed been significant progress in education in the country. A lot of good work has been done. Where previously there were no secondary schools within twenty kilometers, no middle schools, today there is no settlement or hamlet where there is no school. Primary schools have been opened. No matter which Government has been in power, Union Government, state Government, or any party's Government, the field of education has been given importance. Today our Government has decided that there should be senior secondary schools everywhere within a radius of five kilometers and under this, there is a plan to open 80 thousand senior secondary schools and 75 thousand secondary schools. Let me tell about my state, where the Government of Rajasthan and the Hon. Chief Minister have announced that there will not be any Panchayat Headquarters where there is no senior secondary school. This is a very good, commendable step, which has been announced by the Government of Rajasthan.

Similarly, when it comes to primary schools, it has been said that there will be no shortage of them. Wherever these schools are not there, our state Government has made arrangements for them. When it comes to

children, the Right to Education Act, which was implemented in April 2010, has resulted in a [English] GER (Gross Enrolment Ratio) is about 100 per cent in the primary level, it is 87-90 per cent in the upper primary level; and slightly less, around 50 per cent, in the secondary and senior secondary levels, [Translation] which is a matter of concern. We say that quantity is not needed, attention should be paid to quality. Even today, 15 percent students are going or enrolling in the universities and colleges in higher education. Our Government has decided that by 2020, it will be increased up to 30 percent. The Hon. Minister is here. The target of enrollment in universities and colleges has been set at 30 percent. That should be appreciated and we will certainly achieve this target. It has been said that this will be done by 2020. If we look at the quantity, education is being promoted to a large extent in the country, as far as quality is concerned, it needs more attention. The reason for that is that in the last one year, you passed the Bill related to triple ITz, IIA or ITI or IIT design, related to opening Central University in Champaran, we congratulate the Hon. Minister for the intention of setting up a global level institution and towards that you are moving forward. I also say that education should be as employable as possible whereas currently engineering graduates, even only 20 percent graduates are employable. We have

to take care of them also. Providing good education, training, placement and best education, when all three work together, we will move ahead in the field of education.

In 2007 our dropout ratio was 9.4 percent. [English] That came to 4.7 percent. The Ministry has to take care of even this also. Dropouts should be minimal. We should bring the drop-out rate to zero percent. Similarly, there are small children of primary school.

They are not coming to the schools. Will try to bring them to school, five percent of the schools are not having drinking water. 17 percent of the schools do not have separate toilets for girls. For which the Hon. Prime Minister has talked about Healthy India - Healthy Schools, crores of rupees are being spent under it. Even as Members of Parliament, all must be doing but I did it. I have given Rs. 1 crore to the scheme for building separate toilets for girls to different schools in my constituency. Every MP is doing this work. 42 percent of the schools are not having boundary walls. The biggest problem. But it is a problem of all. Under your National Secondary Education Campaign, you give permission to build rooms in schools. What about the old ones? Getting worn out. Even under the MPLAD fund, we cannot get it repaired. We cannot get them repaired from our fund. Therefore, there is a need to do a little more so that the rooms which

are falling into disrepair in the schools for children to sit, can be repaired. As of now, every student must pass the eighth class examination, this is right. I believe that the class VIII examination should be conducted by the board. It should be a uniform decision. It should be the decision of the Union Government, and all the State and UT Governments will follow that. This type of arrangement should be made. As far as the question of teacher recruitment is concerned; there is a shortage of teachers. The Minister is worried about it. There is a shortage of 30 percent teachers in colleges and universities. In many places like states, people have gone into litigation regarding small matteRs. When a case in Rajasthan went to the Supreme Court, our Chief Minister got an affidavit issued and recruited 12,000 teachers who were in the pipeline. Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are two states where this is lacking.

In the end, I would like to make one more request that Kendriya Vidyalaya is a very good school. Therefore, I would like that there should be a Kendriya Vidyalaya in every district of India. We are requesting you as per the demands of today's children and parents. Thank you very much for giving me the time to speak. I support the demands for grants of the Department.

[English]

*__SHRI GOURAV GOGOI (KALIABOR)__: For a developing country and emerging economy like India, education of our children and youth deserves utmost priority. In our history when India won its Independence, our education sector faced huge challenges such as dismal literacy, poor enrollment, low participation of female students and limited outreach of Government schools. In the past 60 years under successive Governments the situation improved significantly. There are greater number of girl students, nearly 90% enrollment of students, around 73% literacy rate and massive increase in school infrastructure especially in poor and remote areas. Undoubtedly, Government policies such as Right to Education, Mid –Day Meal, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan ensured that families with limited resources were able to send their children to school where they studied in a hygienic environment and nutritional support. Consequently, 60 years ago when education was unavailable to large parts of the child and youth population in contemporary India, it has become a right.

Now the current Government needs to reaffirm its priority to the education of our children. Unfortunately it has started off on the wrong foot. Reduction in the Budget for key Government policies

* Speech was laid on the Table

such as SSA, RMSA right is not right. There also has been concern about mixing mythology and science, high number of vacant VC posts and public discontent amongst Directors of top educational institutions.

The Ministry also has to ensure that the investment in Government schools yield better learning outcomes. Research indicates that private schools pay less salaries to their teachers but produce the same academic results as Government schools. This implies that the governance of Government schools must improve. This will not be provided without an increase in the budget of the HRD Ministry.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV (BANKA): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I stand up to speak on the demands of the Ministry of Education and Human Resources. The Department of Human Resources is the beacon of knowledge, binding the nation in the thread of unity. India is a united country. Knowledge is devotion; dedication. Knowledge can alleviate mental deprivation. A person can endure hunger for up to 24 houRs. But if someone wants to make a slave from the mind, then human beings should not be made. A knowledgeless society creates mental inferiority and where mental inferiority arises, there will be upheaval in the structure of the society. This will create disadvantages in society. Therefore, we need to build a knowledgeable society. The temple of knowledge has to be improved.

13.46 hrs. (Shri Arjun Charan Sethi *in the Chair*)

There is a saying that someone can steal our clock, someone can steal our ring, wealth can be plundered, but knowledge is something that cannot be looted in the world; it can only be shared. Therefore, we must give special emphasis to education and strive to build a knowledgeable society. Knowledge is enlightenment; it's the full moon. In the full moon, there is light. Ignorance is the dark night of

the new moon, it's darkness. Without knowledge, there is darkness in life. Illiteracy is like a dirty veil, which the Indian Government and every citizen must lift and discard. For this, the enlightened section of the society should come forward, the Union Government and the State Government should come forward. Knowledge is our heritage, Vikramshila. In history he was known for spreading the light of knowledge. His knowledge was spread all over the world. Even today we have knowledge and acumen, capacity and intelligence. Our name is there in the country and the world. We have to focus on education. If Government schools are weak, then India's education system will become weak. Private schools cannot uplift us. Even today, 70 percent of the people study in Government schools. Therefore, it is our duty to adorn Government schools with all amenities, to make them better in every way. Private schools were opened so that the light of education reaches everywhere, but we do not need private schools, we need Government schools, which are the temples of knowledge, especially the schools in villages. Where there is no division of knowledge among students of all castes, religions and sects of the society, whether they are from remote areas, tribals, backward, backward, Dalit, exploited. The nomination must be correct and not fake. Primary education should be given emphasis. Special emphasis

should be given on the education of SC and ST. Emphasis should be given on rural education. Mid-day meals should be improved. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan should be taken to every village in a better way. Board exams should be re-introduced in middle classes. Special emphasis should be given on women's education. We prioritize the education of brothers, we prioritize the education of students, but both are wheels of life. As much as we emphasize students' education, when we further elevate the importance of women's education, only then will India prosper in the field of education and become knowledgeable. Therefore, we need to bring equality in education. We need to improve the quality. I come from the Banka Parliamentary Constituency. There is a Central School there, which is operating in a small building. I have appealed to the Hon. Minister regarding this matter. I have appealed to the Hon. Minister regarding this matter. There was correspondence, but we would insist that the first and second classes of the Kendriya Vidyalaya in Banka have been closed. Now the land has also been acquired, hence the Kendriya Vidyalaya of Banka should be improved by allocating funds as soon as possible. Navodaya Vidyalaya should be improved. Students should not be burdened with books, knowledge does not increase with the burden of books. That is why today we have to emphasize on education for

human development, we have to make arrangements for toilets, we have to make arrangements for libraries. We also have to take the support of media and today we have to give concrete shape to the slogan of Beti Padhao, Beti Bachao. They have to make us knowledgeable in the field of education. We used to raise slogans, I have also been the Education Minister in Bihar. We used to say, if you give birth to us, then give us education, we will eat half a loaf of bread and still go to school. Our leader Lalu ji told us to raise the slogan - We will eat half a roti and still go to school. If you gave birth, then give education. That is why it is our duty and responsibility that we have to educate people today. Today there is a shortage of classrooms, but the number of students has increased. In the whole country and in Bihar, three classes are run in one class each. Today there is a huge shortage of teachers in the country, how can this be improved. We have to pay attention to this. Today, there are many remote areas, poor areas, tribal areas, minority areas, and we also need to consider their welfare. Today, we need to provide comprehensive knowledge. We need to provide teachers in proportion to the number of students. This is today's most urgent need. We should use our native language, the Indian language, more often. That is why, today we want to say that what is our social obligation, which is our political obligation, which

is the responsibility of the Government that we have to improve education. We have to remove whatever shortcomings are there in the field of education through the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. Unless we develop human beings, develop education, focus on basic education, focus on primary education, we cannot progress. That is our foundation that is our base that is our building. Therefore, its fragrance should spread like sandalwood. Today, it is our duty to spread the light of knowledge, which is the essence of our united India, among all castes, religions, and communities in society, and to ensure that the light of knowledge reaches every village. That is why we urge the Hon. Minister of Education that today it is our duty to improve education with better quality in the field of education. When our knowledge ends, darkness will prevail. That is why India has always been sharing the message of knowledge.

With these words, I conclude my statement. Thank you.

SHRI VEERENDRA KASHYAP (SHIMLA): Hon. Chairperson Sir, on my own behalf, I would like to congratulate, Shrimati Smriti Irani, the first Human Resource Development Minister, for the way she is taking this Department forward and making her contribution in conducting various programmes in the direction of the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi ji, is commendable. For the year 2015-2016, the provision in the budget for the education sector, considering all components, is Rs. 69074 crores. It is being said that this year's budget is less than in previous years. This is true, however, we should not just focus on the numbers in this budget. We also have to see that there has been a ten percent direct increase directly from the Centre by the 14th Finance Commission and if the panchayats and municipalities are added then there is a provision of budget directly more than 65 percent from the Centre.

Alongside this, there has also been a 22 percent increase in the budget for higher education. It has been increased by Rs. 13 thousand crore to Rs. 15855.26 crore. In the field of education, there has been a focus on improving the quality of education. The BJP mentioned reforms in the education sector in their election manifesto. In which emphasis was laid on education of girls, establishment of e-learning and National Multi Skill Mission. In this way our Ministry of

Education is moving forward and I am happy that the NDA Government started in the time of Hon. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji, I see many benefits in the rural area, where there was no room for school, no teachers, there were excellent primary schools, middle school rooms, teachers and all the arrangements are available there. I want to say that today in the country where about 68 percent of women are illiterate, good programs have been formulated to take them forward, Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao program has been formulated, so that more and more girls go to school, separate toilets are being constructed for girls. I would like to congratulate our HR Minister for this. Girls in the country are doing well, goodness is moving forward and I am seeing that our gender parity ratio which was 0.84 in 1999 has increased to 1.02 in 2012. We are seeing that girls are getting triple MA in villages today. They are going to the extent because today they got that exposure. Those girls, when they were not taught, their parents did not send them to school from home, they were illiterate, but today when they have been exposed to this education, our girls are not MA, double MA, but Triple MA are sitting in the house. Similarly, through the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana, you have encouraged skill development in rural areas, and Hon. Prime

Minister has established a separate Ministry for Skill Development, allocating Rs. 1500 crores for it, which will be beneficial.[English]

Sir, previously, the education policy focused on producing clerks, class 4 employees, but today, the need for skills is paramount. Our educated youth are unable to find jobs. Until skill development occurs, the future of our youth will remain uncertain. That's why I express my heartfelt gratitude for your initiatives in this regard. You have initiated the reading India, growing India movement. Under this, the children of lower category, Class 1 and Class 2, who study but do not have knowledge of alphabets and digits, will gain knowledge through this and if their standard improves in accounting and maths, then it will also be beneficial for them in 'Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat' (India should study, India should grow) and it is a matter of great regret that today, if we analyse the Annual Status of Education Report 2014 properly, it will reveal that we are educating the children and the Minister is sitting here, I would like to request her that this system which was started by the previous Government, that we are taking the children forward from class 1 to 8 without any break. I've often said that it's like taking a child to the mountain, giving them a bicycle, putting them on it, and then pushing them and saying, Son, go. That is, what kind of education do you want to give to that child without

any break. He does not know how to read or write anything, he cannot calculate two plus two, he cannot subtract it. You need to pay more attention to this. You have started a good program called Shala Darpan. The Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya Teacher Training Program has been initiated by you. A provision of Rs. 100 crore has been made for the Modernization of Madrasas, in which 10 lakh Muslim children have been provided for further education in it. You have made a very good beginning for higher education for Campus Connect, in which 20 thousand classrooms of 21 thousand colleges i. E. 4.2 lakh classrooms will have WiFi, because if we want to make Digital India, then we have to move forward towards it. Nearly one and a half crore students will benefit from it.600 universities will be Wi-Fi with it, be it e-library, silent platform, etc., all the schemes that you have given are very good. You have opened many IIMs, triple ITs and IITs, NITs. IIM

And a special provision of Rs. 1 thousand crores has been made for IITs. I would like to thank you very much for this also. One thing that you have started under the Pradhan Mantri Vidya Lakshmi Yojana for higher education is very good and the Hon. Finance Minister has said in his budget that we will not allow children to walk more than five kilometers for secondary education. So upgrading 80

thousand secondary school, opening it and upgrading and opening 75 thousand junior schools, you have done this very good job. I would like to bring two-three points to the attention of the Hon. Minister. We are seeing in the villages today that Government schools are closing and the private schools which are starting there, but regret arises when our big officials, whether they are good officers in education, officers of divisional level, IAS officers, they are teachers, head teachers or principals.

14.00 hrs.

Where they are sending their children, they are sending their children to those private schools and where they are teaching, where they are getting a salary of Rs. 50-60 thousand, they are not sending their children there, that is, the standard of education is coming down. I come from Himachal Pradesh, and in many rural areas, there are schools where only one child is left.... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, give me just two minutes. The second thing I want to say is that the need today is that we should brainstorm that a new education policy, what is Indian Education NITI Aayog, should make it so that we can think fully on it, brainstorm on it.

Hon. Minister, We want from you, last time Kapil Sibal ji was here, there used to be a quota of two in Central School, he stopped

that, he said this right here, all the Members turned against him, one or two Members just said in the House that not just two, either stop it. Their anguish is, the quota of 6 has been increased again subsequently, Sir, you know. But today if you increase that quota of 6 to 10, it will be very good. Our agony is that we have a lot of people coming to us. It should not be stopped, there is no situation to stop, because people come to us, poor people are getting its benefits. Hon. Minister Madam, I would like to tell you that you must increase it.

In the end, I want to say something very important. You are giving education loan because a student wants to take B.Tech, someone wants to take MBBS education, but that education loan is withdrawn from parents at 13-14 per cent interest. In this, I would like to request that our Hon. Minister, who is present here, consider that the loan should be interest-free, or if it must be taken, it should be at two percent interest, to be paid only when the child who has taken the education loan gets employed. I wanted to say many things, but you have said so I take my place. I would like to reiterate that whatever suggestions I have made, the Minister may consider them. Thank you very much.

*__SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL (MEHSANA)__: I would like to express my views on the supplementary demands of the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Our national leader and freedom fighter Chakravarti Rajagopalachari used to say that education is the cultivation of consciousness. Education is not merely a means to earn a livelihood or enhance employability it is much more than that. However, education is an essential tool for building national character and shaping today's children, who are the future of the nation, into good citizens.

In 1996, Dr.0 Kothari Panch wrote that our future is being nurtured in the classrooms. The great hero Dr.0 Ambedkar had said that the development of any nation depends on the progress of education of its women.

As per 2011 Census data, there is a rate of 73 percent literacy in the country. In which significant progress has been made in female literacy. Female literacy still remained low at 64.6 percent over male literacy of 1.9 percent, but female literacy has increased by 10.9

* Speech was laid on the Table.

percent compared to the growth rate of 5.6 percent of male literacy, which is commendable. I thank the Government for this.

The Beti Bachao Beti Padhao program is also a commendable program. The initiative Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat is an excellent step to create an environment of reading, writing and mathematical proficiency. Not a single university of ours is included in 300 universities of the world. But I am sure our Government is taking concrete steps in this direction. Sarvodaya leader Vinobabhave ji had said that education should be of H Dhan ($H^{3)}$. H stands for Heart, Head, Hand.

Education is also an effective tool for broadening public participation and upgradation of individual and overall quality of society. Therefore, to achieve this goal education for all, our Government is committed to improve the quality of education to address regional, social and gender inequalities. It is a matter of happiness.

The Ministry of Education is implementing the objective of the Department of Higher Education to utilize the human potential of India with equality and excellence in the field of education. That’s a good thing.

The change being brought in the National Mid-Day Meal Scheme in schools, which is the flagship programme of the Union Government, is also commendable. I thank the Human Resource Development Minister for the monitoring committee that has been constituted for the Mid-Day Meal Scheme, SSA, RMSA with the Chairperson of MPs. A provision of Rs. 68 thousand 968 crore has been made in the Budget for 2015-16 for education including Mid-Day Meal Scheme. I thank the Union Government for that.

It's commendable to deposit subsidies and scholarships directly into the bank accounts of children from SC/ST and OBC families. This will definitely improve the standard of education. The decision of National Skill Mission is also commendable in improving the standard of education. The Union Government has decided to open IITs and IIMs in every state. This is also an appropriate step in the future of education.

Quality-oriented education system is an empowerment tool that will transform India into a leading nation globally. Through quality, any society can be made civilized and developed. Michel Foucault had said that knowledge is power, all the ways of acquiring knowledge are ways of acquiring power.

Education should be freed from the cobweb of exams because education is not just for exams. Some measures should be found due to which the examination can be given free education up to class 10.

My demand is that as per the present rules of UGC, it is mandatory to acquire 2 acres of land in urban (city unit / corporation) area and 5 acres of land in rural areas for starting a new college. Even today Municipal - Municipal unit areas are also counted in rural areas. Therefore, the land in the city unit/municipality area has become very expensive and the prestigious and old educational institutions which have come up in the middle of the city in those areas are no longer able to expand them so that it is easier to start new colleges so that the society can benefit from good educational institutions. I also demand that a land acquisition policy should be implemented in the city unit/municipal area as well.

A total of 20 IITs have been set target on PPP model across the country. Under this, Diamond City Surat should be granted approval for a new IIT. The centrally sponsored scheme SSA, which started in Gujarat in 2001, receives financial assistance from the Union Government. There is an uneven process of financial assistance under the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA). It should be

removed, and from 2009 onwards, financial assistance should be provided equally as a matter of parity.

The Indian education system is currently grappling with a serious pandemic phase. There is a need for change in private education and public education and education system because we have got only commercialized education from the Congress-UPA Government. I am sure that the will power of the present Government will get good results to bring change in it.

In the districts of the country where there is no provision of Kendriya Vidyalaya and Kasturba Gandhi Kanya Vidyalaya, proper decision should be taken by the Human Resource Development Minister.

Education should be aligned with employment opportunities; therefore, there is a need to bring appropriate changes in the education policy. Adult literacy is a holistic literacy programme. More emphasis should be placed on promoting basic literacy that achieves gender equality, empowering both women and men.[

I appreciate and support the Supplementary Demands that the Hon. Minister has brought.

*SHRIMATI ANJU BALA (MISRIKH): Education is the medium without which life is difficult because there will be no education then nothing will happen. But there is a matter of concern, playing with education which is not good. There are many states where question papers are already leaked. These schools have made it a business for themselves where the child studying there feels cheated. Because it does not have the marks that come from those who do not read. I mean to say that the cheating business should stop. Such schools should be banned, whether it is Uttar Pradesh, or any other state. The exams that have just been conducted have not been conducted in schools/colleges sincerely. I want to tell the Hon. Minister as to why the parents are sending their child to a private school only. Because they feel that the quality of education in Government schools is not satisfactory. Even though the Government provides all the resources, we still cannot provide the facilities that are available in private schools. This is a matter of concern. Therefore, we have to say with a sad heart that a committee should be constituted by our Government, which should investigate these schools because the uniforms and books for the children in the Government school are also not available to the children properly. If I talk about eating, like the mid-day meal that

* Speech was laid on the Table.

children are transported, I have myself come to check the food in my area, which also had the media with me, which added water instead of porridge, milk, which the children threw in front of me and was not worth eating. Upon my inquiry, the children told me that we receive the same thing every day. Earlier the food was made in schools, but now it has been given to some NGOs. Wherein this situation is worsening day by day. I want to tell the Minister, as I said earlier, you should form a team and get it investigated and definitely punish those found guilty in this. I also want to tell the Hon. Minister that the quota of six seats for MPs' children in Central Schools should be increased. Because when we go to a village, looking at the demand of those people, we think this quota should increase. I also want to tell the Hon. Minister that there are many schools in my Lok Sabha constituency Mishrikh where schools exist but there are no students. Teachers receive their full salaries, but students do not attend the schools. Their attendance is marked in the register, but no teachers are visible in the schools. I checked in schools myself, most of the schools looked closed to me. When I asked some children, they said that we want to read, but the teacher would have come. No, the Minister should look into it. Those found guilty in the investigation should be punished immediately.

Quality of education has the climax of decline today. In the case of higher education, the state of Uttar Pradesh, from where I am an MP, the level of undergraduate and postgraduate children has become this mark sheet has written 80 percent numbers, but if the copy of the marksheet is written and asked to be given by yourself, then perhaps a student with 80 percent number will not be able to do it. Why is this happening, which probably did not worry the previous Government. Today, at the time of admission, admissions in colleges are mostly in those colleges where there is a good system of copying. The examinee does not need to study at the time of examination. The school manager makes good arrangements for copying himself. The answer to the question paper is written on the black board. The question papers are opened hours before the start time, which is solved in advance by the hired teachers. Then its photo is copied and delivered to each examination hall. Schools open only at the time of admission and open at the time of examination. A babu and a sweeper live in the school. The one who handles the task of depositing money.

In most colleges, there aren't enough teachers to teach. Teachers are appointed from colleges, but the appointment process is such that a teacher remains appointed with copies of their documents in several schools. The teacher is employed in one school. There are a large

number of schools in Uttar Pradesh. The same teacher holds appointments in many schools affiliated with various universities. Due to the different universities involved, even upon investigation, he is not caught because one university does not communicate with another. Neither is there any arrangement of the Government to ask for NDC in the remaining universities in which the college affiliated to the teacher is being appointed at the time of appointment. All the staff and officers of the university are involved in the process of copying and appointment of teachers in the examination. Good financial transactions are maintained. In the name of preventing cheating, the University arranges for flying squads/flying squads, but once the college gives them twenty-five thousand rupees. The flying squad receives the money, gives the certificate of cheat-free examination and goes towards another university. He does the same thing in every college he visits that day. The condition of primary education and secondary education is already very bad, but now the level of higher education has also deteriorated. This is a matter of serious concern for the country.

Therefore, I urge the Hon. Minister/Government to bring about changes in the education system policy and make efforts to provide our citizens with quality education.

*__SHRIMATI REKHA VERMA (DHAURAHRA)__: Sanskrit Vidyalaya Marhiya District Lakhimpur Kheri has a total number of 7 schools. Of these, 3 schools are in a dilapidated condition. There are 3 teachers in these schools.2 teachers are retiring on June 30, 2015. Then there will be one teacher in 3 schools. In these schools, no funds are available for development building damage. The school is on the verge of closure. For example, in Sitapur there are 4 teachers in 20 schools, in Hardoi there are 3 teachers in 14 schools, in Shahjahanpur there are 5 teachers in 14 schools. The situation is the same for schools across the entire state. Teachers should be appointed in these schools. Buildings should be renovated. Hon. Minister is requested that if this is not taken care of, we will be on the verge of closure.

* Speech was laid on the Table

[English]

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO (SHIRUR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is one of the important schemes launched by the Human Resource Development Ministry. It has made a great impact on elementary education, particularly in rural areas and in the State of Maharashtra. However, we have noticed with great pain that during the last two or three years, the budgetary allocation has been reduced considerably towards this important scheme. I would like to mention here that during the last two to three years, not a single classroom or not a single compound wall has been constructed in Maharashtra, particularly in Pune District, which is one of the important educational centres in India.

Presently, there is an urgent requirement for the construction of 800 to 900 classrooms in my Pune District alone. At present, many classes are being conducted in temple premises and *Gram Panchayat* offices. Whenever we approach the State Government, they say that due to shortage of funds and priority being given to other sectors, they cannot construct further classrooms. I spoke to the Hon. Minister a

couple of months back and she said that there was no restriction from the side of the Union Government to build classrooms under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. I would still request her to send advisories to the State Government as there is a large requirement of classrooms and also there is a need for construction of compound walls around schools in the State of Maharashtra. If the Minister intervenes, I am sure the State Government will take some positive steps.

Besides that, I would like to refer to higher education and technical education. There are many Government-aided engineering colleges in the State of Maharashtra. For example, recently, the Government of Maharashtra has started one of the best engineering colleges in my constituency, in Pune District. We have spent more than Rs. 300 crore for constructing the campus and for providing other facilities. However, there is a problem due to the non-availability of the required teachers. Only 43 vacancies have been filled so far. I do not know whether this comes under the purview of the Hon. Minister. This is one of the important requirements. When the Union Government talks to the Maharashtra Government, this important issue should be solved.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI (HYDERABAD): Sir, the recent empirical data says that in 2011-12, 74 per cent of the population of the age of six years and above is literate. But when we compare this with the Muslims, it is the lowest literacy rate of 70 per cent as compared to the 74 per cent of our Hindu brothers and 83 per cent of any other religious minorities. The lowest literacy level is of the SCs and STs followed by OBC Muslims. In fact, between the OBC Muslims and the OBC Hindus, there is a gap of five percentage point.

When we come to current attendance for Muslim OBCs, it is even lower than that of SCs and STs. In 2011-12 – I am again putting forward the data –the Muslim community has the highest percentage of children who have not attended the school. It comes to 15 per cent. It is even lower than that of SCs and STs which is 14 per cent. The dropout rates for Muslims and SC/STs start at the age of ten years as compared to the Hindu OBCs and Hindu General at 11 years. There is a sharp decline of dropout rates for Muslims and SCs at the age of 13 years. Yes, the parents are also responsible for this dropout. But the main reason for dropout rate between the age of 5 and 14 is the financial constraints which account for 30 per cent. Between the age of 15 and 24, about 27 per cent is due to financial constraint. That is

why, at the graduate and above level, we have only two per cent of SC/ST and Muslims who are getting graduates.

That is why, through you, I want to propose this to the Government. We might be having political differences and I take pride in that political differences. But as far as inclusive dream and vision of India is concerned, we want to cooperate with the Government. And to attain that *Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas* especially in education, it is very important that the Government must make scholarship a demand-driven, especially for SC/ST and minorities. Anyone who applies for scholarship, should get a scholarship so that our literacy rates can be improved and we can have a stronger India. It is not good to just have numbeRs.

When we come to the *Madarsa* education, out of Rs. 275 crore which we had allocated last year, only Rs. 144 crore were released and Rs. 131 crore was not released. May I know the reason for not giving this amount?

Secondly, Rs. 334 crore was not given for post-matric scholarship for SC/ST. That is why, I demand that SC/ST and for Muslim boys and girls should get the same access and affirmative action should be given to SC/ST population.

Coming to opening of campuses of the Aligarh Muslim University, in Aurangabad, Maharashtra, land is available. Through you, I would like to request the Hon. Minister to please speak to the State Government and open a campus of the Aligarh Muslim University in Aurangabad. For this, 250 acres of land is required. It is easily available in Aurangabad. This will really improve the education and literacy standards of the whole Marathawada Muslim community.

When we come to *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan,* I would like to know from the Hon. Minister this, when she stands up to give a reply. For *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan*, it is Rs. 22,000 crore and for MDM, it is Rs. 7,811 crore. But the surprising thing is that under the Gross Budgetary Support, it is Rs. 2,200 crore and Rs. 36 crore respectively. What happens tomorrow if the cess collection drops? Will this not affect this very flagship programme which is very important to control child labour and to ensure that more girls study?

Even coming to this *Padhe Bharat, Badhe Bharat,* I want to know from the Hon. Minister this fact. I have gone through the Budgetary document. But it is surprising that not a single amount has been earmarked for *Padhe Bharat, Badhe Bharat.* Last time, Rs. 760 crore was approved to States in *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.* But right now, nothing is there. They have announced 20 schemes for 2014-15. With

the 14th Finance Commission, how would the Ministry implement all those 14 schemes?

Lastly, I would like to talk about the Kendriya Vidyalayas. Government is a continuous institution. Parties come and go. Ashraf Ali Fatimi Committee, which was set up during the last Government, recommended various steps. The report was taken on board by the Government as well. I want to know from the Hon. Minister the fate of the Fatimi Committee recommendations. Kundu Committee recommendations have come to you. Fatimi Committee recommendations said that in Kendriya Vidyalayas, under categories 7 and 8 OBCs and minorities should be included so that more number of OBC and minority children can get admission in Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas.

In conclusion I hope that the Hon. Minister would give specific attention to improve literacy rates of the Muslim minorities and the SCs. This is very important especially with the Government not opening 6,000 model schools at block level. God knows what is going to happen! I feel that for HRD the 14th Finance Commission has become a bane now. I hope that when the Minister stands up to reply, certain steps will be announced to improve the literacy rates especially to control the dropout rate of Muslims.

Thank you.

*__SHRI TEJ PRATAP SINGH YADAV (MAINPURI)__: I would like to express my views on the Demand for Grants under HRD. Outlay for education sector 2015-16: - A total of Rs. 68,968 crore has been allotted to the education sector in the Union Budget 2015. Despite having over 280 million illiterate people, primary, secondary education spends are cut by 16% over the last fiscal. The Government has set aside Rs. 42,219.5 crore for the department of school education for 2015-16, as compared to Rs. 46,805 crore last year.

The mid-day-meal scheme suffered a drastic fund cut from Rs. 1,296.5 crore last year to Rs. 132 crore this year.

There was an increase in the Higher Education Budget from Rs. 23,700 crore in 2014-15 to Rs. 26,855.26 crore in 2015-16, indicating a shift in focus from school to higher education in the national budget presented in Parliament. This is despite the fact that nationally the percentage of children out of school in the age group 6-14 remains at 3.3 per cent (As per 2014). Access to education beyond higher secondary schooling is merely 10% among the university-age population in India.

* Speech was laid on the Table

The lack of infrastructure at the school level is also a concern. Even though the Government intends to upgrade over 80,000 secondary schools and add or upgrade 75,000 junior/middle to the senior secondary level to ensure that there is a senior secondary school within 5 km of reach of each child, despite this, the funding for school education has been cut.

An IIT is to be set up in Karnataka and Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad to be upgraded in to a full-fledged IIT. 5 new All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS) are to be set up in J&K, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh and Assam. Another AIIMS like institution is to be set up in Bihar. Government has to realize that in order to achieve high growth it needs an educated and highly motivated youth population. It just cannot realize its dream by providing with skill training.

There is no universal enrolment in secondary schools and children drop out by the time they reach secondary schools. This will result in not having enough trained workforce. Therefore, to make the PM's Make in India campaign a success, we need a trained labour force. The Government of the day must realize that investment in secondary schools is very important for the economic growth of the country.

If one looks at the Asian Tigers one finds that they invested heavily in primary and secondary school systems. China also is now investing heavily in university education after achieving universal primary education 30 years ago.

The role of education in social transformation is indisputable. That the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) takes education very seriously is equally indisputable. The Government does seem to be serious about taking a relook at most aspects of education, guided as it seems to be by the notion of restoring 'national' pride. The HRD Ministry and the Government found themselves in a controversy over the decision to introduce Sanskrit in place of German for classes 6 to 8 in the 700-odd Kendriya Vidyalayas on the grounds that teaching German had violated the Constitution, the NEP and the three language formula. There were two things inherently wrong in the HRD Ministry's move to replace German with Sanskrit. First, the timing was awry, as the decision was taken in the middle of the term, and second, Sanskrit was not listed as a modern Indian language as laid down in the Constitution. The introduction of Sanskrit also violated the three-language formula.

While the purported aim of the Government is reform, that is couched in the language of cultural nationalism and notions of

superiority, some of the recent pronouncements on stem cell research or plastic surgery from none other than the Prime Minister himself as disturbing. There are textbooks prescribed in Government schools in Gujarat which state that an Indian surgeon who has a United States patent on stem cell research was inspired by the Mahabharat. *Tejomay Bharat*, a textbook published by the Gujarat State school Text Board, is taught in schools. The book is prescribed as supplementary reading in Gujarat schools.

The HRD Ministry' approval of creation of the Bharatiya Shiksha Niti Ayog (BSNA), which has been constituted by the RSS-affiliated Shiksha Sanskriti Utthan Nyas, that is mandated to 'suggest corrective steps' to Indianize the education system, will be headed by the controversial Dinanath Batra author of Tejomay Bharat. Mr. Batra, who will be heading the BSNA, a staunch advocate of revamping the whole education system with his campaign of Shiksha Bachao Andolan, which seeks to ban all 'anti-Hindu' books says, 'NCERT textbooks will be rewritten according to the aim and objects of the nation so that it inculcates feeling of patriotism among children. Modernity is not westernization. We want modernity with Indian base (marked by) patriotism and spiritualism.

Communalization or not, the focus of the Government should have been on institutional reform rather than tinkering with books. It is simply amazing that given the myriad problems facing the Government school sector - a shocking lack of infrastructural facilities, poorly qualified and indifferent teachers, low enrolment, high dropout rate- one of the first things the HRD Ministry talked of introducing was 'Hindu perspective' to education.

[Translation]

DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR (TIKAMGARH): Hon. Chairman Sir, I stand in support of the Demands for Grants presented by the Ministry of Human Resource Development. Education is the axis of the development of any person, society and nation, education is not only related to literacy, but education is also a tool to awaken the sense of consciousness and responsibility. Education is the weapon to end every discrimination between human beings.

I wish to extend my heartfelt congratulations through you to our Hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, and the Hon. Human Resource Development Minister, Shrimati Smriti Irani, for not only have our many friends discussed the issue of budget cuts, but I also want to commend them for envisioning how the available resources can be utilized in an organised and effective manner. Alongside being a Member of Parliament and a Minister of the country, she is also a skilled homemaker, and being a proficient homemaker, she understands how creatively the Ministry of Human Resource Development can address these needs.

In our country, the Indian Government has initiated ambitious programs like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, mid-day meals, etc., to make primary education accessible to all, prevent dropouts, and improve the

quality of primary education. The objective of these programs is to ensure accessibility to primary education for all, with a special focus on girls and marginalized social groups across the country. I would like to congratulate the Hon. Minister that with the efforts of him and the Government, the rate of dropout at primary level has come down from 9.4 percent in 2007-08 to 4.7 percent in 2013-14. I would like to request the Hon. Minister that this light needs to be delivered to even the places which are 60 lakh children are not directly connected through education now. This is to bring the light of education to those dark areas and to educate everyone, to make everyone literate, which is also the Hon. Prime Minister's dream, by integrating them into the mainstream of education, thus making them competent citizens of the country.

In the aim of mid-day meal, this scheme needs to be protected from anomalies by keeping the health of deprived social groups and girls across the country at the centre. For this, I want to give an example that there is a Bijawar place in my constituency. In Bijawar, I went to visit just 15 days ago, two days before the session started, and I saw that suddenly I came to that school. There were examinations going on and the quality of food that I saw there, there was absolutely homemade food and the students, boys and girls who

were sitting in the examination, 96 percent of the students were present in that school. When I talked to the teachers, the pain in the minds of the teachers was that if our school runs well, if the standard of education of the children is good, then it will not only give us a boost, but it also sends a message to the nearby schools. To remove the discrepancies in mid-day meals, the Government has set up 38 independent monitoring institutions across the country, which have inspected 3985 schools in 101 districts and clear guidelines have been given by the Government to ensure efficient functioning of the mid-day meal scheme in those schools. This step which has been taken by the Government is really a very commendable step and it will definitely control the various things that come about Mid-Day Meal throughout the country and the quality of the meal will definitely improve. The National Secondary Education Campaign has been initiated to expand access to secondary education, establish equality therein, and enhance its quality. Other schemes sponsored by the Union Government to widen the reach of this 'Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan', such as Information and Communication Technology in schools, hostels for girls, inclusive education for the disabled at the secondary school level and vocational education in the year 2013 -14 has been included in the 'Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha

Abhiyan'. I would like to congratulate the Hon. Minister, these efforts will truly prove to be a milestone in the field of education.[English]

The Government of India has started 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan', 'Midday Meal Scheme', 'Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan', due to which a comprehensive change is being seen across the country. I would like to convey to the Hon. Minister about the 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' that we have observed in our region that now there are sufficient school buildings there. The number of additional teachers has also increased. Therefore, now the amount of 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' needs to be used to build boundary walls of schools, build good toilets, and kitchen sets. Hon. Prime Minister has given a clarion call there. In this, Hon. Members of Parliament have also actively participated as leadeRs. All of us MPs have taken the initiative for this by giving a lot of money to build clean toilets in their respective areas. For 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan', the Government has allocated more than 200% of the total scheme amount of the Twelfth Plan. The budget allocation for some education-related schemes is as follows:

- A provision of Rs. 27,785 crore has been made for 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan'.
- A provision of Rs. 13,125 crore has been made for 'Midday Meal Scheme'.

- The proposed allocation for ‘Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan’ is Rs. 5,000 crore.
- A scheme of Rs. 1,200 crore has been allocated for the six thousand standard schools to be opened across the country.
- Pre-matric scholarship for minority students has been increased from Rs. 980 crore last year to Rs. 1,100 crore.
- The grant of Pre-Matric Scholarship for SCs has been increased from Rs. 670 crores last year to Rs. 685 crores.

For this, I want to congratulate the Hon. Minister.

Sir, ‘Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao’ – this is the call of the Hon. Prime Minister. When all of us MPs visit our respective areas and go to villages, we see that somewhere 15 girls, somewhere 20 girls, somewhere 12 girls go on cycles from one village to another for studies. Earlier, the parents used to not send their daughters to study in another village and the percentage of education of girls there was very less. But, this campaign will increase the percentage of girls' education. At the same time, there was a discrepancy in the villages that when the daughters of the villages were less educated, their marriages were in the villages and their dream of marriage or marriage to educated youth in the cities remained incomplete. The 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' campaign will prove to be a milestone in this direction,

and girls will be married not only in towns but also in metropolises after receiving education. Training campaigns are conducted by the Government, such as training in sewing and embroidery during the summer months, boutique training, beautician training, and so on. For them, our daughters had to go to towns, cities earlier, but today this facility has started available for them at the rural levels as well. This is proving to be a very significant milestone in the direction of girls' livelihood.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Now conclude your speech.

DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR: Sir, I will take just one more minute. I will not take more time than that.

Through you, I would like to request the Hon. Minister that today there is a need to promote employment-oriented education, there is a need to make education practical. Along with this, I would like to request the Hon. Minister regarding Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas that certain places should be reserved for the admission of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students in these schools, so that the deprived society, which is a neglected society, the children of the economically backward society, can get good opportunities to move forward in the field of education through these schools.

At the same time, preference should be given to local students for admission to Central Universities which have now become Central Universities.

In conclusion, I support the demands for grants and conclude my statement here.

SHRI PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (ANANDPUR SAHIB): Hon. Chairman Sir, The Ministry of Human Resource Development, whose demands for grants are being discussed, I think is a very important Ministry. It is true that for the development of society, for the development of the country, and for the development of human thought, education works as an important tool. It is true that education is considered as the third eye of a person. It is also true that without education, a person is in darkness, they are incomplete without it.

Since this subject is very important, I would request you to give me some more time. My party is a small party, don't give me less time. Sir, I have only two points to make. When the country became independent, people had a lot of expectations. Pandit Nehru was very intelligent, but I do not know how he made a mistake or how under pressure, an important Ministry like education was entrusted to some people who loved the history of their country less and loved foreign history more. Foreign history was given more importance in our books. I want to give two or three examples. Babar was shown a roller while he was an invader.

14.21 hrs (Hon. Deputy Speaker *in the Chair*)

If Babar was the ruler, then how Guru Nanak can be truthful, who says that the test of sin is done by the capable one, Jori mange daan be lalou. Guru Nanak Dev Saheb called Babur Jabar. Similarly, Aurangzeb was described as the ruler of the country. Guru Tegh Bahadur Saheb, who sacrificed his life in Delhi to protect the religion of the country. It is mentioned in our history books that Guru Tegh Bahadur Sahib had a confrontation with Aurangzeb, which led to his assassination. How sad is that? He described an important martyrdom as such.

This is the history of Maharaja Ranjit Singh. The rule due to which the country remained a slave of the British for 300 years, while Punjab remained a slave for only 100 years was Maharaja Ranjit Singh. The biggest importance of Maharaja Ranjit Singh's rule is that the Mughals used to come from the Khyber Pass, loot the temples of the Hindu community here and take them away, and rob the honour of our daughters-in-law and daughteRs. If anyone closed the route of the Khyber Pass, it was done by the generals of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, people like Hari Singh Nalwa, but their history was not written, due to which our history and our demography were saved.

I am also happy that today's Hon. Minister, the HRD Ministry which has been entrusted with. As it is written in our speech, Takht Bhaye Takht Ekaileka. Today, the HRD Ministry has been handed over to the Hon. Minister, he has a taste, a literary taste, he is also interested, I think we have expectations. I want to say through you that history should be reviewed. While writing books of history, any religion, a history, a person's... *(Interruptions)* Sir, I have just started and you played the bail. People of that field should be taken while writing history books, so that our history can be corrected.

The second thing I want to do is about language. Language and culture grow the country. Language and culture remain the unity and integrity of the country. Here, people fought over the name of the language. Somewhere there was a fight between Tamil and Hindi, sometimes between Punjabi and Hindi. People were fighting in the name of language. I would like to tell the Hon. Minister through you that regional languages should be given priority in CBSE and ICSE courses and made compulsory. Regional history should also be included there. First, the country was divided into South, Center, East, and North, then each state will be divided into several parts. That's why I request, because if the fight in the name of language is in this country, it is a bad thing. I want to recite a couplet in the name of

language, "zubaan ke naam par pakshi chaman ke kab lade akhtar, vo rahen milakar chaman mein, apanee-apanee boliyaan bolen". If birds can live in the garden speaking different languages, why can't we? These people mischievously made people fight in the name of language and destroyed the culture. Today the country needs to be saved.

Our school education should be given priority. When I was studying in Punjab University, Patiala, 70 percent of the people came from villages and 30 percent of the urban people used to come there. Today, 8 percent of the people from the village come to Punjab University, Patiala. The Guru Nanak Dev University comprises 6 percent of the population from villages. Only 4 percent people come from villages in Punjab University. Therefore, priority should be given to school education and today education has been privatized, it has been commercialized, they need to be controlled. There is no control over fees there, there is no control over having any kind of teacher. The society is being divided into two, the rich people are teaching the children in those schools and the poor people are teaching the children in the Government schools. ... *(Interruptions)*

Through you, I would like to request the Government that while there is a University Grants Commission for higher education, it

doesn't have enough grant. Therefore, they should also be provided with some funds. Our universities are facing financial crunch. From here, orders are placed by the Union Government to be pay scale, but they do not have money, the money has to be paid to the State Governments. The shortcomings in education of the last seven-eight years will now have to be removed by the Hon. Minister, so that our country can move forward and progress. Thank you.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Members, at 3 o'clock, the House is going to take up the discussion on Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs. The Speaker has already made an annoucement in this regard. Before that we have to conclude this discussion and the Hon. Minister has to reply also. Therefore, I would request the Hon. Members to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House. But if any Member wants to speak, he has to conclude in 2-3 minutes. The time allotted for all the parties is already exhausted. No Member is adhering to the time and when I am ring the bell, one feels hurt. That is the problem. Therefore, the Members may submit only the salient features and conclude in 3 minutes.

SHRI E. AHAMED (MALAPPURAM): The subject is far and wide. We will have to speak.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: As you know, the Ministry of Home Affairs is also important and we have to pass it today. For tomorrow, other two Ministries are also listed and then there is Guillotine and afterwards we cannot discuss them. That is why, I am requesting all of you to be very brief. You may highlight only the points. I am not denying that this is a very important subject. Already the allotted time of three hours is over.

[Translation]

***SHRIMATI DARSHANA VIKRAM JARDOSH (SURAT)**: If you want to secure the future by developing India, then we have to focus on the level of children. Science fair is held in almost every school from class 6 once a year. Many children create models with very good ideas. But it is not useful for the nation's interest. For example, someone has used solar energy, while someone has researched how more oxygen can be produced naturally in a small area. My suggestion is to create a national portal where the top 10 students from each district are encouraged by giving them a patent-like number. And if any company wants to use it, then it can take permission from the HRD Ministry and use it by incurring the future expenses of the student. So that villages and schools will accelerate the pace of development of the nation as well as ensure the future of the effective student. The same effort can be made by keeping the research scholars in the field of revision and PhD along with the students.

I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to another subject. The trend of ending one's life due to poor exam results is increasing day by day. I would like to suggest that a nationwide

* Speech was laid on the Table.

exercise should be conducted to emphasize and motivate educational institutions to make counseling arrangements at such potential level. Psychology students should be involved in this work.

Students who score low marks today are worried about their future. I want home industry to be included in the school curriculum so that students are not worried about their future. Not only that, there are many industries that are not taught in educational institutions, yet they can provide good income through business. Education in home industries such as detergent making, spice blending, sewing and embroidery, handicrafts, making various stationery items from paper, and making papad and pickles should also be arranged.

At the university level, emphasis should be given to a uniform academic calendar across the country so that it becomes easier to get admission in other universities, and the year of many students is not wasted.

[English]

ADV. JOICE GEORGE (IDUKKI): Sir, we are looking at our younger generation with a lot of hope. But going through the Budget proposals for this year, there has been a cut of 29 per cent in the budget for children. Without having sufficient allocation for education sector, we cannot achieve our targeted results in education sector.

As far as SSA is concerned, it is our flagship programme for the students. There has been a cut of Rs. 13000 crore in this sector alone. Last year, there was an allocation of Rs. 55115 but now it has been reduced to Rs. 42210 crore as far as education sector is concerned. Without having sufficient allocation, there is no point in speaking big things. As far as functioning of SSA in my Constituency is concerned, I bring to the notice of this august House that there are some irregularities in its functioning. I convey this message to the Hon. Minister. Though the MPs are the Chairmen of the Vigilance and Monitoring Committees, the officials who are in charge of SSA are not willing to disclose the things to the MPs and other Members of the Vigilance and Monitoring Committee. When we ask for some specific details regarding the functioning of SSA, they have even went to the extent that they are not ready to disclose these things to the Vigilance and Monitoring Committee. It is happening in my Constituency.

Therefore, I urge upon the Hon. Minister to intervene in this matter. There are some irregularities in the functioning of SSA in Idukki district in Kerala State. Some measures should be taken in that respect also.

As far as RMSA is concerned, the Government has upgraded six schools in my Constituency but the State Government failed to get a nod from the Union Government. The schools were upgraded and the students were admitted but no teachers are there to teach the students. There are no facilities. Nothing is being provided. They are in dismay. I urge upon the Government to intervene in the matter and at least protect the interest of poor and hapless people. They are finding it difficult to continue their studies there.

Almost 400 students are there. There are no teachers. These students are now in the tenth standard and are supposed to appear for the Board examination next year. But nobody is there to take care of them.

Sir, lastly I would like to mention that we are having a lot of schemes and a lot of educational institutions. But the element of motivation and inspiration is badly lacking in our education system. We must have some mechanism to motivate the children and students and inspire them to achieve higher goals in their lives otherwise no

purpose is going to be served despite spending this much of money in the education sector.

Thank you.

*__SHRI D__. K__. SURESH (BANGALORE RURAL)__: The Human Resource Development Department plays a significant role in the all-round development of the citizens of this country. This development can be achieved only by building a strong foundation in education.

Public spending on education in India is about 3.2% of the GDP. If we look at the global scenario, out of 192 countries, for which data about the expenditure of education are available, India stand at 133rd position. The advanced countries are the ones with a strong education foundation. India has lagged behind in the education field despite efforts by various Governments. Education is the building blocks for an economically strong country. Therefore, public expenditure on education needs to increase in order to match the requirements to build infrastructure and education services in the country.

The Union Government in its budget reduced the allocation for the education sector. Rupees 42,210 crore has been allocated for school education in 2015-16. This is about 13,000 crore less compared to 2014-15 revised budget. The budget allocated for Higher education is Rs. 26,800 crore which is around Rs. 800 crores less than the previous budget. Even the HRD Ministry's flagship programme SSA also saw a cut of nearly Rs. 6,635 crores. Using devolution of taxes to

* Speech was laid on the Table

states as the reason for reduced allocation is not an excuse. States cannot be expected to raise funds required to build educational infrastructure entirely on their own.

Welfare of the country depends on the education it gives to the people. To realise the objectives of the Right to Education the country needs more funding. At present, the ground reality of the education sector is very disappointing- inadequate teachers, poor infrastructure and poor quality of education are pushing the education sector to a corner.

According to the estimates of the HRD Ministry, nearly 5 lakh posts are vacant in schools across India. If the Government wants to achieve a modest objective of 30: 1 student teacher ratio, the Government should take urgent measures to fill up vacant posts in all Government schools in the country. There is a need to improve the quality of teacher training programmes all over the country. Existing teachers should be provided with distance learning options to improve their teaching standards.

The education system in India is faltering because of a lack of good teachers. A planning commission report of the 12th Five Year Plan stated that there are 8.1 lakh untrained teachers in the country. In

addition, there are a large number of un-qualified ad-hoc teachers who are virtually running primary schools in many of states of the country.

Around 40% of the teachers in primary schools have been appointed on a temporary basis. Many of them have studied only up to higher secondary and draw a paltry salary of about Rs. 5,000 to 7,000 per month. Therefore, I would like to urge the Union Government to take effective and immediate measures to improve education standards by imparting proper training to teachers. Also, teachers have to be encouraged by providing them job security and paying them higher salaries to motivate them to upgrade their skills so that the nation as a whole can benefit.

With regard to teaching practice, I would like to point out that the traditional system of rigid instructional practices are being followed even today in large number of schools in primary and secondary education. I would like to suggest the Government to encourage qualitative education instead of rigid instructional practices. Adequate infrastructure should be provided to use technology to go beyond traditional structure. If the Government encourages innovation in education and enquiry based learning, it would help to put an end to brain drain and our country would see more prosperity in the years to come.

As our country has been facing new challenges in the field of health, environment, defence etc, it is the need of the hour to take steps for augmentation of research and promotion of science among students particularly in rural India. In order to provide better education especially in science, the Government should give special attention to rural areas as they are lagging behind in infrastructure.

In order to promote science education in schools, I would like to urge the Government to allocate additional funds for setting up well equipped science labs along with adequate number of science teachers. There is also a need to provide scholarships to students to encourage and promote science among them. This would attract our bright and young students to develop inclination towards research and technology and help the country to become an economic superpower in the coming decades.

Therefore I would like to suggest that there is an urgent need to raise the level of education and also the quality of education to reduce drop outs and provide better education to ensure all children can grow up to earn a good living. Education in Government schools is free up to the age of 14. Making provision for free and compulsory education up to 18 years would increase educational levels and also help girl children who would otherwise be subjected to early marriage.

Providing compulsory education for all up to the age of 18 will also ensure that child labour can be completely eliminated.

The basic objective of education is to make every citizens literate. The 2011 census shows that the Indian literacy rate is at 73%. Priority to female education and an increase in budgetary allocation for literacy programme are required to increase the literacy levels. Concrete steps should be taken to provide standard infrastructure including drinking water, functional toilets, play grounds, libraries, labs, etc. in all Government schools.

I welcome the decision of the Union Government to establish an IIT in Karnataka. This will be a welcome addition to the state of Karnataka. However, the Union Government should ensure that this institution should be completed in a time bound manner.

Ramanagara District which is in my Bangalore Rural Lok Sabha constituency is a backward region. One of the reasons it is backward is due to the fact that there are not enough quality educational institutions in the region. Even though it is mandated by the Union Government that every district in the country should have a Kendriya Vidyalaya and Navodaya school, both of these institutions are not established in the district. After I become an M. P., I have requested the Union Government to establish these institutions in Ramanagara

district as soon as possible, but yet there is no progress in this regard despite the fact that the district administration has written to the Union Government and made arrangements to provide land for the same. I urge the Union Government to provide budgetary provisions for the same.

Overall the budget allocated in the Union Budget of 2015-15 is woefully inadequate for the current requirements of the country. There is an urgent need for steps to be taken to rectify the education system in the country. Hence, I request the Union Government to increase the budgetary allocations made to the Human Resource Department.

*__DR. RATNA DE (NAG) (HOOGHLY)__: I would like to express my views on this very important Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Human Resource Development for 2015-15 on behalf of my party, Trinamool Congress. The Demands of the Ministry of HRD are rarely taken up. This is a welcome sign considering the poor quality of education being imparted in schools, colleges and universities of our country.

On the one hand, Ministry is announcing IITs and IIMs in Jammu and Kashmir, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka but when the Budget was presented, we could see 17% cut. In the case of Department of School Education, there was a cut of nearly Rs. 13,000 crore and in the case of Department of Higher Education, we could see a cut of around Rs. 800 crore. The Minister should throw more light on drastic cuts.

No one can deny that students coming out of colleges and universities have bleak prospects at the job market. There should be a synergy between the skills taught in colleges and universities and schools and job market. The Ministry should ensure that those enrolled in schools attend schools and get quality education.

* Speech was laid on the Table

We achieved independence in 1947, though we have made considerable strides in every field, we could not do so in the field of education, particularly in the area of increasing the literacy rate. Our population explosion may be one of the reasons for not showing commendable results in literacy rate, particularly in terms of imparting quality education. Much more needs to be done in the field.

Would the Ministry strive with more vigour to ensure that literacy rate takes a great leap towards a more literate India in the years to come? Is it true that 35% illiterates in the world reside in India? If yes, what measures are put in place by the Ministry to reduce illiteracy with the help of National Literacy Mission in the last few years?

The other issue is admission of Economically Weaker Section children in Government and Government-aided schools. We often come across interference of High Courts in the form of directions to Schools to implement Section 12(1) (c) of the RTE Act of 2009 which ensures at least 25 per cent of admission of EWS children in Government and unaided schools. It is for sure that Government Schools and Unaided Schools, with the exception of some, float the said rule, without any strict penalty by the Government. There is a need for the Ministry to strictly follow whether the Schools, both

Government and unaided schools, provide admission to EWS children in letter and spirit by following the said Act. Would the Hon. Minister assure the House that he would make renewed efforts to ensure no school turn down the right of EWS children of seeking admission in Government and unaided schools?

It is often reported that students with degree and post-graduate degrees are incapable of cracking simplest of exams in order to get jobs. There is a need to give a shift in what we teach in colleges and universities. A shift which takes students closer to mastering skills which keep them in good stead for life, for chartering their course in search of job or career. There is a need to bring such skills in the existing and new courses that are being planned by the UGC, NCERT, which would help our students in colleges and universities to not only excel in academics, but also to find better jobs. Instead of bringing about cosmetic changes as and when a new Government takes over, would the Hon. Minister assure the august House that skill development is given prominence in courses in the colleges and universities under the new dispensation?

I am not going to say that our higher education is not up to the mark and our best of institutions like IIT, IIMs are not finding a place even 200 best institutions in the world because the yardsticks of such

surveys differ from one another. I appreciate the good work being done by institutions like IITs and IIMs and some of the universities. I am sure that the Hon. Minister would agree that when it comes to standard and quality of our higher education, much needs to be done. Would the Hon. Minister highlight what efforts have been made in the past 11 months to address the issue of improving the standard and quality of our higher education. How much of the funds allocated under the 12th Plan for higher education have been spent so far? What changes concerning higher education are proposed to achieve during the 12th Plan period? To what extent, the Ministry has succeeded as we are about to complete 3 years of 12th Plan period?

Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2014 highlights the deteriorating quality of education in the country, particularly in the primary education. Quality of education needs to be enhanced. It pains me to see the quality of education in our country. Even after 67 years of Independence, we would not afford quality education to our people. All the emphasis on improving the quality of education being imparted at primary and secondary level through the National Literacy Mission is required at the Ministry level. Is there any move at the Ministry level to improve the quality of education in the current year? If yes, the complete details thereof? If not, the reasons therefor?

Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2014 has mixed results- some good, some not so good. Enrolment over the years is good. There is a need to improve the quality. What changes have been brought about by the Ministry to improve the quality of education through Literacy Campaign of the Ministry post ASER 2014? What efforts are being made by the Ministry to improve the quality of education through National Literacy Mission post ASER 2014? How to improve the basic skills of subtraction, division in primary schools across the country?

What measures have been enunciated in the National Literacy Mission to bridge the gender gap from 16.25 per cent points? Have the Ministry sought more allocations for the Mission to succeed? If yes, then the details thereof. If no, then the reasons therefore. The Government is implementing many schemes including Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, etc. I am sure, the House would not agree more that the quality and the standard of education being imparted in Government schools are much to be desired. There is a lot of room for improvement and much more needs to be done in the field. There is a need for the Government to revisit various schemes of the Ministry aimed at quality of education, etc. with a view to enhancing the quality of education. I hope the Hon. Minister would strive in this direction with

more vigour to ensure that literacy rate takes a great leap towards a more literate India in the years to come.

There is an urgency to impart education to 35% illiterates in the world who reside in India. Before we think of Make in India, we should think of Make India. We cannot hold our head high when 35% of illiterates in the world reside in India. On a war footing, the Ministry should address the issue of improving quality of education being imparted at every level, including colleges and universities.

I hope the Government would give much needed fillip to the education sector with more emphasis on improving the quality of education in the country.

[Translation]

DR. ARUN KUMAR (JEHANABAD): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, I thank you for giving me the time to speak. This is a very serious matter, it should be discussed in detail. Still, through you, I want to make two-three points. The central and state Governments both fulfill their respective duties. Education is the foundation of development. There is a shortage of teachers in this country. Education has declined dramatically in the last 25-30 years. If a Government has been formed under the leadership of Hon. Narendra Modi ji, then the people are looking forward to a change. Today we would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister towards Bihar in particular that despite the money you give for the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, there are three and a half lakh teachers in secondary and primary education in Bihar who are not in the pay scale. Three and a half lakh teachers were made employed teachers. After independence, people worked on the pay scale, but due to non-payment of salary for the last few years, a teacher is getting Rs. 36 thousand for equal work and another is getting Rs. 6 thousand. This dissatisfaction and frustration will give birth to frustrated generations. The chaotic situation in education today definitely requires intervention. The money that the Indian Government is giving is becoming a victim of mismanagement.

Today, no matter how much we praise the mid-day meal, schools have been converted into restaurants. I don't focus on the quantity, but rather on the quality, and what is achieved. There is an unnecessary dispute between the teacher and the students. The environment which has been created there, the Hon. Minister had gone to his area and the road was jammed. Small children had blocked the road. BDO was also present. Slogans of Master Murdabad were being raised. What culture we are preserving and how we are providing this should be reconsidered. The environment being created today is based on our culture, civilization, and social structure, and the deteriorating teacher-student relationships call for us to reconsider this. We are witnessing the image of a new India, and education is its foundation. Right now the Hon. Minister must have also seen in Bihar that degrees are being distributed. We can imagine how the future will be built by degrees. When there are no teachers, in each school, teachers of Sanskrit or Mathematics are teaching all the subjects. How they can test those students is a difficult question before us. We would like to establish a system where teachers can work in a fear-free environment and with complete remuneration, so that a self-respecting class can be created or a new self-respecting nation can be built. ... *(Interruptions)*

I will conclude my speech in a minute.

I wanted to say a lot of things. The examination has been completed recently in Bihar but its evaluation has been stopped. Children from other states will go for medical and engineering studies, but the children whose results are not declared will lag behind the nation needs to take on the path of consolidated development. Just as the University Grants Commission has been established for higher education, a Secondary Education Grants Commission should also be established for secondary education, so that the schools performing well at the secondary level can benefit from it. The incomplete system of education which has started at present due to various reasons can be removed. The Hon. Education Minister is full of determination, she will definitely reiterate her resolve to bring about new changes.

[Translation]

*__SHRI SHIVKUMAR UDASI (HAVERI)__: The Department of School Education and Literacy is responsible for the promotion and development of elementary education, Secondary education and adult education. Overall the Department is responsible for the universalization of education for all.

The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education, which is the participation in the age group of 18-23 years in higher education continues to be low and is estimated to be nearly 13.5%. This is much below the world average of 24% two thirds of that of the developing countries i. E. 18% way behind the developed countries (58%).

Eleventh plan was a logical response to the rising aspirations of young people, improved schooling, and the fact that jobs created through rapid economic growth and skill-based technical change require higher levels of education.

Twelfth plan approach paper which mentions that about 18 per cent of all Government education spending or 1.12 per cent of GDP be spent on higher education. This funding should be raised to 25 per cent and 1.5 per cent respectively. However, the overall scenario

* Speech was laid on the Table

regarding the declining allocations over the years as discussed in preceding paras shows altogether a different picture. This is also reflected in low achievement of GER which is taken as an indicator of the growth and development of Higher Education sector in the country. As may be seen from the comparative figures, India ranks at the bottom regarding GER amongst those nations, therefore, reiterates that to achieve higher GER and for making India an educational hub globally, not only more allocations are required but the utilization of allocations also has to be more efficient.

Indian institutes of Science Education and Research (IISERs) have been envisaged not only as institutes of higher education but would also carry out research in various fields which would bring good name to the country. Any delay would impact the research part heavily as it requires not only facilities like labs, libraries and other related infrastructure but also an appropriate ambience to do so. The department of higher education and the Government should work for this purpose with synergy to get best of the results.

They provide manpower of global standards for information technology industry to cater to the needs of emerging areas of knowledge, economy, education and training information technology is a pre-requisite. There is also no denying the fact that the IT sector

has a positive impact on our economy and the governance which in turn has improved immensely every aspect of our society, be it education, health facilities, agricultural innovations or service sector. The existing centrally-funded IITs, mode of setting up the new IITs, their governance structure and likely impact on all the envisaged stakeholders are concerned.

It is a matter of concern that there is acute shortage of faculty in higher educational institutions across the country. Right from well-established Central Universities to those set up recently, state universities as well as private universities, premier institutions like IITs, NITs and IIMs, this problem has emerged as the biggest handicap for the development and growth of higher education vis-a-vis maintaining the quality of education. The situation continues to be grim with no improvement foreseen in the near future.

There can be only two possibilities either our young students are not attracted towards the teaching profession or the recruitment process is a prolonged one and involves too many procedural formalities.

In the Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs), there should be an increase in the number of research fellowships and new schemes for teaching assistantship should be introduced. The Standing Committee

on HRD also recommended that there should be appropriate linkage with S&T institutions, joint appointment of teachers and research as faculty and promotions should be linked with performance. The committee further adds that the department should take steps to enhance the prestige value of the teaching profession. The committee is also of the view that in case the stricter norms for the appointment of faculty is coming in the way then UGC and other regulatory bodies should review them on regular basis and bring in necessary changes so as to fill up the vacant posts at the earliest.

Some strategies for the skill component like skills requirement assessment, diploma Education, lateral entry of ITIs to diploma programme, industrial finishing schools and special manpower development programme should be taken up. This area should be accorded highest priority as it will impact the development strategies. Skill development, in fact is not confined to one Ministry/Department; many of them including state Governments and private sector would be involved, although we have a separate Ministry for coordination in this regard.

That the development, expansion and growth of higher education, both in the public an private sector, especially in view of the demographic dividend in the form of young population available

in the country which is at present highest in the world requires highest attention of the Government. The youth of the country deserves the best of education environment to realize its dreams. India has got all the ingredients to become an international education hub as can be seen in the growth of the IT sector. That paucity of funds should not be allowed to come in the way of India acquiring the status of a leader in this field. All the stakeholders, be it Government regulatory like UGC/AICTE, institutions of higher education and research like IITs, IIMs, IISERs, NITs, IITs, private sector and most importantly the society should galvanize to achieve the dreams of our young population thereby making India not only education hub globally but also realizing the ambition of rubbing the shoulders with the best in the world.

There are large number of complaints about working of our regulatory bodies in higher education, particularly UGC and AICTE, which needs to be looked into seriously.

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, the human resources development is the key factor in the nation-building process. Human resources capital is also the precious wealth of our country. India, the developing nation, is aspiring to be a developed nation by 2020-30 on the basis of the working age population of our country. But it is quite unfortunate and desperate to see that such vision is not being highlighted or expressed in the Budget especially in the Demands for Grants for the Ministry of Human Resources Development.

Moreover, I strongly oppose the Demand No. 57 which is in respect of school children and literacy because a drastic Plan cut is there without any genuine reasonable justification.

Sir, when we come to the education sector, education is the major and most important social engine in accelerating the growth, development, prosperity and progress of our country. What is the concept and vision of this Government in respect of school education?

It has been seen that the literacy rate in the present scenario of Indian school education is 74 per cent according to 2011 census. If a person is able to read and write his name, he is known to be a literate. But the international standard in respect of the criteria of becoming a literate is entirely different.

My first suggestion to the Government is, we have to draw a new line. A proper base line needs to be put in place so as to assess the actual literacy in the country. Only then we can plan the programme so as to avoid illiteracy in our country. This is the first point which I would like to make.

Regarding literacy, I would like to make an alarming point. From 2001-11, literacy growth is about 9.2 per cent but that is very slow and very low than the previous decade also. In which direction are we moving? In such a pathetic scenario, what this Government is doing in respect of this Budget is very concerning.

I would like to quote page 23 of the BJP manifesto.

> "Investment in education yields the best dividend. Public spending on education would be raised to six per cent of the GDP and involving the private sector would further enhance this. For this, under the scheme, Quality Education for All, BJP would take the following steps. Sarva Shiksha Abhyan shall be strengthened and expanded with a goal to remove illiteracy. Mid-Day Meal Scheme would be revitalized in terms of management and delivery."

Many other slogans like these are being given. Have those promises been fulfilled in this Budget in respect of school education and literacy? That is the first question which the Hon. Minister has to answer. I am not going into the figures. In 2015-16, the Budget allocation compared to that of the previous year, 2014-15 is -24.68 per cent. This what the Standing Committee Report says. Such a situation has never come in the history of Indian school education. In non-Plan sector also, there is a cut of -3.23 per cent. What is the vision of the Government now? It is not only so with regard to the allocation in 2015-16 Budget.

Regarding the performance of the Ministry, I would request the Hon. Minister to kindly see the expenditure. In 2013-14, the total plan expenditure was Rs. 43,803 crore; and in 2014-15, till 31.1.2015 it was just Rs. 36,594 crore. What are the major schemes? They are Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, mid-day meal scheme, Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, Model School Programme, etc. No utilisation of allocated funds in these Schemes means it is a non-performing Ministry. It is violating the fundamental rights which is enunciated in article 21 (a) of the Constitution. Who is responsible for that? [English] Is it ‘minimum Government and maximum governance’? What is the deduction? The actual expenditure during 2014-15 was

lower by 16.25 per cent in comparison to actual expenditure of 2013-14. … (*Interruptions*)

SHRI E. AHAMED (MALAPPURAM): I may please be allowed to intervene. … (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He is speaking. Let him complete.

… (*Interruptions*)

SHRI E. AHAMED: The point raised by him is a serious one. He is saying that the Government has not performed. … (*Interruptions*) The Government has not utilized the money. … (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Premachandran, you please continue.

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Shri Ahamed, thank you. Due to paucity of time I could not respond.

That is about the non-utilization of funds and allocation of funds. I would also like to state one more figure regarding the allocation of funds. I have with me the Report of the Standing Committee, which very specifically states that in 2012-13 the increase in Budgetary allocation was 17.68 per cent. It has come down to 8.04 per cent in 2013-14; 4.58 per cent in 2014-15; and in 2015-16, under the new Government which has promised to spend more than six per cent of

the GDP in the field of education, it has come down to minus 23.40 per cent. What is the promise and what is the practice? I would like to know whether the Government is concerned about the school education, literacy and the Right to Education Act.

So, I would like to make two points. One is regarding the non-allocation of funds through Budgetary proposals; and the other is the under-utilization of funds. So, optimum and judicious utilization of funds are the criteria for assessing the performance of a Department or a Ministry. So, going by that criteria here it is well established that it is not being done.

I do admit the fact that there has been an increase in the allocation for higher education sector. There is a 22 per cent increase in the allocation to the higher education sector. I will just make one more point and then conclude. What do the increase of 22 per cent more to the higher education and minus 23.4 per cent in respect of elementary education indicate? It indicates that you are building a structure on a weak foundation. That will definitely collapse. So, my humble submission and suggestion to the Hon. Minister as well as to the Government is that please revise the Budgetary proposals so as to allocate more funds for the school education and literacy.

With these words, I conclude. Thank you very much.

***SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN (MURSHIDABAD):** I would like to draw the attention of Human Resource Development Minister that education is an important subject. People of every corner of our country are associated with this subject. Development of a country always depends on education. We always demand allocation of fund at least 6% of GDP a 10% of budget. But since independence, no Government has implemented this demand. It is true that due to SSA, infrastructure development has been done. Till now, India is not a full literate country. Till now, people are facing lack of schools to admit their children. At present, many schools are facing trouble due to lack of teachers. We want quality based education for all. It is possible if Government allocate money for free education from KG to PG. If private sector is allowed to do this job, they will come forward for the interest of personal profit not for the interest of the people. Quality of education will be decreased. Finally our country will lose its own strength.

So, I request the Government to allocate 10% money of budget for free education and quality based education for all.

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* Speech was laid on the Table

*__SHRI PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI (BHUBANESWAR)__: Education is not only an instrument of enhancing efficiency but also an efficient tool for augmenting and widening democratic participation and upgrading the overall quality of individual and society. India has a vast population and to capture the potential demographic dividend, to remove the acute regional, social and gender imbalances, the Government is committed to make concerted efforts for improving the quality of education as mere quantitative expansion will no deliver the desired results in view of fast changing domestic and global scenario.

The Ministry of Human Resource Development has two Departments i. E. Department of School Education and Literacy and the Department of Higher Education. The vision of the Department of School Education and Literacy is to ensure education of equitable quality for all to fully harness the nation's human potential, and the vision of the Department of Higher Education is to realize India's human resource potential to its fullest in the education sector, with equity and excellence. It is being increasingly realized with higher intellectual and professional capabilities of human beings. A good quality human resources base is extremely important in today's highly

* Speech was laid on the Table

competitive environment. The very concept of development in the past two decades has evolved in this direction which has moved from income and income distribution to human resource development. This is the very reason for the marked shift from the welfare approach of education to the right based approach, providing the foundation for the right to dignified living through its transformative potential to development.

To meet these challenges, the Ministry's endeavour has been to achieve 'Education for All' with an inclusive approach. Elementary Education comprising the primary and upper primary forms the foundation of the education pyramid. Hence to strengthen this foundation and to achieve the goal of universal access to quality education for all, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 became operative on 1st April, 2010. Further to enhance enrolment, retention and attendance and simultaneously improving nutritional levels among children, the major intervention includes 'National Programme of Mid-Day Meal (MDM) in schools. At the same time, the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is being implemented to achieve the goals of universal access and retention, bridging of gender and social gaps in enrolment levels and enhancement of learning levels of all children.

Article 21-A of the Constitution of India and its consequent legislation, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 became operative in the country on 41st April, 2010. Every child has a right to elementary education of satisfactory and equitable quality in a formal school which satisfied certain essential norms and standards specified in the RTE Act. The reform processes initiated in 2010-11, pursuant to this important development, were continued during the year 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14, All States/UTs have notified their State RTE Rules

Bridging gender and social category gaps in elementary education is one of the four goals of SSA. Consequently, SSA attempts to reach out to girls and children belonging to SC, ST and minority communities. SSA has also given attention to urban deprived children, children affected by periodic migration, and children living in remote and scattered habitation. SSA has identified Special Focus Districts on the basis of adverse performance on indicators of girls' enrolment, as well as concentration of SC, ST and minority communities. RTE SSA provides a clear thrust and special focus on education for girls and children belonging to disadvantage groups and weaker sections; these include ensuring availability of primary and upper primary schools within the habitation has prescribed under the

RTE Rules, uniforms, textbooks etc. Special training interventions are also largely focused on girls and disadvantaged groups.

With a view to enhance enrolment, retention and attendance and simultaneously to improve nutritional status of children, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (NP-NSPE): was launched on 15th August, 1995. The Scheme was extended during 2008-09 to cover children of upper primary classes and the name of the Scheme was changed as 'National Programme of Mid-Day Meal in Schools'. At present all the primary and upper primary Government, Government-aided Local Body Schools, National Child Labour Projects (NCLP) schools, the Centres run under Education Guarantee Scheme (EGS)/Alternative and Innovative Education) Madarsas and Maqtabs supported under SSA are covered under Mid-Day Meal Scheme. The scheme is being revised from time to time to its content and coverage. The Mid-Day Meal scheme covered 10.68 crore elementary class children in 12.12 lakh schools in the country.

The objectives of the Mid-Day Meal Scheme are to address two of the pressing problems for majority of children in India, viz, hunger and education by;

i. improving the nutritional status of children in class I-VIII in Government Local Body and Government aided schools and EGS and AIE center NCLP schools and Madarsas and Maqtabs supported under SSA.

ii. Encouraging poor children, belonging to disadvantaged sections, to attend school more regularly and help them concentrate on classroom activities.

iii. Providing nutritional support to children of elementary stage in drought affected areas during summer vacations.

While only 73 per cent literacy has been a achieved as per Census 2011, there has been marked improvement in female literacy. Male literacy at 80.9 per cent is still higher than female literacy at 64.6 per cent but the latter has increased by 10.9 per cent points compared to 5.6 per cent points for the former. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act 2009 was enacted by the Centre to increase the quality as well as accessibility of elementary education to Indian in April 2010. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is the designated scheme for implementation of the RTE Act. The framework of the SSA has been revised to include reimbursement for expenditure incurred for at least 25 per cent admissions of children belonging to disadvantaged and weaker sections in private unaided schools from the academic

year 2014-15. Between 2007-08 and 2013-14, according to the DISE (District Information System for Education), total enrolment in primary schools increased from 134 million to 137 million in 2011-12 and then declined to 132 million in 2013-14 while upper primary enrolment grew from 51 million to about 67 million. This is in line with the changing demographic age structure. India has achieved near universal enrolment and enhanced hard and soft infrastructure (schools, teachers and academic support staff.)/

There is a dual challenge here of developing skills on the one hand and using skills on the other since skills that are not used are lost. As per the Labour Bureau Report 2014, the current size of India's formally skilled workforce is small approximately 2 per cent. This number contrasts poorly with small countries like South Korea and Japan that report figures of 96 and 80 per cent respectively. At all India level around 6.8 per cent persons aged 15 years and above are reported to have received/ are receiving vocational training.

As per studies conducted by National Skill Development Corporation for the period 2013-2022, there is an incremental requirement of 120 million skilled people in the non-farm sector. The current capacity for skilling is grossly inadequate and needs to be speedily scaled upto meet immediate skill needs of the country. The

poor skill levels among India's workforce are attributed to dearth of a formal vocational educational framework, with wide variation in quality, high school dropout rates, inadequate skills training capacity, negative perception towards skilling and lack of industry-ready skills even in professional courses (Labour Bureau Report 2014). Some recent initiatives that aim to enhance access, equality, quality, innovation, etc. in the area of higher and vocational education are the Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme (TEQIP) and National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF).

[Translation]

SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR (NALANDA): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to participate in the discussion on the grant demands of the Education Department. This time the maximum cut in the budget has been made on the expenditure of school education and literacy. In the last budget, it was given Rs. 55 thousand crore, while this time only Rs. 42 thousand crore has been given. Similarly, cuts have been made in higher education too.

Sir, the Government has proven to be very unsuccessful in utilizing the education budget. A total of Rs. 55 thousand crore was available for school education in the current financial year, but the Government did not accept and only Rs. 47 thousand crore could be spent out of it till March 31. Similarly, out of Rs. 28 thousand crore provided for higher education, only Rs. 24 thousand crore has been spent.

Sir, there has been a definite decline in the quality of education today, especially in Government schools compared to private schools. State Governments are implementing various schemes for children going to Government schools, and the Union Government is also running many schemes to ensure that children do not face any

inconvenience in their education. I understand that the schemes being implemented by the state Government include providing mid day meals, distributing uniforms, and many other types of schemes. These schemes have increased the reading ratio of children but quality is decreasing. I demand from the Hon. Minister that there is a need to pay attention to the quality of education as well. Today, children of our Dalit families are not going to study in big educational institutions, especially colleges. We need to understand the reason. Some people say that the lower classes are getting literate. I would like to say that people from lower strata are only receiving primary and secondary education. By the time they reach college, their percentage goes down drastically. There is no percentage in obtaining education from an engineering college, medical college, or receiving higher education. Until we educate the last person in society, the prosperity of our country is not possible.

I want to tell the Minister particularly about my Parliamentary Constituency. Nalanda University is being re-established and run in our country, but every time this university is caught in a dispute of management, due to which its image is being tarnished. As soon as this Government came, an educationist and a scholar like Amrita Sen has been removed from the post of Chancellor. I demand from the

Government that when an international level educational institute is being established again in Nalanda, the land of knowledge that gives light to the world, then the Government should provide arrangements there smoothly, so that its dignity remains. Its new infrastructure needs to be expedited. The approval for establishment of two Central Universities in Bihar has been given, it is commendable, but it should be funded without delay and started smoothly.

[English]

*__SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (KASARGOD)__: At the very outset, I would like to say that highest priority has to be given to this Ministry since it deals with the education from elementary education to the higher education. Education doesn't need to get some jobs it makes society conscious of human development besides the development of all other sections.

The allocation for HRD is lower considering the last budget. So the allocation has to be increased to meet the demands of this Ministry. The Finance Minister in his budget speech said that sufficient resources is allocated to all sectors but the figures show that the facts are contradictory to the statement made by the Finance Minister.

I would like to focus on some issues related with education. Central Universities are under the direct control of the Ministry. States have no role at all. It is governed by an Act passed by the Parliament. There were serious criticisms in the House itself that Vice Chancellor is all in all in the administration of the Central University. There is no syndicate or Senates or academic councils. Some bodies are

* Speech was laid on the Table

nominated by the VC. There is concentration of power in the hands of VC which leads to the authoritarian decision and in some cases in leads some cases of mismanagements. Appointments are made by their own wishes and decision. There was vigilance inquiry with regard to the appointment of security persons in the Central University of Kasargod district. It is true in the case of the teaching staff merits are not considered. When UGC spends crores and crores of rupees, it should not be misused and wasted. So there should be a revisit in the administration of Central Universities.

Union Government has introduced new schools known as 'RMS schools. Sufficient funds are not allotted for the construction of buildings. It is very sad to say that staff pattern is insufficient to meet the demands. States like Kerala, has better education system in India. But these new schools have really made it much difficult since local people or PTA has to pay the salaries of the teachers in some of the schools. So Government should take urgent steps in this regard Navodaya Vidyalaya is also the under control of HRD Ministry. These schools are also suffering in the case of sufficient teachers. Most of the schools are employing temporary teachers, it affects the quality of education.

Kendriya Vidyalayas are functioning throughout India. Here also we witness the need of qualified teachers. The school authorities employ temporary teachers in these schools also. Both in the Navodayas and Kendriya Vidyalayas there is no provision for teaching mother tongue. It is strongly objectionable to exclude a mother tongue in the curriculum of educational institutions. So, I request the Government to include mother tongue within the KVs and Navodaya Vidyalayas. There are some views expressed to the quota allotted for the admission of Kendriya Vidyalayas to the MPs . Now it is only 6. I would like to request the Minister to increase it to at least 15 because we are getting hundreds of applications.

Though we have passed various laws in the Parliament to ensure that there should not any capitation fee, SC/ST and Minority students should be given at atleast 25% of admission in allied institutions, still these decisions are not implemented.

Better faculty is the major issue that we face now a days. Our students have to compete with national level as well as international level. It has highest priority now a days. How is it possible for students to compete with other excellent institutions? So I request the Hon. Minister to take immediate steps. There is no justification for delaying

the decisions in education field. It would be a crime when we face our young generation.

SHRI JOSE K. MANI (KOTTAYAM): I would thank you, Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, for calling me to speak.

Sir, we are very well aware of the demographic dividend of the country and the need to harness its potential for the development of the country. The Government, in this Budget, has fallen short of being innovative and resourceful when it comes to the education sector. There are ample number of examples cited by my colleagues regarding the allocation cut. They have spoken about the BJP's manifesto where the thrust was given to education sector. But, in reality, they have deviated totally from it. This shows, Hon. Minister, you are not candid in your approach and not for the future of the country. I am just shortening my speech because of paucity of time.

Sir, the Hon. Prime Minister is promoting his agenda of 'Make in India". To make this a successful Mission, young college students must be encouraged, motivated to innovate and they must be helped to start their own start-ups. Though the Hon. Finance Minister has given Rs. 1000 crore to boost the environment for start-ups, yet he should have also given a separate grant to all the Universities to set up incubation centres so that viable research and entrepreneurship ideas can be given a head start. In Kerala, during this Budget, a grant of Rs. one crore each was given to almost all the 11 Universities to start their

incubation centres. It is besides the Rs. 300 crore which has been allocated for the overall start-up villages in the State. For the entire country, the Government has given only Rs. 1000 crore for the start-up village but, in the State of Kerala alone, it has given Rs. 300 crore!

My suggestion to the Government is more fund allocation should be given for the start-up villages as well as for starting up incubation centres in all the professional colleges and also to the Universities.

The National Education Policy is in the process of making and is expected to be done by December. Education should be objective and unbiased towards any ideology. It has been observed various times in the past that the syllabus of certain subjects was changed, essays and topics were removed following political pressure from certain ideological groups. For this purpose, it is important that an independent curriculum framework is drawn by a Board which is constituted by the Parliament and has a constitutional backing.

The State of Kerala was keenly waiting for its demand of IIT and the Rubber University are to be fulfilled. However, Kerala has been sidelined. A couple of times I had mentioned that in Kerala, aided schools have contributed a lot. Unlike all the other States, Kerala has more than aided schools – 7,000 aided schools; and the Government schools are about 4,000. But under *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan*, assistance

is given only to the Government schools. What we need is, we extend assistance to aided schools also. A scheme should be worked out for the infrastructure development. Assistance should also be given to the aided schools under the *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.* With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

***SADHVI SAVITRI BAI PHULE (BAHRAICH)**: We all know that our country's Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has called the youth of the country as the real strength and has emphasized on ambitious plans for the contribution of Indian human resources to the whole world through their education and skill development. There is no doubt that Indian talent has made a splash abroad and their demand is also very high. But the condition of primary education in the country is very worrying. Under the Right to Education Act and the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, enrolment in Government schools could be ensured through mid-day meals, but the students' understanding of letters and intellectual ability at the numerical and logical level is marginalised.[English]

My Parliamentary Constituency, Bahraich, is located in the Terai region, adjacent to the Nepal border in Uttar Pradesh, which is one of the most backward districts in the country in terms of education standards. There is an urgent need to open residential and Kendriya Vidyalayas under the Central CBSE Board under a special package to improve the standard of education in such areas. The proposed central school for the Bahraich district has been pending for several years due

* Speech was laid on the Table.

to the lack of cooperation and inefficiency of the local administration. The responsibility of providing land for this is on UP. It is the State Government which maybe, perhaps, does not take any interest in the Centre's scheme. I personally met the Commissioner of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan and raised this issue. I got the reply that we can implement this scheme only after the necessary documents are sent by the district officials. In this situation, the regional people are still deprived of high quality Kendriya Vidyalaya due to the wrangling and mutual non-cooperation of the State and the Centre. I request that in such a case, without taking any laxity, attention should be paid to immediately acquire land and open new schools. Teachers play an increasingly crucial role in shaping the future of students. Therefore, while not doing politics about their selection, the standard of teacher recruitment should remain uniform throughout the country, then the level of education of students will also help in improving, so that we can provide equal opportunities for education to all in today's competitive era and our teachers can cooperate according to their talents in promising youth.

[English]

SHRI E. T. MOHAMMAD BASHEER (PONNANI): Sir, as far as education is concerned, this is India's golden era because of two reasons. Firstly, the 21st century is knowledge-driven; foundation of economy in this century is nothing but knowledge. This is an era of internationalization of education. Question before us is whether India is equipped to make use of this favourable situation and reach at the forefront of the world nations. I am not disappointed. Involvement and infrastructure in this sector is very much. The enactment of The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act and Schemes like SSA/RMSA/RUSA, etc have made tremendous impact on our education. Arresting the dropout has also made tremendous progress.

As far as higher education is concerned, quantitative growth of colleges, professional colleges, national Institutes, universities, etc. are increasing day by day. With regard to quantitative growth, it is okay. As far as qualitative growth is concerned, our graph is much lower.

Students from India are going abroad - to the US, the UK, Canada, Australia. What are the reasons? Reasons are - quality of education, increasing prosperity and aspiration, social prestige and also exposure and experience.

We must think loudly as to why can we not attract students from other countries to come to India. It is simple. We can; of course, we have some favourable situations - cost of education; medium of instruction is English similarly young generation believe about the cost and value of education imparted in India. Earlier, it was `education' only. Now, it is titled as `human resource development'.

Why is it so? It is not only to beautify the name, there are important aims and objectives - importance of value education; curriculum revision with the aim and objective of individual and national development. Curriculum revision is a thing to be done very carefully. We should think loudly as to whether we are at a satisfactory level. I wish to say here that my answer is `no'. Unfortunately we are adding politics to everything. Instead of enriching the young generation with intellectual inputs, we are feeding them with half-baked truth and misrepresented facts and distorted history. This is a very deplorable thing. The Government is even interfering in the preparation of text books at NCERT level. The Government have reconstituted all the educational bodies like NCERT, Indian Council of Historical Research, etc. Vedas, ancient Hindu text, Upanishad, *jyothish,* vedic mathematics, Sanskrit, yoga, *ithihas,* etc. are given top priority. I am not against that. It was during

my period in Kerala we have started a Sanskrit University but what should be our priority? Why should we emphasise these things?

I would like to make an appeal to the effect that education should inculcate all kinds of sacredness of communal harmony, tolerance, kindness and compassion in the minds of young generation.

Education should inculcate all kinds of communal harmony, tolerance, kindness and compassion in the kinds of young generation. We must develop kindness in the hearts of the students. Kindness is a language which a deaf can hear and the blind can read. That should be our motto.

With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

DR. UDIT RAJ (NORTH-WEST DELHI): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, thank you for giving me time to speak.

Today, the Demands for Grants under the Control of Ministry HRD is being discussed in the House. The missutilization, underutilization of the money that is being given is also very much there. Hon. Minister is trying. Just like the funds allocated for OBCs in Delhi University were diverted by the vice-chancellor there, similarly, in the Scheduled Castes Component Plan, the money allocated to help Scheduled Castes students was not fully spent in the year 2013-14, with only three percent of the funds utilized and 97 percent remaining unspent. These kinds of things are going on. The Minister is also concerned about the Kendriya Vidyalaya. We need to correct the kind of legacy we have inherited. There has been a lot of bending of the rules and regulations in transfer-posting, they have been twisted. I would like to request the Government and the Minister, through you, that education should be made in such a way that the students who are coming out of education can understand their responsibility and morality. Our colleges, universities and schools could not even tell the students that cleaning is necessary. There was

such a failure of education here that the Prime Minister had to say about it. So we need to change education a lot. Thank you.

[English]

DR. SHASHI THAROOR (THIRUVANANTHAPURAM): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am afraid we can have few more important issues before this House than the one before us today. We have heard people speaking about the demographic dividend. There are about 225 million young people in our country between the age of 10 and 19. The International Labour Organization says we will have 20 per cent more young people starting to work in 2020 than even China has today. But we need to train, educate and equip them to take advantage of these opportunities. If we fail to do that, Mr. Deputy Speaker, we have seen the dangers that confront us in the form of Maoists and Naxalities. Education is not just a socio-economic issue. It is a national security issue because nothing is more dangerous to our country than under-educated, unemployed and unemployable young men who will be tempted by a Kalashnikov in the absence of any other stake in our society.

This is why we are so dismayed, Mr. Deputy Speaker, by the slashing of the education budget in this country. I will not repeat all the numbers that many colleagues have already mentioned. But it is very sad. Just to give you percentages, the Plan allocation for education has gone down by 24 per cent though it had gone up under

UPA every year, the allocation for *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan* has been reduced by 22 per cent, the allocation for Mid-Day Meal Scheme has been slashed by 16 per cent, the allocation for *Madhyama Shiksha Abhiyan* by 28 per cent and the allocation for *Utchatar Shiksha Abhiyan* by 48 per cent. How can we achieve these objectives when we cut the money? And Parliamentary Affairs Minister is very fond of saying - as much flour as bread. How to make roti when your finance Ministry does not provide flour? If there is no fire in the stove, how will you cook bread?

This is the problem that we have got with this budget. The objectives that have been set cannot be achieved. We talk about higher education. Somebody acknowledged that the budget for higher education is higher. But the fact is, let us look at the substance of it. We lament that we have no higher education institution in any of the global rankings of the top 200. Let us take the case of IITs. The Government announces the creation of five new IITs and it is giving only Rs. 1000 crore for the entire purpose whereas the Government's own Detailed Project Report shows that each new IIT needs at least Rs. 350 crore a year for seven years to be able to function. So, what is going to be happening is that we are going to have inadequate funding

which will compromise the quality of education in the new IITs and the new IIMs.

Now, Mr. Deputy Speaker, the fact is that we have to move on to other subjects because the time is so short. But let us also look at the school system. When it comes to enrolment and drop outs, it is extremely worrying that though we have over 100 per cent enrolment at the primary level, the dropout rate is so high that about 30 per cent are dropping out by Class Eight. You cannot educate children if they are not in school. How can we keep them in school? There are alarming figures in the latest MHRD Report of 60 lakh out of school children.

15.00 h Rs.

This was 30 lakh just a couple of years ago. So the trend is reversing in a negative way. The problem is, my concern is that the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribe and the disadvantaged children are the ones who are disproportionately missing out from educational opportunities. We find that they are not taking advantage of schemes like the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya. We find that the Centre is refusing to support now in the new Budget the States in supporting, in building 6,000 model schools. We know the Minister is going to reply saying the onus is now going to go on the States because

of the Finance Commission. But the truth is the States could not even manage to spend what they were supposed to spend in the earlier system when the Centre was giving so much more. How are they going to manage now?

Let us take Kendriya Vidyalayas. Regarding Kendriya Vidyalayas, each of us knows as an MP what public demand there is. For my six seats, I have 459 requests. The Standing Committee has suggested that we increase the number of seats for MPs. We know that is not a solution. The only solution is serious Central investment in building maybe 500 new KVs in this country to cater to the people's demand for quality, affordable education. Is that Central investment coming?

Will Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas also be built and expanded? I had suggested some time ago that the disadvantaged community should be favoured because a residential school is a place where people who cannot study at home should be allowed to stay. Regarding our coastal communities, fishermen, why cannot we have the JNVs for the fishing community, for other minorities and disadvantaged groups?

Look at our situation today regarding teaching. Only 63 per cent of our Government schools have the pupil teacher ratio as per the RTE

norms. What is the Government doing about it? The deadline was supposed to be March, 2015. There is a shortage of trained teachers even in the training institutes. The problem we have now is that even in the Kendriya Vidyalayas, there is a 15 per cent vacancy rate. Sir, 50 per cent of our positions in teacher training institutions are vacant. You may reMember the study of the Late Justice Verma of teacher training colleges in one State, Maharashtra. He studied 200 colleges and he said 193 are so bad that they should be closed down immediately. If we train teachers badly, they will teach children badly and the result will be poor quality of learning outcomes.

Coming to infrastructure, for construction of Kendriya Vidyalayas, where is the money in this Budget? There are 177 Kendriya Vidyalayas with pending delays in construction including one in my constituency. Even in my constituency, KV Pangode in Thiruvananthapuram is pending for some time. The ground reality is, we must have more redoubled effort in monitoring and Central financing. The Government cannot walk away from its Central financing responsibilities; otherwise learning outcomes will continue to be weak. The national achievement surveys will continue to show that not even half the children in class five can read a class two text in our country. Even in Kerala State – we have been so proud of having

first achieved hundred per cent literacy – the latest Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Report shows a drop in the net enrolment ratio and a decline in learning outcomes.

I have two final points, Mr. Deputy Speaker; I know you are pressed for time. The first is our very serious concern as MPs in this House about the declining autonomy of institutions under MHRD. We are concerned about the resignations of a number of key figures, the Chairman of the Board of Governors of IIT Bombay, the Director of IIT Delhi, the Director of the NCERT and even the Chairman of the National Book Trust. We had a writer who had published 17 novels, 20 collections of short stories, the Book Trust headed by somebody who has written books and he has been asked to leave prematurely and has been replaced by the editor of an RSS magazine. This is something we have to worry about. There has been an attempt to move the Delhi University Vice Chancellor and only the Rashtrapati has blocked it asking for more clarifications and details. UGC has been asked to issue directives to withdraw the four-year course of the Delhi University, the very course the same UGC had approved the previous year.

I will give you one example, Mr. Deputy Speaker, on the subject. The Ministry of HRD has given an instruction that it must be informed

before any MoUs with foreign universities are signed. This is contrary to the Acts of this Parliament which govern institutions like the IITs and Central Universities which give them the power to enter into academic collaborations with whoever they like. The previous NDA Government had done the same thing, but when the UPA came to power in 2004, we withdrew the requirement saying it was unnecessary interference in the autonomy of institutions. Now it has come right back again. My worry, and I say this to the Minister with due respect, is that education is becoming over-regulated and under-governed. What we need is more governance, more Central investment, more Central financing.

My final point is on the concerns that others have already expressed about saffronisation of education. I would not repeat them but I will ask the Minister to please give this House an assurance that she will uphold the integrity of educational attainment in India irrespective of religion.

Thank you, Sir.

*__SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI (DHARWAD)__: Mahatma Gandhiji had said 'Basic education links the children, whether of the cities or the villages, to all that is best and lasting in India.'

First of all, I would like to draw the attention on the fact that India ranks 135th out of 187 countries in the human development index report released last year in Tokyo. India is the lowest performing country among the BRICS nations. Among the BRICS countries, Russia, Brazil and China are in the high HDI category with Russia securing the highest rank at 57, followed by Brazil at 79 and China at 91. South Africa has the HDI rank of 118th. Poor access to education is one of the biggest reasons of why India has failed to improve its ranking in human development.

Literacy in India is one of the key deterrents to socio-economic progress of the country. The Indian literacy rate currently stands at 74%, the level is well below the world average literacy rate of 84%, and India currently has the largest illiterate population compared to any other nation in the world.

Even after 67 years of independence, there is no vision or long term policy. Out of these 67 years, 58 years have been ruled by the UPA and Congress Government. This is what we have inherited from the previous UPA and Congress regime.

According to the 10th Annual Survey of Education Report of 2014, only 58.8% children who are in class 6th can read a text of class 2nd. This means every second class 5 student in rural India can't read the text of a class four levels below. The problem of arithmetic is even worse. Only 44.1% of Class 8 students in rural India managed to do a division in 2014. And only 25.8% students of class 6th could do subtraction.

Further, only 49.3% of schools are meeting the teacher pupil ratio as per the right to Education Act. And only 5.7% schools had a separate usable toielts for girls.

There has been a steady increase in private school enrollment from 18.76% in 2006 to 19% in 2013. In some states, enrollment on Government school is high but higher portion of the students were found to depend on private tuitions for improvement.

India's schools still fall short of 5.86 lakh primary-level teachers and 3.5 lakh upper primary level teachers. Many Government schools are running on contractual teachers who are serving for years together and agitating on roads for regularization because they are spending their employable age as a contractual teacher.

The situation is worse in the secondary education where the dropout rate is higher especially that of the girls.

However, I think we have not been successful in achieving this. In the last 10 years, the situation of Education in India has become worrisome.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan was a flagship programme which was launched under the leadership of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ji. It was launched in partnership with the State Governments and Local Self-Governments, SSA aimed to provide useful and relevant education to all children in the 6-14 age groups by 2010.

In 2002, SSA had helped in increasing the access to schools by 85.6% as per the 7th All India Education survey. It improved to 98% rural population having access to a primary education within 1 km.

Further, construction of 2.16 lakh school buildings have got sanctioned and about 8.12 lakh additional classrooms were sanctioned for elementary schools. Under SSA, 11.34 lakh teacher at elementary stage had been sanctioned. It was because of SSA, pupil teacher ratio at primary stage had been reduced from 46: 1 to 36: 1.

Even though Right to Education came into practice, these facts indicate the UPA Government only continued to focus on outlays and inputs instead of on outcomes and impact resulting in these dismal achievements.

For progress of any country, Primary and secondary education plays a very important role and paves way for quality higher education. Unfortunately, we are lacking both in primary and secondary education. Basic amenities like, buildings, teachers, libraries, laboratories and also toilets are lacking. School children are deprived of their fundamental rights.

In this background this Government under the able leadership of Shri Narendra Modiji is addressing these issues and HRD has a greater role to play. The Budget of 2015-16 has taken proper care of this.

For example, to control the systematic problem of the number of dropouts in the secondary education, the Finance Minister has announced to establish a senior secondary school within 5 kms reach of every child.

The Government has taken a paradigm shift in its policy of education system. There is an increase of funds to the amount of Rs. 1.78 lakh crore, through devolution the Centre has provided grater funds and thus greater autonomy to states so that they can focus on their educational needs as per their requirements. Instead the Government has now moved to a bigger concern and that is of Higher education in India.

In higher education the Government has increased the budgetary allocation under Rashtriya Ucchatar Shiksha Abhiyan from revised budget estimates of 397.47 crores to 1155 crores.

Further it has been given a plan allocation of Rs. 15855.26 crores in 2015-16 as against Rs. 13000 crores in the revised Budget for 2014-15 thereby an increase of 22% increase for this sector. There has been an overall increase of 13.32% in the budget allocation for higher education as compared to the revised budget.

As per the Standing Committee report the Gross Enrollment Ratio in higher education which is the participation in the age group of 18-23 years continues to be low and is estimated to be nearly 13.5%

This is much below the world average of 24%. Where the GER of developed countries is whooping 58%, India lags behind other developing countries where the GER on average is 18%.

From 26 universities and 695 colleges at the time of independence, we have risen to 700 universities and 35,539 colleges today. This is a 20-fold and 46-fold increase in the number of universities and colleges, respectively. However, as the low GER very aptly indicates, increase in the number of institutions has still remained inadequate to meet the increased demand for higher education.

This is in this background the FM has announced more and more National institutes of higher learning like IITs, IIMs and AIIMS. I once again take this opportunity to thank profusely the PM and FM for sanctioning IIT for Karnataka, my state. Further, with financial aid given through Pradhan Mantri Vidyalaxmi Karyakram the students will get an opportunity to get the best of the education in India.

The thrust for higher education is long pending in view of growing unemployment. I always quote John Ruskins words who says 'the human hands are the most efficient and subtlest and skillful tools made by god'.

As per the labour Bureau report of 2014, the current size of the formally skilled work force is just 2% in India as compared to small countries like Korea and Japan which 96% and 80% respectively. Therefore, through different skill development initiatives along with emphasis on education undertaken by the Government, there would be a substantial increase in the job opportunities for the youth.

Education system of India has been gripped by different policy issues since even before the independence. Lord Macaulay who extensively promoted the use of English as the medium of instructions in all schools in the country had written to his father a letter in 1836. His letter stated: "Our English schools are flourishing wonderfully;

we find it difficult to provide instruction to all. The effect of this education on Hindus is prodigious. No Hindu who has received an English education ever remains sincerely attached to his religion. It is my firm belief that if our plans of education are followed up, there will not be a single idolater among the respected classes 30 years hence. And this will be effected without our efforts to proselytize; I heartily rejoice in the prospect'. It is the Lord Macaulay and the British rulers who played a major role in destroying our Traditional and Holistic education system which we had inherited from our forefatheRs.

Even Mahatma Gandhi had acknowledged this fact when in the Round table conference in 1931, Mahatma Gandhi in one of his speeches said, 'the beautiful tree of education was cut down by you British. Therefore today India is far more illiterate than it was 100 years ago.'

Therefore I believe it is time to look in to the problems in toto and bring fundamental changes in the education sector some of which are as follows.

As per the Programme for International Student Assessment conducted in the year 2012, India ranked 73rd out of 74 countries which participated in this assessment only beating Krgystan. The

assessment is conducted by Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development's Secretariat and tests reading and arithmetic skills.

The educational system followed in most schools today is the 'factory model' where focus of education is only on passing the exams than doing the critical thinking which is important for the holistic development of the children. Therefore, we need to put focus on the outcome of education rather than only Rote Learning.

The Global Monitoring Report- Education For All 2014 released in 2014 stated that Accountability ranks low among teachers in India; only one headmaster reported dismissing a teacher for repeated absence, in over 3,000 Government schools surveyed. Shortage of teachers and inadequate training have also raised serious concerns. The analysis shows that not even half the school children are learning their basics well in 21 countries including India.

There is a need to put thrust on producing more Researchers and Scholars in the country. For example, the Kakodkar Committee, set up by the Ministry of Human Resources Development (MHRD) stated that the USA and China are producing around 8,000 to 9,000 engineering Ph. D. scholars each. However, IITs are producing only around 1,000 Ph. D scholars per year. As per the committee, Engineering Ph. D scholars being produced per year should be

increased to 10,000 over the course of the next decade. The Government is committed towards motivating young scientists to continue their research work in India and to curb the brain drain it has increased the fellowship amount by over 50% for various categories of research scientists. It is a positive step, however now we need to make an infrastructure to increase the number of research scholars in the country.

In past 67 years since independence we have not been successful in givng a safe educational environment to the children with disabilities. As per an independent survey conducted in 2013, commissioned by the Ministry of Human Resource Development more than 6 lakh children with special needs between the age group of 6-13 years are out of school. Therefore, we need to make a composite education system where children with special needs are not denied their right to get educated.

Country will required 6.0 million more teachers by 2020 to attain the world average in terms of student teacher ratio. This would mean a requirement to train 0.75 mn teachers per annum as against this the total capacity of all B. Ed. Colleges currently is only 0.25mn per annum. There is a dire need to recruit more teachers. At the same it is important that we achieve a global standard in the field of teaching.

For that, it is important that there should teacher training institutes as per the global standards.

I should also congratulate the Government for its intention to address education sector concerns and bring about better education loan facilities when it will ensure that no student misses out higher education due to lack of funds. I take this opportunity to request the Finance Minister for formulating such guidelines for Banks for these educational loans as are more students friendly.

I also take this opportunity to request the Government to increase the number of Kendriya Vidyalayas across the country one each in every taluk (block) headquarters so that more and more rural students are benefited and quality of elementary education improves. I also request the Government to establish two more KVs in Hubli-Dharwad, my constituency where demand and supply factor is imbalanced for these schools.

I had at the very beginning said that the greatest success of 10 years UPA Government is its monumental failure in bringing qualitative changes or improvement in elementary education sector. But under the leadership of Pradhan Mantri Shri Narendra Modi, I am sure we will be able to achieve new heights in the sector of education.

[Translation]

*__PROF. CHINTAMANI MALVIYA (UJJAIN)__: The grant given for education is not an expenditure but actually a safe investment in our country and our future and if we want to build a golden future, then the investment cannot be reduced. Indian education system is the third largest education system in the world after the US and China.

The goal of the Hon. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Government is to make India a super power in the field of knowledge. Therefore, compared to the budget of the previous U0P0A Government, it has been increased from Rs. 65867 crores to Rs. 69794.50 crores, i. E., Rs. 400 crores has been increased. This increase shows the seriousness and commitment of the Government towards education. Not only this, the U0P0A0 Government had made a provision of only 16198 crore in the last budget for higher education, which was increased by 1000 crore to 26198 crore by the present Government. This increase is necessary because India is the youngest country in the world 60 percent of our population is within 35 and in that also 40 percent of the total population is within 18 years. By 2020, the average age of the people of India will be 29 years while the US and China will be 37 years of average age of countries like Japan will

* Speech was laid on the Table.

be 48 years. In such a situation, we need significant funding in education to prepare for the future. There are challenges in the education sector. In 1993, 270,00,000 students took admission in class 1, but in 2013 only 1 crore students reached class 10. In the country, the dropout rate for girls is even higher than boys because of the lack of teachers, schools being far away, a shortage of high schools, and a lack of toilets. The previous UPA Government continuously ignored the field of education and made experiment land. An example of this is that the Ministers of the UPA Government ended examinations up to 8th standard while sitting in AC rooms. The result is that children are being adversely affected. They are only passing but their knowledge is not increasing.

Congress, which does politics in the name of the poor, has done the work of pouring buttermilk on the roots of the poor. I would like to request that the examination of Class 5 and Class 8 should be resumed.

Congress played another joke on the poor in the name of mid-day meal. Due to mid-day meal, our children are getting food but not getting education. Teacher's attention is more on mid-day-mill than teaching. I request that if there is an increase, then the amount should

be increased but make good mid-day mills available and keep the teachers away from mid-day mills.

The UPA Government patted its back on the Right to Education Bill, saying that education is everyone's birthright and made a law that 25 per cent of children below the poverty line will be given admission in all types of schools, which will be paid by the Government. But the situation on the ground is different. I would like to point out that minority institutions and missionary schools do not follow this law. They do not allow 25 percent of below poverty line children to enter. Not only that, if the administrator of an institution is Jain or Sindhi, they also refuse entry by stating that they are linguistic minorities.

Amrita Sen says that in India, education should be provided to the poorest of the poor children for sustainable development. However, the country's minority communities are showing disdain towards this law. In this country, there are no Parsis as minorities; there should be a redefinition of minorities.

I would like to request that all types of educational institutions should be brought under the purview of Right to Education law. I would also like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the State Universities. State universities' autonomy is being terminated by state Governments. There are cuts being made in the funding sent

periodically. In many states, the role of the governor in universities is limited, this has reduced their protection. If the state universities are not handled, their autonomy is banned, then the state universities will be lagging behind in the race for private universities. I demand that strict rules be made for the autonomy protection of state universities.

[English]

*__SHRI S. P. MUDDAHANUME GOWDA (TUMKUR):__ Overall reduction in the budgetary allocation to the Ministry of Human Resource Development for the year 2015-2016 goes to show that the present Government's priority is education. Government should have taken education as one of the priority sector. For any under-developing country, the Government should take the Department of Education very seriously.

The trend in the whole country regarding the Government primary schools is most alarming. The general impression created among the parents of the children whose children are studying in Government schools is that their children would get better and quality education only in private educational institutions. This trend is an eye opener for the Government to seriously think about competing with the private educational institutions by providing quality and good education to the children who are studying in Government schools.

Rashtriya Madhyamik Abhiyan Scheme started during UPA regime to provide fund for secondary Higher Education for the purpose of construction of school rooms and also maintenance.

* Speech was laid on the Table

Providing education to rural children should be considered more seriously. Government of India should start more Kendriya Vidyalaya Schools all over the country. Only selected students are able to get admission in the Kendriya Vidalaya schools thereby depriving the needy students of the rural areas who should be provided with good education as contemplated in the Constitution.

Technical Education which is now provided in the country through IITs is also not sufficient. More such institutions should be started throughout the country. I am happy that the Government of India has announced that IIT will be started at the State of Karnataka. If the said IIT is to be started, the ideal place is Tumkur in Karnataka, which is a suitable place viewing from any angle. If Government of India prefers to start the said IIT at Tumkur, Government of Karnataka will also give its consent.

With this words, I conclude.

[Translation]

***SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH (CHATRA)**: I would like to make my point by supporting the 2015-16 Demand for Grants of the Ministry of Human Resource Development. Education is crucial for the stability and progress of any nation. After good governance, it can be called the second pillar. Human capital has unlimited potential, provided individuals have access to proper education, relevant skills, and vocational training.

Under the Ministry of Human Resource Development, there are two departments: the Department of School Education and Literacy, and the Department of Higher Education. The aim of the Department of School Education and Literacy is that everyone should get uniform education, which can be used extensively to develop the human potential of the nation. The aim of the Department of Higher Education is to harness the human potential of India with equity and excellence. It is felt worldwide that economic well-being and the development of higher intellectual and business capacities can only be achieved through higher intellectual and business capabilities. In today's competitive global environment, quality human resources are extremely essential for progress. In this direction, the concept of

* Speech was laid on the Table.

development has evolved over the last two decades, moving away from income and income distribution to human resource development, thereby laying the foundation for the right to live a life of dignity through the possibilities of transforming growth. To meet these challenges, the Ministry aims to provide "Education for All".

The HRD Ministry has demanded Rs. 69074.76 crore for both its departments. Of this, Rs. 42219.50 crore is for the Department of School Education and Literacy and Rs. 26855.26 crore for higher education. An analysis of the demands for school education and literacy of the Ministry makes it clear that about 93 percent of the budget allocated to the Department will be spent on schemes like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Mid-day Meal (MDM), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, providing quality education in madrassas (SPQM), infrastructure development of minority institutions (IDMI) and development of education including education training and adult education. While the remaining 7 per cent will be spent on central sector projects namely Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS), Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS), National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), National Literacy Mission Authority (NLMA), School Assessment Programme, National Bal Bhavan, Directorate of Adult Education,

Central Tibetan School Administration and assistance to non-Government organisations.

Total amount including Rs 22000 crore for Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan', Rs 9236.40 crore for Mid-Day Meal, Rs 3566 crore for RMSA, Rs 375.50 crore for SPQEM and IDMI, Rs 1257.60 crore for educational development including teacher training and adult education, There is a budgetary provision of Rs 36434.50 crore. Whereas, Rs. 1550 crore in NVS, Rs. 875 crore in KVS, Rs. 50 crore under School Assessment Scheme, Rs. 25 crore on NCERT, Rs. 76 crore to NGOs including adult education and skill development, state Government institutions and others, NLMA, Directorate of Adult Education, Central A provision of only Rs. 2604 crore has been made on central sector schemes, including Rs. 28 crore on Tibetan School Administration and National Children's Building. Firstly, this provision is Rs. 39038.50 crore instead of Rs. 51828 crore and Rs. 435.90 crore respectively against the Budget Estimates of 2014-15 and the allocations of the Revised Budget. Provided that it is clear that from the Budget Estimates of 2014-15, the amount of revised budget is less but it means that 8310.10 crore less was spent by the Department from the Budget Estimates.

If we look at the details of plan and non-plan expenditure by the department in the years 2013-14 and 2014-15 respectively, it is found that while the budget estimates for the year 2013-14 were Rs. 49659 crores in the plan head and Rs. 3042 crores in the non-plan head, totaling Rs. 52701 crore, in the revised estimates it was reduced to Rs. 47159 crores and Rs. 3022.30 crores respectively in the plan and non-plan heads, totaling Rs. 50181.30; that is, on the one hand while the plan head got reduced by Rs. 2500 crore, the non-plan head got reduced by Rs. 20 crores. Thus, there was a reduction of Rs 2519.7 crore in the revised budget estimates as compared to the budget estimates of 2013-14, but the truth is that the actual expenditure was even less than this. Up to 31.03.2014, only Rs. 46975.74 crore had been spent by the Department, i. E., only Rs. 5725.26 crore had been spent as against the Budget Estimates (BE) of 2013-14. It is also worth mentioning here that Rs 149.46 crore more was spent on non-plan items. Similarly, the total BE in 2014-15 is Rs. 46805 crore in RE as compared to Rs. 55115.10 crore. That is, Rs 8310.10 crore has decreased from BE to RE, whereas if we assess the actual expenditure till 31.01.2015, then the expenditure has been even less. The total expenditure by the Department in 2014-15 is Rs. 39346.06 crore including Rs. 36954.01 and Rs. 2752.05 crore respectively under Plan

and Non-Plan head. Thus, we find that on one hand, the actual expenditure of the department in 2014-15 was 16.25 percent less as compared to 2013-14, on the other hand, there is a huge difference between the budget estimate, revised budget and actual expenditure. That is, the previous Governments only announced populist programs, they did not pay attention to implementing them. Similarly, a number of schemes which did not serve the purposes of education were announced only to fulfil political objectives.

Comparing the allocation of funds in 2015-16 with the revised estimates of 2014-15, it emerges that there has been a decrease of 9.76 percent and 16.41 percent in the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Mid-Day Meal programs, respectively. While RMSA (Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan) has increased by 2.4 percent, the schemes related to minorities have increased by 161.16 percent in SPQEM and IDMI respectively. While Teacher Training and Adult Education, KVS and NVS have increased by 12.15 percent, 6.41 percent and 17.92 percent respectively. In this manner, we find that it is clear that the Government's objective is to enhance the quality of education on one hand, while also providing special benefits to marginalized communities through the modernization of education on the other. Also, the increase in NVS and KVS means that everyone gets equal

opportunity with a view to increase the quality of education at the national level. The number and capacity of these institutes can be increased at the national level. Similarly, the total budgetary provision for the two flexic programs of the department, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan/RTE and Mid-Day Meal, has been Rs. 31236.40 crore, which is more than the total provision made for the department in 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15. If we review the budgetary allocations, we find that the budgetary allocations are continuously decreasing. In 2012-13 where the total budgetary allocation of the department was Rs. 45969 crore under the plan head. While 2013-14 and 2014-15 were Rs. 49659 crore and Rs. 51828 crore respectively, 2012-13 increased by 18 percent, the growth declined to 8.03 percent in 2013-14 and 4.37 percent in 2014-15. In this way, we find that the rate of increase in budget allocation for the department has consistently decreased. But in the year 2015-16, the maximum reduction in budget allocation was 24.68 percent. However, we should keep in mind that there has been a continuous decrease in budget allocation, revised budget allocation, and actual expenditure of the department. This means that the allocation has been enhanced to non-essential items and schemes. The present Government has taken a concrete step in the direction of enforcing financial discipline and

keeping in line with the objectives of education, emphasizing on universalization and quality of education and allocating allocations in accordance with its obligations towards social justice.

The discussions about the shortage of budget allocation in schemes like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan/ RTE and Mid-Day Meal are entirely justified. The truth becomes clear from the review of allocations made in these two schemes for the last three years. In the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, provision was made for Rs. 25555 crore in the proposed budget of 2012-13, Rs. 27258 crore in the proposed budget for 2013-14 and Rs. 28258 crore in 2014-15, while in its revised estimate it was Rs. 23875.83 crore for these years respectively. , Rs. 26608.01 crore and Rs. 24380 crore have been determined, while the expenditure has decreased as follows: 23858.01 crore in 2012-13, 24820.93 crore in 2013-14 and 22641.13 crore in 2014-15 respectively. Similarly, as per the Budget Estimates in Mid-day Meal, Rs. 11937 crore in 2012-13, Rs. 13215 crore in 2013-14 and Rs. 13215 crore in 2014-15. Whereas in these years the Revised Budget Estimates were Rs. 11500 crore, Rs. 12189.16 crore and Rs. 11050.90 crore. Whereas actual expenditure was less than Rs. 10867.90 crore in 2012-13, Rs. 10927.21 crore in 2013-14 and Rs. 10400.57 crore in 2014-15.

I would urge the Hon. Minister that schemes like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Mid-Day Meal should get maximum benefits from the backward areas, including STs, SCs, OBCs and the deprived communities. From this point of view the Department needs to take appropriate steps. While GER was 101.36 percent in 2013-14 in the field of primary education under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, NER was 88.08 percent while GER in higher primary education sector was 89.33 percent NER was 70.20 percent. This is remarkable compared to previous years, but a lot of work needs to be done in this direction as compared to other countries of the world including Asia. From this perspective, in terms of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, immediate attention should be given to fulfilling the requirements of residential/neighboring area schools, including necessary infrastructure such as separate toilets for boys and girls, provision of drinking water, and availability of required teachers, within a specific timeframe. Along with this, the number of school dropouts has decreased in the middle but still the number of school dropouts in SC, ST is 6.1 and 8.4 percent in 2013-14. The number of school dropouts has to work keeping in mind the target of 0 percent. Similarly, the number of out-of-school children is still around 60 lakhs. In this regard, special attention needs to be given to Uttar Pradesh 26 percent,

Bihar 19 percent, Rajasthan 10 percent, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh 7 percent and West Bengal 6 percent. Through Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, the Department has opened 3.58 lakh new Primary and Upper Primary Schools by 2014.1,77,432 New Primary School Buildings and 1,02,628 New Upper Primary School Buildings have been constructed.16,29,990 additional class rooms have been constructed. Whereas 2,25,440 drinking water facilities and 8,17,036 toilets have been constructed. New reinstatement of 15.6 lakh teachers has taken place. Free text books have been distributed among 8.02 crore children. However, the condition of drinking water and toilets still remains worrying under the SSA. In this regard, we have to work very fast. Especially under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, there still remains significant regional disparity in terms of infrastructure construction according to the standards set by it. Especially when we compare the availability of toilets, electricity, water, and sports fields at schools, we find significant disparity at this level. There is a severe lack of these facilities in Jharkhand, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal. This needs to be corrected. Navodaya Vidyalayas, Kendriya Vidyalayas, and Kasturba Gandhi Vidyalayas should be expanded to the maximum extent possible at the national level, so that

the objectives of universalization of education are achieved along with ensuring quality education is uniformly accessible across the country.

A total of 10.33 crore students from 11.74 lakh schools benefited in 2014-15 under mid-day meal. While this scheme has shown a significant rate of increase in enrolment and attendance while working for universalization of education, the number of school dropouts has decreased. This scheme has rid the children of hunger and has given relief from the problem of malnutrition. However, from the perspective of fund utilization, this scheme is unable to fully achieve its objectives. There are many problems. Such as use of poor quality grains, irregularity in the lifting of grains, acute shortage of basic structure and human energy required for cooking, poor quality of food. In view of this, it is necessary that an effective and robust monitoring mechanism should be set up for the proper operation of the Mid-Day Meal Scheme. If possible, the amount related to the Mid-Day Meal could be directly transferred to the accounts of students or their guardians, or a system could be established where daily attendance in schools is recorded, and based on that, the Mid-Day Meal is provided. This would significantly impact the effectiveness of teaching and learning. Effective action should be taken in this regard.[English]

[Translation] In this budget, there has been an increase in budget allocation for teacher training. It is a concrete initiative towards providing quality education. At the same time, the budgetary provision has also increased in the school assessment programme, but this increase is less because the survey conducted among rural children has shown that our level in terms of original reading and mathematics is much lower than that of other countries of the world. From this perspective, school assessment is extremely crucial. The sign of increasing enrolment rate in private schools is also not very good. While 16 percent of children enrolled in private schools in 2005, this percentage has gone up to 30.8 percent in 2014. Current trends indicate that by the end of this decade, this percentage will increase to 50 percent. During 2007-08 and 2013-14, admission in Government schools, Primary and Upper Primary has declined by 11.7 million to just 121 million in 133.7 million. While this enrolment in private schools has increased by 27 million and increased from 51 million to 78 million. The same situation is being observed in rural areas, despite significant funds being allocated through the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and other educational programs there. This raises a question whether the declining standard of education in Government schools is indeed the cause. Therefore, we have to improve the ratio of necessary

infrastructure, trained teachers and class teacher in schools. Only then can we achieve the goal of quality education. The program “Padhe Bharat – Badhe Bharat” announced by the Government is a great step to create an environment of reading, writing and mathematical proficiency. For the success of this endeavor, it will be essential to involve local administration more in this process and make them more responsive.

For Higher Education Department, the Ministry has made a total budget provision of Rs. 26,855.26 crore, including Rs. 15855.26 crore under the scheme head and Rs. 11000 crore under non-plan head. This amount is higher than the actual budget of 2013-14 and Rs. 24465.17 crore and Rs. 23700 crore respectively in the revised budget of 2014-15. From the point of view of the scheme item also higher education is more than Rs. 15855.26 crore in 2012-13 and Rs. 14182.83 crore in 2013-14 and Rs. 13000 crore in the revised budget of 2014-15. The tasks of higher education include framing education policy with all aspects and determining and coordinating standards of higher education, including research. The Department has the responsibility of developing and expanding technical education, managing scholarships, motivating and pursuing research and studies in Sanskrit

and other classical languages and coordinating its activities with UNESCO.

Indian higher education system is one of the largest education systems in the world in terms of number of colleges and universities. There were 350 universities and 16982 colleges in the year 2005-06 which increased to 713 universities and 36739 colleges and 11343 diploma level institutions in the year 2013-14. Today it is necessary that there is supply in the field of education as per demand and there should be a timely change in the education policy in line with the employment opportunities. Therefore, from the future perspective, higher education will have to identify such areas which can generate more employment in future and accordingly provide appropriate courses to the students. In higher education GER is almost 2 times the 11.6 percent of 2005-06 to 21.1 percent in 2012-13. That is, 29.6 million students enrolled in higher education in 2012-13 compared to 14.3 million in 2005-06. However, due to the lack of access to higher education and scarcity of resources, only a few individuals reach higher education, thereby contributing to an increase in dropout rates, especially in tertiary education. As a result, less educated and less skilled youths gather in search of employment opportunities, leading to a crowded job market. Accepting this problem as a challenge, we

have to make higher education also accessible and quality in line with global standards.

The National Higher Education Mission (RUSA) is one of the leading programs of the Higher Education Department. This has opened up to provide support to the universities and colleges of the States so as to improve their overall infrastructure. From this point of view, autonomous colleges will be able to achieve level-playing and NAAC University-level institutions for the possibility of achieving excellence. In 2014-15, 14 Model Degree Colleges and 16 new business colleges were sanctioned under RUSA. The work being done by RUSA for the upgradation of universities and colleges is commendable. Under RUSA, the National Quality Enhancement Initiative (LQEI) is an important program. National Teachers and Education Mission has been launched. The Mission will address several problems like teacher/faculty shortage and vacancies, recruitment policies, qualifications, capacity building of teachers to improve pedagogical skills, technology based education, continuing training and retraining, pre-service and in-service training, teacher absenteeism and accountability, revamping of academies, staff colleges, growth and development of university teachers and engineering and technical teachers etc. Approval has been granted for

the establishment of 8 new IITs. While ISM Dhanbad has been given IIT status by the Ministry, the earlier announced IITs Hyderabad, Patna, Ropar, Indore, Gandhinagar, Mandi, Bhubaneswar and Jaipur have been provided necessary funds towards providing infrastructure facilities. In addition to this, plans are underway to establish one IIT each in Jammu, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, and Kerala. Programmes for transfer of 7 newly announced IIMs, Shillong, Rohtak, Raipur, Trichy, Ranchi, Kashipur, Udaipur to their permanent campuses are underway. The new IIMs are being coordinated by the state Governments in terms of land and location selection in Bihar, Orissa, Maharashtra, Punjab, Himajal Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh.

There is a major problem before the Ministry that the Department from the concerned areas is not getting account of unrealized utilization certificates and unspent amounts. As on 31th January, 2015, the 1191Utility Certificate which is of 15479.12 crores is pending. Not spent until 31.12.2014. The respective states/UTs have the pending responsibility for this. This should be investigated and resolved.

I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to my State Jharkhand and my Lok Sabha constituency. Chatra Lok Sabha constituency comprises three districts of Chatra, Latehar and Palamu.

I would like to draw your attention to the Nethraat Residential School in my area. This school used to come at some point in the top schools of the country. Today the students of this school are posted in most important places in the country world. Thousands of IAS, IPS, IRS and other Indian Government Services including doctors and engineers have come out of this one school and are not only serving the country, but also increasing the prestige of the country abroad. You would be requested to pay special attention to this school and take appropriate steps for restoring its reputation as well as for its upliftment and development.

My area comes under Left Wing Extremism Affected (LWE). The condition of school education throughout the region is very pathetic. There is a huge shortage of teachers including buildings, toilets, drinking water, playgrounds in the schools. There is a lot of irregularity in the mid-day meal scheme. There is an acute shortage of necessary infrastructure in Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas. It is necessary in girls' schools that the boundary wall be strong and high. Along with this, drinking water and toilets will have to be provided. I would like to draw the attention of the Minister to the fact that in my entire Lok Sabha constituency, there is only one constituent college, which comes under the jurisdiction of Vinoba Bhave University,

Hazaribagh. There is also a severe shortage of teachers in that college. Only 11 teachers are available for 9000 students. There is not a single women college in the entire Lok Sabha constituency. Some colleges affiliated with Vinoba Bhave University, Hazaribagh, and Nilamber Pitamber University, Daltonganj, also suffer from a severe lack of basic infrastructure. In my entire Parliamentary Constituency, there is only one central school available, located in Latehar district. There is also a significant lack of basic infrastructure in it. While in my Lok Sabha constituency, Chhattisgarh, coal mining companies of the Indian Government are operational from the perspective of coal production. Therefore, I would request the Hon. Minister to grant approval for the establishment of a Central School in Chhattisgarh's Chatra district. In view of training of teachers in the state, the institutes needed for higher teacher training should be opened under the Central scheme. Furthermore, it should be directed to the relevant universities to establish at least one women's college and one general college in each of the assembly constituencies in my area.

Lastly, I want to remind the Human Resource Development Minister that he had talked about implementing a National Education Policy all over the country. He had also said that in this regard, it will include views and suggestions of students from all over the country,

especially from all the remote villages, as education system and curriculum have a direct impact on them. India was formulated in its previous National Education Policy 1986. Today, the education scenario has completely changed. It is high time that a National Education Policy should be formulated keeping in mind all practical aspects related to the academia and keeping in mind the employment prospects and global challenges and solutions. The option-based credit transfer system should be adopted in schools and universities so that students can choose their preferred subjects. There should be development of interdisciplinary education system. Where students of science can also study literature and philosophy according to their interests. The marks-based education system should be changed to adopt a grading system. This work needs to be done to make our universities known as centres of excellence at the global level.

[*]**SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI**: Only through education can any society be made civilized and well developed. Even after 68 years of independence, it is ironic that even today, the education system in our society is not being given much attention. When parrot-like learning of knowledge and scoring lots of marks are considered real education in society, then we cannot imagine a creative and original society.

[*] Speech was laid on the Table.

Whether it's school education or education provided in universities, it has become a standardized framework and is determined based on certain examinations. The rural areas still lack adequate number of schools and the condition of primary schools in some states is that children go there for mid-day meal instead of books in their hands. Private schools opening up in villages and offering education in English medium are playing with the future of children by giving them false hopes! These private schools do not meet any criteria of quality! Neither do they have good teachers, nor the educational environment which is in the moat, urban and rural living standards, is also in the students of both the places. While the right to education has become a fundamental right, there are still numerous obstacles and opposition to it today. In many major universities, rural students are forced to lag behind urban students.

11 ago, the NDA Government came into power at the center with the slogan of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas" and has begun advancing the country with this motto. Recently the Ministry of Human Resource Development has taken several steps which are definitely to be encouraged and questions are not discouraged.

Former President Dr Abdul Kalam has written in his book that we have to create an education system that can bring a smile on every

face. Today, we have to get the education system out of the waiting room and bring it into the open sky, so that our students can get the knowledge of the book as well as the practical world.

Today, there is a lot of emphasis being placed on higher education. New higher education institutions are opening up, but they are only distributing degrees, not knowledge. Fundamental talent is not being developed among the students. Our country is lagging behind in matters of fundamental research.

It is remarkable that there are 41 lakh teachers in 13.62 lakh primary schools in the country, but there are more than 12 lakh teachers lying vacant there. Among the teachers also, 8.5 lakh teachers are untrained. In such a situation, how can the goals like infrastructure quality of primary teachers and education guarantee be achieved in the country? Facilities like mid-day meals, school dress, cycling and books have led to an increase of 96 percent admissions in Government schools. But should basic education only aim to increase the number of students? Apart from this, in this era of commercialization, parents also consider education as a means of fulfilling their ambitions through their children. This is a wrong trend which needs to be stopped. A dream of reaching the sky cannot be built on hollow foundations.

In the midst of all these circumstances, a quality oriented education system is a power booster which will transform India as a major nation of the world. Our Minister of Finance has announced 2 new IITs in his budget. And IIM Has announced to open and every child will be given 5 K. M. To provide secondary education under the ambit, it has been announced that 80 thousand secondary schools will be upgraded to senior secondary schools and 75 thousand middle schools will be directly converted into senior secondary schools. In such a scenario, I hope that there will be an expansion of the foundational framework in secondary education. This scheme, run by the share of the Centre and the states, will also provide great relief to the states. About Rs. 69 thousand crore has been given in the budget of education, which will definitely bring positive change in the field of education.

In the end, I want to say that education itself is capable of addressing all difficulties related to human beings and our nature. Modi Ji's Skill India, Make in India, Digital India, and all the programs of the Ministry of Human Resource Development will undoubtedly propel our country forward, ensuring a better life for our students.

*__SHRI SHARAD TRIPATHI (SANT KABIR NAGAR)__: The schools in our country are making our children a burden, not intelligent. The number of students in schools is increasing, but children are lagging behind in studies. Our children are neither being taught language, nor mathematics nor science. Overall, the future of the children is being compromised in the schools.

In our country, more than 57 percent of first-class children studying in private and Government schools do not know English. Forget knowing English, They cannot read even a single letter of English. More than 50 percent of the first class children do not know any language. These children of the first class neither recognize letters nor words. I am not in favor of English, but in favor of knowledge of various languages. This is the reality of our schools. These figures are opening up the level of education in our schools. These figures are telling that the Government is preparing to implement the right to education on the one hand, but on the other hand the level of education in our schools is continuously falling. If education is a measure of knowledge and ability, then our school students do not meet it at all.

A study conducted by Pratham, a popular NGO on the status of education, shows how fast the standard of education in schools across

* Speech was laid on the Table.

the country is declining. According to the report, private schools are also in bad shape in terms of quality of education. Although the number of students in private schools has increased, the level of education has dropped. According to the report, about 53.2 percent of students studying in private schools cannot read second class books. This figure is 58.3 percent in Government schools. The report also revealed that about 46.5 percent of children in fifth grade do not know how to subtract in mathematics.75.2 percent of fifth class children do not know division.

It is clear that whether it is mathematics or literature, school students are proving to be hollow in terms of knowledge. Our school system is making their foundation so weak that on the basis of that neither the future of the children can become better nor of the country. The report clearly shows that our schools are failing to prepare our children for the future. Third class children cannot read first class books. Only 30 percent of children in third grade know how to read first class books. This is also the second aspect of the NGO's report. Reports suggest that the number of school students has increased in rural areas. The trend of parents in private schools has increased. According to the report, 2012 percent of admissions were around 96 percent. Private schools in rural areas have also increased by 10

percent. If this situation continues, by 2018 more than half of the country's children will be in private schools. Obviously, parents are running towards private schools. The facilities available in private schools are attracting them for admission. But the report of NGO Pratham shows that the condition of education is poor even in the private schools which attract parents in the name of glamour, high fees and facilities. Our schools are making our children burdened, not intelligent. Now the question is, if this situation continues, what will be the meaning of the right to education? What will be the meaning of education? The question is, what is the reason for the decline in the standard of education?

Our Government schools mostly have dilapidated buildings and sometimes are in ruinous condition. Even if there are some good buildings somewhere, they are mostly used for other purposes. We see them used as polling centres and many Government events also take place there. Besides this, Government schools are accessible for events like Ravana Dahan, firecracker shops, speeches by leaders, story-reading, discourse-pandals, old car markets, heaps of building material, fairs, demonstrations-rallies, festival celebrations, dancing-singing, etc. These schools also serve as shelter for people during storms and rains. These are the best places to organize weddings for

those who have influence. How can Government schools remain a sacred place for education?

Lack of qualified teachers and resources is another major problem due to which Government schools lag behind private schools. It should not be considered merely a matter of budget. Many non-educational tasks are taken from Government school teachers. It has to be understood that teachers are not a useless class. At some places, in a school of fifty-sixty children, there are more teachers than required, while at other places their number is even less than the minimum. It is said that the burden of salaries does not allow the condition of Government schools to improve. Actually our education budget is not good. There is shortage of money in private schools too but the work culture and management there is better.

Governmentalism and faulty management are also behind the bad condition of Government schools. Local development committees have been formed at many places but politics has started entering through them and schools are becoming tools of small-time leadeRs. Government schools need to be freed from their influence. In many villages, teachers have to beg the Sarpanch or influential leaders for their salaries.

If two Government schools are attached with private schools, then they will also get the benefit of their efficient management. Apart from this, there are a large number of retired educationists in the society who are getting up to fifteen-twenty thousand rupees as pension. If their talent is utilized by putting them in charge of two or three schools, good results may be achieved and they will also feel that they are still active, useful and important.

Big industries and business organizations across the country receive facilities from Government schemes, banks etc. They get benefits like subsidy, tax rebate, loan etc. Many of these bigwigs owe taxes worth crores of rupees but they roam around in society carefree like Shiv-Nandi. If these defaulters are motivated or forced to adopt two or three schools, some good results will definitely be achieved.

*SHRI DADDAN MISHRA (SRAWASTI): We all know that our country's Prime Minister Shri Narendra Bhai Modi has described the youth of the country as the real strength and has emphasized on ambitious plans for the contribution of Indian human resources to the whole world through their education and skill development. There is no doubt that Indian talent has made a splash abroad and their demand is also very high. But the condition of primary education in the country is very worrying. Under the Right to Education Act and the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, enrolment in Government schools could be ensured through mid-day meals, but the students' literacy and intellectual ability at the numerical and logical level is marginalised. There are many political and social reasons behind this, but I will only say something about its practical aspect. Even after 70 years of independence, there are many methods and courses of education in the country under which different courses have been taught at the state and national level. At the same time, the basis of selection of teachers is also different. It is important to tell this because as an MP, we have a provision to recommend admission of 6 children in the Kendriya Vidyalaya of our Parliamentary Constituency, but a lot of enthusiasm is being seen among the parents and children for admission in

* Speech was laid on the Table.

Kendriya Vidyalaya. In such a scenario, except for the lucky six who got admission with the help of recommendation letters, rest of the people are disappointed with their MP. This is also because we have created a discriminatory education system.

If we talk about rankings, then probably all aware/middle class parents give their first preference to Kendriya Vidyalaya and residential Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya in the selection of Government schools because in these schools, teachers are selected on the basis of a high level competitive examination and the education imparted in these schools is of Central CBSE board whose syllabus covers a lot for engineering and medical entrance examinations for the students' bright future. On these parameters, the educational institutions of state Governments, their curriculum and teachers all lag behind in terms of quality. If we look at it, these schools have become a brand and as per the fundamental right to equality, everyone should get the opportunity to get equal education.

What is needed is that a central policy should be made with the cooperation of all the states regarding education where there is a universal curriculum and teachers and infrastructure are the same. Only then will we be able to provide at least an equal platform to the children of the country in this cut-throat competitive era. Therefore, I

urge that more and more Kendriya Vidyalayas should be opened in the country and emphasis should be laid on the quality of education. Now, coupons for admission to Kendriya Vidyalaya can be given in your own Parliamentary Constituency. There are many places where there are no Kendriya Vidyalayas, it can be given only in the neighbouring district. I request is to end this constraint and significantly increase the number of coupons. I am saying this because most people from small towns migrate to big cities of the country in search of good employment and education opportunities. In such a situation, they are neglected so that the regional MPs can advocate for them but no one accepts that our hands are tied. Today we are committed to the concept of Make in India for which skill development is very important.[English] ै [Translation] But due to lack of equal educational opportunities, children from small towns/rural areas still lag behind in mental ability competitive examinations. I would request the Hon. Minister to make logical education, intelligence tests and Vedic mathematics compulsory in the teaching curriculum so that children can be prepared for the competitive environment right from school.

In the discussion held on Friday, Shri Tathagata Satpathy (Biju Janata Dal) had talked about the weakening of the core of our

education system i. E. primary education. I would like to tell the Hon. Minister of Education that it is not just the immediate Indian education system that needs strengthening, but its foundational principles as well. One of the main reasons for the weakness of this foundation is that logic is not taught at any level of education. Logic is such a subject which teaches us the difference between rational talk and fallacy and in Kaliyuga there will be a lot of fallacy, this is written in our scriptures and it is also true.

You and the Minister must have also observed that where our Government talks about scriptures, our civilization, our culture, at the same time, our Government or those who speak such things are not only criticized but also ridiculed. But I want to point out that the first civilization that invented the logic was the civilization of India. Not only that, after us, only the Greek civilization emerged, in which the famous philosopher Aristotle also invented logic, and all the physical knowledge and science of Western countries is based on Aristotle's logic.

There was a time when the basic curriculum of our gurukuls was language knowledge, grammar, logic and mathematics. It was believed that knowledge of these four subjects is essential before studying any other subject.

What's changed today? Even today, almost every examination that takes place after inter has a logical reasoning paper - CAT, CLAT, CSAT, GMAT, Bank PO, NDA - in all. But Logical Reasoning is taught only in coaching.

The word "logic" is used about a hundred times a day on every TV channel's debate. Recently, the Minister gave an interview to a journalist, in which both talked about being logical 5-10 times. Every day there is a debate among the public and their representatives as to whether you are logical or we are logical. Debates used to happen earlier too, religious discussions used to happen earlier too but earlier it used to happen as per the rules of logic whereas nowadays it happens as per one's own will. Everyone thinks that only he is logical and the rest are fools. But just as in mathematics, right and wrong are determined and certain, similarly, what is logical and what is not, this too has been determined and certain for centuries. People's arguments may be different but their evaluation will be based on logic only and logic is the same for everyone.

Then why is it that today logic is only a part of the syllabus of Bengal State Board and that too as optional? Why it is that even in universities, logic is taught only to philosophy students? Is there no use of logic in life or in exams or in professional life?

The last world-renowned logician from India was Dr. Bimal Krishna Matilal, who was a professor at Oxford from 1977 to 1991. He himself had studied in Sanskrit College. The amount of work done by Dr. Matilal on Indian logic under the guidance of Pandit Taranath Tarkatirtha and Kalipad Tarkacharya has not been done by anyone after him and all his books are available. All the books from Nagarjuna and Gautama to Aristotle, from Aristotle to Matilal and from Matilal to Copi and Cohen are available. Can't we get inspired by them and make books for high school and intermediate syllabus? Can't we prepare teachers of logic? Can't we have a trained teacher of logic in every school? We can do it, we must do it. This is a religious work; it is in the interest of the students, the country and the civilization. A few days ago, a logician (Adhir Som) had also given this argument in the Pioneer newspaper and had made the same request to the Government. I have been assured that many logicians, philosophers of the country, even the Philosophy Department of the famous St. Stephen's College, are ready to help the Government in making logic a part of the school curriculum, and that too on a charitable basis, i. E. free of cost, because they too believe that this is the work of religion, not of Hinduism, but of the religion of humanity. I don't think that anyone, even from a narrow political point of view,

would object or make fun of the fact that the ancient tradition of logic should be revived in India and that the logical and scientific development of India should be accelerated.

The 4th International Conference on Teaching Logic is scheduled to take place in France on June 9-12, 2015. I respectfully request the Minister that if possible, he should send a delegation to this conference and consider my suggestion of teaching logic in schools.

*__SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR CHOUBEY (BUXAR)__: I should also be associated with other speakers regarding the earthquake tragedy.

I pay my tributes to those who died in the earthquake tragedy that occurred in the last two-three days in various areas of the country and neighboring country Nepal including Bihar and express my condolences to all those affected families. We also express our condolences to the three minority people who died as a result of this in the Brahmapur block of our Parliamentary Constituency Buxar.

Additionally, under the guidance of Hon. Prime Minister, I thank the Hon. Home Minister for his readiness and assistance to the neighbouring country.

* Speech was laid on the Table.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it was my belief that there will be a dialogue in this House without any malice on the subject of education. I thank all Hon. Members for speaking on the subject of education without any feeling of malice and in the spirit of national interest.

Today I heard a comment in Hindi from the person who was in charge of the Education Department before me. He mentioned respected Venkaiah Naidu ji and said that the more flour there is, the more chapattis will be made. It is written in the scriptures and I have heard it on the land of Mahakaal-

Annapurne Sadapurne Shankar Pranavallabhe, Gyan Vairagya Siddhayartham Bhiksham Dehi Cha Parvati.

Mother Annapurna has this blessing that Annapurna arranges as many rotis as required. But today an Hon. Member who belongs to Kerala expressed the concern that expenditure is not being made, utilization is not happening. I would like to say with great respect to him that the gentleman sitting in the same row as you, if you look at the utilization of the Education Department for the year 2013-14, it was 92.9 percent of the revised estimate, whereas under our Government the expenditure of the revised estimate for the year 2014-15 was 97.69

percent. The question now arises towards them that when there was flour then why were not enough rotis made? He alleged that autonomy was being attacked. MHRD has given a direction that all the Central Universities or institutes should first ask through MHRD what type of MoU is going to be signed at the international level. The Constitution of the country says that the Government of the country has to work under the decision taken in the Parliament of the country. All educational institutions run by the Government of the country will respect this Parliament. Today the question arises that when the UPA and Congress Government was in power at the Centre, then why was the IIT Act, which was made by the same Parliament, violated? Why was an international agreement signed to build a campus at an international level, using Indian taxpayers' money, in violation of the IIT Act? Why were these Ministers watching the spectacle as mute spectators at that time? Was there no fear or concern then about the dignity of Parliament, the Constitution and the law?

An allegation is levelled against me that the four-year Delhi University program was rolled back. That program was not being run under the National Education Policy. When the documents were searched in MHRD, it was found that 77 thousand students were made participants in more than 40 such programs for which the President

himself had not given permission. Did we want to see such a scene when, after four years, around four lakh students, whose degrees have no value, appear on the streets of Delhi, the country's capital? If that illegal action is stopped then why do they get hurt? If those students were protected, their future was protected then why do they feel sad? Today I want to ask that again and again we are accused that through ICHR we have tried to interfere in history. Professor Saheb is sitting here. As a Member of Parliament, I don't address them. I say this as a professor because on the day when the enlightened sage was speaking in the house, he said that there is vested interest in education. There is a need to eliminate that vested interest from education. Today I want to ask who is in ICHR?... *(Interruptions)* I have heard your allegations, now let me respond. Who is in the ICHR, who are the people I am talking about in the ICHR. Purbi Roy is at ICHR. Who is Purbi Roy, I am mentioning her name here. [English] Purabi Roy is a veteran scholar of international relations, is a renowned historian of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and the Indian Freedom Struggle of Indian Russian Relations, has done an outstanding work. She has also done work on documents related to the Russian Archives. Let me tell the House, through you, Sir, very respectively that Purabi Roy was also associated with CPI. Her husband Kalyan Roy was a dynamic

CPI Member of the Rajya Sabha. [Translation] Are we being biased? If there was bias, would such historians remain in ICHR? Susmita Dev ji is telling me don't get angry. Madam, it was you who said that a charge sheet is being prepared against me. I am responding to that charge sheet today and request everyone to listen to the reply.

Sir, through you, I want to ask the Member of TMC whether you can give a job to any person in a fair manner while having any connection with the CPI(M) in your Government?... *(Interruptions)* We took Purbi Roy in the body of ICHR, is this biased? He is a historian who did not leave the country but stayed in the country and served the country, Is it a crime to respect him? In the ICAR, there is Sachin Anand Sahab, who was appointed as the Professor of Epigraphy by the UPA Government. Is it our crime to respect them? Today, Sushmita Dev Ji is sitting here. She said that on that day, I should answer the charges against me, I want to tell her that many people have expressed concerns about Visva Bharati. Who is the Member of the inquiry committee of Vishwa Bharati - B. B. Dutt. B. B. Dutt ji was the General Secretary of the North-East Congress Coordination Committee. He was made a Member of the Rajya Sabha in the Congress Party regime. He had also worked with your father Santosh Mohan Dev ji. Is it our crime to respect him? These are the

individuals who are currently working in the education sector with the Indian Government, solely because they want to contribute to the reconstruction of India. J. K. Ray, Jayant Kumar Ray, whom you made the Chairman of Maulana Azad Institute of Asian Studies in the Rule of UPA, today we made him a National Professor, did we ask him what was your relationship with the Congress?We have just seen how he can work ahead in the field of education.

Shri Dhruvnarayan ji is sitting behind. His speech was the first speech on Demands for Grants. In the first session, when I was introduced to them, they mentioned that for the past ten years, the Kendriya Vidyalaya in my area has not been functioning properly. You open it and we opened it, did we show any bias, we did not. Susmita Dev ji herself is a witness to the fact that in her own area, we supported as much as was possible in Kendriya Vidyalaya. Is it bias to cooperate, is it our crime? Today in this House I want to say that concern was expressed regarding a vacancy. A letter was written to His Excellency the President on vacancies on 8th May and it was said that as soon as the Model Code of Conduct came into force, some people were trying to fill 15 vacancies, which is against the law, this should be investigated, we investigated. During the tenure of UPA, four people who were proposed were given the opportunity to work

with honour in Central University, Gujarat, Uttarakhand, Central University Kerala and Punjab. We did not select it, it was selected by the UPA Government and we respected it. But in those selection committees in which we saw some challenge, we tried to stop it, because as Lakshmi Narayan Yadav ji is saying today, one of the names in them was of a person who is today in the custody of CBI. Is it our crime to stop that person? There is talk of revised estimates. We have repeatedly said in this House and the other House that education is the priority of priorities. We were asked that in BJP's manifesto, the mid-day meal scheme needs to be strengthened further, Did we make any efforts towards that? Yes, we did. New guidelines have been made in the month of February for safety and hygiene of foods. Besides, we are developing a centralized voice monitoring recognition system so that the state and Union Governments can simultaneously know whether there is any challenge in the mid-day meal.

We were told that we are not involved in the privatization of education. I don’t agree with that. We are starting a program called Swayam, under which all the Central Universities, IITs, IIMs, NITs, ISRs of the country will together for the first time in the history of the country provide free education to the citizens of our country so that whether it is a degree, diploma or a certificate course, at least that

education should be obtained through technology. There will be around 500 such centres in the country where citizens can go and give their exams and get the certificate at a very minimal fee. Is it our crime to bring such a big revolution in higher education? I welcome Tathagati Satpati ji, who has risen above politics and worked to draw attention to some of the challenges of the state. You said that respect for Sanskrit alone is not enough, all regional and tribal languages should be respected. I would like to tell you in a very respectful manner that I would like to appreciate the speech that you gave. You are a senior political worker. You have no agreement with my party. What you and Supriya Sule said that day had nothing to do with politics, it was a concern that you expressed. Supriya Sule ji said that about 2 crore children are out of school. There are not two crore, not three crore, 60 lakh children are out of school. Shashi Tharoor ji said that earlier there were fewer children, now there are more. Their figures are incorrect. Earlier it was 1 crore 36 lakh, now it is 60lakh. Sir, your math is wrong. We are starting a program called Gyan. Under Gyan, all our international level academicians, professors, industry experts are themselves inviting us by paying money from the treasury of the Government of India, so that they can go to our central universities, NITs, IITs and IISERs Can teach and educate our

students. What is the crime of bringing such a revolution? ... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, I had heard that Vidya Dadati Vinayam. I did not know that Vidya would fill so much poison. Our effort is to increase the quality of education as talked about. On Read India, Grow India, we have mentioned it earlier in the House, and we do so today also, that we have a special focus on Early Reading Writing on Numeracy, Class 1, 2 and 3, for which a provision of Rs. 460 crore has been made in this Budget too. I would like to tell you emphatically that the resources for higher education have increased, flagship schemes in school education will also be protected, this is the statement of our Government and I am repeating that statement again. Concern has been expressed about the education of daughteRs. I want to say that for the first time in the country, we have come up with a Gender Atlas, under which all the states can map which districts need to increase education for girls and where the challenges lie and can prepare area specific programmes accordingly. Our Prime Minister has started the Beti Padhao, Beti Bachao program, under which we have identified 100 such districts in which the School Management Committee, which will have 75 percent parents of the schools where the students go, has been told that if you promote the girls in school education from

primary to secondary and from secondary to higher education, then we will give a reward of Rs 5 lakh to the School Management Committee. Our effort is to assess the schools. We have done GIS mapping across the nation, only three states are left, whose mapping has not taken place till now. After those mappings, we know where, habitation wise, we have to provide what means of education to our countrymen. Many people and Sushmita ji had expressed a special concern for the students from North-East.

I would like to say that under the UGC, we started programmes like Ishaan Uday, Ishaan Vikas. For the first time in the country, we took the North-East students especially on a visit to some selected institutions across the country. We told them that if they want some career opportunities in their life, such as in the fields of apart tourism, hospitality, humanity, then we introduced them to the new heights in the world of science and technology that they can explore. We arranged scholarships for 10,000 undergraduate students, especially for North-East children. We dedicated one such skill framework for the first time to the nation on November 2014, under which the student who drops out after class 8, suppose he works as a carpenter, five years he cannot reach back to any institution of school education or education, we have told him that under this framework your sixty per

cent of your skill will now make you eligible to go up straight to graduation.

Sir, today, through you, I want to say that the burden of settlement has become a matter of concern for many parents. The cost of books has become a matter of concern for many motheRs. Online through NCERT we are providing open resources, so that all books from classes 1 to 12 are available online free. I myself have requested NCERT to prepare it like a mobile app so that select books are made available free of cost to the parents on mobile. We started a program called "Saransh". These are all programmes for which budgetary provisions are there. We initiated a program called 'Saransh' last year, under which provisions were made to provide subject-wise, child-wise learning outcomes to all CBSE schools. We have initiated this so that schools can understand learning outcomes at the district, state, and national levels, and can progress to assist their students. Now our effort is to ensure that the 'Saransh' program reaches parents as well, because parents who can only find out about the student's learning outcome in the parent-teacher meetings can now inspect their child's progress in real-time and assist them.

Sir, I want to say through you, many MPs have said that our children are moving away from art, culture and sports. There is a

programme called Kala Utsav, which runs in the State of Kerala. When I myself visited the State of Kerala, I also appreciated the programme and appealed that we should adopt it at the national level so that regional art, culture, all these reach our children. I am very happy to say that this year Kala Utsav is starting all over the country. The discussion has already been held with the education departments of all states regarding our program named 'Kala Utsav,' through which we will promote the country's various traditions, arts, and culture among our students.

I want to make a special request to all the Hon. Members, many Hon. Members remain concerned about the policy of education. Those Members who are from the Congress Party are worried that saffronisation should not happen. I have made this statement in the House, given a written answer, today I repeat it verbally. It is our promise to our students that education will be provided within the limits of the Constitution. Our Prime Minister has said that as a Prime Minister, his holy book is the Constitution of the country. His religion is Indianness and I repeat this statement of the Prime Minister again in this House. I have a request to all the respected MPs, we have developed 33 themes on what the new education policy should be like. We took this decision in a meeting with all state Governments on

March 21. Till today only a few selected people in the country used to tell what education should be like.

We said that there are 2 lakh 75 thousand Village Education Councils in the country. When we requested the state Governments, they accepted our request that we should go to the Village Education Councils of those villages and ask what kind of education they want. Someone should ask those for whom this arrangement has been made. We should go to 6600 blocks and ask what kind of education they want; we should ask them how they want to write their destiny. We will visit all districts and, along with all representatives, sit with the public and discuss - what kind of education is needed?We will engage in discussions in the states and collaboratively create a new education policy. My request to all the Hon. MPs is that you should work together in this because no one will write the destiny of the country, we will all write together, this is our vow.

Some people said, this big extensive discussion has started, is it possible? We have seen the possibility in this country. There were four days' time for the Prime Minister to address the children of the country on Teachers' Day. We will discuss what their curiosity is and how to inspire them to become teachers of tomorrow. There was four days to decide how to connect all the schools, but it happened. There

are arrangements, those arrangements have to be used with the cooperation of the state Governments. We contacted 9.5 crore children. So, I want to say that it is possible if this Parliament and this House are determined.

Many Members mentioned here that a little concern about teachers training is what kind of training should be done to them. Sir, Shashi Tharoor ji said that the recommendations of Justice Verma Committee had come. I say with great pride that we have done the work of implementing those recommendations in NCT. For the first time in the training of teachers, it has been done that teachers should go to school for 20 weeks, their evaluation under their training should be at that site, this provision has also been made for the first time. Hon. Prime Minister started Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya National Mission for Teachers' Training, which has a provision of 900 crores, I also want to apprise the House.

Many Hon. Members have expressed their concerns about the Budget. I repeat it again. Supriya Sule ji said that every woman tries to survive with less. ... *(Interruptions)*

ONE HON. MEMBER: They are more concerned.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: They are concerned, you should feel good. ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE (SREERAMPUR): Smriti Ji, now you have come to your real mood. … (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please address the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: All I would like to say is that education is a subject in which we are working in coordination with the state Governments. I am proud to say that in my tenure there is not a single Government of a state which has shown its inability to do any work of education. I have gained this confidence in the last ten months as this trust has been given to us by the Governments of the state so that all the state Governments are able to work in the field of education together with the Union Government.

There are many challenges in education, I accept this. Some MPs have expressed concern regarding privatization. I want to tell them that we have opened a Know Your College portal, in which all those private institutions which are affiliated to UGC, AICTE, all their information is available on this portal for our students, which building is there in which institution, if the subjects given in the prospectus do not match then the students and parents can directly complain to the

regulator and the regulator also has the authority to take action against that institution and they do it.

I want to make a special request through you to all the MPs. On 15th August, our respected Prime Minister gave a call from the Red Fort. Not only did he call for a cleanliness drive, but he also expressed his particular concern: can we not envision the possibility of every school in our country having a toilet? On 17 August, on the website under MHRD, we had given information about where toilets are not present in Government schools in all the districts of the country and where they are dysfunctional. I am very happy to say that the money that was to be allocated for the construction of toilets under the Project Approval Board by all the state Governments together, has been allocated. I have personally written a letter to all the MPs that we have tried to convey the information about how many toilets are there in your respective districts. You have the right to hold quarterly meetings, but especially if you ask your DM and Collector how many toilets have been built in my district, in my constituency after financial provision was made, I would be very grateful, because this will give more strength and vigour to this work. Before I end my speech, because time is limited, I would like to say just this much... *(Interruptions)* Keeping in mind the time constraints, I would just like

to say that as soon as the month of April arrives, many MPs get disturbed and many complaints regarding Kendriya Vidyalaya start coming. Venugopal ji is laughing because I have already had a meeting with him. Many MPs are disturbed that there is a lot of pressure from the public, we are public representatives, increase the number of coupons. Some MPs have said, "Ahmad ji is saying, please tell, so that it becomes an assurance." Some MPs have said this, and individuals like Ahmad ji, who are talented, influential, and highly experienced, and who have been Ministers themselves, are saying this. I will try to increase the six to ten coupons in Kendriya Vidyalaya, I am saying this today.

Along with this, I would like to thank all those MPs who have given their support in the field of education today, and would especially like to tell Tathagata Satpathy ji that we have appointed an expert committee to see what impact language can have, especially in education. I would like to inform everyone that the Central Institute of Indian Languages in Mysore has published 1080 books in 22scheduled languages, along with regional, tribal languages, and English. If any Member of Parliament wishes to avail the benefit of these books for their Parliamentary Constituency, they can contact us. We will try to get these books to you.

Thank you ver much.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ashwani Kumar Choubey – Not present.

Now, Prof. Saugata Roy.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): Sir, all that was to be spoken and replied has been done. I have only one small clarification to seek and one small representation. I will do it within two minutes.

The HRD Minister spoke about who the Members of the committee appointed to look into complaints of irregularities against the Vice-Chancellor of Vishva-Bharati, the Central University founded by Rabindranath Tagore are. I had spoken to her earlier. She had assured me that the report of the enquiry committee on the Vice-Chancellor will be presented by 31st March and after that the HRD Ministry will take a decision on the same.

Since she has mentioned Vishva-Bharati, I just want to seek a clarification whether such a decision had been taken because of the professors and students of Vishva-Bharati have been agitating for the removal of the Vice-Chancellor. So, there should be a clarification on it.

Lastly, I appreciate the combative and aggressive reply that the HRD Minister gave. It must have been due to the pressure she is facing within her own party. … (*Interruptions*) But the way she raised her finger at the eminent historian like Dr. Sugata Bose is just not acceptable in Lok Sabha. As an old-time Member, I would like to submit that a Minister should not point a finger and ask a Member, that too an eminent historian like Prof. Sugata Bose, to sit down. … (*Interruptions*)

I would request the HRD Minister to express regret for her behavior towards a Member like Prof. Sugata Bose.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri P. Karunakaran.

… (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (KASARGOD): Respected Deputy Speaker, Sir … (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE: Sir, he has been personally attacked. He is a very eminent man. … (*Interruptions*) He is not coming from TV. … (*Interruptions*) He should not be personally attacked, whoever he may be. … (*Interruptions*) Irrespective of whether he is outside or he is here, … (*Interruptions*) She should not attack personally. … (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Let me say this much that when Professor Bose spoke that day, I showed a great amount of patience. There were aspersions made, there were doubts cast and there were snide remarks made. I had absolutely no problems with them. I sat down and heard. I was hoping that the same courtesy would be extended to me by getting a factual reply. There is no question of an apology to him. … (*Interruptions*)

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: The way you raised your finger at him and asked him to sit down, is that the way a Minister should behave? That is not the way a Minister should behave. … (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri P. Karunakaran.

… (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No. Prof. Bose.

… (*Interruptions*)

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: She should not behave that way to a Member of this House. … (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE: His educational qualification is appreciated. … (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All are eminent Members.

… (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record. Only what Prof. Bose says will go on record.

… (*Interruptions*)... *

[English]

PROF. SUGATA BOSE (JADAVPUR): Let me just say a word. … (*Interruptions*)

Let me just say a word on a point of personal explanation since I was referred to as the professor and I was pointed out in the course of the debate. When I made my speech last Friday, the Minister had wanted to intervene and I graciously sat down and listened to her. In response, I pointed out that it was the Standing Committee of Human Resource Development which had described 'the Human Resource Development Ministry sounded helpless and they did not know what to do in the situation where they were facing drastic cuts.' So, that was the context in which I made my point.

I also made a plea for a little modicum of respect for the eminent scientists in our country and our professors and teachers. I think, the whole country today has seen the kind of respect that is shown to professors and scholars by this Government.

* Not recorded.

This was a debate about the Demand for Grants of the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The Minister was more concerned about condemning the previous UPA regime rather than giving us a vision for the future. Not a word has been said about the dramatic, drastic and tragic cuts that have been made in social sector programmes such as Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Mid Day Meal Scheme. That was the cruelest cut of all.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I do not want any speech. You simply give the explanation you want to give.

… (*Interruptions*)

PROF. SUGATA BOSE: I would simply like to say that I have not even since my primary school days been asked by anyone, when I have stood up respectfully, to sit down in the way that the Human Resource Development Minister of this country did today.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Sir, I would very humbly and respectfully like to respond and say that a position of eminence does not guarantee the opportunity to mislead the House. Let me say this that when the Hon. Member spoke of a so-called resignation, he misled this House because the scientist that he speaks about is very much a part of the board.

Sir, this is a matter of fact and it is a serious matter because the Member of Parliament has misled the House, knowingly or unknowingly is best answered by him. It is a matter of record that the IIT, Director that he speaks of is very much, as we speak, an employee of the IIT, very much a Director of the IIT. Hence, my humble submission is that eminence *per se* is not a certificate to mislead the House. Eminence *per se* is not a certificate for you to pass snide remarks. Eminence, in fact, gives you the responsibility to hear the other side of the story as well.

My request … (*Interruptions*) my request is this. On factual positions, budgetary or otherwise, I have given an answer. That day, when the Hon. Member spoke, I got up, grace or no grace, and requested him to take his words back and he was very very firm to say that there is no question of taking his words back. My request to you, Sir, is that if a charge is made, then let us all have the grace to even hear the answer given. I humbly and very respectfully submit this, through you, to this Hon. House.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Karunakaran.

… (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE: Sir, please look at the Minister's arrogance. It is arrogance. … (*Interruptions*) There is more of

arrogance, and there is more of governance. … (*Interruptions*) This is your Government. This is who you are. … (*Interruptions*) This is the Modi Government. You establish your arrogance … (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, nothing will go on record.

… (*Interruptions*)... *

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Sir, I seek one clarification from the Hon. Minister. Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas are functioning throughout the country. Of course, it gives much contribution to the total educational system, but at the same time, local languages are not permitted to be taught in these schools.

The Hon. Minister may be well aware of the fact that some of Members in this House itself like to speak in their local languages and not in Hindi or English. I fully respect Hindi, English or any other language, but at the same time, when the students complete their study in Kendriya Vidyalayas or Navodaya Vidyalayas, they are not able to interact with the society after completion of their studies. I know about it because my daughter has gone to the Kendriya Vidyalaya, but she cannot write Malayalam. It is a fact as far as many of the Members or parents of students are concerned. Will the Government take a

* Not recorded.

decision to include local languages like Tamil, Malayalam, etc. in the curriculum of the Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas? … (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, Shri K. C. Venugopal.

… (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, I cannot allow all the people to speak. I cannot allow a debate, and only allow one Member from one Party and that is all.

… (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, I cannot allow it. The Home Minister is waiting for his Demands to be taken up.

… (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): Thank you, Sir. The Members who have participated in this discussion have raised a serious concern about the budgetary allocation as far as SSA is concerned or RSMA is concerned or RUSA is concerned as drastic cuts have been reported. I would like to know from the Minister whether these schemes would continue in a manner that we were doing in earlier days. I am asking this because in Kerala, SSA

Resource Persons have been dismissed because of shortage of funds in Kerala. … (*Interruptions*)

The State Government is of the opinion, when we put a view to the State Government, that there is a financial crisis regarding allocation. I am asking the Minister whether the Minister is aware of this fact.… (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is there anything that you want to say?

… (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please, sit down. You have already spoken on the debate. Then why are you going on raising the issue?

… (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Sir, I will only say this in clarification. Firstly, the Hon. Member spoke about his concerns about the Visva Bharati Inquiry. … (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, I cannot allow questions like this.

… (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: The Visva Bharati Inquiry team had asked for an extension for the inquiry. That extension, since it was asked of the MHRD, was given. I am told that the Visva Bharati Inquiry Committee will submit its Report possibly today, but I cannot

confirm it for I am yet to speak to the Inquiry Officer. But they did ask for extension of the inquiry, and that is why it went beyond March as has been highlighted in your kind question.

Insofar as the Member from Kerala, Mr. Venugopal, who speaks about a fund crunch, firstly, with the 14th Finance Commission, there is to be more funds, which have devolved to the States. Secondly, in terms of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, I would, particularly, like to say that the Project Approval Board, whatever money is given to any State, is done in conjunction with the State Government only as per the needs and requirements of the State Government. Hence, we have not been in any way informed by the State Government that any such challenge has arisen in the State. If there is any particular challenge that you are privy to, I would request you to give it to me in writing. I shall speak to the State and get back to you personally on that particular issue.

Insofar as budgetary cuts with regard to Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Mid-Day Meals Scheme and RMSA are concerned, as you know, in higher education there has been an increase in allocation. Insofar as the flagship programmes of the school education are concerned, they are protected as is being said by the Government time and again.

So far as Kendriya Vidyalayas are concerned, as you know, Kendriya Vidyalayas are for employees of those who work with the

Government of India. Since they are all transferable at a national level, we are telling them that instruction should be given in different languages, as the child may deem fit, so that uniformity is not hampered in any way. The Kendriya Vidyalayas are trying to balance both -- the fact that these are children of employees who are transferable at a national level and, at the same time, trying to ensure that the three-language policy is something that they adhere to and respect. Given that, that is a constraint of the language policy within the Kendriya Vidyalayas.

Sir, I have worked with this Member of Parliament, Kalyan *da*, for quite a number of years in the Standing Committee. He is quite agitated today about what I spoke to Prof. Bose. Let me just say that I do not bring my personal aggression or anger in the way the Ministry works with any State. Just to highlight an example, Sir, the State of West Bengal had a challenge with regard to teachers' recruitment. They wanted an exemption for this particular year because there was a huge challenge in the State. I have personally worked with the Chief Minister of the State and the Education Minister of the State to ensure that no such challenge comes before the State and, at the same time, teacher education quality is maintained. Let me assure the House that insofar as education goes, the Union Government irrespective of my

aggression or combative position today will work in tune with the States because ultimately, we are responsible to the children who go to these institutions. They may not be vote banks, but they are genuinely the precious next generation that we nurture under everybody's care.

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE: That is why I have expressed our thanks to you in the Central Hall.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Members, Shri Kodikunnil Suresh and Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab have moved Cut Motions to the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Shri Kodikunnil Suresh, are you pressing your Cut Motions that you have already moved? Do you want to say anything?

… (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV (BANKA): Kendriya Vidyalaya has got land there.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR (NALANDA): Madam, Nalanda International School ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Sir, I am pressing for all my Cut Motions. … (*Interruptions*)

The Government of Kerala has started Model Residential Schools for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in all the districts. May I know from the Hon. Minister whether these Model Residential Schools for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes get any financial assistance from the Government of India? I would like to know whether the Government of India has given any financial assistance to these schools. … (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have already moved your Cut Motions and you can only seek clarifications.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Sir, I have not yet completed. I have moved another Cut Motion also.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have to dispose of the Cut Motions moved by you.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Sir, I have moved 12 Cut Motions. Let me make one more point. In my Parliamentary Constituency … (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You are bringing in Parliamentary Constituency matters under the Cut Motions!

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: In my Parliamentary Constituency, two locations for setting up Kendriya Vidyalayas have been identified in Chengannur and Kollam. The Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan had already identified these two locations, but so far the Ministry has sanctioned these Kendriya Vidyalayas. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister when these Kendriya Vidyalays would be started?

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I shall now put Cut Motions moved by Shri Kodikunnil Suresh to the vote of the House.

The cut motions were put and negatived.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, after such a passionate interaction and reply after the last two sittings, my cut motion actually becomes insignificant. I had asked for a world class university in the District of Cuttack of Odisha. This was an assurance given when late Shri Arjun Singh was the HRD Minister, which was between 2004 and 2009. The HRD Ministry officials specifically visited that place. A large area also was demarcated by the Odisha Government. The Odisha Government has

been repeatedly pursuing this matter. I thought by moving a Cut Motion, it will register with the HRD Ministry.

Another point is, we have a 143 year old higher education Institute which has been converted into a unitary University. If it becomes a Central University, that will be a great thing for the State of Odisha. That is called Ravenshaw University. These are the two major Cut Motions. I have moved these two Cut Motions only because this time, the higher education has got the priority for the first time in the Budget. Other than the IITs, IIMs, IISERs that are being opened, respective universities also should be promoted. That is the reason why I am moving this. I know, with the majority opinion, this will be shouted out. But my only concern is that let it register with the HRD Ministry.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall now put the Cut Motion Nos. 32 and 33 moved by Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab to the vote of the House.

The cut motions were put and negatived.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall now put the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Human Resource Development to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2016, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the Second column thereof against Demand Nos. 59 and 60 relating to the Ministry of Human Resource Development."

Demands for Grants 2015-16 in respect of the Ministry of Human Resource Development voted by Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	**Name of Demand**	**Amount of Demand for Grant voted by the House**	
		Revenue (Rs.)	Capital (Rs.)
59	Department of School Education and Literacy	19889,42,00,000	--
60	Department of Higher Education	4475,88,00,000	--

The motion was adopted.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Human Resource Development are passed.

(ii) Ministry of Home Affairs

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand Nos. 53 to 57 and 99 to 103 relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Hon. Members present in the House whose cut motions to the Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Home Affairs for the year 2015-2016 have been circulated may, if they desire to move their cut motions, send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions they would like to move. Only those cut motions, slips in respect of which are received at the Table within the stipulated time, will be treated as moved.

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

Motion Moved:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of

India, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2016, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the Second column thereof against Demand Nos. 53 to 57 and 99 to 103 relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs. ”

Demands for Grants 2015-16 in respect of the Ministry of Home Affairs submitted to the vote of Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	**Name of Demand**	**Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the vote of the House**	
		Revenue (Rs.)	Capital(Rs.)
53	Ministry of Home Affairs	253,68,00,000	26, 40,00,000
54	Cabinet	69,50,00,000	-
55	Police	9179,75,00,000	2297,59,00,000
56	Other expenditures of Ministry of Home Affairs	480,17,00,000	66,43,00,000
57	Transfers to Union Territory Governments	282,67,00,000	12,00,00,000
99	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	547,79,00,000	95,61,00,000
100	Chandigarh	538,88,00,000	95,16,00,000

101	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	99,75,00,000	51,49,00,000
102	Daman and Diu	229,59,00,000	67,32,00,000
103	Lakshadweep	162,47,00,000	30,00,00,000

15.54 hrs.

(Shri K. H. Muniyappa *in the Chair*)

[Translation]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, today I stand in the House to discuss the demands for grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs. I thank you for giving me time. This is a very important Ministry. If you want to know the existence of the Government especially in the country, then its importance is revealed from the source of this Ministry. The Government is run by the Ministry of Home Affairs and Revenue. If the Home Ministry works properly in the country, only then everyone feels that the Government is running well. Law and Order is a very important subject. If law and order is good in the country then industries are set up and development also takes place. If law and order is not good then there will be no development, no investment and no peace in the society. I do not want to comment on the personal capacity of the Home Minister. The Government has not been given as much importance as it should be given to the Home Ministry, you must also feel like it. I will give a list of how many cuts have been made in which subjects, how many demands have been reduced and what is the reason for this, I don't know? There are three major themes

in the Budget. The first document in the budget session is the President's speech. The President's address reveals the Government's policy and the Home Ministry's programmes are also mentioned in the speech. The President's address is also given equal importance in the Economic Survey. The economic condition of the country is known only through the Economic Survey. The General Budget reflects how much money has been given to which department, be it Home Department, Education Department, Defence Department or Health Department. Based on the budget, we can conclude how much importance the Government is giving to the concerned department. But when we look at the general budget figure, whether it's the general budget figure, departmental mandate, departmental vision, departmental goal, or departmental policy, the highest responsibility has been assigned to this.

16.00 hrs.

If a department has the maximum responsibility, it is the home department. When the home department works with alertness, people feel that the Government is alive. You are aware that as per the rules 1961 of the Government of India, according to the Allocation of Business Transaction Rules, your Ministry has been given some responsibilities at the national level, such as Maintenance of Internal

Security, Centre-State Relations, Central Arm Police Forces, Border Management, Disaster Management etc. It is your responsibility to perform these responsibilities, that is, these responsibilities are given to you. The country runs according to the Constitution and under that whatever fundamental rights or entitlements have been given to us, you are the one who protects them under internal security, there is no other. We cannot say to the education department that my freedom of speech is this, freedom of religion is like this, it's my problem with law and order, or it's an attack on my personality. We cannot ask any other department. If we have to ask anyone, it will have to be asked by you and your department. Therefore, it is also your great responsibility to protect the Constitution. You will fulfill this responsibility, I hope so. But the difficult thing is that whatever responsibility you are working with today and whatever you are saying, it is not visible practically. Why is it not visible now? Maybe your point is not reaching your people or they do not want to obey your point. There can be some such things. I don’t want to do politics on this. I want to say that you and the Prime Minister of this country Modi Ji have said many times that we protect the Constitution and will work under it. We will strengthen the rights given in the Constitution and protect them. You must have said this not once but a hundred

times. It has not even been a year since your Government came, but in these 330 days you have spoken here a hundred times and also outside. Apart from this, you have also spoken in meetings wherever they are held.

But have you given the same confidence to the citizens of this country? Are they happy with faith that you have given? If you find out through your intelligence, IB, police, you will know that there is a big difference in this. This department is very important, especially above all other departments. It is the responsibility of this department to maintain peace and tranquility in the country. Therefore, it is your responsibility to protect law and order in such a large country, from Kanyakumari to Kashmir and from Bengal to Gujarat.

... *(Interruptions)* Because of your coming from Bengal, Assam and North-East, when you are the Minister of State for Home and you are the one handling everything there. Whenever the topic of that place comes up, it is mentioned to you only because you are from there. Modi ji keeps a different face for every region. Whom to send to North-East, whom to send to Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, whom to send to South, there is a different face for all the places. It is good to have political management, but reality is different. It needs to be seen how you are running the country. ... *(Interruptions)* The Home Minister

here was the Agriculture Minister, at that time I was the Home Minister of Karnataka. I always used to come to him for Food for Work and others, because even though I was the Home Minister of Karnataka, I used to look after the issues of natural disaster, flood etc. At that time, Advani ji used to help the Agriculture Department for modernization and many other works.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): You have known him for a long time.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: I have been here for 35 years and naturally I knew your father too although we were kids at that time and I recognise almost everyone.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: You are talking about something that is sixty years old.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: I recognize everyone because they were also our leadeRs. He was in the Congress party earlier. If you are against the Congress, it is a different matter.... *(Interruptions)* 'If there is a 'homecoming' then we will see it later.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL (DAMOH): That means you have accepted 'Homecoming'.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Nothing will go on record. Please sit down.

… (*Interruptions*)...*

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Was in Congress and will come to Congress. Whenever we talk about this, I will say it at that time.

You have a very big question before you today. One question is of the left wing extremist. In President's Speech Para 45, you made the President say that -

[English]

"Terrorism and left wing extremism pose a grave challenge to the internal security of our nation. My Government is firmly committed to deal with these challenges in cohesive collaboration with the affected people and Governments of affected States in a holistic manner."

[Translation]

You also know that accidents took place in Chhattisgarh and in many other places. In order to solve this problem of our country, I want to tell you that in April, four attacks took place within 72 hours, in which about 13 people lost their lives. What is very surprising is that such an important issue is lagging far behind in the priority of the Government. In the President's Address, the emphasis that the

* Not recorded.

Government should have made about it in Para-45 was not visible. Are you aware that in 2013, an event occurred and even before that, many of our Congress leaders, Shri Mahendra Karma, Shri Nand Kumar Patel, and 25 others had sacrificed their lives. So the issue that is very important and just the speech itself does not work to solve it. Saying what you did for 60 years, what they did for 30 years is not going to solve any problem. What you are going to do is important. Today, what medicine or injection will be given to the sick person to improve his health? You should talk about fixing this country. If you always keep speaking about the last 65 years, we also have to speak. I have a lot to speak about, what we did in the last 65 years, if we don't do anything, then today democracy does not live in this country. ... *(Interruptions)* If its credit goes to Jawaharlal Nehru, who tried to lay the foundation of democracy and on it, we are running today. ... *(Interruptions)* So, that is why it is running on top of the building. Now in a year you are not even paying any attention to it. But they are saying what happened in 65 years? People will watch for a year or two, after that do they know what your condition is going to be?

I am saying this because this naxalite problem is big. For this, all people should work together and especially in those areas where there is an economic problem or a social problem, what program do

you have to solve these two problems? There you had kept some amount for roads that has also been reduced in this. The fund that was meant for roads in border areas or for the donor states, which are from the North-East, put your hand on your heart and tell me, has all the fund allotted to the donor states been spent, If not, then what is the reason for not spending it? When development takes place, why do many people come in the way of it, it can be anyone, it can be any organization, but why does this happen. It happens because we are not coming forward for such development. Today, your situation is the same. The money which has been allotted to Donor and we have taken out its complete balance sheet and seen, no money has been spent in it. When money is not spent, at least it is good that it does not lapse. That money stays in the reserve, that is a good thing. But what will you do by keeping the money in reserve? There is no food in the stomach, but there is money in the house. This is the case with donor in the entire North-Eastern states.

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA): There is a separate department for donor.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: It is not a separate department, it also comes in their department. ... *(Interruptions)* It comes only in

the Home Ministry. If they speak, I sit down. You please ask. You read a lot, but I don't know how you can not read this.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. K. SINGH (ARA): There is a separate department for donor. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: He is in the Home Ministry only. You have been his secretary. It is in the home department. Because of staying there, I also went there as a Member. It came in the review, at the same time the matter of money also came up, that money was not spent, I know all these things. Donor may have a department, but its authority, its head, is the Home Ministry. That's why you should take a look at this.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: There is a separate department for donor. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: You please don't argue.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: You should say your point and not reply to their point.

. . . (Interruptions)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: I would like to bring this to your notice.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Today, you take my point. This donor department is a separate department, only in the standing committee it is a part of the Home Ministry.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Yes, well brother, I am talking about the Home Ministry.

Hon. Chairperson, now, you look at the funds. National Scheme for Modernisation of Police and Other Forces, this is such an important scheme that you can help all the states through it. It is the responsibility of every state to maintain law and order, but it is also your responsibility to strengthen it. If any state becomes weak in law and order then naturally it affects you too. Like whatever happens in Nepal, its consequences impact India. That is why at that time Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia and Baba Saheb Dr. Ambedkar had said about Tibet that you should make Tibet strong, keep it independent so that tomorrow China does not directly attack India. Therefore, let any trouble come your way, but make Tibet strong. He had said this. Similarly, today you have to strengthen the police in every state. The money that the UPA Government had given for modernization is not there in the NDA Government today. More or less you have reduced

that, that is minus 98 percent today i. E Rs. 1744 crore was in the year 2014-15, out of them now Rs. 1709 crore has been reduced to minus i. E hardly Rs. 35 crore has been earmarked for modernization. In today's era, there is inflation, the price index has increased, the rate of every equipment has increased, the rate of every building has increased, if you have to update it, modernize it, then you don't have the money. You would say that we have given the States. The state lacks money that is why this moderation scheme was brought out from the centre. If you speak about state for everything, tomorrow may be a state can divert that money and put it in some other work. The head in which you send the money, the money that you go for natural calamities in many states or for disaster management, even education money also gets diverted to other projects. This law and order problem is so important, you have completely neglected the modernization.

Border management has been slashed by 36 percent. The Construction of Residential Accommodation for Police has decreased by 31 percent. If there is no home, will the police work peacefully? These days people don't rent houses to the police, lawyers, or politicians because they know once a politician rents a house, they never vacate it, the police take it, they never vacate, lawyers take it, they never vacate. Hence, no one has given a house to the police. In

such a situation, it is your duty to protect it and support it. You've made a 31 percent reduction in this. After that, 17 percent reduction was made in the building. There has been a 13 percent reduction in the Central Plan outlay. The work of survey, census, which is your major work, on the basis of the data of which your plan is prepared, schemes are made, the budget of that department has been cut by 42 percent.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: We will bring it in the revised estimate, make this plea.

[English]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Kharge, how much more time will you take?

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: I will take another five to ten minutes. But if you want me to close now, I will do so.

Sir, why I am bringing all these points to the notice of the House is because these items pertain to law and order in the country. This is a very important Department. After the Ministries of Finance and Defence comes the Ministry of Home Affairs. [Translation] If the Home Department is fine then it means that there is peace in the country. If there is no strength in the Home Department, then there can't be peace in the country. Everyone says something, someone else

says something else. Someone says have four children, while someone else suggests having ten. But if you remain strong, no one will dare to say such things. Otherwise, someone will set fire to a church, someone will set fire to a mosque, or someone will vandalize a temple, or make other such statements.... *(Interruptions)* TheHon. Minister of Home Affairs is capable, senior, he has been the President of your party, he knows what is happening in the street.

Hon. Chairperson, Sir, there's something I don't understand.

... *(Interruptions)* you can deal with them later; please allow me to finish my point now. I was surprised when the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs gave a statement that before me the Prime Minister came to know and the Prime Minister told me. All the intelligence you have is either some problem in the home department or there is a lack of coordination due to which the Prime Minister came to know and later you came to know. Or there are any such instructions from the Prime Minister here that first tell me, later tell the Home Minister. Because it can't be that when all the intelligence you have, IB you have, you have to report first. ... *(Interruptions)* Thakur Sir, you please sit down. I have also brought your speech. What did you say and what Sushma Swaraj ji had said, I can read and tell. What you said about Kashmir, what about the rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandits, I will tell all that.

So please sit down.... *(Interruptions)* The IPL is about to start at eight o'clock in the night, you please sit down.

I want to say that you do not take it lightly. Either there's a mistake in communication or in providing information, that's what I believe, because the Home Minister should receive the information first, and then the Prime Minister should be informed by the Home Ministry. Your secretary or joint secretary should not speak to them directly. Why is this happening? Please take a look and don't take my words badly. What is the need of the Ministers if all the secretaries of the PMO run the office ... *(Interruptions)* You should call a secret meeting ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Sir, when former Ministers speak they leave a lot of things to imagination… (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: No, this is not imagination. They usually inform the Home Minister and then the Prime Minister… (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Kharge, please address the Chair.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: We are 100 times better than you. Nishikant ji, if you secretly ask the Ministers what is the situation, they will tell you the right thing. They will then tell you the reality.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please conclude now.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Emigration Services also has - 63 percent. There is a hundred percent cut in the police memorial. In education and training - 21 percent. If you look at all the things, there is minus-minus everywhere. At least 25 items are cut. If these are cut off, another disaster can be made in the Home Ministry. Yesterday there was a natural disaster, but here it will be a man made disaster. Man made disaster is always caused by the Government. Therefore, it is necessary to give more and more money to all of them. There is no question of any kind in this. If there is peace in the country, only then investment and industry will come, people will get employment and development will take place. These are all important things.

I want to make another important request to you because when I was speaking, Anurag Thakur sahib was saying something. I want to recite their 2012 speech for you- 'Today we talk about separatism, I have said earlier also that this is someone's gift, everybody knows

about it and Congress party cannot escape from it. People from there come to the country's capital and make statements. 'They have got up and gone. One of your players is out.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Kharge ji, you please conclude.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Hon. Chairperson, Sir, it is important. ‘When the Ministry does nothing, under what law should they be sent to jail? You lathi charge them, who, Baba Ramdev Ji, Anna Hazare Ji, you lathi charge Yuva Morcha workers and arrest them. They take a soft stand against the separatists. 'That’s what he said. Sushma Swaraj ji has said the same thing below, I do not want to say much about that. I want to know from you that your people said this and at that time the Oposition Leader also said - ‘For those who are separatist people who campaign against the country, are anti-nationalists, there was a soft stance of the Congress. 'What’s your stand? Those who are moving in that area with the flag of Pakistan are being welcomed. They are being released from jail. You are openly praising traitors, anti-nationalists and separatists and your Government has been formed with those who are helping them. Today, the Government has formed there by forming the PDP and you. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA): At that time, there was a Government of yours and the National Conference. It was Omar Abdullah's Government. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: At that time you said all this, so we are saying this... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please conclude now.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: The time of my speech is over. Hon. Chairman Sir, keeps ringing the bell repeatedly, so I can't respond to your query at the moment. But I can say this much that you had said all these things. But you are with those anti-nationalist forces who are roaming around with the flag of Pakistan and shouting slogans in praise of it. You should also remember this. I would like to request you once again that those people in this country who are trying to break this country, this society, who are making different statements, please stop such statements. Stop the attacks on Churches. Try to stop the statements being made in the name of homecoming for minorities.

You take Mahatma Gandhi's name a lot, along with him... Also take the name of*. Here he garlands Mahatma Gandhi and goes to say

* Not recorded.

Namaste to ...*. This is also going on ... *(Interruptions)* Only the Home Ministry can close it down; there is no question of the Defence Ministry closing it down. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Sir, ...*Remove the word. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: No, no, there is no unparliamentary. You put a garland on Gandhiji and also say namaste to ...*, is this unparliamentary.

[English]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I will see.

… (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: It is not unparliamentary. … (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I will see it.

… (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Therefore, I urge the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs to refrain from such statements, maintain

* Not recorded

peace, govern this country with tranquility, dispel the concerns in everyone's minds, strengthen it, and strive to allocate more funds for modernization in every state. Otherwise, our time will only be spent in rhetoric.

By saying this, I end my speech. Thank you.

[English]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Those Hon. Members who want to lay their written speech may kindly give it at the Table of the House.

TEXT OF CUT MOTIONS

[Translation]

SHRI HUKUM SINGH (KAIRANA): Hon. Chairman Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I begin my statement with the support of certain points made by our esteemed leader of the Congress party with which I concur. He is right that till the time there is no peace in the country, there is no peace in the region, no development work will be possible there, this is true. I support him on this point. Apart from this, he mentioned about Tibet that if Tibet had been allowed to remain independent, had it been strengthened and if the advice given by Dr. Ambedkar and Dr. Lohia had been accepted then perhaps the entire region would have remained peaceful. But I also want to ask the Congress leader as to whom Dr. Ambedkar and Dr. Lohia gave this advice and what did those who gave it do?You would have liked it if you had mentioned the names of those who did not follow the advice of Dr. Lohia and Dr. Ambedkar to let Tibet remain independent, had you mentioned their names too, had you said a few words about them as to what a big sin they have committed for the freedom of this country, for the peace here. You mentioned it, but to whom did he give the advice and to what extent was that advice followed?

Hon. Speaker, I want to make an appeal. The Hon. Hon. Minister of Home Affairs is present here, and because the country has high expectations from him, as well as from the Prime Minister, for the first time, a Government has come to power in Kashmir that represents the entire Jammu and Kashmir. Every effort is being made to bring down that Government, to make it fail. How much power you give to that Government is up to you. Raising slogans of Pakistan Zindabad is not an internal matter there, perhaps some forces from here as well as some forces from outside are involved to get this work done. You have to handle that situation, and we believe that under your leadership, if not now, then after a few days, that Government will become such a successful Government that perhaps no one will dare to say afterwards, lifting their head, that there is any dispute remaining in Kashmir, which is an integral part of Hindustan. I believe this, and with strong leaders like the Prime Minister and theHon. Minister of Home Affairs, the solutions to these problems that have been brewing for fifty years won't take more than ten months to resolve. You please give us some time, if we compare ten years of misgovernance versus ten months of Government then you will have to think whether some time is needed or not.

Sir, with this I will limit myself to internal security only. Let us take internal security a little further and let us also pay attention to the environment that has been created around the country, because something like this happened today. To pollute this environment, whether it is Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Bengal, Bihar, and even some parts of Uttar Pradesh are affected by that. We have to understand where these forces are getting support from. You had gone there, and it was reported that the security personnel there requested you to provide them with weapons, they requested for AK-47 rifles. Hon. Chairman Sir, My special request to you is that if today our soldiers engaged in internal security demand that they need AK-47, because what kind of weapons do they have till now and whom are they fighting? Will a confrontation be possible based on these weapons? I want to emphasize that our paramilitary forces deployed there should receive full support, including weapons, and a strong policy, because there is also a lack of a strong policy. That's why there is a lack, because clear guidance has not been received there. What is it that wherever our paramilitary forces move, the Maoists get the information before them? They go to the camp, they get information there. Is it not that there is a lack of coordination between the local police and them? This should also be examined and if there is a lack,

then we will have to think about how to strengthen our intelligence agency.

I would like to limit my comment only to the suggestion that these people are the proponents of a huge activism which says that human rights are being violated. If two terrorists are killed then there will be discussion that human rights have been violated and if our soldiers get martyred then there will be no mention of this anywhere. It is a matter of sadness that so many young men get martyred in a single month, the month of April. How would he have been trained, he would have gone into service, he would have been the sole earning Member for his home and his family, but martyrdom would have happened only if there had been a front line fight, Sir. How can they be killed from behind through deceit and they cannot even lift their dead body? This is indeed a matter of concern and we will have to think about how long we will continue to stand under the shield of human rights. Those who propagate this and defame our soldiers, defame our paramilitary forces; now the time has come to completely ignore it. We have to give direct guidance to the paramilitary forces and soldiers as to what their mission is. Their mission is not to panic, their mission is not to retreat. Their mission is to identify those who are engaged in this work and killing the citizens, because within a few

days 20 thousand civilians are injured, and whether there is a Government or not, then I am concerned that under those Governments 20 thousand people were killed which were innocent people. Don't know how many of our paramilitary personnel also got killed. This must have been the result of wrong policies. Today those policies need to be corrected. Policies should be corrected.

Go to Bengal, because we are faced with two such forces, it is a matter of coincidence that history has done a great injustice to us by saying that we struggled for a long time for the independence of the country, fought the battles, even gave up our lives, but after the country got independence, the people settled in both the corners, whether it is in Pakistan in the west, or whether Bangladesh has been formed or after Bangladesh, our countries are surrounded all around, today there is so much danger regarding internal security, somewhere in the name of Islamic State, countries are being destroyed, societies are being destroyed. We cannot sit in peace with the fact that those people of Islamic State will remain limited to that place only, if we do not secure our borders, do not strengthen our military forces, then they can dare to come to India also. Because our situation is completely different. Our situation is such that we are surrounded from all sides. On one side, China, Bangladesh, Pakistan and all the countries beyond

Pakistan are victims of that terror, only India is left. Today, our Home Ministry has the important role of saving India. Meaning I am confident that in your capable hands we will be able to overcome this internal security issue, I have no doubt about that. But still, we should make a direct policy and take further action. I make a special request to you.

There are many issues in the Ministry, internal security is just one part of it. If the borders are not safe, internal security will also not be safe. It was my privilege that I had the opportunity to serve there as a soldier living in Kashmir for three-and-a-half years. I am aware of the problems there, what is not there. There were attacks in Pakistan also and during that attack also I was fortunate to have been there. I have seen there, people are instigated in many ways there. Poison is filled in their minds against India. The Government that has been formed today, all your support should be given to that Government and it should be tried that if our state Government standing in front of them, then a very big history will be created and even going forward we will get its strength. This I want to request you.

I would also like to draw your attention to the general law and order. Delhi is the heart of our country. If the law and order in Delhi is good, then it will be a mirror in front of the whole country. Why is

the situation in Delhi not improving? Everyone is sad about what happened. ... *(Interruptions)* Why should I name someone? Everyone is aware of this incident. I am saddened by this, and I hope people don't take it badly, but the gradual emergence of facts, without worrying about a person's life, only to exploit various events for political gain, is being investigated. I don't want to comment on it, but with the investigations that have come to light so far and are also beginning to appear in the media, where are we going to go? Where will this politics lead us? If we continue to work in this manner, engaging in such conspiracies to defame each other, it is a matter of concern, and your attention should be directed towards this.

Secondly, women's safety. I am specifically talking about Delhi, because outside law and order is a matter of the state Government, only Delhi is left. It is the responsibility of the Union Government to secure Delhi and the message of Delhi goes to the entire country. Why has the safety of women not been ensured here till now? After all, what is the police lacking? You have given a budget of Rs 5,500 crores only to Delhi and even after giving such a huge budget, they have the vehicles, they have the wireless, they have all the security equipment, they have the new technology, so this also needs to be improved. Is there a lack of coordination? The surrounding districts feed police

force to Delhi. If any deficiency is found somewhere, then there are some reasons behind it. You must be knowing about them, there is a need to go into it, because till the time Delhi is not fine, its impact will not be good in the surrounding states also. The way you coordinated, the way the Prime Minister himself is taking interest in this work, I am hopeful, it has been ten months for us now, in ten months, we have solved a lot of problems, going forward, the whole country should get a good message that a different kind of atmosphere has been created in Delhi today, I believe so.

Hon. Chairperson, Sir, as far as Bengal and Assam are concerned, is this class of infiltrators coming from foreign countries and infiltrating, not a threat to our security? Who are these individuals? This message should also go out, many people are saying this here, our leader went out saying that churches are being attacked, so and so is being attacked, this party and this Government can never accept this and you also gave a statement very strongly that we will suppress such elements. Every person has the right to follow his own religion, but at the same time we should also consider the fact that where once a class used to be 10 percent, today it is not even one percent. They are being forcibly removed and sent to India, this is what is happening in the eastern border. Other people, infiltrators, are

also coming in his name. Today the map of Assam has completely changed or not, who have come and settled there, how will they let live there peacefully? The security forces should firmly guard the borders on our borders so that there is no infiltration from outside. How Europe has protected itself, how America and Mexico are joined together, how America and Canada are joined together. After all why is this problem not arising there, why is the problem arising here, we should know this and we should also think about how it can be stopped. Until they are prevented, some disturbance will remain here. Yes, some incidents like this have happened and many people got the opportunity to propagate those incidents by exaggerating them. I am sure that those elements, who deliberately carry out these incidents to defame our country and our society, will themselves think and ponder over this issue, Along with that, I am sure that the Government will also fulfil the responsibility that it has.

Hon. Chairman Sir, it is a matter of training, I want to come to that. Today we need to focus on whether we have made adequate arrangements for the training of our soldiers who go for internal security or not.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please conclude.

SHRI HUKUM SINGH: I am concluding. I will not pass up the opportunity to ring the bell again.

Sir, did we make arrangements for their security and their training or not? Hon. Chairman Sir, I also went and visited one or two institutions. There is a great need to improve them. The soldiers come to me. Hon. Chairperson Sir, it pains me when a soldier tells me that he does not want to go to Chhattisgarh, please get me transferred. I don't want to go to such and such place in Jharkhand, It has been five years, Please get me transferred. Today there should be no sense of inferiority among the soldieRs. I never heard any soldier say that I will not go to Kashmir. We have to remove this feeling because the morale of those soldiers will increase only when they get good equipment, good weapons, and they will have the guarantee that the whole country stands with them, then perhaps such a situation will not arise. The bell rang for me. I wanted to take the discussion further, but keeping the time in mind, I will conclude my discussion. Thank you very much.

[English]

•**SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA)**: The 2014 elections for the Sixteenth Lok Sabha saw the Indian electorate delivering a positive, decisive mandate to a single party after a gap of almost three decades. An important area which is in need for urgent attention from the Narendra Modi Government is India's national security structure. Despite past efforts at reform, India's national security structure continues to be plagued by absence of coordination, turf battles and paucity of human resources. Many of these problems are symptomatic of systemic ills which therefore require a holistic relook.

There is an urgent need to revamp India's national security structure. In the past, there have been piecemeal attempts at ridding the ills plaguing the national security structure including the higher defence organisation. Given the 'systemic' nature of the problems, a holistic revamp is in order as opposed to piecemeal reforms.

The naxal problem in the country, especially the Santhal Pargana region in Jharkhand is an issue well known to all. I seek urgent intervention if the Government in the matter. The problems can be solved through a comprehensive plan of action with special emphasis

• Speech was laid on the Table

on developing the basic infrastructure in the region. I have written letters to the Hon'ble Prime Minister and the Finance Minister in this regard.

The Government has identified 78 districts in various parts of the country seriously infested with Naxal menace and has chalked out a comprehensive plan for their all-round development by allocating Rs. 15,000 crore for this purpose. In this regard, I would like to bring to kind notice certain of the Government the facts and figures which may help the Government in dealing with this serious problem in a more effective way.

I represent Godda Parliamentary Constituency of Santhal Pargana region in Jharkhand. As you are aware, Jharkhand is one of the worst naxal affected states of the country and Santhal Pargana, consisting of six districts (Dumka, Godda, Deoghar, Jamtara, Pakur and Sahebganj) is the epicenter of naxalite activities in the country.

It is quite pertinent to bring to Government's notice that after becoming the Prime Minister of Nepal Shri Pushp Kamal Dahal alias Prachand revealed in a television interview that he had spent five years undercover in the Santhal Pargana region. Due to its geographical location, this region provides an ideal, fertile and safe breeding ground for naxal activities. This region borders Nepal and

Bangladesh, besides being hilly and thickly forested. Further, there is no development leading to abject poverty and utter deprivation.

Approximately 75% people of this region live below the poverty line. The literacy level is abysmally low. There is no awareness among the poor tribal people about the outside world as it is cut off from the same due to lack of connectivity either through road or rail. Hence, the local people give shelter to naxalites in utter ignorance. As there is no connectivity and other infrastructure, the administration is handicapped to take any action. If something concrete is not done at the earliest, the situation may turn explosive and we may witness another Dantewada like incident in the country. The Government can get intelligence inputs and I am sure, they would only agree with my points.

In this background, I strongly suggest that the six districts (Dumka, Godda, Deoghar, Jamtara, Pakur and Sahebganj) of Santhal Pargana region should also be included in the list of districts seriously infested by naxalism. Let me point out here that the Home Ministry itself has already included three of these six districts' in the SRE list, implying clearly that the Home Ministry itself acknowledges that this region is affected by naxalism. If these districts are not accorded the same priority as the 78 districts already identified so far, the

Government's initiatives, howsoever well intended and executed, would only be partially successful. Even the approach paper for the 12th Five Year Plan emphasizes on social and regional equity (refer Chapter 11) through acceleration of inclusive growth in backward, border an remote areas. I therefore, request the Hon. Minister to look into the matter and accord it top priority as he understand the magnitude of this problem in its entirety.

Further, this is an area that borders Nepal, Bangladesh and Bhutan and is therefore, susceptible to significant cultural imports and cross flows which are impacting the delicate balance of this region.

The Santhal Uprising of 1855 is a well-documented historical event that underscores the importance of what I am going to request for. The local culture, the languages and dialect and the overall history of the region deserve the close attention of the Union Government and Ministers like your good self.

Let me draw you attention specifically on the two local languages - Aang Bhasha & Santhal Bhasha. There is an immediate need for a comprehensive plan of action that gives special emphasis on development of these languages. In order to achieve this, I would request you to take immediate steps for: Doordarshan Kendra at

Deoghar focused on local programming in the two languages mentioned above. Upgradation of proposed Godda FM Station.

May I also assure you that there will be significant commercial viability for these initiatives given that the city of Deoghar is a religious, cultural capital of Eastern India and is visited by over 50 million pilgrims every year. Also the area is now heavily naxal infested having impact on the local youth, and due to proximity with Bangladesh Border, influx of infiltrators is changing the demographic character having negative impact on the local culture. Several small industries are situated in the region and there are efforts to boost this. But more than commercial considerations, it is a national need that this long neglected region of India gets some importance and attention in order to lift it up from backwardness to a new era. The tools of a Doordarshan Kendra dedicated will go a long way towards this.

Left Wing extremists operate in the vacuum created by functional inadequacies of field level governance structures, espouse local demands, and take advantage of prevalent dissatisfaction and feelings of perceived neglect and injustice among the under privileged and remote segments of population. Systematical efforts are made by Left Wing extremists to prevent execution and implementation of development works including infrastructure like railways, roads,

power and telecom through violence and terror, and to show the governance structures at field level as being ineffective. CPI (Maoist) philosophy of armed struggle to overthrow the Indian State is not acceptable in our parliamentary democracy and will have to be curbed at any cost. Government has given a call to the Maoist to abjure violence and come for talks has not been accepted by them.

A national strategy is important for planning India's economic trajectory, shaping the country's foreign relations, planning its defence modernization, improving its science and technology capabilities, resource planning, internal security and other such critical areas. Such a strategy would chalk out Indian priorities as a function of India's aspirations, security challenges and available resources.

The National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) could be tasked with drawing up holistic medium to long-term strategies in various areas. The NSCS could also act as a coordinating mechanism which implements these strategies by bringing together various departments and ministries of the Government.

The National Security Advisor (NSA) is the fulcrum around which the NSC system operates. The NSA's role has expanded over time. Thus it is important to expand the NSA's core support structure. Also, for the NSA and the NSC system to be able to function

effectively it must be able to draw upon and assimilate knowledge from multiple sources into a cogent national strategy.

A decision on the position of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) is long overdue. The Chief of Defence Staff regardless of what we choose to call the office - will foster inter-service coordination in planning execution of operations and in the force planning process. The system will ensure faster decision making during crises and provide a platform for inter-service dispute resolution. Implementation of the system must address the drawbacks of the current system and evolve a purely 'Indian' solution keeping in mind the Indian situation and requirements.

The 2001 GoM Report on "Reforming the National Security System in pursuance of Kargil Review Committee Report" had recommended a comprehensive review of India's national security mechanisms every five years. The exercise of revamping the existing National Security structure could be initiated with such a review.

With the strategy outlined by the Government and the massive coordinated operations involving security forces launched by it to deal with the naxalite movement, there is little doubt that it would win the battle of curbing the activities of naxalites and liquidating its cadres though at considerable human cost to the communities perceived to

be their support base in the affected areas. But would the Government be able to win the war against naxalism rooted in the determined struggle of people yearning for social justice, liberation from the oppression and structural violence of the existing social, economic, cultural and political order and reversal of development policies detrimental to their interests which brought the people to this stage? Given the trajectory of naxalite movement and design of the public policy response, it seems unlikely. With these worlds, I conclude my speech. Jai Hind, Jai Bharat.

[Translation]

*__SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA (AMBALA)__: I support the demands for grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs in the Union Budget 2015-16. The Home Ministry of India is a symbol of the indomitable courage and bravery of more than nine and a half lakh brave soldiers working under it, who are working day and night for the internal security of the country by risking their lives. Today, our brave soldiers are faced with the challenging tasks of eliminating all threats to internal security, providing a crime-free environment to society, training, protecting and promoting social and community harmony, enforcing the rule of law and providing an effective criminal justice system, maintaining the principles of human rights, maintaining harmony in Centre-State relations and maintaining good governance, effectively managing internal borders and coastal borders, mitigating sufferings as a result of natural and man-made disasters and making the use of official language in Government work optimal, promoting cordial Centre-State relations and efficient administration of Union Territories. In order to complete all these above works on priority basis, an allocation of Rs. 62,124.52 crore has been made in the budget which is more than 10.2 percent from the

* Speech was laid on the Table.

previous budget. A glimpse of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision is clearly reflected in this allocation which is being prominently played by our very talented Minister of Finance Arun Jaitley Ji. In this budget, special steps have been taken for the security of women, the rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandits, internal security of the country, and the protection of the lives and property of the marginalized. Rs. 2 thousand crore has been earmarked for women safety. An allocation of Rs0. 580 crore has been made for rehabilitation of migrants from Jammu and Kashmir. The paramilitary force of our country, CRPF is one of the largest paramilitary forces in the world, which is often deployed for internal security duties starting from anti-Naxal operations in our country. A provision of Rs. 14.89 crore 38 lakh has been made for that. Similarly, BSF to be deployed to safeguard the Indo-Pak and Bangladesh border has received Rs0 12 thousand 517 crore this time. For the security of India-China border, a provision of Rs0. 37.36 crore 47 lakh has also been made to ITBP. The Home Ministry of our country is deployed for the security of the country's airports, industrial infrastructure, nuclear centers, union territories, metros among many otheRs. A provision of Rs. 5196 crore has also been made for this.

I would like to congratulate Hon. Minister of Home Affairs Rajnath Singh ji that the major initiative taken by him regarding the security issues between the North-Eastern States of Jammu and Kashmir and the Indo-Bangladesh border and Indo-Myanmar is bringing in colour. In areas like Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura, more than a thousand militants have surrendered and returned their weapons. Similarly, the Home Ministry has achieved many important successes in the areas affected by Left Wing Extremism. Ever since the NDA Government came to power, an atmosphere of positive security has been created in the country. Still, the safety of women and protection of dalits is a challenge for our country.

Though our police forces are modernising the armed forces by taking advantage of the digital revolution, police stations are also witnessing improvements. Work in registering FIR is also being done promptly as per rules. But even today, the drugs mafia in the country needs to be controlled. The drugs coming from foreign countries are creating an atmosphere of frustration in the minds and hearts of our youth. We have to crush it. Similarly, our traditional neighbours Pakistan and China continue to play a mixed game of friendship and bitterness with us. They try to infiltrate our areas. Although our armed

forces are fully capable of dealing with them, there is an urgent need to increase surveillance in this area. Today again people like Masrat are trying to spoil the atmosphere in Jammu and Kashmir. We also have to crush their evil intentions. Although the Home Department comes under the joint list of the Centre and the State, but to maintain the unity and integrity of the country, if the situation in any state deteriorates, then the Constitution has given direct powers to the Centre. I would like to say that even today Dalits are being oppressed in states like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Their daughters-in-law and daughters are being burnt alive. They are stripped naked and paraded around the village. Such scenarios are a stigma on a civilized society. The Dalit community of India has also been made human by God. Then why do these powerful people consider it their pride to crush the poor like earthworms under their feet?I demand that the Government of India has to take a tough attitude towards the people of this tendency.

Our Prime Minister Narendra Modi has clearly announced that every citizen of India will be freed from fear, hunger and corruption. In such a situation, our Home Ministry has a huge responsibility to ensure that not even a single pearl from the string of pearls made of

different castes and different religions of India is broken. I finally support the demands for grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

*__DR. KIRIT P. SOLANKI (AHMEDABAD)__: First of all, I express my gratitude to the Government of India, the Prime Minister and the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs that this Government has been functioning for the last about a year, but overall the law and order situation has been under control. The way the Government has given priority to this issue, the Government has control over the situation and terrorism is being cracked down upon.

On April 26, a terrible earthquake struck the northern states of India and Nepal, leaving many lives behind. There has been huge damage to property and everyone has been hurt. However, the Government of India, along with Hon. Prime Minister and theHon. Minister of Home Affairs, has swiftly taken decisions to send special units of the NDRF to Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, and Nepal to provide assistance to those affected by the calamity. Food items, medicines and water have been made available to the people there.

Special teams of NDRF have rescued people buried under the debris. Many lives have been saved in these. Nowadays, due to tourist season, people from many states of India have gone to Nepal. Many of these people have been brought to India by air and road. Modi's Government has fulfilled its duty by helping the neighboring country

* Speech was laid on the Table.

under "Operation Maitri" and has enhanced India's credibility in the international arena.

I represent the Ahmedabad West Parliamentary Constituency of Gujarat. Since Gujarat shares its border with Pakistan and has a coastline of around 1600km, there is a need for strict safety measures. The Indian Government needs to make several security arrangements here. A few months ago, our safety team and coast guard achieved a great success by surrounding a suspicious boat in the sea near Porbandar and later due to explosives in the boat itself, we congratulate our Government for that.

The location of Gujarat is sensitive from the security point of view, hence I have earlier demanded in the House that the NSG hub should be made in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. Because of that our security system will increase. I again reiterate my demand that a dedicated NSG hub should be set up in Ahmedabad at the earliest.

*__SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE (MAVAL)__: Article 355 of the Constitution of India entrusts the Union with the duty to protect every State against external aggression and internal disturbance and to ensure that every State is governed by or in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. In pursuance of these obligations, the Ministry of Home Affairs constantly monitors the situation without encroaching upon the constitutional rights of the States. Provides manpower and financial support, guidance and expertise to state Governments for maintaining security, peace and harmony. The Ministry of Home Affairs is mainly responsible for internal security, management of Central Armed Police Forces, border management, centre-state relations, administration of Union Territories, disaster management, etc.

The Home Ministry under the Government of India comprises of important departments like Police, Department of Internal Security dealing with law and rehabilitation, Department dealing with freedom fighters' pension, notification regarding assumption of charge by the President and Vice President, notification of Prime Minister and other Ministers, coastal defence, official language, census and peace and harmony are essential pre-requisites for the development of

* Speech was laid on the Table.

individuals and building a strong, stable and prosperous nation to fulfil the expectations of society.

The Government of India in collaboration with the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir has adopted a multi-pronged approach to control cross-border infiltration which includes, among other things, strengthening of border management and multi-modal deployment along the International Border (Line of Control) and the changing routes of infiltration, provision of better weapons and equipment to the security forces, etc./Ensuring the stability of the democratic process and restoring the primacy of civil administration is an appropriate measure to effectively deal with the socio-economic problems faced by the people as a result of the effects of prolonged terrorism in the State. The year 2014 has shown distinct signs of improvement in the internal security situation in the State of Jammu and Kashmir as compared to the previous year. Although there has been some increase in terrorist violence and civilian casualties in 2014 as compared to the previous year, at the same time the Prime Minister's reconstruction plan for Jammu and Kashmir is proving to be effective and this is giving impetus to the project related to increasing and improving water supply in Jammu and the project

related to construction of health centre buildings in the State with external assistance. This is a commendable step.

I congratulate the Government of India for launching a scheme called Special Industrial Initiative for Jammu and Kashmir with the participation of Indian corporations and the Home Ministry.

The Government is adopting a multi-pronged strategy to deal with insurgent and militant activities in the North-Eastern Region which includes, among other things, willingness to hold talks with these organisations provided they renounce violence and seek redressal of their demands within the ambit of the Constitution of India and join the national mainstream. This is the right step of the Government.

For the past few years, a number of Left Wing Extremist organisations have remained active in some parts of the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and neighbouring areas of Bihar. Maoists are a major organization involved in most of the incidents of violence and the Government has called upon them to give up violence and come forward for talks, this shows the Government's belief in non-violence.

The Government has formulated a security expenditure scheme for States affected by Left Wing Extremism. Under this, ex-gratia

payment insurance to the families of civilians and security forces killed in the violence, training to security forces etc. have been run. The National Investigation Agency was set up by the Government in 2008 and the agency collects, collates and analyses terrorism-related information. The National Investigation Agency has so far registered a total of 89 cases, out of which chargesheets have been filed in 63 cases and 29 accused have been convicted.

All the paramilitary forces come under the Ministry of Home Affairs and different battalions have been deployed at different borders of the country and all these forces are prepared day and night for the security of the country's border. But so far, adequate accommodation has not been provided for the families of these soldiers. Therefore, I request the Government to take a decision to provide Government accommodation for them at the earliest.

[English]

*__SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA (BALASORE)__: At the very outset, I would like to point out that the Ministry in question, the Ministry of Home Affairs, occupies a pivotal position in the country especially now, with multifarious forms of conflict and extremism ravaging the country. While the country, with the help of this Ministry, needs to strengthen its security-both inside and on the borders including the coasts, it also need to sensitise the forces it employs, in order to ensure that conflict is not just mitigated, but is followed by peace and that it facilitates development in all parts of the country as a result. Currently, as figures stand, out of India's 640 districts, 205 are affected by some or the other kind of extreme violence-be it regional extremism, left wing extremists or terrorism. 20 districts of Jammu and Kashmir are ravaged at present by extremist threats from terrorists purportedly from Pakistan. Even very recently, within a short span of 72 hours, the country saw as many as 4 left wing extremist attacks that left 13 dead.

A total of 164 ceasefire violations have been reported along the International Border (IB) in Jammu and Kashmir. There have been reports suggesting that action has shifted to 197 Km international

* Speech was laid on the Table

boundary from LoC. In the current year, 2015, 30 people have been killed in J&K, including two civilians, six SF personnel and 22 terrorists. In the Jammu Division alone, eight persons have been killed in 2015, including two civilians, three SF personnel and three terrorists.

In 2014, Left Wing Extremism (and the violence ensuing between the security forces and the extremists) had left 222 innocent civilians dead, and the lives of 87 security forces sacrificed. Again, in 2015, just up till 15.2.15, 28 civilians have been killed and 8 security forces sacrificed for this.

Thus, as figures amply depict, although over the years the approach of the Ministry of Home Affairs has changed to an extent - from use of police suppression of Maoist revolts to acknowledging that talks need to be established, the Ministry of Home Affairs has not, unfortunately, been able to solve the issue. In fact, of late, the stand of the Government to focus more on security deployment instead of spearheading development in the regions most affected by LWE, may be doing more harm in this case than good. This is a point that was repeatedly reiterated in the 2005 Committee Report on Left Wing Extremism in India, as well as in the Supreme Court verdict on the Salwa Judum that followed soon after and heavily quoted the above

mentioned report. Both these expert reports recommended understanding the issue of Left Wing Extremism as a development issue at the core reminding the Government that most of the extremism is perpetrated because of support from poor tribals and villagers who are systematically oppressed by Government officials. While the Integrated Action Plan, initiated by the erstwhile Government in 2010-11 made an effort towards combining security infrastructure in these areas with development, it is unfortunate and significant that while IPA used to be fully centrally sponsored programme, for this FY 2015-16, funding to it has been reduced, and this programme has been shifted to the list of schemes that will be executed with 75: 25 ratio fund allocation between the centre and the states.

Coming to the specific demands for grants of the Ministry, there are ten Demands for Grants which are adMinistered by Ministry of Home Affairs. The total allocation for ten Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs for the year 2015-16 in Budget Estimates 2015-16 is Rs. 78470.35 crore. In the BE 2014-15, it was Rs. 74884.29 crore which was reduced to Rs. 70358.34 crore at RE stage. Thus, there is an increase of 11.52% fund allocation over RE 2014-15 and 4.78% over BE 2014-15.

It is to be noted that out of Rs. 78470.35 crore allocated in BE 2015-16, Rs. 14586.98 crore is under Plan allocation whereas Rs. 63883.37 crore is earmarked under Non-Plan allocation. Of the different demand for grants of the MHA, the highest demand has been for the Police Force, amounting to 62124.52 crore, which makes up as much as 79.2% of the entire demand by the Ministry. However in connection to this, one important issue in the new Budget 2015-16 must be reMembered. The Plan Schemes of MHA, as such, consist of certain ongoing as well as the new schemes/Central Sector/Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS). However, with effect from 2014-15, the Planning Commission restructured the Centrally sponsored Schemes of Government of India.

There used to be schemes for modernisation of police forces that were funded by the Union (as in the Ministry of Home Affairs) but helped the states. However, with the current change in funding patterns to the states under the recommendation of the Fourteenth Finance Commission the states have gotten more unbundled funds, but there are many schemes that have been completely transferred to the states, and delinked from Union support. The Standing Committee for Home Affairs has noted in its report on Demands for grants, that the Home Affairs Ministry officials too have stated that this scheme

should not have been delinked. While I concur with my colleagues and the Standing Committee Report on the Demand for Grants for the Ministry of Home Affairs, that in principle, the financial autonomy given to the States as recommended by the 14th Finance Commission, is a welcome change. However, the Committee report says that the matter of national pursuits ranging from national security to territorial integrity cannot be left at the dispensation of the State Governments alone with no monitoring and accountability of Union Government to the effect. One must make sure to preserve a structure of responsibility in these programmes and schemes, because these are of utmost importance for the country's internal security and the power would now lie completely with the State Governments.

The Standing Committee report has also revealed that with respect to the Plan Schemes of Ministry of Home Affairs during financial year 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 (as on 28.2.2015), the Ministry has not been able to spend even reduced allocated amount at RE stage. And yet, at the same time, with internal and border security threats being on the constant rise in the country, the need for more fund allocation to the Ministry also is recommended by the committee. The committee has taken note of the increase of 11.52% over RE 2014-15 and 4.78% over BE 2014-15 in allocation to the

Ministry of Home Affairs for current fiscal year but has expressed its displeasure over the fact that that out of Rs. 107790.18 crore projected demand of the Ministry, only Rs. 78470.35 crore has been allocated. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommends that the Ministry should take up the matter with Ministry of Finance for enhanced allocation at RE stage. The Committee is of the view that the reduced allocation against projected demand may affect ongoing schemes/projects.

This shows a failure at multiple levels-there is a clear lack of coordination between the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Home Affairs, which leads to delinking of important schemes from Union support and the lack of enough allocations to significant plan budget demands of the Ministry. At the same time there is also a failure at the end of the different Departments of the Ministry of Home Affairs, which has failed to effectively utilise the funds that they have been given. The Ministry should ensure that the concerned implementing agencies fast track the completion of the projects within the given time frame and avoid under utilization of funds as a matter of emergency.

Another matter of chief concern that must be brought up with regard to under-utilisation of funds, is that of the Nirbhaya Fund and

the issue of women's safety and security in the country. The Nirbhaya Fund was set up under the MHA after the December 2012 incident in Delhi, by the then UPA-II Government. In its first year, 1000 crores were allocated to the fund. For 2014-15, Jaitley had then allocated another 1000 crores to the fund, bring the total to 2000 crores.

However, the Ministry of Home Affairs, which managed the Nirbhaya Fund, has spent only about 1% of the total allocation since the inception-around 20 crores only. The MHA and Ministry of Women and Child Development were to use this Fund for various purposes, none of which have been executed. The Government (MHA) had planned the establishment of an platform for supporting a Call Tracking and GPS based Police vehicle dispatch function that will help in improving the efficiency of police response to the calls of women in distress situations and provide speedy assistance.

Under this, my constituency, Balasore, would have been a beneficiary as a Type B city, but that too has been delayed. In Balasore, just in the year 2012-13, there were 87 cases of rape reported, 242 cases of assault on women with intent to outrage their modesty and 20 cases of insult to the modesty of women. Just in the year 2013, 33,707 cases of rape were reported in India-a 35% jump from 2012. In this context, it is significant that at the beginning of FY

2014-15, the Government had promised 660 One-stop Trauma Care Centres that were supposed to come up in the country. But instead of that, we will now have just 36, one in each state. One-Stop Crisis Centres that provide medical, legal and psychological support services under one roof to women survivors of violence is an urgent need, and having only one in each state is of no effect at all.

This is a disturbing fact not simply because it relays the inefficiency of the Ministry to utilise funds, but it also exposes, in a way, the approach of the Ministry to an issue as important as women's security in this country. To treat it as a trivial matter is a mistake that the Government should not be accused of making. I urge the Government to immediately ensure a better implementation of schemes that are to be executed with the help of the Nirbhaya Fund.

Another issue that is of great importance not just for the whole country but especially for the coastal states like Odisha, and my constituency, Balasore, which has a 80 kilometer long coastline, is the issue of coastal security, or the lack of it, under the administration of this Ministry. In spite of the 2011 attacks, even Maharashtra does not have a fool proof coastal security mechanism. Glaring loopholes in Maharashtra's coastal security were exposed in a recent report of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG), which was published in

April 2015, which pointed to such problems as inadequate infrastructure and coastal police station staff being unable to swim. This is a dangerous fact, as the fragility of Maharashtra's 720 km long coastline was laid bare after the 1992 bomb blasts, when explosives were brought into the state through beaches in Raigad district, as well as after the 26/11 terror attacks. The CAG, in its report on the general and social sector for the year ended March 2014, has pointed to deficiencies in planning for the scheme, delays in construction of coastal police stations and check posts, and infrastructure and manpower shortage.

The CAG report also said that 57% of the non-technical staff posted in the coastal police stations did not possess swimming skills. This was despite the Government having issued a circular which made swimming skills mandatory for staff deployed for coastal security. The boats to be used for patrolling were underutilised, with districts like Ratnagiri reporting just 8.47% utilistation.

In 2005, the Centre had formulated a coastal security scheme for implementation by State Government. It had approved a total of 19 police stations, 42 vessels, 32 jeeps, 71 motorcycles, 3 jetties and 32 check posts under the scheme. However, the CAG report notes that the five coastal districts of Maharashtra had a manpower shortage of

40.02% posts with the gap in deployment of technical staff for boat operations being 51.21%. The highest shortfall of non-technical staff was highest at 65.85% in Mumbai. The CAG report noted that the coastal police does not have jetties of their own in the five districts. Funds sanctioned by the Centre for the project were also unspent. The report has also raised concerns over joint patrolling with the Coast Guard, Indian Navy, Coastal Police and Customs being stopped. The audit observed that GPS systems, which could have helped the crew understand the navigational channels and locations of the boats in the sea, were not installed in 34 of the 69 operational boats.

The State Government of Odisha has been requesting the Centre to sanction a special India Reserve (IR) battalion to strengthen coastal security since February 2015. With the Intelligence Bureau (IB) circulating an input on probable terrorist attacks by Pakistan-based outfits in four States, including Odisha, recently, strengthening of coastal security has become an issue of utmost importance.

Odisha has a coastline as long as 480 km. The demand for a IR Battalion was made by Odisha first eight months back in 2014, and then reiterated in February. Besides, the State Government has requested early sanctioning of patrols boats for marine police stations. Out of the 18 marine police stations in Odisha, only five, which were

opened in the first phase, have patrol boats. Boats for 13 marine police stations opened in the second phase are yet to be allocated, he said.

The Centre has also been requested to increase the funds for construction of jetties. While only Rs. 2.5 crore has so far been sanctioned for five jetties. But construction of a jetty will cost more than Rs. 5 crores. This is a matter of pressing need and must be looked at with utmost speed by the Ministry.

However, it must be mentioned that the Ministry has also been making useful headway in a lot of spheres. It is important to note that under the 'Udaan' Programme for skill development and enhancing employability by corporates, 2514 jobs were offered to educated youths of Jammu and Kashmir in 2014. Besides, nearly 13,000 more youths were selected for training during this period.

Again, the Government has been prompt to respond to the unfortunate natural disasters that have affected the country-whether it is compensation for farmers affected by the floods and hailstorm, or the victims of the recent earthquake. This must be appreciated whole-heartedly.

While extremities ravage the North Eastern States on a regular basis, with 824 incidents occurring in 2014, getting 1934 extremists arrested and 181 of them killed, while 212 innocent civilians also lost

their lives and 20 lives of security force-persons were sacrificed, the Government has been making progress in implementing the Bezbaruah Committee's recommendations, as the Standing Committee Report shows. However, as the data just given amply shows, the Government must expedite this process in order to mitigate the conflict in these states as a matter of utmost urgency.

Thus, to conclude, this is a Ministry on whole efficiency the development of the country and the efficiency of the other Ministries also depend. If the states are not kept free on conflict and extremism, all efforts towards development and inclusive growth will not just go to waste, but with the increase in conflict and extremism, the efforts towards development that already been made will also be rendered useless. The Government and the Ministry must keep this in mind in ensuring better fund allocation and better implementation of the crucial schemes under its wings.

***SHRI PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI (BHUBANESWAR)**: The Ministry of Home Affairs is primarily responsible for internal security management of central armed police forces, border management, centre-state relations administration of Union Territories, disaster management, etc. Article 355 of the Constitution

* Speech was laid on the Table

enjoins the Union to protect every state against external aggression and internal disturbance and to ensure that the Government of every state is carried on in accordance with the provisions of the constitution. In pursuance of these obligations, the Ministry of Home Affairs continuously monitors the situation, issues appropriate advisories, extends manpower and financial support, guidance and expertise to the state Governments for maintenance of security, peace and harmony without encroaching upon the constitutional rights of the states. Though in terms of the Entries 1 and 2 of List II 'State List' in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, 'Public order' and police are the responsibilities of states.

Several Left Wing Extremist outfits have been operating in some parts of the country for a few decades now. In a significant development in 2004, the People's War then operating in Andhra Pradesh and the Maoist Communist Centre of India then operating in Bihar and adjoining areas merged to form, the CPI (Maoist). The CPI is the major Left Wing Extremist Organization responsible for most incidents of violence and killing of civilians and security forces and has been included in the Schedule of Terrorist Organizations along with all its formations and front organizations under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act 1967. The CPI (Maoist) philosophy of

armed rebellion against the Indian States is unacceptable under our constitutional dispensation. The Government has given a call to the Left Wing Extremists to abjure violence and come to talks.

This plea has been rejected by them, since they believe in violence as a means to achieve their objective. This has resulted in spiraling cycle of violence in many parts of India. The poor and the marginalized sections like the tribal's are bearing the brunt of this violence. Many well-meaning liberal intellectuals fall prey to Maoist propaganda without understanding the true nature of Maoist insurgency doctrine which glorifies violence and believes in annihilation of the so called class enemies. Since 2004 around 5000 civilians have been killed by the CPI cadres. A majority of civilians killed are tribals, who are branded as 'Police informers' before being brutally tortured and killed. In fact, tirbals and economically underprivileged sections have been the biggest victims of the so called protracted people's war of CPI (Maoist).

The Government's approach is to deal with the Left Wing Extremism in a holistic manner, in the areas of security, development, ensuring rights and entitlements of local communities and public perception management. In dealing with this decades-old problem, it has been felt appropriate, after various high-level deliberations and

interactions with the state Governments concerned that an integrated approach aimed at the relatively more affected areas would deliver results. With this in view, a detailed analysis of the spread and trends in respect of Left Wing Extremist violence was made and 106 affected districts in ten States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have been taken up for special attention with regard to planning, implementation and monitoring various schemes. However, 'Police' and 'Public Order' being State subjects, action on maintenance of law and order lies primarily in the domain of the State Governments. The Union Government closely monitors the situation and supplements their efforts in several ways. These include providing Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) and Commando Battalions for Resolute Action (CoBRA); sanction of Indian Reserve (IR) Battalions, setting up of Counter Insurgency and Anti Terrorism (CIAT) schools; modernistion and upgradation of the State Police and their intelligence apparatus under the Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces (MPF Scheme); re-imbursement of security related expenditure under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme; filling up critical infrastructure gaps under the Scheme for Special Infrastructure in Left Wing Extremism

affected States; providing helicopters for anti-naxal operation, assistance in training of State Police through Ministry of Defence, Central Police Organisations and Bureau of Police Research and Development; sharing of Intelligence; facilitating inter-State coordination; assistance in community policing and civic action programmes, etc. The underlying philosophy is to enhance the capacity of State Governments to tackle Maoist menace in a concerted manner. The Division also monitors the implementation of Integrated Action Plan for LWE Districts (now called Additional Central Assistance (ACA) and various other development and infrastructure initiatives of Government of India.

It is the belief of Government of India that through a combination of development and security related interventions, the LWE problem can be successfully tackled. However, it is clear that the Maoists do not want root causes like underdevelopment be addressed, and they resort to targeting school buildings, roads, railways, bridges, health infrastructure, communication facilities etc. in a major way. They wish to keep the population in their areas of influence marginalized to perpetuate their outdated ideology. Consequently, the process of development has received a setback in the areas under LWE influence. This needs to be recognised by the civil society and the media to build

pressure on the Maoists to eschew violence, join the mainstream and recognise the fact that the socio-economic and political dynamics and aspirations of 21st Century India are far away from the Maoist world-view. The Government is optimistic of eradicating the LWE problem through the strategic vision articulated above. It is worth mentioning that due to the measures initiated by the Government, LWE violence has significantly declined in the last four years, i. E. 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014. The multi-pronged efforts of the Government are slowly showing positive impact an results.

[*]**SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE (BARAMATI)**: Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has multifarious responsibilities. Important among them are internal security, management of central armed police forces, border management, Centre-state relations, administration of Union Territories, disaster management, etc.

Internal Security is a sensitive issue which deals with police, law and order and rehabilitation. According to annual report of Home Ministry, Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed 86.66 per cent more casualties of civilians and 30.58 per cent increase in terror incidents in 2014 in comparison to the previous year. Referring to Maoist violence, the Home Ministry said that 309 people lost their lives in 1090 incidents of Naxal violence in 2013 in comparison to 397 deaths in 1136 incidents in 2014.

In order to face the emerging challenges on internal security in the form of terrorism, naxalism, etc., Police Forces should be modernized and they should be empowered with adequate powers, also have adequate forces of jawans, modern equipments, training etc. However, the Centre has transferred the responsibility to the State Government. State Government on March 27, under the chairmanship of Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chauhan have pressed the need

[*] Speech was laid on the Table

of continued support from the Centre to eight Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) which have since been fully transferred to them. States like Jharkhand and UP have also pressed Centre to continue its full support to programmes like police modernization. Even the Parliamentary Standing Committee questioned the move to pass on burden of key schemes aimed at police modernization to the states, and warned that the response to security challenges like terror may suffer due to the states' funds crunch and lack of perspective in planning such projects. India has the lowest citizen to police ratios in the world. The recommended average is a policeman for every 200 citizens. In India, the ratio is close to 700. If one takes into account those tied up for VIP security, the ratio will probably be close to 1 policeman for every 1000 citizens. Only way to equip them to handle the enormous task is to provide adequate funds for infrastructure like mobility, communication systems weaponry, etc. There is also no allocation for CCTNS, the e-governance system.

I am afraid that with non-involvement of Centre, the states may take this on low priority. The state administrative machinery may not be fully equipped to take this responsibility now.

The law and order situation in the country poses a serious challenge to the peace of the country. Only a few months back,

Govind Pansare, a social reformer and a Member of the CPI, was with his wife when he was shot by unidentified gunmen on a motorcycle while they were on their morning walk in Kolhapur. Pansare was mass leader who was leading fights against different forms of injustice. The incident reflects the growing intolerance of the disruptive communal forces against freedom of expression. It is the duty of the state to recognize and acknowledge the valuable contributions made by Human Rights defenders and create an environment in which they can act safely and freely.

Every hour 35 cases of crimes against women are registered. And it has been progressively increasing with each year. While overall increase in the growth of crime rate was observed as 9%, crime rate against women increased by 27% in 2013. India is ranked fourth among the most dangerous countries for women. This speaks enough for the state of women in India. Cruelty by husband and relatives constitute 44% of the total crime against women. To solve issues like domestic violence, family courts needs to be increased. Though the subject comes under state subject but the Centre can communicate to the states to look into this matter. The year 2014 saw a never before 309 acid attack incidents being reported from across the country. This is almost 300 per cent more than the average number of such cases

witnessed during the preceding three years. I am happy that the home Minister has expressed his intention to regulate acid sale. We need to take this on priority and provide full support towards rehabilitation of acid attack victims. There is also a need to increase the number of women in police force. People are usually scared to visit a police station and women especially are hesitant to share issues like rape, molestation, eve teasing with the male officeRs. We need to make our police stations more gender friendly. The environment in the police station needs to be more welcoming.

At this point, I will also like to highlight a initiative started by RR Patil in Maharashtra. He knew that in villages often petty disputes snowball into big feuds as more people get involved and pose threat to peace and harmony. The scheme, named after Mahatma Gandhi, introduced alternative dispute resolution system which seeks to prevent the occurrence of disputes and resolve the existing disputes through people's participation. The overall thinking fashion of rural citizens is changing with time. They gradually understand the drawback of wasting energy, time and money on lengthy courts cases. This has led them to adapt dispute-free village concept and it is indeed achieving momentum in various rural parts of Maharashtra. Women are the key players in executing any programme on rural level. We

must appreciate their contribution to put ban on alcohol in villages of Kolhapur. Women should participate in such social programmes while enjoying the privilege of 50 per cent reservation in local governance. Due to collective efforts of police and villagers almost 798 villages of 1029 districts have successfully achieved the title of dispute-free under Mahatma Gandhi Dispute Free Village Programme, particularly Solahpur district is leading the chart.

The programme has run successfully in over 14,000 villages in Maharashtra alone. Rest of the nation is adapting this rapidly. In 2010-11, 3824 villages and in 2011-12, 2712 villages became dispute-free in the state. These villages were awarded with a price money worth 70 crore rupees. In 2013, the state Government had instructed to utilize this prize money to deal with water scarcity problem in drought-affected region. UNO had appreciated this move. They proposed developing nations to adopt the concept. This concept should be taken up.

India has become vulnerable to natural as well as human-made disasters like floods, drought, cyclones, earthquakes, landslides, avalanches, tsunami, forest fires, etc. There are fewer than required weather forecasting centres in the country. Many large states have only one forecasting centre each. Of 14 Doppler Weather Radars

(DWR) in the country, radars in seven cities (Chennai, Jaipur, Kolkata, Machilipatnam, Dibrugarh, Patna and Nagpur) were found to be non-functional in February 2014. For instance, DWR Nagpur remained non-functional from late- February to March 2014 when Vidarbha witnessed severe thunderstorms/hailstorms. Lack of adequate weather forecasting and monitoring offices makes it difficult to forecast weather accurately on real time.

The effectiveness of the National Disaster Response Force has been hampered because of shortage of trained manpower and absence of appropriate training facilities, infrastructure and equipment and the Standard Operating Procedures for deployment of the NDRF have not been finalised. NDRF personnel are sent to DRDO, BARC, HIMI and defence establishments. However, the training slots made available by these institutions were insufficient. National Institute of Disaster Response (NIDR) to cater to the training needs to NDRF SDRF, Civil Defence personnel has not been set up so far despite Government of Maharashtra having offered 110 acres of land for it at Nagpur and NDMA accepting it. Each battalion was to have strength of 1149 post including special post like medical officers, engineer, technicians, etc. Deficiency of 27% was noted in the audit conducted by CAG in 2013.

With regard to border management, in last one year there has been numerous case of incursions by China. One of which was incursion into Ladakh during President Xi Jinping's visit which went on for a long period about a fortnight. China has also erected watchtowers and installed high-resolution cameras along the border in the tribal Lahaul and Spiti district. In the wake of increasing Chinese aggression and the difficulty of physically manning the vast India-China border, there is a need to install high surveillance camera by India as well.

I need to mention that Naxalism remains a great threat. It is very important to uplift the naxal communities and bring them to the mainstream. Maharashtra is one of the Naxal affected areas. Naxals, who set up a base in Maharashtra in the early 1980s, have killed civilians in the worst-hit Gadchiroli, Chandrapur and Gondia districts of the State over the last three decades, police said. According to a release issued by the anti-naxal Cell of Maharashtra Police, an overwhelming number of victims of naxal violence were from Gadchiroli district alone (451) between February 1985 and July 2014.

Maharashtra designed a special training programme on Jungle warfare school to train the task force to fight Naxalites in their strongholds in Maharashtra. The team of 500 commandos were

trained at the Unconventional Operations Training Centre (UOTC) in Nagpur. The training acclimatizes them with the dense vegetation of the operational areas. There is a need to continuously conduct training for the battalion and police force in the LWE affected area.

Now talking about coastal security in the country, India's coastal area is vast measuring about 7,500 kms where Maharashtra alone has a coastline of 750 km. Lapse on coastal security is quite often reported and we have to guard our country from coastal threats. According to sources in the state home Ministry, 70% of Maharashtra's coastline is still vulnerable and can be used as landing points by infiltrators at any time. Coastal security should be strengthened and numbers of coastal police stations and coastal patrolling boats are also to be increased. Coastal police need to provide with modern weapon and jetties to patrol coastal belt. Besides issuance of ID cards of fishermen, registration of boats, colour coding of boats installation of transponders, issuance of Multipurpose National Identity Cards (MNICs) to the residents of coastal villages should be expedited and coastal patrolling needs to be intensified.

DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN (CHENNAI SOUTH): Hon. Chairman, Sir, Public Order and Police are subjects that top the list of items under the State List of the Constitution. The founding fathers of our nation clearly delineated the function of the Central and the State Governments and accordingly made Parliament and the State Legislative Assemblies the law making institutions for the smooth performance of these functions.

There are 10 Demands for Grants which are adMinistered by the Ministry of Home Affairs. The total allocation for the 10 Demands of the Ministry of Home Affairs for the years 2015-16 in Budget Estimates is Rs. 78,470.35 crores. In the Budget Estimates of 2014-15 it was Rs. 74,884.29 crores which was reduced to Rs. 70,358.34 crores at the Revised Estimates stage. Thus, there is an increase of 11.52 per cent in fund allocation over the Revised Estimates of 2014-15 and 4.78 per cent over the Budget Estimates of 2014-15.

Now I would like to mention a few observations and recommendations made in the Reports of the Standing Committee and hope the Minister would reply. The Standing Committee had clearly mentioned that it is quite unhappy to note that during the last three financial years, in many schemes, the Ministry has not been able to spend even reduced allocated amount at the Revised Estimates stage

and it had strongly recommended that the Ministry should impress upon the concerned implementing agencies to fast track the completion of the projects within the given time frame and avoid under utilization of funds. The Committee, in its Reports, had said that the Committee is constrained to express its displeasure over the fact that out of Rs. 1,07,790.18 crore projected demand of the Ministry, only Rs. 78,470.35 crore has been allocated. The Committee is of the view that the reduced allocation against the projected demand may affect ongoing schemes and projects. I would like to know the reply of the Minister in this regard.

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

16.49 hrs

The maintenance of public order is the primary test of internal security. Where people are provided an atmosphere of public tranquility, such as our State, it is indeed a haven of peace. Communal riots and clashes that threaten many a State in our country are absent in Tamil Nadu guided by our Hon. *Makkal Muthalvar Puratchi Thalaivi Amma*. With the Government reaching out to the poor and needy with benevolence and care, the Left Wing Extremist elements have not been able to gain a foothold in our State. Smuggling of essential commodities has been curbed with an iron hand and any interference in the process of law taking its own course is not tolerated. I wish to record here that it is my leader who pioneered the setting up of All Women Police Station in India, the first ever in the entire country, more than 23 years ago in 1992. Today in Tamil Nadu, there are All Women Police Stations in every Police Sub Division in Tamil Nadu totaling 200. The proportion of women in the police force at 16.5 per cent is the highest in the country. Our leader, Amma had first ever in India introduced a Woman Commando Force in the country.

With respect to protection of women, the punishment in case of sexual harassment was made more severe and the burden of proof to prove innocence was transferred to the accused in case of death or suicide resulting from sexual harassment under the amendments to the Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Harassment of Women Act passed in Tamil Nadu Legislature by our leader in 2002.

Impelled by the need to have an even stronger legislative basis to protect women from sexual violence, my leader Puratchi Thalaivi Amma was the first to bring about a thirteen-point action plan to prevent crime against women. Tamil Nadu is probably the only State in the country which has ordered the constitution of 42 Mahila Courts to be located in all the 32 districts of the State.

With regard to drug menace, our leader had launched a special drug awareness programme to be conducted in schools and colleges in 2012. The State’s Narcotics Intelligence Bureau CID has stepped up its activity and detected a large number of cases in 2014, as compared to 2013. The NIBCID acts in close coordination with the Union Government agencies including the Narcotics Control Bureau and the Coast Guard. The Coastal Security Group was first formed in the entire country in Tamil Nadu by our leader Puratchi Thalaivi Amma in 1994 with the objective of preventing smuggling and to

detect and block intrusions of anti-social elements into Tamil Nadu by the sea route. It is the first State in the entire country to set up physical infrastructure in terms of Marine Police Station outpost and check-post under Phase I of the coastal security scheme.

During the Standing Committee briefing by the Home Secretary, he had clearly said that a lot still remains to be done in terms of coastal security of the entire country with regard to the Departments of the Home Ministry. I would like to know from the Hon. Home Minister whether effective steps will be taken in this regard.

The Government of India's insensitive handling of the Tamil Nadu fishermen's issue, being unable to protect Indian fishermen pursuing their livelihood in the Indian Ocean, from being regularly subjected to murderous attack by the Sri Lankan Navy is a serious problem. My leader Puratchi Thalaivi Amma had repeatedly written to the Prime Minister protesting against the unprovoked, murderous attacks and arrests of innocent Tamil Nadu fishermen. The only permanent solution to the problem is retrieval of Katchatheevu and its surrounding area which was permanently ceded to Sri Lanka in 1974 without the requisite mandate of Parliament. The continuing attacks by the Sri Lankan Navy and ineffective response by the Government of India have agitated the fisher-folk community in Tamil Nadu and

this impinges upon the internal security environment of the State. This was also mentioned in the Chief Ministers Conference on Internal Security by our leader Puratehi Thalaivi Amma.

With respect to the Unique Identification Authority of India, greater coordination is required within the Government of India Ministries and with the State Governments to ensure that the Unique Identification Authority of India achieves the desired outcomes. The model of Aadhaar linkage with the National Population Register database has proved to be very useful. However, we must recognise that the population database is very dynamic and is changing by the minute. Therefore, there is a need for putting in place a mechanism for real time updation of the NPR. NPR data should be dynamically linked and be an exact mirror image at all times of the population database in the State Resident Data Hub. So also, every addition, deletion and change in the database should be carried out online. The necessary protocols for incorporating data related to birth and death, migration, change of name etc. need to be developed and shared with the State Governments. Walk-in enrolment centres should be permanently set up in all the taluks and municipal offices so that any change can be incorporated on a continuing basis and citizens can get the data updated without any problem.

With regard to the official language in the Department of Home Ministry, I would like to take this opportunity to strongly reiterate a long-standing request voiced on behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu by our leader Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. Article 348 (2) of the Constitution read with Section 7 of the Official Languages Act, 1963 clearly envisages the usage of the State's official language in judgements, decrees and proceedings of the High Court with the prior concurrence of the President. The practice is already being adopted in four States. However, our repeated requests to authorise the use of Tamil in the High Court of Madras have not been responded favourably.

Now, coming to the financial part, the Government of Tamil Nadu guided by our leader Hon. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma had progressively increased an unprecedented allocation of Rs. 5,568.81 crore in the Budget Estimates 2015-16 for the Police Department in Tamil Nadu against only Rs. 3,184.47 crore in 2010-11.

The Planning Commission has restructured the Centrally sponsored schemes of the Government of India *vide* its guidelines dated 11th July, 2013, and has introduced an umbrella Scheme called the National Scheme for Modernisation of Police and the eight Centrally sponsored schemes of MHA, except NCRMP, have been

transferred to the States. The Ministry of Finance has not allocated any fund for the Centrally sponsored schemes during 2015-16 except for NCRMP. It means, the Union Government hereafter would not finance the States for strengthening police infrastructure either in terms of mobility or in terms of communication equipments or in terms of strengthening of police stations. This has been done on the ground that through the 14th Finance Commission. There is a large increase in the vertical tax devolution to the States from 32 per cent to 42 per cent of the domestic pool. It is on this ground that it has been shifted to the State Governments. However, it must be noted that there is no increase in the overall gross transfers to States as a proportion of the Centre's gross revenues. It is expected to continue at 49 per cent and it is a large decline from 53 per cent in 2011-12. The Union Budget effectively ensures that the gross transfer to the States has barely reached the 49 per cent level by two sets of measures. Firstly, the Union Government has converted certain taxes like Wealth Tax into cesses and surcharges, which are not part of the shareable pool. Secondly, the Union Budget has drastically reduced support to the various Central schemes implemented through State Governments.

Normal Central Assistance and Special Central Assistance for the State Plan will not be available in future. The revenue impact of

these schemes on the State is Rs. 1,137 crore per annum as per 2014-15 allocations. The Commission has also recommended to discontinue the State-specific grants for which we were receiving Rs. 4,669 crores under the previous Finance Commission.

Tamil Nadu has been unfairly treated by the 14th Finance Commission with a drastic cut in the horizontal share from 4.969 per cent to 4.023 per cent of the general shareable tax pool and from 5.047 per cent to 4.104 per cent of the service tax pool.

The Standing Committee had strongly recommended that the Union Government should continue to support the State Governments financially in the schemes such as modernization of police forces. Only then the MHA would be in a position to use it to leverage and instrument with the State Government in getting various security situations managed. The Committee had also strongly recommended that the Finance Ministry should revisit this matter carefully and judiciously in consultation with various stakeholders keeping in mind the prevailing security scenario in the country. The MHA may fall short of discharging its core function of maintenance of internal security across the country. This is the report of the Standing Committee. There is a Tamil proverb which says, “the farmer who wield the plough are the ones who supply the men for the fighting

forces.” Similarly, without the support of the strong State Governments (financially and administratively) there can never be victory in the fight against terrorism.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Tamil Nadu itself would require another Rs. 10,000 crore in the next few years for modernisation of police namely, building for 500 police stations functioning in rental building or in old building that require reconstruction with an estimated cost of Rs. 300 crore, construction of 60,000 more houses for achieving 100 per cent housing satisfaction of police personnel, which requires Rs. 9000 crore and updating equipment including communication equipments, data analysis, system and vehicles for urban policing requires Rs. 700 crores.

Coming to the field of forensic capabilities, the development of forensic capabilities is very much important for scientific investigation and to ensure effective prosecution of crime. Tamil Nadu has a strong Forensic Science capability with laboratories at the State, regional and district levels. The Government of India should focus on creation of a national level database of fingerprints which can be accessed by investigating officeRs. It is a sad reflection on the state of Affairs that hardly 1000 cases are detected all over India on the basis of fingerprint technology. Out of this, over 50 per cent of

these detections are contributed by Tamil Nadu. Our leader had requested that with the setting up of a National online database of fingerprints, which is shared by the police forces of all the States, there will be a quantum jump in the detection of crimes. A National project in computerized finger print applications should be undertaken on a mission mode. It is the need of the hour. The Government of India should bring in the necessary legislation to enable the building up of DNA data bases. It should be the top most priority of the Union Government.

Lastly I would like to ask the Ministry a few more questions. Sir, what about the brutal attack and killing of 20 poor labourers and the tribal people from Tamil Nadu by the Andhra Pradesh police on 7th April in the name of the Red Sanders Anti-Smuggling Task Force and for which the Minister had also promised the august house to reply. Secondly, whether the Union Government will take effective measures to prevent the suicide of Central Police Officers of various wings which is a rising trend in our country? That was also reported by the Standing Committee.

In conclusion, I would like to quote a few lines from the Holy Thirukkural.

Anjamai Eegai Arivuookam Innargum

Enjamai Ventharku Iyalbu.

“Courage, a liberal hand, wisdom and energy, these four are qualities, a king adorn for evermore”.

True to these unfailing words of the divine poet Thiruvalluvar, our benevolent leader, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, is the embodiment of unfailing courage, benevolence, wisdom and zeal which are the essential qualities of a King.

Thank you, Sir.

[Translation]

*__SHRI AJAY MISRA TENI (KHERI)__: I support the demands for grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs and oppose the cut motion. In the last 11 months of its tenure, the Home Ministry of our Government has done commendable work to restore internal peace in the country and to normalize the systems by helping the country and the neighboring countries in times of disaster and crisis.

My Lok Sabha constituency is a border area of Nepal where due to the open border there is a feeling of insecurity among the people of the area due to the constant movement of Maoists from Nepal and criminals from India. For example, 4 very notorious criminals of our district Lakhimpur Kheri escaped from jail and court and set up base in Nepal and extort money from traders and other people of the area by threatening them and motorcycles, four-wheelers and tractors etc. are stolen on a large scale and sold across the border and with the help of police and other local agencies, fertilizers, cement and other essential commodities are smuggled on a large scale. But due to political reasons and protection given to workers at its own level by

* Speech was laid on the Table.

the state Government, it is not capable of improving the situation. I request that the Government should make the area adjoining my public health area a special zone and take special action to improve the law and order of that area, to curb criminals, to stop smuggling, to stop vehicle theft and to establish peace.

I also request the Ministry of Home Affairs that the police of entire Uttar Pradesh, including my area, are working under political pressure, due to which the law and order of the whole state has deteriorated. For this also, I demand an advisory to the state Government and the irregularity of the Uttar Pradesh Government has been exposed in police recruitment also. Similarly, the Government machinery and police of entire Uttar Pradesh Government are not able to function properly due to the pressure of UP Government. As a result, the development work and plans including the peace and order of the entire state have come to a standstill, due to which there is an atmosphere of frustration and disappointment in the entire state. I request the Government to make necessary interventions to restore law and order in Uttar Pradesh and to speed up development projects.

I once again oppose the cut motion and support the demands for grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

[English]

*__SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY (DHENKANAL)__: I will focus on police behaviour and how police can be made more people-friendly. At present, going to the police station for grievance redressal is an ordeal that everyone tries to avoid. Especially the educated and middle class are averse to the idea of visiting police stations. This attitude needs to change and it can only happen with the intervention of the Union Government.

Making the police more people-friendly using social media and other outreach methods: Something interesting has been happening on Twitter in the recent past. The DCP of North Delhi, Madhur Verma, has been interacting with people using this medium. He has been constantly trying, on this personal level, to make his work and department more relatable to the young crowd. He talks about his case-work burden, rising levels of crime and sometimes writes poetry about his job as a police officer. Recently, he was talking about a case involving 2 year old Nandini, who was abducted and eventually rescued near Clock Tower in Delhi. The amount of encouragement he

* Speech was laid on the Table

gets from the online crowd after doing such exemplary work is immense. It encourages him to work more diligently.

Another example is that of the Bangalore police. They are reaching out through Facebook and Twitter to people and using it to respond to their grievances swiftly. They encourage people to report police misbehaviour and share it publicly with them. The kind of public naming and shaming keeps the police on their best behaviour. These efforts point towards changing times. It also gives you a peek at how a police department can employ brand management techniques to make themselves more approachable for the public.

Psycho analysis of persons joining the police should be made mandatory. It needs to be assessed what is the bent of the mind of a person who will become a guardian of the public. Psycho analytical techniques have come far to allow you to do these tests in a few hours and get a report which can then be analyzed by trained psychologists. What matters is the willingness of people to listen to someone they trust. The willingness of a police officer to engage with the public can be assessed using these tests.

Don't limit yourselves to improving police infrastructure, invest in capacity building and public interaction techniques as well. Harness technology and innovate policing. The equipment used by our police

is frightfully outdated. We all reMember clearly the story of Hemant Karkare and Ashok Kamte who lost their lives due to faulty bullet-proof vests during the 26/11 Mumbai attack. This was seven years ago, but there has been no major effort made to modernize equipment by the previous Government. I hope this Government makes a speedy headway in that direction. We need to equip our police with the latest communication equipment.

It's time to think out of the box and harness smart phone technology in policing. There is a mobile application being used to call auto rickshaws in Delhi. With one swipe, an auto gets your location and it comes to you in under ten minutes. Can we use this technology in policing?

Gone are the days of dialing '100' to call the police. Now you can have a very effective mobile application which would zoom in on the location of a person if a distress call goes out. The person sending out the distress call can see how far a police vehicle is from his/her location. Not to mention, this will be a cheap way to make response more effective and it can literally be done in 15 days time, if the Government so wishes. Only the right people (and geeks) need to be brought in for this project. The Bangalore Police is making headway in this direction as well. They are inviting hackers to volunteer and

help them solve cyber crimes. Perhaps the Delhi and other states police can ask App developers to volunteer and create this system for them.

If the Home Ministry is serious about improving our police, start a pilot in Delhi soon. Try it out. If this works, this can be replicated across states. I urge the Government to consider this.

Uniform is the sign of identification. Commonality in uniform across the country needs to be considered. Police is a State subject but this can be changed keeping in mind the changing times. The Centre is pushing forward the GST Bill, similarly a new law needs to be brought about for a central police force. I'm sure home Ministers of all states will be willing to usher in modernization with the proper support of the Union Government. If there is proper coordination between police from different states, if they feel like they are a part of a national police force, the motivation for them to be just and law abiding will be accentuated.

Taking the police-friendly police point forward, we need to make an effort to increase public participation in matters of internal security. I propose a national Citizen Police Force, where young citizens can keep vigilance in areas they frequent and are in constant touch with the police, informing them of untoward activities.

These volunteers can prove to be the ears and eyes of the police department, they would help identify crimes even before they happen. Give them a volunteer badge and let them feel proud that they are doing their part to protect citizens of this country. It's time for the police departments across states to open up their gates for citizens. Now just young people, but middle-aged ladies who stay at home while their husbands go to work, can be trained to keep a vigil in their area. The police needs to tap into their infamous gossip channel and make use of it to curb it to curb crime.

I admit that the implementation of this programme involves a lot of deliberation, but it's not impossible to make this work. I am confident that if this programme is promoted in the proper way, which this Government is pretty good with, it can have a major contribution in reduction of crime. Start another Swacch Bharat Abhiyan, this time to clean the country to petty crime.

Judiciary today is coming under criticism because the public feels that they are not beyond reproach. Home Ministry needs to make effort to ensure punishments for certain crimes that are multiplying - like harassment of women, kidnapping of children and molestation - are effective, efficient and speedy. Punishments for these need to be time bound and exemplary. This doesn't mean we bring about Sharia

law but when law is implemented with all honesty, then related crimes show a decline in the graph.

The police is large in number when compared to Judiciary, but the effort to change mindsets should start. I reMember subordinate judiciary pronouncing death sentence for a bride burning case in Delhi a decade and a half ago. Prior to that, every day we were noticing bride burning cases on the front pages. After this, a few other judgments followed in Haryana and Rajasthan. Incidentally, after a month or so, after the issue got attention, the incidents went down and were not repeated with such frequency.

Similarly, if punishment for rape and abduction are meted out swiftly and deftly, it would impact the crime levels. On one hand, humanizing police force and on the other hand enacting stiffer laws for societal crimes could show palpable changes which perhaps would be echoed in this House before 2019.

[Translation]

***SHRIMATI SANTOSH AHLAWAT (JHUNJHUNU)**: I would like to thank the Prime Minister of the country and the Home Minister that for 11 months the Government has not only improved the law and order but has also firmly protected the borders of the country. The way the previous Government has destroyed the law and order of the country, at the same time the morale of the neighboring countries has also increased, be it Pakistan or China.

Internal security and peace should be restored in the country, the vigilance and security structure on the borders should be strengthened. Our police must be vigilant, sensitive and must perform the responsibility of civil security well. Police and armies should be equipped with modern equipment. There should be new vehicles, new technology. Keep getting updated.

Religious tolerance should be taken care of. Temple, mosque, gurudwara, all should be respected. I want to know from those sitting in opposition to me, whose thoughts are at the root of the Kashmir problem? Today they have been asking questions to the Government

* Speech was laid on the Table.

for 11 months. Perhaps they suffer from the tendency to forget quickly.

On behalf of all the women of India, including me, I would like to thank the Prime Minister and the Home Minister for having zero tolerance towards atrocities on women. Giving money in Nirbhaya Fund, issuing of Women Help Lines is a commendable step in this direction. For example, the 'Uber' taxi scandal was resolved immediately. CCTV cameras have been installed at railway stations. Making women police stations effective is a very effective step.

There should be training, modernization in police and army from time to time. States should also be given necessary assistance and instructions from time to time. India's image should be that of a strong, united and universal nation. It is the responsibility of the home department.

Finally, I would like to say that the present Union Government is very sensitive to maintain the integrity of the country.

17.00 hrs.

[English]

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): Sir, On behalf of my Party, I rise to oppose the Demands of Grants in respect of the Ministry of Home Affairs and support the Cut Motions moved by me.

Though law and order is a State subject, the Ministry of Home Affairs is one of the biggest Ministries of the Government of India and, to my mind, is the most important Ministry. It has got 18 Divisions, seven Forces like Assam Police, BSF, CISF, CRPF, ITBP, NSF and Sashastra Seema Bal. There are 27 organizations under this Ministry. As has been commented earlier during the discussion on the Demands of Grants in respect of the HRD Ministry, the Home Ministry has not received a budget cut; rather there has been a 16 per cent jump in their budgetary allocation, which is only proper. IB has got a jump. The Paramilitary Forces have got an average hike of 10 per cent. A sum of Rs. 1,000 crore has been given to Nirbhaya Fund. For the relief of Jammu and Kashmir migrants, a sum of Rs. 580 crore has been allotted. CRPF, ITBP and other Forces including CBI have all received a jump in their allocation.

I would like to mention one thing to the Hon. Home Minister, Shri Rajnath ji, through you, Sir, to kindly look at the successes of the

Government of West Bengal as compared to your failures on some counts. Later I will detail it to one of the major failures of the present Home Ministry, that is, on the Left Wing Extremist front. In April alone, there were four major incidents of Maoist attacks on our Security Forces. In one incident, seven BSF jawans were killed and a minesweeping vehicle was blown up by the extremists. Now, I would request you to compare this with the performance of the West Bengal Government. Without killing Maoists, the State Government has been able to wean away tribals from the fold of Maoists. Even after the death of Kishenji in an encounter, who was second-in-command to Ganpati, the Maoist leader, no sporadic Maoist violence took place. Three districts of West Bengal which were earlier affected by Maoist violence – West Midnapore, Bankura and Purulia – are today free. Why? There have been developments. Roads, schools and hospitals are being built. We have also seen that tribals are being inducted into the Police Forces, NVF and also in other Government jobs.

I think, Shri Rajnath ji would do well to emulate the example of West Bengal in having a control on Maoists. At this point of time, I have no hesitation in saying that I am all for a soft approach. Maoists should surrender; they should give more rights to tribals but the present group of Maoists, who operate in Chhattisgarh, can only be

met with the sternest possible measure. I feel that the Government is yet to take a decision. I do not believe in using the Army against our own people. But if Maoists think that they can overthrow the Indian State by violence, the Indian State must show that it can counter Maoist violence. There is no place in Indian democracy for people who believe in overthrow by force. These matters – the way earlier the Congress leaders were killed; before that, 76 CRPF personnel were butchered – cannot be dealt with lightly. I would urge the Hon. Home Minister, Shri Rajnath ji to follow the 'carrot and big stick' approach. You must show results on the ground in controlling Maoists especially in Chhattisgarh District of Bijapur, Kanker, Dantewada, etc. How come they are able to blow up your mine sweeping vehicles? [English] How come they have got barrel launchers and how are those arms smuggled into the Chhattisgarh area? This is a matter which concerns the Government of India; and it must show the determination and political will to counter this problem.

The other success of the West Bengal Government that I want to mention is achieving peace in Darjeeling. There was a violent movement in Darjeeling Hills demanding a separate State of Gorkhaland. We had a Tripartite Agreement, which gave Gorkhaland Territorial Administration to people in the Hills. Development is

taking place in the Hills. There has been no demand for a separate State in Darjeeling for a long time. There has been no violent agitation, no *bandh*, no strike. This has been achieved due to the no-nonsense attitude of the Chief Minister. The Government should emulate this. When similar demands take place in Bodoland; when similar demands take place somewhere in North Cachar and Mikir Hills or in other parts of the North-East, unfortunately, we are not able to do so. Only in December, one NDFB Group led by Songbijit, massacred poor tribals. The Government of India was not able to prevent the same. I think that is a major failure.

Talks with Naga Militants are going on in a house in Lodhi Estate for a long time, years together. You have not been able to achieve an agreement with the NSCN (IN). It is time that the Government draws a line and says that 'by this time, we want to achieve one break-through in the negotiations with the Naga Militants, who are the biggest force, not yet in the Government's fold.'

One of the major achievements of the last Government was surrender of Arabinda Rajkhowa, the President of the ULFA. There is a small section of the ULFA still in Bangladesh, Myanmar and all that. It would be good if they could brought to the negotiation tables. But otherwise, the rest of the ULFA has to be tackled firmly again. The

Government must replicate the success of the previous Government in countering the United Liberation Forces of Assam.

In J&K, there is no doubt that the situation has improved; elections have taken place; and a new Government has been formed, of which the BJP is a part. It is true that the statements by the Chief Minister of J&K, when he said that people across the border, the Hurriyat also helped in peaceful elections, was not welcome throughout the country. I do not mind a soft approach by the Chief Minister of J&K.

Sir, yesterday, on the plane in one of the channels, I saw a film 'Haider' first time. I do not appreciate the way Kashmiri young boys were tortured. It made me sick. I do not want repetition of that. But after all, as I always say that if people take to the gun, they will be met with the gun; red terror is met with white terror; and militant violence is met with State violence, but the State violence must be effective. It should not violate Human Rights.

I saw a statement by the young Minister of State for Home saying 'No withdrawal of AFSPA in Arunachal'. I do not know where there is a problem in Arunchal that you want to keep the Armed Forces Special Powers Act. There is a lot of reaction against that. But you suddenly gave a statement. I think the Government should take a

decision on AFSPA whether unbridled powers to the security forces to kill militant should be there or not. In West Bengal, we are able to achieve peace without all these draconian poweRs. Why should you not do it? I read the report of the Home Ministry. The UPA Government had appointed a team of interlocutors headed by Dilip Padgaonkar. I think they really worked hard to produce a report. I would like the Government's reaction to the report of the interlocutoRs. What are the steps that have been taken in this matter? Islamic militancy is also a problem. Recently, the BJP politically created a lot of hullabaloo about Khagragarh incident that took place in West Bengal. They are trying to link that incident to the TMC being in power in West Bengal. Now, the NIA has submitted the charge-sheet. There is no connection with TMC and the failure to stop infiltration from Bangladesh is that of the Union Government. You say that you have fenced ninety per cent of the border. The Government was trying to link it with us. But it has been proved. People who are staying in India and trying to create violence in Bangladesh, they should be met with firmly. What is the Border Security Force doing?

Sir, if you go to a Border area in West Bengal, the main complaint about Border Security Force is that they take money for

every herd of cattle which crosses from India into Bangladesh. We have not been able to control. If there are illegal immigrants or infiltrators, why is the Border Security Force there on which such huge expenditure is being incurred? The BSF has a budget of Rs. 12,517 crore. With all that money spent on them, they cannot stop infiltration. So, I would like the Home Minister to look into this.

One of the mandates of the Home Ministry as I noticed is to preserve and promote national integration and communal harmony. This seems to be under some threat because of statements made by Members of Ruling Party and also because of unwarranted attacks on churches in various parts of India. The Home Minister must state firmly that such attacks would not be tolerated and such statements against the constitution of the country should not be tolerated. The Prime Minister has stated that he believes in one *Dharm Granth* that is the Constitution of India. Where is in the Constitution there a scope for attack on churches or on calling a particular community with bad names? The Home Ministry must go on a media overdrive to speak in favour of preserving communal harmony.

Sir, lastly, we have formed many organisations. The NIA is there, the NATGRID is there, the IB was also already there but I would like to know how much our intelligence has improved? How

much inputs we are getting about anti-national elements? Is the IB doing the same as it was previously doing that is feeding political output? [Translation] Such and such Opposition Parties are getting so. That is not the job of the IB. We should point out where threat or danger to the nation is.

Lastly, on women security, there was a Nirbhaya Fund which was first started during Mr. Chidambaram's tenure. This year, Rs. 1,000 crore have been given. But still we are reading about atrocities on young women, particularly in and around Delhi. What is the problem that incidents of violence on women are happening in Delhi, Mumbai and in other places? [English] Why was the proposal of the Women and Child Development Minister, Shrimati Maneka Gandhi for setting up a Rape Crisis Centre in every district not accepted by the Home Ministry? This is a matter that needs to be looked into and we would like the Home Minister to specify what work has been done by the Department of Home Affairs in ensuring women's security against sexual molestation. … (*Interruptions*)

Under Nirbhaya scheme, nothing was done for one year. Now they are saying that they will do something. Shrimati Maneka Gandhi's proposal was rejected by her own Government.

Lastly, the Union Territories are also under the Ministry of Home Affairs. Recently, one MP from Lakshadweep made us to sign a petition wanting a Legislative Assembly. That Member is here. Why should not there be a Legislative Assembly in Andaman and Lakshadweep? There is no point in not having a Legislative Assembly. I think Rajnath Singh Ji, who is a senior Minister, will take a bold step that we will have a Legislative Assembly everywhere.

I again say that the job of the Home Minister is not easy. It is to maintain peace in a country with large diversity, with a large number of neighbours and bordeRs. We have also coastal problem. The 2008, 26/11 incident took place from the sea. Recently, on Gujarat coast, one boat was intercepted with huge amount of narcotics in it. I think it is time that the Government girds up and gets its act in order so that the country is a safer place for its citizens, the responsibility of which squarely lies on the shoulders of the Home Minister. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI BAIJAYANT JAY PANDA (KENDRAPARA): Sir, while rising to speak on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs, I would like to put things in context. Over these last few days, as we have been discussing Ministry after Ministry, one point has kept coming up again and again is that in line with the principles of federalism, a lot of funds from the national exchequer are now being directly transferred to the States. As a result, many of the Centrally-sponsored schemes are getting reduced allocations and there has been lot of discussion about that.

I would like to take a moment on that and explain that when it comes to the federal concept of fiscal devolution, the late Shri Biju Patnaik was one of the pioneering national leaders who demanded that. Sir, 25 years ago he created a storm by using the phrase that time has come for States like Odisha to get fiscal independence. The Odisha Chief Minister, Shri Naveen Patnaik has also had a consistent track record of asking for this kind of devolution and the Prime Minister himself, when he was a Chief Minister and then even after taking office as Prime Minister, has espoused this cause.

When it comes to the Department of Home Affairs, this is, perhaps, one area where we need to recognize that the Home Ministry in the Union Government has a special responsibility which in many

cases cannot be devolved to the States, although law and order remains a State's responsibility.

Let me put this in context. If we look at the funds allocated this year, whether you compare it with last year's Budget Estimate or last year's Revised Estimate, there has been a very significant increase and this is something that needs to be commended. But I will come to the point of allocation to States and various programmes where the Centre has a responsibility and it needs to continue to discharge its responsibility. If you look at the sums compared to the Budget Estimate of last year, 2014-15, there has been almost a 4.8 per cent increase which is an increase from Rs. 74,884 crore upwards. Now, the Budget Estimate has gone up from Rs. 74,884 crore to Rs. 78,470 crore. Similarly, if you look at the Revised Estimate of last year, which is Rs. 70,358 crore, there has been a significantly higher increase of little more than 11.5 per cent this year. This is a very significant increase. But here comes up the issue about Central responsibility and States responsibility.

If you look at the discussion in the Standing Committee on Home Affairs, something very interesting comes up. The Home Ministry itself disagrees with some of the proposals made by the Finance Ministry that some programmes, which had so far been handled by the

Union Government, will either be wound up or be devolved to States themselves.

The most interesting thing is that those of us, who are in the Standing Committee, have given a lot of support to this idea that the Union Government needs to continue to have responsibility for certain key areas where the national security is involved. I will come to the specific areas in a minute.

It is because of lack of time, Sir, I cannot speak comprehensively on the entire demands for grants. I would like to speak on three broad areas. The broad areas are left wing extremism, which affect a large part of our country, including States like mine; police modernisation and disaster management. These are the three broad areas I want to highlight.

If you look at left wing extremism, in 2014 alone, last year, we had 1090 incidents and 309 deaths caused by those, who call themselves Maoists. This is a very large number. It does show an improvement over the year before that. Compared to the previous year, that is, 2013, where the incidents were 1136 and deaths were 397, these have come down to 1090 incidents and 309 deaths. This, of course, is commendable that the trend is improving. But these figures are something to be worried about. If more than 1000 incidents

continue to happen throughout the year in our country, this is something that we must all take very seriously.

Sir, four States which primarily get affected and get the brunt of the attacks are Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Bihar. It is important to note that the Government's own target of tackling left wing extremism covers 10 States and 106 districts. It remains incumbent on the Union Government and it remains incumbent on the Home Ministry to tackle these core areas of problems not just with the security angle – it cannot be just with the stick alone – it has to be with development as well, which is one of the reasons that overall incidents are coming down. In Odisha also, we have experienced reduction in these incidents. It shows that development is happening; roads are being built; hospitals are being built; schools are being built; more tribal children are getting to stay in hostels and getting proper education for the first time – these are first generation learneRs. So, the carrot as well, the development angle also is working.

So far as security angle is concerned, there is a concern that unless the Union Government's Home Ministry remains with a nationwide focus on left wing extremism, we will continue to have this problem. We have very many schemes, for example, MGNREGA, Backward Region Grant Fund, National Rural Health

Mission, etc. But this is precisely the crux of the issue that is being discussed that if in cooperative federalism you are transferring bulk funds to the States, States have their own priorities. For example, Kerala has a much higher indicator of primary education than Odisha. So, Odisha may prefer to put more of its funds at its disposal in primary education and Kerala may prefer to put more of the funds at its disposal into something else. This is where the Central responsibility comes in, particularly in 106 districts through 10 States and four States, which are more affected by left wing extremism and both the aspects of developmental expenditure and security action need to go hand in hand. This is where the Home Ministry's hands cannot be tied and need to be given a much freer hand.

To address the infrastructure deficiencies, the Government is working on the Integrated Action Plan (IAP) and the Additional Central Assistance (ACA) for left wing affected areas. The State Governments are also availing some of these benefits but this needs to be coordinated in a much better way. One of the successes has been the Government's Comprehensive Surrender-cum-Rehabilitation Policies which have been implemented not only at the national level but also at the State level in cooperation with the States. Sir, you will see almost every week from States like Odisha and other four or five

core affected States from Left Wing extremism, find regular instances of former extremists surrendering themselves and coming into the mainstream, which, I think, is one of the success stories.

Sir, I want to raise one particular aspect related to grant. There is a Security Related Expenditure Scheme where the Centre gives assistance to the States, particularly when there are casualties of security forces or even the civilians which are coming out from the Left Wing extremism and compensation has to be given and lot of expenditure is also there. The RE last year was Rs. 737.37 crore. This year it has gone up only to Rs. 840 crore. I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister and this House that this sum may not be enough because of the kind of compensation that is being given to the security personnel who are risking their lives. Only last week, we have had four incidents where the security personnel had been killed. This amount may not be sufficient for a nation-wide attack on Left Wing extremism and to compensate those of our citizens who are risking their lives. So, this amount needs to be increased.

The second major aspect I want to discuss is modernisation of police forces. The overall plan to modernise India’s police from British Raj era structure has been going on since 1969-70. So, it has been 45 years that we have been talking about modernising the police

and we have been taking some steps in bits and pieces. The time has come now for some very comprehensive action to be taken and this is where I would like to point out that although some good work is going on, we need to do a lot more.

The good work that is going on is the emphasis being put by the Home Ministry on improving police training, infrastructure, number of police stations, housing, upgrading of weaponry and communication, but I would like to draw the attention of the House to one major issue, what I feel is a shortcoming, that needs to be addressed. During 2014-15, eight of the Centrally sponsored schemes for police modernisation, for special infrastructure for Left Wing extremism, for counter-insurgency and anti-terror schools, for crime and criminal tracking network and systems and, most importantly, for national cyclone risk management, have all been merged into one scheme.

Sir, I have no problem with many schemes being merged into one scheme for streamlining, but the problem is that none of these schemes except Disaster Management for Cyclone, have been given any funding. So, it does not make sense that we streamline by merging eight schemes into one scheme, but we do not give them any money. When it comes to National Cyclone Risk Management Project, the

projection was Rs. 783 crore and only Rs. 416 crore have been allocated. This too has not been found acceptable by those of us Members, who are from cyclone prone areas. Not only am I from Odisha, my constituency is Kendrapada which is at the tail-end of the Mahanadi basin. We get affected by cyclones and floods every other year, if not every year. Most of my colleagues from Odisha and the nearby States like Andhra Pradesh have the same experiences. At the very minimum, the Ministry's own estimate of Rs. 783 crore must be granted. In fact, there is a case for much more.

If you look at disaster management, the allocation of Rs. 919.29 crore in the current Budget against Rs. 576.28 crore of last year RE seems like a major increase, particularly because it will go to capital outlay, but the fact remains that the sum of Rs. 900 crore is nothing in the overall context of what we are seeing, even compared to what we have seen in the last two days affecting Bihar and Nepal.

The responsibility of the Home Ministry apart from funding is to coordinate. I want to give one example. When Jammu and Kashmir faced floods, some of us were approached to find whether Odisha could provide certain assistance. We can. Just like the Chief Minister has offered day before yesterday, and last year also, we have certain expertise as everybody knows that Odisha has done a good job in

handling cyclones and floods, particularly water-based relief. Odisha has expertise of boats, lifeguards, which other States may not have. Instead of creating parallel facilities, Odisha can provide it. But the Union Government has to take a coordinating role. Different States can have different expertise depending on which is a mountainous area and which is a coastal area. … (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The next speaker is Shri Vinayak B. Raut.

… (*Interruptions*)

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: Sir, kindly allow him some more time. He is making good points.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Time is not there. We have to take another Demand tomorrow. What would happen to the other Demands for Grants?

… (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BAIJAYANT JAY PANDA: Sir, one last point regarding the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF). CISF is doing airport security. They are not trained for it, and we need a specially-trained force for it. Thank you, Sir.

[Translation]

*__SHRI JUGAL KISHORE (JAMMU)__: While participating in the discussion on the grant demands of the Home Ministry, I would like to say through you that it becomes our duty to create a sense of security and especially the security of women is becoming a challenge for us. I would like to specifically talk about Jammu and Kashmir, our security forces remain deployed on the border with Pakistan without sparing their lives. Sir, blessed are these soldiers who fight with Pakistan and on the other hand fight with terrorists and also become martyRs. I want to say that no amount of respect they get is enough and their morale needs to be boosted. It also has to be decided that they get leave on time.

I demand that the Indians living on the border with Jammu, who stay firm on the border and face the bullets of Pakistan, get injured and even become martyrs but do not run away from the border. Run a special recruitment drive in the border villages in Jammu region so that the youth living on the border get recruited in the paramilitary forces and these people do not have to migrate for employment. Sir, I would like to request you that the land of the people living on the Jammu border is on the other side of the barbed wire on the border.

* Speech was laid on the Table

These farmers cannot plant crops there. The sad thing is that these people neither got the price of this land nor compensation for the land. These people should get their money or compensation quickly. These people are in trouble since 2002

Paramilitary forces and police will have to be equipped with modern weapons so that both the country and the soldiers remain safe.

[English]

*__KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE (UDUPI CHIKMAGALUR)__: India has coastline of 7516.60 km bordering the mainland and islands with Bay of Bengal in the East, Indian Ocean on the South and Arabian Sea on the West. There are nine States viz. Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal and four UTs viz. Daman & Diu, Lakshadweep, Puducherry and Andaman & Nicobar Islands situated on the coast. Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Maharashtra have constituted State Maritime Boards (SMBs). Puducherry has constituted Maritime Security Committee and Daman & Diu has constituted Maritime Advisory Committee. Governments of Karnataka, Kerala, AP, Goa & UTs of A&N Islands and Lakshadweep have been advised by the Ministry to constitute SMBs at the earliest. I also urge the Ministry of Home Affairs to expedite examination of maritime Board Bills/Ordinance of the Government of Karnataka, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Goa so that the Boards can be established at the earliest.

* Speech was laid on the Table

The Karnataka Coastal Security Police covers three districts i. E. Dakshina Kannada, Udupi and Uttara Kannada districts. The coastline of Karnataka runs in to nearly 320 kms in length stretching from Talapadi in Dakshina Kannada district towards Kerala state, Majali in Uttara Kannada district towards Goa state covering territorial water upto to 5 NM in sea and 500 meters on shore. Coastal Security Police have 5 police stations in three districts of Karnataka. The Ministry has sanctioned under Phase-II, four Coastal Police stations for Karnataka. While land is in possession for 3 CPSs, land is being acquired for the 4th CPS. Further, construction work has started in respect of 1 CPS. I also suggest that an attractive incentive structure may be considered for recruiting personnel for Coastal Police Security.

Government of Karnataka has informed Ministry of Home Affairs that the State Government plans to recruit separate staff for Coastal Security policing and wish to train them adequately in sea-faring. The step taken by the Government of Karnataka has to be appreciated and the Government should urge other State Governments/UTs to also raise dedicate cadres for marine policing as has been planned by the Government of Karnataka.

The Ministry had warned that armed cadres witnessed in Western Ghats and tri-junction of Tamil Nadu-Kerala-Karnataka pose a

serious security threat to the three states. Necessary steps have to be taken to modernize Anti naxal Force (ANF) and equip it with better weaponry, in addition to heightened combing and patrolling. Police and paramilitary forces should be helped to refine strategies to take on this emergent threat. While the presence of naxalites is more in Coastal and **Malnad** Karnataka region, their activities is an area of concern and this is where coordination among forces helps. Regrouping of naxalites is a cause of concern, this can easily be controlled through a well-formulated action plan. Presence and movement of the armed naxal groups have been noticed on many occasions in Udupi, Chikmagalur, Shimoga, Kodagu and Mysore districts in Karnataka. The Ministry should issue directions to police forces in Karnataka to maintain strict vigil along the tri-junction of Tamil Nadu-Kerala-Karnataka and suggest joint operations to maintain dominance of the administration in the area and thwart attempts to build hideouts or organization in this strategic area. The Government should provide adequate funds to naxal-affected talukas to build roads, bridges, schools and hospitals as part of development activity. I am of the opinion that the development of socio-economic infrastructure and services such as schools, Primary Health Centres, roads, bridges, etc. should go hand in hand with security operations in

Left Wing Extremism affected areas. My considered view is that providing basic infrastructure and other facilities can help check growth of influence of left wing extremism in these areas.

Some NGOs functioning from the Western Ghats areas in Udupi and Dakshina Kannada districts say that the question of livelihood is one of the reasons behind youth in the tribal areas taking up naxalism. The tribals are being prevented from collecting Minor Forest Waste (MFW) and some farmers are also being evicted from their small agricultural or horticultural pastures in the Kudremukh National Park (KNP) area. There is a demand from many tribal organisations and NGOs to either include the tribals as a biodiversity factor in the KNP or carve out the area without disturbing the tribal settlement. The KNP has an area of 66,000 hectares, covering five districts of Dakshina Kannada, Kodagu, Chikmagalur, Shimoga and Udupi. The possible solutions to this issue may be: implementation of Panchayati Raj - forest dwellers act will make the people of those areas stakeholdeRs. Here differences can be made between industrialization and making the local people stakeholdeRs. The industrialization process without the active participation of the local dwellers has increased the sense of deprivation and frustration among them over the years making them more susceptible to naxal ideology; Let us take stringent anti-

corrupting laws so that there are no gaps in PDS and Developmental activities for women.

India has been enduring the scourge of drug trafficking for three decades. The country's proximity to two of the world's largest illicit opium growing areas as well as various external and internal factors have contributed to it becoming a transit, source and a destination for drugs. The trends and patterns of drug trafficking in the country demonstrates that there is a gradual shift from traditional/natural drugs towards synthetic drugs that are being trafficked and consumed in the country. Various studies and newspaper reports indicate that drug consumption and trafficking are in fact showing an increasing trend. For achieving greater success in preventing drug trafficking, a few suggestions are put forth:

- Special measures need to be formulated to check trafficking of drugs through the bordeRs.
- Coordination among various agencies needs to be improved.
- Information/intelligence gathering regarding drug trafficking, its analysis and dissemination capabilities need to be strengthened.

- A database on production, trade and consumption of various drugs at the national level needs to be prepared to ascertain the extent of the problem.
- Various domestic laws enacted for the control of drug trafficking should be implemented stringently and severe punishments should be accorded to drug stockists.
- The Government should provide viable alternatives to farmers in order to wean them away from illegally cultivating poppy and cannabis.

The Ministry should accord topmost priority to improve the capacity infrastructure of Central Para Military Forces (CPMFs) and upgrade the much necessary institutional mechanisms for further enhancing internal security of the country.

There should be at least four state-of-the-art Disaster Management training institutes in each side/ corner of the country, which is prone to many natural disasters, for training and research. The proposal to establish a separate training academy for NDRF should be approved soon and suitable course of action should be put on track for ensuring timely implementation of undertaken projects.

The importance of the Scheme of Modernisation of Police Forces is vital for modernizing police forces of the states. The availability of funds with states has been inadequate and such an important scheme cannot be left alone at the availability of funds of the State Governments as this Scheme involves security and strategy ramifications. States alone may not be able to deal with such vital scheme which aims at modernisation of weapons, equipments and creation of infrastructure required for ensuring internal security of the country. The budget allocation for the Scheme of Modernization of State Police Forces during the 12th Five Year Plan was to be Rs. 3750.87 crore and out of that, Rs. 1951.39 crore has been spent so far and for this fiscal, the Ministry had proposed Rs. 1980.00 crore.

A person in distress only comes to police station or contacts police personnel for help. In such a situation if police personnel at the police station do not behave like a protector of law and order, it causes further problem to the person in distress. I also suggest that a training programme of long duration on ethical and moral values and people friendly attitude should be imparted to police personnel but also train them for developing good communication skills, behavior, attitude and responsibility with the general public.

[Translation]

*__SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL (MEHSANA)__: I would like to express my views on the supplementary demands of the Home Ministry.

Article 355 of the Constitution of India entrusts the Union with the duty to protect every State against external aggression and internal disturbance and to ensure that the Government of every State is carried on in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

Centre-State relations, disaster management, administration of Union Territories, border management are important functions under the Home Ministry.

Recently, in the earthquake that struck Nepal, Bihar, UP, West Bengal, the Home Ministry has done a very humanitarian work by taking immediate relief measures under the NDRF. Similar work was also done during the two floods in Kashmir. This is commendable.

During the year 2014, 6.18 percent more terrorists were eliminated as compared to the year 2013 and there was a 24.54 percent reduction in infiltration in the year 2014 as compared to 2013. This

* Speech was laid on the Table.

shows that Modiji is keeping a close eye on every move of the terrorists.

During the year 2013-14, 1605 cadres of various militant groups active in the North Eastern States have surrendered along with arms/weapons. The Government has taken the initiative to provide relief to the people of Left Wing Extremism affected areas by implementing the Road Requirement Scheme.

India's coastline is 7516.6 km long which passes through 9 states and 4 union territories. The implementation of Phase-I of the Coastal Security Plan is continuously reviewed with the Governments of the coastal States with special focus on coastal defence against any illegal activities emanating from across the border by criminal and anti-national elements along the coast. It is also commendable.

The initiative has been taken by the Home Ministry for the benefit of women in the Central Armed Police Forces. The budgetary provision made for the first time for the recruitment of 17000 women security personnel in CRPF is also a step forward towards women empowerment. I appreciate that.

Under the Modernisation Plan-I for Central Armed Police Forces, the main focus is to ensure that the soldiers remain strong and

receive the best possible training and equipment, The Government has taken steps with good intentions and it is commendable.

The work of the Home Ministry for jail reform is also visionary, for this I thank theHon. Minister of Home Affairs.

In the Budget for the financial year 2015-16, Rs0. 62,124.25 crore has been allocated to the Ministry of Home Affairs, which is Rs0. 5752.07 crore more than the previous year, showing a 10.2 percentage increase in the allocation. That shows how aware the Modi Government is for security.

This budget has been done with special focus on women's safety, rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandits and hospital security.

The decision to give Rs. One thousand crore for Nirbhaya Fund is commendable because the security of the country's medical community is an important issue of internal security. An allocation of Rs0. 580 crore has been made for relief and rehabilitation for the Pandits of Jammu and Kashmir and the implementation has started in this direction. This is a good result of the willpower of the NDA Government.

The CRPF, the world's largest paramilitary force, often has to deal with Naxalites - they are always on duty for internal security duties, including anti-Naxalite operations. They have been allocated

Rs0. 14089.38 crores. I also thank the Modi Government for the concern taken by them regarding internal security.

Similarly, Rs0 12517.82 crore has been allocated for the soldiers who are deployed every day to protect the India-Pakistan and India-Bangladesh bordeRs. That too is a reasonable step under security.

Rs0. 3404.93 crore has been allocated to ITBP deployed for 24 hours for Indo-China Border Security. That too is a commendable step under the Indo-China border dispute.

An allocation of Rs0. 5196.65 crore has been made for the CRPF to be deployed for the security of most of the airports, industrial infrastructure, nuclear centres, Delhi Metro and many others in the country. That reflects the NDA's concern about border security.

Modi Government does not want to make any compromise on women's safety. The Government is committed to their protection and security. In its last budget, the Modi Government had announced that the Nirbhaya Fund would be used to ensure immediate treatment to women victims of brutality. In this, another Rs0. 1 thousand crore has been given to the Nirbhaya Fund. The Railway Minister has also announced the installation of CCTV cameras in coaches to ensure the safety of women passengers.

Under the security of Delhi National Capital Region, a provision of Rs0 11.70 crore has been made for Delhi Police to purchase ultra-modern weapons. It is also commendable.

I have some demands from Gujarat under the supplementary demands of the Ministry of Home Affairs, please look into them. The Union Home Ministry has informed that 8 Marine Police Stations in Gujarat will be responsible for the immigration/emigration processes of passengers at airports on behalf of the Gujarat Government. Under this, Marine Immigration Checkpost should be constructed in Gujarat.

Gujarat has a maritime border of 1640 km and shares its border with Pakistan. Under this, their importance from the security point of view is greater because recently heroin-drugs worth Rs 600 crores have been seized from the drug mafia of Pakistan in the western sea of Gujarat. On the state seaport are 9, Bharuch 4, Bhavnagar 3, Ambareli 5, Junagarh 6, Porbandar 1, Jamnagar 8, Kutch Bhuj 5 and the largest port Kandla with a total of 43 small big ports. That is why Gujarat is called the state of ports. All ports except Kandla are guarded by private security forces under Gujarat Marine Time. Such ports require permanent armed guards, watch towers, flood lights and security personnel with walkie-talkie sets and frequent police patrolling.

In the Mumbai terrorist incidents, the Pakistani terrorists had entered through the sea route of Porbandar and the maritime border of Gujarat-India is also connected to the Arabian Sea and their maritime border is also connected to Pakistan. Pakistan's western port Gwadar has been given to China, hence it is necessary to provide tight security to small and big ports for the internal and external security of the country. For this, provision of appropriate budget allocation should be made by the Home Ministry of the Union Government.

Indian fishermen who catch fish near the India-Pakistan international water border are kidnapped by Pakistan's Marine Security Agency and they are fired upon and their boats are also confiscated and taken away. These boats and fishermen are brainwashed and used for anti-India terrorist activities. The Gujarat Government has launched a campaign for the awareness of Indian fishermen and has awakened 21 thousand fishermen. The Central Home Ministry should provide 100 percent funds to Gujarat for their education and food expenses.

To complete the border fencing work on Gujarat State's border with Pakistan, the Union Government should provide flood lights, generator sets and adequate funds for completing and repairing the remaining 77 Km border fencing work.

Coastal Security Phase-2 under the Coastal Security Scheme has been initiated by the Gujarat Government in which it would cost Rs 50 lakh less to construct 5 jetties in the state. If it costs up to Rs 5 crore, then the assistance amount should be increased by the Union Government.

The activeness of the Home Ministry is the legacy of law, peace, safety and security in the country. Due to which investment increases in the country and with increase in investment, employment increases. With increased employment, poverty is eradicated and with the eradication of poverty, development picks up pace. I am happy to say that all this has been done by the Modi Government.

SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT (RATNAGIRI-SINDHUDURG): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I rise to support the demands for grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Hon. Shri Rajnath Singh ji has accepted the responsibility of protecting 125 crore population of this country. I am proud, the work of preserving and giving Aadhaar to the whole of India is being done all over India through theHon. Minister of Home Affairs.

Whatever demands the Home Ministry has, its agenda has been finalised. Through you, I request the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs of the country to listen to the security of the security forces of this country and the police forces of other states by making full use of whatever budget has been provided for the class of work of the Ministry of Home Affairs under the law of the year 1961.

The biggest difficulty facing the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs is the internal security of the country. Today the situation of internal security of the country is serious. Especially the intruders coming from Bangladesh, the way the law should be used to stop them, unfortunately, is not being used. Before this, I would like to repeat what Hon. Shri Hukum Singh ji said. On one side there is Bangladesh, on the other side there is Pakistan and on the third side there is China.

Similarly, serious attention should be paid to the infiltrators coming from all over India and for the last several years, in many areas of Maharashtra, especially near Mumbai, like Bhayander and Navi Mumbai, lakhs of Bangladeshi infiltrators have entered and because of them, a security threat has been created there and I want to bring many more things to your attention.

Today, among the Bangladeshi workers working in Maharashtra, the number of Bangladeshi child labourers is high. Nothing is being done properly to stop them. I am sure that for the development of Jammu and Kashmir like the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs of this country, a provision of Rs. 36 thousand crore has been made in this budget. While reforming and rehabilitating Jammu and Kashmir, the Union Government has announced the return of the Pandits there, but simply building houses for Kashmiri Pandits is not going to ensure their rehabilitation. Those who have looted the lands of Kashmiri Pandits and their homes are looters, The Government should take back their property from them and the Government should rehabilitate them in the right manner, this is my request.

I am sure that just like the respected Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh caught Masrat, who was living in this country and shouting Pakistan Zindabad, within

24 hours and sent him to jail, similarly, Article 370 imposed in Kashmir should be removed and the whole of India should be united from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, the Uniform Civil Code should be implemented and if one wants to live in India, then one must say Vande Mataram; explain this to them in a strong language. The security of India will be strengthened and we are proud that a Home Minister like you can do this. Even after living in India today, people who create problems and give inflammatory speeches in many castes and religions are still present in India. They do such things to gain political advantage, unfortunately no action has been taken against them. I request that action should be taken against those people.

The number of drugs has increased a lot. Unfortunately, the police of Maharashtra and Mumbai are involved especially in the inter-state drug supply. Two days ago, when a woman drug mafia was caught, it was revealed that ten policemen from Maharashtra and Mumbai were supporting her. At least 100 kg of opium and marijuana was found in the locker of a police sub-inspector when a raid was conducted at a police station on Marine Drive in Colaba. The situation that is happening with the police forces at some places, the involvement of police in smuggling, what are the reasons behind it, we should think about them. Today the condition of the police force

is not good, there is pressure on them, they do not get leaves, their duty hours are not correct, there is a lot of pressure of duty and their residences are not good. Wherever you look, the condition of police quarters is pathetic across the country. The working hours of the police forces should also be decided by the Union Government and they should also get other facilities.

Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, A very serious question regarding the coastal line has arisen. India has a coastal border stretching for many miles; Maharashtra alone has at least 720 kilometers long coastal border, but today the number of people smuggling through the coastal route has increased. Today, the way boats should be there to keep an eye on it, other arrangements should be made for controlling, those provisions should be made by the Union Government. ... *(Interruptions)* I want to tell you that Maharashtra's jails have become the homes of criminals today. When the Maharashtra Chief Minister visited a jail in Nagpur, the accused had at least 50 mobile phones and 100 SIM cards. Such unsafe jails should be made safe. ... *(Interruptions)*

***SHRI BHAIRON PRASAD MISHRA (BANDA)**: On the direction of the Hon. Prime Minister, which the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs

* Speech was laid on the Table.

has increased the budget by 10.2 percent this time as compared to last year, will strengthen the security of the country and help us to face the challenges. In this, special attention has been given for the safety of women and an additional provision of Rs. 1000 crore has been made for the Nirbhaya Fund. This will help in ensuring the safety of women. Special arrangements have been made to plan their rehabilitation by arranging Rs. 580 crore for Kashmiri displaced people. This will make it easier for them to return home.

I would like to suggest that at present the separatist forces which have been reactivated in Jammu and Kashmir have to be strictly stopped, so that they do not disturb the peace of the Valley again. The return of Kashmiri Pandits should be ensured promptly and their resettlement plan should be implemented promptly to relocate them to secure places, and adequate arrangements should be made so that they do not have to leave their homeland again. There are ten Left Wing Extremism affected states, out of which the condition of Chhattisgarh province is very worrying here. Adequate arrangements should be made there by planning to stop the activities of militants. Even in the Chitrakoot district of my Parliamentary Constituency, left wing extremists from Mirzapur district are coming and occupying the forests and are threatening the forest dwellers and tribals and

occupying their lands. Considering it as an insurgency affected area, adequate security arrangements should be made there to stop their activities. The Centre should have a direct right to conduct a CBI inquiry in any serious case. Now it is seen that under the guise of the federal structure of the country, CBI inquiry cannot be done even in serious cases happening in the states without the demand of the states, due to which many serious crimes remain unresolved. Therefore, such rules should be changed so that the Union Government can immediately take decision on such serious cases and get the CBI inquiry done.

The power to appoint police force comes under the State List. But especially in our Uttar Pradesh, it is being seen that the state Government is making appointments in the police arbitrarily and people from only one or two castes are occupying most of the posts, in some places up to 75 percent of the posts are occupied by people from the same caste. In this, the Home Ministry should issue such directions to the states in which representation of all sections of society is visible in the police force and law and order should not be affected even in case of any special situation. The politicisation of the police force by the states is also a matter of concern, especially in Uttar Pradesh. Therefore, such an effective system should be created

so that the state cannot misuse the police force for its own benefit. Everyone in the country should be able to have equal access to safe living facilities. Home Guards are not being utilized properly in the provinces. For this, the budget should be increased, they should be trained further and their duty days should be increased. There is enough land available in my Parliamentary Constituency. I request the Hon. Hon. Minister of Home Affairs to make a provision in this budget to open training centres of central security forces there.

*__SHRI GANESH SINGH (SATNA)__: I am expressing my views on the demands for grants under the control of the Ministry of Home Affairs for the year 2015-16. In the Union Budget, the Ministry of Home Affairs has been given an allocation of Rs. 62124.54 crore instead of Rs. 56372.45 crore as compared to last time, which is an increase of 10.2 percent.

This allocation has been given with special focus on the safety of women, rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandits and additional security. Rs. 100 crore has been allocated for Nirbhaya Fund alone. CRPF, which performs the most risky job, has been given an allocation of Rs 14089.38 crore. Rs. 12517.82 crore has been given to BSF. Rs 32376.44 crore has been given for ITBP. These three have been given more allocation than last year. Similarly, Rs 5196.65 crore has been given to CISF for providing security to airports, nuclear centres and Delhi Metro.

The main responsibilities of the Home Ministry include maintaining the internal security of the country, maintaining cordial relations between the center and the states, maintaining national unity and sovereignty, harmony, formation and deployment of Central Armed Police Forces, modernization of state police forces, protection

* Speech was laid on the Table

of mariners, effective management of international border and coastal border, reducing difficulties arising out of disasters and providing relief, working for the welfare of freedom fighters, conducting census, preventing illegal trade and misuse of narcotics, making rules for IPC and such challenging tasks.

Today, foreign infiltration in the country's borders, terrorist attacks, Naxalism, Pakistani infiltration in the Kashmir Valley are matters of grave concern. A large number of Bangladeshi infiltrators from Assam are entering various states of the country. They should be identified and deported from the country. The increasing Naxalism in Chhattisgarh is continuously playing a Holi of blood. There is a need to find effective solutions to this. Adequate help is needed to modernise the state police. Police in many districts of Madhya Pradesh need a lot of assistance. Especially those areas which are affected by dacoits. The area I come from is a forest area and many police station areas have been declared AD. For a long time, there is a demand to open a training area for a paramilitary force in Satna district, for which the state Government is ready to provide land.

Proposals have been sent to the Madhya Pradesh Police Administration for new police station areas, modernisation of the special police force and increasing its strength. They should be given financial assistance.

Due to the continuous arrival of natural calamities in the state, the farmers are deeply saddened. Recently, there has been huge damage to crops due to hail and heavy rain. The central study team has gone and seen it themselves. Hon. Hon. Minister of Home Affairs has also seen the devastation of farmers by visiting Gwalia. But the aid amount has not arrived yet.

Industrialization is taking place at a very fast pace in Madhya Pradesh. In which police force is required. Hence, there is a demand to provide one battalion of CISF especially for my Lok Sabha constituency Satna.

I also request the Minister that in the police force which is under the Home Ministry, information about some personal problems of the constables keeps coming from time to time. When there is no solution, they feel frustrated. It is very important to form a legal forum to solve their legal problems.

At present, 31,400 gram panchatis of 88 districts are affected by Naxal.17 districts in Jharkhand, 18 districts in Odisha, 14 districts in

Chhattisgarh, 11 districts in Vidarbha, 11 districts in Madhya Pradesh, 3 districts in West Bengal, 4 districts in Telangana and 3 districts in Uttar Pradesh are affected.

To solve the problems of these districts, there is a need to run a joint campaign with the states to find out the root causes and find solutions.

In conclusion, I support the demand for grants.

[English]

*SHRI T. G. VENKATESH BABU (CHENNAI NORTH): India's internal security is threatened by the external forces also. Terrorism and insurgency are thrust on India from the foreign soils. India is sitting at the epicenter of South Asia, which is the 2nd most volatile region in the world after West Asia. The international security agencies put India on high risk category. According to the latest US report, transnational terrorist groups are targeting India. Hence if effective steps are not taken against these threats from internal and external forces, India as a country may get degraded.

As the former PM, Mr. Manmohan Singh has rightly pointed out, India's greatest internal security threat is left wing extremism. Apart from that jihadi terrorism, drug trafficking, illegal migration, supply of fake currencies, human trafficking, proliferation of small arms, cyber war fares, narcotics and drugs smuggling are the other threats.

Unlike the other threats the left wing extremism is ideology oriented. It has its roots in the pathetic conditions of the Adhivasis whom the Governments has repeatedly neglected and deprived them off. The most blatant and unmindful loot of their forest lands by the

* Speech was laid on the Table

greedy private corporate sector, in collusion with the Governments and the officials has totally alienated them. The worst scenario of resettlement and rehabilitation of the displaced Adivasis have converted the forests as breeding ground of left extremism. This Govt. has to reach out to the Adivasis and mitigate their problems expediously. Left extremism is a failed ideology but it can't be tackled as a mere law and order problem.

15 million Bangladeshis are staying in our country illegally in the north eastern states bordering Bangladesh, leading to demographic upheavals in the states of Assam, Tripura etc. In the lower Assam, the locals have become minorities and the infiltrated Bangladesh Muslims have become majorities. So, it is feared that the lower Assam may opt for either an independent state or merger with Bangladesh. The infiltration by the Bangladeshi migrants, leads to unrest and resultant militancy among the local people. These immigrants are potential threat to our internal security, since some of them harbor cross border terrorism sponsored by ISI.

Cyber war fare is the next generation threat. Year by year, it is being multiplied. If not nipped in the bud, it may reach dangerous proportions.

Jihadi Terrorism planned and executed by ISI, the intelligent agency of Pakistan is a cross border terrorism in which trained militants from Pakistan are infiltrated into India to carryout lethal terrorist activities. Recently ISI used the Indian born terrorist groups, like the Indian Muhajideens, Al-umma, Student Islamic Movement of India (SIMI) to carry out terrorist activities in India. The funds for the terrorists are derived from the fake currency which is estimated to be Rs. 16,000 crores in India.

Human trafficking is another worrisome feature. An estimated 2.5million people are trafficked every year from India, among whom 1.2 million are children. India serves as a transitional point also for human trafficking. Another menacing problem is arms trade. Round about 600 million small arms are traded every year around the world, through which around 3 lakh people die annually. This arm trade is facilitating the terrorists. The most worrying factor is that India has to guard 7516 Km coastline, the longest in the world. Our capacity build up is far too smaller to tackle this enormous problem.

In the event of internal security increasingly becoming out of control, the successive central goverments instead of strengthening the states to meet this huge challenge, are more and more resorting to overpower the states. There is an attempt to modify the 7th schedule

of the Constitution of India to include internal security either under central list (List - I) or under concurrent list (List-II) to enable a clear cut role for the Center to act. This overriding power mooted for the Centre will erode into the states' rights which will go against the spirit of federalism.

There are repeated attempts by the previous Central Govt. under Congress to bring in several legislations in which the central forces are empowered to exercise their power in dealing with terrorists and insurgency, without the consent of the respective state Governments on the plea that it is not a mere law & order problem. The present law provides on its own. Even in such situations, the central forces have to act under the command of the states only. Since states are placed in close proximity to the problem, they have got greater role in tackling those problems also.

It should be never forgotten by anybody that the India is ruled by the states. That is the reason why the Indian Constitution defines India as a Union of States. The state police forces have to be reinforced and strengthened by the center to effectively face the threats.

The deployment of armed and paramilitary forces in the areas of conflicts in states for a longer period cause heart burns and the central forces are getting more and more alienated from the local people. The

prolonged presence of army will have always excesses. That too, when special powers are given to them, they can easily breach the travesty of law and justice. Any extra powers given over and above what the situation demands will constitute extra-constitutional powers when citizens' rights will be trampled upon.

On the plea of containing communalism and terrorism, the central Govts. are striving hard to erode the states' powers which will neither help to achieve the desired objective nor entertain federalism, which bonds the unity of this country. BJP under Mr. Modi is repeatedly airing views in favour of federalism. Let them act on it to prove their credibility. After all the taste of the budding is in its eating.

Finally the main problem of our criminal justice system is huge backlog of cases, resulting in enormous delays. As a result, the under trials have to be kept in prison for years together, which results in overcrowding of the already saturated jails. The under trials constitute 24.2% of the total inmates.

All these problems addressed above are spoken and written for several times before. The point is, when these outstanding problems will be addressed to?

The status of our external security is an extension of our internal security regime. Our strategic partnership with our major

neighbouring countries is not that smooth. Our relationship with Pakistan is still worsened, thanks to the intransigent stand of Pakistan vis-à-vis Jammu & Kashmir. India Govts. have been extending enormous concessions to Kashmir, by giving the elected Govt. special powers under Article 370 and dumping huge funds to the State's growth and sustainability and expending huge loss to deploy forces there to meet out the insurgency and cross border terrorism. Still we cannot win over the people of Kashmir. Today, Pakistan has become an epicenter of terrorism and bastion of the worst form of communalism. The army and the ISI are the ultimate arbitrators sitting over the elected Govts., in deciding the relationship with India. They are harbouring criminals, training terrorists and fostering terrorist attacks on India regularly at frequent intervals. They don't cooperate with India in prosecuting the terrorists leaders operating in their soil against whose culpability there are enough records with us. Still Pakistan finds favours with US and China.

After the debacle of Soviet Union in 1991, India's foreign policy had a nosedive. Along with that, India's economic policy has also become subservient to US. As a corollary, we have almost become strategic partners of US imperialism. We are circumvent to the continuing efforts of US to retain its hegemonic role through its

control over the financial and banking systems, the dollar as the reserve currency and key technology.

India's foreign policy had a definite shift and lenience towards US on the eve of the visit of Obama to India. The renewal of India US Defense Framework Agreement for another 10 years from January 2015 and the Joint Vision statement of Asia-pacific and Indian Ocean are enough proofs that India has aligned with US pivot to Asia to contain China.

India has gone to the extent of endorsing the US position on South China Sea, which is relatively calm barring some territorial disputes, which have no relevance to us. The quadrilateral defense agreement between US, India, Japan and Australia is aimed at militarizing the Asia pacific, East and South Asia and fostering enmity in the region which will aggressively boost our military budget, offsetting the NDA Govt's focus on growth and development.

We should understand that challenging China militarily in this hemisphere, at the behest of US, is wrought with dangeRs. China is far ahead in defense preparedness. So provoking China is not in our interest. ASEAN countries are wise enough not to confront China but to share the economic growth of the region with China.

US has deployed 60% of its nuclear arms and high tech. navy in the Asia Pacific region it is intensifying the low profile conflicts in this region into major confrontations, leading to wars and is striving hard to militarize this otherwise peaceful region. It seeks the cooperation of India to stop Chinese entry into the Indian Ocean. The demilitarized Japan after the 2nd world war at the command of US for its misadventures in that war had a potential growth factor. Now US has instigated Japan to be militarized to challenge China.

US can never be our natural ally. Right from the cold war period, US has been inimical to us. It has been all along adopting a double standard by which on one hand, it professes anti-terrorism as the main plank of its global strategy but on the other hand supporting and aiding Pakistan which sponsors terrorism against India.

China is no better but its relationship with Pakistan is mainly aimed at its expansion. It is linking various countries across at the interest of boosting multilateral trade. It is building a super highway from its Jingziang province to Europe via Quvedar Port in Pakistan and Via Giljith which is disputed territory between India and Pakistan. Through Quvedar Port, it will have an opening to Arabian Sea, which will shorten its round about sea route.

With its massive surplus and reserves China is embarking on infra developmental project outside China also, which will boost-up trade and economy and are beneficial to so many countries. Hegemonic and expansionist intent is totally absent, given the nature of these projects. China's ongoing silk route economic belt, 21st century maritime Silk Road, natural gas pipeline projects between China-Central Asia and China-Russia. Central Asian International freight train route between China Kazhakasthan is operational from Feb, 2015. The Asian InfraInvestment Bank initiated by China has now enrolled 41 Member countries in a short period.

So China is an emerged and mighty power with highest growth rate in the world, whereas US is a declining power. Pivot to Asia is its last ditch effort to retain its hegemonic intent. China is for peace and tranquility. US is aggressive and its fight against global terror is proved to be counterproductive. In the name of containing terrorism, it intervened militarily in Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya and Syria. Its policy of going with and against the Arab Spring has resulted in Islamic fundamentalism grow and strengthening of Islamic terror. It repeatedly exercises double standards, since it always acts in its best interest only.

In its new found love for US, NDA Govt. belittles the emerging regional and world forums like the BRICS in which Russia and China are active participants, Shanghai Cooperation, the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of our American Union of South American Nations etc. These forums are setting up multilateral institutions, viz. New Development Bank and a contingent Reserve Fund by BRICS, Asia Infra Investment Bank with 21 Asian Countries including India. These forums and institutions are aimed at strengthening the trend towards multi polarity as an alternative safeguard against US controlled unipolarity. Neither the NDA Govt. is heady of the emerging left in EU and Latin America. So it is in our best interest to go with the emerging trends world over to bring peace and prosperity to the entire world.

Imperialistic forces don't have any solution to the world's current crisis. Instead they are intensifying the world crisis to further their interests. Despite India becoming a subordinate ally of US, US is not echoing any of the ambitions of India in the World forums, Viz. Nuclear Supply Group, Security Council etc. US has drawn us into the civil nuclear energy agreement with the express intent of tying India in its fold so that India should abandon its programme of

becoming a full-fledged nuclear state. Indian Govts are boasting the nuclear pact with US as ending our nuclear isolation.

The defense documents unearthed have revealed that by our aggressive pursuit of enforcing the McMohan line on China was enough provocation for China to declare war on us in 1962 at the peak of the Cuban crisis. The imperialist forces who encouraged us to challenge China, never came to our rescue at the time of our distress and ignonimous defeat in the war. But it seems that we have learnt no lesson from the 1962 Indo-China war. Instead of mending our fences with China and clarifying the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with an allowance of give and take, at the behest of US imperialism, we are pursuing a path of challenge which will be at the interest of US and will never be at our interest.

Our Prime Minister is repeatedly sermonizing about the increased role of states. But in practice the states' autonomy is increasingly eroded as it was by the previous Govt. A new appropriate policy has to be evolved with a constitutional backing that states' views are heard with regard to any shift in the foreign policy also, so that the opinion of the majority people is heard and concurrence is arrived at. This is a crucial question to be addressed to immediately given the vast diversity of India. When Kachchatheevu lsland was

handed over to Sri Lanka, the opinion and concurrence of Tamil Nadu state was not obtained. Kachchatheevu was gifted to Sri Lanka without any reciprocity and against the Indian Constitution which implies that an amendment has to be passed in the Parliament with 2/3 majority before ceding any portion of India to another country. The then opposition leader and the tallest leader of BJP Mr. Vajpayee opposed ceding Kachchatheevu and also vowed to challenge it in the court. But the present BJP led Govt. refuses bluntly to initiate any move to retrieve Kachchatheevu against the spirit of the unanimous resolution passed in the Tamil Nadu Assembly.

Neither the international maritime law, which specifies that the meridian sea line between the nations should be drawn at equidistance, is honoured. Had that law been adhered to Kachachatheevu in the Palk Straits which is 12 KM away from our soil and 18 KM from Sri Lanka would have been ouRs. That would have safeguarded the livelihood of Tamil Nadu fishermen, who are now facing the worst kind of repression and depravity.

Because Tamil Nadu people were not consulted and their consensus never mattered to the central powers, lakhs of hill Tamils of Indian origin were deported back to India under two treacherous

agreements between Sri Lanka and India. Worst still, lakhs of Hill Tamils are not still accorded citizenship rights in Sri Lanka.

The cause of Ealem Tamils was repeatedly belied by the Central Govts. at the altar of market interests of Indian Govt. and its crony capitalists allies. Worst still the previous Central Govt. was a partner in the genocidal war on Ealem Tamils in 2009. All these anti Tamil policies are still being pursued by the Central Govt. since the Tamil Nadu state has no mandate to decide on these Affairs, which are Tamil Nadu specific. This is against the spirit of federalism and national integrity. Sri Lanka has always been striking discordant notes with India; India has always been at the receiving end of the relationships.

The resolutions passed unanimously in the Tamil Nadu assembly with respect of Tamil Ealem at the interest of Ealem Tamils are never heeded to by the Central Govt., Shrimati Indira Gandhi supported the cause of Ealem Tamils to attain separate nationhood so that Tamil Ealem will serve as a buffer state to browbeat Sri Lanka whenever they act against us in connivance with our enemies. But inefficient Rajiv Gandhi reversed this policy and fell a prey to the treacherous Jayewardene and the Rajiv-Jayewardene pact enforced without the consent of T. Nadu state and Ealem Tamils was the greatest catastrophe in the history of the world polity.

So I appeal that this house should enact an amendment to share powers with the State Govts., also in arriving at any decision on the international relationship which will carry the entire people of our country with the decisions arrived.

[Translation]

*__SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK (SIDHI)__: I appreciate the steps taken by the Union Government for the security of the country and request that in order to strengthen the internal system and security system of this country, first of all, special attention should be paid to providing facilities and modern arms and ammunition to the soldiers who protect our country. Along with this, efforts should be made to strengthen this system so that it does not help in facilitating the path of intruders in our country.

I appreciate the principles and policies of the Prime Minister. At the same time, I feel proud that for the first time the country has got a Prime Minister who has tried to modernise and empower the country in every field.

But before saying anything else I would like to say again that if the situation at home is strong only then can we present ourselves strongly outside as well. Emphasizing on this, I would say that just as the Prime Minister's thinking has been about women's safety, Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao, Jan Dhan Yojana, making villages ideal, making the country number one, to give more strength to his thinking,

* Speech was laid on the Table

I would say that along with social harmony, by strengthening the heroes who risk their lives, try to make this country and the people even stronger.

The Union Government, which is a Government with a different mindset for the country and which has given the highest place to its family in the world, is expected to take some steps through its Ministry which will be historic for the country and its people.

With the thought of making the country strong and glorious.

[English]

SHRI THOTA NARASIMHAM (KAKINADA): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak a few words on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Social media is a double-edged weapon. It can be used productively and unproductively. Now-a-days, some of the anti-social elements are trying to use social media to create some unrest in the country. Recently, social media has been widely used to launch a hate campaign against the people of the North East, particularly the Bodos and the Muslims, leading to violence spreading as far as Maharashtra and Bengaluru. In the Karnataka Capital, several people from the North East suffered attacks after the campaign through Internet and SMS. Cyber laws have to be strictly implemented to curb this evil.

Naxalism is posing threats to internal security of the country. In recent days, Chhattisgarh is the worst suffering State. Andhra has overcome this problem. Except a few incidents here and there, Naxalism has been eliminated from Andhra Pradesh. Our State has observed Naxalism in two different perspectives. It is not only a law and order problem, but also a socio-economic problem. When you start developing those Naxal-affected interior villages, Naxalism will

slowly loose its identity. Road connectivity should be done on top priority. We should use the services of voluntary organizations to educate the illiterate people. We should effectively use Counter Intelligence Wing. We are living in a technology-driven time. Technology has to be utilized at its optimum level to trace out Naxal movements. Geographical Positioning System (GPS) can be used accurately to identify the Naxal movements.

Recently, the Home Ministry has frozen seven bank accounts of "Green Peace India" and barred it from receiving foreign funds for allegedly violating the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act, 2010 (FCRA) and for prejudicially affecting the country's public and economic interests. In the Ford Foundation issue, the Home Ministry also directed the Reserve Bank of India and has placed the Ford Foundation on a 'prior permission' watch list. We should not compromise on our national security concerns.

Attacks on women have been increasing day by day. After Nirbhaya incident, the Government brought legislation. It had become the Act and came into force. Even now, we have been witnessing increasing attacks on women. Women are adored as Goddess in this country. Can we allow these incidents to happen? Let us debate this topic in the civil society. Let us involve social activists, women groups

and voluntary organizations to find out a comprehensive solution to this menace. I would also request the Government to earmark this subject to one of the Parliamentary Standing Committees to continuously keep a watch on this evil.

I would also request the Hon. Home Minister to increase the State Disaster Relief Fund given to Andhra Pradesh because Andhra Pradesh is affected by many cyclones during the last three years. Recently, Andhra Pradesh is affected by Hud Hud Cyclone. Keeping this in view, I would request the Hon. Home Minister to increase the funds.

I have one more issue. Just now, our AIADMK friend raised the issue of encounter in Andhra Pradesh recently. I would like to raise some points on this issue. The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh briefed the Governor and the Union Home Ministry about the incident. Our Chief Minister Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu garu wrote a letter to the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Shri O. Panneerselvam and assured him that apart from conducting *post mortem*, the Government also ordered a magisterial inquiry into the incident to ascertain the facts.

The inquiry will be completed without delay and further necessary action will be taken accordingly.

Thank you, Sir.

*__SHRI P. R. SUNDARAM (NAMAKKAL)__: I would like to place here some view on the demands of grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs for the year 2015-16. There is no second opinion that the Ministry of Home Affairs is the major defence component of the country and I accept that the budget allocation of Rs. 62,124,52 crore in the Union Budget with a modest 10.2% jump comparing to the last year is a pertinent.

Particularly, the para military forces like Border Security Forces, Central Reserve Police Force, Central Industrial Security Force etc have availed significant increase in their budget allocation. However, I am deeply annoyed about the working condition of the personnel of paramilitary forces. Generally para military forces are suffering a large being isolated from their families, not able to provide education to their children.

Further, 80-89 per cent of the force remains on deployment at any given time "80-85 per cent" troops remain continuously deployed to fight Maoists in 10 affected states (37 per cent), militancy in Jammu and Kashmir (28 per cent) and insurgency in north east (16 per cent).

* Speech was laid on the Table.

A survey of the educational status of the wards of CRPF personnel has shown that only 42 per cent go beyond the matriculation (class Xth) level. Only 11.33 per cent of children of this premier force of the country go for undergraduate level of education while only a dismal 3.54 per cent are able to go for higher or Post Graduate studies.

According to a survey, the percentage of our personnel who could not avail timely static posting of their choice is as high as 70-80 per cent. This generates considerable stress leading to physical and psychological problems.

There is a provision for only two months leave in a year but because of operational exigencies, elections and other administrative reasons, the personnel are unable to avail full leave.

Another factor which generates considerable stress among the lower ranks and jawans, the report said, is movement at short notice from hot to cold areas and from normal to extreme climatic conditions. Without proper facilities to the lower ranks and jawans in the paramilitary forces who surrender their whole life for the safety of the nation, there is no use of increasing budgetary allocation. Therefore, I would like to urge the Government to increase the benefits for the lower rank jawans in all para military forces. Such facilities should also include upgradation of recreational facilities, extension of leave

period, providing transfer only after consultation with the jawans as well as medical facilities.

Generally jawans posted in wild areas particularly in North East are affected by vector borne diseases and are severely affected without proper medication. So, the Government must ensure the medical facility to those who are posted in jungle areas and a mobile medical unit or caravan should also be posted at every place of posting to provide proper medical facility.

Secondly, I request the Government to increase the allocation provided to the state Governments, particularly to the states which are effectively implementing the modernization of police force in their respective states. In this connection, I would like to mention here about the effective steps taken by the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma in the state of Tamil Nadu. Under the golden rule of our Amma, the Tamil Nadu police forces are modernised with latest technologies and other development of infrastructure for the police force like video conferencing, building of police complex at various locations. Therefore, I request once again the Government to increase the budgetary allocation for modernisation of police force to the states.

[Translation]

*__SHRIMATI RANJANBEN BHATT (VADODARA)__: I express my views in support of the demands for grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs. I would like to congratulate the Hon. Minister, he deserves to be congratulated for the work done by the Government for the security of the country. For the first time in the country, an attempt has been made to form a Government in Jammu and Kashmir. The people there also want peace and tranquility. Our Gujarat Government does a very good job of protecting the state. In the Security Force, the Chief Minister of Gujarat, Shrimati Anandiben Patel has recruited 33% women and in other states also women should get priority. By doing this, any victimized woman can present her views strongly in front of everyone. Border Security Force should also be given some authority which will strengthen their morale and also increase their confidence. The safety of women is taken care of very well in our Gujarat. It is also important to create awareness among people regarding security and more funds are also being given to the states for security. There should be modernization in the police department. The responsibility of protecting the country's population of 125 crores has been taken by the Hon. Minister, who has made arrangements in the budget, should

* Speech was laid on the Table

be done for the security forces of the country. Concrete decisions should be taken to stop infiltration from Bangladesh and Pakistan into our country. Jammu-Kashmiri Pandits are going to be rehabilitated. Those Pandits should get back the land, work should be done in that direction. In the end, I applaud and support the Hon. Minister.

[English]

***SHRIMATI PRATYUSHA RAJESHWARI SINGH (KANDHAMAL)**: Our country is very big with different topography, demography as well as people with their age old customs and traditions. My Parliamentary Constituency Kandhamal is affected by Left Wing Extremist and Naxalities. I have some suggestions, which I convey to Hon'ble Minister for the development of my Parliamentary Constituency Kandhamal in the state of Odisha.

A team of local people may be formed to help and assist the implementing authorities to complete the developmental work of the concerned locality or area. The bureaucrats, police and paramilitary forces as well as intelligence agencies should work together in such a manner that these anti-social elements may feel safe to return to main stream and left the path of violence.

Vigorous infrastructural activities coupled with unemployed benefits to the educated employed youths to some extent help in reducing the menace of naxalism.

The tribal women should be given traditional skill development programme to add value to tribal products. At the same time, the Govt.

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* Speech was laid on the Table.

should ensure the marketing of their products in order to improve their livelihood.

It is the education which can remove their backwardness and social stigma as the educated boys and girls can easily convince their old tribal parents more successfully. The change in their thinkings, way of living can only be possible if their children are educated.

Good roads, hospitals, schools, colleges, safe drinking water and pucca houses for tribals and other backward and poor people can feel that the state as well as the Central Govt. is always with them and they never feel that they are still lagging behind the people living in urban areas.

A good and healthy centre-state relation is the foundation stone for removing all ills from the society and bring an all round development in the economy with peace and prosperity. It is an established fact that Govt. of Odisha has been able to largely control the Maoist activities in the state (as records establish itself).

I would urge upon the Ministry of Home Affairs to continue to extend all required support to Govt. of Odisha to control left wing extremists to its logical end.

[*]**SHRI RAM PRASAD SARMAH (TEZPUR)**: While fully supporting the Demand for Grants for the Home Ministry, I would request the Hon'ble Home Minister to completely seal Indo-Bangladesh border and thereby check infiltration of Bangladeshis and smuggling out of cattle which come to annual estimate of 17 lakhs.

Further, I would request the Home Minister to protect the Gorkhas of Assam, who are facing the ignominy of being "foreigners".

[*] Speech was laid on the Table

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD SALIM (RAIGANJ): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, The demands for grants of the Home Ministry are being discussed in the House. Naturally, there are some issues which cannot be ignored. Many Members were saying and the Government is also saying that this time there has been an increase in the budget. But you see that the increase that has taken place has not been the same in every case. If the Budget of 2014-2015 looks at this Ministry, there was a reduction in the revised estimate and the money remained unspent. There are many such cases, which have also been assessed in the Standing Committee report. This is not a matter of one year; if we look at the five-year plan, there has been a shortfall in the revised budget estimates and the expenditure that has taken place and it has also impacted internal security. Whatever the reasons are, the same shortcomings are visible in the mandate given to the Home Ministry of the country.

I can say that ever since this Government has been formed, it has been saying that it will be serious about security, especially internal security. Even before the formation of the Government, we used to listen to his speeches and everyone knows what happened in Chhattisgarh after the formation of the Government. The details of the

incident given by several Members shocked us all. Whether it the State Government or the Union Government, it has always been said by them that if a party is in power at the Centre, then the party that is in power should also be in power in the states and those who are in power in the states should also be in power at the Centre, this helps in better coordination. Who will you blame here? There is something wrong somewhere, and that argument doesn't work. Therefore, the manner, method and attitude with which this matter is being handled must be re-monitored.

I would like to say one more thing that it is a big responsibility of our Government to ensure that a sense of security is maintained amongst the citizens. For this, communal tensions prove to be very fatal. It is true that at this time we are not witnessing communal riots, but the division that is happening within the society and especially the statements being made by the Government, I am not talking about the Government, I think that the will power or thinking of the Home Ministry needs to be paid attention to somewhere. The Prevention of Communal Violence Bill has been pending in our country for many years. You also want to deal with the communal elements and we also want to deal with them. There is a great need to strengthen legal arrangements to deal strictly with forces that create communal tension

so that there is communal harmony without any kind of discrimination.

Secondly, I also want to talk about the safety of women. Today most of the women in our country are unsafe. We talk about the Nirbhaya Fund. This time, Nirbhaya Fund has been increased by Rs 1000 crore but we know that despite the Government's announcements and intentions, there is a lot of difference in reality. I am not talking about this Government or that Government. The previous Government had also announced a plan regarding Nirbhaya and had also kept funds. If you look at this year's budget, that fund remained unspent. I want to tell you about my area. Here Maneka Gandhi ji wrote a letter to all the MPs that come with us in this way, it is a pilot project, it will happen in 50 districts. It is not easy to acquire land in Bengal, yet the female District Magistrate there agreed to give the land. The letter was written, but later clearance was not received from the Finance Ministry and the Home Ministry and the work stopped. If we only announce schemes and nothing is done on the ground, especially for the suffering women, then there is no use. Especially as far as the rehabilitation of the victimised women is concerned. Nirbhaya Fund has been increased by Rs 1,000 crore, but I am not excited about it. If you look at the report of the Standing

Committee, you will know that there are many such schemes. The announcements made in the budget for the year 2014-15 and thereafter the revised estimate was cut. Even after that, there are eight schemes which were not fully implemented even after the planning and despite the cuts, there was under expenditure.

Thirdly, the question of our contact with the Union Government comes under your Ministry and the Government does talk about the 14th Finance Commission and it has also been implemented for which you are getting accolades. But centrally funded schemes have been given to the state Government. There are many important schemes regarding internal security which cannot be given directly to the state Governments. But the matter of centre-state reform is not just about financial allocation; to create a healthy environment, I believe that the Home Ministry should be given more importance. I can also give an example of that. [English] Sir, please allow me some time. I am talking only on the Demands for Grants and nothing else.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Speak then. Others are also waiting.

SHRI MOHAMMAD SALIM: I am not making any political points. [Translation] This concerns you as well. It is related to Tamil Nadu and it is a very old question that we should improve the relations between the Centre and the states. For this, I believe that if the Union

Government and the State Government do not agree on some basic issues, then the constitutional rights which have been given to the citizens. On December 25, the HRD Ministry announced that Good Governance Day will be celebrated here. The case of those Christian minorities is also the same. In our Constitution, every religion has been given its own rights, no matter how small that right is, whether it is in the name of Ghar Wapsi, whether it is in the case of conversion, whether it is declarations about how many children a person will have, whether it is a case of love jihad, or whether it is attacks on churches. Recently a judges' conference was called on Good Friday. You will have to think about the sensitivity of the Government in this and the different denominators. Since you are a wise, seasoned, and experienced leader, you are not just a Hon. Minister of Home Affairs. So I understand people can play a few crackers here and there, but you'll have to handle that on your own.

Now I come to the border. There was talk about Bangladeshi infiltratoRs. People talk so much about bordeRs. But whether it is the border with Bangladesh, Pakistan or Nepal, the money that was kept in the budget last year, you did not spend that money in a year. There is a difference between talking about infiltrators for political reasons and stopping infiltration. If you look at the report of the Standing

Committee, in the last year's budget, the schemes regarding fencing, arrangement of lights, strengthening of outposts were not implemented, the money was kept idle. If I don't talk about it here in the House, then where will I talk about it. You can take this matter outside and score political points by giving long speeches. What we want is that whether they are cattle, or people, or narcotics, or small arms, or dangerous people, they should be able to freely cross our country's borders, you will have to stop this. I come from Bengal, we have a very long border area, Ahluwalia ji also knows this. BSF is there, border fencing has been done, even then smuggling continues there like a parallel economy and to stop it, it is very important to connect your intelligence and different agencies, I am not just talking about BSF, all of them together. Otherwise, there is tension between the general public and the BSF in the border areas.[English]

Now, I want to draw the attention of the Minister towards the problem of my Parliamentary Constituency that the BSF takes a very strict stand on the farmers there who do farming and there is no ban on those who do smuggling, smuggling continues. Therefore, in the attitude of BSF towards the people of the villages on the border, I think that there should be some exchange with the public representatives as well. You may adopt the strictest approach against

smugglers, but the common farmers in the villages are the ones who face trouble and it is shown in the accounts that look so many people were caught, so many people were caught, I think you will have to stop this racket.

In the end I would say that terrorism attacks are less at present, but the Government is putting emphasis on North East, Kashmir and similarly in Coastal India. This time the budget has also been increased, As I said about the border, similarly last time also the amount that the Government had regarding the coast was not spent, whereas it should have been spent. Especially with regard to police modernization, you gave schemes to the states, but you did not spend the money last year for the modernization of the housing of the Delhi Police, which is under your control. The condition of the houses of the police and paramilitary forces of the Union Government is very bad. Please pay attention to them as well.

With these words, I conclude my statement. Thank you.

*__SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY (PALI)__: This is a very important Ministry; under it, important departmental works such as relations between the Centre and the states, border security, internal security, disaster management, human rights and women's safety come. India is a progressive, a growing developing nation, in whose progress all these components play an important role. In a vast country like India, the scope of responsibilities of the Home Ministry is very wide. Maintaining peace and tranquility for the progress and prosperity of the country is part of the field of work of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Centre-State relations should remain cordial, for this our Government has taken several steps under the Constitution so that the federal structure remains strong.

There is a need to strengthen and expand the information system in our country so that information about external events can be obtained quickly. If the same is not improved, there will be an internal security threat in the country. Our internal security is under question. The reason for which is our population, we do not have police force according to the population. The decision to ensure adequate availability of funds to the state Governments by making every effort

* Speech was laid on the Table.

to allocate them as much funds as they deserve has been taken through this budget. An amount of Rs. 62,124.52 crore has been allocated to the Ministry of Home Affairs in the Union Budget, which is more than 10.2% of the last year’s allocation. The country's largest paramilitary force, the CRPF, often deployed for internal security, including anti-Naxal operations, has been allocated a budget of Rs. 14089.38 crores.

I do not want to debate the Jammu and Kashmir issue much. My able colleagues have discussed this in detail. Jammu-Kashmir is and will always be an integral part of India. The situation in Jammu and Kashmir has improved. There has been a 30.58 percent increase in terrorist violence and 86.66 percent increase in civilian casualties in the year 2014 as compared to the previous year, but there has been 11.32 percent less casualties among the security forces. I would also like to inform the House that during the year 2014, 64.18 per cent more terrorists have been eliminated as compared to the year 2013 and there has been a reduction of 24.54 per cent in the cases of infiltration.

Our country is facing challenges like terrorism, Maoism and Naxalism. Maoism and Naxalism are hollowing out our country. A report of Delhi Police clearly revealed that other countries were also involved in promoting Maoism-Naxalism, giving training and providing weapons. Nothing can say about how much truth is there in

this matter, but the matter is related to the internal security of the country, so it should be taken seriously. To prevent such organisations from flourishing, there is also a need to check their funding sources.

In Maoism-Naxalism affected areas some people might have become agitated and taken up arms. I don't support him, but he too must have had some reasons. These people are against development, they do not want the poor society to improve in any way. They attack schools, don't allow roads to be built, don't allow hospitals to be built, don't allow nurses and doctors to work there. More than 200 districts have been affected by Naxalism/Maoism. Attempts have also been made to kidnap MLAs, district collectors and Government officials to force them to accept their demands.

I also request the Indian Government that the investigations conducted by NIA and CBI etc. should be impartial. For this, there should be a separate cadre of officers of these departments. There is a need to reduce the number of officers coming to these departments on deputation.

Cases of drug trafficking are also increasing in the country. There are reports that incidents of smuggling from our neighbouring country Pakistan are continuously increasing. It has also been heard that Nigerian citizens are being caught in drug cases in India. Many big

rackets of this are active in India also. To prevent our young generation from falling prey to drugs, concrete steps need to be taken in this regard. I would also like to inform the House that in almost all the cities of the country it can be seen that in the nights youth in a drunken state indulge in hooliganism on the streets, cases of robbery to collect money for drugs are increasing rapidly. My Lok Sabha constituency Pali has also not remained untouched by this. Just a few months ago, while going to a jeweler's house at night, an attempt was made to rob him by shooting him. Two brothers who were helping the local people present there were also shot but were promptly rescued by the team of doctoRs. Because of these two brothers the robbery was foiled, but the jeweler could not be saved. I request the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs that such helpers should be respected as necessary, so that people can get incentives and the fear of common men like police in criminals.

I would also like to tell the Government that today the chances of prisoners escaping from our jails have reduced, but the condition of jails is getting worse. In the jails of our country, all the means of intoxication and luxury are being made available to the prisoneRs. The behaviour of old prisoners and police personnel with new prisoners is also extremely worrying. It has come to my knowledge

that in many places, old and rotten food is also served to the prisoneRs. In the last few years, many prisoners have lost their lives due to fights among themselves, which is also a matter of concern for the Government.

While drawing the attention of the Government to the proposals to add languages to the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, I would like to say that almost all the Members of both the Houses of Parliament are in favour of inclusion of one or the other language in the Eighth Schedule. It is the demand of the people of the entire country that the language spoken by them should get recognition in their own country. The inclusion of various languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution has been discussed several times in the House under various rules. When the Constitution came into force, 14 languages were included in the Eighth Schedule. Today 22 languages are included in the Eighth Schedule through Constitution Amendments made from time to time. Languages may be regional, but today in this fast paced era, no one knows where a person reaches, everything has become global. A resident of somewhere, who knows where he is working or doing business. India is a country of unity in diversity; the language and culture spoken here is the heritage of the civilization of the entire country. Almost all the languages spoken in

India have their own history. They each have their own compositions, poems, folk songs, melodies, devotional songs, serials, movies, etc.

The Government has given assurance on the demands raised in the House from time to time. During the 15th Lok Sabha, the then Minister of State for Home Affairs, while replying under a Private Member Bill, said that the Union Government had constituted a Committee in the year 2003 under the Chairmanship of Shri Sitakant Mahapatra to consider the proposals for inclusion of languages in the Eighth Schedule. The committee had prepared the report in the year 2004 and sent it to the Ministry with its recommendations, the proceedings on which are still going on in the Ministry. At present consultation of Union Public Service Commission is required on the proposal to include different languages in the Eighth Schedule. For this, the Commission had constituted a High Level Standing Committee on 17.07.2009, the report of which has not been received yet. Due to non-receipt of the report the Union Government is unable to take a decision.

As far as I know, the Government of India has pending proposals to include 38 languages, including Rajasthani language, which is spoken by around 10 crore people living in the country and abroad. This language also has its own literature, history, cinema and singing.

Mahatma Gandhi said, “A child learns most in his mother tongue.”It is also known that the Government does not have to allocate any budget in recognizing the languages. The proposal of Rajasthani language was sent to Parliament by the Rajasthan Legislative in the year 2003, after which during the discussion in the House, the thenHon. Minister of Home Affairs had assured to introduce a Bill to recognize the language on 17 December 2006, but then there was a Government of Assurances which continued to give Assurances from 2006 to April 2014.

Therefore, I request Hon. Minister of Home Affairs to consider expeditiously the sentiments of people across the country, the proposals of Members of Parliament and state Governments, as well as the assurances given by the Government, and kindly include all proposed languages, including Rajasthani, in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution through a constitutional amendment, keeping in mind the need for prompt decision-making.

Drawing the attention of the Government to the equipment like lost mobiles, laptops, iPads, etc., I would like to mention that thousands of these devices are lost or stolen every day across the country. According to a survey, only about 35 percent of the people report it to the police. The fear of misuse of these tools by terrorist

elements always remains a concern. Many times lost equipment is recovered in cases of theft, robbery, terrorist incidents etc. Most of the people do not file a missing report with the police because the police do not make any effort to find these devices and even if for some reason the police finds them, it happens only in one or two percent of cases.

Therefore, I request the Government to inform the loss of these electronic network devices and send the lost devices to the owner by searching at the earliest on the basis of IMEI number so that the misuse of such devices can be prevented.

There is no complete ceasefire along the border between Bengal and Nepal with India, due to which illegal movement of people is going on. Large quantities of narcotics are being trafficked, and hundreds of individuals are being smuggled into Bangladesh, from where their flesh is being sent to Arab countries. Bangladeshi citizens come to India, work and do not go back to Bangladesh; they settle here, due to which the unemployment already prevailing in India is increasing further. Apart from this, the benefits of the schemes meant for the Indians are also being snatched. Due to extreme poverty and hunger in Bangladesh, evil practices have spread which are moving towards India like prostitution etc. There have been reports that help

for terrorist activities going on in India is also being received through Bangladesh.

I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the Pakistani refugees settled in India and tell them that they are not infiltratoRs. For religious, cultural, and family reasons, these individuals come to India with valid visas. As far as I know, even the Union Government does not know in which districts of which states the people who have come from Pakistan are settled. The Government never even conducted a survey in this regard.. Most of the Hindus who came from Pakistan are settled in Jodhpur and Jaisalmer districts of Rajasthan. At present there is no policy for Pakistani refugees in India. The Government of India may not have adopted them but the local people adopt them.

How Hindus are living their lives in Pakistan can be seen today through means like the internet, Facebook, etc. which the Pakistan Government is unable to control. The Pakistan Government talks about providing security to the minority Hindus there, but it is well known that the Hindu minority is not safe in Pakistan. Information about many incidents keeps being received from time to time. Hindu women are forced to marry, rape and convert to other religions. Therefore, these people do not wish to return after coming to India.

These people are forced to live like refugees in India. I have met them and keep meeting them, they always says the same thing"*What was our fault in the partition of India*. W*e will not go to Pakistan, we will die but will not go there*. B*ecause our sisters and daughters are not safe there."* If they don't go, won't they have the right to live? Will we forcefully send them there to go to Pakistan to die?

The definition of refugee in the United Nations states that [English] "Refugees are people who are forced to flee from their countries because of threats to their life linked to their race, religion, nationality, Membership of a particular social group, or political opinion." [Translation] I do not understand why this definition does not apply to Hindus coming from Pakistan. Why did the Government of India not consider them as refugees. Now it is over, the displaced persons of Pakistan will have to give citizenship rights. They are forced to come to India and live a life like refugees, otherwise today no one wants to leave their house, family, farming and other property.

I would like to request the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs to take immediate steps for granting citizenship to those who migrate from Pakistan to India and in view of the problems being faced by them in various parts of the country so that they can follow their lives and religion.

[English]

*__DR. KULAMANI SAMAL (JAGATSINGHPUR)__: Our country is a vast country having many states, different languages, diversified culture, different geographical territory and different types of problems. Ministry of Home Affairs has to deal with the problems that emerge our of all these differences. It is a gigantic task to handle such problems. In view of the issues like terrorism, left wing extremism, separatist movements, natural calamities, fight for different statehood, etc., we need a strong will of true leadership with a handsome budget in our hand. Time will tell whether we have an appropriate hand to handle such situation. But the plan outlay budget, i. E. Rs. 705 crore for the purpose is not sufficient, I suppose. However, first of all, I would like to shed my views on internal security, as in recent past several instances have taken place all over the country which have disturbed our internal security. Inhuman attacks of terrorism on mosques, temples, churches, public parks, hotels, restaurants have shown its ugly face leading to a feeling of insecurity amongst the general public. I would like to emphasize that religious intolerance oriented extremism has spread its wings everywhere in the country.

* Speech was laid on the Table.

The attack on Taj Hotel in Mumbai is still unresolved though we know who the culprits are.

Recently, we have also come across the instances of how the people from North Eastern states have been attacked in Delhi, Bangalore, Chennai, Mumbai and other metropolitan cities of our country. We are in the transitional phase of so called modernisation process. We have to embrace the diversities in order to maintain our unity. A special policy should be introduced to socialize the people especially the students of different states to teach and learn the benefits of diversities which could ultimately foster the sense of national integration. In this regard, I would like to urge upon the Minister of Home Affairs to consider these things more seriously and put an end to the hatredness and create confidence in different sections of the society, particularly among the minorities, by providing equal opportunities in employment, in education, etc. If we are failed to maintain integrity by taking all the religions, all the communities, all the states together, the slogan of development could not be realised.

My state Odisha is severely affected with the menace of naxals, the left wing outfit along with some other states like Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar etc. We have never given a thorough consideration to the issue why the left wing outfit is

so active in such poor states, especially in the tribal dominated regions. In this regard, my view is that the socio-economic condition like untouchability, caste discrimination, social injustice, poverty, and unemployment of the poor people residing in the remote forest areas is one of the major issues. How can we bring them to the mainstream society, we have to think over it. We have to allocate a good amount of budget for their development and for their exposure to outer world. By suppression, the problem may not be resolved. It is my sincere suggestion that economic activities having recruitment policies in the remote areas should be increased. And the existing policies should also be implemented appropriately.

In view of the issue of Jammu and Kashmir, we need to be careful as currently it seems as if the State is in the hands of separatists. The BJP Government should note that involvement of local youth to defend the borders through Central forces must be taken up at the earliest. I am also in support of appropriate rehabilitation of Kashmir Pandits in Jammu and Kashmir. Hence, the Government should have a vigilant eye on the State and to ensure that Jammu and Kashmir will be that part of the country forever.

My State, Odisha is a calamity prone State. Every year we face either flood, or drought or cyclone. In recent past, we have faced very

severe cyclonic storms like Phailin and Hud Hud. The damage to property, crops and livestock that has resulted from the cyclone is unimaginable. Because of the preventive measures of the State Government the loss of lives could be contained. But the relief in this regard provided by the Union Government was not at all satisfactory. In this view, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs and my Constituency, Jagatsingpur along with Kendrapara, Puri, Ganjam, Bhadrak and Balasore always faces the wrath of natural calamities especially, cyclones and floods. Hence, I wish that the allocation be enhanced more in respect of my State, Odisha in order to counter the natural calamities effectively.

I would like to state further that after completion of the first phase of the Coastal Security Scheme, the Second Phase was started from April 2011. In the First Phase, the Ministry of Home Affairs of the Union Government had sanctioned to set up 5 Marine Police Stations for Odisha, including one in Paradip. All the Marine Police Stations except Paradip have been made operational in their own State Government buildings. But Paradip Marine Police Station has been functioning in the accommodation provided by Paradip Port Trust Authority on rent. In this regard, I would like to urge upon the Minister of Home Affairs to take appropriate steps to provide

adequate budgetary allocation by which the Marine Police at Paradip, Odisha could have the building of its own to strengthen the security along the coastal region.

*__SHRI K. PARASURAMAN (THANJAVUR)__: We are all happy that our Home Ministry has got Rs. 62.124 crores with the increase of Rs. 5752 crores from that of the last budget.

Our Police personnel are all doing serious and dedicated services to the people, society and to the country as a whole. Their service seems to be thankless job but it is our prime duty to give all our help and cooperation to them in order to keep their family in good position. Though our Government is formulating may welfare schemes for the Police personnel, it is still inadequate. So far, our Hon'ble Home Minister has to think about many more welfare Schemes such as free insurance coverage for all Police Personnel and their family. Free Medical benefits, free education upto university education to the sons/daughters of police personnel, and these social care schemes will definitely encourage them. In this time, I would like to request our Hon'ble Minister for Finance to create separate better care fund for Police Forces as in U. K.

In Tamil Nadu, our Government under the able guidance of Hon'ble Makkalin Muthalvar Puratchithalaivi Amma is doing many welfare schemes for the Police Personnel, both serving and retired, like free medical assistance, supply of essential commodities at

* Speech was laid on the Table.

subsidized rates, introducing Tamil Nadu Police Benevolent fund, New Health Insurance Scheme, Special Scholarship Fund, Appointments on compassionate grounds, Welfare Cooperative Societies, Police Hospitals and Recreational Facilities. Such a long list of welfare schemes for the police personnel show our Hon'ble Makkalin Muthalvar Puratchithalaivi Amma's true and due care for them as their duty is wholly dedicated one.

Hence I request our Hon'ble Home Minister to introduce all these welfare schemes to the entire police personnel of our country.

Also, I would like to request our Hon'ble Minister to give more attention to the children of police personnel with regard to their education, for example, as per practice in vogue, only 7 MBBS and 2 BDS Central pool were allocated for the sons/daughters of Central Armed Police Forces (CAFs) personnel and this should be increased 15 MBBS and 10 BDS seats as many personnel wanted to give good medical education to their sons/daughteRs.

Now, I would like to request our Hon'ble Minister to convince our Hon'ble Health Minister to take necessary steps to give separate central quota for State Police personnel in the admission of MBBS and BDS. This would definitely help all the policemen in India.

As I told already that our Tamilnadu Police are doing marvelous works in maintaining law and order in our state because our Government which is run by the valuable advice and guidance by our Hon'ble Makkalin Muthalvar Puratchithalaivi Amma is looking after the welfare of police personnel with due care and giving them free hand to deal with the criminals. Our Tamil Nadu Police is famous in whole Asia in the matters of detection of criminals and economic offendeRs.

I humbly request our Hon'ble Home Minister to help Tamil Nadu Police with more funds for the modernization of entire police force and systems. This is the necessity of time and we are all happy that our Home Minister got increased allotment of funds in the budget and hence there will not any difficulty in allotting more funds for the modernization systems.

Also, I would like to request our Hon'ble Minister for Home Affairs to make necessary arrangements to start separate Central Police University in India, which would help the Police Personnel in many ways with more focus on research in detection of crimes, combat of terrorism etc.

[Translation]

*__SHRI SHARAD TRIPATHI (SANT KABIR NAGAR)__: I would like to support the motion moved by Hon. Minister of Home Affairs that for the first time since independence, the Home Department under the leadership of Prime Hon. Minister of India is showing such sensitivity.

I come from Uttar Pradesh where after heavy rains and hailstorms occurred in the form of a natural calamity, the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs herself went and allocated Rs. 605 crore immediately after suffering of farmers without formal demand of the Government there. Not only this, till now, hailstorm was considered outside the natural calamity and management, but in a quick decision with the present Prime Minister, it has also been formally included in the disaster. I would like to congratulate them and urge them that the decision to resettle Kashmiri Pandits in Kashmir should be implemented diligently, and if anyone obstructs this decision, they should be dealt with firmly.

* Speech was laid on the Table

[English]

SHRI Y. S**. AVINASH REDDY (KADAPA)**: Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, on behalf of YSR Congress Party, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Demands for Grants under control of Ministry of Home Affairs. As per our Constitution, the Union Government has to protect the States from external as well as from internal disturbances. Thus, the Ministry of Home Affairs has to monitor the situation and issue necessary advisory as per requirement. Peace and harmony are essential prerequisites for development of an individual as well as development of a nation.

The greatest threat to the internal security of our nation is Naxalism. By introducing socio-economic reforms and by introducing schemes like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, the Government of India, over the past several years, is making efforts not only to ensure work and income to the rural poor but also providing them an option to these rural unemployed not to get attracted to Naxalism for their livelihood. More such socio-economic reforms and welfare schemes have to be introduced as still Naxals have a presence in one-third districts of our country. The Government should allocate sufficient funds for this purpose.

The weapons being used by our police at present must be upgraded. Naxals and militants are using far more advanced weapons than our police. Sufficient funds must be allocated to provide the most recent and advanced weapons for our police in order to effectively combat and reduce their loss of lives. If needed, I would request the Hon. Minister to revise the budgetary allocation to buy more advanced machinery.

There is a general understanding that Governments, over the last several years, have had problems in managing borders including coastal borders. The Border Security Force is a paramilitary force which is administratively run by the Ministry of Home Affairs and mandated to guard India's land borders and prevent trans-national crime. Besides, India's borders are also manned by a large number of military, paramilitary and police forces each of which has its own ethos and each of which reports to different Central Ministries, resulting in very less co-ordination in managing bordeRs. This results in infiltration and drug smuggling. There have been several tough battles between Home Ministry and other Ministries over this kind of border management. The Government has to address this problem seriously and vigorously as it involves the security of our country.

Our country has been vulnerable to natural disasters on account of its geographic and other political conditions. India has been struck by numerous disasters in the recent past like the Hudhud Cyclone in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Odisha; and yesterday and day before we saw severe earthquakes in Nepal and in Bihar and other northern States. Disasters have substantial social and psychological impacts which reflect not only on the economic characteristics but the pre-existing social and economic vulnerabilities. Therefore, effective disaster management is needed to ensure that loss of life and property is minimised.

With the spread of computers and the Internet, we are seeing now that cyber crime has emerged as a major challenge for law enforcement agencies. The younger generation which uses the Internet and other online technologies extensively for staying connected to work and entertainment are more vulnerable targets of cyber crime. This happens in the form of cyber stalking, cyber bullying and child pornography, harassment, hacking of email or social networking accounts, and identity thefts. This crime is increasing day by day and the Government needs to address these issues. Urgent steps have to be taken to increase vigilance against cyber stalking and cyber violence against women.

The Government should strengthen the anti-terror mechanism and strengthen the role of NIA for swift and fair trial of terror related cases. The Government should provide State Governments with all kinds of assistance to modernise their respective police forces and equip them with the latest technology. Since our State of Andhra Pradesh is already facing financial crunch after bifurcation, the Union Government should help Andhra Pradesh abundantly in respect of modernisation of police force and in respect of providing all things necessary to strengthen our forces and to equip ourselves with latest technologies.

18.00 h Rs.

The resettlement problem of retired Servicemen…

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please listen for a minute. It is already 6.00 o'clock. If the House agrees we can extend the time of the House till this discussion is over and after that we will take up Zero Hour. We will continue with the Demands for Grants for one hour and afterwards we will take up Zero Hour. Please cooperate and try to complete the speech within the stipulated time. The Hon. Minister will reply to the debate tomorrow.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

SHRI Y. S**. AVINASH REDDY**: The resettlement problem of retired Servicemen, be it police, military or paramilitary, is of vital importance. The better we look after our ex-Servicemen the higher would be the morale of the serving officers as today's Serviceman is ex-Serviceman of tomorrow.

*__SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (KASARGOD)__: I would like to express my views on the discussion on Demands for Grants of Ministry Home Affairs for the year 2015-16. Home and Defence are the most important Ministries who had to protect our nation from External attacks and also keep law and order in internal situation.

We have the information of various types of insurgencies that are emerging now a days. In our border area, our soldiers are fighting for the protection of soil and attacks and from enemies on any side has to be tackled. So without even sleeping in the night they keep our land protected. The recent instances of attacks in ammu & Kashmir from Pakistan has made some serious problems. But we should be vigilant. On one side we should not compromise with the issue of freedom of our country and on the other side, we should not pursue issues for any war.

Number of states are facing the Maoist attacks now a days. It includes not only the law and order issue but also the social and development issues. I would like to know the measures taken by the Goverment to tackle the Maoist attack. For the last three years how many civilians lost their lives and how many jawans and policemen have lost due to this Maoist attack, especially in the north-east region

* Speech was laid on the Table.

and some other states where we witness the threats of fundamentalist forces? They have tried to mobilize the people on the basis of religion and caste. We should face these challenges and there should be united action.

Foreign funds are getting into the hands of some fundamentalist forces. They also try to divide our nation on the basis of fundamentalist. India is a vast country having a number of religions, castes, and sub castes.

We should project and protect the secular character of the nation. The unity and the national integration of the country is possible only with this sacred, noble objective. Sad to say, in recent time the secular values are scared for selfish interest. The Government should give adequate support to protect the secular character of our country. It is on the basis of the religion that many of the issues and clashes are coming up.

The destruction of Babri Masjid was a turning point in protecting the secular character of nation. It was followed by insurgencies and clashes in various parts of the country. The Government who was in power could not protect the Babri Masjid even though Left and Democratic parties had cautioned the Govt. with regard to this danger.

When the new Government has come to power, some of the statements made by the Ministers, MPs and leaders of BJP are instigating communal feelings. Their statement with regard to the Taj Mahal, Qutab Minar are against the minority sections. Statement made by another Minister Ram Sadyana Ram Sadan is another instance wounding the minority feelings. The compulsory conversion of the religion is another dangerous move of the BJP. Though Government denied all these statements a new situation has been created for communal conflicts. The shocking remark made by a BJP MP in the House equating Gandhiji and Godsey is another wound hurting the secular character of our nation.

We have heart touching experiences such as assassination of Mahatma Gandhiji. It was a result of communal fundamentalism. The assassination of then Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi was another shocking instance. That is the result of minority communalism. The assassination of the then Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi is also the result of another fundamental ideology. We need no under estimate attacks on Sikhs in Delhi. Number of communal riots including Bombay, Ahmedabad, Karnataka, Delhi, and Surat are sad episodes in the life of our nation. As a result of these riots and clashes thousands of the

valuable lives are lost including women and children. The assets lost to the nation cannot be recorded or counted.

We realize the fact that this is not a war with other country, it is inside the country, among the people which results numerable problems. So the law and order situation is not a mechanical one, it is related to social, cultural, political consciousness of our nation. While we give importance to our army, navy and airforce who sacrifice their lives for the nation, we should bear in mind that either by the word or writing or speech we should not create communal feelings to divide the society on communal sentiments. The new Government has to take this issue with utmost importance. With these words I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILESH KUMAR (BHAGALPUR): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, today, I have stood up to participate in the discussion on the demands for grants of the Home Ministry. Today various kinds of things were said here by various Hon. Members, many types of suggestions came from their side. Hon. Minister is also present in the House. I would like to express my gratitude to the Hon. Minister because the opposition serves as a mirror, and the Hon. Minister is taking all these matters very seriously. Among various things, internal security was first talked about. Many Hon. Members gave their suggestions about internal security. A lot of things have come up about how we should be safe. I would like to say categorically that in every village, in every society, the fear of police is completely lost. The policing that should have happened is completely finished in today's date. ... *(Interruptions)* It is not only a matter of Bihar, it is a matter of the whole country. A fear that arose in the mind after seeing the police ten-twenty years ago, today that fear has completely ended. There have been extensive discussions here on what the cause of this is. I don't want to go into that due to time constraints. Hon. Salim ji, a senior Member of us also said about communal harmony. Today, there is this fear in everyone's mind in the entire country that what will

happen, what will happen, this kind of environment is there, whether it is in the name of love jihad, or in the name of home coming, or in the name of other things, how can we preserve this harmonious environment. This is entirely your responsibility. We need to take a decision on how you can sustain it.

There were many discussions about women's safety. The naxal-affected area, especially from where I come from, Bhagalpur Lok Sabha constituency in Bihar, which is the Bhagalpur region on the map of India, is also naxal-affected. Every day, there are incidents affected by Naxalism in one way or another, whether it's in Munger or in Banka. We have Hon. Member Jayaprakash Narayan Yadav ji, the elder brother of us, his area is also a very naxal-affected area and a lot of big incidents happen there every day. I would like to tell the Hon. Minister that all these things, whatever things came here, you have done the work of listening to them very seriously.[English]

I understand that you are taking the opposition's advice seriously, and I appreciate that you are fully committed to implementing it. I would also like to see you take the responsibility of resolving any issues that arise from it. I would like to say in that context that our national average, the number of police personnel that should have been there on the basis of population, is not there in the entire country

today, there is a shortage everywhere - whether we are talking about a police constable, or an IAS or IPS officer, or whether we are talking about the service commission, there are certainly shortcomings everywhere and until we do not fill that gap, until we do not have adequate policing system, we will not be able to fulfill the internal security that we are talking about sitting here. When we work towards improving the national average, then whatever resources you have to provide for it, whether it is about vehicles, whether it is about providing weapons, whether it is about building police check posts or police stations at various places, until we do not complete the work of doing that, then we will definitely not be able to do anything on all these issues, which were discussed here, whether it is about creating an atmosphere of communal harmony, because our country is a secular country. We Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, we have grown up and grown so much by eating all on the same plate. When any evil is done to it, the entire responsibility for it will fall on you. If you are serious, then we certainly feel that you will fully implement the suggestion given by the opposition and work to improve it. ... *(Interruptions)* Hon. Deputy speaker has rang the bell twice.

I would like to say in clear words that our Bhagalpur, Banka, Munger is a backward area and is also a Naxal-affected area. I would

especially like to draw the attention of the Minister towards this that Bhagalpur, which is on the map of entire India, should be given special attention to the Naxal-affected areas and work towards eradicating it. With this hope and belief, I conclude. Thank you very much, Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir.

[English]

*__SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL (DHUBRI)__: As many hon'ble Members from different parties have already disused the issues related to Ministry of Home Affairs in length, I would prefer to speak only some important points.

I would like to state that there is an urgent need to for modernization of Police Forces and to provide them with modern arms as whenever a situation cames our Police Force has to fight against criminals, naxals, terrorists. They face problems and consequently they lose their lives. In recent past, many incidents of naxal attacks took place in Chhattisgarh in which several jawans lost their lives. So there is need to allocate more money for modernization of Police Forces.

I would like to state that Home Ministry is entrusted with the responsibility of providing safeguard to the citizens of the country without any discrimination on the basis of religions, castes and creeds. Therefore, I would request Hon'ble Home Minister to take tough action against those who are spreading the poison of communalism and trying to divide the people of the country for their political gains.

* Speech was laid on the Table.

Whether it is Subramanian Swamy who speaks and writes against Muslims and Christians or it is Sanjay Raut who speaks and writes against Muslims and Christians or many others, the Home Ministry need to take action against these people to save unity of the country.

I come from Assam where the infiltration is a big issue. This became tool for many to harass and torture genuine citizens and label them with Bangladeshi. Our party AIUDF has clear stand on the issue that all those who came to India before 25th March 1971 should be treated as Indian and must be given all rights. On the other hand those who came to India illegally after 25th March 1971 should be considered as foreigners and must be deported to their countries.

It is very painful matter that in a time when updation of National Register of Citizens (NRC) is under process, the President of Ruling Party Shri Amit Shah is speaking in Assam that if his party comes to power in Assam, "Some Hindus who have come from Bangladesh due to religious disturbances. BJP will give all of them citizenship. Not only in Assam, but the party will work towards giving Indian citizenship to all Bangladeshi Hindu migrants across the country, "Shah said at a rally here as quoted by Times of India and many other national newspapeRs. I fear that such statement by a leader from ruling party would leave a very bad affect and will disturb the law and

order situation in Assam and other states of the North East. It would also put influence in process of the NRC updation. Therefore, I request Hon'ble Home Minister to act.

I welcome the process of NRC updation/preparation in the state of Assam. In the interest of smooth, uniform and transparent implementation of the NRC updation/preparation programme for the error-free updated NRC, we extend full co-operation with the concerned authority dealing with the NRC updation/preparation. We have gone through the modalities and operational guidelines circulated so far as well as preparation already taken by the authority and it is felt necessary to bring the following few points to your kind notice for appropriate action.

NRC 1951 has been published partially in the NSK and Web site. Authority should ensure publication of NRC 1951 in full.

Voter list of 1970 and partial voter list of 1966 have been published in the NSK and web site. Authority should ensure publication of 1966 voter list in full as well as all other voter list like 1952, 1954, 1959, 1962 etc. published and make available in all NSK prior to 1971. There are some mistakes in name in the already published voter list at NSK as compared with the certified copies available with the public. These discrepancies are to be addressed

immediately as well as publication of all voter lists published prior to 1971 is to be ensured. For correction of errors in earlier voters' lists, affidavits sworn by concerned persons should be accepted.

A detailed guideline should be framed and circulated for the special cases like Orphan/Homeless People etc. for inclusion of their names in NRC.

In the interest of smooth, uniform and transparent implementation of NRC updation/preparation programme throughout the state, a handbook containing each and every aspect of modalities and guidelines should be published and widely circulated.

I would like to state that it has been the practice for last few years that some extremists groups are trying to harass and threaten these poor labourers and even killing them to collect extortion which has created a very tense environment there. In the incident that took place on 5th April in Meghalaya, 14 poor labour were killed. In 2013, at least 20 labours were killed by militants at Nagamapal area in Imphal West district of Manipur. In March this year, a youth of Assam was lynched publicly in Dimapur of Nagaland. I request the Home Minister to ensure the security and safety of people of Assam wherever they live.

The law and order situation in Assam has been a matter of concern. The crimes like murder, extortion, kidnapping, rape and harassment, etc., are prevailing in Assam. The criminals are ruling the area while the administration has totally failed to preserve the law and order situation. The time to time incidents in BTAD area by Bodo extremists' targetting non-Bodos are known to all. I request to Hon'ble Home Minister to look into the matter to preserve the law and order situation in Assam.

The incident in which five Muslim youths undertrials were killed in Telangana in suspicious situation, they were shot dead when they were in police custody. Besides, there are thousands of Muslim youth who are in jail for years without any proper proof. I request Hon'ble Minister to solve their matter through speedy trial.

[Translation]

*__SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIA (AMRELI)__: I support the demands for grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Compared to the previous Government, the number of incidents has reduced, so I thank the Government, but then today in our country, women safety, Naxal terrorism, cyber crime, etc. are a big challenge for our country. Today in our Gujarat, women, daughters-in-law and daughters can roam around the whole of Gujarat without fear even wearing expensive jewellery, but when the same daughters-in-law and daughters go out of Gujarat, they feel scared, there is no safe environment, there is not a single day when there is no news related to atrocities on women, recently in Ghaziabad, miscreants snatched the chain from a woman, shot at her daughter and escaped, Such incidents are very common in Delhi, UP, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, etc. and keep happening every day, The Badaun rape case in UP shook the entire country, Similarly, an old-age woman was raped in Bengal, which shamed the entire country. Sir, today Naxalism is a very big problem for our country, a recent example of which is the continuous attack on our CRPF soldiers by Naxalites in Chhattisgarh. Naxalism also affects development in our country. Obstructing Government work and

* Speech was laid on the Table.

collecting levy is the main work of Naxalites for fund raising. Today Naxalism is very strong in states like Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Bihar, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu etc. and the Government should think very seriously about how to end Naxalism.

Today police modernization is a challenge for our country, today the police in our country is not fully trained, today the working style in the police stations of our country is very traditional and thousands of cases are pending. The issue of how police modernization should be done in the country should be thought about seriously as soon as possible. The infiltration from all sides of India is the biggest concern for our country, Bangladesh, Pakistan, China always carry out infiltration in some form or the other, I request you to take necessary action on this issue as soon as possible.

I want to draw the attention of the Minister that if there is the largest sea coast in the entire country, then it is in Gujarat. There is a coastline of 1640 kilometers and in countries like Pakistan, Bangladesh, Jaffna, Sri Lanka, disaster strikes every year and shakes the economy of our country, so we will have to pay attention to that too.

***SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV (BANKA)**: It is the main responsibility of the Home Department to maintain peace and brotherhood in the country. We can move forward only by uniting all castes and religions for a united India. Making stronger laws on violence against women. Women's safety is important. The Home Department should play a better role in building better relations with neighbouRs. The Government should pay special attention to the problems and sufferings of the soldiers deployed on the border. During our meeting with the border soldiers - who sacrifice their lives guarding the nation in the snow - they said, "When we face problems in our villages, the DM doesn't pay attention."DM please pay attention to the problems of the soldieRs. This was the demand that modern facilities, vehicles, modern weapons and resources should be provided. House and vehicle should be provided.

In the insurgency affected areas, special attention should be given to the development of the poor, tribals and Dalits. Money should be given.

I come from Banka Parliamentary Constituency which is surrounded by forests. Poor backward area, it should be included especially in Naxal affected backward area. Arrangements should be

* Speech was laid on the Table.

made to provide transport, drinking water and justice to the poor in Banka, Muger, Jamui, Lakhisarai. Our area is connected to Jharkhand-please give special attention and facilities. It is the responsibility of the Government to pay attention to justice and development of the poor.

I request the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs to pay attention to the Banka Parliamentary Constituency.

SHRI PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (ANANDPUR SAHIB): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, the demands of a very important Ministry are being discussed. It is true that the Home Ministry is considered the life and soul of any Government. We are considering it seriously and sensitively.

Sir, there are many topics, many discussions can be done, because in the last 67 years, people were made to fight in the name of religion, caste, region and the relationship of brotherhood was broken for political motives, many such issues could have been discussed, but I don't have time. That's why I want to bring two-three things to the notice of the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs through you. With the discrimination we faced in independent India, today we expect the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs to eliminate it. Because these people who are sitting to our right, for their own royal motives, have always taken decisions, like I said, by ignoring the constitution and law of the country.

Sir, all the states here were formed on the basis of language. We had to struggle to create a state on the basis of Punjabi language. When the state was formed, the tehsil was considered a unit in the formula of its capital which was Chandigarh. The tehsil which was a part of Kharar used to be a part of Punjab, but it was said that Haryana does

not have space for the capital right now, Punjab should give it for some time. Then a common capital was created and the High Court was also kept common. But it is still going on like that. The second discrimination that happened with us was that the employees and officers there were divided in the ratio of 60: 40. What's happening now? Even 20 percent employees of Punjab were not there. Punjabi was completely ignored. I expect the Hon. Hon. Minister of Home Affairs to remove this discrimination which is with us. Secondly, our law is secular, it respects all religions. People of our community fought against the British and formed the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee and at that time Mahatma Gandhi and Pandit Nehru said that we have won the first battle for the independence of the country and congratulated us.

I am saddened that these people even destroyed the management of our Gurudwara. The previous Government of Haryana had formed a separate committee. We want the Hon. Hon. Minister of Home Affairs to address that discussion with us now. The Sikh community, who oversee the management of our gurdwaras, brought the Sahajdharis into the fold. At that time, the Hon. Hon. Minister of Home Affairs, shri Advani, issued a notification from here that Sahajdharis cannot become voters in gurdwara management, but the

Hon. court said that a parliamentary act should be made for this. Today it is lying with the Home Ministry. We want that amendments should be made in it as well, because, we expect that we will get justice for the people who contributed for the independence of this country and after independence and contributed in eradicating hunger in this country.

Punjab is a border state. There is fencing with Pakistan in the border state. People who have farms outside it face great difficulties. They go to work for a short time, I want that the Government should either take the lands of the farmers there on contract or buy them. What is their fault, they do not even get half the crop from there, that is why they are very sad. More money should be given to strengthen our police and our roads so that we can avoid the losses we suffer in our border areas.

As a representative of the Shiromani Akali Dal, I expect the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs to address an issue in our state where during the militancy era, many people went abroad. Now they want to return, and there are no cases against them. However, when they go to our embassy there, our Home Ministry's Foreign Wing has created a blacklist, not allowing them to come back. Our Chief Minister Hon. Prakash Singh Badal and Deputy CM Sukhbir Badal have also written

many letters, but we are not getting any justice on it. Our people want to come to our country, there are no cases against them. To facilitate their entry, this blacklist should be abolished, I believe that they should be facilitated in getting visa when they are stopped at the Foreign Indian Embassy.

Thank you.

SHRI R. K**. SINGH (ARA)**: Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, thank you for giving me the opportunity to take part in this important debate.

If there is one Ministry whose efficient functioning has the greatest impact on the country, it is the Home Ministry. This Ministry is the custodian of the unity, integrity and internal security of our country. There are many challenges on the internal security of our country. There are many challenges to its unity and integrity, therefore, patience, wisdom, understanding, prudence and boldness is required in operating it. One more thing is required, which is the most important thing in this and that is that this Ministry and the leaders of this Ministry should keep national interest above political considerations. I think everyone is convinced that the current situation is that national interest is given paramount importance in the current operations. If there has been even the slightest deviation from this anytime, anywhere in the past, let me tell you that no one in the country likes it, no matter what his political persuasion is. Deep inside he feels bad that national interest has been compromised.

Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, let us pay attention to the challenges that are before us, the challenges that are facing the unity, integrity and internal security of our country. Some of these challenges are there which are before us because of our neighbouring countries.

There are some challenges that are due to our mistakes. We made a mistake in history, due to which these challenges are before us. There are some challenges that emerge during the development of any country, and some challenges are a combination of all three. If we talk about challenges which are a combination of all these, then one of them is the challenge of Jammu and Kashmir. In this challenge, in the past, we are still suffering due to the mistakes that were made in history. At the same time, the activities of our neighbors also have a negative impact on us. This ill effect was there at that time and is still continuing.

Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I do not want to repeat the history. But, if we do not look at history then we will not be able to find solution to the problems facing us. In finding a solution to this, our vision, which should have been clear, our thinking, which should have been clear, could not become so.

Sir, first of all we should stop calling this problem 'Kashmir problem'. Kashmir is just a region of a province. The entire province is – Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh. Kashmir is its only region. I am saying this for a special reason, for a special purpose. By this being said repeatedly, people feel that only Kashmir, the entire valley is

Jammu and Kashmir, whereas that is not the case. It has more parts, bigger parts.

Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, When the time came for the accession of Kashmir, firstly, the action which was taken before the accession, at that time Sheikh Abdullah was leading some movement against the Maharaja of that place. There was a view in the Congress Party that we will not interfere in the internal Affairs of the princely states. But, Pandit Nehru ji went there and tried to intervene in favor of Sheikh Abdullah. They were stopped. He was arrested. But this made the Maharaja suspicious and the delay that he caused in the accession was due to this suspicion. Let me tell you that Sardar Patel and other leaders of the Congress were of the opinion that the freedom movement should be launched only against the British rule and we should not interfere in the matters of the princely states. But, there was a departure from that, which had adverse consequences. When Pakistan attacked Kashmir, the Maharaja sent the letter of accession of Kashmir to India. That letter of accession was un-conditional. There were no conditions in it. In the reply given by Lord Mountbatten, he wrote two lines that 'When the situation becomes normal, we would like to know the opinion of the public.' Although it was not necessary.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI R. K. S**INGH**: Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I have just started.

... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, during the creation of the Constitution, there was no need to include Article 370 in it. At the time, there was no demand for it. That demand was made only by Sheikh Abdullah.

... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please restrict yourself to the Ministry of Home Affairs. Do not go into other matteRs.

… (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI R. K. SINGH: Sir, I have just started. ... *(Interruptions)* The Ministry of Home Affairs is a very big Ministry. If you do not give us a chance, I will not be able to do justice. ... *(Interruptions)* Currently, this is one aspect of the problem. ... *(Interruptions)* There is another side to this problem. ... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, I come to the other aspect. The other aspect is intervention from Pakistan. ... *(Interruptions)* This interference with Pakistan is for a number of reasons.... *(Interruptions)* I am not yielding.... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): My point of order is, this discussion is on Demands for Grants. If the Hon. Member wants to give some constructive suggestions out of his experience, let him tell that. He is telling all the history which has nothing to do with this. We can also tell. We can tell so many things. I purposely did not say so many things, which I wanted to tell. … (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Member, you just tell as to what you want. You tell precisely as to what you want.

… (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI R. K. SINGH: Sir that is one aspect of the problem which we have inherited. ... *(Interruptions)* No one should feel bad about listening to this. ... *(Interruptions)* It is not a matter of politics; it is a matter of history. ... *(Interruptions)* We inherited this problem and interference from our neighboring country to capture it.

... *(Interruptions)* This interference is of three types.

... *(Interruptions)* First, the funding of separatists, it needs to be checked that everyone knows about the separatists. ... *(Interruptions)* Where do they lead such a lavish lifestyle and where the amount comes from, it needs to be checked. The second stand is to train the terrorists and send them there. Apart from these two stands, their third stand is that whatever steps we take or whatever action we take here, it is to give wrong information in a completely planned manner, to run a misinformation campaign.

Sir, we are talking about training and sending terrorists and action against separatists. Separatists say that they want to meet in Pakistan because one community is in majority there. This argument cannot be processed. Whatever they talk about, there are already more people of that community here than the number in Pakistan. This cannot be the basis. As far as the training of terrorists and sending them is concerned, we took action against it. Fencing is done on the line of control. That fencing proved effective. After fencing, we also deployed the army. I would like to tell the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs that fencing needs to be strengthened. This is a fence that falls down every winter and gets buried under snow.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We have to finish at seven o'clock. Many Members want to speak on this. Already you have taken ten minutes.

… (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI R. K. SINGH: Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, what is needed is to strengthen that fence. This issue was raised by the Defence Ministry. The Army Chief was summoned to the Home Ministry and was asked to appoint an expert group to study how the fence could be

strengthened. I would like to request the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs to review what action has been taken on it. If the fence is strengthened, infiltration will be significantly reduced. The deployment next to the fencing needs to be strengthened. If the deployment became weak somewhere in between, as happened once, then infiltration took place from that place. There is a need to review this. The third thing is that infiltration occurs through guides. There is a need to curb, identify and arrest the guides.

Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, there is another need for two-three works. We have found that in all the mosques there, you will be surprised to know that in almost all the mosques the Maulvis are from outside, they are not from Kashmir. Such Maulvis have been brought there who are radicals. There has been a deliberate attempt to wipe out Kashmiriyat, the flavour of Kashmiri Islam. We had told the officials there that the outsiders, the Maulvis who have come there, need to be replaced with local Maulvis. ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I want to complete the discussion. You please wind up.

[Translation]

SHRI R. K. SINGH: Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, We have found that those who had gone across to join militancy are now fed up with it, they want to come back and many people are coming back. If they cannot come directly then they are coming via Nepal. Thus they have become disenchanted by this militancy and attitude of Pakistan. We had made efforts and I would request that those efforts continue, they should be facilitated to come back and action should be taken for their rehabilitation. We had requested the state Government to give us a proposal for the rehabilitation of such returnees. We do not have any information whether that proposal has come or not. The Hon. Minister of Home Affairs would like to review it. My request would be that if that proposal has not come, then he should call for it and get it implemented immediately. Terrorists have come back here, those who were terrorists earlier and now they want to come into the main stream, they want to come back from Pakistan Occupied Kashmir, we can facilitate them.

The Government is running two-three more programmes, which are very useful. There is a work - Special Industry Initiatives, the common people there want to live a normal life, their children should study and get jobs, this is their intention. Special industry initiatives have been started for that. There is a provision in Special Industry

Initiatives that our big houses, industrial houses will select graduate and post graduate students, train them and provide them jobs. It needs to be increased. ... *(Interruptions)* There is also a provision that we will do special recruitment in CAPS.

... *(Interruptions)* It will also have a good impact. ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You are going to some other subject. Please wind up.

[Translation]

SHRI R. K. SINGH: I speak quickly on other aspects. The second important problem facing our country is the problem of the North-East. Talks are ongoing with NSCN (IM), the major incursion group in the North-East. The conversation had reached a point. The earlier interlocutors had brought up such issues, there were many points in them which were not acceptable to us. We cannot accept any agreement which is against the long term interest of the country. Later, there were discussions with them, there were improvements in it, a consensus was reached on that too, but it is necessary to convince the Manipur Government. We were not able to make progress in this, there is a great need to pursue it. It is also necessary that while this is happening, the rules of 'cease fire' are strictly implemented. That is

not happening and the extortion continues. One of the main problems of North East is that the shelter of insurgent groups is in Myanmar. Now the problem has been created for the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs. The Myanmar Government is negotiating a peace agreement with ethnic groups here.... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have taken nearly 15 minutes. Please wind up because other Hon. Members want to speak. There is a limit to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI R. K**. SINGH**: Sir, I just wind up. It is necessary that we manage the Myanmar border properly. This is not happening because Assam Rifles has dual control. We had proposed that the dual control be abolished and the Assam Rifles come under the Ministry of Home Affairs because the Ministry of Home Affairs meets its budget, is administrative control. This matter is pending and very necessary. There is another problem of North-East and that is infiltration and it is to identify the infiltrators and send them back. There is difficulty in that. Under the IMDT Act... *(Interruptions)*

That’s not happening. ... *(Interruptions)* but there has been a separate law for Assam. The people of Assam will tell you. They

capture foreigners from other places and repatriate them, it cannot be done from Assam. ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I cannot allow this.

… (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: How much more time would you take? Let other Members also speak.

… (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI R. K. SINGH: Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I am winding up now. Third, there is the Bodo problem and there is a need to talk to the ULFA. ... *(Interruptions)* The Ministry of Home Affairs has been my subject. I have issues to say. ... *(Interruptions)* We talk about the Maoist problem and the budget that has come up at present. I see that the Maoist problem has been resolved wherever there are Specific Trained Forces. It was wiped out from Andhra Pradesh. There was a Special Infrastructure Initiative or Special Infrastructure Scheme for Specific Trained Forces, under which we used to give funds to the state Governments for the training of Special Forces.

... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There are Members from other Parties also. Let them speak.

… (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That is enough.

… (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI R. K. SINGH: I see that it has been abolished in the Budget. ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are speaking about issues from Jammu & Kashmir to Kanyakumari, North-East; South, East. That is enough

… (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have already taken 15 minutes. Whatever you want to speak, you have to briefly speak. You cannot go on speaking.

… (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI R. K. SINGH: This is the most important problems in the country. I find that a lot of important schemes have been cut out. If such important schemes are cut from a Ministry which is responsible for the unity and integrity of the country, then it is not right. The Finance Ministry has to think over this. Thank you.

[English]

*SHRI D. K. SURESH (BANGALORE RURAL): As far as women safety is concerned, the efforts of Ministry are not yielding desired resents. Every day, the issue of women harassment, rape cases, and sexual assault are being reported in the country. Major cities including Delhi, the national capital are more in the news headlines for women and girl security. From school girls including small kids to working women are facing the safety challenges in every part of the country. The Union Government has allocated Rs. 1000 Crore additional fund as the Nirbhaya Fund to strengthen the measures of women safety and security.

Increasing budgetary allocation is a welcome step but there is a need to ensure useful spending of the allocated funds to achieve women safety objective in an effective and meaningful manner. The Government should create a roadmap to provide infrastructure like installation of CCTV at strategic locations, introduction of public transportation services with CCTV surveillance, increasing the number of women police stations, provide training to women and girls to protect themselves from threats, introduction of more helpline numbers to take care of women and girls, establishment of hospitals for women etc should be taken up by the Government to provide better

* Speech was laid on the Table.

security to women and girls. Apart from these steps, the Government should sensitise the authorities to take steps to better handling of safety of women.

In order to provide rehabilitation for rape victims, sufficient number of rape crisis centres should be set up on the country. Every district of the country should be set up with rape crisis centre. However the union budget for the 2015-16 has allocated only Rs. 18 Crore for this purpose. I would like to say that this amount is very inadequate and it is not possible to meet the required number of rape crisis centres with the insufficient amount. Therefore I urge the union Govt to increase the allocation for setting up of rape crisis centres in every district of the country.

With regard to modernization of police force, I would like to point out that the allocation made in the budget is very insufficient. The Hon'ble Finance Minister allocated only Rs 1500 Crore for the modernisation of police forces. It is the need of the hour to enable our police personnel to obtain the best possible training and equipment to face the challenges of Naxalites, left wing extremists, terrorism etc. Many a times, the law and order of the country becomes a big challenge for the day to day living in the country particularly in the north eastern states. There are new incidents coming in the view of

living peaceful life, for example the women security issue, cyber fraud, betting, etc should be dealt in a better way. Keeping all these in view, the union govt should increase the funds for modernization of police forces.

India has been traditionally vulnerable to natural disasters on account of its unique geo-climatic conditions. Floods, droughts, cyclones, earthquakes and landslides have been recurrent phenomena. About 60% of the landmass is prone to earthquakes of various intensities; over 40 million hectares is prone to floods; about 8% of the total area is prone to cyclones and 68% of the area is susceptible to drought.

Various natural calamities caused destruction of life as well as their property. The regions where a natural disaster such as flood occurs frequently the education of students is severely affect. Flood disasters will badly affect the performance of students particularly in elementary and secondary schools and their potential effects on children's access to quality education. It causes loss of learning hours, loss of qualified personnel, outbreak of waterborne diseases, high absenteeism and low syllabus coverage leading to children's poor academic performance.

Even as substantial scientific and material progress is made, the loss of lives and property due to disasters has not decreased. In fact, the human toll and economic losses have mounted. People lost their lives and about 30 million people were affected by disasters every year. The loss in terms of private, community and public assets has been astronomical.

The goal of any warning system is to maximize the number of people who take appropriate and timely action for the safety of life and property. All warning systems start with detection of the event and with people getting out of harm's way. Such warning systems encompass three equally important elements namely; Detection and Warning; Communication; and Response.

In the last two decades, India has experienced a number of natural calamities such as floods, droughts, cyclones, earthquakes and landslides and suffered huge loss due to death of people, animals, destruction of properties. One thing clear from this is that the Government of India is not adequately prepared to deal with such natural disasteRs.

Therefore I would like to suggest the Government to take immediate steps to put in place proper disaster management strategy to face any eventualities to reduce the impact of it.

SHRI M. I. SHANAVAS (WAYANAD): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to express a few points with respect to the discussions on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs. We, Indians, are endowed with a culture of harmony and amity even to our adversaries. We have inherited a culture which is the result of thousands of years of learning and values instilled.

Since there is not much time, I would directly proceed to call the attention of the Hon. Home Minister with respect to a few issues that is boiling in this country. This is a vast country of 1.2 billion people. Amidst diversities, the unity of India stands on the foundation of secularism, democracy and the Constitution of India. Our Constitution guarantees our rights; our Constitution safeguards the interests of crores of people. Since Mr. Narendra Modi became the Prime Minister of this country, so many voices are being heard. I do not want to put entire blame on the Prime Minister alone. So many voices are being heard in our country with respect to each and every issue. From 16th Mary, 2014 onwards, a new era was born in where a vast section of Indians feel that something is wrong somewhere. My direct question to the Hon. Home Minister is this. There are alarming news coming in from all over the country with respect to certain atrocities

committed towards the minority communities and other sections of society. How many people have been arrested, how many people have been detained and what steps have been taken?

Sir, it is always being said that one community is responsible for the terrorist activities in the country. I would like to call the attention of this House with respect to a statistics. In 2014, there were 976 deaths from terrorism in India. Of this, 465 deaths occurred in the Northeast and the second highest figure of 314 deaths occurred from Left Wing Extremist affected areas. Apart from Jammu and Kashmir, only four lives were lost in 2014. So, terrorism is not the result of one section of society or one religion.

With respect to the crime ratio, I would like to state that the Nirbhaya case happened in Delhi when all of us in the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha and all over India, we were united in condemning it and taking steps against it. But the situation has come to such an extent that violence has increased manifold in Delhi, it has gone up by 100 per cent. In 2014 itself, the number of rape victims has increased and 1,571 cases were reported in 2013. Now it is 2,069. Due to paucity of time, I do not want to elaborate on statistics. Many crimes are happening in Delhi. Delhi has become the crime capital. Delhi Police is with the Home Ministry. But nothing is being done. Great visionary

Mother Teresa is being attacked. Mahatma Gandhi's assassin Godse is being eulogized and he is being glorified. When Gandhiji's assassin gets such a glorifying praise in the modern history of India, how can this country move ahead?

The US President came here. After going back from India, he might have spoken high of India, spoken high of the Prime Minister. But he left a warning that secularism and the ideals of this country are in danger. So, when secularism is in danger, when our values are in danger, how can we move along? When something wrong is being done all over the country by some vested interests, how will it be possible for the country to move ahead and progress? Churches are being vandalised, pastors are being attacked, diktats are being sent to Missionary schools, Sunday Services and Carols are disrupted, Dalit Christians have got their own problems, forcible conversions are happening, supply of food grains under PDS is being refused to selected few and so many things are happening in this country. *Ghar vapsi* is a threat to the unity and secularism of this country. I want to ask the Home Minister that when such things are happening against the basic principles of the Constitution, what steps he has taken to control these things. They have to be controlled. The Prime Minister addressed a Church conference. Bishops were there. He said that

everybody would be protected. But there is a feeling that nobody will be protected.

I want to tell you a recent incident. I saw a video which I am ready to handover to the Hon. Home Minister. A person has been neck-tied to an electric post on the allegation that he is going to slaughter a cow; he has not slaughtered the cow. He is being beaten up. I will handover that video to the Hon. Home Minister. Will you take steps?

In Telangana, five people were hand-tied and shot dead and it was said that it was encounter. So forcible encounters are being done; fake encounters are being done. An atmosphere is being created; a fear psychosis is being created in this country. We want to live peacefully. We are all brothers. Hindus, Christians, Muslims are all brotheRs. We will die for our country but we want security, we want protection. If that is not being given, there is no point in your continuing as the Home Minister of this nation.

Thank you, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR (NALANDA): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I rise to speak on behalf of my party Janata Dal U on the demands for grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

... *(Interruptions)* Hon. Minister of Home Affairs has left, but the Hon. Minister of State for Home is sitting. ... *(Interruptions)* I am deeply saddened to hear what the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs said in the House this morning. If he had been in the House, I would definitely have told him about that. The country'sHon. Minister of Home Affairs, who mentioned that the trouble in Nepal and Bihar was discussed with me by the Prime Minister. He says again that I realised it when I saw TV. If the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs speaks this thing in the House, it is not viable. ... *(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): The Hon. Minister of Home Affairs said that as long as I received the information, the Prime Hon. Minister of the country was very prompt that he received the information before him. This was his purpose behind saying this. It was not his intention to say that he did not know.

This is wrong. ... *(Interruptions)* I would urge you not to take this subject in that direction. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR: Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, the Minister is very straightforward, that is why he said such a thing in the House. I appreciate that he said something with all his heart.

... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, in order to curb crimes against women, Nirbhaya Fund was constituted about two years ago by the previous Government, in which Rs. 100 crore was given. This fund has been increased this year also. But the matter of concern is that the amount of Nirbhaya fund could not be spent, so it needs attention. There is peace and tranquility in the country, so the people understand that the Home Department is doing well. Today, we all know the peace and tranquility prevailing in the country. The whole country is watching the incident that took place in Jammu and Kashmir. If the flag of Pakistan is hoisted and slogans of Pakistan Zindabad are raised at the place where the Government is running with your support, then the country is ashamed in that situation today. This also needs to be considered.

Sir, Delhi is the capital of the country. People from across the country and abroad come here. Your entire system is in Delhi and farmers come to Delhi and hang themselves from trees. The

administration is a mute spectator, since the administration of Delhi is in their hand that is why I am saying this.

Today terrorism is increasing in the entire country, be it Bihar, Jharkhand or Orissa. The Government of India should talk to every state Government on the issue of terrorism. Today our young generation is joining it by getting educated and becoming doctors and engineeRs. Today, our borders are not safe. Be it the border with China or the border with Pakistan, today our borders are not safe. Our country's security personnel are being killed. We all need to think seriously about this too. Just now a friend was telling me that if any security personnel is transferred to Chhattisgarh, they say stop our transfer. In such a situation, my request is that this is a matter of great concern and the Hon. Minister needs to consider it.

[English]

SHRI R. RADHAKRISHNAN (PUDUCHERRY): Thank you Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir. In a diverse and a large country like ours, it is not an enviable job to provide security. At the outset, I would like to commend the Hon. Home Minister and his team for shouldering such a huge responsibility.

As the Union Territory of Puducherry comes under the Home Ministry, I would like to raise a few issues pertaining to Puducherry. The budget for Puducherry is provided under the Home Ministry. Our administrative approving Department is the Home Affairs Department. In an aspirational society like ours, today people would like to see things happen very quickly. But the administrative process is very lengthy. First, we have to complete the administrative process at the UT of Puducherry. Then, it has to reach the Ministry of Home Affairs and from there it is forwarded to the concerned departments. In a few cases, it has been sent to the Legal Department also. So, any initiative takes months together to reach the people of Puducherry.

There has been a long pending demand to delegate and decentralize the authority and to provide enough authority to take decision making at the UT of Puducherry level itself. A Committee headed by the Hon. Minister Shrimati Sushma Swaraj, 10 years back,

had recommended Puducherry for Statehood. There are a lot of pending issues which come to the Union Government. We cannot follow them on a day-to-day basis. But we cannot find fault with the Home Ministry also because there are a lot issues which they have to attend. I also go to the Department frequently and I am quite aware of their problems. They are working overtime to attend to the needs of the country. So, in the interest of the people of Puducherry, we would request the Home Ministry to take steps to provide Statehood to Puducherry also.

This year's Finance Commission has provided a 10 per cent increase to all the States. We are happy for the States but unfortunately the benefit has not reached us because we are not a part of the Finance Commission. The Home Ministry considers us as a State and the Finance Ministry considers us as a Union Territory. So, we are at no man's land. We have also represented it to the Hon. Finance Minister and the Hon. Home Minister. They have formed a Committee headed by the Additional Secretary of Integrated Finance to find out the financial issues pertaining to UT of Puducherry but its Report is yet to come. It was due a few months back. I think, there is an inordinate delay. I request the Hon. Home Minister to pay personal attention to see that this Report comes out and our financial issues are fulfilled.

In this year's Budget, we have got only Rs. 187 crore in addition to what was provided last year. The minimum a State gets in the country is Rs. 1,980 crore. Either we should be provided the least that a State gets as a grant or the highest which is provided under an UT.

I would request the Home Ministry to take due care and provide us the sufficient grant. There is Rs. 560 crore which has been due from the Home Ministry. It has been brought to their notice and they are also aware about this. At the stage of passing the Supplementary Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs, I would request that this money be provided to our Union Territory so that we could serve the people of Puducherry in a better manner.

I would, once again, like to reiterate that already the Committee has recommended full Statehood to Puducherry. I hope that the Ministry considers this demand in the interest of faster services to be provided to the people of Puducherry.

The Hon. Prime Minister is also for cooperative federalism and decentralization of authority. In spirit with his words also, if it is implemented, it will definitely help us to provide better service to the citizens of Puducherry.

Thank you.

SHRI E. AHAMED (MALAPPURAM): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the fag end of this discussion and also due to paucity of time, I do not want to make a long speech. But, at the very same time, I think, it is my duty to bring to the notice of this House the feelings of the people in the country especially about the performance of this Government when we discuss the very important Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

The Ministry of Home Affairs has a very vital role to play in the administration of the country for bringing peace, stability, progress as well as cohesion among the people. In such a scenario, I think, if I make some contribution, it will be good for creating interest in the discussion.

Sir, many of the Hon. Members have already made an elaborate narration as to what is going on in this country and also about the performance of the Home Ministry. The Home Ministry has the most important responsibility to see that peaceful atmosphere prevails in the country and also for creating peaceful living situation of the people.

In this connection, I would like to say that we are all very much fed up on many other occasions. Our Hon. Prime Minister made a statement in this House that he was for the development of this

country and also would make the standard of living of the people very much satisfactory. Inclusive growth in a multi-polar society is his aim. No doubt it is very good. But what are we seeing in our real life in this country? This is the time for me to say the naked truth as to what is going on in this country.

Last week I was in Mumbai. I had seen a section of people – I do not want to name the people and create more animosity among our people – saying that the minorities were being appeased and they had taken away everything that is belonging to other people including their economic life. I was aghast to see this. Even in Maharashtra, in the Defence Force of our country – every citizen has a right to defend their country – there was only two per cent representation of the Muslim community. As far as representation of the Muslim community in our educational system is concerned – I do not want to use the words and all the time I use the words – their position is deplorable and sympathetic. Muslims are a sizeable people in this country.

Sir, 14 per cent of the Muslims are there in this country. They have also got the Constitutional rights. They have also got the right to live a decent life. Every community -- I am not saying only Muslim community – has got the Constitutional rights. But as I represent and

come from one community, if that community has been targeted by some divisive forces in this country, it becomes my duty to defend them. That is why I am saying it. They have been condemning one particular community. If that community says: “We are not getting our right”, they will say: “You are communal.” If he is denied his legitimate and Constitutional right, is it not communalism? Is it not against the provisions of the Constitution? I say everybody has his own rights under the Constitution. That should be given irrespective of one being a Hindu, Muslim or Christian. We are Indians. We all have the rights in this country. The unity and communal harmony is the most important thing in this time.

Sir, I do not want to take much of the valuable time of this House but at the very same time, I would say that those who are ruling this country must believe that all of us, all the people have their own rights. You cannot just have stream roller policy to destroy one section of people. Irrespective of a community, caste, religion, everybody has his own rights. That should be given. Why are you just aiming at only one particular community? If a community has done something wrong, you correct it. They have also got grievances. They say appeasement of some Muslim community. What is the appeasement? How many people have been appeased? What is the representation of

the Muslim community in the administration of this country? What is the representation of the Muslim community in the Security Forces? What is the representation of the Muslim community in the educational institutions? Is it correct to say that they have been given more representation than what is legally required or eligible? No, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir. I would say, we are to live here. The Prime Minister says 'inclusive growth in the multi-polar society.' Why not we just try that? We are all here as Indians. I have been repeating it again and again that irrespective of one being a Hindu or a Muslim or a Christian or a Jain, it is a fact that we are all Indians. We all have the rights and we have to live in harmony. That is what we want.

Sir, I would also say one more thing. I know the Home Minister. He is a seasoned politician; he is a very matured politician. He always comes in this House and says: "I have taken steps. No doubt, justice will be given." But incidents are going on. I am given to understand that more than 200 serious incidents of communal disturbances have occurred; and even criminal acts have been given communal card to use it as an instrument to create disunity in the society. It should not be allowed like that. Every single citizen of this country has a right. But the Communal Violence Bill, which was the initiative of the previous Government, has been sent to backburner.

If you say no legislation is necessary for solving the communal problem, I would be happy. But the previous Government brought that Bill only to make peaceful atmosphere and communal harmony in this country. If you want to make changes, you can make changes. There is no problem. Every law would not be a perfect law. We have our own procedures. With the Constitutional and legislature measures, we can change it. But we have to check communal disturbances; we have to check communal violence; we have to make people live in a peaceful atmosphere.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I would also like to say that discrimination against one section of the people is going on. There is discrimination in their appointment; there is a discrimination in their treatment. Even those who are helping the ruling section say: "There is nothing wrong in destroying the churches. We are here to help you." … (*Interruptions*)...*

India is a great country. But one section of the people say: "You go and destroy. We will help you." Sir, this is India. India has a status in the Comity of Nations. India's position in the Comity of Nation is not because of only 1.25 billion people irrespective of community we

* Not recorded.

are living. It is only because of the communal harmony and secularism.

19.00 hrs.

Therefore, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at least, the Ruling Party should try to help to control their own people. You are bringing shame to this country. You are ashaming the country in the international fair. Internationally, India is in a good position. But I want to tell you one thing to those people. They are not thinking that they are in India; therefore, they can do anything and everything. But international communities are also watching India. India has a position in the international field. India has a status. India is trying to have a seat in the United Nations Security Council. One of the conditions is communal harmony of this country. One of the conditions is that there should not be any discrimination against any people. You cannot simply forget this. We are all Indians. We will be proud of the fact if we get a seat in the United Nations Security Council. We have to work together. Unfortunately, the Ruling Party people are very much close to Ruling Clique. I will not say Ruling section of the people. They say that we are here to destroy. You cannot have this type of policy to destroy the minority of this country. We have a Constitution. … (*Interruptions*) As long as we have that Constitution, we will not be

afraid of anybody. I do not want anything extra. We do not want anything above the Constitution. We want whatever is enshrined in the Constitution. We want constitutional protection, constitutional right and for what our Parliament has agreed to.

*__SHRI NINONG ERING (ARUNACHAL EAST)__: I would like to bring to the notice of Hon'ble Minister of Defence that Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) has been imposed on 12 more districts of Arunachal Pradesh, a state which is considered as 'the island of peace'. It is clearly evident from various reports by leading humanitarian organizations and empirical evidence that AFSPA has led to severe human rights violations and increased cycle of violence in the areas where it has been already imposed. The people of Arunachal Pradesh are terrified by the implementation of this draconian law in the state and there are already incidents of abuse against citizens by army being reported in the media. The Government should explain the reasons for implementation of this law in the first place without even consulting the stakeholders in the state. The people of Arunachal Pradesh deserve to know the reason for imposing the law.

* Speech was laid on the Table.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI (HYDERABAD): Sir, I have five or six points.

Regarding Mecca Masjid bomb blast case which happened on 18th May, 2008, two accused have got bail on 12th March, 2014. Ninety days have passed and this Government has not filed an SLP against the bail that was given to two accused of Mecca Masjid bomb blast case. One of them is facing a Samjhauta bomb blast case and the other accused is facing the Ajmer bomb blast case. I want to know from the Government how is it that basing on media reports which I have read that this MHA says that we do not have sufficient legal grounds to challenge that bail order. If that is the case, you drop the case and order re-inquiry. Who has done Mecca Masjid bomb blast case? Ninety days have passed. Not a single appeal has been filed for an SLP. Now, the bail is finalized. Do they know the repercussions this will have on our relations with neighbouring country when Samjhauta bomb blast case comes up?

My second point is related with Hashimpura Massacre. This is the biggest custodial killing in Independent India. Sir, 42 people have died in 22nd March, 1987. After 28 years, the courts have exonerated the accused. They were all PAC police people. I want to know from the Government will the Government implead itself and file an SLP

in the Supreme Court asking for a SIT to be formed because 42 people who have been killed in custody, justice needs to be done to them. The State Government of Uttar Pradesh in hand in glove with those killer PAC people, they will not appeal against the Judgment.

My third point is this. The Home Minister gave a speech in National Minorities Commission on its annual day stating that we will not allow demographic profile and character of this country to change. What is the demographic profile and character of this country? I want to know that. Why do you not release 2011 religious census data? Why has it been selectively leaked only to the Times of India? It says that only one per cent increase in Muslim population. There has been a decadal decrease of Muslim population of five percent points from 1991 to 2001 and from 2001 to 2011. Why are not these facts coming out? Why are you allowing the fringe elements of your political thought and of your religious thought to make it an issue because it will take 200 years for the Muslim population to match up with the Hindu population? [Translation] That cannot happen ever. But you are not coming out with religious data.

My fourth point is this. Why is not there a Parliamentary oversight of Intelligence Bureau? Intelligence Bureau has no legislative backing. It is not controlled by Judiciary. It is a holy cow.

It can destroy the lives. Why cannot we have a Parliamentary oversight over Intelligence Bureau as MI-V is in UK, as US has Senate relationship.

My fifth point is about Akshardham bomb blast case. The Minister is from Gujarat. After eleven years, Mufti Abdul Qayyum was released. He wanted to release his book in Ahmedabad called '*Gyarah Saal Salakhon ke Piche'*. He was stopped. Where is this freedom of expression? [English] Do you stand for freedom of expression or not? Regarding Aliar encounter, what is the mindset? Why has this Government not taken serious note as they have taken serious note of those 20 people who have been killed in Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh? You have not taken serious note of it. It is a clear-cut killing in Aliar but your Government has not taken serious note of it.

In transfer of seven schemes from the MHA to the State Government, your own Home Secretary is saying that it will compromise our national security; and it will have a deleterious impact. Why is not there a co-ordination between the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Finance that your own Home Secretary has to go out and say against the Finance Secretary? This shows that there is no co-ordination within the Government itself.

On Afghanistan, we have to reMember that after the US withdrawal in Afghanistan, the Chinese are speaking to Taliban in Qatar. Why are you not opening channels to speak to them? We have invested billions of dollars in Afghanistan for its development. We have built the National Assembly. We have built roads over there. Why is it that the Government is quiet on it? What is your plan on it?

I would like to know the reply of the Government to these important issues of Mecca Masjid bomb blast case, Aliar encounter and Hashimpura massacre.

My last point is about Jharkhand. It is a classic case wherein the tribals were used. Having taken Rs. 1 lakh each, they were given a rifle to go and surrender. They were given jobs in the CRPF. Lakhs of rupees were given. Why is the Jharkhand Government not doing anything? Or, why is the Union Government not ordering an inquiry because it involves the CRPF? Why is this Government not ordering a CBI inquiry? It is because the tribals have been duped of crores of rupees. These are important issues. I hope when the Hon. Home Minister stands to reply, he will reply to them.

ADV. JOICE GEORGE (IDUKKI): Sir, preserving and promoting the national integrity and communal harmony in our country is one of the stated objectives of the Home Department. How can we ensure national integrity? I do not think it can be ensured by deploying military and paramilitary forces but it can be preserved only by instilling the feeling of safety and security in all sections of the people, cutting across all communities and other sections.

We know that the basic structure of our Constitution is secular in nature. Further, the inalienable rights of the people have been preserved and protected under Part III of the Constitution under Fundamental Rights. We have the right to equality; we have the right to life; we have the right of freedom of speech, and we have all other inalienable rights codified and protected in our Constitution.

Sir, very often I ask a question to myself that why all these rights are protected and how the other right of right to religion is also preserved in our Constitution under article 25. I got answer to this question from the deliberations in the Constituent Assembly where the framers of our Constitution are of the opinion that the integrity of our nation can be protected only by protecting the rights of every section of our society, whether it is Dalit or minority or majority. By protecting the rights and privileges of all the sections, we can only

preserve our integrity and for that, all these rights are protected under articles 25, 26, 28 and 30. Sir, I am going to conclude.

Now, any aspersion, whether it is a misquoted statement or it is a deliberate statement, against the minorities or the Dalits or against any other community, will affect the integrity of our country and it is also an attack on our Constitution. So, it is the duty of the Government to prevent this kind of attacks on our Constitution for the purpose of the larger interest of our nation. So, I urge upon the Government to come out with such initiatives. Do not indulge in this kind of anti-Constitutional activities.

[Translation]

***DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL NISHANK (HARDWAR)**: I would like to heartily congratulate the successful Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, under whose able leadership the country has progressed on the path of economic development and many important steps have been taken to improve the social, educational and economic life of the citizens.

Under the important responsibilities of the Ministry of Home Affairs under the leadership of Shri Rajnath Singh, HonourableHon. Minister of Home Affairs, this Ministry has been allocated Rs0. 62,124 crore in the year 2015-16 which is 10.2 percent more than the previous year.

The most notable thing is that in this budget special attention has been given to the safety of women, internal security and rehabilitation of our Kashmiri Pandits.

I would like to thank the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji and the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs Shri Rajnath Singh ji for the first time that the Government has provided Rs0. 580 crore for the rehabilitation of the displaced people in Jammu and Kashmir, which

* Speech was laid on the Table.

is more than Rs.240 crore than last year. While this will help establish peace in the valley, it will also provide an opportunity to Kashmiri Pandits who have been displaced from their homes for a long time to return to their land of birth. I have full faith that through this step, Kashmiri Pandit brothers will be able to make their invaluable contribution in the mainstream of national development.

It is a matter of great joy that in an effort to provide adequate resources to our brave paramilitary forces engaged in protecting the country, more funds have been provided in this year's budget to various forces in the country than last year.

While on one hand this step reflects our Government's commitment towards internal security, on the other hand, it is a proof of the Government's commitment towards the welfare of the soldiers and officers deployed for the security of the country.

The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), the world's largest paramilitary force, has been allocated Rs0. 14089 crore, which is 1223 crore more than the previous year. This is a very important step because on one hand these forces risk their lives to protect our lives and property in Naxalism affected areas, on the other hand these forces are handling the important responsibility of internal security in terrorism affected areas like North-Eastern states and Jammu and

Kashmir. The brave soldiers of CRPF have always been at the forefront in making the supreme sacrifice to maintain the unity and integrity of the country.

I am happy to note that in view of the invaluable contribution of the Border Security Force (BSF) as the custodian of the boundary of our India-Pakistan border and India-Bangladesh border, this year this force has been allocated Rs0. 12517 crore which is more than Rs0. 800 crore from last year.

In view of the significant contribution of the Indian Tibetan Border Police Force deployed to protect the country at the sensitive border line of India, China, a provision of Rs0. 3736 crore has been made this year by allocating more than Rs0. 333 crore to them. This is also important because during severe disasters that regularly occur in remote Himalayan regions, this force introduces itself through its immense courage and bravery while protecting the lives and property of people in extremely inaccessible areas. It has many implications that ITBP soldiers protected the borders of India by risking their lives.

We are all aware that our industrial establishments are a milestone in our economic progress. The entire responsibility for their security lies with the Central Industrial Security Force. Apart from this, we all know that CISF personnel are always ready to ensure

security and safe travel at our airports across the country including Metro Rail. In view of their importance in national establishments, the Government has made a provision of Rs0. 5196 crore for their budget, which is more than Rs0. 209 crore from last year.

The Ministry of Home Affairs has approved several innovative schemes related to public security and security forces, primarily allocating Rs. 35 crore for the modernization of police forces. In this changing environment, where law and order is deteriorating day by day, many new faces of terrorism are emerging as challenges before us. In such a situation, I request that more funds should be provided to modernize the police forces.

In view of the sensitivity and strategic importance of the border areas, the allocation of Rs. 990 crore for the development of these areas is a welcome step. I come from Uttarakhand surrounded by two boundaries and I fully realize the complexities of the social, economic life of the people living in the border area. These citizens of ours living in remote areas of the country act as the second line of defence. In such a situation, no matter how much effort is made for their welfare, it is still less.

I am also happy that a provision of Rs. 50 crore has been made for monuments in the memory of the brave soldiers of the police

martyred in the security of the country by the Government. Uttarakhand is the land of heroes, here more people have sacrificed their lives for the country than the population.

I would like to thank the Hon. Minister who has achieved success in various disaster management operations during the disaster through the Disaster Management Institute and its disciplined core of professionals. It is also a matter of happiness that provision has been made to provide satellite based training, focusing on training and capacity development.

As you are aware, in the month of June in the year 2013, there was a severe natural tragedy in Uttarakhand which severely affected the social, economic life of the region. In this terrible destruction where more than 10,000 casualties occurred by ASSOCHAM, the tourism industry suffered a loss of Rs. 12000 crores.

You may be aware that there was a massive earthquake in Chamoli, Uttarkashi in Uttarakhand, which caused extensive damage to life and property. Recently, hundreds of people were affected by severe floods in Jammu and Kashmir, while natural disasters occur regularly in states like Himachal Pradesh and other northeastern states. Overall, the entire Himalayan region is very sensitive. Issuing timely warnings in such grave situations can mitigate the severity of

potential adverse outcomes. It has been found and you must have also experienced that our Early Warning Information Mechanism completely fails during a disaster.

I request that a high level research centre under the National Institute of Disaster Management be set up in Uttarakhand to emphasize on strengthening the early disaster warning mechanism. Similarly, based on this, long-term policies for planning can be formulated.

In order to strengthen the early warning mechanism, we have to ensure that the precision of the warning is focused on, its immediate warning is circulated and the gap between the likely time exceeds the maximum. Its level of preparation and planning can also reduce damage or destruction before the disaster occurs.

It is my humble request that Disaster Management Research Institute should be established with due attention to the following points to deal with disaster. The disaster warning and alert system should be made more resource-rich and its sub-centres should be established in all the Himalayan states and disaster-prone areas. By establishing better coordination with Indian Space Research Institute and the Space Application Centres of the states, we can play an excellent role in this.

Development of capacity to receive international warnings: To integrate the warnings disseminated by organisations like Cyclone Warning Centres and Tsunami Warning Centres at various locations to ensure effective response to disasters in the country. Capacity to communicate warnings from the national level to other key levels must be developed.

From the perspective of disaster management and public response, the long time gap between warning and disaster impact is extremely important for response. Links should be established with national and international organizations to ensure the time available after warning and accuracy of the warning. To deal with adverse situations, preparedness, disaster management, pre-cautions and mobilization are extremely essential.

For better planning, effective coordination among institutional arrangements is necessary for integrated use of warning systems in schemes. The best possible functioning of the warning system and proper maintenance of other telecommunication means must be ensured.

Public Awareness and Participation: It is essential to maintain the required level of public awareness and understanding of the

warning system among the general public as well as the ability and awareness to participate in the related activities of the society.

Training and exercises: The goal of disaster management is to implement all parts of the warning system with expert and professional approach. For this, training needs to be given top priority.

I have full faith that the Minister will consider my demand sympathetically and will kindly approve the Disaster Management Research Institute.

Once again, I would like to thank the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs for his excellent and robust policy towards internal security and for providing adequate resources to the security forces.[English]

[English]

SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH (SAMBHAL): Sir, before I make my submission, I would like to make a humble request to you. I am not going to speak here anything which is neither political nor theoretical but it is based on experience and ground realities. [Translation]

The responsibility of the Home Ministry for this country is to protect the unity, integrity and democracy of the country, provide security as well as maintain social unity. To a large extent the Home Ministry has been successful in this, but we still face many challenges in terms of security. I want to say that the police cannot provide security to everyone in the country, but without police no one can get security. Police provides security to everyone and also gives respect to everyone. If there is no police then I feel that I have no reputation, if there is no policeman with me then I feel that I have no reputation. The police provide both security and dignity to society and individuals. The biggest question is that the police lack their own dignity and respect. During the last 68 years, even today in this country, the police conduct VIP protection at some places, conduct crime investigation, conduct cyber crime investigation, but even today it is considered as semi-skilled labour. Even today, the salary and allowances given to them, the previous pending commissions, they

have never been fair with them. So my first demand is that if we all want to stay safe, If you want to get the police what you deserve, you will have to give what the police deserves. It is important to give the police what they deserve. Justice should be done to them and their salaries and allowances should be corrected. My first demand is that a Member of the police should be kept in the Pay Commission, which has never been kept in the last so many years.

Apart from this, the law of this country says this and it is a matter of great misfortune that the law of our country, the Evidence Act, says that one should not trust the words of a policeman. In a country whose own law treats its own organization, its own institution in this manner, Section 25 says that the statement of the policeman is not admissible in the court. I think this type of law needs to be changed and it needs to be respected. In 2006, the Supreme Court had stated that police reforms should be introduced within this country if internal security is to be ensured. Even after the request of the Supreme Court, it has been eight-nine years today, police reforms have not been brought in the country. We speak a lot of times about this, many people say that this is political interference, political interference is also there, but if the police do not respond in this country, then the biggest reason behind it is the bureaucratic clutches. Today there is a need to end the

stranglehold of this bureaucracy and the reason for this is, we see in big cities, till date the Police Commission System has not come in any big city in UP, because the bureaucracy believes that if the Police Commission System comes then all their power will be taken away, all their authority will end. Therefore, there is a need to end the stranglehold of bureaucracy.

After this I want to say that the police is a part of the criminal judicial system. The police are not independent in this. If we want to make the police better, if we want security for our children in the country, then the criminal justice system also needs to be improved. As I said, there is a need to change the law in this country. In our country, the laws of 1860, 1872, and the Police Act of 1861 are still in effect. My point is, if there are some provisions on the police to end their investigation within 60 days or within 90 days, should there not be any such responsibility on the court?Our CRPC says for the court, Section 309 says that once witnesses are called and their testimony is heard daily until it's completed, no other date can be given to them. But no one is ready to accept that. The Justice Malimat Committee report came in 2003, but till date it has not been implemented. In order to improve justice in our country, our ex-president had said that the courts in this country, Court is not a Cathedral but a casino, where

justice is decided; where judgement is given not on the basis of the dice advocates throw. Today, if we have to do justice in this, then there is a need to implement the report of the Malimat Committee in our country.

Along with this I would like to make a request to you, I want to give an example that America is the richest country in the world today. We used to say that roads are the best in America, so there is the wealthiest country. I would like to say another thing, that America is the richest and most powerful country in the world because the best-paid job there is that of the police. If anyone gets the highest salary there, it's the police. If the maximum pension is given to a Department, it is given to the Police. I would like to tell the esteemed Members of the House for example, the average pension of a police is 61685 dollars there. Whereas the other departments are, inside the US Government, their pension is 25674 dollaRs. Almost 40 percent less. I told you that this country is facing many big internal security challenges. Naxalism has been going on in this country for many years. I would like to thank the Ministry of Home Affairs that he has also said that Panchayat extension schedule which is ours should be implemented. There is another Act, which has been enacted in the year 2006, we call it the Forest Rights Act. Unless the Forest Rights Act is

implemented in tribal areas where Naxalism is prevalent, the people living in the forests will not get their rights., unless they become partner in the process of development, Till then, it is not correct to simply say that wherever there is development, wherever there is growth, Naxalism will end there. Along with that, there is a very important point about terrorism and about Bangladesh, which all of us should know, because we have talked about infiltratoRs. In 2008, the Supreme Court said, it is a virtual external aggression. We did not work on it. Another significant issue is that every day, 20 to 25 thousand animals, mostly cows, are illegally smuggled across the Bangladesh border from this country. Whatever few are caught, they are auctioned. Then, the same cattle smugglers have links with those who bring in fake currency, those who smuggle arms, they have links with those people. The economy of Bangladesh is run by the animals of this country. A huge report was made on this. BSF had given a big report to the Indian Government that Bangladesh does business worth approximately 500 million dollars with the animals of our country. They have risen so high in bone china, they have risen so high in leather, and they have risen so high in beef exports. This needs to be stopped. If we want to end terrorism in our country, terrorism cannot be ended only by bullets, today this country needs such an

environment that we create such a mindset in our children, everything whether it is communalism or terrorism, it starts with this mind. Where discrimination is created, Bhedāt Bhayam (There is discrimination), fear is born, where there is fear, there is intolerance, where there is intolerance, violence is created, where violence is created, terrorism is born. Therefore, we have to remove discrimination from the minds of our children. To break down the walls of caste and religion, it is necessary that we should make an impact in schools and colleges and teach our children the lessons of patriotism and discipline and until this happens, we cannot end terrorism. I would only like to request you that I had done this very good experience, we ran a mission Mrityunjaya in many big cities. A student ran Front Against Crime and Terrorism. We got a huge success out of it. My request to the Home Ministry is that terrorism should end in our country, crime should end, there should be security in the country, and whether it is towards women, there should be such education in the country which can give values. I had said this earlier that security cannot be provided by relying only on the police. The education in our country should be so good, the police in our country should also be so good that all the problems can be ended.

[English]

*__SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN (MURSHIDABAD)__: I would like to draw the attention of our Home Minister that to develop the economic situation of border area BADP has been taken up. In my constituency there are six Blocks situated in Indo-Bangladesh border. Some funds are allotted every year to these Blocks under BADP. But now through a Circular, it is ordered that the money under BADP will be spent only within five kilometers from the border. This Circular is depriving the border blocks to take fruitful schemes for development. So, I request our Home Minister to withdraw the Circular. Please allocate more money in BADP and attach the concerned MPs with the implementation.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mohammed Faizal, you may speak for only two minutes. You should be very brief.

* Speech was laid on the Table

SHRI MOHAMMED FAIZAL (LAKSHADWEEP): Sir, Lakshadweep is coming under the direct control of the Home Ministry; rather the Home Ministry is the administrative Ministry of Union Territory of Lakshadweep. My learned friends have talked about other States spread all over India. I will specifically concentrate on my constituency because I am the only Member of Parliament and there is no one else.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: One more person is also there.

SHRI MOHAMMED FAIZAL: Sir, I will conclude.

Sir, it is not a political speech. It is only concerned about the development of the island. The first point which I would like to raise before the House is of the development of the fisheries in the island. As you know, Lakshadweep is having a very limited land area of only 32 square kilometres, but as far as our sea is concerned, we have 4.02 lakh square kilometres of Exclusive Economic Zone.

Till now, the fishermen of Lakshadweep are not in a position to indulge in fishing for more than eight houRs. It is not because fish is not being available. It is only because of scarcity of land-based infrastructure, most modernised crafts and gears on the part of the Government. I have personally talked to the Administrator several

times, and I have brought it to the notice of the Government also several times.

I will make it clear with figures. Our annual potential resource of fish availability in Lakshadweep is 1 lakh metric tonnes, but so far our exploitation of fish is only 10,000 metric tonnes. I would like to draw the attention of the Home Ministry to do something to develop this sector, so that it can contribute to the growth of the nation.

Secondly, as regards agriculture, we are blessed with coconut trees. I think that you have visited the island. If you see aerial shots, then you can see plenty of coconut trees there. The most attractive part of coconut in Lakshadweep is that it is purely organic and no fertiliser is used, and the international market for virgin coconut oil is so huge that entire Lakshadweep can contribute or it can stand on its feet if it is given right direction for its development.

Thirdly, tourism is the most sustainable industry as far as Lakshadweep is concerned. Our neighbouring country, Maldives, is contributing 75 per cent of their income for GDP growth through this sector. Lakshadweep is almost similar to Maldives. Why is the Government not opening Lakshadweep tourism?

Sir, I am concluding. Fourthly, you know that Lakshadweep is a geographically isolated area, and telecommunication is the most

important part of the island. TRAI has given suggestions in two ways, that is, to improve the present infrastructure by giving viability gap funding of about Rs. 30 crore only to BSNL so that the existing infrastructure can be improved. At the same time, in the long-term, submarine optical fibre cabling can be done, which will be the final solution for connectivity.

Sir, I am concluding, and I am not going to take much more time. The third and most important part coming under its direct control is policing. There is India Reserve Battalions who are trying for quite long time for their welfare. They are being transferred every two years from island to some other UTs because of which their family life and education of their children has suffered a lot. In this regard, I have given in writing to the Ministry to settle them in such a way that their State-wise appointment can be done.

Similarly, home guard appointment is on contract basis. Constables in Andaman & Nicobar Islands have approached the Supreme Court, and the Supreme Court has given an order in favour of them on supernumerary appointment. On the other hand, Lakshwadeep has not even prepared a proposal so far to send it to the Ministry for approval. Further, it is a shame that the home guard

constables are not even being provided uniforms, and they have purchased it with their own money. It is very sad.

The Home Ministry is the administrative Ministry. So, I would urge upon the Government to do the developmental part. The slogan of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, please demonstrate it. Thank you very much, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY (ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS): Sir, the work which was not done in Andaman and Nicobar in the last fifty years, through the Modi Government and the entire Home Ministry, especially Minister Gajapati Raju is sitting here, the public is praising him for the work he has done in Andaman and Nicobar.

Our biggest problem was connectivity. There Port Blair-Chennai chartered flight has started, Port Blair-Visaig has started, Port Blair-Kolkata is going to start in the coming days. The scheme for cashless treatment developed in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands may perhaps not exist in any other state or region of India. Medical college was opened there, but still there are many shortcomings.

I would request that the Home Ministry is our parent, Vishwakarma ji is also there, he should pay some attention to our plan fund. For example I would say that in the year 2014-15 we had given 1950 crores in Plan Fund BE. Fifty percent of this was to be spent by September. You know about Andaman, it will rain there from April to September, there will be no work due to monsoon. Reduced to Rs 1700 crore. Of these Rs 1700 crore, 50 per cent is committed liabilities. What are those liabilities - Mediclaim expenses, chartered

flight expenses, salary, car fuel, ship fuel etc. Rs 800 crore. There is no development happening there, we are giving committed liability. This has been going on since 1990. I request that the committed liability which has been added to our plan, which has been lying since 1990, should be removed immediately and given non-planned and the same amount should be given to our planned fund. Especially I would request because I am also a Member in the Standing Committee of the Ministry of Home Affairs. The Ministry of Home Affairs submitted the first report to the Grants of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands about the Union Territories. Immediately implement the suggestions given in it. Development of Andaman and Nicobar is very important. We are sitting at the last corner, our source of income is tourism and fisheries. Lakshadweep earns in the shipping sector. There are many shortcomings in infrastructure in Andaman. While studying it, that much money should be given to our island group. Especially the Finance Ministry's circulars that 50 per cent expenditure has to be made by September 30, this clause should be relaxed to save us and like the North East, non-lapsable funds should be given to our islands.

Sir, in our Andaman Nicobar Islands, the fire brigade employees and police constables get one month's compensatory pay after working for 12 months. But the previous UPA-2 Government cut that

one month's pay. The committee recommended it again. I would urge that the Government should fully implement the recommendations made by the Home Ministry committee. This is needed because 60 years have passed and people are cutting the land in the drain which is causing bank erosion. Many islands do not have bridges and there is a lack of roads. I would like to point out that very little money is available in our agriculture sector. In agriculture, animal husbandry and fisheries, the rupee gets 0.18 percent to 0.2 percent. I will request again because two Ministers of our Home Ministry are sitting here, they know the entire island group. I request you to implement the suggestions and recommendations made by this Home Ministry committee and create a planned fund for the entire Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The discussion on the Demands for Grants of the Home Ministry is over. The Minister will reply tomorrow.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up ‘Zero Hour’ matters. Shri K. C. Venugopal.

SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a lightning strike launched by loco pilots at Ernakulam Junction that badly affected the frequency of trains and movement of passengers.

Yesterday, train services in southern Kerala were disrupted partially after loco pilots refused to undergo breath alcohol analyzer test, which is mandatory while reporting to work. For more than ten hours, passengers were in a very difficult situation. Some local trains were cancelled and a few long distance trains got delayed at Ernakulam Junction after loco pilots protested against breath analyzer test to nullify all possibilities of them driving drunk on duty.

It is reported that it badly affected a number of major train services. Loco pilots alleged that for many days it was the indirect machine, the one that was used by the police was used for the test. The concern of the loco pilots is that there was no need to blow into it, and one only needs to talk. However, yesterday the supervisors used an old instrument as per the instruction by the Railway OfficeRs. Loco pilots complained that since the instrument holds the breath of a person for ten seconds, there were chances of virus spread.

According to drivers, the All India Loco Running Staff Association has decided not to cooperate with such kind of breath analyzing practice using old and used equipment, which is 'imposed' on them by their supervisors in the Railways. Whereas the Railways blamed the loco pilots for disrupting the services and said the breath alcohol analyzer system was introduced as Railways was not ready to take any chances concerning efficient services and safety of its passengers.

This misunderstanding and confusion between loco pilots and railway officers brought railway operations in the Southern Zone to a standstill partially. It is reported that at least four local trains, including Ernakulam-Kottayam, Kottayam-Ernakulam, Ernakulam-Palakkad and Ernakulam-Kollam *via* Kottayam have been cancelled due to loco pilots' strike. Passengers affected by the strike also staged a protest outside the Railway Station Master's office.

Therefore, I would request the Hon. Railway Minister and the Railway Board to make an inquiry and to take necessary action to stop this sort of confusion as the lightning strike is badly affecting thousands of common passengers.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri P. K. Biju, Shri P. Karunakaran and Adv. Joice George are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri K. C. Venugopal.

[Translation]

SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY (NAGAUR): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, first of all, I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on an important topic in my area. I come from Nagaur, Rajasthan. Nagaur is the heartland of Rajasthan. The economy here, mainly 80 percent people are dependent on agriculture and animal husbandry. Animal husbandry is one of the main occupations.

I want to talk about animal husbandry only. The breed of native cows of Nagaur is known as Nagauri breed. The breed of Nagauri cows is famous all over India. In North India especially the calves and bulls from Nagaur are used for farming in entire UP, Haryana, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and are being used even today. The Nagauri breed of cow is not known much for its milk but it produces very good calves which are used for ploughing and carrying loads, they are very agile and very stout. What has happened now is that after the mechanization of farming, the earlier fairs for bull calves, where people from the neighbouring states came especially to buy them, are closing down. The reason for this is that there is a restriction on calves

for three years that no calf can go out. When the calf turns three years old, its price decreases further because, only calves between 18 months to two years old have a good price. Due to mechanization and ban on sale of calves, the cows are facing a lot of problems and hence, I would like to request the Agriculture Minister through you that it is necessary to save the Nagauri breed of cow. Recently, the Prime Minister has announced a project for promotion of indigenous breed, brought by the Government of India, which has a budget of Rs. 500 crore. I would like to request the Hon. Minister of Agriculture through you to establish a cattle breeding center in Nagaur for the cows of the Nagauri breed, which are so famous, so that the Nagauri breed can be preserved.

Moreover, I would also like to request the Minister that the sale and exclusion of calves for three years should be reduced to two years. If the calves go out, then people will start rearing cows, will raise them well and they will be improved.

Thank you very much for taking the time to speak.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Shri P. P. Chaudhary are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri C. R. Chaudhary.

SHRI RADHESHYAM BISWAS (KARIMGANJ): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to a very important issue related to the people of Assam. Many small traders from Karimganj, Cachar and Hailakandi districts of Assam have been doing business in Aizawl which is the Capital city of Mizoram. Unfortunately, for the last few days, Members of some organizations like the MZP and the MTP etc., of Mizoram are unlawfully and forcefully harassing these tradeRs. Many of these traders are being forced to put their shutter down. These sort of illegal activities are being predominantly carried out in localities like Khatla, Zarkhot, Step and Tuikuwal in the Aizwal city.

The action of these organizations is a pathetic one. They are summoning the outside traders to their offices in the name of checking trading documents, licenses and ILP where the traders are tortured by the Members of these organizations. It may be mentioned here that there was a joint meeting between the Government of Mizoram and the Government of Assam on 17.10. 1994. it was opined that the non-

Governmental organizations will stop checking of trading documents, ILP and harassment of non-Mizo traders and the Government of Mizoram will provide safeguards to the tradeRs. But, it was not followed.

Now the worst part is that different organizations from border areas of Assam are starting agitation and calling for strikes to block roads in places like Silchar and Hailakandi which are the life-line of Mizoram. If these roads are blocked, the supply of essential commodities will be disrupted. Under these circumstances, these traders are living under acute fear while local administration failed to take action against these culprits. Therefore, through this august House, I would request the Hon. Home Minister to intervene in the matter and pass necessary instructions immediately to control the situation in the light of previous joint decision.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Gourav Gogoi is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Radheshyam Biswas.

SHRI KARADI SANGANNA AMARAPPA (KOPPAL): Respected Sir, I would like to take this opportunity to speak about the agrarian crisis arising out of the recent hailstorm and heavy rain in the Northern Karnataka region comprising of Koppal, Raichur, Kalaburgi, Yadgiri, Bidar and Bellary Districts. Untimely heavy rain

and hailstorm have created havoc and spoiled the agricultural and horticultural crops severely, especially the paddy field which is affected mostly and destroyed all the fields resulting in a loss of Rs. 425 crore.

Generally this region records six to seven millimetres rain during the month of April whereas this year between 8th and 16th of April this region recorded 50 to 100 millimetres of rain. That is an increase of about 1000 per cent. The severity could be gazed from the fact that 50 to 100 millimetres rain was recorded within 45 to 60 minutes. It is estimated that in these eight Districts, 64,462 hectares of agricultural and horticultural crops were damaged. Hundreds of cattle, thousands of houses and electrical equipment have been damaged due to heavy rain.

The Government of Karnataka has taken a decision to grant a relief amount of Rs. 25,000 per hectare which comes to about Rs. 150 crore. I, therefore, request the Government to consider this as one of the natural calamities and sanction additional relief to the affected farmeRs.

I also would like to inform you that the relief amount granted would go to the landlords. In many cases where farmers are not the land owners but would have invested in various activities having

taken the land on lease for agricultural purposes, the farmers are put to severe hardship as the relief money goes to the landlords and not to the farmeRs.

Considering these facts, I earnestly request the Government to consider grant of special relief package to the farmers of these six backward Districts of Karnataka with a direction to the authorities to make sure that the original farmers are benefited and also a team of specialists from Union Government be sent there for inspection and to judge the critical situation of the affected farmeRs. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH (HOSHANGABAD): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, looking at the present condition of farmers in the country, I would like to tell the Government that we provide subsidies on agricultural equipment, chemical fertilisers, diesel, industries and in every sector in the country. My request is that we need to work for the milk production. For this, we need to subsidize the farmers on the purchase of cows, buffaloes, bullocks etc. for the work of farming. This needs to be worked out. I would like to request the Government through you for this.

Our Government will take a very revolutionary decision under the leadership of Hon. Modi ji, it is our expectation. To promote the

dairy business, subsidies or one-time assistance should be provided for the purchase of cows and buffaloes, as well as subsidies or one-time assistance for bullock paiRs. This will not only benefit the farmers but also provide an opportunity for the improvement of their condition, Additionally, the indigenous fertilizers and organic manure available in our country will also be made available for agriculture. Today, due to chemical fertilizers the land is becoming barren and agriculture is deteriorating. That land can also be saved from being barren. Besides, through this we can also save the country's money which goes abroad to buy chemical fertilizers and chemicals from outside.

Sir, I would like to request the Government through you that there is a need to provide direct help to the farmers, cows and buffaloes for milk production in this country. The Government will help in this, such is our expectation.

[English]

ADV. JOICE GEORGE (IDUKKI): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of this august House the discrimination meted out by the Union Government in allocating funds to the State of Kerala under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana.

Under PMGSY the State of Kerala has been sanctioned 1430 road works covering a road length of 3,358 kilometres whereas under Part-I of PMGSY more than 5.5 lakh kilometres of road has been constructed all over India. Allocation to the State Government includes 450 road works sanctioned in the year 2014 under Phase-8. The State has so far completed 876 road works covering 980 kilometres of road length. Kerala is having wide road network which needs to be converted into all weather roads to improve the rural connectivity. Now the Union Government has prepared the indicative annual allocation for 2015-16 whereby Kerala has been allocated only Rs 51 crore whereas the previous year the allocation was Rs 152 crore. In States like Bihar, the annual allocation in 2014-15 was only Rs 1050 crore whereas this year it is Rs 2,281 crore. The total estimated cost for 415 road works sanctioned under Phase-8 is Rs. 1,582 crores and the amount released only Rs 813 crore. An amount of Rs 6,714 crore is due to the States under Phase-8. Now the State has invited tenders for entire works and the works are in progress. Due to lower allocation, the State will be finding it difficult to pay the contractors and this will jeopardize the construction and development of rural road works in Kerala. Hence I request the immediate interference of the Government and to do the needful as early as possible.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri P. K. Biju and Shri P. Karunakaran are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Joice George.

SHRI V. ELUMALAI (ARANI): I would like to draw the attention of the Government for the dire need to take immediate steps to set up a Silk Park in Arani, which is too long pending and much awaited project by the people of my constituency. Earlier the then Union Minister and also officials from Banguluru visited Arani town and surveyed the land but nothing has happened.

As Arani is popularly called the city of silk sarees, which is next to Kanchipuram, it has more than 60,000 populations, out of which 35,000 people are into the weaving profession.

The very First National Flag of our country hoisted in Red Fort on Independence Day was Silk Flag which was weaved in Arani. This Historical contribution by my Arani silk weavers to our motherland leads all of us. We are stepping into our 68th year of Independence.

I request the Hon. Minister of Textiles to set up a Silk Park in Arani to benefit the thousands of families of Arani and also to protect the silk industry in and around the area.

SHRI S. SELVAKUMARA CHINNAIYAN (ERODE): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, the railway line between Erode and Trichy is part

of the ancient railway system in our country. Right from the days of the Britishers, this line has been in operation linking the South with the North. Even today, the biggest goods yard in the South shifted from Trichy is in Erode now. This line also links many pilgrim places on its way. This has caused lot of congestion. Unfortunately, it comes in the way of running more trains and increasing the speed of popular express trains on this route. For instance, Ernakulam Express, West Coast Express and Mysore Express trains have to be operated like passenger trains between Erode and Trichy for want of additional tracks in most of the railway stations on the way. To increase the operational efficiency and to run still more profitable trains on this route, the doubling of track on this section is necessary. I urge upon the Minister of Railway to look into the urgent need to take up this project at the earliest.

[Translation]

SHRI AJAY NISHAD (MUZFFARPUR): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, You gave me the opportunity to speak during Zero Hour; I am extremely grateful to you for that.

Sir, in the year 19788, after the acquisition and nationalization of the private companies engaged in wagon manufacturing located at Muzaffarnagar and Mokama in Bihar, Bharat Wagon and Engineering

Company Limited was formed and it was placed under the Ministry of Industry. Its only production being a railway wagon was to merge it under the Ministry of Railways, but instead of merging it in the year 2008, it was entrusted with administrative control only, which led to the plight of the company. The company has been closed for nearly 10 months and its employees are not even getting salaries since April, 2014.

Sir, through you I would like to request the Hon. Railway Minister that for smooth running of the factory it should be merged with the Railways or it should be immediately linked with the wagon production unit and the facilities and protection given to these units should be given to Bharat Wagon. Also, in order to get the company rid of the financial crisis, an amount of Rs. 18 crore allocated in the budget for the year 2014-15 should be immediately provided. Thank you.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV (BANKA): Nishad ji's topic is right, we support it. ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI M. UDHAYAKUMAR (DINDIGUL): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Vanakkam!

Crippling power cuts lasting for house has been a major issue for Tamil Nadu in the previous regime in Tamil Nadu till 2011. Many parts of the State witnessed power cuts up to 16 houRs. Prior to 2011, Tamil Nadu which requires a total of 12,000 megawatts was facing a shortage of 4,000 megawatts. The power deficit of 4,000 megawatts in the first half of 2011 was systemically overcome. An additional flow of 4,991.5 megawatts to the State has been ensured by the commissioning of new power stations in the Central and State sectors and through medium and long term power purchase agreements by the Hon. People's Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma Government in Tamil Nadu. It has helped increase the State's daily average power supply from 200 million units to 260 million units. The People's Chief Minister has made Tamil Nadu power cut-free in the three years of our AIADMK regime.

With a slew of projects lined up, the State Government is on the verge of attaining self-sufficiency in power supply and the State will receive an additional 2,163 megawatts in some months. With this, the Tamil Nadu Government has applied for allocation of one coal block and has now sought another one more coal block from the Union Government. I urge upon the Union Government to allocate one more coal block in order to expedite the transmission system and reduce the

reliability margin to 500 megawatts. This will also enable the State to harness power from other regions. I urge upon the Hon. Minister for Coal to allocate Mahanadi and Machchakata coal blocks since GarePelma Sector II coal block has already been allotted to Maharashtra State Power Generation Corporation Limited. This allocation will help meet the on-going and upcoming projects in Tamil Nadu. I also seek immediate environmental clearance for the commissioning of the TANGEDCO-NLC joint venture at Tuticorin.

Tamil Nadu is the leader in generation of wind energy with a capacity of more than 7,300 megawatts, which was praised by our Hon. Prime Minister of India and an award was given to the Hon. Puratchi Thalaivi Ammaji's Minister Shri Natham Viswanathan, who is the Energy Minister in Tamil Nadu. Therefore, I urge upon the Union Government to allocate sufficient funds for this scheme and allocate an additional coal block to Tamil Nadu.

[Translation]

DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL NISHANK (HARDWAR): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, A terrible tragedy had struck Uttarakhand in the year 2013, The farmers were not yet able to recover from it when recently heavy hailstorm and torrential rains have caused devastation, Especially the farmers of Haridwar district have been ruined. The

fields of the villages have turned into sand and the remaining farmers have also become victims of this divine disaster. So far, the Uttarakhand Congress Government has not conducted a survey of it. The ruined farmers have not received any relief amount, whereas the Prime Minister had said that those whose crops have suffered a loss of 33 percent will be compensated, they will be given one and a half times the relief amount, but so far neither has there been a comprehensive survey nor have they been given any relief amount. As a result of this, the farmers of Haridwar, being troubled by the insensitive Government of Uttarakhand, set them on fire when their crops were destroyed. The people of the village burnt those crops in fire. Not only this, a farmer from Mewar village in Kaliyar area committed suicide by hanging himself from a tree in his own field two days ago. Those who suffered loss and the affected family of the person who committed suicide should be given full assistance, an immediate survey should be conducted, relief money should be given, farmers' loans should be waived, recovery should be stopped with immediate effect and a separate relief package should be given to those farmers whose fields and barns were completely submerged in the river, one Member of their family should be taken into Government service. The farmer's fields have turned into sand, the

work of removing that sand should be given to him. The Mining mafias have also been put on his head, this is not right. Sugarcane farmers have not been paid for two years. They are unable to marry off their daughters and cannot afford to educate their children. The sugarcane payment which is remaining, should be provided to the farmers by the Government of Uttarakhand in immediate time including interest amount. I express my gratitude to you.

[English]

DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN (CHENNAI SOUTH): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Mass Rapid Transit System (MRTS) was introduced in Chennai, with a considerable investment by the Government of Tamil Nadu and guided by Hon. Makkal Mudhalwar Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, to ease the traffic congestion on the roads of Chennai city. The MRTS, which is under the direct control of the Ministry of Railways and is maintained by it, is unable to meet the expectations of the traveling public. Due to inadequate and unpredictable frequency of the train services the public tend to ignore MRTS except during peak hours when it is unmanageably over-crowded. Most of the stations have unutilized vast areas which could be better used for the futuristic and commercially viable kiosks which will remove the deserted and the desolate look. Most of the MRTS stations are left unfinished

posing a hazardous environment. Security needs to be strengthened on all the stations and in the moving trains especially in the women compartment. The stations lack in cleanliness. The coaches are improperly maintained and are not disabled-friendly. Non-functioning escalators are prevalent at many stations. The link between Vellachery and St. Thomas Mount is yet to be provided and the work is progressing at a snails pace. There has been a recent incident of derailment of MRTS train on February, 2015. The Ministry of Railways should re-look it to enhance the quality of MRTS services in Chennai which needs to be totally revamped. Thank you, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI AJAY MISRA TENI (KHERI): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, Primary cooperative societies were established in rural areas to provide easy availability of funds to farmers at low interest rates as per their requirement for fertilizers, diesel and other agricultural needs. The objective of the said cooperative societies was also to free the economically backward farmer brothers from the clutches of money lenders and bring them into the mainstream of society and make them economically strong. To fulfill these objectives, agricultural loans are provided to the farmers at 3 percent interest by

the said Primary Cooperative Societies. As the remaining interest subsidy, the Union Government provides interest of 6.7 percent to the said committees. However, while approving agricultural loan by the above-mentioned committees, 2.5 per cent of the total loan amount is debited from the farmers' account as insurance premium, due to which, despite the Government providing the facility of low interest rate, the farmer has to pay 5.5 per cent as interest and insurance premium as per the limit of agricultural loan. Despite this, farmers get the benefit of crop insurance only when they are entitled to crop compensation as per the revenue rules, whereas the insurance premium is paid by the farmer as per the individual account holder. Through you, I request the Government that in case farmers take individual premium for crop insurance, if there is loss of crop on an individual basis, then arrangement for compensation should be made as per individual insurance policy; otherwise, the 2.5 percent premium taken by primary cooperative societies for crop insurance should be abolished as it is against the objectives and intentions of the Government. The subsidy we give in the form of interest is misused and puts additional burden on the farmeRs. Thank you ver much.

SHRI SHAILESH KUMAR (BHAGALPUR): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, my area Bhagalpur which is situated on the northern and

southern banks of river Ganga. Local research and findings have established that the area falling within a radius of 20 kilometre at the northern and southern ends of the Ganga end is the arsenic affected area. Most of these villages in Narayanpur block are affected. Birbana is a small village and at least one person dies every year in that village due to arsenic. Many villages within the block of Islampur, which we have selected as the ideal village, are affected by Asernik. People of 20 years of age look like 80 years of age. Children of pregnant women are becoming victims of malnutrition. Multi-village pipeline water supply scheme should be approved for arsenic free drinking water in these arsenic affected areas. This scheme is already approved in Pirpaiti and Sultanganj blocks but it has been two-three years since the scheme was sanctioned but the work on this has not started yet. This work should start soon so that the people of Bhagalpur can ensure their health by drinking arsenic-free water.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV (BANKA): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, there is no competition for Delhi AIIMS Hospital in the country and the world. This is the pride of India and it is believed that when a disease is not getting cured even after getting treatment from all places then it is said that one should go to AIIMS once. There are very experienced doctors and good doctoRs.

Especially in Bihar state, which is a poor area, 40 percent of the patients come to AIIMS suffering from incurable diseases. Those people are very poor, they are not able to get timely treatment. It is very sad to say that despite being such a reputed hospital and having good doctors, the number here is given from one month to two years. The patient undergoing treatment is given such a long time. When the Hon. MPs write letters in this regard, the letters are not given the importance they deserve and extreme indifference is shown towards them. This is very sad, this should not happen. The time of one or two years given to the patients should be improved. Hon. Health Minister should improve this, recommendations of Hon. MPs should be taken into consideration.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Dr. Mahendra Nath Pandey, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Dr. Satya Pal Singh, Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey and Shri P. K. Biju are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Jai Prakash Narayan Yadav.

SHRI M. MURLI MOHAN (RAJAHMUNDRY): Sir, there is a need to confer ‘Bharat Ratna’ award to Swargeeya NTR. The legendary actor of Telugu film industry, Shri Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao, famously known as NTR needs no introduction. NTR was

the doyen of Telugu films who strode the Indian Telugu film industry like a colossus for half a century and later carved out a niche for himself as the tallest political leader not only in Andhra Pradesh, but also in the whole country. He was the Chairman of the National Front.

20.00 hrs.

The late NTR, the towering figure, left an indelible imprint on the minds of Telugu people by ushering in welfare and development schemes for the farmers and workers during his phenomenal tenure as Chief Minister of united Andhra Pradesh. NTR is also credited with having played a very important and pivotal role as Chairman of National Front in national politics and for having emerged as the main Opposition Party in Parliament during the period from 1984-89.

NTR deserves the highest civilian award “Bharat Ratna” for bringing recognition to Telugu language and culture across the geographical divide in the world comity of nations. As a deep gesture of his selfless services to society, I would earnestly appeal to the Union Government, through you, to confer the covetous “Bharat Ratna” upon the TDP founder and former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and also National Front Chairman *Swargeeya* Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao.

Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The list is over. Now I am having an extra list and there are nearly 30 Members who have given notices. We have to conclude by 8.15 p. M. Therefore, I will allow half a minute for every Member and they should complete their submissions within half a minute and not more than that.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity. I would like to invite the attention of the House, through you, to the acute problem faced by the State of Kerala with regard to the Public Distribution System due to the reduced allocation of food grains by the Union Government. The quantity of food grains required by Kerala in a year is 16,66,644 MT, whereas Kerala produces only 15 per cent of its total consumption. The Union Government has allotted 12,26,604 MT only during the year 2015-16. This is a very small amount. You are aware that Kerala has a very good Public Distribution System, but due to the reduced allocation by the Union Government it is very difficult to maintain the Public Distribution System. I would like to request the Union Government to enhance the allocation of food grains to Kerala.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri K. S. Sundaram -- Not present.

SHRI S. R. VIJAYA KUMAR (CHENNAI CENTRAL): Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity. Presently all the cars dropping

passengers at the Chennai Airport are levied parking charges if they exceed 10 minutes. Due to the long road and the speed breakers, it is very difficult for any car to go out of the airport within 10 minutes. When ladies, children and senior citizens are dropped with luggages the drivers find it difficult to go out within the 10 minutes time. Further, drivers also get tensed up in a hurry to move out due to traffic and meet with accidents. I would like to request the Government of India to increase the time from 10 minutes to 20 to 25 minutes to cars dropping passengers at the airport.

Also the quality of construction of the Chennai Airport is very poor. So, far, after the opening of the newly constructed Airport, the roof has fallen 33 times damaging the glass doors and creating panic and risk for the passengers. Government of India should seriously investigate into the matter and take steps in this regard for a better construction.

[Translation]

SHRI VINOD LAKHAMSHI CHAVDA (KACHCHH): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I want to draw the attention of the Government towards the fact that my Lok Sabha Parliamentary Constituency includes two districts, Kachchh and Morbi. Kendriya and Navodaya Vidyalayas are functional in Kachchh district but there

is no central teaching facility in Morbi district which has just been formed.

Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, my demand and that of the people working in the Government sector there is that a new Kendriya and Navodaya Vidyalaya should be started there soon. This will provide great convenience to the students wishing to study in Kendriya Vidyalaya. Thank you.

SHRIMATI ANJU BALA (MISRIKH): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government through the House towards my Lok Sabha constituency Misrikh. I would like to tell you about the Primary Health Centre. Not only in Misrikh Lok Sabha constituency, there are health centres everywhere in Uttar Pradesh, but neither any doctor nor any employee is ever seen there, due to which patients have to lose their lives many times, because due to the non-availability of a doctor and basic facilities, they lose their lives. Through you, I request the Government to constitute an inquiry committee and get these health centres investigated and punitive action should be taken against the doctors and staff posted there who are not performing their duties.

[English]

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (KASARGOD): Sir, in the State of Kerala, the Government is running a lottery and this is really a model to other States also. The income of the lottery is fully utilized for charitable purposes. There is a health scheme known as *Karunnuya* which provides financial assistance to poor patients. Till this day, Rs. 700 crore has already been given to the patients in various hospitals. Thousands of poor people are getting employment as agents and a large number of them are physically disabled. In the new Budget, 14 per cent service tax is imposed on the commission of these poor agents. It would adversely affect their income and also their initiative to work for the lottery. So, I request the Government to exempt the service tax on Government lotteries.

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

[Translation]

SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA (AMRELI): Sir, through you I want to draw the attention of the Government that among the coastline of our country, Gujarat has the largest coastline of 1640 kilometers in which many tehsils of my area come. When fishermen go to the sea to catch fish, they do not know where our international

maritime boundary extends, due to which they go into the maritime boundary of Pakistan or Sri Lanka and get caught. What they go through after that, I have heard from the people of my area that they are kept hungry and thirsty in the jails there and are tortured so much that even while being alive, they live like dead, later they are released by the Government. I congratulate the Government of our Prime Minister, Shri Narendrabhai Modi and the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs, that just a few days back, 172 fishermen have been rescued from Pakistan and 86 from Sri Lanka. Despite this, many fishermen are still imprisoned in Pakistan and Sri Lankan jails. They and their boats should be released immediately.

[English]

SHRI P. R. SENTHILNATHAN (SIVAGANGA): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government of Tamil Nadu, guided by our visionary leader Amma, has allocated nearly Rs. 25,000 crore for education of students. With the advent of more number of professional colleges in the last two decades in Tamil Nadu, the demands for educational loans are on the increase. Though the Centre has been promising that there should not be any hindrance in the timely disposal of educational loan applications, many loan applications are rejected even today. Even though the Union Government has promised on the floor of this House

that collateral security and surety from a Government servant will not be insisted, banks are still demanding them. The banks are also delaying the processing of applications till January even when applications are submitted well in advance in June/July.

There is a need to fix a time limit for processing educational loan applications. Earlier, educational loan was extended to all the professional courses including MBA, MCA, B. Ed. and even polytechnics. Now, it is restricted only to B. E. and M. B. B. S. It may also be noted that many students from our country particularly from my constituency, Sivagangai are seeking admission in MBBS courses in China, Russia and other countries. They are also not able to get educational loans in time.

Hence, I urge upon the Centre to streamline the educational loan schemes extending Government guarantee to such deserving students.

[Translation]

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (GIRIDIH): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, through you, I have paved the way for CCL Management under my Giridih Lok Sabha constituency to grant approval for sending coal from Govindpur Shwan Project to Chasnalla recently. This decision has been opposed by the villagers and laboreRs. After this, an agreement was reached to provide 25 thousand tonnes of coal

through Route Silk. From this decision it appears that CCL is operating a coal store. The distance from Govindpur to Chasnalla is one and a half hundred kilometeRs. Whereas next to Govindpur is Karglivasari of BNK area. Instead of three shifts, only two shifts are running there. There is a shortage of coal there and instead of supplying coal there, it is being sent to Chasnala. Next to Chasnala is Bharat Coking Coal, ECL, instead of providing coal, the money is being wasted as of today and the result of nexus of coal mafia. You are requested to immediately provide coal to Kargalivasari so that the workers there can get employment.

SHRI NINONG ERING (ARUNACHAL EAST): Hon. Deputy Speaker, through you, I want to tell the respectedHon. Minister of Home Affairs whether it was necessary that the Draconian law of AFSPA had to be implemented in Arunachal Pradesh. Arunachal Pradesh is considered an island of peace. It was implemented in Tirak, Changlang and Longding districts in the year 2001 because people from neighbouring states and foreign militant organisations had come there. But right now human rights violations are happening all across Arunachal Pradesh. I demand from the Government that this draconian law be withdrawn immediately.

DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY (CHANDAULI): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, this matter is of great public importance, so please extend my speaking time a little.

I would like to raise this issue through you that nowadays chemists are very arbitrary in the matter of medicines. Today, the heart attack medicine Streptokinase is priced at Rs 700 to Rs 900 and its MRP goes up to Rs 9000. The basic price of typhoid drug mono injection is Rs. 25, whose MRP becomes Rs. 53. The basic price of injection for dialysis is Rs. 500, its MRP becomes Rs. 1800. Similarly, if doctors prescribe an antibiotic, it costs Rs. 150 rupees in one company and 45 rupees in another company, but due to the doctor's commission being added, the same medicine becomes Rs. 540. The charitable trust conducts ultrasound for Rs. 240, while the same ultrasound costs Rs. 750 elsewhere. The Government should put a stop to the looting that is going on by the nexus between doctors and chemists. Life saving drugs should be made cheaper and medicine distribution centers for life saving drugs should be opened in all hospitals, which should be made available to the poor people at the lowest price. There is no problem in making generic medicines, on which no one has a patent, cheaper. For this, instructions should be given to the Drug Controller.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri P. P. Chaudhry, Shri Rajendra Agrawal, Shrimati Anju Bala, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey are allowed to associate themselves with the matter raised by Dr. Mahendra Nath Pandey.

SHRI G. HARI (ARAKKONAM): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I wish to raise an important issue regarding better rail connectivity in my Arakkonam Parliamentary Constituency. Several thousands of people belonging to different walks of life travel from Tiruttani and adjoining villages to Chennai to attend to various works. It is a matter of serious concern that during the peak hours from 7 a.m. to 9.40 a. m. there is not even a single electric train, that is the EMU, towards Chennai in this route.

I urge upon the Hon. Minister of Railways to instruct the officials concerned to operate EMUs from Tiruttani between 7 a.m. and 9.40 a.m., particularly at 8 a.m. so as to enable commuters to reach Chennai around 10 a.m.

I also request for extension of platforms no. 1 and 2 at the Arakkonam Junction so that women, senior citizens and students may not find it difficult to board and de-board as the bogies of the trains

are mostly outside the platforms. Ten days ago, a woman lost her legs while de-boarding a train. … (*Interruptions*)

I also urge that the express trains passing through Arakkonam should stop invariably at Arakkonam to benefit several thousands of rail passengers. … (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Only one matter is allowed, not so many matteRs. You have asked for EMUs from Tiruttani to Chennai. That is all right.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL (MEERUT): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, Last Friday, on the24th, a farmer named Yogendra from Dhamtala village in Meerut went to his farm and after seeing the crop, he was disappointed and climbed a tower. SI and Naib Tehsildar came there. The insensitivity of the administration is such that the SI said show him bananas, he will come down. The Naib Tehsildar did not get down from his vehicle, he remained sitting in the vehicle and after four hours he committed suicide by jumping from there. There were high ranking Ministers of the state Government in Meerut, but no official came there, instead the SI and the deputy Tehsildar filed a case that people had obstructed Government work. He was not given any compensation. I request the Government through you that the case

against them should be withdrawn, it should be compensated and the entire case should be properly investigated because this is a very heartbreaking incident. No officer reached there for four hours and he committed suicide.

You gave me the opportunity to speak, thank you very much.

[English]

SHRI THOTA NARASIMHAM (KAKINADA): I would like to draw your attention towards the all India Radio 100 watts relay station at Kakinada, my Parliamentary Constituency. It was started on January 13, 2013 on the auspicious day of Bhogi, after a long waiting of nearly 30 years. The Kakinada AIR was announced in 1983 by the then Central Electronic Minister, Shri M. S. Sanjeev Rao. Foundation stone was laid by the NDA-led Government in April, 1998 by Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, the then Information and Broadcasting Minister.

The present AIR at Kakinada is operating with 100 watts needs to be expanded at once. This small AIR Division in Kakinada does not have any facility to make programmes. It broadcasts programmes made by other AIR Divisions for the people in the radius of four kms. who can hear it clearly.

I want to request the Hon. Minister to set up 10 watts FM transmitter so that it can benefit 50 lakh people of East Godavari district and around 25 lakh people of West Godavari district. I would also request the Hon. Minister to set up a studio in Kakinada's AIR Division so that tailor made programmes can be made according to the needs of both the districts. This will also help in encouraging the local talents.

[Translation]

SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY (PALI): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I would like to inform the Government through you that despite being an extremely drought-hit area, the financial assistance received from the Government of India for rural drinking water in the state of Rajasthan has been drastically reduced for the financial year 2015-16. This year, liabilities worth Rs 5842 crore are outstanding for drinking water schemes approved as per the guidelines of the Ministry in previous years. All these liabilities have arisen due to the guidelines of the Government of India. As per the Budget presented for this year, the State of Rajasthan is proposed to receive only Rs. 300 crore under the Rural Drinking Water Scheme, which is directly less than Rs. 1000 crore in the previous year. Last year, Rajasthan state had received Rs 1304 crore from the Government of India under this head.

Therefore, I request the Government of India to reconsider this matter and provide at least Rs. 5842 crores this year for the rural drinking water scheme so that the drinking water scheme can be run smoothly in the state of Rajasthan after clearing the previous liabilities.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat is allowed to associate with the issue raised by Shri P. P. Chaudhary.

SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE (MUMBAI SOUTH CENTRAL): Thank you Sir for allowing me to speak on an important issue of delay in sanctioning and release of Central assistance under Post-Matric Scholarship Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatravas Scheme to Maharashtra. In this connection, I would submit that long back Bharat Ratna, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar had set up the People Education Society in Mumbai. This Society is running Siddhart Vihar Hostel at Vadala which is facing problems due to non-availability of funds. The building of the hostel is in a dilapidated condition. Hence, I would request the Government to grant 100 per cent Central grants to the hostel management for reconstruction of this hostel.

I would suggest that 100 per cent Central assistance should be provided to the proposal of the Maharashtra Government for sanction

and release of Central aid for construction of hostels for students belonging to the Scheduled Castes under the said Scheme at the earliest.

[Translation]

DR. SATYAPAL SINGH (BAGHPAT): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, the water of Hindon river flowing through my Lok Sabha constituency Bagpat has become so polluted due to sugar mills and other industries located on its banks that the incidence of cancer is increasing in about a dozen nearby villages due to drinking water from hand pumps. Due to this, more than 100 people have died in villages like Ganganoli, Raithna and Datnagar. I request the Government of India to clean the water of this river and provide water supply through pipes.

[English]

SHRI V. PANNEERSELVAM (SALEM): I would like to request the Hon. External Affairs Minister to set up a Passport Office in my Salem constituency as this has been a long pending matter. The nearest Passport office is located nearly 130 km. away in the district of Coimbatore. It is difficult for the people of my constituency to travel that far and apply to get Passport. Salem is the fifth largest city in Tamil Nadu. Hence, I would request the Hon. Minister to consider my request and set up the Passport office in Salem, Tamil Nadu which

would fulfil the needs of the people of my Parliamentary Constituency.

[Translation]

SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT (JODHPUR): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I want to talk about the most important educational institution of the country, hence I seek your patronage.

Sir, there are seven-eight institutes in the name of All India Institute of Medical Sciences, AIIMS, in the entire country. There are a total of 672 seats in their entrance exam for which around five lakh competitors appear in the exam every year. I had written a letter to the Hon. Health Minister in the month of July last year that some changes should be made in the system of this examination because neither the question paper of this examination is given to the candidate nor its answer key is given, due to which he does not know what kind of performance I have shown. In the context of that letter, the Medical Department and its Governing Council have taken a decision, after which a new method of examination has been implemented, in which the examination will be held in two slots, in which neither the student will get the examination paper nor the answer key and his admission card for the examination will also be deposited there. Earlier, such an exam was conducted in different slots in Rajasthan in 2014, which

became a subject of controversy. Many people went to the High Court and then to the Supreme Court, the Supreme Court rejected that examination and due to that the examination had to be conducted again. Because AIIMS is our flagship institute, this method of examination should be reconsidered so that it does not get into controversy and the examination does not have to be cancelled.

[English]

SHRI GOURAV GOGOI (KALIABOR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to raise a matter of urgent national importance. This is relating to the Asian Trilateral Highway, a project started by the Ministry of External Affairs. The aim of the project was to link Northeast India with South East Asia, particularly Myanmar and Thailand. The benefits of this project are obvious. It would lead to flow of goods, creation of jobs and upgradation of infrastructure in an infrastructure-starved part of the country. But the current status of the project is quite poor. The Thailand authorities have finished their section of the Highway in Thailand. But the Indian authorities have been very slow in implementing this project within India and Myanmar. As a result, the benefits of this project are delayed. I would like to remind the Government that action speaks

louder than words. When we say ‘Act East’, we should do ‘Act East’ as well.

Hence I urge upon the Ministry of External Affairs to complete this project within the targeted deadline or if it is not possible, then they should hand over the project to the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.

[Translation]

SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA (SINGHBHUM): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on such an important topic. There are about 42 iron ore mines in my Parliamentary Constituency Singhbhum in the state of Jharkhand. Only ten of them are operational and the rest are closed due to which the Government is losing huge revenue and the unemployed are not getting jobs, leading to continuous migration from the district. Therefore, I would like to request the Government through you to open these closed mines in Jharkhand on the lines of Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Goa and Odisha. This will generate revenue for the Government and also provide employment to the unemployed and stop migration.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Sunil Kumar Singh is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Laxman Giluwa.

SHRI P. K**. BIJU (ALATHUR)**: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. I would like to raise a matter of urgent national importance before the House. A large number of migrant workers are working abroad. During the global financial crisis, lakhs of persons lost their jobs. At that time, it was estimated that their number is about 18 million, but the actual number is more than 30 million.

Due to the uprising in Arab countries and the imposition of *Nitaqat* policy in Saudi Arabia, lakhs of Indian citizens lost their jobs. The badly hit in this regard is our State Kerala. As you are aware, the remittance of migrant workers is heavy in our State. Due to the prevailing unrest in Yemen, Iraq, and also in Libya, a large number of nurses and IT professionals have come back to our State. It is very difficult to rehabilitate and resettle them.

So, I urge upon the Government to come out with a concrete proposal for the creation of a welfare fund and other measures to help those people.

SHRI K. PARASURAMAN (THANJAVUR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to raise a matter of urgent public importance.

I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Agriculture Minister regarding setting up of a Central Agriculture University in Thanjavur. There are as many as 650 Universities in the country. Out of these, 45 Universities are Central Universities. Besides, there are 321 State Universities, 129 Deemed Universities and 187 Private Universities. We have only 65 Universities in the country for the cause of Agriculture education and research. There are 30 National Institutes of Technology (NIT), 16 Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT), 19 Indian Institutes of Management (IIM), and 5 Science and Research Institutes. It is a matter of great worry that there is only one Agriculture University in the country. It is our foremost duty to ensure that the benefits of the rapid advancements in the field of science and technology should be taken towards agriculture.

There is a long-felt need for setting up one Central Agriculture University in Thanjavur, the granary of South India. In Thanjavur, coconut, banana, groundnut, black gram, and green gram are grown in large scale besides rice production. Thanjavur and its adjoining five districts of Tamil Nadu are wholly dependent on agriculture and agro-

based industries. As the economy of these districts is primarily dependent on agriculture, the need for an Agriculture university becomes important.

So, I urge upon the Hon. Minister of Agriculture to immediately set up a Central Agriculture University in Thanjavur.

[Translation]

SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO (JAMSHEDPUR): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, this is a very important subject. NBCC, HSCL and IRCON are working under Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana. About 60% of the work is incomplete. I had raised this issue in the last session, due to which the investigation team had gone.72 roads were inspected and they accepted the fact that Jharkhand state has the worst quality of roads amongst all the states in India.7,6,4, and 7,8,9 phase work has not been completed, yet work has been given to NBCC. Due to non-payment for the last two months, the work of PMGSY is completely stopped. I call upon the Government through you to pay the same otherwise the State is going to suffer a huge loss.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Sunil Kumar Singh is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Bidyut Baran Maht.

[Translation]

KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL (HAMIRPUR): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have stood up to appeal to the Government through you to save the farmers of Bundelkhand.

The Samajwadi Party Government of Uttar Pradesh is committing an injustice against the farmers of Bundelkhand. I say this because, while electricity rates are low throughout the state, in Bundelkhand they are more than double. From 10 June 2013 to 30 September, the electricity rate in the entire state was Rs 100 per horsepower, whereas in Bundelkhand it was Rs 140 per horsepower. Since 1 October, while the rate of Rs 100 has been maintained in the rest of Uttar Pradesh, in Bundelkhand it has been increased to Rs 220 per horsepower. Alongside this disproportionate increase, farmers in Bundelkhand continue to bear a heavy financial burden, which requires urgent attention from the Government … *(Interruptions)*

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again on 28th April, 2015 at 11 a. m.

20.27 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven O' Clock on April 28, 2015/Vaisakha 8, 1937 (Saka).

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