

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Fifteenth Session

(Sixteenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XXXII contains Nos.1 to 10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

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No. 1, Wednesday, July 18, 2018/Ashadha 27, 1940 (Saka)**

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ALPHABETICAL LIST OF MEMBERS OF SIXTEENTH LOK

SABHA

Abdullah, Dr. Farooq (Srinagar)

Adhikari, Shri Deepak (Dev) (Ghatal)

Adhikari, Shri Dibyendu (Tamluk),

Adhikari, Shri Sisir Kumar (Kanthi)

Adsul, Shri Anandrao (Amravati)

Advani, Shri L.K. (Gandhinagar)

Agrawal, Shri Rajendra (Meerut)

Ahir, Shri Hansraj Gangaram (Chandrapur)

Ahlawat, Shrimati Santosh (Jhunjhunu)

Ahluwalia, Shri S.S. (Darjeeling)

Ahmed, Shrimati Sajda(Uluberia)

Ajmal, Shri Badruddin (Dhubri)

Ajmal, Shri Sirajuddin (Barpeta)

Alam, Shri Sarfraz (Arariya)

Ali, Shri Idris (Basirhat)

Amarappa , Shri Karadi Sanganna (Koppal)

Ananthkumar, Shri (Bangalore South)

Angadi, Shri Suresh C. (Belagavi)

Antony, Shri Anto (Pathanamthitta)

Anwar, Shri Tariq (Katihar)

Arunmozhithevan, Shri A. (Cuddalore)

Aujla, Shri Gurjeet Singh (Amritsar)

Azad, Shri Kirti (Darbhanga)

Babu, Dr. Ravindra (Amalapuram)

Badal, Shrimati Harsimrat Kaur (Bhatinda)

Baheria, Shri Subhash Chandra (Bhilwara)

Baig, Shri Muzaffar Hussain (Baramulla)

Bais, Shri Ramesh (Raipur)

Baite, Shri Thangso (Outer Manipur)

Baker, Shri George (Nominated)

Bakshi, Shri Subrata (Kolkata Dakshin)

Bala, Shrimati Anju (Misrikh)

Balyan, Dr. Sanjeev (Muzaffarnagar)

Bandyopadhyay, Shri Sudip (Kolkata Uttar)

Banerjee, Shri Abhishek (Diamond Harbour)

Banerjee, Shri Kalyan (Sreerampur)

Banerjee, Shri Prasun (Howrah)

Bansode, Adv. Sharadkumar Maruti (Solapur)

Barman, Shri Bijoy Chandra (Jalpaiguri)

Barne, Shri Shrirang Appa (Maval)

Baruah, Shri Pradan (Lakhimpur)

Basheer, Shri E. T. Mohammad (Ponnani)

Begum, Shrimati. Tabassum (Kairana)

Bhabhor, Shri Jasvantsinh Sumanbhai (Dahod)

Bhagat, Shri Bodh Singh (Balaghat)

Bhagat, Shri Sudarshan (Lohardaga)

Bhamre, Dr. Subhash Ramrao (Dhule)

Bharathi Mohan, Shri R.K. (Mayiladuthurai)

Bharti, Sushri Uma (Jhansi)

Bhatt, Shrimati Ranjanben (Vadodara)

Bhole, Shri Devendra Singh (Akbarpur)

Bhonsale, Shri Chh. Udayanraje (Satara)

Bhuria, Shri Kanti Lal (Ratlam)

Bidhuri, Shri Ramesh (South Delhi)

Biju, Dr. P. K. (Alathur)

Birla, Shri Om (Kota)

Biswas, Shri Radheshyam (Karimganj)

Bohra, Shri Ramcharan (Jaipur City)

Bose, Prof. Sugata (Jadavpur)

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Chandrappa, Shri B. N. (Chitradurga)

Chandumajra, Shri Prem Singh (Anandpur Sahib)

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Chaudhary, Shri Haribhai (Banaskantha)

Chaudhary, Shri P.P. (Pali)

Chaudhary, Shri Pankaj (Maharajganj)

Chaudhary, Shri Ram Tahal (Ranchi)

Chaudhary, Shri Santokh Singh (Jalandhar)

Chaudhury, Shri Jitendra (Tripura East)

Chauhan, Shri Devusinh (Kheda)

Chauhan, Shri P. P. (Panchmahal)

Chautala, Shri Dushyant (Hisar)

Chavan, Shri Ashok Shankarrao (Nanded)

Chavan, Shri Harishchandra (Dindori)

Chavda, Shri Vinod Lakhmashi (Kachchh)

Chhewang, Shri Thupstan (Ladakh)

Chhotelal, Shri (Robertsganj)

Chinnaiyan, Shri S. Selvakumara (Erode)

Choubey, Shri Ashwini Kumar (Buxar)

Choudhary(Retd.), Col. Sonaram (Barmer)

Choudhary, Shri Babulal (Fatehpur Sikri)

Choudhary, Shri Birendra Kumar (Jhanjharpur)

Chouhan, Shri Nand Kumar (Khandwa)

Chowdhury, Shri A. H. Khan (Maldaha Dakshin)

Chowdhury, Shri Adhir Ranjan (Baharampur)

Chudasama, Shri Rajeshbhai (Junagadh)

Danve, Shri Raosaheb Patil (Jalna)

Dastidar, Dr. Kakoli Ghosh (Barasat)

Datta, Shri Sankar Prasad (Tripura West)

Dattatreya, Shri Bandaru (Secunderabad)

De (Nag), Dr. Ratna (Hooghly)

Deka, Shri Ramen (Mangaldai)

Deo, Shri Arka Keshari (Kalahandi)

Deo, Shri Kalikesh N. Singh (Bolangir)

Dev, Kumari Sushmita (Silchar)

Devegowda, Shri H.D. (Hassan)

Devi, Shrimati Rama (Sheohar)

Devi, Shrimati Veena (Munger)

Dharambir, Shri (Bhiwani-Mahendragarh)

Dhotre, Shri Sanjay (Akola)

Dhruvanarayana, Shri R. (Chamarajanagar)

Dhurve, Shrimati Jyoti (Betul)

Diwakar, Shri Rajesh Kumar (Hathras)

Dohre, Shri Ashok Kumar (Etawah)

Dubey, Shri Nishikant (Godda)

Dubey, Shri Satish Chandra (Valmiki Nagar)

Dwivedi, Shri Harishchandra alias Harish (Basti)

Elumalai, Shri V. (Arani)

Engti, Shri Biren Singh (Autonomous District)

Ering, Shri Ninong (Arunachal East)

Faizal, Mohammed (Lakshadweep)

Fatepara, Shri Devjibhai G. (Surendranagar)

Gaddigoudar, Shri P.C. (Bagalkot)

Gadkari, Shri Nitin (Nagpur)

Gaikwad, Dr. Sunil Baliram (Latur)

Gaikwad, Prof. Ravindra Vishwanath (Osmanabad)

Galla, Shri Jayadev (Guntur)

Gandhi, Shri Dharam Vira (Patiala)

Gandhi, Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal (Ahmadnagar)

Gandhi, Shri Feroze Varun (Sultanpur)

Gandhi, Shri Rahul (Amethi)

Gandhi, Shrimati Maneka Sanjay (Pilibhit)

Gandhi, Shrimati Sonia (Raibareilly)

Gangwar, Shri Santosh Kumar (Bareilly)

Gautam, Shri Satish Kumar (Aligarh)

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Gavit, Shri Rajendra Dhedya (Palghar)

Gawali (Patil), Shrimati Bhavana

(Yavatmal-Washim)

Geete, Shri Anant Gangaram (Raigad)

Geetha, Shrimati Kothapalli (Araku)

George, Adv. Joice (Idukki)

Ghosh, Shrimati Arpita (Balurghat)

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Jadhav, Shri Sanjay Haribhau (Parbhani)

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Joshi, Shri Pralhad (Dharwad)

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Kaiser, Choudhary Mehboob Ali (Khagaria)

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Koli, Shri Bahadur Singh (Bharatpur)

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Kumar, Kunwar Sarvesh (Moradabad)

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Kumar, Shri K. Ashok (Krishnagiri)

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Kumar, Shri Santosh (Purnea)

Kumar, Shri Shailesh (Bhagalpur)

Kumar, Shri Shanta (Kangra)

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Kunhalikutty, Shri P.K. (Malappuram)

Kushawaha, Shri Ravinder (Salempur)

Kushwaha, Shri Upendra (Karakat)

Laguri, Shrimati Sakuntala (Keonjhar)

Lakhanpal, Shri Raghav (Saharanpur)

Lekhi, Shrimati Meenakashi (New Delhi)

Lokhande, Shri Sadashiv (Shirdi)

Maadam, Shrimati Poonamben (Jamnagar)

Mahadik, Shri Dhananjay (Kolhapur)

Mahajan, Shrimati Poonam (North Central Mumbai)

Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra (Indore)

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Mahato, Dr. Mriganka (Purulia)

Mahato, Shri Bidyut Baran (Jamshedpur)

Mahtab, Shri Bhartruhari (Cuttack)

Mahendran, Shri C. (Pollachi)

Majhi, Shri Balbhadra (Nabarangpur)

Malviya, Prof. Chintamani (Ujjain)

Mandal, Dr. Tapas (Ranaghat)

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Mann, Shri Bhagwant (Sangrur)

Marabi, Shri Kamal Bhan Singh (Sarguja)

Maragatham, Shrimati K. (Kancheepuram)

Marutharajaa, Shri R. P. (Perambalur)

Meena, Shri Arjun Lal (Udaipur)

Meena, Shri Harish (Dausa)

Meghwal, Shri Arjun Ram (Bikaner)

Meinya, Dr. Thokchom (Inner Manipur)

Mishra, Shri Anoop (Morena)

Mishra, Shri Bhairon Prasad (Banda)

Mishra, Shri Daddan (Shrawasti)

Mishra, Shri Janardan (Rewa)

Mishra, Shri Kalraj (Deoria)

Misra, Shri Pinaki (Puri)

Modi, Shri Narendra (Varanasi)

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Mohan, Shri P.C. (Bangalore Central)

Mohapatra, Dr. Sidhant (Berhampur)

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Mondal, Shri Sunil Kumar (Bardhman Purba)

Mondal, Shrimati Pratima (Jayanagar)

Mukherjee, Shri Abhijit (Jangipur)

Munda, Shri Karia (Khunti)

Munde, Dr. Pritam Gopinath (Beed)

Muniyappa, Shri K.H. (Kolar)

Nagar, Shri Rodmal (Rajgarh)

Nagarajan, Shri P. (Coimbatore)

Nagesh, Shri Godam (Adilabad)

Naik, Prof. A.S.R. (Mahabubabad)

Naik, Shri B.V. (Raichur)

Naik, Shri Shripad Yesso (North Goa)

Narasimham, Shri Thota (Kakinada)

Nath, Shri Kamal (Chhindwara)

Natterjee, Shri J.J.T. (Thoothukudi)

Nete, Shri Ashok Mahadeorao (Gadchiroli-chimur)

Ninama, Shri Manshankar (Banswara)

Nishad, Shri Ajay (Muzaffarpur)

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Oram, Shri Jual (Sundargarh)

Owaisi, Shri Asaduddin (Hyderabad)

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Pal, Shri Jagdambika (Domariyaganj)

Pala, Shri Vincent H. (Shillong)

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Pandey, Shri Hari Om (Ambedkar Nagar)

Pandey, Shri Rajesh (Kushinagar)

Pandey, Shri Ravindra Kumar (Giridih)

Panneerselvam, Shri V. (Salem)

Parasuraman, Shri K. (Thanjavur)

Parthipan, Shri R. (Theni)

Pasunoori, Shri Dayakar (Warangal)

Paswan, Shri Chhedi (Sasaram)

Paswan, Shri Chirag (Jamui)

Paswan, Shri Kamlesh (Basgaon)

Paswan, Shri Ram Chandra (Samastipur)

Paswan, Shri Ramvilas (Hajipur)

Patasani, Shri Prasanna Kumar (Bhubaneswar)

Patel, Dr. K. C. (Valsad)

Patel, Shri Devji M. (Jalore)

Patel, Shri Dilip (Anand)

Patel, Shri Lalubhai Babubhai (Daman & Diu)

Patel, Shri Nagendra Pratap Singh (Phulpur)

Patel, Shri Natubhai Gomanbhai (Dadra & Nagar Haveli)

Patel, Shri Prahlad Singh (Damoh)

Patel, Shri Subhash (Khargone)

Patel, Shrimati Anupriya (Mirzapur)

Patel, Shrimati Jayshreeben (Mahesana)

Pathak, Shrimati Riti (Sidhi)

Patil, Shri A.T. Nana (Jalgaon)

Patil, Shri Bheemrao B. (Zaheerabad)

Patil, Shri C. R. (Navsari)

Patil, Shri Kapil Moreshwar (Bhiwandi)

Patil, Shri Sanjay Kaka (Sangli)

Paul, Shri Tapas (Krishnanagar)

Phule, Sadhvi Savitri Bai (Bahraich)

Poddar, Shrimati Aparupa (Arambag)

Prabakaran, Shri K. R. P. (Tirunelveli)

Pradhan, Shri Nagendra Kumar (Sambalpur)

Prasad, Dr. Bhagirath (Bhind)

Pratap, Shri Krishan (Jaunpur)

Premachandran, Shri N.K. (Kollam)

Radadiya, Shri Vithalbhai Hansrajbhai (Porbandar)

Radhakrishnan, Shri Pon (Kanyakumari)

Radhakrishnan, Shri R. (Puducherry)

Radhakrishnan, Shri T. (Virudhunagar)

Raghavan, Shri M.K. (Kozhikode)

Rai, Shri Nityanand (Ujiarpur)

Rai, Shri Prem Das (Sikkim)

Raj, Dr. Udit (North West Delhi)

Raj, Shrimati Krishna (Shahjahanpur)

Raajhaa, Shri A. Anwhar (Ramanathapuram)

Rajbhar, Shri Harinarayan (Ghosi)

Rajendran, Shri S. (Viluppuram)

Rajesh, Shri M. B. (Palakkad)

Rajoria, Dr. Manoj (Karauli-Dholpur)

Rajput, Shri Mukesh (Farrukhabad)

Raju, Shri Ashok Gajapathi (Vizianagaram)

Raju, Shri Gokaraju Ganga (Narsapuram)

Ram, Shri Janak (Gopalganj)

Ram, Shri Vishnu Dayal (Palamu)

Ramachandran, Shri K. N. (Sriperumbudur)

Ramachandran, Shri Mullappally (Vadakara)

Ramadoss, Dr. Anbumani (Dharmapuri)

Ranjan, Shri Rajesh (Madhepura)

Ranjan, Shrimati Ranjeet (Supaul)

Rao, Shri Konakalla Narayana (Machhilipatnam)

Rao, Shri M. Venkateswara (Eluru)

Rao (Avanthi), Shri Muthamsetti Srinivasa (Anakapalli)

Rao, Shri Rayapati Sambasiva (Narasaraopet)

Rathod, Shri D.S. (Sabarkantha)

Rathore (Retd.), Col. Rajyavardhan (Jaipur Rural)

Rathore, Shri Hariom Singh (Rajsamand)

Rathwa, Shri Ramsinh (Chhota Udaipur)

Raut, Shri Vinayak Bhaurao (Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg)

Raval, Shri Paresh (Ahmedabad-East)

Rawat, Shrimati Priyanka Singh (Barabanki)

Ray, Shri Bishnu Pada (Andaman and Nicobar Islands)

Ray, Shri Partha Pratim (Coochbehar)

Ray, Shri Ravindra Kumar (Kodarma)

Reddy, Shri A.P. Jithender (Mahabubnagar)

Reddy, Shri Ch. Malla (Malkajgiri)

Reddy, Shri Gutha Sukender (Nalgonda)

Reddy, Shri J.C. Divakar (Anantapur)

Reddy, Shri Konda Vishweshwar (Chevella)

Reddy, Shri Kotha Prabhakar (Medak)

Reddy, Shri P. Srinivasa (Khammam)

Reddy, Shri S. P.Y. (Nandyal)

Renuka, Shrimati Butta (Kurnool)

Rijiju, Shri Kiren (Arunachal West)

Rori, Shri Charanjeet Singh (Sirsa)

Roy, Prof. Saugata (Dum Dum)

Roy, Shrimati Sandhya (Medinipur)

Roy, Shrimati Satabdi (Birbhum)

Ruala, Shri C.L. (Mizoram)

Rudy, Shri Rajiv Pratap (Saran)

Sahu, Shri Chandulal (Mahasamund)

Sahu, Shri Lakhan Lal (Bilaspur)

Sahu, Shri Tamradhwaj (Durg)

Sai, Shri Vishnu Dev (Raigarh)

Saini, Shri Rajkumar (Kurukshetra)

Salim, Shri Mohammad (Raiganj)

Samal, Dr. Kulmani (Jagatsinghpur)

Sampla, Shri Vijay (Hoshiarpur)

Sampath, Dr. A. (Attingal)

Sanghamita, Dr. Mamtaz (Bardhman Durgapur)

Sangma, Shri C.K. (Tura)

Sanjar, Shri Alok (Bhopal)

Saren, Dr. Uma (Jhargram)

Sarmah, Shri Ram Prasad (Tezpur)

Sarnia, Shri Naba Kumar (Kokrajhar)

Sarswati, Shri Sumedhanand (Sikar)

Satav, Shri Rajeev (Hingoli)

Sathyabama, Shrimati V. (Tiruppur)

Satpathy, Shri Tathagata (Dhenkanal)

Sawaikar, Adv. Narendra Keshav (South Goa)

Sawant, Shri Arvind (Mumbai South)

Scindia, Shri Jyotiraditya M. (Guna)

Senguttuvan, Shri B. (Vellore)

Senthilnathan, Shri P. R. (Sivaganga)

Sethi, Shri Arjun Charan (Bhadrak)

Shah, Shrimati Mala Rajyalakshmi (Tehri Garhwal)

Shanavas, Shri M.I. (Wayanad)

Shankarrao, Shri Mohite Patil Vijaysinh (Madha)

Sharma, Dr. Mahesh (Gautam Buddha Nagar)

Sharma, Dr. Raghu (Ajmer)

Sharma, Shri Ram Kumar (Sitamarhi)

Sharma, Shri Ram Swaroop (Mandi)

Shekhawat, Shri Gajendra Singh (Jodhpur)

Shetty, Shri Gopal (Mumbai North)

Shetty, Shri Raju (Hatkanangle)

Shewale, Shri Rahul (Mumbai South Central)

Shinde, Dr. Shrikant Eknath (Kalyan)

Shirole, Shri Anil (Pune)

Shivajirao, Shri Adhalrao Patil (Shirur)

Shyal, Dr. Bhartiben D. (Bhavnagar)

Siddeshwara, Shri G. M. (Davangere)

Sigriwal, Shri Janardan Singh (Maharajganj)

Simha, Shri Pratap (Mysore)

Singh, Dr. Bhola (Begusarai)

Singh, Dr. Jitendra (Udhampur)

Singh, Dr. Nepal (Rampur)

Singh, Dr. Prabhas Kumar (Bargarh)

Singh, Dr. Satya Pal (Baghpat)

Singh, Dr. Yashwant (Nagina)

Singh (Retd), Gen. Vijay Kumar (Ghaziabad)

Singh, Kunwar Bharatendra (Bijnor)

Singh, Kunwar Haribansh (Pratapgarh)

Singh, Prof. Sadhu (Faridkot)

Singh, Rao Inderjit (Gurgaon)

Singh, Shri Abhishek (Rajnandgaon)

Singh, Shri Bharat (Ballia)

Singh, Shri Bhola (Bulandshahr)

Singh, Shri Brijbhushan Sharan (Kaiserganj)

Singh, Shri Dushyant (Jhalawar-Baran)

Singh, Shri Ganesh (Satna)

Singh, Shri Giriraj (Nawada)

Singh, Shri Gyan (Shahdol)

Singh, Shri Kirti Vardhan (Gonda)

Singh, Shri Lallu (Faizabad)

Singh, Shri Nagendra (Khajuraho)

Singh, Shri Pashupati Nath (Dhanbad)

Singh, Shri R. K. (Arrah)

Singh, Shri Radha Mohan (East Champaran)

Singh, Shri Rajnath (Lucknow)

Singh (Raju Bhaiya), Shri Rajveer (Etah)

Singh, Shri Rakesh (Jabalpur)

Singh, Shri Rama Kishore (Vaishali)

Singh, Shri Ravneet (Ludhiana)

Singh, Shri Satyapal (Sambhal)

Singh, Shri Sunil Kumar (Chatra)

Singh, Shri Sushil Kumar (Aurangabad)

Singh, Shri Uday Pratap (Hoshangabad)

Singh, Shri Virendra (Bhadohi)

Singh, Shrimati Pratyusha Rajeshwari (Kandhamal)

Sinha, Shri Jayant (Hazaribagh)

Sinha, Shri Manoj (Ghazipur)

Sinha, Shri Shatrughan (Patna Sahib)

Sivaprasad, Shri Naramalli (Chittoor)

Solanki, Dr. Kirit P. (Ahmedabad)

Somaiya, Dr. Kirit (Mumbai North East)

Sonkar, Shri Vinod Kumar (Kaushambi)

Sonker, Shrimati Neelam (Lalganj)

Soren, Shri Shibu (Dumka)

Srinivas, Shri Kesineni (Vijayawada)

Sriram, Shri Malyadri (Bapatla)

Sule, Shrimati Supriya Sadanand (Baramati)

Suman, Shri Balka (Peddapalli)

Sundaram, Shri P. R. (Namakkal)

Supriyo, Shri Babul (Asansol)

Suresh, Shri D.K. (Bangalore Rural)

Suresh, Shri Kodikunnil (Mavelikkara)

Swain, Shri Ladu Kishore (Aska)

Swaraj, Shrimati Sushma (Vidisha)

Tadas, Shri Ramdas C. (Wardha)

Tamta, Shri Ajay (Almora)

Tanwar, Shri Kanwar Singh (Amroha)

Tarai, Shrimati Rita (Jajpur)

Tasa, Shri Kamakhya Prasad (Jorhat)

Teacher, Shrimati P.K. Shreemathi (Kannur)

Teli, Shri Rameshwar (Dibrugarh)

Teni, Shri Ajay Misra (Kheri)

Thakur, Shri Anurag Singh (Hamirpur)

Thakur, Shrimati Mamata (Bangaon)

Thakur, Shrimati Savitri (Dhar)

Thambidurai, Dr. M. (Karur)

Tharoor, Dr. Shashi (Thiruvananthapuram)

Thomas, Prof. K.V. (Ernakulam)

Tirkey, Shri Dasrath (Alipurduars)

Tiwari, Shri Manoj (North East Delhi)

Tokheho, Shri (Nagaland)

Tomar, Shri Narendra Singh (Gwalior)

Tripathi, Shri Sharad (Sant Kabir Nagar)

Trivedi, Shri Dinesh (Barrackpur)

Tumane, Shri Krupal Balaji (Ramtek)

Udasi, Shri Shivkumar (Haveri)

Udhayakumar, Shri M. (Dindigul)

Usendi, Shri Vikram (Kanker)

Utawal, Shri Manohar (Devas)

Vaghela, Shri L. K. (Patan)

Vanaroja, Shrimati R. (Tiruvannamalai)

Vardhan, Dr. Harsh (Chandni Chowk)

Varma, Shrimati Dev (Bankura)

Vasanthi, Shrimati M. (Tenkasi)

Vasava, Shri Manshukhbhai Dhanjibhai (Bharuch)

Vasava, Shri Parbhubhai Nagarbhai (Bardoli)

Venkatesh Babu, Shri T. G. (Chennai North)

Venugopal, Dr. P. (Tiruvallur)

Venugopal, Shri K. C. (Alappuzha)

Verma, Dr. Anshul (Hardoi)

Verma, Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh (Jalaun)

Verma, Shri Parvesh Sahib Singh (West Delhi)

Verma, Shri Rajesh (Sitapur)

Verma, Shrimati Rekha (Dhaurahra)

Vichare, Shri Rajan (Thane)

Vijaya Kumar, Shri S. R. (Chennai Central)

Yadav, Shri Akshay (Firozabad)

Yadav, Shri Dharmendra (Badaun)

Yadav, Shri Hukmdeo Narayan (Madhubani)

Yadav, Shri Jai Prakash Narayan (Banka)

Yadav, Dr Karan Singh (Alwar)

Yadav, Shri Laxmi Narayan (Sagar)

Yadav, Shri Mulayam Singh (Azamgarh)

Yadav, Shri Om Prakash (Siwan)

Yadav, Shri Ram Kripal (Pataliputra)

Yadav, Shri Tej Pratap Singh (Mainpuri)

Yadav, Shrimati Dimple (Kannauj)

Yellaiah, Shri Nandi (Nagar Kurnool)

OFFICERS OF LOK SABHA

THE SPEAKER

Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Dr. M. Thambidurai

PANEL OF CHAIRPERSONS

Shri Arjun Charan Sethi

Shri Hukmdeo Narayan Yadav

Shri Anandrao Adsul

Shri Pralhad Joshi

Dr. Ratna De (Nag)

Shri Ramen Deka

Shri Konakalla Narayana Rao

Shri K.H. Muniyappa

Dr. P. Venugopal

Dr. Kalraj Mishra

SECRETARY GENERAL

Shrimati Snehlata Shrivastava

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**CABINET MINISTERS**

Shri Narendra Modi The Prime Minister and also in-charge of:

(i) Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions;

(ii) Department of Atomic Energy;

(iii) Department of Space; and

All important Policy issues and all other portfolios not allocated to any Minister

Shri Rajnath Singh The Minister of Home Affairs

Shrimati Sushma Swaraj The Minister of External Affairs

Shri Arun Jaitley The Minister without portfolio

Shri Nitin Gadkari The Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Minister of Shipping and Minister of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation

Shri Suresh Prabhu	The Minister of Commerce and Industry and Minister of Civil Aviation
Shri D.V. Sadananda Gowda	The Minister of Statistics and Programme Implementation
Sushri Uma Bharti	The Minister of Drinking Water and Sanitation
Shri Ramvilas Paswan	The Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Shrimati Maneka Sanjay Gandhi	The Minister of Women and Child Development
Shri Ananthkumar	The Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers; and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs
Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad	The Minister of Law and Justice and Minister of Electronics and Information Technology
Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda	The Minister of Health and Family Welfare

Shri Anant Gangaram Geete The Minister of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises

Shrimati Harsimrat Kaur Badal The Minister of Food Processing Industries

Shri Narendra Singh Tomar The Minister of Rural Development, Minister of Panchayati Raj and Minister of Mines

Shri Chaudhary Birender Singh The Minister of Steel

Shri Jual Oram The Minister of Tribal Affairs

Shri Radha Mohan Singh The Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

Shri Thaawar Chand Gehlot The Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment

Shrimati Smriti Zubin Irani The Minister of Textiles

Dr. Harsh Vardhan	The Minister of Science and Technology, Minister of Earth Sciences and Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Shri Prakash Javadekar	The Minister of Human Resource Development
Shri Dharmendra Pradhan	The Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
Shri Piyush Goyal	The Minister of Railways, Minister of Coal, Minister of Finance and Minister of Corporate Affairs.
Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman	The Minister of Defence
Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi	The Minister of Minority Affairs

MINISTERS OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

Rao Inderjit Singh	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Planning and Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Labour and Employment
Shri Shripad Yesso Naik	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH)
Dr. Jitendra Singh	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and

Pensions, Minister of State in the
Department of Atomic Energy and
Minister of State in the Department
of Space

Dr. Mahesh Sharma

The Minister of State of the
Ministry of Culture and Minister of
State in the Ministry of
Environment, Forest and Climate
Change

Shri Giriraj Singh

The Minister of State of the
Ministry of Micro, Small and
Medium Enterprises

Shri Manoj Sinha

The Minister of State of the
Ministry of Communications and
Minister of State in the Ministry of
Railways

Col. Rajyavardhan
Rathore (Retd.)

The Minister of State of the
Ministry of Youth Affairs and

Sports and Minister of state in the
Ministry of Information and
Broadcasting

Shri R. K. Singh

The Minister of State of the
Ministry of Power and Minister of
state of the Ministry of New and
Renewable Energy

Shri Hardeep Singh Puri

The Minister of State of the
Ministry Housing and Urban
Affairs

Shri Alphons
Kannanthanam

The Minister of State of the
Ministry of Tourism

MINISTERS OF STATE

Shri Vijay Goel

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation

Shri Pon Radhakrishnan

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance and Minister of State in the Ministry of Shipping

Shri S.S. Ahluwalia

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

Shri Ramesh Jigajinagi

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Drinking water and Sanitation

Shri Ramdas Athawale The Minister of State in the
Ministry of Social Justice and
Empowerment

Shri Vishnu Dev Sai The Minister of State in the
Ministry of Steel

Shri Ram Kripal Yadav The Minister of State in the
Ministry of Rural Development

Shri Hansraj Gangaram
Ahir The Minister of State in the
Ministry of Home Affairs

Shri Haribhai The Minister of State in the
Chaudhary Ministry of Mines and Minister of
State in the Ministry of Coal

Shri Rajen Gohain The Minister of State in the
Ministry of Railways

Gen. Vijay Kumar Singh (Retd.) The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs

Shri Parshottam Rupala The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Minister of State in the Ministry of Panchayati Raj

Shri Krishanpal Gurjar The Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Shri Jaswantsinh Sumanbhai Bhabhor The Minister of State in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs

Shri Shiv Pratap Shukla The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance

Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Shri Sudarshan Bhagat The Minister of State in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs

Shri Upendra Kushwaha The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development

Shri Kiren Rijiju The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs

Dr. Virendra Kumar The Minister of State in the Ministry of Women and Child Development and Minister of State in the Ministry of Minority Affairs

Shri Anantkumar Hegde The Minister of State in the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Shri M. J. Akbar The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs

Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food Processing Industries

Shri Jayant Sinha The Minister of State in the Ministry of Civil Aviation

Shri Babul Supriyo The Minister of State in the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises

Shri Vijay Sampla The Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Shri Arjun Ram
Meghwal

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation

Shri Ajay Tamta

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Textiles

Shrimati Krishna Raj

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

Shri Mansukh L.
Mandaviya

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Minister of State in the Ministry of Shipping and Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers

Shrimati Anupriya Patel The Minister of State in the
Ministry of Health and Family
Welfare

Shri C. R. Chaudhary The Minister of State in the
Ministry of Consumer Affairs,
Food and Public Distribution and
Minister of State in the Ministry of
Commerce and Industries

Shri P.P. Chaudhary The Minister of State in the
Ministry of Law and Justice and
Minister of State in the Ministry of
Corporate Affairs

Dr. Subhash Ramrao The Minister of State in the
Bhamre Ministry of Defence

Shri Gajendra Singh The Minister of State in the
Shekhawat Ministry of Agriculture and
Farmers

Dr. Satya Pal Singh

The Minister of State in the
Ministry of Human Resource
Development and Minister of State
in the Ministry of Water
Resources, River Development
and Ganga Rejuvenation

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Vol. XXXII First day of Fifteenth Session of Sixteenth Lok Sabha

No.1

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, July 18, 2018/ Ashadha 27, 1940 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[HON. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The National Anthem was played

1103 hrs

MEMBERS SWORN

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Now the Secretary General will call out the names of the Hon. Members elected in the by-election for oath taking.

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Shri Madhukarrao Yashwantrao Kukde.

Shri Kukde Madhukarrao
Yashwantrao (Bhandara-Gondia) - Oath - Hindi

Shri Gavit Rajendra Dhedya
(Palghar) - Oath - Marathi

Shri Tokheho (Nagaland) - Oath - English

Shrimati Tabassum Begum
(Kairana) - Affirmation - Hindi

11 07 hrs

OBITUARY REFERENCES

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House about the sad demise of three of our former Members, namely, Shri Bahadur Singh, Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal and Shri Kandala Subramanyam.

Shri Bahadur Singh was a Member of the 1st and 2nd Lok Sabha representing the Ludhiana Parliamentary Constituency of Punjab.

Shri Bahadur Singh worked relentlessly for the upliftment of the Scheduled Castes and promotion of small-scale industries.

Shri Bahadur Singh passed away on 25 October, 2017 in the United States of America at the age of 92.

Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal was a Member of the 7th to 14th Lok Sabha from Joyanagar Parliamentary Constituency of West Bengal.

During his long parliamentary career, Shri Mandal served as a Member of various Parliamentary Committees.

An active social and political worker, Shri Mandal always worked for the upliftment of the downtrodden and poor farmers in West Bengal.

Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal passed away on 19th April, 2018 in Kolkata, West Bengal, at the age of 76.

Shri Kandala Subramanyam was a Member of the 1st Lok Sabha representing Vijayanagaram Parliamentary Constituency of the erstwhile State of Madras, now in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

Shri Kandala Subrahmanyam passed away on 8th June, 2018 in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh at the age of 97 years.

We deeply mourn the passing of our three former colleagues. I am sure the House would join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

Hon. Members, 48 people are reported to have been killed and several others injured when a bus fell down into a deep gorge in the Pauri-Garhwal district of Uttarakhand on 1st July, 2018.

The House expresses its profound sorrow on this tragic accident which has brought pain and suffering to the bereaved families and wishes speedy recovery for those injured.

Hon. Members, several people have been reported dead and many others injured in twin terror bombings during Eid-ul-Fitr celebrations in Nangarhar Province, Afghanistan on 16th and 17th June, 2018.

In another suicide terror attack, 13 members of Afghan Sikh and Hindu community were reported to have been killed in Jalalabad, Afghanistan on 1 July, 2018.

This House unequivocally and in the strongest terms condemns these dastardly terrorist attacks and condoles the loss of innocent

people in these terrorist attacks and stands in solidarity with the people, Parliament and Government of Afghanistan and supports their efforts to bring to justice the perpetrators of such heinous attacks.

Now, the House will stand in silence for some time in respect of the departed souls.

11 10 hrs

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

11 11 hrs

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

Provision of wi-fi facility inside the chamber

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Members, I wish to make an announcement. A number of Hon. Members had requested that Wi-Fi facilities be made available within the House so that we can move towards a paperless system through our devices. I would like to inform the House that our Minister for Information Technology, Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad and in particular, our Minister of State Shri Ahluwalia ji have extended considerable support in this endeavour. I would like to thank both of them. After discussing with them, this facility has now been made available inside the Lok Sabha. You may now connect your laptops and access the internet as well. If you have your device with you, whether it is your mobile phone, your laptop or any other device, you may make use of this Wi-Fi facility to access various websites including those of the Government of India, the Lok Sabha Library and any other resources you may require, through the intranet. I believe that Hon. Members have already completed their registration for this facility. Those who have not yet done so may kindly complete the process and thereafter avail themselves of the facility as per their requirement.

11 12 hrs***ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Now, Question Hour. Question No. 1 – Shri Ashok Shankarrao Chavan.

(Q. 1)

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: I will allow everybody after Question Hour, not now.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Everything can be taken up after Question Hour, not before that.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Ashok Chavan.

... (*Interruptions*)

11 14 hrs

(At this stage, Shri Thota Narasimham and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Please go to your seats. I will not allow all these things.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Please go back; otherwise, I will not allow you to speak on any subject.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. I will allow you after Question Hour, not now. Do not disturb Question Hour.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: I will allow you after that; please take your seats.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Ashok Chavan, do you not want to ask your supplementary question?

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN: Madam, I cannot hear anything. ... (*Interruptions*) I am unable to hear anything.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Sudheer Gupta.

... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA: Hon. Madam Speaker, first of all I would like to congratulate the Government of India that under their excellent action plan the Meteorological Department has been able to correctly predict the scanty rainfall during the monsoon season 2014-15. ...
(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Not now, I will see everything later.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA: I would like to appreciate the Government for the fact that the LPA, long term average estimate has been 5.9 percent which was initially 8.5 percent. ... *(Interruptions)*

I would like to know whether the Meteorological Department will make any programme to send the weather forecast information to every Gram Panchayat, so that every farmer brother can forecast the weather and take decision regarding his crop and seeds as per the information provided by the Meteorological Department. ...
(Interruptions)

DR. HARSH VARDHAN: Madam, I would like to inform the Hon. Member that after our Government came to power, our cabinet has approved and launched the National Monsoon Mission. ...
(Interruptions) After the launch of the National Monsoon Mission, we now do weather forecasting at block level in the 12 kilometre by 12

kilometre area across the country. ... (*Interruptions*) By the end of this month we will provide weather information to about 39 million or 3.9 crore farmers, based on which they can plan their farming. We are going to give them all this information. Right now we are serving 24 million people and by the end of this month, this figure will reach around 39 million. All preparations for this have been done. ... (*Interruptions*)

11 16 hrs

At this stage Shri Dharmendra Yadav and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table

... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Please go to your seats. I have already told you that I will take it up after Question Hour.

... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

DR. HARSH VARDHAN: It gives me great pleasure to share with the House that the National Council for Applied Economic Research had undertaken a study on this subject some time ago. In its report released in the year 2015, the Council highlighted that based on the

weather-related information provided to farmers in relation to four specific crops, the country as a whole benefits with an increase in GDP to the tune of approximately fifty thousand crore rupees. ... *(Interruptions)* When we will start giving this information to farmers regarding 22 crops, the country's GDP will benefit by Rs. 3.5 lakh crore. ... *(Interruptions)* After the launch of the National Monsoon Mission, in addition to the statistical ensemble model that we had earlier, we have now introduced the dynamic model as well. ... *(Interruptions)* I am happy to inform that we have attained the fourth position globally in the field of high performance computing. ... *(Interruptions)* Under the leadership of Hon. Prime Minister, we have achieved the fourth position in the world in weather forecasting, behind only the America, England and Japan. ... *(Interruptions)* At present, our total computing capacity has reached ten petaflops. ... *(Interruptions)*

While answering the question of the Hon. Member, through you, I would like to assure this House that we are continuously making progress in this direction. ... *(Interruptions)* In all the aspects related to it, whether it is about cyclone forecasting, whether it is about forecasting of heat waves, whether it is about early tsunami warnings, our capabilities in each of these areas have now reached international standards. ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

DR. KULMANI SAMAL: Hon. Speaker, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. I have gone through the reply given by the hon. Minister regarding the preparedness of the Union Government for normal as well as not-so-normal monsoon. The reply is very unsatisfactory. My question is whether the Union Government would like to clearly state and demonstrate its preparedness on a pilot basis at the micro level at Paradip, a port town in the State of Odisha with adequate manpower and technology. ... (*Interruptions*)

DR. HARSH VARDHAN: I have already replied this in response to an earlier question that right now we are doing it at the block level in the whole country. At the block level also, we would be computing the results of 50 cases. We have already made all the preparations, all the scientific studies and given advisories also. This will further be expanded to all the districts. In terms of equipment, facilities or manpower we are well equipped and I think we are now at the international level.

HON. SPEAKER: Now, Question No. 2, Shri Rahul Shewale.

(Q.2)

[English]

SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE: Thank you, Madam Speaker. ...
(*Interruptions*)

My first supplementary question is this. The local skilled workforce is the biggest problem in setting up of nuclear power plants across the world. India is not an exception to it. So, I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to what steps have been taken by his Ministry to address the problem of local skilled workforce from the ground-breaking level until the commissioning of proposed nuclear plants in the country.

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Madam Speaker, the concern of the hon. Member is well taken. As a policy and as per the guidelines also, preference is always given to the local skilled and unskilled workers. We have a category which is known as PAP category, that is, the Project Affected Population. Not only they are given preference, but also they are given certain relaxations in comparison to their counterparts who do not hail locally. For example, there is an age relaxation of ten years in respect of this Project Affected local population. It means that even in general category they would be eligible to apply for a job up to the age of 45 years compared to 35 years in case of other general population.

Similarly, in respect of qualification also, the minimum qualification required in respect of general population is 50 per cent after graduation. But, in the case of the local population, it has been reduced to a mere pass percentage which in other words means 33 per cent.

Thirdly, whereas for the entrance or for the examination purpose in cases where it is required, normally the medium of language is English and Hindi, but in this case, we have also included the local language. The hon. Member would be interested to know that there are other provisions also available. For example, in case of Jaitapur, there is a provision of providing Rs. 5 lakh per person in lieu of the job. He would be interested to know that so far around Rs. 226 crore has already been dispensed with in addition to Rs. 50 crore which was purely meant for the job compensation.

SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE: My second supplementary question is this. An Environmental Survey Laboratory (ESL) is set up at each of the nuclear power plant sites to analyse changes in environmental matrices like air, water, vegetation, crops, milk, fish, etc., around the nuclear plant site.

I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to how many such laboratories have been set up so far in Maharashtra and across the country.

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: I have tried to include the names of the States in the tabular form in the answer itself. But, as far as the environmental concerns are concerned, we immediately follow the guidelines which are internationally known. Even at the outset, before the construction is taken up and during the construction, there is a three-month appraisal and after the construction is complete, it is six-monthly and then after every five years, the licence is renewed. Therefore, a due consideration is taken of the environment not only before launching of the project and not only at the time of planning and construction, but also even after the project has been made functional. The appraisal of the environmental concerns is mandatory every five years. Besides that, we have teams of the International Atomic Energy Bodies which periodically visit India and also give their own inputs and views.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: Madam, there are two mistakes in the reply given by the hon. Minister.

Firstly, at page no.1, 'Gorakhpur' is mentioned as a part of Haryana, which is not correct. The same should be corrected. At page no. 2, it has been mentioned that in Haripur in West Bengal an in-principle approval has been given for building a nuclear plant. The State Government has neither cleared the project nor it has promised any land. I do not know from where the hon. Minister has got the

figures that Haripur Nuclear Plant will be set up. The hon. Minister should correct this. These are the mistakes which need to be corrected.

My question is this. The main problem in setting up of new nuclear plants is the problem of civil liability for nuclear damage and the insurance. The hon. Minister has stated in his reply that they have resolved the issue. The Government has not yet brought any Bill or legislation for Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage. We also do not know as to what insurance would be paid to those who will be affected by nuclear disasters. I would like the hon. Minister to clarify the position of the Government with regard to the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage and with regard to Insurance Pool.

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Madam Speaker, Prof. Saugata Roy is much more learned and informed so I hate to point out that the mistake which he has pointed out is actually a mistake on his part. There is a place called 'Gorakhpur' in Haryana which is being referred to. It is not the Gorakhpur which he has taken ... (*Interruptions*)

On the contrary, I think the Modi Government deserves due credit because this project had been stalled for several years but immediately after taking over by his Government in the year 2014, the work has started. It is just a few kilometres away from Delhi and it might become functional in the next 2-3 years. Its production will be cost effective also. By bringing in this project, we have, in fact, made a huge

contribution to India's nuclear programme which was earlier confined to 3-4 States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu in South India and Maharashtra and Gujarat in the West. Now the nuclear programme has also moved over to North India ...(*Interruptions*)

Secondly, as far as the Haripur Project is concerned, I would like to inform the learned hon. Member that in-principle approval has been done. It is being brought up in collaboration with Russia ... (*Interruptions*). I am putting myself on record to say that this is a project with Russian collaboration and in-principle approval has been done. It is moving ahead. ... (*Interruptions*)

The third concern which he described in his question was about civil liability for nuclear damage. I think it is the Act of 2010 which he is referring to. I think this has been sorted out in the last two years. Earlier there were some concerns particularly on the part of the suppliers. I will not go through the entire Act because it has about ten pages. Broadly speaking, four main things have been kept in mind to address all the issues that raise concern. Firstly, there is no amendment. There is a section of media reporting that India has sought to amend this Act. But there is no amendment. Secondly, the victim's right will be fully protected. ... (*Interruptions*) There was again an apprehension that in case of any mishap, the victim may be at a disadvantage. Thirdly, the concern was regarding the right of recourse against the supplier. The third apprehension which was raised about two years

back was that the supplier may go scot-free. Fourthly, this Act was more oriented towards the domestic suppliers and it was not against foreign suppliers. This was another major concern which was raised even in the international media particularly in respect of the projects which were coming up with the American collaboration ...
(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Madam Speaker, under the leadership of the Hon. Prime Minister, the work on nuclear power is progressing at a fast pace. ... (*Interruptions*) My question to the Hon. Minister, through you, pertains to Chutka Unit One and Two, located in Mandla, Madhya Pradesh. ... (*Interruptions*) Bhavini has provided the country with new technology in a very effective manner. ... (*Interruptions*) The way discussion for prototype rapid breeding reactor takes place in Bhavini. ... (*Interruptions*) Through you, I wish to ask the Hon. Minister whether the projects that are scheduled to be completed or commenced within the next two to three years include the Chutka project as well. ... (*Interruptions*) This project has been pending for years and under this Government, at the very least, the land acquisition process has been completed and the work is likely to commence. ... (*Interruptions*) Through you, Sir, I wish to ask whether the reactor currently maintained by Bhavini for operational use will be

utilised in these upcoming projects? Will we be able to use the raw material available in our country? ... (*Interruptions*)

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Madam Speaker, the Hon. Member has asked a very important question. ... (*Interruptions*) Certainly, a lot of progress has been made in the last three-four years, particularly as a result of the personal interest of the Hon. Prime Minister. ... (*Interruptions*) When time and again he pointed out that these stalled projects in the video conferences, these have gained momentum. ... (*Interruptions*) This also includes the Chutka project which will have two reactors. 1400 MW (700 x2), Each one will have 700 MW. Till now, its total price has been kept up to one crore five thousand rupees. ... (*Interruptions*)

In addition, as the Hon. Member said, in the last three-four years, while accelerating this nuclear programme and planning new projects, an important decision has been taken that 10 indigenous reactors were approved at one go. Two of them are with international collaborations. ... (*Interruptions*) Not only this, since there was some financial difficulty, the Hon. Prime Minister himself took the initiative and got a proposal for joint ventures passed in the Cabinet. ... (*Interruptions*)

As a result, PSUs will be able to participate financially in it. Apart from this, some more important decisions have been taken in this direction. The insurance pool has been increased. Around 2024-25, 9

new nuclear plants will be completed. Recently in the month of June 2017, 12 additional projects have been approved and 5 additional sites have been identified. This also included the North-East and Meghalaya. Since we fall under seismic zones three and four, the implication is that several new efforts have been undertaken to accelerate progress in this area. Locations and sites that were previously unexplored have also been considered. The Chutka project, to which you have referred, is also a part of this very effort. ...

(Interruptions)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Question No. 03.

Shri Kesineni Srinivas

... *(Interruptions)*

(Q. 3)

[Translation]

DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA: In the postal sector, particularly in the non-traditional domain, the government and the Department of Posts have made considerable progress. I extend my appreciation to them. In particular, the Passport Seva Kendras have been extensively utilised over the past two years. Through you, Sir, I would like to ask the Hon. Minister what the Government is considering with regard to increasing the use of the Financial Services Provider System in a similar manner. The Hon. Prime Minister has launched a new scheme, 'Ayushman Bharat'. Will Post Office service be able to provide any benefit in promoting and propagating 'Ayushman Bharat'?

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Madam Speaker, after the formation of the Government, the Hon. Prime Minister had taken a decision. Citizens of the country have to travel longer distances within the country to get a passport made. With the objective of ensuring that no citizen of the country has to travel a distance of more than 50 kilometres, the Ministry of External Affairs and the Department of Post together decided that in every Lok Sabha constituency of the country, at least one Post Office Passport Seva Kendra will be set up where there is no passport office already. So far, we have established 215 post offices across the country that provide passport services. In addition, the

Department of Posts has also been extending several other citizen-centric services, whether it be Aadhaar updation, Aadhaar enrolment, or railway ticket booking. When Ayushman Bharat is launched, and if the need arises, the Government will continue to take such decisions from time to time in the interest of the citizens. At the appropriate time, an appropriate decision will be taken. ... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

DR. SHASHI THAROOR: Madam Speaker, it appears as if India Post has been making much of its growth in recent years through e-commerce. The figures I have show that 900 per cent revenue increase in 'Cash on Delivery' consignments for e-commerce is mainly through Amazon deliveries. The question that I am asking is whether the revenue deficit of India Post has only reduced because of its engagement with e-companies and e-commerce. If so, whether the hon. Minister has any plans to make India Post a profit-making entity by using its strong rural penetration. Delivering Amazon parcels to the cities is one thing but reaching out to our villages where the majority of our people live and rendering services to them can also be a revenue opportunity. I would welcome the views of the hon. Minister on this.

[Translation]

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Madam Speaker, I would like to inform the Hon. Member that this month, India Post Payment Bank is launching

650 branches across the country. More than 3,200 access points will be launched simultaneously this month. By the coming December, access point of India Post Payment Bank will be started in more than 1.5 lakh rural post offices across the country. I can say that financial inclusion has been the primary responsibility of this Government and in that direction, Post Payment Bank is going to do a lot of work in the coming times.

As far as parcel business or e-commerce is concerned, we have also created a separate Parcel Directorate. Parcel business in the country is also growing at the rate of fifteen to sixteen percent per annum. ... (*Interruptions*) India Post's share in it has been 3 percent till now. We have set a target that we will increase this share in the coming days. We are taking up many such works. ... (*Interruptions*) More and more emphasis should be given to citizen based services, we are working in this direction. We have created many parcel hub centres. ... (*Interruptions*) We are also working diligently to advance core areas such as speed post and our traditional postal business at a faster pace.

[English]

DR. A. SAMPATH: Madam Speaker, we all know that the Department of Posts is sitting on a gold mine. Under the Ministry of Communications, before the BSNL was formed, it was called the Department of Posts and Telecommunications. In all the States, quite

a lot of land belonging to the Department of Posts is lying vacant. In our State of Kerala and even in my own Constituency Attingal also, the Department of Posts own landed property worth crores of rupees. In many places, those lands are being encroached upon by various people. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he will take the initiative to utilize the vacant land which is now being encroached upon by various interested people. This can be utilized for the construction of BSNL buildings and other public sector undertakings can also become a part and parcel of the developmental activities undertaken by the Department of Posts.

Hence, through you, I would like to know whether the Minister of Communications will take up the issue with other concerned departments. If they want land to construct some building, they can engage in PPP mode with other departments and PSUs. I want to know whether the Minister will take up this new initiative. This is my humble question.

[Translation]

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Madam Speaker, I welcome the suggestion of the Hon. Member. In the state of the Hon. Member, a municipal road was not being constructed, so on behalf of the Department of Post, our Government has done the work of building the road in Kerala by giving the land. ... (*Interruptions*) And I want to say that we have the

record of the land that we have. Wherever the Government feels the need and especially ... (*Interruptions*) when the interests of the common citizen are in question, our Government will take appropriate decision.

(Q. 4)

[Translation]

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Madam Speaker, my question is to the Government and the Hon. Prime Minister. The Government has pushed the farmers to the brink of suicide...*

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: You please ask the question.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: I am sorry. This will not go on record.

... (*Interruptions*) ...*

HON. SPEAKER: This will not go on record.

... (*Interruptions*) ...*

HON. SPEAKER: You are a senior Member. I asked you to ask a supplementary question. This is not proper. Nothing will go on record.

... (*Interruptions*) ...*

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Gajanan Kirtikar - not present.

* Not recorded

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MOHD SALIM: Madam Speaker, a better question than this could not have been asked in the monsoon session. Thunder storms occur in the country, especially in North-East and Eastern India. Farmers are facing a disaster, after that there may be hail or lightning. I come from Seemanchal region, this is an annual affair in South Bengal, Bihar and North East, lives are lost. ... (*Interruptions*) The Hon. Minister himself has accepted this. In other countries where natural calamities occur, scientists do research to find the cause. ... (*Interruptions*) But we are not ready to find the cause of any of the problems of the farmer, we do not even consider it a problem, whether it is a natural calamity or an economic one or a matter of crop price or a matter of flood. I understand that if the Government will act in this manner ... (*Interruptions*)

I am asking the question, farmers are losing faith in the Government. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Please give the speech later, first ask questions.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MOHAMMAD SALIM: Farmers are losing their lives. ... (*Interruptions*) I think the Hon. Minister alone will not be able to explain the reason for this. ... (*Interruptions*) If the Parliament does not discuss this, how will the reason be found out? ... (*Interruptions*) We

are the representatives of the people, we are in the interest of the country, in the interest of the farmers. ... (*Interruptions*) Will the Government give them assurance? ... (*Interruptions*)

You are not even taking our no-confidence motion. ... (*Interruptions*), how will the Government think about the interests of the farmers? ... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Shri K. Vishweshwar Reddy, you have to ask only a supplementary question on this.

SHRI KONDA VISHWESHWAR REDDY: Madam, for any thunderstorm studies or research, we need data and data in India primarily comes from weather stations which are used for crop insurance and agricultural purposes ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: You will get it. You go back to your seat. This is not the way.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KONDA VISHWESHWAR REDDY: Is the Ministry of Earth Sciences using the same data? the Ministry of Agriculture has recommended a particular accreditation standard and the standard is IS 15243. ... (*Interruptions*). Now, this IS 15243 is not suitable for hilly areas, North Eastern States and many places where thunderstorms occur. ... (*Interruptions*). Now, also the Ministry of Agriculture

recommended 40,000 weather stations for the country. So far less than 4000 are working in the country. ... (*Interruptions*). My question to the Minister is, is the Government considering modifying the standard IS 15243, so that it is suitable for hilly areas, because according to this standard, you cannot put weather stations on hilly slopes and hillocks. Secondly, does the Government want to use the same data for thunderstorm research, which is used for agriculture crop insurance?

DR. HARSH VARDHAN: Madam, I would like to inform the hon. Member that under the National Monsoon Mission, we have made everything most modern and now we are using the most important dynamic model also along with the ensembled-statistical model.

Regarding the research for the thunderstorm, we are living with the times. Our research standard is comparable with any standard at the global level. ... (*Interruptions*). This is number one. Further, to take the research forward, as I have replied in the answer to the question that we have already issued a call for proposals. ... (*Interruptions*). We are involving all the universities; we are involving the academic institutions; we are involving all the academic bodies of our Ministry and we are already in the process of doing the research for the thunderstorm forecasting also. ... (*Interruptions*). Right now, anywhere in the world, there is no mechanism whereby you can, in fact, forecast them for the lightening to the extent. ... (*Interruptions*). You mentioned about agriculture also, I think that with the type of

services that we are providing in collaboration with Ministry of Agriculture to our farmers, it has already been established and it is on record; the National Council for Applied Economic Research has said that it is already having a positive impact on the GDP of India to the extent of Rs. 50,000 crore. ... (*Interruptions*). I have already mentioned that our research and our outcome of weather/climate forecasting, ocean forecasting etc. stands at fourth position in the whole world right now. We have a capacity of almost 10 Petaflops now. ... (*Interruptions*). We are ensuring that whatever is modern, whatever needs to be improved, we are already doing that. We are in touch with all the best facilities all over the world. ... (*Interruptions*).

HON. SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats, otherwise I will have to name you.

... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI BHAIRON PRASAD MISHRA: Hon. Speaker, due to drought, irregular monsoon and climate change, adverse conditions continue to arise across the country. The Hon. Minister has acknowledged that there is a significant shortage of scientific research related to unseasonal cyclones.

I would like to ask the Hon. Minister what has been done to arrange for scientists to research the storm? At present there is drought in 30

districts of Uttar Pradesh. Is the Hon. Minister working or will he work towards making scientific research effective, especially for monsoon in areas like Bundelkhand?

DR. HARSH VARDHAN: Madam, as I have said very clearly in the answer to the question that research on this subject has been going on in Pune for the last twenty years, but to strengthen it further, we have now also formed expert groups. Top scientists from all the relevant institutions and organisations are involved in those expert groups. ...*(Interruptions)* We have called for proposals to involve universities and IITs in this research. The kind of research that is happening in the world, we are in no way behind, ... *(Interruptions)* However, as far as forecasting in this specific context is concerned, ... *(Interruptions)* There is no doubt that the kind of facilities that have been developed across the world regarding climate change, regarding weather prediction, similar progress has not yet been made in the areas of thunderstorm and lightning prediction. ... *(Interruptions)* Whatever maximum is possible to do in this regard, is being done by the Government. ... *(Interruptions)* You have spoken about the rainfall scenario in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. All I have to say about this is that, within the next ten to fifteen days, based on the predictions of our department, this is going to improve on a very large scale. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Ramesh Bidhuri, please speak.

Today is your birthday, many congratulations to you for this, but only ask relevant question. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI: Weather forecasts are issued in advance with specific information such as rainfall expected within a certain number of minutes. However, despite these warnings, many State Governments don't follow them and fail to carry out proper cleaning of drains etc. ... (*Interruptions*) Delhi is the capital of the country, a bus had drowned in Delhi and the weather forecast was already announced in the newspapers. I want to ask the Hon. Minister whether the Union Government has a provision to warn and punish the State Government for this or not? ... (*Interruptions*) Madam, a bus capsized near Minto Bridge in Delhi. People could have died in it. This is what I want to ask the Hon. Minister. ... (*Interruptions*)

DR. HARSH VARDHAN: Madam, I want to say that that our department provides all relevant alerts to the concerned governments well in time. We expect that they take note of these alerts, understand them properly, and take the necessary precautions accordingly. ... (*Interruptions*) This is done in most of the places and wherever it is done, the people there definitely benefit from it. ... (*Interruptions*) Through this House, I wish to appeal to all State Governments to kindly extend their full cooperation in ensuring that the information provided by our department is effectively communicated to the general public in a timely and consistent manner. ... (*Interruptions*)

Madam Speaker, I would also like to inform that we are currently developing a Common Alert Protocol (CAP) system through the National Disaster Management Authority. ... (*Interruptions*) We have tested it in about seven States. Based on this, wherever there is a major disaster, we will be able to give an alert to all the mobile phones in that part of the country by connecting directly with the towers without mobile numbers. ... (*Interruptions*) Research is being done on this at a very advanced level and very soon this common alert system will be implemented in the country. ... (*Interruptions*)

(Q.5)

[English]

SHRI M. UDHAYAKUMAR: Respected Madam Speaker, in his reply, the hon. Minister has stated that no such proposal is under consideration in the TRAI to amend the interconnection charges. But the true fact is that the TRAI has sought views from the service providers regarding usage of interconnection services such as SMS, etc.

I would, therefore, like to know from the hon. Minister as to what are the views expressed by the service providers on interconnection charges?

[Translation]

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Madam Speaker, the Interconnection Usage Charge was introduced in the year 2003 during the Vajpayee ji's Government and has been revised from time to time. ... (*Interruptions*) Recently, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has taken a decision in this regard. ... (*Interruptions*) So I don't think there is any need to review it again right now. ... (*Interruptions*) Usage charges for domestic calls, which were 14 paise, have been reduced to 6 paise per call. ... (*Interruptions*)

After the year 2019, it will be made zero paise from the year 2020. Similarly, international call rates which were 53 paise per call have

been reduced to 30 paise. The answer we have given is that there is no such plan right now. TRAI has taken a decision on international calls only on 1st January 2018, three-four months before that a decision was taken on local calls.

[English]

SHRI M. UDHAYAKUMAR: Respected Madam Speaker, the interconnection charges, due to which the service providers are suffering from heavy losses, is the major issue. The major players are gaining from these interconnection usage charges.

Therefore, I would like to know whether there is any proposal with the TRAI to make interconnection usage charges according to the subscriber base of each service provider.

[Translation]

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Hon. Speaker, regarding the financial stress faced by service providers that the Hon. Member just mentioned, I would like to inform the House that an inter-ministerial committee was constituted in this regard, and the government has taken two decisions in the Cabinet related to this matter. I can say that the telecom sector has been a success story and our Government is fully committed to ensure that it remains a successful story.

[English]

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: This is one of the most important things. Last Saturday, we had a meeting.

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, you have to ask only a supplementary question.

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: Madam, I am asking a supplementary question.

Last Saturday, we had a District level meeting on telecommunications. The range of Wi-Fi connection in the State of Karnataka is limited to 100 metres or 200 metres. A huge amount of money is being spent. But it has not been connected to the rural part or even the cities or even the panchayat headquarters. It cannot work beyond 200 metres. What is the fun in providing this Wi-Fi connection? What kind of communications are we giving to the country or the rural masses? This is the most important area of concern. I would like to know about it from the hon. Minister.

[Translation]

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Hon. Speaker Sir, this supplementary has no connection with the original question. Nevertheless, respecting the Hon. Member, I would like to respond and inform him that under the leadership of Hon. Prime Minister, we are implementing the BharatNet project across the country. We have completed its first phase in

December 2017. Our objective under this initiative is to provide high-speed broadband connectivity to two and a half lakh gram panchayats, ultimately aiming to reach all six lakh villages across the nation. We have provided this facility to 1 lakh Gram Panchayats but the Wi-Fi hotspot currently has a range of only 100-200 metres, which is not our fault. If any alternative or new technology comes in, the Government will surely make use of it. However, I would especially like to inform this House that no other country in the world has undertaken a project of such a large scale in the field of broadband and this is the first project after independence in which completely indigenous technology and indigenous equipment have been used. It is our firm commitment that all the facilities which are available in cities should reach the rural areas of the country as well. This is the commitment of our Government.

(Q. 6)

[Translation]

SHRI ARVIND SAWANT: Hon. Speaker, we went to Ooty and we saw that the Nilgiri Mountain Railway, which has been there since the British era, is very beautiful. It has got the recognition of UNESCO and in such a situation, if we look at the loss that is being incurred while running this train, then that loss falls on the railways. I have a question for the Honourable Minister. You mentioned that no decision has yet been taken nor any committee formed regarding the tourism package, but this package is currently being offered through IRCTC. The people who travel in our country, there are so many religious places and beautiful locations. If someone wants to visit such places, it is not about any company. But if 50 or 100 people want to go together, they are not able to get booking in the same train. People have to travel in different coaches. Is the Railway Ministry taking any decision on this? What is the thinking of the Railway Ministry regarding those tourist and religious places where people want to go together? Is it still dependent on IRCTC or will the Railway Ministry make its own policy? ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Hon. Member that he has just returned after travelling by train and he has also seen the beautiful Nilgiris. Actually, eco-tourism is looked

after by the Ministry of Tourism, but whether they are religious places, tourist places or some centres of faith where people want to go, Indian Railways has been making arrangements for it. We have already been running good trains for this purpose, in collaboration with Rajasthan Tourism, Maharashtra Tourism and Karnataka Tourism. We run 'Aastha Circuit' and many new trains like 'Bharat Darshan' with this very objective. ... (*Interruptions*)

If the Hon. Member gives some suggestions, I will definitely consider them sympathetically. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ARVIND SAWANT: Our Nilgiri Mountain Railway is running in loss. Its income is Rs. 1 crore, 82 lakhs and expenditure is Rs. 28 crores. All this expenditure is borne by the Railways. If the Railway Ministry requests the Hon. Finance Minister to bear this loss on behalf of the Government of India, then the burden on the Railways will be reduced and the Railways can spend that money elsewhere for development. Do you have such a proposal in mind?

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: UNESCO had granted this rail line the status of Heritage Railway and certain standards have been set which we are required to follow. These are being carried out by the Zonal Railway. UNESCO does not provide us any financial assistance. The zonal railway itself bears this expense. The suggestion made by the Hon. Member for the Hon. Finance Minister has been taken into account. At

present, the Hon. Minister handling Railways is also in charge of the Finance Ministry. A suitable decision will be taken as deemed appropriate.

[English]

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Thank you, Madam Speaker. In the answer, it is specifically stated that there is no separate plan regarding Rail Eco-tourism on Indian Railways. But, at the same time, the hon. Minister admits that there are certain eco-tourism destinations like Munnar, Thekkady, Thenmala, Courtallam and such and such other places through which train service is also there.

There is a proposal to introduce vistadome coaches. Vistadome coach means all the three sides of the wagon or the coach will be glass-covered and it is fully air-conditioned and rotational chair is also there. I would like to know whether the Government will consider the proposal to introduce vistadome coaches in trains covering eco-tourism.

[Translation]

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Madam Speaker, Indian Railways has one such train which runs between Mumbai to Goa. Regarding the question that the Hon. Member has just asked, there is no such plan with the Indian Railways, as of now, to make more such coaches and operate them on that railway line.

HON. SPEAKER: Question No.-7, Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey.

... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey – not present.

Shri Nishikant Dubey

... (*Interruptions*)

(Q. 7)

[Translation]

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Hon. Madam Speaker, since the UPA Government has gone and the Bharatiya Janata Party Government has come to power, we have done a lot of work for the minorities. The Sachar Committee report had been released, and the Sachar Committee clearly stated that if any community is in the worst condition, and if that condition is due to the Congress, then it is the Muslim community. The response given by the Hon. Minister is quite alarming. I could not understand this, so I want to know, through you, that in Andhra Pradesh, in the year 2015-16, 81 thousand girls were given scholarships, which decreased to 65 thousand in the year 2016-17. In the year 2017-18 it became 61 thousand. In our state of Jharkhand, it increased from 1,806 to 10,232 and then to 23,526. Similarly, if we talk about Jammu and Kashmir, then you should understand that their numbers are continuously decreasing in Jammu and Kashmir.

12 00 hrs

I want to ask the Hon. Minister whether the population of Bihar, Jharkhand and Bengal is increasing due to the infiltration of Bangladeshis or is the number of girls increasing due to some other reason? ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI: Madam Speaker, I would like to tell you that the entire scholarship has been handled in DBT mode. There is no role of middleman in this and the beneficiaries are getting direct benefits. ... (*Interruptions*) In the last four years, 2 crore 52 lakhs scholarships have been given to boys and girls from minority communities, of which 50 percent are girls. This thing in itself is very important. Maulana Azad Education Foundation gave scholarships to 2 lakh 50 thousand girls. The Hon. Member has asked that at some places, the numbers are decreasing and at some places the numbers are increasing. ... (*Interruptions*) The main reason for this is that we have fully implemented the scholarship system in DBT mode, which has reduced leakages. Along with leakage, duplication has also ended. Awareness among people has increased and they have applied online. Scholarships are now provided based on the online applications. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Madam, it is a very alarming situation that duplication has taken place in States where there is Government of UPA or opposition. I am saying that when we give scholarships, we are not able to decide whether the girls have benefited from it or not, whether they have got employment or not. ... (*Interruptions*) I want to know from the Hon. Minister, how much duplication has taken place and how many girls have got employment? If the Government has any

data regarding this, then the Government should disclose it. ...

(Interruptions)

SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI: Madam, I want to assure the Hon. Member completely that there is no role of even a single middleman in this. Because of DBT, duplication and middlemen have been completely isolated and the beneficiary children have received the benefits directly. ... *(Interruptions)* We have given scholarships to 2 crore 52 lakh children of minority community. This is the largest number of beneficiaries since independence, of which more than 50 percent are girls. I have placed the information on the Table regarding how many girls were given scholarships, how many boys were given scholarships and we also have the details of the jobs. Our development is inclusive, not communal. ... *(Interruptions)*

12 01 hrs

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have received notices of adjournment motions from some Members on various subjects. These matters are important, but can be raised on other occasions and hence I have not allowed any notice of adjournment motion. ...

(Interruptions)

***WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

Starred Question Nos. . 8 to 20

Unstarred Question Nos. 1 to 230

12 02 hrs

RESIGNATION BY MEMBERS

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House about the resignation letters received from the following eight members of the Lok Sabha.

1. Shri B. S. Yediyurappa (Shimoga, Karnataka)
2. Shri B. Sriramulu (Bellary, Karnataka)
3. Shri C.S. Putta Raju (Mandya, Karnataka)
4. Shri Mekapati Raja Mohan Reddy (Nellore, Andhra Pradesh)
5. Shri Y.S. Avinash Reddy (Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh)
6. Shri P.V. Midhun Reddy (Rajampet, Andhra Pradesh)
7. Dr Varaprasad Rao Velagapalli (Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh)
8. Shri Y.V. Subba Reddy (Ongole, Andhra Pradesh)

I have accepted their resignations.

12 04 hrs

FELICITATION BY THE SPEAKER

Congratulations to Ms. Hima Das for winning Gold Medal

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, let us also talk about one good thing as well.

This House congratulates Ms. Hima Das for winning the maiden Gold Medal for the country in 400m race with a timing of 51.46 seconds at International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) World Under-20 Athletics Championship on 12th July, 2018 at Tampere, Finland.

This victory of hers is truly remarkable as she is the youngest daughter of a poor rice growing farmer from Kandhulimari village in Naugaon district of Assam and through her hard work, determination and perseverance, she has brought glory to the country. The hard work of the girls is visible. Her outstanding achievement is a matter of national pride and will be a source of inspiration for all the upcoming sportspersons.

This House conveys its best wishes to Ms. Hima Das for success in her future endeavours.

12 05 hrs

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

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

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PWD, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): Hon. Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Antrix Corporation Limited and the Department of Space for the year 2018-2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9220/16/18]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI

ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Ordinances (Hindi and English versions) under article 123 (2) (a) of the Constitution: -

- (1) The Fugitive Economic Offenders Ordinance, 2018 (No. 1 of 2018) promulgated by the President on 21st April, 2018.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9221/16/18]

- (2) The Criminal Law (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018 (No. 2 of 2018) promulgated by the President on 21st April, 2018.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9222/16/18]

- (3) The Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018 (No. 3 of 2018) promulgated by the President on 3rd May, 2018.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9223/16/18]

- (4) The Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018 (No. 4 of 2018) promulgated by the President on 18th May, 2018.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9224/16/18]

- (5) The National Sports University Ordinance, 2018 (No. 5 of 2018) promulgated by the President on 31st May, 2018.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9225/16/18]

- (6) The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018 (No. 6 of 2018) promulgated by the President on 6th June, 2018.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9226/16/18]

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): The rule says, immediately after the Question Hour, it has to be taken.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: But the papers must be laid.

... (*Interruptions*)

12 05½ hrs

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 198th Report of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs on Disaster in Chennai caused by Torrential Rainfall and consequent flooding, pertaining to the Ministry of Home Affairs*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): I beg to lay a statement regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 198th Report of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs on Disaster in Chennai caused by Torrential Rainfall and consequent flooding, pertaining to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: You please go to your seat. Otherwise, it will not be accepted. I am sorry. Nothing I can do. The same thing will happen again.

* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 9227/16/18

12 06 hrs

*(At this stage, Shri Srinivas Kesineni and some other hon. Members
went back to their seats.)*

12 07 hrs

**MOTION OF NO-CONFIDENCE IN COUNCIL OF
MINISTERS**

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Now, Hon. Members, I have received notices of motion of no-confidence in the Council of Ministers from Shri Kesineni Srinivas, Shri Konakalla Narayana Rao, Shri Thota Narasimham, Shri Tariq Anwar, Shri Mohammad Salim, Shri Mallikarjun Kharge, Shri N.K. Premachandran and Shri K.C. Venugopal. I am duty bound to bring the notices before the House.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: I am taking it.

As the notice from Shri Kesineni Srinivas is first in point of time, I ask Shri Kesineni Srinivas to seek leave of the House. Only you have to take the leave.

SHRI KESINENI SRINIVAS (VIJAYAWADA): I seek the leave of the House to move the following motion:

“That this House expresses its want of confidence in the Council of Ministers.”

HON. SPEAKER: May I request those Members who are in favour of leave being granted to this motion to rise in their places?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS *rose*—

HON. SPEAKER: So, more than 50 Members have risen in support of the motion.

So, the leave is granted.

I will inform the House about the date of discussion because I will have to see the whole business. Definitely, we will take it up for discussion. We will have to allot time also. We will have to see how much time is needed.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): Madam, you allot the time within 10 days.

HON. SPEAKER: I will give the time. Regarding date and time, I know within 10 days it will be taken up. I will go according to the rules. Do not worry. Otherwise, I will take your help also. I am sure.

Yes, Ananthkumar, do you want to say anything?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR): Madam, a no-confidence motion has been brought by several opposition parties, ... (*Interruptions*) You please accept it. We are ready to discuss it so that the truth is clearly established. ... (*Interruptions*) Shri Narendra Modi has confidence in

the entire country and he also has a two-third majority in the House. ...

(Interruptions)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: I have done it. It is okay.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Now, let me take up 'Zero Hour'.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I will let you know the time for discussion in one or two days. We will have to think about it. Please take your seat.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have accepted your request. I will allow all of you to speak on it. Please sit down.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Jugal Kishore ji.

[Translation]

SHRI JUGAL KISHORE (JAMMU): Madam Speaker, you have given me the opportunity on the very first day of this session to draw attention to a specific problem of my area. ... (*Interruptions*) Through you, I would like to express my gratitude to Narendrabhai Modi, who is the Hon. Prime Minister of the country, and Hon. Minister of Home Affairs Shri Rajnath Singh and the entire Government. He has completed a lot of pending work for the people of the border areas of Jammu and Kashmir and fulfilled many of their demands. Now, those people have a demand. The people living on the border, from Samba and Kathua to Rajouri and Poonch, are stationed at the border. They live right there on the border. Now the issue arises that beyond the fence and barbed wire on the border, thousands of acres of land belong to farmers on the Pakistani side. The farmers are unable to go there for cultivation. That land has become barren and has turned into a jungle.

Madam Speaker, my demand to you and that of the people of entire Jammu and Kashmir is that the Government should compensate those farmers for the crop grown on that land. ... (*Interruptions*) That is their land. They do not have any other means of livelihood. They are facing problems. ... (*Interruptions*) I request the Government to allocate some funds for that area so that the farmers who are not able to grow crops on the land across the barbed wire, may get compensation for that land as soon as possible, this is my request to you. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Shri Rabindra Kumar Jena are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Jugal Kishore.

Kharge ji, do you want to say something?

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Now on what matter are all the Members rising together? Has it happened? I am addressing Kharge ji. What are you all doing?

Kharge ji, will you just keep consulting?

... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): Hon. Madam, please refer to Rule 198(b), Chapter XVII of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha. [Translation] I had given notice under this rule. You had to give it to the larger party to move, because we were with them. You did not give us leave for the no-confidence motion that we had moved.

HON. SPEAKER: Kharge ji, I have completely given it. It does not happen this way. I have acted according to the rules. It is written in it. Actually, they had given it earlier.

... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA (GUNA): Everyone should get an opportunity to read it out. ... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: You please listen to me. There is no big party, small party in it, all this does not work.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Madam, chance should be given to study it. ... (*Interruptions*) We have also moved it. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: His name has been taken.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Madam, please give time to study it. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: You please sit down. I am sorry. You all are not understanding. I have taken names of all of you. If you want, I can tell you the names again. You can see, this has also come on record. I have read out the names of all those who gave the no confidence motion and told them that it has come from their side too, but I have to see it according to the time and in that too whose name comes first, I have

to give it to him accordingly. There is no such thing in it that any random person gave it, it is that it has been given by all of you.

... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Madam, you have admitted it. But that should be decided within 10 days.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: When he raised this as well, I told him [English] within 10 days.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: You can allot the days, whether one, two or three, for this discussion. That is the rule.

HON. SPEAKER: The hon. Member, Prof. Saugata Roy, said the same thing and I told him that I will work according to the rule. I know that I have to take it up within 10 days. I also assured him that if anything is required, I will discuss it with him. I know it and I will allot the time for discussion accordingly.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Madam, my only request is that while taking it, you should have taken all No Confidence Motions at a time.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: That doesn't happen.

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: I am requesting this because we, six or seven Members, have put the notices for No Confidence Motion.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: I have said. [English] Kharge ji, now, you again go through the record and come to me. I am sorry. [Translation] You can look into it. Don't talk to me like this. [English] I am sorry.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANTHAKUMAR): When you asked for leave on the no-confidence motion, all the Congress members stood up. K.C. Venugopal's no-confidence motion has been accepted.

HON. SPEAKER: You please sit down. This is not discussed. [English] I am sorry. Whatever Speaker has done, [Translation] I will not allow it to be discussed here. Because I have done everything according to the rules. You can go and see the records. I have taken everyone's names. The point arises only when [English] according to time and you know it better. [Translation] According to him, two-three people from his party had given it, so his number came first. I

mentioned his name just to raze it. It doesn't happen like this, I took everyone's name. [English] I have gone according to the rule. I am sorry.

Shri Mohanbhai Kundariyaji. Is he there?

[Translation]

SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIA (RAJKOT): Madam Speaker, I would like to draw your attention to the canals located in Saurashtra region dams (Dharani). These canals have become very old and the water flow capacity of these canals has also become very slow. Therefore, these canals should be converted for lift irrigation by cement concreting under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana so that the water flow capacity of these canals is improved. This will also increase water savings and water transportation. By converting the canals of the Saurashtra region into a cemented channel under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana and making it eligible for lift irrigation, water can be made available to farmers at the earliest. Along with resolving the issue of water shortage, it will help farmers to grow more crops. This will also assist in doubling the income of farmers. You are requested to pay personal attention to this matter and give appropriate instructions to the officers of the concerned department so that this issue of public interest can be resolved as soon as possible.

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Mohanbhai Kalyanjibhai Kundariya.

SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE (MUMBAI SOUTH CENTRAL):
Madam Speaker, I would like to draw your kind attention to a railway station on Harbour Line. ... (*Interruptions*)

12 18 hrs

(Hon. Deputy Speaker *in the Chair*)

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your kind attention to a railway station on Harbour Line in my parliamentary constituency Mumbai South Central which is named as Kings Circle since British era. This station lies between Wadala Station and Mahim Station on Harbour Line. By road connectivity, it comes in-between Sion and Matunga. Being a Mumbaikar, I am aware that Sion and Matunga have a sizeable Jain community. So, on behalf of the residents of Sion and Matunga, I request the hon. Railway Minister and hon. Home Minister that the said station should be named as Parshwadham, considering the sentiments of the local people of my constituency.

Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel and Shri Gopal Shetty are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Rahul Shewale.

[Translation]

DR. UDIT RAJ (NORTH-WEST DELHI): Hon. Deputy Speaker, in my Lok Sabha constituency North-West Delhi, there are many railway gates which are often found closed, due to which there is often a jam. I tried a lot to find a solution to this. This project was sanctioned in collaboration with Urban Development Ministry, North MCD and Railways. Money was also allocated from the Urban Development Ministry. But there is so much laxity in North MCD and the officers are so inefficient that it took them two and a half to three years just to prepare the drawing. Now they have sent it to the technical committee of DDA. After spending so much time on the drawing, it has now been sent to DDA for survey. I have also written a letter to the Home Minister and the Hon. Prime Minister regarding how much time it is taking. I am very much troubled by them.

Apart from this, I have also told the MCD Commissioner that this is a problem in our Lok Sabha constituency, where the gates are always jammed at these three places namely, Ghevra, Kiradi and Narela. It is very important to provide relief to the people from this issue.

In addition, the garbage mount that has formed in Bhalswa is severely affecting the lives of the people living there. We have been demanding its removal. There is also a dry canal in Kirari. We have approached the Ministry of Urban Development regarding this as well, since it often gets jammed. A solution should be found from there.

Through you, I would like to request the Hon. Home Minister and the Urban Development Ministry that these projects should be completed soon and if the officers do not work, then action should be taken against them. Thank you.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Dr. Udit Raj.

SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN (KOZHIKODE): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity.

I wish to raise a very serious issue pertaining to the demand for re-instatement of operation of wide-bodied aircraft and also restore the Haj Embarkation Point at Calicut Airport. This is a burning issue and it has affected the people especially of Malabar region.

Till the closure of the airport for re-carpeting in May 2015, wide-bodied aircraft were operating from this airport. With these type of aircraft, people were travelling to the Gulf at cheaper air fares. The ban

has hit the 18 million strong Indian diaspora from the Malabar region of the State, who use this gateway in all spheres, including air travel, commercial exports, health care, tourism, etc.

Similarly, 85 per cent of Haj pilgrims use this airport for Haj pilgrimage. The Haj house constructed at exorbitant cost is now lying locked and idle.

The operations have been shifted to the Kochi International Airport which has affected the people of Malabar region very adversely. What I understand is that many of the air operators are willing to operate these types of aircraft. The Airport Authority also has no objections. But unfortunately the DGCA has put its foot down.

So, my humble request and my humble submission to the hon. Minister, through you, is to direct the authorities to accept the demand immediately.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Dr. Mamta Sanghamita – not present.

12 19 hrs

SUBMISSIONS BY MEMBERS

(i) Re: Need to take action against elements affecting pluralistic and democratic ethos of the country

[English]

DR. SHASHI THAROOR (THIRUVANANTHAPURAM): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, thank you. I am sorry to raise before this House the attack on my constituency office in Thiruvananthapuram and the death threats that I received from members of the ruling party in response to my criticism of far right extremism. This is not just an attack on constitutionally-sanctioned MP's office but also a larger attempt by incendiary elements and their digital equivalents to destroy the idea of India as a pluralistic and accepting democracy. Their victims, in recent months, have included intellectuals, minorities, and various citizens of the country. Yesterday, even Swami Agvinesh was attacked. These are people who have expressed dissent against rising intolerance in today's India and they are being attacked physically.

In doing so, they are disregarding the singular principle of our historic democratic consensus which is that in a diverse democracy like ours, you do not need to agree all the time, so long as you will agree on the ground rules of how you will disagree. That is what we have seen today with the No Confidence Motion. But it is not what we are seeing in the streets where the ground rules of our democracy are

being betrayed by those who have been elected by the people of India as a ruling party and they are betraying this basic ground rule.

I want to say Mr. Deputy-Speaker, we cannot and should not stand by as communal violence, mob-lynching and hooliganism replace rule of law and rights guaranteed by our Constitution.

I strongly urge the Prime Minister to break his silence on the behaviour of his own party men and take action against these anti-national elements and anti-Indian elements who seek to abridge the freedom of speech in our democracy. Thank you Mr. Deputy-Speaker.
... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Rabindra Kumar Jena, Dr. Kulamani Samal, Dr. A. Sampath, Shri P. Karunakaran, Shri P.K. Biju, Shri Md. Badaruddoza Khan, Shri Sankar Prasad Datta and Shri M.B. Rajesh are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Dr. Shashi Tharoor.

SHRI MOHAMMAD SALIM (RAIGANJ): The Government should respond. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You cannot force the Government to respond.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, I cannot force them for it.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI (NEW DELHI): Sir, there has been lynching in Kerala. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Laxman Giluwa – not present.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Shailesh Kumar – not present.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shrimati Kirron Kher.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI KIRRON KHER (CHANDIGARH): Thank you, Deputy-Speaker, Sir. ... (*Interruptions*) There are 10,000 Short Service Commissioned Officers in the Army, and they do not receive medical benefits from the Government. ... (*Interruptions*) These Officers are commissioned to serve in the prime years of their life for 10 to 14 years and then released without medical benefits. ... (*Interruptions*)

In 2008, the Armed Forces Tribunal, Chandigarh had asked for the Ex-servicemen Contributory Health Scheme to be extended to these Officers, and in 2009 the then Prime Minister had given an assurance in this very House that this Scheme will be extended to them. ... (*Interruptions*) However, nine years later, there has been no

constructive action in this regard, and in 2011 the Government of that day filed an appeal in the Supreme Court against giving these medical benefits. ... (*Interruptions*)

This reluctance to extend medical benefits is very demoralizing for our Officers who spend the prime years of their life in service to the nation. The most affected, as a result of this, are our women Officers, since the armed forces rarely ever make permanent recruitment of women, and 76 per cent of women in the Army are on Short Service Commission. ... (*Interruptions*)

The Expert Committee on Defence in 2015, and the Standing Committee on Defence in 2018 have both recommended that the Contributory Health Scheme should be extended to the Short Service Commissioned Officers. ... (*Interruptions*)

I would request the Government to take expedited cognizance of this matter and extend medical benefits to those Officers with immediate effect. ... (*Interruptions*) This will go a long way in boosting their morale towards joining the service and staying in service for a longer number of years. Thank you, Sir. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Sharad Tripathi, Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra and Dr. Kulmani Samal are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shrimati Kirron Kher.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Sir, the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is here and he should respond on behalf of the Government on this very serious issue raised here. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He is going to respond.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please wait for a minute.

... (*Interruptions*)

12 21 hrs

SUBMISSIONS BY MEMBERS...Contd

(i) Re: Need to take action against elements affecting pluralistic and democratic ethos of the country

[English]

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR): Sir, it is very unfortunate. A very senior Member like Dr. Shashi Tharoor cannot make unfounded and baseless allegation on political party workers and Leaders of Parties like the ...*

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: He is a very senior Member of this House. ... (*Interruptions*) He has been insulted like this. ... (*Interruptions*) There was an attack on his office. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANTHKUMAR: If something has happened in Kerala, then he should go for investigation. The whole of Kerala knows as to who has done it. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): There is videographic evidence of the attack. ... (*Interruptions*)

* Not recorded.

SHRI ANANTHKUMAR: There is a State-organised terror by ...* in Kerala, and for whatever ...* does, Dr. Shashi Tharoor should not put the blame on the ...* and other political parties. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: No, those were the ...* workers only. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANTHKUMAR : Therefore, let him say that it is from ...* My only request to you, Sir, is to expunge the mention of ...* workers and men in the case of lynching, which is totally baseless and it is far from the truth. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. B. RAJESH (PALAKKAD): Sir, why is he mentioning about ...* here? ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Sir, he is the hon. Minister. They have got Intelligence; they have got IB; and they have got so many other agencies. They are already investigating or following the case. Why is he not giving correct information as to who has done it? ... (*Interruptions*) Why is he misleading the House? ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANTHKUMAR: There is no question of misleading the House. Shri Mallikarjun Kharge is a very senior leader of the Congress Party. He is the Leader of the Opposition. He should know that 'law and order' is the subject matter of Kerala. A dastardly incident has

* Not recorded.

happened in Kerala. Dr. Shashi Tharoor very well knows that it has been done by ...* not by.*

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): Sir, the House should condemn it. ... (*Interruptions*)

12 31 hrs

(At this stage, Shri K.C. Venugopal and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

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

... (*Interruptions*)

12 33 hrs

(At this stage, Shri K.C. Venugopal and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I am very sorry to hear as to what has happened to the hon. Member, Dr. Shashi Tharoor. It is very unfortunate. His rights have to be protected. There has been a mention of the names of the political parties, either ...* Those names would be expunged.

... (*Interruptions*)

* Not recorded.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am making a request to the hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister. It is the duty of the House to protect the rights of the hon. Members. Investigations would find out as to what has happened. Whatever has happened is unfortunate. I am accepting that. At the same time, whatever names have been mentioned by both the parties are expunged.

... (*Interruptions*)

DR. SHASHI THAROOR (THIRUVANANTHAPURAM): Sir, I have no objection to your ruling. We don't need to mention the parties.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The whole House is concerned about what has happened about the rights of the hon. Members.

... (*Interruptions*)

DR. SHASHI THAROOR: The reason why there is a threat to freedom of express is because freedom of express has led to violence and they are defending their acts of violence. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri M.B. Rajesh, Shrimati Supriya Sule and Prof. Saugata Roy are allowed to associate with the issue raised by Dr. Shashi Tharoor.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJEEV SATAV (HINGOLI): Sir, I want to draw your attention towards the problem occurring in Maharashtra regarding loans given by banks to the farmers. ... (*Interruptions*) Due to the failure of financial institutions in Maharashtra, farmers are not getting loans to sow new crops. ... (*Interruptions*) Last year the State Government of Maharashtra had announced loan waiver. One year has passed, but not even two percent of people have got any benefit from this loan waiver. They did not get loan waiver but now when farmers are going to the bank to take loan, they are not able to get new loan either. So far this year, only eight or nine percent farmers in Maharashtra have received loans. The approach of the bank officials is such that they are citing the reason of the village being adopted, and because of this, farmers are not getting loans. They are also mentioning staff shortage. We have held eleven protests on this issue in our Parliamentary Constituency so far. This is a problem caused by middlemen.

Sir, I would like to request, through you, that action should be taken against the bank officials and maximum loans should be given to the farmers. Thank you very much.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shrimati Supriya Sule, Shri Rabindra Kumar Jena, Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra are allowed to associate with the issue raised by Shri Rajeev Satav.

DR. A. SAMPATH (ATTINGAL): Thank you hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

My State Kerala has been experiencing very severe havoc due to the severe monsoon since May 29, 2018. All the 14 districts of the State of Kerala starting in the North from Kasargod to the South to my district Thiruvananthapuram have been affected since 29th of May, 2018. As per the latest information that we have received on this occasion when this august House has started this Monsoon Session today, more than 90 people have died due to the flood, severe rain and the havoc caused by the monsoon. More than 300 people have suffered injuries. Many of the injuries are of grievous nature. About 329 *pucca* built houses are fully destroyed in the floods and rains. More than 9000 houses have been partially destroyed during the havoc caused by the severe monsoon.

You very well know the sad plight of our farmers. More than 12,000 hectares of the agricultural land have been submerged in the rain water and nothing could be done during the last two months. The Disaster Management Authority is trying its best to save the people

and to protect the life and property of the people. It is estimated that there has been a loss of more than Rs.2,000 crore. Buildings have been washed away; bridges have been washed away; roads have been washed away; and the *pucca* built dwelling houses have also been washed away. In many of the districts, schools have been closed; people cannot move out; and rail traffic has been affected. Many of the trains starting from Chennai cannot come to the Southern districts of Kerala. It cannot pass through Kottayam, Ernakulam etc. Even some of the temples have been submerged in the rain water.

This is a matter concerning the life and death of the people of all the 14 districts of Kerala. My humble request is this. Our hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister is here. This is not a part of any political game. He can term me as ... (*Interruptions*)... *

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That word is already expunged. Do not use that word.

... (*Interruptions*)

DR. A. SAMPATH: I am a representative of the people. I am speaking nothing but truth in this august House. Kindly provide urgent help.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri P.K. Biju, Shrimati P.K. Shreemathi Teacher, Adv. Joice George, Shri E.T. Mohammad

* Not recorded.

Basheer, Shri M.B. Rajesh and Shri P. Karunakaran are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Dr. A. Sampath.

SHRI P.R. SUNDARAM (NAMAKKAL): Thank you Deputy Speaker, Sir.

I wish to bring to your notice the important all-India strike announced by the Motor Transport Association regarding various demands from the Union Government including:

1. diesel under GST with a tax slab of 18 per cent;
2. reduction in diesel price and uniform national pricing policy;
3. fuel prices must be revised once in three months and not daily;
4. reduction in insurance premium; and
5. cancellation of toll gate fees and so many other demands.

This strike will badly affect the common man, as essential items like vegetables and milk supply will be affected. If the strike continues, vegetable prices will increase highly. Diesel price has been increased by 10.3 per cent a litre in June 2018. More than 75 lakh vehicles all over India and 13 lakhs vehicles in every State will not be working. Around four lakh goods transport vehicles will not run in Tamil Nadu alone.

My Namakkal Constituency is well known for huge number of transportation vehicles. Items like sago, turmeric are cultivated in large

volumes and transported all over India and worldwide. This lorry strike has badly affected these farmers.

Considering these above facts, I would request the Union Government to take immediate steps to put an end to the nation-wide strike by All India Motor Transport Association for the welfare of the people of this country.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Rabindra Kumar Jena and Shrimati V. Sathyabama are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri P.R. Sundaram.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL (MEERUT): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, nowadays in some advertisements, especially those of two-wheelers, stunts are being shown. The police also try to stop the stunts, because stunts on motorcycles put children's lives in danger. These types of stunts that are displayed, create a desire amongst motorcyclists to perform stunts and that increases the possibility of accidents.

Similarly, in some vest advertisements as well, stunts are shown. A child takes off the vest or touches it, and the person wearing the vest starts performing stunts. Wearing a vest can make a person smarter, even a hero; we have no objection to it.

Through you, Sir, I wish to submit that such advertisements should regulate the display of stunts. Due to these stunts, many young people are misguided and attempt to imitate such acts. Thank you very much.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Sharad Tripathi, Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra and Dr. Kulmani Samal are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Rajendra Agrawal.

DR. P. K. BIJU (ALATHUR): I would like to raise an important issue before this august House. In my State of Kerala, the majority of the workers in Gulf Countries do not have any insurance coverage. They are low-income workers. It is difficult for them to send their corpus to Kerala or anywhere in India. The Air India, our national carrier, is charging them a huge amount of money for sending their corpus from the Gulf Countries or any other country to our country whereas countries like Philippines, Pakistan and any other country do not charge a single penny to send the corpus to their respective countries.

Therefore, I request the Union Government to look into this matter and take immediate measures to withdraw the charges charged by the Air India for sending the corpus to their respective countries.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Adv. Joice George, Dr. A. Sampath, Shrimati P. K. Shreemathi Teacher,

Shri P. Karunakaran and Shri M. B. Rajesh are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Dr. P. K. Biju.

SHRI ANTO ANTONY (PATHANAMTHITTA): I draw the kind attention of this august House to the problems faced by the rubber growers in the country. The growers of natural rubber in the country are facing acute financial crisis due to the declining returns from their produce owing to large scale import. Although the rubber sector is a lucrative business for the industries, the prices of raw material are declining and the profits are spiralling. The Government is also collecting a large amount of money as tax from the rubber sector. The alarming fact is that the growers of rubber are in a state of financial crisis.

Therefore, I request the Government to support the rubber growers in the country by regulating the import of rubber and allocating 10 per cent of the tax amount collected from the rubber sector for the welfare of the rubber growers and for the revival of the rubber cultivation in the country.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Dr. P. K. Biju, Shrimati P. K. Shreemathi Teacher, Adv. Joice George and Shri M. B. Rajesh are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Anto Antony.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI (SHEOHAR): Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I want to draw the attention of the Government towards a very important issue of public interest. Sir, we all know that the benefit of 'Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana' is being given to the poor people on the basis of the economic, social and caste census list of the year 2011. But, I am sad to say that the full amount of 'Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana' is not being utilised in Sheohar, Sitamarhi and East Champaran districts under my Parliamentary Constituency. In the list of beneficiaries of the houses to be built under the 'Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana' in the Panchayats, priority is given to the construction of houses for the people of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe in proportion to the population. However, it is seen that in most of the Panchayats, the people of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe have either already got the benefit of this scheme in the past or they have received very little money at that time or their name is not recorded in the list of Economic Census of the year 2011.

The amount sent to the Panchayats in the name of those Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is returned without being used. The Government needs to remove this anomaly so that the Hon. Prime Minister's goal of 'Housing for All' by the year 2022 can be achieved.

Therefore, through this House, it is requested to the Government that arrangements should be made to provide the benefit of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana to the poor people of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who are deprived as per the Economic Census of 2011 in the Panchayats, so that the amount being sent to the Panchayats by the Government can be used for the welfare of the poor and their houses can be built. This is my prayer.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel and Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shrimati Rama Devi.

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMI NARAYAN YADAV (SAGAR): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak. I wish to draw the attention of this House and the Government to a very important issue.

These days it is being seen that cancer patients are increasing in very large numbers in the country. The most dangerous type of cancer amongst them is blood cancer. It is often believed that the life expectancy of a blood cancer patient is very short. The therapy required for this, which we call stem cell therapy, is in great shortage in this country. People with thalassemia also need this therapy. There

are more than three lakh patients in the country. At present, only about two thousand people are able to get this therapy every year.

I demand from the Government that it should make some arrangements regarding this and work towards making people aware. In government hospitals where deliveries take place, a special arrangement should be made to preserve the umbilical cord, because a large number of people can benefit from it, the poor can benefit from it. Stem cell matching is also a very expensive affair. Therefore, the Government should make efforts in this direction and tie-up with many laboratories to make it affordable. This will help create awareness amongst the youth. In this manner, the Government can address this issue by generating awareness amongst young people.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra and Dr. Kulmani Samal are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Laxmi Narayan Yadav.

[Translation]

SHRI KANWAR SINGH TANWAR (AMROHA): Sir, through this House, I want to draw the attention of the Government to the under construction Madhya Ganga Canal in my Parliamentary Constituency Amroha. Because of the water level falling significantly in the districts of Bijnor, Amroha, Sambhal and Badaun area, the Government had

decided to build Madhya Ganga Canal Phase II. The construction work for this began in the year 2008. Since then, its construction has been going on intermittently at a slow pace, due to which farmers are facing the problem of irrigation.

The Government has declared many development blocks of the above-mentioned districts as dark zones, due to which even the electricity connection for boring in the fields is not available there. In such a situation, farming is becoming very difficult here and farmers are continuously incurring losses in farming.

Therefore, through you, I request the Government that considering the problems of the farmers, please expedite the construction work of Madhya Ganga Canal II and complete it as soon as possible, so that the farmers of these districts can irrigate their fields on time.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra and Shri Dharmendra Yadav are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Kanwar Singh Tanwar.

SHRI V. ELUMALAI (ARANI): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to urge upon the Government to release various funds of Centrally aided schemes pending due to Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu Education Department has not received Rs.4,474 crore from the Centre under various schemes in the last few years. Many education schemes,

including post-matric scholarship for SC/ST students had suffered as the State was denied Central funds on the ground of exhausting the budgetary allocations. A sum of Rs.1,547 crore has been pending towards the post-matric scholarship scheme for Scheduled Castes and Rs.27 crore for Scheduled Tribes for over a year. The annual allocation is grossly inadequate. I would request that this amount may at least be doubled this year.

The Union Government has to pay arrears of Rs. 1,312 crore for the *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan*, the 'education for all' scheme to Tamil Nadu. *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan* aims at providing basic education to children upto the age of 14 and any delay in the release of funds will hit basic education in spite of Tamil Nadu Government's best effort. Under the *Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan* scheme, which is implemented to provide secondary education, an amount of Rs. 1,558 crore is due to be given to the State. Funds under SSA and RMSA schemes have not been allotted to the State though these projects have been approved by the Project Approval Board. As education is pivotal to the task of nation building, I appeal to the Government to release all the funds due for Tamil Nadu without further delay.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shrimati V. Sathyabama is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri V. Elumalai.

[Translation]

SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA (SINGHBHUM): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is poverty and lack of employment in the rural areas of the country and especially in the tribal areas of Jharkhand. The innocent girls from here are lured and brought to the metro cities on the pretext of providing them jobs and after bringing them here they are pushed into prostitution. Placement agencies are active and involved in this work. About fifteen hundred placement agencies are registered in the country but about fifteen thousand placement agencies are working illegally. These agencies go to remote areas, lure girls and bring them to big cities and push them into prostitution. In this way, human trafficking is being done on a large scale by placement agencies in the country and children of poor people are being sold. Therefore, I request the Government, through the House, that through intelligence agencies, the gangs and placement agencies involved in human trafficking, buying and selling of children and pushing girls from far-flung areas into prostitution should be identified and strict action should be taken against them, this is my request.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Nishikant Dubey and Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Laxman Giluwa.

Hon. Members, the House will run up to 1300 hours because we have a meeting of Business Advisory Committee. Therefore, I request the hon. Members whose names I am calling to speak for only one minute each. Otherwise, I will not be able to call other Members.

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA (KOLAR): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal are the largest producers of silk with Karnataka contributing about 60 per cent. Most of the silk is being exported. Because of the reduction in duty by the BJP Government, farmers and silk reelers are suffering. When the UPA Government was there, the duty was increased from 10 to 15 per cent. I urge upon the Government to come forward to protect the farmers and silk reelers by way of MSP and incentive. Farmers and silk reelers are committing suicide. They are facing serious problems, especially in Ramanagaram, Sidlaghatta, Channapatna, Tumkur and entire south Karnataka. So, this is a very important issue. Only three days ago, farmers committed suicide. ... (*Interruptions*) I urge upon the Government to take necessary steps.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri R. Dhruvanarayana, Shri S.P. Muddahanume Gowda and Shri D.K. Suresh are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri K.H. Muniyappa.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, the Prime Minister's security is the concern of the nation. The Prime

Minister addressed a *kisan kalyan* rally in Midnapur in West Bengal on 16th July, 120 kilometres from Kolkata. People were brought to the rally from Jharkhand, Odisha and also from within the State. ... (*Interruptions*) During the rally, one tent collapsed. It injured 90 people including 50 women.

The rally was organised by BJP. They must take the blame for the shabby arrangement in the Prime Minister's meeting where there could have been several deaths. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down now.

... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI OM BIRLA (KOTA): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the highest quantity of garlic in the country, i.e. 90,000 metric tonnes, was purchased under the Market Intervention Scheme by the Government of India and the Government of Rajasthan. Currently, tokens for 50,000 metric tonnes have been issued. I urge the Government to ensure that the purchase of garlic from the farmers who have been given tokens is completed.

Along with this, Rs. 2248 crore is pending for mustard and gram in Rajasthan. I urge the Government to release the outstanding payment to the farmers without delay.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri C.P. Joshi, Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Shri Dushyant, Shri Dushyant Singh and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Om Birla.

12 55 hrs

SUBMISSIONS BY MEMBERS.... Contd

(ii) Re: Problem arising out of natural calamities in Kerala and demanded Central assistance

[English]

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): Thank you, Deputy-Speaker Sir, In Kerala, the monsoon has severely affected the State. I am not going into the details of that. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay, come to your point; what do you want?

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: My constituency Kuttanad taluk in Alleppey district is below sea level. The entire area of Kuttanad is paddy cultivation area. Severe flood has badly affected Kuttanad and people are stranded there.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What relief do you want?

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: The rescue operation is not being done by the district administration. We need the Army and Navy support for rescue operations in Kuttanad.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That is all right.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: The district administration is not able to carry out the rescue operation. People are in various islands. We need support from Army and Navy.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have already said that.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: I would like to request the Government to send a Navy team and Army team to rescue the people of Kuttanad. This is a very serious issue.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Dharam Vira Gandhi.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): Deputy-Speaker Sir, the entire State of Kerala has been hit by monsoon. Everybody is in trouble. The hon. Home Minister is here. I think, he should say something on this.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I cannot call him.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: The entire State of Kerala is affected. ...
(Interruptions)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I cannot compel him. Please take you seat.

[Translation]

SHRI DHARAMVIRA GANDHI (PATIALA): Hon. Vice President, Chandigarh is the capital of Punjab, but it is very sad to say that Punjabi language has been relegated to third place. The English language, which is not even a notified language, has been given the first status. ... (*Interruptions*)

I request you to give first priority to Punjabi language in Chandigarh. The city of Chandigarh was built by destroying villages of Punjab. Punjabi should be the first language in Chandigarh, this is my request to you. ... (*Interruptions*)

12 58 hrs

SUBMISSIONS BY MEMBERS.... Contd

**(ii) Re: Vacancy position for reserved posts in various
Universities**

[Translation]

SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV (BADAUN): Hon. Deputy Speaker, I would like to draw the attention of the Government of India to the UGC circular dated 5th March. Through this circular, about 60 percent of the backward, 22 percent of the Dalits and 7.5 percent of the Scheduled Tribes, that is, 85 percent of the population of the country, are facing complete injustice and atrocities in universities.

SCs got reservation in 1997 and OBCs got reservation in 2007. By 2018, UPSC and HRD Ministry could not tolerate the reservation of these classes and issued a new circular. Through this circular, the roster for the first 200 posts was made. The reservation that was given by considering universities and colleges as one unit is now being abolished.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a very important issue. Advertisements have come in many universities. If we talk about Punjab University, there are only two posts out of 58 posts, Jharkhand Central University has only five posts out of 63, Kanpur University has zero posts out of 15, Allahabad University has only 37 posts out of

113, Kashi University has eight posts out of 52, BHU has only 20 posts out of 99. In this way injustice is happening, neglect is happening, atrocities are taking place.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All right, please sit down.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Rajeev Satav and Shrimati Supriya Sule are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Dharmendra Yadav.

13 00 hrs

[Translation]

With the Dalit, backward and minority sections of the country. ... (*Interruptions*) The claim made by this Government that it stands with the Dalits, backward classes, and the Scheduled Tribes, is nothing but an empty pretence. ... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister will reply to both the issues.

... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV: Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government should answer on our issue, the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs should answer. ... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He is going to speak on both the issues. He is giving reply to you also. Since Kerala issue has also been raised, he is going to reply to that also.

[Translation]

HON. MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): Hon. Deputy Speaker, I want to assure the House, through you, that neither any person nor any organisation in this country can snatch away the reservation of any community, be it SC, ST or OBC. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV: The HRD Ministry is snatching it. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJNATH SINGH: An SLP has also been filed in this regard in the court and tomorrow after getting detailed information in this regard. ... (*Interruptions*) Hon. HRD Minister will give a statement about it. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV: Hon. Minister of Home Affairs, please bring an ordinance in this regard.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may please continue.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJNATH SINGH: I have said it in just one sentence.

[English]

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKARA): What about flood, Sir? ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He will reply to that also. Members are asking about floods in Kerala and Karnataka.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MALIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): Sir, the Minister is also dealing with the natural disaster management. Not only Kerala and other coastal areas but in fact the entire South is affected. I would, therefore, request the Minister to let us know how he is going to give the relief.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJNATH SINGH: Deputy Speaker, Sir, in those states where information about flood or any natural calamity is received, I talk to the concerned Chief Ministers. Even prior to this, whenever any such

calamity has occurred in Kerala or Karnataka or a flood situation has arisen there, then after talking to the concerned Ministers there, NDRF or other necessary facilities to deal with the situation have been provided by the Union Government.

[English]

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: You should send the Central team.
... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJNATH SINGH: I would like to assure the Hon. Members that if your State Government demands that we need NDRF or any other assistance from the Union Government, then we will provide all those facilities.

As far as sending the central team is concerned, first a memorandum must be submitted by the Union Government by the State Government. After that, in order to assess the losses or damages that have occurred there, a Central team will be sent from here. Once the report is received, a decision will be taken by the High-Level Committee after due deliberation. ... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

DR. BOORA NARSAIAH GOUD (BHONGIR): For the last four years we have been requesting the Railway Minister for the stoppage of Express Trains at Bhuvanagiri, Alair and Jangaon stations. My constituency is the constituency of the Gods having a lot of temples like Jain Mandir, Yadadri temple, etc. A big Church was built long back along with other temples at a cost of almost Rs.2000 crore. If you pray the God, he will respond but in spite of our making hundreds of requests, the hon. Minister has not yielded to the request of the people of my constituency. I would like to take this opportunity to request the Railway Minister to make a halt of the Padmavati Express at Bhuvanagiri and Alair stations and a halt of Satavahana Express at Jangaon Station.

[Translation]

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA): Deputy Speaker, Sir, a very big issue related to Missionaries of Charity is going on these days in my state, Jharkhand In the name of health, social services and education, conversions are taking place and children are being taken away. There is a racket of adoption taking place. Who the mother is, who the father is, and where the child has gone is not known. The Church there is behaving like a well organised criminal syndicate. ... *(Interruptions)* This is how conversion happens. The entire North-East

has been converted, the same is the condition of entire Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Odisha. A big case has just come to light. ... *(Interruptions)* The Missionaries of Charity, whose name is grand but whose deeds are questionable, and which has even been awarded the Nobel Prize, has been involved in an illegal activity. The identity of the mother is not known, the identity of the father is not known, and it is unclear to whom the child has been handed over to. ... *(Interruptions)*

It is not known who was given an adopted son or daughter. Through you, I request the Government to get a CBI inquiry done in this matter and the Government should bring forward a comprehensive law on conversion so that such activities do not happen in this country.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Dr. Kirit P. Solanki, Shri Devji M. Patel and Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Nishikant Dubey.

SHRI A. ARUNMOZHITHEVAN (CUDDALORE): Thank you very much, hon. Deputy Speaker Sir.

The newly introduced Tambaram – Tirunelveli Antyodaya Express is connecting Tambaram and Tirunelveli Junction in Tamil Nadu. It is operated daily from Tambaram to Tirunelveli Junction as

Train No. 16191 and from Tirunelveli Junction to Tambaram as Train No. 16192. Announced in 2017, the train started its operations from 9th June, 2018. Unfortunately, this important Antyodaya train service is being denied to the entire Cuddalore district. Cuddalore Town is the District Headquarters and is a very big business commercial centre in Tamil Nadu. There are several thousand workers working in many big and small industries in and around Cuddalore. The NLC is also there. There are several Chemical and Petro Chemical Industries in SIPCOT region near Cuddalore. Besides, there are thousands of fishermen living in this District. What is required is that this important train needs to be stopped at Cuddalore. The people of Cuddalore are very angry and are doing agitations every now and then. The situation is very volatile and the people need to be pacified at the earliest.

I request you to take necessary steps to provide a stoppage for the new Antyodaya Train at Cuddalore Railway Station.

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE (MAVAL): Hon. Deputy Speaker, for the past three days, milk producing farmers are protesting in Maharashtra. These farmers are not receiving fair prices for the milk they produce. There are several families in rural Maharashtra who are entirely dependent on dairy farming. The Maharashtra Government and the Union Government are not paying attention to this. Through

you, I request the Union Government to pay attention to the agitation being carried out by milk producing farmers in Maharashtra. Along with this, I also urge the Government to increase the procurement price of milk in the interest of the farmers.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Arvind Sawant, Dr. Shrikant Eknath Shinde and Shri Rahul Shewale are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Shrirang Appa Barne.

SHRIMATI V. SATHYABAMA (TIRUPPUR): Thank you, Deputy Speaker Sir. I would like to bring to your kind notice that the hand woven Jamakkalam blanket is a unique product produced by the traditional handloom weavers at Bhavani, which comes under my Tiruppur Parliamentary Constituency in Tamil Nadu.

During the pre-GST time, Bhavani Jamakkalam was exempted from all taxes. But, in the GST regime, it was not included in the list of products under the GST-exempted category. There is an utter confusion with regard to this unique product – whether it belongs to carpet category or not.

Therefore, I request the hon. Minister to look into this issue and include the handloom Bhavani Jamakkalam product in the GST-exempted list. Thank you, Sir.

SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI (NEW DELHI): Thank you very much hon. Deputy Speaker Sir.

Today's newspapers are full of judgement by the hon. Supreme Court which is about 'mobocracy' all over. Unfortunate part of this country is that a man named Manik Roy, who was a migrant labourer, gets killed through lynching by mob in Kerala; Mohd. Azam, a techie, gets killed on false notion of child theft in Karnataka; Madhu gets killed in Attappadi for stealing two rotis. So, all over we see that most of these cases are battle over economic issues. ... (*Interruptions*) These are issues of economic disparity. So far as courts are concerned, they are above politics. Politics is meant for the Parliament. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Dr. Kirit P. Solanki and Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shrimati Meenakshi Lekhi.

DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN (CHENNAI SOUTH): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the proposed Dam Safety Bill, 2018 contains clauses which violate the rights of Tamil Nadu, especially, with respect to the dams constructed by the Government of Tamil Nadu and by the neighbouring States and cause various problems in their maintenance and operation.

I urge the Union Government to take up the legislation on dam safety only after consultation with the States and after arriving at a consensus. Till then, keep in abeyance the process of legislation on Dam Safety Bill.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.10 p.m.

13 11 hrs

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Ten Minutes past Fourteen of the
Clock.*

14 13 hrs

*The Lok Sabha reassembled after Lunch at Thirteenth Minutes Past
Fourteen of the Clock*

(Hon. Speaker *in the Chair*)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER**Motion of No Confidence in the Council of Ministers**

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: I wish to make an announcement. A decision has been taken this morning that we shall take up the ‘No Confidence Motion’. I had mentioned that I will decide the date and time. You had said that it should be taken up within ten days. [English] From morning to evening on Friday, the 20th July, 2018 we will have a discussion on the ‘No-confidence Motion’. We will take it up for the whole day. So, we will take it up on Friday. [Translation] The discussion will be concluded on the same day and voting will also take place. This is an important discussion so I have decided that there will be no Question Hour on that day and no Private Members’ Bills will be taken up. On that day we will only take up ‘No Confidence Motion’.

[English]

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): Madam, would it be just for one day? Everybody has given notices.

HON. SPEAKER: One day means 7 hours. The whole day we are going to discuss it. That is why I have suspended the Question Hour on that day. [Translation] Friday is a good day.

14 15 hrs

GOVERNMENT BILLS- Introduced

**Trafficking of Persons (Prevention, Protection and
Rehabilitation) Bill, 2018***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): Madam, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to prevent trafficking of persons, especially women and children and to provide care, protection and rehabilitation to the victims of trafficking, to persecute offenders and to create a legal, economic and social environment for the victims and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

HON. SPEAKER: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to prevent trafficking of persons, especially women and children and to provide care, protection and rehabilitation to the victims of trafficking, to persecute offenders and to create a legal, economic and social environment for the

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victims and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI: Madam, I introduce the Bill.

14 16 hrs**(ii) Banning of Unregulated Deposit Schemes Bill, 2018***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): Madam, on behalf of Shri Shiv Pratap Shukla, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for a comprehensive mechanism to ban the unregulated deposit schemes and to protect the interest of depositors and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

HON. SPEAKER: Prof. Saugata Roy, on this Bill, do you want to say something now?

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): Madam, is he moving this Bill on behalf of Shri Shiv Pratap Shukla?

HON. SPEAKER: Yes, he is moving it on behalf of Shri Shiv Pratap Shukla.

[Translation]

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: Oh God! [English] He is in Finance Ministry now! [Translation] You never know what happens when.

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HON. SPEAKER: Shri Saugata Roy Ji, you do not have the information. Will you spend all your time only in West Bengal, pay some attention here as well.

[English]

Motion moved:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for a comprehensive mechanism to ban the unregulated deposit schemes and to protect the interest of depositors and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: Madam, under Rule 72 (1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I have given a notice to oppose the introduction of the Bill to provide for a comprehensive mechanism to ban the unregulated deposit schemes and to protect the interests of depositors and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

Madam, I am opposing the introduction of this Bill not because I feel that there is no need to regulate and control unregulated deposit taking companies. But I may inform you that there are already Non-Banking Financial Companies controlled by the Reserve Bank of India. There are Collective Investments Schemes regulated by the

Securities and Exchange Board of India. There are Chit Funds which are regulated by State Governments. When our Standing Committee on Finance, of which Shri Nishikant Dubey and Shri Shivkumar Udasi are Members, gave its 16th Report, it asked for a comprehensive legislation on all such irregular deposit taking activities, in view of the various scams that have happened in Odisha, Punjab, West Bengal, Jharkhand etc. Now, this is a piecemeal legislation. This touches only a fringe of the total problem of irregular deposits. That is why, I am demanding that this Bill be withdrawn because there is already the Chit Fund Bill which is pending before the Standing Committee on Finance. Let it be withdrawn, let there be a comprehensive Bill taking into account all sorts of irregular deposit taking activities which is playing havoc with the life and savings of many people in this country and let the Government come forward with a comprehensive legislation to control these activities so that scams which destroy lives of people do not happen. All this has happened during the course of the present Government. From 2014 to 2018, many scams have been exposed.

So, this Bill is not sufficient. That is why, I oppose the introduction of this Bill.

SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN: Hon. Finance Minister during his Budget Speech in 2016-17 had announced that a Comprehensive Central Legislation would be brought in to deal with the menace of illicit deposit schemes. ... (*Interruptions*) The worst victims of these

schemes are poor and illiterate people. So, because of these things, we are bringing this Bill. The Parliament's competence to enact the proposed law is under the Entries of 43, 44, 45 and 93 of List I and the 8 of List III respectively under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India.

HON. SPEAKER: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for a comprehensive mechanism to ban the unregulated deposit schemes and to protect the interest of depositors and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN: Madam, I introduce the Bill.

14 21 hrs

**(iii) Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India
(Amendment) Bill, 2018***

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Jayant Sinha on behalf of Shri Suresh Prabhu.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): On behalf of Shri Suresh Prabhu, I rise to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India Act, 2008.

HON. SPEAKER: The question is:

“That leave be granted to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India Act, 2008.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI JAYANT SINHA: Madam, I introduce the Bill.

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14 22 hrs

(iv) Arbitration And Conciliation (Amendment) Bill, 2018*

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Now, Shri P.P. Chaudhary.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): Madam, on behalf of Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, I rise to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996.

HON. SPEAKER: The question is:

“That leave be granted to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY: Madam, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 18.07.2018

14 23 hrs

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, matters under Rule 377 will be laid on the Table of the House. Those Members who have been permitted to raise matters under Rule 377 today and who wish to lay them on the Table of the House, are requested to submit the text of their matters personally within twenty minutes. Only those matters whose text is received within the stipulated time shall be considered as laid on the Table of the House. The rest shall be treated as lapsed.

* Treated as laid on the Table.

(i) Need to set up railway factory at vacant land owned by Railway Department near Bina railway station in Sagar Parliamentary Constituency, Madhya Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMI NARAYAN YADAV (SAGAR): It is requested through Rule 377 that there is 1100 acres of railway land near Bina Railway Station under my Parliamentary Constituency Sagar. The Indian Government plans to establish a railway factory here. If this factory is established on the land near Bina Railway Station, it will help in the balanced development of the country as it is a backward area. After establishment of the factory, it will contribute to the development of this area. Geographically, Bina Railway Station is a major railway junction situated in the heart of India where numerous trains arrive and depart. On the other hand, all necessary facilities are available here for setting up an industrial unit.

I urge the Government to set up a railway factory on the 1100 acres of railway land lying vacant near Bina railway station in Madhya Pradesh, which is extremely suitable from many points of view.

(ii) Need to extend Metro Rail Service to Narela in Delhi under the proposed Phase-IV of Delhi Metro Rail Corporation

[Translation]

DR. UDIT RAJ (NORTH-WEST DELHI): There was a plan to extend the Metro to Narela in my Parliamentary Constituency, North-West Delhi, which has been stopped citing that it may incur financial losses if the Metro is operated in that area. Initially, the plan was for the Union Government and the Delhi Government to share this loss equally, but no consensus has been reached on this between the Union Government and the State Government yet. The Narela Metro is currently proposed to be built in the second phase of Phase-4 of the Metro project. Drawing the attention of the Hon. Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs towards this, I request that since the metro has already reached Gurgaon, Greater Noida and Faridabad, it is important to also connect Narela which is Asia's largest grain market and a densely populated area to the Metro to include it in the mainstream of Delhi's development. Therefore, Narela Metro project should be included in the first phase and completed at the earliest.

(iii) Proposed Military station at Deoghar, Jharkhand.

[English]

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA): Deoghar has been included in the list of prominent cities and has been declared as mega tourist destination by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India. Deoghar is unique and extremely revered site of one of the 51 Shaktipeeths and also of Dwadash Jyotirlinga in the country. This is a religious and, cultural capital of Eastern India and is visited by over 5 crore pilgrims every year. I, therefore, request the Government to undertake the following projects:

1. A Military Station regarding the requirements of land for the proposed Military Station, the area available will be approximately 400 acres to 500 acres which can be reduced or increased once the feasibility is done. The land will be near the ongoing DRDO centre project at Deoghar (Jharkhand);
2. DRDO Lab at Deoghar;
3. Ordnance Factory or any defence infrastructure project at Deoghar;
4. Sainik School at Godda (Jharkhand);
5. Defence recruitment centre at Deoghar.

A large part of the state is affected by Naxalism and terrorism which itself is an indication of the sense of desperation and alienation that is sweeping over large sections of Jharkhand's Santhal Pargana region which has been not only systematically marginalized but also cruelly exploited and dispossessed.

Jharkhand Government is more than willing to help in the aforesaid projects.

(iv) Need to relocate and rehabilitate people living in submerged area of Tehri Dam Project in Uttarakhand

[Translation]

SHRIMATI MALA RAJYALAKSHMI SHAH (TEHRI GARHWAL): I want to draw the attention of the Union Government towards my Parliamentary Constituency, Tehri district in Uttarakhand. Thousands of families have been displaced due to the Tehri Dam project, but even now, 415 families in the submerged area are awaiting resettlement because of the dam project. Any untoward incident can occur anytime due to cracks in the houses and land subsidence caused by the lake water. An Expert Committee was constituted by the Government in 2010. This committee assessed the water levels and submitted a report to the Government. Yet, no action has been taken for the resettlement of these families. Due to the rising water levels, people of Nadgaon, Kangsani, Nautad, Ramgaon, Dovra, Ramolgaon, Badarvoli, Naragarh, Sandana, Gadoli, and other villages are forced to live in fear.

I request the Union Government to promptly review the Expert Committee's report and resettle the affected families in another place.

**(v) Need to establish a medical college in Chatra Parliamentary
Constituency, Jharkhand**

[Translation]

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH (CHATRA): The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare operates a centrally sponsored scheme for establishment of new medical colleges affiliated to existing district/referral hospitals. Under this scheme, 24 new medical colleges are required to ensure availability of one medical college in every three Parliamentary Constituencies. The sites for these 24 new medical colleges will be selected through challenge mode. For this, two blocks have been selected from Jharkhand state, which also includes Chatra.

Hon. Prime Minister has said in his Mann Ki Baat programme dated 25th March, 2018 that a new medical college will be opened between every 3 districts. It is noteworthy that my Lok Sabha constituency Chatra has three districts, whose area is approximately 8500 square kilometers. It is the largest Parliamentary Constituency in Northeast India.

Chatra Parliamentary Constituency includes Chatra, Latehar and Panki Assembly Constituency of Palamu district of Jharkhand state. There are five Assembly Constituencies in my Lok Sabha, out of which four Assembly Constituencies are reserved. This is a completely underdeveloped and backward area affected by left-wing extremism

(LWE). The majority of the population of this area consists of Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes, Backward and Weaker Sections living below the poverty line. There is a severe lack of health services in this area.

Therefore, I request the Hon. Health Minister, Government of India to kindly approve the establishment of a medical college in Chatra, which has been selected in Block-1 of Jharkhand State.

**(vi) Need to set up a Medical college and hospital in Ballia
Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh**

[Translation]

SHRI BHARAT SINGH (BALLIA): Under my Parliamentary Constituency, people living in Ballia, located at the farthest border of eastern Uttar Pradesh, do not have any kind of health services for the treatment of serious and critical illnesses. After travelling about 200 km, they have to wait in a long line and then hire a car, wasting time and money. This causes daily difficulties for the people of the constituency.

I, therefore, urge the Union Government to take necessary steps to provide improved health services to the people with greater ease and issue necessary instructions for the establishment of a medical college and hospital in Ballia (Uttar Pradesh) as soon as possible so that better health services can be ensured for the people.

Thank you.

**(vii) Need to set up Ekalavya Model Residential School in
Dibrugarh Parliamentary Constituency of Assam.**

[English]

SHRI RAMESHWAR TELI (DIBRUGARH): Ekalavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) have been established in various states to provide middle and high level education to Scheduled Tribe students in remote areas. Ministry of Tribal Affairs has taken a number of steps for establishment of EMRS in the tribal areas where tribal population is 50% or more. My constituency Dibrugarh has a large number of tribal population. They lack proper educational facilities.

I, therefore, request the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to take necessary steps to set up Ekalavya Model Residential Schools in my constituency as soon as possible.

**(viii) Need to shift antique statue of Devi Rukmani from
Archeological Museum at Vidisha to Damyanti Archeological
Museum, Damoh district, Madhya Pradesh**

[Translation]

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL (DAMOH): I urge the Ministry of Culture to take action against the theft of very old idol of Goddess Rukmani which was stolen from Damoh under my Parliamentary Constituency on the night of 04.02.2002. This statue was recovered from Hindoli district of Rajasthan on 05.04.2002 by Damoh police, but since the custody of the statue was not ensured, it has been kept in the Archaeological Museum of Gyaraspur, District Vidisha. At present, there is a museum of Damayanti Archaeological Department in the headquarters of Damoh district of Madhya Pradesh state, where this statue can be kept safely. Keeping public sentiments in mind, I request the Union Government to coordinate and take necessary action to transfer the idol of Goddess Rukmani Ji from the Archaeological Museum, Gyaraspur to the Archaeological Museum, Damoh. In this regard, I urge the Government of India and the Department of Archaeology to make the authenticated information publicly available.

**(ix) Need to accord B-2 category status to Udaipur city,
Rajasthan**

[Translation]

SHRI ARJUN LAL MEENA (UDAIPUR): I want to draw the attention of the Government towards Udaipur city of my Parliamentary Constituency. Earlier the population of the Municipal Corporation area of Udaipur city was about 4 lakh 51 thousand 200. As per government records of the year 2001, Udaipur city recorded a 23 percent increase in population. If this growth rate is considered as the basis, then by the year 2016, the population has crossed 5 lakhs. Also, 34 revenue villages located on the periphery of Udaipur city have been included in the UIT area. If the population of these villages and the developments that took place there until the year 2016 are included, then the population reaches above 7.5 lakh. If the development from 2001 to 2018 is considered as the basis, then Udaipur city deserves to be classified under the “B-2 category”. Therefore, I urge the Government that keeping in mind the population growth in Udaipur city from the year 2001 to the year 2018, Udaipur city should be given the status of “B-2” category as soon as possible so that the government employees and the general public here can get all the benefits of “B-2 category”.

(x) Need to include 'Alha Khand'- epic poetic works in Hindi in UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage

[Translation]

KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL (HAMIRPUR): UNESCO has included 'Kumbh Mela' in the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity during its 12th session held in Jeju, South Korea. Earlier in 2016, 'Yoga' and the Parsi festival 'Nowroz' were included in this list. On the recognition of Kumbh Mela as an intangible cultural heritage, I would like to congratulate the entire country. In this context, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the folk epic "Alha Khand" which is probably the only such epic in the world that is still alive in oral form and has been sung in various parts of the country, especially in Bundelkhand, mainly in Hindi speaking areas, for about 100 years. It is linked to its history and memory and the notion of community.

Mainly it is a rhyming poetry of Bundeli and Awadhi languages. The core rhythm of Alha begins in the Keharwa taal, which starts with a slow tempo, but gradually the rhythm becomes faster, creating an extraordinary energy among both the singers and the listeners. In Alha the Guru-disciple tradition is followed and it is passed on orally from one generation to the other. People of all communities participate in Alha singing and during the performance, there is no sense of

discrimination or social hierarchy. This aspect aligns with contemporary international human rights ideals, as people of all backgrounds participate in it with equal enthusiasm. Although Alha includes references to various battles as part of its many folk legends, its core message remains one of patriotism, sacrifice, and peace. As a folk epic, Alha singing conveys that patriotism, sacrifice, tolerance, and unity are particularly important in today's world.

Therefore, I humbly request the Government of India to make every possible effort to include the folk epic "Alha Khand" as an intangible cultural heritage of humanity under UNESCO's list.

**(xi) Need to include Kanu, Badhai, Prajapati, Kumhar and Tanti
Castes of Bihar in the list of Scheduled Castes**

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI (SHEOHAR): I respectfully urge the Government that in 2012, the Bihar Government had requested that certain extremely backward castes from Bihar such as Kanu, Badhai, Prajapati (potter) Tanti (Tatva) in the Scheduled Castes, should be included in the Scheduled caste category, which is still pending for approval. Kanu, Carpenter, Prajapati (potter) Tanti (Tatva) of Bihar whose social, educational and economic condition is extremely backward and these castes are counted among the extremely backward castes. More attention should be paid to bring these castes into the national ideology and if they get reservation in jobs and education as Scheduled Castes, then these castes can develop their families more rapidly and quickly.

I request the Government to take immediate action to include extremely backward castes like Kanu, Carpenter, Prajapati (potter) Tanti (Tatva) from Bihar in the Scheduled Caste category, as requested by the Bihar Government in 2012.

**(xii) Need to widen the hammir bridge in Sawai Madhopur in
Rajasthan**

[Translation]

SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH JAUNAPURIA (TONK-SAWAI MADHOPUR): My Parliamentary Constituency Sawai Madhopur has the world famous Ranthambore National Park which is visited by lakhs of tourists from across the country and abroad every year. There is a very big railway station in Sawai Madhopur city where lakhs of passengers travel. Hammir Bridge in Sawai Madhopur is 7 metres wide and was built on the railway line before 1975 but due to increasing population and vehicles, the traffic on this bridge gets blocked many times a day. At present, due to the large number of long and heavy vehicles, the chances of bridge getting damaged are increasing. This is the only option of bridge which is connecting the old city of Sawai Madhopur to the new city Bajaria Mantown and Panchayat Samiti Headquarter Khandahar and the traffic of Madhya Pradesh. To relieve Sawai Madhopur city from traffic jams, Hammir Bridge should be widened by 5-5 metres on both sides. The estimated cost of which is Rs. 6092.00 lakh.

(xiii) Need to provide employment to displaced people in Korba Parliamentary Constituency, Chhattisgarh in South Eastern Coal Fields Limited

[Translation]

DR. BANSHILAL MAHATO (KORBA): South Eastern Coal Field Limited (S.E.C.L) is one of the leading and largest coal producing companies of the country. Mainly Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh come under its jurisdiction, out of which about 35 mines are located in my Parliamentary Constituency Korba. Gevra, Kusmunda Manikpur, Dhelwadih, Singhali, Churakchar, Bakimongra, Rajgamar, Chirmiri, Manendragarh etc. are the major schemes and Korba and Korea district are known for coal mines. In the state of Chhattisgarh, especially in my Parliamentary Constituency, many cases regarding providing employment to displaced persons in South Eastern Coalfield Limited are pending. I made several efforts at personal level to ensure that eligible people get their rights. I also tried to resolve the issue by holding a meeting with the Minister in charge of the district, but a proper solution to the issue has not been found till now. It is necessary to provide proper rehabilitation including basic amenities to the eligible persons displaced due to land acquisition. There should be expansion of medical facilities in the area with a super specialty hospital and since Korba region has coal as well as bauxite mines and aluminium industry, a mining college should be started. I request to

provide immediate employment and proper rehabilitation to the eligible people who are displaced due to land acquisition for excavation work.

**(xiv) Need to frame a policy for the welfare of people
employed in outsourced contractual jobs**

[Translation]

SHRI RODMAL NAGAR (RAJGARH): I would like to inform the Government that while on one hand the Government is eliminating the middlemen, on the other hand in most of the departments, any work is being done through outsourcing (contract system) due to which the employees are being exploited by paying them low wages. Also there is uncertainty regarding employment and no facilities are available. Also due to lack of reservation in the contract system for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes, they are not getting opportunities to advance their economic development. Therefore, I would like to urge the Government to formulate a policy and enact a law for the economic development of employees working under outsourcing contracts as well as those who engage them, so that their problems may be addressed and their fundamental rights ensured.

(xv) Waiver of farmers' loan

[English]

SHRI S.P. MUDDAHANUME GOWDA (TUMKUR): Farmers in the country and particularly in Karnataka are caught in the debt trap. As a result of which farmers are committing suicides. Government of Karnataka has announced some relief to farmers by waving their loan.

I urge the union Government to waive farmers' loan given by the Nationalised Banks and thereby come to the rescue of farmers in the country and particularly in Karnataka.

**(xvi) Need to ensure benefits to reach farmers under the
Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana in Hingoli
Parliamentary Constituency, Maharashtra**

[Translation]

SHRI RAJEEV SATAV (HINGOLI): India is an agricultural country and maximum proportion of rural population is dependent on agriculture. The Government started the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana to protect farmers from crop loss but in its name farmers are being exploited and the private insurance companies are getting the benefit. Farmers in my Parliamentary Constituency Hingoli have not received the benefit of the crop insurance scheme. In Maharashtra, in 2016 Kharif season, the Government and farmers paid premium of Rs. 16000 crore and farmers got only Rs. 3634 crore as insurance, which means insurance companies have made a net profit of Rs. 10000 crore. I request the Government to immediately investigate the collusion between the administration and the insurance company so that only those farmers who are in debt can avail the benefits of this scheme.

**(xvii) Need to call a meeting of Chief Ministers of State
affected by communal tension**

[English]

SHRI M.I. SHANAVAS (WAYANAD): India is facing serious challenges to its secularism and peaceful ideologies. Last four years have seen an unprecedented increase in communal tension. Mob lynching has become the order of the day. Man has become so cruel. They are enjoying killing of innocent peoples. If anyone breaks the law it is for the law enforcement agencies to take steps but mob is taking law into their hands even in the presence of Police, killing even unarmed men. A deliberate attempt is being made to instill fear in the minds of Minorities and Dalits. Dalits are being hunted and denied basic rights. Hence, I urge the Government to call a meeting of Chief Ministers of the affected states to propagate the idea of peace and harmony and to put a stop to these barbaric activities

(xviii) Problems faced by Powerloom sector in Tamil Nadu

[English]

SHRIMATI V. SATHYABAMA (TIRUPPUR): The Power Loom business has been hit very badly due to unhealthy competition from auto looms and Chinese products. As a result of this, several thousand Power Loom units have become debt ridden and over burdened and are in dire straits. In Tamil Nadu, there are 6 lakh Power Loom Units providing job opportunities and livelihood to 10 lakh workers. In this GST regime, they generate around Rs 2500 crore to central exchequer. In Coimbatore, Tirupur and Erode Districts, about 95% of Power Loom units are running on job work basis. Most of the units are on the brink of destruction due to debts and bank loans.

Under this crisis circumstances, I request the Government to provide special financial package or recommend for Bank Term loan waiver to bring them back to business and thrive further in their business. I also request the Government to save the power loom units from the clutches of reduced weaving charges by Textile Manufacturers. In order to bring a cost-competitive and level playing ground with imported Chinese fabric, an Anti Dumping Duty on fabric imports should be levied. Therefore, I request the Government to introduce Anti-Dumping Duty on fabric imports from China to save this power loom sector.

I would also request the Government to restore and include the Handloom Weavers Entrepreneurs in the eligible beneficiaries list so that the 7000 weavers of the Erode handloom Entrepreneurs will thrive in their business. Further, I urge the Government to provide weaver identity cards to all Handloom weavers and include them under the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) Scheme to avail all the benefits of the Scheme.

**(xix) Need to address railway related issues of Arakkonam
Parliamentary Constituency of Tamil Nadu**

[English]

SHRI G. HARI (ARAKKONAM): On behalf of the people of my Arakkonam Constituency, I have requested several times to the Ministry of Railways to fulfill the three essential railway needs but none of them got fulfilled so far.

1. To provide stoppage for the Brindavan Express (Train Nos. 12639- 12640) at Sholinghur Railway station.
2. To extend Arakkonam-Velachery EMU fast train (Train No, 43936) up to Tiruttani Station.
3. To provide a stoppage for the Trivandrum Mail (Train No 12624) at Arakkonam Junction.

Sholinghur is an important pilgrimage centre which attracts lots of devotees from all over India. Therefore, it is very essential to provide a stoppage for Brindavan Express Train Nos. 12639-12640 at Sholinghur Station Due to insufficient frequency of EMU Trains in the morning hours between 7.00 am and 8.50 am, most of the train commuters are facing huge hardship travelling to and from Chennai. There is an urgent need for extending the Arakkonam - Velachery EMU fast train (Train No. 43936) up to Tiruttani for the benefit of railway passengers of this area.

The Trivandrum Mail (Train No. 12624) towards Chennai is not having a stoppage at Arakkonam. Passengers who want to get down at Arakkonam has to travel upto Avadi and catch a train to come back to Arakkonam. Due to this, lots of passengers, particularly elderly people and women with children are suffering a lot. To avoid this inconvenience, it is essential to provide stoppage for the (Train No 12624) Trivandrum Mail at Arakkonam Junction.

Therefore, I request once again the Government to consider the genuine demands and take necessary steps to fulfill the railway demands of the people of Arakkonam Constituency at the earliest.

(xx) Need to waive loans of farmers and ensure remunerative price of their produce

[English]

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): The decision to enhance minimum support price (MSP) for agricultural crops has shown government's failure to address the basic issues of farming community of the country. Farmers say that the increase in MSP was a mere political decision and nothing has happened in reality. Lack of enough fertilizers, pesticides, irrigation facilities and mainly non-availability of bank loans on small interest rates are the main problems of farming community. Agriculture experts agree that lack of consensus and clarity on support price is further adding to concerns of the farming community. Government assured that MSP would be 1.5 time higher than the cost of production according to Swaminathan Commission. The Centre and State Governments establish a state-level intervention corporation to ensure the purchase of other agricultural products at MSP. The cost of production varies from state to state depending upon the agricultural product. Small farmers are not in a position to negotiate or hold the crop till he gets a fair price. Credit from formal institutions is a huge challenge for small and marginal farmers specially for the working capital. Unless policy makers and financial institutions simplify the process of access to credit, the issue will not be addressed. Thousands of farmers are on the verge of suicide due to

debt and fall in prices of their product. Government must take immediate steps to write off the agricultural loans of poor farmers and ensure all the facilities for promotion of agriculture in the country.

**(xxi) Need to improve facilities at fertilizers rake points in
Odisha.**

[English]

SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA (BALASORE): Due to non-availability of required infrastructure at existing rake points and lack of new rake points and two-point rakes, supply of fertilizers and their distribution is affected severely across the state of Odisha. The rake points of Balasore and Rupsa which serve my constituency Balasore, have no platforms and cover shed. There are not adequate godowns. As the state tried to increase its area under high yielding and hybrid varieties of crops, it needs to enhance the consumption level of fertilizers, both chemical and organic, to ensure sustainable crop production and higher productivity. Per hectare consumption of fertilizer in Odisha stands at 60.43 kg, much lower than national average of 165 kg.

Fertilizer rake points need to be provided with platforms, sheds, electricity, approach road for the trucks etc. I urge the government to build the necessary infrastructure which will aid the state's agricultural productivity.

(xxii) Need to check drug peddling in Punjab and ensure strong action against the culprits

[Translation]

SHRI ARVIND SAWANT (MUMBAI SOUTH): Drug addiction is increasing amongst the youth in the cities and villages of many states of the country. Drug addiction has hollowed out the youth. In many states, there is no village or city where drug addiction is not prevalent. This addiction has extinguished the lights of thousands of homes, but the audacity of the drug dealers is increasing. Before coming to power, governments make big claims about eliminating drug addiction but later no attention is paid to it. No major action is being taken to curb the growing drug trade in the country including Punjab. In Punjab, opium, smack, intoxicating injections, narcotic pills, poisonous liquor are being sold openly in cities and villages and thousands of lives are being lost due to their consumption but the administration and police are not taking any action against it. Before the elections, the present Government had said that a prosperous state like Punjab would be made drug-free, but these things remained only on paper and as soon as they came to power, they forgot this promise.

I request the Government to make such a stringent law against drug peddlers that it sends shivers down the spine of drug peddlers and

provision for the strictest action against those selling and consuming drugs should be made.

**[English] (xxiii) Need to establish steel plant at Kadapa,
Andhra Pradesh**

[English]

SHRI JAYADEV GALLA (GUNTUR): Mandate given to Government of India under 13th Schedule to AP Reorganisation Act is to establish an integrated steel plant in Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh. But, it appears from Affidavit submitted in Supreme Court that the Government of India is not interested to set up plant citing frivolous reasons, which is gross violation of the Act.

After SAIL submitted its Report that it is not feasible to set up steel plant in Kadapa, on repeated requests and appeals of Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh to reconsider the decision, Government of India constituted Task Force in December, 2016. Task Force in Phase 4 meeting asked State for incentives and Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh came forward to give water, 10,000 acres of land, power and contribute for rail/road connectivity. Iron ore mines with 110 million tonnes of reserves with more than 60% ferrous content available in AP — this was also mentioned in MECON report— are sufficient to feed a 3 million tonnes capacity plant for 35-40 years and exploration is also going on in Prakasam and if we add that, plant will last for more than 50 years.

I don't think that any State would go this far for a steel plant, but our CM has gone for the people of Andhra Pradesh in general and Kadapa in particular, because *Kadapa Ukku Andlirida Hakku* (Kadapa steel plant is the right of Andhra).

Hence, I request Government of India to immediately give approval and start work to establish steel plant at Kadapa.

**(xxiv) Need to expedite construction of permanent
campus of IIT Palakkad, Kerala**

[English]

SHRI M. B. RAJESH (PALAKKAD): I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards an important issue. An IIT in Kerala was a long pending demand and when the Government announced five new IITs in 2014-15 budget, Kerala was also included in the list. In Palakkad, excellent facilities were arranged on a war-footing for a temporary campus. I am glad to say that IIT Palakkad was the first one to start functioning among the five new IITs announced. The Government of Kerala has already acquired 409 acres of land for the construction of permanent campus. Union Government has also sanctioned funds for the construction. In this context, Union Government was requested several times to officially lay the foundation stone for permanent campus. I would like to urge upon the Government to officially lay the foundation stone and expedite the construction of the permanent campus.

**(xxv) Need to address problems faced by dairy farmers of
Maharashtra**

[English]

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE (BARAMATI): Dairy farmers in Maharashtra are agitating for the past few months regarding low procurement prices of milk. Milk procurement prices have plunged, because of low global prices of skimmed milk powder, which has made their exports non-viable. This unsold stock of skimmed milk powder has contributed to price fall. Hence I urge the Centre to reduce GST to 5%, buy skimmed milk powder as buffer stock, and stipulate Minimum Support Price for milk to help farmers to get remunerative price for milk. For milk procured by private players, the Government can fix procurement price and take measure to ensure that it is strictly adhered to. I request the Government to incentivise investments in production of value-added milk products like curd, buttermilk, butter, cheese, ice creams etc. Such interventions can help dairy farmers by stabilising the prices of milk. I also recommend the Government to introduce milk in Mid-day Meals Scheme in Máharashtra.

(xxvi) Need to accord special category status to Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI KAUSHLENDRA KUMAR (NALANDA): The development of Bihar has been hampered due to various social and economic reasons. After the division of Bihar, the problems of Bihar have become more serious due to major industries and mines moving to Jharkhand. The regressive permanent settlement implemented in Bihar before independence hindered the social and structural development in the State and due to the policy of freight normalisation after independence, the then Bihar could not get the benefit of abundant availability of raw material and cost advantage. During this period, while the coastal states of South and West India witnessed industrial development, Bihar remained backward. Apart from this, Bihar has to bear additional financial burden to compensate the loss of physical and social infrastructure due to floods occurring every year from the rivers flowing from Nepal and other states. Due to reasons which are beyond the control of Bihar, the State has to suffer the pain of floods every year. A lot of money is spent on flood relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction works.

Bihar's share in the 11th Finance Commission was 11.589% which decreased to 11.028% in the 12th Finance Commission, 10.917% in the 13th Finance Commission and 9.665% in the 14th Finance Commission.

The Union Government talks about the interest of the states by citing the recommendation of the 14th Finance Commission, but the increase in the transfer to the states from 32% to 42% under the recommendation of the 14th Finance Commission is merely a structural change. On one hand, the State's share increased due to the recommendations of the Finance Commission. On the other hand, cuts in Union Government schemes and Centrally Sponsored Schemes have largely offset this gain. In such a situation, how can the interests of a backward State like Bihar be safeguarded?

The state is far below the national average on various parameters of development such as per capita income, education, health, energy, institutional finance and human development indices. After the division of Bihar, due to absence of major industries in the state, government and private investment was adversely affected. The Union Government has also not provided any special help to Bihar to remove this regional disparity. These reasons have had a negative impact on the development of the state and today the situation is that the per capita income in Bihar is 58% less than the national average.

Therefore, keeping in mind the provisions of the Bihar Reorganisation Act-2000, the recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission and the report of the Raghuram Rajan Committee, the only solution to remove Bihar's backwardness would be to give Bihar the status of a special state. Secondly, Bihar is a landlocked state and

such a landlocked and extremely backward state is entitled to special and differentiated treatment even at the international level. In this context, the 15th Finance Commission needs to identify the lack of resources and provide special assistance to bring a backward state like Bihar to the national level.

(xxvii) Need to hand over the acquired land after the completion of mining projects to the original land-owners

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR HANSDAK (RAJMAHAL): In the Constitution, people have the right that their land which is acquired for the production and excavation of coal, iron, aluminium, mica, granite, lime, stone etc. should be returned to the original owner after the completion of the project. This is because once mining activities conclude, the land often remains unused and is not fit for proper utilisation. Moreover, such land continues to pose a serious environmental threat, and the local population lives under constant fear of potential mishaps. Therefore, it is imperative that the acquired land be handed back to the original owners so that it may be put to effective and appropriate use.

I request the Government to issue directions to the State and Union Governments to return the land to the original owner immediately after the completion of the projects for which the land is acquired.

(xxviii) Need to provide ESI benefits to LIC Agents

[English]

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): The LIC Agents are the backbone of the LIC. But the LIC is not ensuring the welfare of LIC agents. LIC agents are giving whole hearted support to the organization. The recent policies adopted by the Government are adversely affecting the work of LIC agents. Now the LIC agents are facing various problems. The main issue is the lack of fund for their treatment. Their demand to extend the ESI facility to them has not been considered till date. The LIC agents are one of the most eligible categories entitled for ESI scheme as per the existing norms. But the authorities are not initiating steps to extend the ESI benefit to the LIC agents. Their repeated demand for ESI benefit is still pending. Hence I urge upon the Government to initiate urgent action for extend the ESI benefit to the LIC agents.

14 24 hrs

**RIGHT OF CHILDREN TO FREE AND COMPULSORY
EDUCATION (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL, 2017**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): Madam, I rise to move:

“That the Bill further to amend the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, be taken into consideration.”

[Translation]

Madam Speaker, this Bill is very important. I am happy that all the States have unanimously recommended this Bill. In the year 2009, when the Right to Education Act was implemented, it was thought that the fear of examinations should not remain in the minds of the students. Even if a student fails, he will not be detained; that is, he will be taken to the next class without looking at what he knows or does not know. In this way, no detention policy came into effect from the first class to the last class. This almost eliminated the importance of the exam as there was no chance of anyone being detained. This had two consequences – one result was that accountability ended. Neither the school’s responsibility, nor the teacher’s responsibility, nor the parents’ responsibility, nor the students’ responsibility. I saw many

government schools which became just mid-day meal schools – come, eat and go. Due to this the students were not getting education. This is a big casualty. One survey after another was conducted, be it the National Assessment Survey or any other survey, revealed that a student of class 8 does not know mathematics of class 5. A seventh class student cannot read a fourth class text.

This situation posed a threat to education. 22 States had demanded in 2013 itself that this should change and detention should be brought back. Therefore, this Bill has been brought to bring back the provision of detention. There are two important things in this, firstly this Bill is not to stop any student, but to make him study, which are the learning outcomes, which were mentioned in the Bill of the year 2009, but could not be achieved till date. Modi ji had worked on learning outcomes in Gujarat in the past years, so it was his request, hence we prepared the learning outcomes. Based on learning outcomes, it was decided and written down what knowledge should be imparted in every subject in every year, in every class in education. Teachers were also trained. But still examinations have importance, so we decided that there will be examinations in classes 5th and 8th. The first exam will be held in March. Those students who fail will get another chance in May. After studying for two months they can sit again. If they fail in that as well, then there is provision to detain them in that class. But we have not imposed this decision from here. A committee was

appointed, which recommended this. After that we held a meeting of CAB and appointed a committee which recommended that till then 25 states had said that give us the right to detention after taking examination. Three-four states, including Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Maharashtra, still think that the same method is right. That's why we found this solution. [English] Now, the decision will be taken by the State Governments. So, the State Governments are empowered to take decision whether to detain or not to detain; whether to adopt this method or the earlier method. [Translation] This right has been given to the states, hence all the states passed it unanimously. After that it went to the Standing Committee and after much discussion the Standing Committee approved it. Therefore, in this background, this is an important milestone because if we want to improve the quality of education, especially in schools, then this step is very important to provide good education to everyone. That is why this Bill has been brought before the House today. Everyone's suggestions are welcome.

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

“That the Bill further to amend the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, be taken into consideration.”

Shri K.C. Venugopal.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI (BARRACKPUR): Madam, can I make one very important submission?

HON. SPEAKER: Yes.

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: On 21st July, 2018, everybody knows, we have a huge Martyrs' Day where 14 of the youth were killed by the police. Now, because of that, all of our Members are in Bengal. You have slated the discussion on the No-Confidence Motion on 20th July, which we appreciate. But kindly consider to change it to Monday. Otherwise, the entire TMC will be out; and in democracy, I think, it is not a good idea to have such a huge party out. They are almost number three.

So, this is a very sincere and humble appeal to you. I am sure, our friends in the Congress party and other party would agree with us.

HON. SPEAKER: I am sorry.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: In the Business Advisory Committee, unfortunately, we were not there.

Madam, this is an appeal from our side ... (*Interruptions*) Kharge Saheb, you have to change this day ... (*Interruptions*) This House belongs to all of us, Madam.

HON. SPEAKER: I know.

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: So, this is an appeal from us because none of the 34 Members from the TMC would be present in the House on 20th July. So, please consider this. In the interest of democracy and in the interest of freedom of expression, this is what we appeal to you, Madam.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): Madam Speaker, you have fixed the duration.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: You are discussing a different topic here. [English] I have already declared it. [Translation] We discussed in the morning that I will decide and after deciding I have informed all of you. You have got some work to do, this way everyone will have some work or the other to do.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: We are not challenging your decision. We are accepting your point. But 30-35 Members will not be present, so it is not good.

HON. SPEAKER: We will vote early. You can go by the 6 o'clock flight.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: You know that on Friday evenings very few people remain in the House and participate less as well.

Tha's why you should change it and do it on Monday.

...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: The discussion is presently on the Bill. We shall not discuss this matter at the moment. I have already conveyed the decision. Very well, you have stated your point. Now, please proceed with the discussion on the Bill.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: We appeal to the Government also. We appeal to the hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister to kindly consider it. ... (Interruptions) We are not challenging your wisdom, Madam. ... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Dinesh ji, I have listened to it. I have noted your concern. Its okay. Now, everybody will start saying something. [Translation] Everyone will have some work somewhere or the other.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: I am asking Khargeji. Its okay.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Madam, Ananth Kumarji, will agree. There is no problem at all. ... (*Interruptions*) [Translation] If you say so, everyone will agree.

HON. SPEAKER: When do they agree, sometimes they get so angry that they just don't agree.

... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Anant ji, now see, everyone will discuss this. everybody wants to say something. Don't open the doors to fight.

... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR): Madam, I am not discussing anything. You have decided. Rule – 198(2) is you have full right, you have prerogative and you have discussed about it in BAC also. You have decided after discussing. Madam, the No-confidence motion is a very important issue. Leave aside any other programme and participate in

the No-confidence motion here and raise the issue here and also take part in the voting. ... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: You can bring it tomorrow, otherwise keep it on Monday. ... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Sorry, there will be no discussion on this now. This is not a topic for discussion. This is happening on every subject. The Bill has been put up for discussion.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Madam, heavens are not going to fall. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Now, nothing will go on record.

... (*Interruptions*)*

[Translation]

SHRI ANANTHKUMAR: Madam, once they move the No-confidence motion, they should be ready at any time, any moment. One should not run behind.

* Not recorded.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: You put forward the proposal tomorrow. ... (*Interruptions*)

[**Translation**]

HON. SPEAKER: Don't fight over this matter now. Ananth Kumar ji, I have not asked you anything. Kharge ji, I have not asked you anything either. I have noted your point. [English] This is not the time to discuss it. That is why, I am asking Ananth Kumarji also. [Translation] This was not told to anyone; none of us will be in the House that day. It does not happen this way.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Madam, we are such a big party and this is not fair. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

... (*Interruptions*) *

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Madam, I appeal to you again with folded hands. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: K.C. Venugopalji, please speak.

... (*Interruptions*)

* Not recorded.

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Madam, I still request you to consider changing the date. If you are not changing it then, we have to protest and we have to walk out with an appeal to please consider it.
...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Do not protest for such a thing. This is not the proper way.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: If I say that you did not give any such thing in writing that we will not be there. This is not a proper way.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Please do not say anything like that.

Now, Venugopalji.

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Madam, I still appeal to you to please consider and I am sure you will consider it.

14 34 hrs

(At this stage, Shri Dinesh Trivedi and some other hon. Members left the House.)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Madam, please consider their request.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: You had to go today itself, were you not? Your village is sinking. Please discuss it on Friday and go.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: South-Indian people are also very much in difficulty. They have been hit very badly by the monsoon.

Thank you very much Madam Speaker for giving me an opportunity to initiate this small piece of legislation so as to amend the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009. I think, it is a small amendment but it has a significant impact on education sector.

Actually, this Bill is a historic Bill in the area of education. In 2009, UPA Government had introduced this Bill in this House. It has created a historic intervention in the area of primary education. We know that in the area of our primary education, a lot of discrepancy is happening. Actually, children coming from rich families are getting better quality education. Children who are coming from poor family background are getting not much quality education. Actually, this Bill is a strong poor student friendly Bill. I am very much aware of the fact that some of the State Governments are not doing much to implement Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act in a smooth way. If they implement it in a very good manner, definitely

discrepancy among the rich and the poor would be decreased. Such provisions are there in this Bill.

This amendment is very clear about detention of the students. If children in the lower level fail in an examination, as per our present Bill, there is no detention. But the hon. Minister, through this Bill, is suggesting that if a student has failed in an examination, then there is a re-examination. If, in that re-examination also, he failed, then the State Government or the Centre has to decide. But, there also, there is a need of clarity because people are debating on these things.

I think, the hon. Minister already mentioned about the survey reports and everything. I do agree with the survey reports also. But, there is difference of opinion in other ways. Therefore, failing in a class will cause fallout. That was the thinking earlier also. When a student is failing in an examination, there should be a severe fallout especially in rural areas. That is why, the Bill has been made in such a way. But, there is a lack of clarity nowadays also. Who will conduct the examination? I would like to know whether the State or the Centre will conduct the examination. That is not clear in this Bill. It should be clarified whether re-examination is conducted by the State or by the Centre.

Therefore, I would urge upon the Minister that some of the State Governments, I am seriously telling, are not at all implementing the

Right to Education Act. They are pointing out that it should be giving so much financial burden to the State Governments. Earlier, there was a provision to enhance the allocation to State Government for education sector. But, unfortunately, this Government has cut the allocation of entire Centrally-sponsored schemes and programmes including Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). It is because, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is a major scheme to look after the primary education sector.

The day before yesterday also, I had a review meeting of SSA in my constituency. What has happened? Earlier, it was being given Rs. 120 crore; now you are giving Rs. 25 crore. There is no infrastructure development; nothing is there. There are only two-three programmes. The State Governments' argument is that without giving much Central assistance, giving a legislation and asking them to implement that legislation is not at all possible from the point of view of the State Governments. That is their argument. Therefore, I think, the Minister should clarify as to how much amount of money you are giving from the Centre to the States for improving the primary education sector. I think, next year onwards, you are changing SSA and RMSA and you are introducing a new scheme. Okay, it is already implemented.

Therefore, there should be a clarity on how much allocation you are giving. The Government institutions are entirely depending upon the Central assistance. Nowadays, allocations in the education sector

is coming down. We need quality education especially in the Government schools.

Madam Speaker, in my own constituency, a lot of poor people from the fishermen community and a lot of poor people from the agrarian communities have to depend upon these Government schools and some of the aided schools. But the quality of education and facilities which are being provided in urban areas are totally different from rural areas. Students from the marginalised communities and marginalised areas are in a difficult position to get quality education. That is why, this Bill has been introduced in this House. But there has been not much progress reported because of the lack of funds.

Hon. Minister should also concentrate on the primary education. What is the Government doing for the enhancement of primary education? Some Government schemes are very good like Atal Tinkering Lab. You have already provided some funds to the schools including private aided schools. But they are also discriminating between schools. For example, in my district, only eighteen schools have been selected. I asked those officers as to what are the guidelines. They said that whosoever apply first, they will get. We have around one thousand schools in my constituency. We are getting financial assistance from the Union Government for only eighteen schools. It is not reasonable. I agree that it is a good programme. You have to enhance the allocation of funds for that programme and you have to

provide financial assistance to a maximum number of schools. This is what I am asking.

In that sense, no Member of Parliament is being consulted. I am telling you frankly. These are bureaucratic interventions. In a democratic set up, how can you do like that? I myself had called the officer concerned and asked various things about the scheme. There is no proper information. In the case of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, we had a review committee under the Chairmanship of a Member of Parliament. This type of an educational scheme should also have such facilities. I have already talked about the affordable education. Therefore, the Government should concentrate on these things. Otherwise, there will be a stress among the people who reside in the rural areas and also on the people who reside in the poor and economically background areas.

Madam Speaker, this Bill gives a provision to protect the student community especially the poor students. What should be attitude of the Government? Unfortunately, I have to say something about the present policies of the Government. The latest controversy is of giving special status to the Jio which has not yet been started and registered at all. How can the Government give status of eminence to the Jio University which is not even existing? The institutions which are pride of our nation are waiting in the queue. They are totally ignoring those institutions. You are providing the status of eminence to an institution

which is not even registered. What will be the message to the nation? I seek clarification from the hon. Minister. In the education sector, you are moving such a legislation. What will be the message to the entire nation? The institution which is not yet registered is getting status of eminence. How is it happening? We do not understand it at all.

Then, regarding UGC also, the Government has already decided to dismantle the UGC. You had already dismantled the Planning Commission and put NITI Aayog. The Government has already told us that creating NITI Aayog is for speedy implementation of projects. Madam Speaker, you are also a very experienced and senior-most parliamentarian. You know in your constituency what is happening. Everything is going to the NITI Aayog. They are dumping there. The same thing is going to happen. The UGC is such an organisation in the area of higher education. Without having done the homework and without having a proper discussion, without a discussion with the eminent educationists and the heads of educational institutions, how can the Government go for this sudden move to dismantle the UGC? What is the purpose? Therefore, I think it is also a serious area of concern.

Regarding adult education, I have something to say. To promote adult education, particularly in the 15-35 age group through voluntary sector, the MHRD is providing assistance to voluntary agencies in the field of higher education under two separate schemes. One is

Assistance to Voluntary Agencies in the field of Higher Education and another is Jan Shikshan Sansthan. Recently, the Government has decided to merge both the schemes, and renamed the modified scheme as Scheme for Support to Voluntary Agencies for Adult Education and Skill Development. There is also a complete fund deficiency in the implementation of the scheme.

Then, in the Mid-Day Meal Scheme, the Member of Parliament is also the Chairman to oversee the implementation of the Mid-Day Meal Scheme. Now, we are in the modern technological period. How are the students getting this? Now, the hon. Minister is telling that education is important and we have to take out the mid-day meal. I do not think it is so because in our area, in our constituency, some students are coming from a very poor background. They have to depend upon this Mid-Day Meal Scheme. They are totally depending upon it. In our State, we can proudly say that apart from the allocation given from the Union Government, they are contributing. The PTI is contributing. The local Self-Governments are contributing for a better Mid-Day Meal Scheme. But there is not much provision for good kitchens.

In the day before yesterday's meeting on Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan I asked them. They are telling us that as per the norms they cannot give funds to have kitchen. I asked this to the SSA. This is one of the most important things. If you are giving the noon meal, you need a healthy, clean atmosphere and a good kitchen for preparing and providing the

food. At least, a good dining hall is needed. Therefore, if you provide some money from the SSA, especially for these things in rural areas, it will be a very good thing. Therefore, I am requesting the hon. Minister to amend the SSA guidelines in respect of the Mid-Day Meal Scheme.

Coming to student-teacher ratio also, basically, why is the drop-out happening? I think in some places, in Government schools, enough number of teachers is also not there. There is a huge vacancy of teachers, faculties and staff. Then, what is happening? There is not sufficient number of teachers. If there is not sufficient number of teachers, then there will be no accountability at the school level. Then, there is a chance of drop-out also in that area. There should be a qualitative student-teacher ratio. It is highly essential for the quality improvement in education.

Madam Speaker, I am not taking much time. Actually, this is a great revolution. This Bill has provided such a great intervention in the area of primary education but the fruitful results have not been seen so far because the implementation is not happening in the States as per the Right to Education Bill.

So, the Union Government should think about the funding pattern of the entire education scheme. Then, only the essence of this Bill will be implemented. Therefore, in this small piece of amendment, I think

you should clarify whether the re-examination will be conducted by the State or the Centre. That clarification is needed.

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

[Translation]

SUMEDHANAND SARASWATI (SIKAR): Madam Speaker, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. I would like to thank Hon. Human Resource Minister Javadekar ji for bringing a very important Bill on the Right to Free and Compulsory Child Education. If there is anything most important in human life, it is education. If a person does not have education, then it is said in our ancient scriptures that one without education is like an animal. A man's identity lies in the fact that he must have education and knowledge.

The Hon. Minister understood this after much thought and contemplation. A Bill was introduced in the year 2009. I believe that the damage that has been caused to education during this period cannot be compensated. But in due course of time, the Hon. Minister thought over it, deliberated upon it and presented this Bill to amend it. Unless there is strength in childhood education in a child's life, just like when we build a building, if its foundation is not strong, then we cannot construct a grand building on it. The higher and bigger a floor or building a person wants to build, the stronger its foundation should be.

Whatever a child learns from primary education till 8th class, I believe that his base should be strong. In this, it became clear that unless the teacher has responsibility, how will he evaluate. The child was taken forward every year from first to eighth grade. I myself have been associated with education and have been a teacher for 9 years. Being on the Human Resources Committee, I visited several places in the country and state, toured and inspected schools. Many times, when I go to schools, the situation is that Class 5th children don't know anything, class 8th class children don't know anything. When asked why didn't you study, he says that there was no need to study. Since ancient times we have the provision for admission of the child in school. There was a relationship between the teacher and the child. One of our greatest revolutionaries was Ram Prasad Bismil. While he was in jail, he wrote a book, his autobiography, before he was hanged. In the epilogue of his autobiography, at the end, he writes that I would not like to tell the youth to kiss the gallows or go to jail like me, but they must do one thing. They should go to the villages, mingle with the poor, farmers and labourers of the village and educate and give values to their children. Bismil writes that a cultured child is not exploited and an educated one does not degrade. Man has to be saved from degradation, man has to be saved from exploitation. The reason behind the exploitation of the poor and the backward people in the

country is that they were deprived of education. Unless education takes place in primary school, the child cannot progress.

Now I will come to higher education. Hon. Prime Minister is very concerned about the fact that in the higher universities of the world and in the level of education in the world, our position is far behind. But this will be achieved only when primary and secondary education becomes strong. The Hon. Chief Minister of Rajasthan had implemented it long ago and its meaningful results have come out. Enrollment increased by ten percent in the past year. People's inclination towards private education and private institutions was increasing, children were also attracted. Compulsory examination has been implemented in education, it was implemented from last year. The result was that enrollment increased by ten percent. This time the exam result of the children in Rajasthan is very remarkable. My Lok Sabha constituency Sikar, Rajasthan is at number one today. The Hon. Prime Minister went to Jhunjhunu. There, Sikar got the first prize in the field of Beti Bachao and Beti Padhao. The reason for this is the attention given to children through primary education.

Maharishi Dayanand ji had also said something very significant. In his book Satyaprakash, Rishi Dayanand ji said that every person should get equal education, equal clothing and equal food. Today children are getting nutritious food through mid-day meal. A very big campaign has just been launched. Now children will also be given milk

three days a week. When children will get nutritious milk, nutritious food, equal food, equal education, then these children will progress. Due to lack of nutrition and education, children will have neither physical strength nor intellectual ability. The children who stand in such services mostly belong to extremely backward areas, where the food system has not been proper. There is a lack of education in those regions as well. When we look at the statistics related to educational deprivation, we find that children from these regions are less represented in employment. Even in the national services, their representation is significantly low.

The Hon. Minister has introduced the Bill. The result of this will be that when the fifth class child will have his examination, then every teacher teaching till fifth class will think that what if my result is not good? If the results of the teachers are good then it will encourage the teachers. After that, there will be an opportunity in three years in sixth, seventh and eighth standard, there will be an exam in eighth standard, the teacher in sixth class will also think whether I should also take the exam of the child.

Nowadays there are big schools, there are tests every week. We have Modi Institute, Birla Pilani Institute, there children are tested every week and results are given after a month. Its report is sent to the parents. On one side, there are organisations that deliver good results and produce results every week. They write a card to the parent each

month via email or card. On the other hand, for five-five and eight-eight years we are not able to think about where our child stands, what is his condition? This Bill will prove to be a milestone in improving the development and education of children.

I congratulate the Hon. Minister and support this Bill. Thank you very much.

[English]

SHRI C. GOPALAKRISHNAN (NILGIRIS): Hon. Madam Speaker, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Second Amendment) Bill, 2017 amends the provision in the Right to Education Act, 2009 so that regular examination will be held in class 5 and class 8 at the end of every academic year. The RTE Act, 2009 prohibits detention of children till they complete elementary education, that is, class 8, but according to this Bill, if a child fails in the examination, he or she will be given additional instructions, and will take a re-examination. If he or she fails in the re-examination, the relevant Union or State Government may decide to allow schools to detain the child in the same class.

14 59 hrs

(Hon. Deputy Speaker *in the Chair*)

Sir, there are differing views on whether children should be detained for failing in the examinations at elementary school level. Some argue that automatic promotion reduces interest for children to learn and for teachers to teach. Others argue that detaining a child leads to drop-outs and does not focus on the systemic factors that affect learning, such as quality of teachers, schools and assessment.

15 00 hrs

Early schooling is not only for learning subjects, but it is also very essential for socialising and keeping social and communal harmony. The question is whether these decisions should be taken by Parliament or left to the State Legislatures. It is unclear as to who will conduct the examination which may lead to detention, whether it will be conducted by the Centre, State or by the schools.

Education which was initially a State subject was transferred to the Concurrent List by the 24th, 25th, 42nd and 44th Amendments. The school education up to elementary level should be made a State subject again enabling States to frame their curriculum for elementary education according to their different socio, economic, political and cultural traits. A country like India with a very vast diversity cannot have a single window educational system from the primary and elementary school levels. There should be different syllabus for different States, according to their local social, political, cultural history and geographical backgrounds.

Therefore, while we welcome this Bill, we urge the Union Government to leave the responsibility to the respective State Governments the execution of the same without any interference. Thank you.

[English]

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): This is a very interesting Bill. It is interesting in the sense the question which this House is deliberating is should we fail a student or should we not. For this a law is being amended. [Translation] Here we are discussing whether a student will pass the class or not and expressing our opinion on a Bill.

[English]

Therefore, it is quite interesting. Normally, as a parent, I was under the impression that the onus lies with the teacher. When wisdom dawned on us, then we thought perhaps it is the management, the Managing Committee of that particular school or the respective State Board which determines who is to be passed or who is not to be passed. But when this Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill was debated in this House earlier, this provision was hotly debated. As it denies a large number of students to continue in a school because of a faulty examination system, we should allow all students to continue till he gives an examination in Class VIII. So, it was enshrined in the law that till the elementary stage there should not be any examination. And it has continued for quite some time. It is very really interesting. I was going through the Report of the Standing

Committee on HRD and at that time the Chairman of that Committee was Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya.

It is really an eye-opener. You get divergent views from different organizations who deal with child rights; who deal with elementary education; who deal with those who are drop-outs; and who deal with actually those who do not climb the *verandah* of a school.

There are a variety of organizations in our country which have actually given their opinion, but two basic things that come before us are these. Should we deny a child to continue to come to the school by making him pass or fail in a class or should he continue to study in a school till he passes out of Class 8? There are two basic opinions relating to it. One of the opinions is that unless you have an examination at least in Class 5 and Class 8, you cannot know the merit of the student. The student also does not know whether he is actually studying regularly to qualify or not.

But the basic thing that has prompted the Government to form a Committee to go into this aspect is -- after a lot of Reports that came up before the country that actually quality education is not being imparted and that is why a decision was taken that we should go into the merit of the students of those elementary schools -- whether quality education is being imparted or not. Secondly, it is to find out whether the students are actually learning or not. If there is no bar to restrain /

keep back a child and if he is not able to qualify, then the student also feels that just to put my presence in the school is okay and he does not have to study hard and sitting in Class 5, he may not be knowing the actual addition or subtraction of Class 2 and it need not be that he should also learn the alphabets. So, these types of things were also reported in different Reports, which creates an amount of '*chalta hai*' attitude.

The other question was that examination in Class 5 and 8 will act as a disincentive, and it will create a fear psychosis and it will debar the students from going to the school. This was another school of thought that came up very solidly, and that was actually the thought process when the actual Act was implemented. This is the reason for allowing all the students to continue till Class 8, and that they should not be barred from getting qualified to the next class.

But here, today also with this Bill, we are missing one thing and that is we are not concentrating on quality teachers. Actually, it is not in the purview of this Bill. The whole onus is on the students that the students should be good; students should qualify; and students should get quality education so that he can pass an examination. But, as we all know that school education, specifically, is based on three points and it is a triangle. The base is the student and the parents, and the upper point of the triangle is the teacher.

That is why when the RTE Act was implemented, these three points need to be joined together. We cannot put more stress or put stress only on the student or only on the teacher. The parents of the students also have an equal partnership to make the child grow and also learn. That is the reason why there is a need to bring in the parents. Now, there are certain committees in different schools that also should participate to see whether quality education is being imparted or not.

The Act of 2009 prohibits detention of children till they complete elementary education, that is, Class VIII. This Bill seeks to amend this provision only. As I said, the Standing Committee observed low learning levels among school children. It noted that with the no detention policy, there is no pressure on the children to learn, and on the teachers, to teach. [Translation] This is exactly what happens. I am not only talking about schools in villages, but also about schools running in towns where the situation is no different. Even there, teachers mark their attendance and leave. Only one teacher remains, while the others go off to attend to other work. [English] There is no pressure on the teacher and there is very little invigilation of the District Education Department also to see whether teachers are actually performing their duties. After an examination is over, I would prefer this type of guideline being sent by the Union Government to the respective State Governments to see whether the teachers themselves are qualified to give proper education to the students or

not. Therefore, there is a need for policy change so as to improve the learning of children at the elementary stage of education. The Standing Committee upheld the Bill's provision - there is no doubt – which states that learning of children must be assessed through examination in Class V and Class VIII with the discretion resting with the States. There is a possibility that they may make different rules under this provision leading to repercussions on the uniformity of elementary education, on the system result.

Here, I would mention about the Odisha Government. When their views were sought, it was very categorically stated that provisions of no detention may be revisited and the State may be allowed to follow their own evaluation system at the end of every grade with Class Appropriate Assessment.

There are a number of other States – the Minister has also mentioned that during the introduction of this Bill –like Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Goa, Maharashtra and Telangana who have stated that no detention provision should be retained in the RTE Act of 2009.

While going through the Report of the Standing Committee, two learned Members of our House have also written; two different views have been expressed there. Shri Jitender Reddy has said that there is no need for this amendment; and Shri Sushil Singh has said that stress

should be on the teachers. Common guidelines, therefore, need to be issued to all States with respect to detention of a child.

Under the RTE Act, 2009, there is another provision – Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation - CCE – that is, the evaluation mechanism for elementary education. This is actually not functioning well. This is actually because of inadequate implementation of CCE under the Act which has contributed to poor learning outcomes. The CCE should be implemented properly for providing quality education at the elementary level.

Another issue which needs to be addressed is the engagement of teachers in non-teaching activities like census, invigilation duties and other activities. Leave those activities to the State and give them some guidelines. There are two views, as I said, on whether children should be detained or not for failing in the examination. One view is that promoting all children automatically to the next class reduces the incentive for children to learn and for the teachers to teach. Another view is that the detention provision in the RTE Act addresses the issue of examination which is used to eliminate children who obtain poor marks. Compelling a child to repeat a class is demotivating leading to dropping out of school. Frankly, detention puts the onus of learning on the children.

We have gone through the same phase. When we got less marks in some subject, our parents would ask, “Why did you do this? Did you not study well?”. So, the onus lies with the student and we do not have the courage to tell the parents that our teacher did not teach this sum or this paragraph. Parents also do not believe us. It is a triangle of the teacher, the student and the parents. All three have to be put together.

These factors include lack of professionally qualified teachers. Teachers’ absenteeism is another issue. Limited infrastructure is also an issue. Thanks to Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, a lot of infrastructure has now been created. But, now, more stress should be given on providing quality teacher.

As I have been told repeatedly and I have seen it myself when I visited different schools, even in Government primary schools, the load of the school bag has not lessened yet. That actually puts a tremendous psychological pressure on the student. He or she may be in V Std. or VII Std., but the load is quite heavy. Attempts to reduce the same should be made in this regard.

You have different committees which work on this aspect but here I would like to remind you something before I conclude my speech. The Geeta Bhukkal Committee Report, which forms the basis of the present Amendment, actually did not find any evidence of

improvement of learning after detention. If you put the child in the school for one year, six months, two months, it also needs to be qualified/checked whether that child has improved. Keeping the student in the school is one of the major contributors of No-Detention Policy. This tackles drop-outs. Therefore, a balance has to be made so that the attainment of the goal of universal elementary education along with providing quality education can be achieved.

Here, I am reminded of what Pratham, which is one of the biggest education foundations of the country, has stated before the Committee. There are two glaring omissions in the proposed Amendment. First, it is silent on the nature of examination and how the examination should be held. Second, if a child fails in the examination, he or she has to get just one chance in two months after the results are declared. They have suggested that developing a decentralised system of assessment should be conducted at district level using the guidelines given by each State. The Amendment should specifically direct the States to give the children under 13 as many opportunities as necessary to pass V Std. examination. However, after the age of 14, children may be allowed one year to pass the VIII Std. examination and to leave the formal education stream. They may appear for X Std. examination through open pathway. These are certain suggestions.

My request to this Government would be that it should give a guideline and leave it to the Education Departments of respective State

Governments and let them find out for themselves if it can be further enhanced. For instance, there are certain developed Districts and there are certain under-developed Districts. In elementary education, that provisioning of school at the District level can also be worked out instead of putting it at State level.

Capacity building of teachers is a major issue which needs to be tackled. Pre-service and in-service training to teachers is required so that professional standards of teachers are enhanced and the goal of quality elementary education is achieved. Please find out what is the number of teacher-training schools or colleges that each State has; how many teachers are actually being trained every year in those institutions, and how many of those trained teachers are getting employed. That will give you the true picture of our education system today at the elementary level.

I support the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI ARVIND SAWANT (MUMBAI SOUTH): Sir, my friend Hon. Shri Prakash Javadekar has brought a very important Bill, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Second Amendment) Bill, 2017. There is one thing in his mind, what he has seen himself, he thinks that something has to be done about it. I remembered my childhood. There was an exam in school. We studied in the Municipal Corporation school. There were exams from class 1st to 7th. There were three month, six month and annual examinations. The annual examination contained questions based on the entire year. By giving that examination, we used to pass the 7th class and go to the 8th class. Now according to the new system of education, the situation that is emerging, there is a revolution taking place in this field all over the world. ... (*Interruptions*) I would like to go into what Shri Bhartrhari Mahtab ji said in the beginning.

When the Right to Education Bill was introduced, even at that time I had told Shri Prakash Javadekar ji that your efforts are going in the right direction, but there should be a right to quality education in education. When it comes to the Right to Quality Education, I would like to talk about our Maharashtra because I do not have experience of all the states of the country. You also know this and I also know this. Even today, there are such schools in tribal areas, there are district council schools, there are schools in remote areas, where when the

rivers get flooded, children are unable to go to school. The situation is the same even today. Forget about infrastructure, there is no electricity there. Only one teacher teaches all the classes. Unless we strengthen this foundation, all the efforts made will not yield any fruit. If we want to achieve success then first we need to talk about quality education. Is there infrastructure in schools, are there teachers in schools? If yes, are they full in strength, are they trained teachers? These things have to be considered. Nowadays, privatisation has increased to such an extent that you don't even ask. Shri Javadekar Ji, today even in private schools the teachers are not B.Ed., you will be shocked to know that no teacher is D.Ed., they are just graduate and post graduate. They might be teaching well, but even the basic requirement that there should be at least a minimum level of education is not being fulfilled anymore.

The biggest problem is that there is inequality in our education system. You should remove that inequality. I want to commend you because it's important to address that inequality. What curriculum is taught to the children of Zila Parishad schools today? If the same child of the second grade goes to an ICSE school, what is he taught? If the same child goes to a CBSE school, what is he taught? The difference between these courses is where the building of foundation begins.

Unless primary education is good, nothing can be achieved in the future. You know that today unfortunately in a metropolis like

Mumbai, municipal schools are being closed because they are Marathi medium schools. Now even the maids in our houses want their children to go to English medium schools. They have to go to convent schools. English and convent schools have increased a lot. You know what impact these schools make. When any Hon. MP sends a letter to the convent school there for admission of children, the schools just throw away the letter after seeing it. Why does it happen? Because they think why do we need your help? We stand on our own strength. We have money coming from Europe and America. We don't need you. Why should we ask you for help? We move on our own strength.

On the other hand, there is this growing sentiment that education must necessarily be in English. We often cite the examples of countries like Germany, Japan, France, and China, where education is imparted in the mother tongue. In those countries, teaching is done in their own languages. Going forward, whatever the language of education may be, I would like to discuss this matter further with you and with other respected Members. I cannot comment on the choice of medium in which you all choose to educate your own children. If a child studies in an English-medium school, that is acceptable but that child must not forget how to speak their mother tongue. The day he will speak his mother tongue, that day he will speak to this soil and the day he will speak to this soil, that day he will speak to this country as well. You should understand the value of mother tongue. If someone is going to

Tamilnadu, he must learn Tamil. Whether they go to CBSE schools, ICSE schools or State Board schools, they must know Tamil first. After that he should study English and other languages of the world. He does not know Hindi. In our country the southern states oppose Hindi. In such a situation, the unity of the country is also getting affected.

I remember Hon. Prime Minister's speech today. He said that there will be no shortage of English. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHIVAKUMAR UDASI (HAVERI): What mother tongue should be spoken in Belgaum?

SHRI ARVIND SAWANT: In Belgaum, Marathi ... (*Interruptions*) I did not say "state language" please listen to my words, I said mother tongue. I spoke of the mother tongue, not the state language. The official language may or may not come, but the mother tongue must. I am speaking about the mother tongue. Only Marathi should be spoken in Belgaum. What I meant to say is that our children are being raised in such a situation that they do not even know their own mother tongue. They may study in any medium, but it is essential that they know their mother tongue.

I request you to tell the CBSE schools also that English will not work for the unity of this country. If there is opposition to this in Hindi, then it is okay. There are most Marathi people in Maharashtra, but we

do not oppose Hindi. We call it communication language. All European countries have the same language. There is a distinction between black and white, but their language is the same. There is a language to communicate, but we don't have a language.

How advertisements come in schools these days - primary school, air conditioned school. If a child goes to an air-conditioned school, when will mud touch his feet? That child will go to school wearing shoes and a tie. If that child does not play in the country's soil, what will happen to him? Whatever Bills you bring, before bringing them, think whether the schools have infrastructure or not? Are there teachers who provide good education or not? How can children study well unless they are good at it? I remember Bala Saheb Thackeray today. All of you should listen to the example of Balasaheb Thackeray ji, it is very interesting. When he was in school, exams were held and he failed in one or two subjects. At that time, we had to get the signature of our parents or guardians. His father Keshav ji Thackeray is also known as Prabodhankar Thackeray, but who will tell him the merit list? Due to fear, he did not tell his father for two-four days. He was afraid of his father. Prabodhankar ji was also very strict. When he told this to his father, he said – what happened, did you fail? Let me first tell you about the remark he wrote on it in Marathi, which means we are sending stones to the school. It is your job to shape and refine the stone. Then you should not send stones into the house. It was up to

the teacher. This meant that the teacher would shape and train the child in a good way and then the child would come home as an idol. This was his belief. As Bhartruhari ji is saying, that concept is not seen anywhere in this Bill. That is an important assumption.

Today we put teachers to other work. Do election duty, do census. You do only one thing, because you create new generation of this country so only give education. Nothing more is expected from a teacher than to make children good citizens of the country. That is their job, and our Bill should be aimed in that direction to do that job. [English] UNESCO also expressed resentment about it. [Translation] It's not happening as much as we are expecting. Our budget for education is three percent of GDP. Whereas it should be above six percent. You should insist on it. The Government's primary responsibility should be limited to just five essential areas, which are, food, water, housing, education, and health. Nothing beyond that is necessary. If the Government allocates the budget with a focus on these five areas, it would be a commendable approach.

Now, I want to talk about the syllabus. You should let the children read in Hindi, Marathi or English. But there are some basic subjects in which if one lacks, he/she faces difficulty in clearing NEET. Today we congratulated the village girl who brought the gold medal. She has to be given an incentive. You should keep at least two-three subjects whose syllabus is same everywhere. Science, Maths, English are such

subjects. With this, when the child goes to take the NEET exam, his foundation will be strong in the school itself, so he will not face any problem in the NEET exam. I wonder if it is necessary for children to know Maths or English. Nowadays we watch programmes on TV in which small children sing songs. He sings in sur-taal and classical music. Either the parents or the teacher knows which subject the child is interested in. Let him become proficient in whatever field he is interested in. In that, he must be allowed to progress as much as possible. If he wants to go towards that subject in class 8th itself then let him go. Shri Sachin Tendulkar received the Bharat Ratna. He was not a graduate or post-graduate from any university. He used to play good cricket. Similarly, everybody has some qualities in them. If the teacher assesses those qualities and tell the child's parents that he has a keen interest in painting, let him go in that direction.

15 32 hrs

(Shri Hukmdeo Narayan Yadav *in the Chair*)

Sir, your and our ideology is the same. I will conclude in two-three minutes because this is a very important topic.

We have conducted semester exam for engineers. Can't we have semester exams for the children? This will reduce the exam burden on them. In annual examinations, children remain tense due to the whole

year's examinations. Do the semester system. Take exams every three months and take the exam according to the syllabus of three months. Due to this, there will be no need to retain any child because he will not fail. The more we try to develop these qualities within them, I think your basic objective behind this Bill will be achieved. I not only support this Bill but I especially wish you all the best because you want to do some good work. But you should first look at these things, because if the foundation is not good then a good building cannot be built. I conclude my speech with this. Jai Hind.

[Translation]

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUMDUM): Sir, we do not get such an opportunity very often when we support a Bill brought by the Government. But today I am not against this Bill. I would like to congratulate Shri Prakash Javadekar ji that his approach is at least non-confrontationalist. Education is not something we should fight over. We should agree on education and move forward. Before this, there was an atmosphere of tension regarding this.

Prakash Ji calmed it down to a great extent, hence we congratulate him. [English] Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Second Amendment) Bill, 2017 [Translation] It amends the RTE Act, specifically Clause-16, which states that there will be no detention from Class 01 to Class 08. There will be an exam after class 05 and another exam after class 08 and if If a student fails in that examination, they will not be detained immediately. Instead, they will be given another opportunity to reappear for the examination. If the student remains unsuccessful even after the second attempt, then the appropriate decision regarding what is to be done will be taken by the respective State Government. However, as per the RTE Act, it is clearly mentioned that no child shall be expelled from school. Whether the child passes or fails, they will remain in the same school, because our objective is to ensure that every child receives elementary education up to the age of 14. So, the Bill which the Hon. Minister has

brought, it is good that he has not brought the Bill himself, this Bill was actually introduced in the year 2017 and was subsequently referred to the Standing Committee on Human Resource Development, which was chaired by Shri Satyanarayan Jatiya, who was earlier a Minister but is not one currently. He had submitted his report on this matter in February. Based on the recommendations of that report, this Bill has now been brought forward. In my opinion, it will be passed unanimously by the Committee. One great thing about this Bill is that most of the schools, provinces, states and territories in the country have supported it. Why they have supported it, I will elaborate on later. In our state of West Bengal, during the tenure of the Left Front Government, the policy of 'no-detention' was implemented. They had removed English from the primary stage. At that time, we had strongly opposed it. Our state government had also recommended that examinations should be reintroduced, because when examinations are not held, students do not take their studies seriously. When we were young, whatever studies we did, we did it only before the exams. If there were no exams, then we would not study. The same thing happens to us. It's a good thing. But the Hon. Education Minister is emotional, a thinker and he knows that the condition of education in our country is very bad. Three committees were formed to study it. The Central Advisory Board of Education submitted its report in 2014. The National Achievement Survey reported in 2012 and the Economic

Survey reported in 2016-17. [English] They observed declining learning levels in implementation even after the RTE Act was passed. [Translation] Look at the situation, in 2016, 58 percent of the children studying in class three could not read a text from first standard. At the ethnic level, 73 percent of children in Class III could not perform addition, subtraction, and division. What happened in the no detention policy was that the learning outcomes were going down, so CABE - Central Advisory Board of Education, which has Education Ministers of all the States, had recommended it.

[English] An assessment of learning outcomes is required to determine promotion to the next class. [Translation] They recommended. The law that the Hon. Minister has introduced today has a lot of support from expert bodies. We saw what happens with no detention. That's good. We have been providing this since 2017. The Comptroller and Auditor General also gave a report on elementary education and this declining standard of education found a mention in that as well. Three reasons were given for this. One reason cited is that teachers are not fulfilling their responsibilities to the fullest extent. Everybody has said that [English] Low teacher accountability and appraisal, poor quality of the content of teacher education and changes in curriculum of B.Ed and D.Ed courses. [Translation] The standard of teachers was low.

The second reason was school's accountability. There was no restriction on anyone that the school should respond to them. The CAG had said that there should be a performance management system for all school teachers, school leaders and department officials and it should assess the performance. Under the RTE Act, there should be an evaluation mechanism of continuous and comprehensive nature of assessment and appropriate training should be provided. These four shortcomings have been observed in our education system. This is a challenge before the Hon. Minister. There is a lot of pressure on him from the RSS. This is all a different matter and I don't want to go into that. ... (*Interruptions*) He himself has been a volunteer. He is able to function by cutting through the pressure of RSS. RSS has faith in him. He is also Maharashtrian Brahmin, so there won't be much pressure on him from the RSS. I just want to ask two things. I have supported this Bill and I have said that it is needed. [English] One is flexibility for States to determine examination and detention. [Translation] You are making this law for the entire country. Education is in the concurrent list. We have to say one thing that States should be given relaxation regarding examinations. Exams will be held in Class 5 and Class 8 only, but what it will be, how the exam will be conducted, this should be decided by the States. This freedom should be given to the States.

Secondly, [English] there is a lack of clarity as to who will administer the examination. [Translation] You are bringing in a law on a caste basis. That does not mean that, like you implemented NEET, made one common entrance exam for the entire country for medical education, you will implement NEET here as well, where the entire country has one exam. That will never be possible. Ours is such a vast country with so many students. The Hon. Minister must clearly state who will conduct the evaluation and examination. This must be clarified. We will say this and the Hon. Minister knows that [English] As per the findings of the National Achievement Survey, students in 34 states in class five were able to correctly answer 45 per cent of reading comprehension items. [Translation] Did you do this? [English] For reading comprehension, scores of 19 States are significantly below the scores in 2012. [Translation] This means that the demand is decreasing. [English] For mathematics, in the year 2015, the scores of 20 States are significantly below the scores in the year 2012. [Translation] The Hon. Minister will have to introspect and answer us, why is this happening? The law which the Hon. Minister has brought in, a I have said that we have no conflict with the law, but I would urge the Hon. Minister to take everyone along and move ahead on the issue of education. Bring all the States together.

Let us take along the Central Advisory Board of Education, because we should give priority to primary education. After

independence, an inverted pyramid of education was formed in our country. What should education be like? It will have a very large base and at the top it will be very small in higher education. But, here it became an inverted pyramid. We did not put much emphasis on primary education. We have built many big universities, IITs, IIMs, that is good. But, if we don't fix the base, it will get damaged.

Sir, you know that Lohia ji also used to speak like this. Following Lohia ji, today I am trying to speak in Hindi. Hindi is not my mother tongue, but still, I feel that people all over the country understand Hindi. Especially, when BJP members have to be addressed then it is good to speak in Hindi. Maybe they will find it easier to understand it.

After me Supriya Sule ji will speak. She is very knowledgeable in the field of education. She will tell all the remaining points. Along with this, I extend my support for this Bill.

Jai Hind.

[English]

SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY (MAHABUBNAGAR): Sir, the name of the Bill, i.e., The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education, is very attractive. It is all right up to this but when you come to the amendment, we have a little problem with this.

The Right to Education Act, 2009, prohibits detention of children till they complete elementary education up to class 8. The Bill seeks to amend the provision to state that a regular examination will be held in class 5 and class 8 at the end of every academic year. If a child fails in the examination, he will be given additional instructions and then he will take a re-examination. If he fails in the re-examination, the relevant Union or State Government may decide to allow schools to detain the child.

Sir, I would like to State here that our hon. Chief Minister of Telangana believes that no detention policy till class 8 should be there as per the RTE Act. It has been proven by many studies that once a child is detained, most likely he/she drops out of school and the parents adopt a negative outlook towards education and their child's performance. This particularly holds true for unprivileged families.

[Translation]

Sir, you see how we convince parents in villages and tell them that they have to educate their children, only then will the country progress.

This is how we bring children into schools. There is no environment for studying even in the house where they live. Their parents cannot even teach them. The condition of their parents is such that only if they go to work in the morning and they will be able to eat in the evening. That is why they also want to engage their children in the same work. But we tell them that ‘children should be educated’ and for this different NGOs, Government, leaders get the children enrolled in schools.

[English]

The chances of child being employed in some form of child labour increases substantially. It must be noted here that once detained, the child will not be able to successfully study or learn next year as she loses confidence and it is stigmatized for a long time.

[Translation]

If a child fails once and if we keep him at home, then that child will never come out from there and say that I will go to school. It takes a very long time to bring that child back to school again.

[English]

The second amendment rightly mentions that an examination or some form of assessment should take place in class 5 followed by re-examination in case of failure in the examination. However, option to detain the child should be removed altogether.

Studies have proven that every extra year in school is important and makes a difference in a person's life. [Translation] As many people study and as many children go to school, there is a certain system in everything. Just like we also come to Parliament every day. Parliament should run for 100 days, but even that gets reduced. But here also we all observe, Hon. Javadekar Sahab is sitting here. However many days we come to Parliament, we get to learn that much. That is why we say, do not adjourn the House, do not create disruptions. Let us listen to good speeches. Let us listen to speeches of eminent people, only then can we learn something. But here we see that once the House is adjourned, it's twelve o'clock, and after going home, we say [English] "an empty mind is a devil's workshop." [Translation] Different kinds of thoughts keep coming. This is how you will detain the child. If you do not send your child to school from home and do not make arrangements for his studies, it will be very difficult.

[English]

A person's degree or the last class that he/she passes stays with the person for ever. [Translation] As we say in Hindi whether someone is 5th pass or 8th pass, it stays with him throughout life. Therefore, our effort should be that when a child starts his school studies, he should leave the school only after completing his studies. Whatever degree we get from college or school, whether it is B.Sc, B.Com, 5th pass, 8th

pass; it stays with us for life and we say that we have studied in this class. We consider it wrong if any child leaves school without studying. [English] A child should stay in school till he/she completes her school successfully. Therefore, instead of detention we should focus on ensuring that child learns the skills. Our State is in favour of conducting assessment tests at regular intervals with the objective of ensuring that focus remains on learning outcomes. The objective of holding an examination should not be to detain a child but to ensure that the child learns. [Translation] He should learn something, it's not like he should be detained. [English] I would like to make one more thing very clear that it is never the fault of a child if he/she fails to perform in an examination. If we presume that the child is at fault, then we refuse to acknowledge the role of other factors that affect the learning outcomes of children. Poor learning outcomes due to school related factors like lack of professionally qualified teachers, absenteeism of teachers and limited infrastructure. For instance, the RTE (Amendment) Act 2017 was passed in August 2017 to extend the deadline by four years for teachers to acquire the minimum qualification prescribed under the RT Act. This shows the lack of efforts by the Union and the State Governments to complete the training of untrained in-service teachers. We must also consider socio-economic conditions and family backgrounds while evaluating learning outcomes.

Sir, when it comes to school infrastructure let me point out that even today, 70 years after Independence, children are forced to sit on floors and study. How can we expect our children to learn when they have to sit on floors or on benches without any support? I have personally seen students of IX and X classes, especially girl students, sitting on floors for the entire period of the school. Even today we do not have toilets in majority of our schools. [Translation] If there is a toilet, there is no running water in it.

Sir, I am running a campaign within my constituency. There, all the PSUs, the defence PSUs, and some other kinds of PSUs, I have been speaking with them, whether it is Indian Oil Corporation, BHEL, HAL; I am requesting them to provide lights, playgrounds, etc. for the children in our schools. I am asking that basic facilities be given in the schools and, for this, I am requesting dual desks under the provision of CSR funds from these organisations. [English] I am thankful to some of the PSUs like Oil India and others.

[Translation]

They gave me 2 thousand dual desks. In the same manner the Bell people have given me some compounds. The compound is built in such a way that the entire primary school is constructed right on the road. What would a primary school child know? The school does not even have a compound wall, because of which, while playing, the children

come out on the road and directly get washed out. How many accidents happen because of this? Even parents are scared to send their children to school. I have made some compound walls by reaching out a little through CSR funds. I want to say to Javadekar ji that such a big campaign is being run in the country that in rural areas we will do electrification, provide water facilities everywhere, and ensure cleanliness under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. In the last 70 years, no government, whether it is State or the Union, has taken the decision that every school in the country must have the best infrastructure for the children there.

The school has 120 children and only 2 classrooms. They have to go to the fields to relieve themselves. There are 2,500 primary and upper primary schools within my constituency. I had written a letter to the Headmasters asking what is the condition of your infrastructure? I have kept everything filed. I would like to send it to you. Not now, let these 8 months of election period pass. When you come back as a Minister, when you come back to HRD, then I am going to give you a file and take a special sanction from you that every school should have a room for 40 children. There should be a room for every 40 children to study and a teacher for each class. There are 120 children and 2 teachers. How will the teacher teach there? There is also a problem of toilet there. Where do 8th-9th class girls have to go and which toilet do they have to use? Arvind ji said something very good about this.

Today I feel ashamed that even after 70 years, this is the condition of children in the country. It is said about children that they are the future of the country. You are destroying their foundation. If they are not being provided toilets, proper classrooms for studying, proper teachers, then how will they be able to do anything?

You know about our Telangana Government. Today we have moved one step forward towards progress, we have taken one step forward. Our Chief Minister KCR ji has started Gurukul Schools. In 70 years, there were 400 schools, to which he added 570 schools and opened separate schools for children from minorities and backward classes and arranged for free education. Steps have been taken for those children for their free education from KG to PG. The rice that our Chief Minister's grandson eats for lunch there is the same rice that the school children eat. I would also like to tell you that we provide the same Sleepwell mattresses for those children as well, like the one on which the CM's grandson sleeps. In this way thousands of children are studying inside Gurukul School.

Today there is a waiting list for applications there. Every child wants to study there. They are called Gurukul Schools. Today, due to competition, private schools are closing down and Gurukul schools are moving ahead. Our CM has opened such schools in every division and we will continue to open them in future too. In this way, we can provide convenience to the children.

16 00 hrs

Provide every kind of infrastructure to the children. If a child is unable to study even after being provided with so many facilities then he should be detained. If you stop children from studying in Class 5 and 8 by bringing in laws and clauses, it will not be good for the future of the country.

HON. SPEAKER: Now you finish, another speaker has to be called.

SHRI A.P. JITHENDRA REDDY: Hon. HRD Minister should say that I will provide all these facilities to the children. If he says that, I will sit down. Thank you.

[English]

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SADANAND SULE (BARAMATI): Sir, I stand here to speak on the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill. Sir, I would like to compliment the hon. Minister for coming up with such a good Bill. It seems an exceptionally small Bill, but it is a very, very critical and a turning point in education. The State, the HRD Minister and I come from, is a very modern State in India, where education is a dream and a reality both. We are a very progressive State. The Shahu Phule Ambedkar, as we all talk in our speeches, our leaders who were born in Maharashtra give good quality education and a new vision in education to the country.

[Translation]

I and the Hon. Minister both come from the same district. I do not want to repeat, but whatever the demands are, you have given flexibility regarding the exam, this is a good thing. I am a mother as well as an MP. If we do not hold examinations, then children will feel that if there are no exams then there is no need to study, [English] This is the basic approach. [Translation] About which everybody has said that [English] A comprehensive continuous evaluation is a must and the need of the hour. [Translation] If there is a subject of Mathematics, the child goes to school every day, till the eighth grade he has no idea what is going on. How will he go to school everyday, how will he sit

in the class, if he sits in the class for eight years then he will just look here and there, he will not have any interest in school, he will not have any interest in studies. When algebra will be taught in mathematics, he won't know the difference between algebra and geometry? If his assessment is not done and when he goes to Class 8th, then all the children fail in Class 9th and drop out from school. Intervention in Classes 5th and 8th is very important. In my thought [English] legislation has to be evolved and changed.

Everything changes. [Translation] When the issue of women's rights came up, there was no women harassment. [English] Everything has to evolve. That is what governance is. It is a continuous process. You have to keep changing and evolving. This is a very important intervention. [Translation] There are still many people who feel that intervention should not happen. I think there should be an examination. Children do not know what to do next? Due to absence of exams the drop out rate is increasing. I have a concern that if exams are being conducted in classes 5th and 8th, if there is no comprehensive assessment, then what will you do about learning disorders? If a child is discalculous or has dyslexia, in the eighth or ninth grade we say that [English] This child is dyscalculics. [Translation] He does not know mathematics, but it does not happen that way, he does not know the basics, that is why he is discalculics. Learning disability has also become a bit fashionable. In my opinion, if they get good education

and good comprehensive constant training then these children will be retained more in schools, which has been quoted in many reports. [English] We have to take assessment of all these subjects very critically.

I would like to quote my Chief Minister. The Chief Minister of Maharashtra has said that Maharashtra was at number 16, which has now gone out at number three. I would like to ask a pointed question to the hon. HRD Minister, who also comes from Maharashtra, how have we jumped from 16 to 3. What is the number? ASAR report does not show rankings and nor does the Government of India show ranking?

So, how is my State and the hon. Chief Minister to be quoted is saying, Maharashtra was at number 16 and how has it gone to number three and what are the interventions that the Government of India has made to do that? Given this whole story of education in India, you have given so much flexibility to all the States, which is a very kind thing to do. But the State you and me come from, Adivasi students are agitating on the roads of Maharashtra today because of educational issues and their scholarships are being taken away. Is the Union Government, out of concern, especially because you come from the same State, going to run and help or at least intervene, I will not say interfere, in the education opportunity?

So, would he intervene in the educational opportunity? [Translation] Tribal children are getting education for the first time in their generation. If Maharashtra Government is not giving them justice, will the Union Government intervene in this, yes or no? Children have come out on the streets today, the police have lathi charged them. Not only this, the camera of a channel named ABP Maja was also broken so that it could not be shown in Maharashtra.

[English]

So, I would urge and use this opportunity to ask the hon. Minister to intervene in all these education changes because it is a very broad subject. [Translation] Only one clause of RTE has been brought, my request is that a complete comprehensive discussion should be held on education in this session. [English] What everybody has said, toilet is an issue, quality is an issue, retention is an issue and teachers are an issue. [Translation] Everyone is saying what are the teachers doing? [English] But the teachers also have challenges. [Translation] There was such a big disillusionment in transfers in Maharashtra that everyone got angry. They are saying that the online system that the Government has introduced, [English] Teachers do not want them. They want the old policy that was there. If a teacher is so busy running around for his changing office duties, [Translation] When will he teach? When he is not happy, [English] how will he teach the students?

In this sarva shiksha intervention, [Translation] Today they will not give rooms, will not give infrastructure. Every year the State Government used to get money for infrastructure, now that has stopped. Due to this, new schools are not being built in Maharashtra and other states. [English] So, that is another intervention. Infrastructure is critical.

[Translation]

Arvind Sawant ji has talked about mother tongue. Sir, you will be surprised to know that the Government has decided to close 1300 Marathi medium schools in Maharashtra. Of these, 250 are from Pune district, where I and Hon. Prakash ji come from. The Zila Parishad has taken a decision that we will fund it ourselves but will not let the Government close down even a single Marathi school. On one hand you say not to close Marathi schools and on the other hand the Government is closing them. What should Maharashtra do? We all should think about this.

You are saying that there should be a discussion about the board, [English] What will be the normal choice? [Translation] If you go to any house today, the first choice is CBSE board because the study for NEET exam is of CBSE board. If admission is not available in CBSE then children go to ICSE, if they do not get admission in this also then the last choice is State Board. [English] Nobody is choosing the SSC

Board as the first choice. [Translation] Arvind ji is right that very few children are ready to study in their mother tongue. Those who do not have money, only those poor people go to the Zilla Parishad school.

Now when it comes to air conditioned schools, everyone has a new hobby. All the children go to the foreign IB boards and not to the Indian boards. [English] We have no objection. [Translation] Send your kids to the school you want. [English] But education is a larger issue. It is not an isolated issue about one child or any child. Every child is made differently and every child is gifted in some way or the other. So, just because a child gets less marks, it does not make him unintelligent or dumb.

So, I want Prakashji to find a way where every child is gifted and special in some way, that child should be supported, encouraged in whatever way possible where education gives him an identity beyond caste and creed. I think, that is what India is looking for because today is an aspirational India. We got this Right to Education from Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar in our Constitution.

It was fortunate that our Government could bring up with the Right to Education. But I would like to take this opportunity and urge the hon. Minister to look at the broader picture. Is really six to 14 good enough for our nation? Fourteen is too little. We have to take it to 18 and 21 in the second phase. What are we spending money on? Instead

of running after that bullet train, increase Right to Education up to 18 and 21. The generations of India will bless you, Sir.

So, I think, this is the intervention we are looking for. The Anganwadi Workers are on the streets today. He talked about school quality education because our Anganwadis and all the cooks. [Translation] Anganwadi workers are on the road. She has not gone home since last night. There is a movement going on in Nagpur. Hon. Ministers in Maharashtra do not have time to meet them. Those poor women are sitting on the road. What has been said in the speech is correct that it should not happen that children go to school for lunch whereas they should get both education and food. [English] We want to eradicate malnutrition with the intervention of good quality education. So, today, Maharashtra needs your attention more than the country, if you ask me.

[Translation]

Today, tribal children are protesting on the streets, Anganwadi teachers are protesting, farmers are protesting for not getting money for milk. There is a sad story of education and farmers in our state. I would request you that today on the very first day you have raised a very good issue of education. You must think about this comprehensively, but give justice to the children and farmers. Thank you.

[English]

SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN (MURSHIDABAD): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you that you have given me an opportunity to speak here.

[Translation]

Sir, this is just a small Bill, it is not a very big Bill, yet today discussion is taking place here on detention and no-detention policy. I would like to congratulate the Hon. Minister that he has given some flexibility to the States as well, that if they wish, they can do it and if they don't want, then they may choose not to. This flexibility has been provided and the State will take decisions based on its economic situation. This is a good decision.

16 11 hrs

(Shri Prahalad Joshi *in the Chair*)

Still, I have something to say about detention. This is a major subject and I would request the Hon. Minister to pay some attention to what I say.

Before me, Hon. Member, Saugata Roy ji has said something about no detention. Criticizing the Left Front Government, he said that the No Detention Policy was started by the Left Front Government. Yes, they implemented. I am proud of it. When the no detention policy was started in West Bengal, this policy was not started in India, then

later it came under the Right to Education Act. Was there a Left Front government at the Centre at that time? No, it was not. Still, Union Government implemented it, they must have found something good in it, which is why they started it. But today, why are we required to take a step back? This should also be discussed. Will we only speak against students, against teachers, or someone else, saying that it is because of them that the situation is like this? Will just enforcing detention solve everything? No, it will not. It is not that by implementing a detention policy, quality will improve. It will not. What will happen by enforcing detention? Some students will drop out of studies altogether and those who remain will have better quality. But in that case, not all students will receive education. The idea behind the Right to Education Act was that all students should be brought within the system of education, taught at least up to Class 8, and given a minimum standard. That was the motto of the Right to Education Act. But today, moving away from that motto, by speaking of detention policy, efforts are being made to push students out. Why am I saying this? Please note, when the no-detention policy started, it was also implemented in West Bengal, and later it came under the Right to Education Act. It is not that there was no examination at that time. Even then, there was an examination system, a good evaluation policy, and it was called, CCE.

Look at what happened to CCE. Why should we tell the students? Look at the Standing Committee report on CCE to see what the Standing Committee has said -

[English]

“The Committee noted that inadequate implementation of CCE under the Act has contributed into poor learning outcomes. The Committee recommended that CCE should be implemented properly for providing quality education at the elementary level.”

Now, who is responsible for that? [Translation] Students are not responsible for that. CCE should be implemented. What will you have to do if you implement CCE? If you implement CCE then you will have to appoint teachers. You look at the entire country, you look at Bengal, there is no recruitment of teachers there. Many posts are lying vacant. If 40,000 posts are vacant somewhere, then recruitment is being done on only 5,000 posts. This is happening everywhere in the country, so how will you implement CCE? You will purposely tell the students to come under the no detention policy and go out of the school. Is this a way to get them out? Therefore, for the successful implementation of CCE, appointment of teachers is very important. It is written in the Right to Education Act that how many students should be there in which class, what should be the teacher-student ratio, everything is written in it. It was not fulfilled. Due to this, enrollment

in government schools decreased. It is shameful. It is a matter of shame in India that in government schools education is imparted without any money, everything is available, still students are leaving the schools.

Is there a report of this? It is seen that from 2008-09 to 2014-15, enrollment decreased from 71 percent to 62 percent. Where did the students go? Those students went to private schools. What happens in private schools? Is there any magic there, is there anything good there? Most of the private schools are English medium schools, where the first language is English and the second language is mother tongue.

We want to ask the Hon. Minister, through you, is this a scientific method that the first language will be English and the second language will be Mother Tongue. Where is this written? In which education science is this mentioned that the first language will be English and the second language will be mother tongue. Does this happen, but this is what happens in India. The work is going on like this. In some states, 40 percent of schools were shut down. Just now Supriya Sule ji was telling that schools are shutting down. Primary schools are shutting down in every state, high schools are shutting down because students are leaving schools. They are leaving schools because there are no teachers, no infrastructure and no one to look after them. They are studying in private schools by paying money. The students who are studying in private schools are our own children, but who looks after them? I will tell the Hon. Minister that these should also be discussed.

Many students went to private schools. Who will take care of them? There should also be control over those children who have left schools. Some action should also be taken to control them. The Union Government should also take some action regarding this, otherwise they will go to other places.

I have one more suggestion, we give money, we do everything, the State Government also gives money for studies, but who will have the liability fixed? Why did the child not learn, liability should be fixed on someone. I say that you provide the infrastructure and make arrangements for teachers. First, provide all the necessary things and then fix liability on teachers if reading outcome is not achieved till fourth class. Why haven't they learnt the mathematics that they should have learned? Unless this liability is fixed on someone, we will not get the full outcome. As Saugata Roy ji has said that the number of students has decreased in 20 states. Same is the case with reading skills. It has declined in 19 states since 2012. Why did this happen, this should not have happened. When it is in our hands then this should not have happened. When Right to Education was started, this should not have happened, it should have moved forward, but it did not move forward, instead it came back.

I want to tell the Hon. Minister that the Right to Education Act should be strengthened. There is no fault with the Right to Education Act, it is fine. This should be strengthened. For this, teachers,

infrastructure and all other necessary things should be provided. Something should be done so that children of the entire country get the same facilities. We have just taken some action through no retention policy, but it will not yield any results.

[Translation]

DR. SANJAY JAISWAL (WEST CHAMPARAN): Hon. Chairperson Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Second Amendment) Bill, 2017. I have stand in the House to speak in support of this. The first Education Minister of this country was Abul Kalam Azad. He created a very good education system in that era even though he did not receive any formal education himself. Despite that, he gave a uniform comprehensive course in all languages like Hindi, English, Sanskrit, Urdu and from Maths to Physics-Chemistry. Almost all of us who are here are the result of that education. Saugata Roy Ji said that I am a doctor and all the students with me competed in the US entrance exam or England entrance exam everywhere.

Not only this, if you look at the software industry, Silicon Valley is almost controlled by Indians and this is the result of the same education. A minister who was educated in India and went to America due to this education felt that all the education we have received till date is rubbish and the education system that he will provide will be the best in the world and the result of that was that this Bill came with many flaws. There is a joke going around in America asking, have you ever been to India? They say you must go because you have lost your jobs. Because of that very education, we are the power of software, the power of medical science. In the year 2009 the Education Minister

abolished the exam and made many other changes because this was happening in America. He did not notice that in America, if children study for four hours, the teacher has to teach for ten hours. What is the evaluation of each child, how much is the child studying, what does he have to study tomorrow, all these things are also taught to him. Can you see what was the condition of teachers here? What happened in the year 2005, is that whoever gets more marks will become a teacher. Suddenly I heard the names of such colleges and universities which I had never heard before. People got 95 percent marks from there and became teachers and the poor guy who got 70 percent marks from Bihar, UP, Karnataka, Maharashtra boards started feeling helpless. The biggest reason was that the decline in education happened the most at the school level at that time. The result was that the children became confident that they were passing without studying and the teachers were also confident that whether the children studied or not, they would pass. I am thankful to Smriti ji that she made it compulsory to pass the 10th class exam because earlier in Class 10, instead of marks, codes were given that you would pass, but on seeing the code, it was known that you have failed the exam. Children used to pass 10th without studying and when they used to go to 11th, they used to be under the pressure of exams, a large number of children became victims of depression. Children neither understood physics nor chemistry nor other subjects. Both my children have also passed 11th.

I felt sorry for them because they were suddenly under a lot of pressure of 11th class exams. The principle of the game is that there will be victory and defeat every day in the game, so it does not matter to you whether you win or lose in any big event, because you are winning or losing every day. The result of cancelling the exam was that if the child suddenly had to take the exam after some time and was unable to clear it, he would go into depression.

I welcome and thank the Hon. Minister Shri Javadekar ji for bringing this Bill, but what he has said is that if the child does not pass the examination in three months, we will detain him. This is a good thing, but I would say that the teacher should also be punished. There should also be a provision to find out the reason as to why their student is unable to pass even after taking the exam twice. Responsibility should also be placed on the teacher.

Sir, my request is that many improvements need to be made in the education system. In our times, children were also beaten by teachers, but the children's relationship with teachers was no less than that with their parents. Even today, if we meet our teacher somewhere, the first thing we do is touch his feet. This relationship is nowhere to be found in today's time. There was a news published in the newspaper that a father asked the career counselor, My child is studying in class 5th, which coaching institute should I put him in so that he comes out with the best performance? I want to my child to get in to medical field.

The counsellor said that you are late because your child has already reached class 5th. Its good that you did not think about IIT. If you would have thought about it, then preparation should have to be started from pre-school itself. If you want to make your child an IAS and you have not started preparing him from his birth, then he cannot become an IAS. We will have to make efforts to stop this kind of trend that has started.

Arrangements to stop this type of trend will have to be made at all costs. The result of not having exams was that in 2009, 60 percent of students were in class VI, which dropped to 40 percent in 2012. There was a loss in the percentage of children in that class.

Many improvements still need to be made in education. A country can progress only on the strength of health and education. I am grateful to the Hon. Prime Minister that he has brought a revolutionary change in the field of health by introducing 'Ayushman Bharat'. I congratulate him for this, but similar revolutionary changes need to be made in the field of education as well.

A small scheme was implemented in Bihar 15 years ago. That plan was to provide bicycles to children in school. In 2006, when I used to visit schools exclusively for girls, about 40 percent of the girls were married. By the year 2014-15, we observed that hardly any girl student was married. The reason for this was that when the distribution

of bicycles started, a desire arose in the minds of girls that they have to study till the ninth class in order to get the bicycles. Therefore, we need to keep encouraging children, just teaching will not work.

A very good scheme was introduced under which 25 percent of poor children would get admission in private schools. Population is a big problem of this country. If a parent has only one child, they should get reservation in that 25 percent. This is my request to the Hon. Minister. This will encourage them. There should be a thing in it that if a parent has only one child, he/she will be given the best education and they will have the freedom to choose the school. I would request the Hon. Minister to consider this.

Coaching institutes have become the biggest problem of this country. This is such a business which is ruining the whole country. The Hon. Minister should also consider this. When I went into medical, 10 years before that, hardly any student studying in coaching would qualify for medical or engineering. In our time, 40 percent of the children came from coaching and the rest came on merit. Today the situation is such that not a single child can take admission in engineering or medical without coaching. We all are responsible for that because the questions in it are contrary to the CBSE syllabus that we have prescribed.

In today's discussion, I would like to tell the Hon. Minister that if you make it CBSE based, then the questions in the competition should be from the CBSE-NCERT books only. It is very important to pay attention to this. Today, all the children are leaving schools and running to coaching classes, it is the duty of this Parliament to stop this. There is a need to pay attention to how to provide holistic education to children and how to ensure their overall development.

There is only one thing which is missing in Indian children and that is imagination. We all become very adept at rote learning, but when it comes to research work, we fail in it. Today we are nowhere in the top hundred. No research is done by us. We come from only the service sector. When you take admission in 5th or 8th class, the children's IQ should also be assessed, their imaginative ability should also be tested.

In any case, there should be some law for punishment for teachers. We visit schools and if we find teachers absent, we mark them absent and leave. The next day the teacher says that we were here. Today the condition of government schools is such that most of the teachers remain absent. Even the teachers who are there, their job is to prepare food or they keep doing some other things.

Shri Prakash Javadekar ji is a great educationist. I have full faith that this is going to be a very good law for the country. If children do

not learn to handle shocks from childhood, they will break down when they grow up. Therefore, the more you rub children from childhood, the more exams you take, the better it will be. This eliminates the exam fever in them. That's why I fully support this Bill. Along with this, I also hope that during the time of Shri Prakash Javadekar ji, a framework for fundamental reform in education will be made.

Thank you very much for giving me so much time to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (ANANDPUR SAHIB):

Hon. Chairperson Sir, first of all I would like to thank the Hon. HRD Minister Shri Prakash Javadekar for making this decision that he has brought [English] The Right Of Children To Free And Compulsory Education (Second Amendment Bill, 2017) [Translation] I want to congratulate him for this. I think that the Compulsory Education Act which was made in 2009 was a very clever betrayal of the country. It is true that education is considered as the third eye of a person. It is also believed that this is such an asset which no one can snatch away. It is also true that before 2009, India's school education was considered the best in the world. Our NRIs used to get their children's higher education done there and school education done here. Unfortunately, the amendment made in 2009 led to a huge decline in school education. When there was no competition, when there was no examination, then the children got relief and the teachers also became free. The highest drop out rate in school education was seen in 2009, when those children went on to matriculate.

I congratulated the Hon. Minister because he understood this pain, understood this suffering. I believe that this amendment was very necessary to stop the decline that was taking place in education. This amendment will remove the decline in education and school education in our country will improve. For this, I would like to give some

suggestions as well. This is a very good amendment, but some more changes need to be made. We consider this country as one nation despite of different religions, languages, and values. There are different systems in school education. The CBSE courses do not match those of the State Boards. There is a difference between them. Due to this, our children develop inferiority complex.

Hon. Minister, I want to say that in the revolutionary amendment that you have brought, many more things are required. The most important thing is that everyone should work together in education, only then will the country survive in the true sense. The people of the country have expectations only from Hon. Modi ji. The earlier model of development was only for five-seven percent of the people. Today, after four years, the development model that has come, is for 90 percent of the people.

I want you to make the education system like this as well. Since privatisation of education, it has created a huge difference in education – different for rich people and different for poor people. At least there should be a regulatory authority for private colleges providing education. There is a regulatory authority for electricity and also a regulatory authority for water. There is no authority for education, which we consider to be the biggest asset, the third eye. Private institutions charge fees as per their wish. A poor person's child cannot

go there. To remove this difference that has arisen, you should create some authority. It's very important.

Here people from all States have expressed their views. I also want to put forward my point. Mother tongue is very important for the progress of any child. Emphasis should be given on mother tongue. In my state Punjab, the schools which have CBSE courses have banned children from reading and speaking Punjabi. They expel kids from schools. Make mother tongue compulsory at least in the states, be it CBSE course or any other course. It's very important.

Another subject is that of History. The history of different regions is also different. The history of the entire country cannot be included in books. At least the history and language of a State should be made compulsory in that region. The Education Board in Punjab had talked about making amendments in education. The history of the Gurus was omitted. The history of Maharaja Ranjit Singh was omitted. Hari Singh Nalwa, who had closed the routes through the Khyber Pass and always stopped the Mughals from entering the country, his history was omitted. Shiromani Akali Dal raised its voice there. Today's Government formed a committee to amend it. Therefore, if the guidelines are clear, such a situation would not arise.

It's also very important. The third thing I want to say is that the accountability of teachers should be fixed somewhere. When we were

studying, there used to be surprise checking in schools, but now there is no checking. You have done one thing very well. You have also used the concept of cooperative federalism in education. You have talked to all the State Governments and also given them concessions. I want that the accountability of teachers should be fixed. No one asks them anything, that's why our results are not coming out well. You have taken it very seriously. Money is sent from the Centre under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, but the State Government wants something else. This is the demand of all the State Governments. Conditions are imposed on it by the Centre. The money cannot be spent because the States are unable to fulfil those criteria. There is also a mention of the State's share in it. Why don't you provide a separate fund for education, which the State Government can spend as per its wish. Education is in the concurrent list, but in true sense it is a State subject. If you give them a separate education fund then I think the State Governments will be able to do well in education. This is my request. Thank you.

[English]

SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI (BELAGAVI): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Second Amendment) Bill, 2017. I congratulate the hon. Minister, Shri Prakash Javadekarji, for introducing this Bill.

In 2009, this Bill was introduced. At that time, our senior leader, Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi, had told that examination must be conducted for every class. Without examination, you cannot evaluate or gauge the level of a student as to [Translation] how will he pass, what will be his progress like? He said this at that very moment.

[English] Most of the hon. Members, who are sitting in this august House, have studied in their mother tongue only, in rural areas. Most of the senior Members also studied in their mother tongue only. So, mother tongue is of major importance.

“Vidya vinyen shobhate.”

(Humility is the true ornament of education.)

The Indian culture is very rich and we had a very good system of education. Before the Mughals attacked, we had Nalanda University and other such places. In the last 800 years, education system of the country has got spoiled. Almost for 600 years, the Mughals ruled. During that period, our educational system got spoiled. Then, there

were 200 years of the British Rule. Macaulay, in order to bring changes in Indian society, had changed the education system in the country from that time onwards. [Translation] Nowadays, people pursue education only to get a job. [English] Today, we want to go for education with the sole intent of being able to get employment. That should not be the concept of education. [Translation] If you ask any primary school child what he wants to become, he will say that he will become a doctor, engineer or IAS. No child says that he wants to do his traditional business. I want to become a farmer, not a single child has said this till date.

[English]

Today, we want to change the system of education, and the primary level education is very important. Responsibility must be fixed on the parents as well as on the teachers. [Translation] used to believe that if a teacher hit a child at school, it meant the teacher was teaching them properly. Parents themselves would tell the teacher to discipline the child. In those days, children were often taken to work in the fields, as that was considered more important. In one village school, for example, a teacher would beat the child.

When the teacher punished the child, the father would go to the school and tell the teacher, "Masterji, punish him properly." Nowadays, if you hit a child, a case gets filed. But back then, they

would say this because the child was asked to take food to the fields, yet he came to school instead so they would tell the teacher to punish him. That was also a system in those times, [English] Because at that time human resource was more important for agriculture.

[Translation] Hon. Chairperson, you know that [English] Dharwad is the most important educational hub in the country. You know it very well. [Translation] It is said in Kannada that a person who does not have education is even worse than a jackal. [English] Vidya is more important. That means primary education. For providing primary education parents are also responsible. [Translation] In Kannada it is said that later the Guru imparts education, he becomes the Guru in the school, he also has responsibilities. In those days, if there was any problem in the village, people would ask Guruji. Whatever the Guruji said in the village, that decision was considered final. In those days, people respected the Guru a lot. Nowadays teachers have also become teachers who only get salary. [English] In the primary schools, there is no mathematics teacher in most of the schools. [Translation] I request Javadekar ji to increase the number of Maths, English and Physics teachers. [English] No science teacher is available, especially no Physics teacher is available in the rural areas. [Translation] If you go for 10th and 12th education, every person is a doctor and engineer, but there are no teachers in the country to teach Physics, Maths and English. [English] That is very important. If the foundation at the

primary level is strong, then in higher education they will do well and they will become more responsible citizens. [Translation] It is my request that earlier schools used to start at 7 am in the whole country because in the morning the child's mind is fresh, [English] His grasping power will be more. [Translation] After that, they can also help their father and mother by joining the traditional household industries. [English] By doing that, they can get alternative source of income also and they can learn the family business as well. [Translation] Nowadays we are just educating our children, we are teaching them slavery. [English] He is not able to grow his mind independently. [Translation] Accordingly, today I request that our old education system, which had provision for education in traditional industries, should be started again. It would be good if that is done. Today we are seeing across the country, in our area as well as in your area, that there are schools that are hundred years old. I request the Hon. Minister that the hundred year old schools should be declared heritage buildings and children should be allowed to go back to study. The value of post masters was decreasing significantly. [English] We are reviving the post offices in the whole country. [Translation] Similarly, those schools which are hundred years old should be revived and helped by giving special funds. There should be teaching in mother tongue. For example, the schools in every village should be repaired, they should be declared heritage buildings and promoted,

arrangements should be made for our children to go there to study. [English] That is very important. [Translation] Through that, hundred year old school [English] Students can understand the history as well. [Translation] Considering all these aspects, today our primary education system is progressing with a focus on major subjects such as Mathematics, English, and Physics, especially keeping the importance of teachers in mind. If the education system is imparted in the mother tongue, it would prove to be highly beneficial. Many people, after enrolling their children in English-medium education, have started to take undue pride. I extend my gratitude to the Honourable Minister for paying special attention to our primary education and express my support for this Bill.

[English]

PROF. K.V. THOMAS (ERNAKULAM): Sir, I support this Amendment Bill. The Right to Education Bill 2009, which was implemented from 2010, is a historic Bill that gives an opportunity to every child in the country to have legitimate education in an institution, which has been properly equipped.

Now, this Amendment that the hon. Minister has brought is to find a solution that the teachers will still get some time till they get the training. But I would like to take this opportunity to raise some of the issues connected with the education system in the country. Education is a concurrent subject. So, both the Centre and States have powers over the education system in the country.

I have got a suggestion as a teacher that many of the Central schemes which are introduced by the Government of India are not done with proper consultation with the States. I have written a letter to the hon. Minister very recently regarding the Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA). This is an important step by the Government of India to help our institutions of higher education for providing better equipment and better infrastructure.

The Government of India, through UGC, provides Rs. 2 crore to each of the colleges and Rs. 50 crore to the Universities, but what happened is that this decision was communicated to many educational

institutions, especially, in Kerala at the last minute. I had an interaction with the hon. Minister, and they have approved it. Now, almost all the colleges in the country including the colleges in Kerala, which comes to 60 colleges, have given sanction for this project. But there is one lacunae, which has resulted because the Government of India and the State Governments did not have proper communication. The Government of India will give 60 per cent, and the remaining 40 per cent has to be provided by the State Governments. Now, the State Governments say that out of this 40 per cent, 20 per cent has to be managed by the institution itself.

How is it possible? I am asking this because the educational institutions do not have resources. They cannot collect fees for any other sources of revenue from children without the Government's permission. So, if the State Government takes a stand that out of the 40 per cent that the State has to manage and the education institute has to manage 50 per cent of that share, then this Scheme will not work out. So, my suggestion to the hon. Minister is to have a discussion with the State Governments before such important schemes are implemented.

Another important point is about the Mid-Day Meal Scheme. This Scheme is one of the attractive Schemes, which has helped to prevent drop-outs, but my experience is that the amount that you are sanctioning is not enough. For example, I had some interaction with

schools in my Constituency where you are giving between Rs. 6 and Rs. 9 per student per day, which includes the cooking charges and, it is difficult to provide nutritious food with this amount. What we have done is that we have collected some more amount from the social institutions, PSUs, etc. I have got a Trust in Cochin, and we run through our own Trust and we give the balance amount so that students get better and nutritious food. For example, if it is Rs. 6, then we give Rs. 9 more, and the PTA has to run it instead of employing somebody and leaving it on him alone.

Secondly, the hon. Prime Minister has always been talking about Swachh Bharat. My request would be to ask the hon. Members as to how many schools and educational institutions in their Constituency have toilets. I have found in many schools that there are not enough toilets and that too modern toilets, especially, in the schools where girl children are studying. The same is the case with modern equipment. Unfortunately, in this country, two sections of students are being brought up. One is those who are rich enough and those who can go to the institutions by paying higher fees.

There are students who cannot pay that much; they go to the schools where the education system is at a lower stage. The Government has to find a way out as to how children from poor families like labourers and farmers can get better education. So, we

have to find out some mechanism by which there is better infrastructure for students.

Many of the schools are using computers and modern equipment like Kindle. Many schools run by the State Government do not have these facilities. There is a need for providing better training for the teachers. I was a teacher for 30 years. There should be in-service training for the teachers because science is changing, technology itself is changing. So, there should be some courses provided through in-service training.

Coming again to the infrastructure, even there is no drinking water facility in schools. These are some issues on which the hon. Minister has to concentrate. When you are helping the States, the Centre should see that there is some kind of interaction so that States should be prepared to accept the schemes. Thank you, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWANT MANN (SANGRUR): Hon. Chairperson, thank you very much. I welcome this Bill which brings amendment in the compulsory education of children. I also congratulate the Hon. Minister for this.

Whenever we ourselves go on stage in front of people, we say that what kind of law is this that no child should be failed from Class 1 to Class 8. This does not reveal which child is weak in which subject and which child is good in which subject. If it is known in which subject the child is weak, then some hard work can be done in that subject. But, when the child also knows that he will not fail till Class 8th, then there is no such burden on him. When they suddenly take the board exams in class IX, more than 90 percent of the students fail because they never took the exams so seriously before.

16 53 hrs

(Hon. Deputy Speaker *in the Chair*)

Let me give an example. This incident happened in Punjab. When the 9th class examination was held there and the answer sheets were sent for evaluation, a child wrote a small note in Punjabi language on the English answer sheet, which was very touching. The person who was evaluating posted it on WhatsApp. In that the child said that whatever has happened to me and my friends was very wrong. I want to tell through this note that when we should have been taught, we were

not taught. When we should have studied, we were not allowed to study, we were passed. Now suddenly you are saying that very tough exams are coming. I am not writing that I should be passed, but I am writing that I neither know how to write nor speak nor understand English. So my life is ruined, but don't ruin the lives of more children, take our exams.

Sir, that is why evaluation is very important. The farmer also goes to the field to see the condition of his crop and what fertiliser should be given to it. Even when mother cooks food, she checks it again and again to see how well it is cooked and how much more heat it requires. Therefore evaluation is very important.

Sir, I myself am a teacher's son. But, I know that there is a lot of difference in the level of education in government schools and private schools. Because of that level, the first thing a person who starts earning a little money thinks about is that, we will somehow manage to live our life but we should make the life of our children better and get them educated in a private school. They feel proud that their child studies in a private school. I do not say that there is any shortage of teachers in government schools, but there is a shortage of the infrastructure there. Every day people come to us to take money from the MPLAD Fund and say that there are no benches for children to sit in the schools, the walls and ceilings of the school rooms are about to collapse, it has been declared unsafe by the Supreme Court and we

always give money for it from the MPLAD Fund. There are 14,000 vacant posts of teachers in Punjab.

This also does not mean that there are no teachers in Punjab. We have teachers who have passed the Teacher Eligibility Test (TET). This is a very tough test. This is an IAS level test. Despite it being passed, those people are staging a sit-in protest. They are forced to get their demands accepted. I would like all the posts in government schools to be filled.

Secondly, the mother tongue in schools is called Maa-boli in Punjabi. If emphasis is given on mother tongue and Mathematics till fifth class, then the child will excel in subjects like Science, Social Science and History in future. It is very important to emphasise on mother tongue and maths. It is sad that there are many private schools in Punjab which are affiliated to CBSE. If a child is caught speaking Punjabi there, he is fined. I am very surprised by this.

Hon. Minister, I can also give you the names of those schools. Children are fined for speaking Punjabi. Punjabi is our mother tongue. We are drinking water from the same state, eating food from the same state, but there is a fine for speaking the language of the same state. I will write down their names and give them to you.

Teacher training is very important there. It is very important to upskill the teacher. If we do not upskill the teachers and do not treat

them well then, they will not be able to teach new subjects. It is very important to train and upskill teachers from time to time.

My father was a teacher, I know this. Teachers are paid to teach, but they are also expected to do a lot of other work apart from education. The teacher will do the census, the teacher has to do the counting of votes, if elections come, put the teacher on duty, if 15th August or 26th January has to be celebrated, then the teacher is put on duty. This type of work can also be done by other unemployed people.

Finally, I would like to say that roses grow in mud as well. There is a Rattokep village in my area, there is a government school there. That school runs till eight o'clock at night. I went to see it once. The Headmaster of that school is very nice. After two o'clock in the afternoon he calls those children who have studied from that school. They train weak children and also provide free tuition. We all should appreciate such schools. I support this Bill and also congratulate you. If tests are conducted in Class 5th and 8th, then children will be able to learn better and will go on to bring glory to the country.

[Translation]

SHRI LAKHAN LAL SAHU (BILASPUR): Hon. Deputy Speaker, in the field of education, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Second Amendment) Bill, 2017 has been introduced. I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on this.

Sir, without education a person cannot develop completely. Our ancestors also said this and even today that belief is getting acceptance. But in today's education system, the main issue is how our children should get education. How can we provide good education to our children and what arrangements can we make for that; this also has a provision in this Bill. In section 16 of the Bill that came in 2009, a provision was made that primary education should be made compulsory for children without any examination. This Bill has been brought to amend it. With the introduction of this Bill, positive results will be achieved in principle. Our Hon. Minister has also repeatedly stated that quality education will be provided to all. This commitment has also been reaffirmed by the Government with due seriousness. We shall be successful in approving this in principle.

Sir, the law that was passed in the year 2009 and the results that followed, especially the analysis carried out by our National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) through the National Achievement Survey (NAS) have indicated a decline in its quality.

17 00 hrs

Keeping this in mind, the Parliamentary Committee has also acknowledged that there has been a decline in quality and this must be addressed. An effort has been made in this regard. Our Government has selected 115 aspiring districts through NITI Aayog. Even among them, the key reason for backwardness is education. According to the analysis, it is seen that the children at primary level, the future generation, are lagging behind. Aspiring districts have been identified and urged to work in this direction.

Most of our Members have expressed their views in this regard. They have acknowledged the need for continuous and comprehensive evaluation to improve the system. Most of the Hon. Members here or those holding senior positions have reached here after studying in government schools. I was fortunate to have visited the residence of Hon. former President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam and his school where he studied. A small government school, which gave such a great scientist to the country, who made the country proud by conducting nuclear tests. The work he did in the field of education is a source of inspiration for all of us. I believe that the provisions made in this will definitely bring good results.

I have a topic from Chhattisgarh. We all say that all the rich people study in private schools. I would like to present an example in

this House. There is a Kabirdham district. IAS officer, Collector Avneesh Sharan ji is there. He has been educating his child in a government school for the last two years. Not only did he get him admitted, he also sat together and had the mid-day meal that was served there. He has presented an example towards education that even a rich person can contribute in improving the system if he wants. I am from Chhattisgarh. Chhattisgarh has got the status of Naxal-affected state. There is a Naxal related problem there. There is a place named Jawanga in Dantewada district, which is a highly Naxal-affected district. In Chhattisgarh, our Government has established an Education Hub from Class 1 to Class 12 where children from Naxal-affected families are able to pursue their studies. The entire schooling from primary to higher secondary is being conducted at a single campus and at one location. Today the result of this initiative is clearly visible as students studying there are securing positions in institutions like IITs, NITs, medical colleges and in the field of engineering. If we make sincere efforts it is certainly possible to reform and improve the system.

With this in mind, I would like to make a few requests. Discussion is going on through this Bill regarding compulsory examination. This is just one example in our Naxal-affected area. The Government gave it protection, that's why it could happen. There are still no schools in most Naxal-affected areas. The Naxal movement

neither allows schools to be built nor do they allow schools to be run and they bomb the schools that are already built. They beat up the teachers who are teaching there. Those who are working in the field of education are being beaten and chased away. The law that is made for such places should definitely take them into consideration. This is my submission. Recently there was a discussion that people's inclination towards private schools has increased. We pay higher salaries, more facilities and resources to the teachers in our government schools. Even after this, we will have to think about the mentality that has developed. I have one more request. Just now several Members made requests regarding mother tongue. Chhattisgarhi language is not yet included in the Eighth Schedule. There are many such languages in the country.

How can we make that mother tongue which is not included in the schedule compulsory in the primary level of education? This is also a question worth considering and unless we include it and give it priority, we will certainly not be able to move forward in this direction.

I have a request regarding the Sanskrit language. Sanskrit is our oldest language and a rich language. Be it history, science or mathematics, all these subjects are written in the Sanskrit language. This subject should also be included in primary education on priority basis. This is what I request and demand. You gave me the opportunity to speak in support of this Bill. Thank you so much.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV (BANKA): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Second Amendment) Bill, 2017 has been introduced by the Hon. Shri Javadekar ji. He has taken a good initiative, I thank him for this. There are many questions, we will discuss those questions as well. But education should be equal, it should be for everyone. Be it the son of a king or the son of a poor man, there should be same education for everyone. Be it backward or tribal or Dalit, SC or ST or OBC or any section of the society. We all are Indians. Education should be same for all. Compulsory and free education is necessary for us. This is our basis, this is our foundation. We move forward with this. Government schools and rural schools are the backbone of primary education. Ninety percent of our population lives in rural areas. Unless we strengthen rural education, improve the infrastructure of schools, provide buildings, toilets, drinking water facilities, create an environment for studying, ensure quality of teachers and improve the quality of education, we will have trouble promoting free and compulsory education in India. We have to take government schools forward.

Today, private schools are progressing like dung-hives. This has become a den of exploitation, and there are some good ones amongst

them as well. We are not saying that some are not good, but private schools have become a den of exploitation, growing like a dung hive. The children of poor people live in inferiority while others study in five star hotels. There is a great need to stop this. I request the Hon. Minister. We have to remove the dirty blanket of ignorance, we have to end the dark night of no moon, we have to bring in the full moon of knowledge, we have to move towards this. A knowledgeless society does not move forward, a knowledgeable society moves forward. Once upon a time, Nalanda University and Vikramshila University were famous in the world. Today India has earned fame in the world in every field of knowledge. We admit it. These students, our sisters, our brothers, have intelligence, have a thirst for knowledge, they study hard. Knowledge is like the first ray of the sun. Primary education is also the first ray of the sun that tells us how the day will be. Therefore, primary education needs to be improved, middle schools need to be improved and better arrangements have to be made in high schools, and arrangements for high schools for girls have to be made.

Today the condition of higher education is very delicate. There are many reasons for this, which we will not discuss in front of Hon. Javadekar ji. Whether it is a question of reservation, SC/ST, OBC or their rights, they are being deprived of them. Basic School, which was run by the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, as a Foundation School. Today the condition of that Foundation school has become

very bad. That should also be fixed. Baba Saheb had said-Be educated, struggle. Our leader Shri Lalu ji had said three things- Study or die, if you have given birth then give education, will eat half bread but still will go to school. Our leader Shri Lalu ji had said this- “Gaiya bakri charte jaye, Muniya beti padhti jaye” (The cows and goats should keep grazing, while the daughter Munia should keep studying).

Today we have to move forward for the right of our daughters to free education. If you gave birth, then give education. The education in Bihar has been ruined and has gone into the abyss.

I congratulate the Hon. Minister for this Bill.

[Translation]

DR. MANOJ RAJORIA (KARAULI-DHAULPUR): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to speak on this Bill. In 2009, the Government of that time made a mistake by exempting students of Class 5th and 8th from exams and attacking the foundations of the basic structure of education and passing them without exams. This was a big mistake which attacked the fundamentals of the country. I would like to thank the Hon. Minister for introducing this Bill to rectify such a big mistake. I express my gratitude to him.

The Hon. Minister has taken care of all the aspects in this Bill as to how the board for Class 5 can be re-established. I express my gratitude to the Hon. Minister for this as well. When a child is in the mood to take an exam, he prepares well and this strengthens his foundation. I believe that when children of Class 5th and 8th will appear in the exam, the future will definitely be built through this Bill. This step is aimed at bringing about a fundamental transformation in the country. All of us must appreciate this initiative. The Hon. Minister has made an important provision that if any State Government does not wish to participate in this excellent step, the decision has been left to them.

Today we are talking about class 8th board exams here. I come from Karauli Dholpur region in Rajasthan. I would like to tell you about the work done by the Hon. Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Shrimati Vasundhara Raje ji in education, especially in the primary, secondary and senior secondary sectors. Hon. Chief Minister of Rajasthan Vasundhara Raje ji has established Senior Secondary Schools in every Gram Panchayat level in the last four and a half years. Along with this, she has created such a basic infrastructure by connecting primary and secondary schools in every Gram Panchayat that Rajasthan has now come to the third position which was at the 23rd position in the field of education a few years ago. I want to present this vision and initiative of Hon. Vasundhara Ji before the House. First of all, in any school, teachers are needed to provide education. The biggest shortcoming in most of the states of the country is that schools are built, infrastructure is created but there is a shortage of teachers.

I would like to tell you about Rajasthan that Hon. Vasundhara Ji has recruited around 50,000 to 70,000 teachers in the last four and a half years. Today there is no school in Rajasthan where there is shortage of teachers. Today, keeping in view the need of basic education, B.Ed teachers have been appointed in senior secondary schools.

I would like to draw your attention to the Chief Minister Janshree Yojana run by the Rajasthan Government. It is directly related to

primary education. When a child is born, the Government gives Rs. 2,500 under this scheme. When a child goes to class 1, he gets Rs. 4,500. Similarly, whether it is the Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao campaign, the Hon. Chief Minister has completed all the campaigns in a brilliant manner. Recently, the Hon. Chief Minister started a milk scheme for the children, for the future of the nation, in which she showered love and pampering to the primary school children by feeding them milk with her own hands.

I also want to give some suggestions to the Hon. Minister.

The way playgrounds have been made in every school in Rajasthan, the importance given to yoga and sports in Rajasthan, is commendable. ... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA (HISAR): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on this important Bill.

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill was a very important decision that was taken, but there was so much negligence in its implementation that even today this law has not been fully implemented in most of the states. I welcome the Hon. Minister for taking this initiative that the Government had to come back to the idea of keeping the students of Class 8 away from board exams, which was decided by the Congress. But while reading this Bill, two things are very unclear. One, when you talk about exams for Class 5th and 8th, a big question that arises is how those exams will be conducted. The second thing that needs to be seen is that on such a large scale, when examinations will be conducted all over the country, a new atmosphere will be created in it and children will get separated and we will see an increase in the drop out rate from government schools, because even today there are not enough teachers in government schools.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is the condition of rural areas today. This is a report from a village in my Lok Sabha constituency. In Kabarel village, many girls failed in the 10th class board exams.

The villagers openly alleged that we did not have sufficient number of teachers in the exams in which the girls had failed. In our country, whether it is a *Shiksha Mitra* or a guest teacher, their future remains uncertain as the sword of uncertainty from the Honourable Supreme Court, the State Governments, and the Union Government continues to hang over them. Will they continue teaching, or will they be removed from service tomorrow? Even there, their future cannot be guaranteed. Through you, Sir, I would like to ask the Honourable Minister: what steps does the Government intend to take in the coming time to ensure the regular appointment of teachers or to make the existing guest teachers permanent?

Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are a total of 1,39,957 posts of primary teachers in the schools of Haryana state and as per the report of 3rd May, 52,947 of them are lying vacant. Will the Union Government provide some support to such State Governments so that teachers are appointed on a full scale so that the number of children in government schools increases substantially? Statistics from Haryana state show that in the year 2012-13, 27 lakh children studied in government schools. In the year 2015-16, this number dropped to 22.5 lakh and this year the number has declined further to 21.5 lakh. Just think yourself that the population is increasing rapidly, but there are 5,87,000 fewer children. Somewhere today the number of children going to government schools is decreasing and the biggest reason for this is that

permanent teachers are not being appointed. Today, the Government is not taking a decision to make the guest teachers permanent. They also have job insecurity and somewhere because of that they are not able to educate their students properly. That is why most of the parents are taking their children out of government schools and sending them to private schools. It is also the responsibility of the Government of India to make appointments in government schools so that children again go to government schools. I remember one thing said by Chaudhary Devi Lal ji. He used to say that our times were good, when education and medical treatment were available for free. Today, I feel sad to say that the time has come that the more expensive education and medical treatment is, the more people are tempted towards it. The Government of India must also pay attention to the fact that we should take steps to promote Government education.

In the end, I would like to say that today in this IT age, the biggest shortage is of computer teachers. You sent computers to schools through different schemes and through Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, but there is neither electricity nor computer teachers there. The computers have worn out, yet education did not come through them. The Government must seriously consider that when we conduct exams for students of Class 8, can we ensure that those students have received adequate computer education.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAIRON PRASAD MISHRA (BANDA): Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister has introduced the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Second Amendment) Bill in the House, I support it. In this Bill, a special provision has been made to link Class 5 and Class 8 with the examination. This is definitely a welcome step. Most states have supported it. Children become careless due to lack of fear of examinations. When they are not afraid, they do not pay attention to studies. They will surely benefit from this. There is a provision for re-conducting the examination in two months, which is also a welcome step.

I would like to suggest that it would be good if provision is made for special coaching for children in those two months. I would like to request that special coaching should be given to students of Classes 5 and 8 in those two months. This should be added to this. This will definitely improve the bad reputation that primary schools have today.

I would like to request that this is an issue of both the State and Centre but the condition of our schools needs to be improved. We will have to move beyond mats and sheets and arrange for tables and chairs. I want to congratulate the Hon. Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Ji, for paying attention to this matter. He has arranged for drinking water, toilets, and other such essential facilities. For the first time,

within just a few months, students have started receiving uniforms and shoes in this district. However, it is still necessary to arrange for tables and chairs there.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue that has come up here regarding primary teachers, they will definitely have to be separated from other works. They have a lot of work and are also assigned other tasks. They have to be separated from those tasks. They also remain under pressure regarding the Mid-day meal that it may get checked, whether the Mid-day meal is being prepared properly or not, they should be relieved of that responsibility. There, the responsibility lies directly with them, so they will have to be separated from it.

I have one more suggestion. I have seen in Karnataka and other places that organisations do the work of distributing food. Similarly, there is a kitchen in a primary school, food is prepared there, so the children's attention remains focused there. They also have to bring utensils from their home, utensils are not available everywhere. We will also have to pay attention to how we arrange for distribution of food through organisations.

Secondly, I would like to state that the women who prepare meals, such as those mentioned in the context of Anganwadi, currently receive only one thousand rupees. Generally, at least two women are employed in a school. One thousand rupees is a very small amount.

Therefore, the Union Government must pay attention to this issue, and clear directions should be issued to ensure that they are paid at least the minimum wage. We must express concern over this matter.

A topic has come up that teachers should also be linked to the results. Certainly, it is a welcome step that the teacher does not have any responsibility. If their child fails again then the teacher should also give minus marking for this. He should be asked for an explanation. This topic needs attention.

Sir, I want to draw your attention towards Shiksha Mitras. The State Government has increased the salary of Shiksha Mitras appointed in Uttar Pradesh from Rs. 3500 to Rs. 10 thousand. It is stuck in their mind that we were getting Rs. 40 thousand but now we are going to work for Rs. 10 thousand, so they are not able to work properly. They have to be relieved of this worry. After talking to them, the Uttar Pradesh Government is considering their original posting. ...
(Interruptions)

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will conclude my speech by saying one thing. The Hon. Minister of Home Affairs is sitting here. The condition in every Gram Panchayat is very bad. There should be good facilities in the school there. I support this Bill. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KUMAR SHARMA (SITAMARHI): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me the opportunity to speak on this important Bill. I also thank Union Minister Shri Javadekar ji and Hon. Minister of State, Shri Kushwaha ji because it is due to their initiative that this important Bill has been introduced in the House. All the countrymen who understand the importance of education, have a wave of happiness in their hearts today. I belong to a teacher's family and am the son of a villager and come from a farmer family. I was the Head of the Panchayat in 2009 when education reforms were carried out and compulsory exams were abolished. I was very surprised at what kind of blind law this is. I felt that those who made the law had no knowledge of primary education or any village school. They definitely brought this type of Bill after looking at Harvard University and Oxford University. I thank the Hon. Education Minister for working to revamp the system of compulsory education as well as compulsory examinations. This is a much better system. We certainly support and welcome this.

Sir, I want to say something about improving this. As both the Hon. Ministers are sitting here, I want to say that if a child does not pass the exam after three months, you have made arrangements to detain him. But for those teachers who do not teach in school and spend the entire day busy with calculations of mid-day meal and

money for bicycle and uniform and do not attend their class properly, a law should be made for such teachers as to what action should be taken against them? The teachers due to whom such results come, such teachers also need to be punished. There is a need to improve the education system across the country. I am from Rashtriya Lok Samta Party and our National President Shri Kushwaha Ji is running a campaign on many points for the improvement of education throughout the country. Today, there is a wave of happiness among all the comrades of the Rashtriya Lok Samta Party that the Hon. Union Education Minister and the Hon. Prime Minister of the country, Shri Narendra Modi ji, has accepted that compulsory examinations for children are a must and till the time examinations are not made compulsory, there can be no improvement in education.

Sir, in the end I would like to conclude by saying that I and our party support and welcome this Bill.

[English]

SHRI E.T. MOHAMMAD BASHEER (PONNANI): Sir, I strongly oppose this amendment Bill because I feel you are giving a wrong medicine to cure a serious illness. You have not addressed the crux of the problem. You are beating around the bush. With all the respect to the hon. Minister and the Government, I would like to say that you are in the reverse gear. What is happening? If the hon. Minister and the Government had analysed the ground reality, he would not have come forward with this kind of a legislation.

It is seven years since this Bill was passed. Have you verified what is happening in the rural India? What was our intention while passing this legislation? It was called a revolutionary legislation in the history of Indian education. Enrolment, retention and improvement in quality, these were the three parts of the original legislation. Now what is happening? Private schools are coming up. They have a mushroom growth. The Government schools are on deathbed. I would like to ask you whether you have taken positive steps to solve all these problems. Involvement of community was the crux of that legislation. Unfortunately, that has not taken place. Pupil-teacher ratio – 1:30 – was there in the original Act. It has not been achieved. What about inclusiveness? Inclusiveness was the flagship idea of that Act. Unfortunately, that has also not been taken into consideration. As

regards motivation of teachers, teachers are not equipped. Teacher training system is very poor in the country.

What was our expectation? Our expectation was that education should be student-centered and student-friendly. Is it happening that way? I would humbly request the hon. Minister to kindly examine all these things.

What are you going to gain out of this kind of legislation? In the original Act, detention and dismissal from the elementary school was banned. It was not possible. But through this legislation, you are empowering the State Governments to do this kind of a thing.

Through this legislation you are empowering the State Government to do both- detain and dismiss. I would like to tell the hon. Minister that I was the Minister for Education for seven years in the State of Kerala, one of the most advanced States in the country. We have stopped that system of detention in our State. Do you think that it will solve the problem? That will kill the morale of the students. That is a bad thing. The Government should not do that because victimisation will take place in schools. These are the adverse effects of doing such things. The Government has to understand that this kind of a legislation is not progressive in nature but is regressive in character.

Sir, I would like to refer to one more thing. Anyone can find in the schools that the infrastructure facilities are not adequate. In 95 per cent of the Government schools there are no toilets, no washroom. In such a situation, how can you effect quality in education? Moreover, in modern education digitisation is taking place. But no such thing is taking place in the schools. The Government is claiming that they have achieved something. But what has happened in rural India? The children in the rural areas have been engaged in child labour. They are not going to school. So, I would like to request the hon. Minister to address the real issues and not to go for such small things.

Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR (NALANDA): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to speak on the ‘Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Second Amendment) Bill, 2017’.

I rise to speak in support of this Bill. After the introduction of RTE in the year 2009, children between the ages of six and fourteen have got the right to free and compulsory education. Now the number of children dropping out of school has reduced. However, the school dropout rate among minority community children is still 57 percent. This needs to be considered and improved. In particular, most of the children who do not receive primary education at the age of fourteen are from poor and rural areas. We are people living in rural areas. We roam around in villages. The children of the rich study in private schools, but the children of the poor and the people at the bottom of the society study in government schools. There is need for further improvement in this.

Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government to one more issue. Usually, teachers of government schools in the country are made to do various tasks, such as census, inspection work, election work, vaccination, etc. This also affects the teachers and they are unable to provide quality education to the children.

The last amendment to the RTE Act has ensured that all untrained primary education teachers in the country are now being trained. This has improved the quality of teachers. In this regard, I would like to make a suggestion. Just now our colleague Shri Sanjay Jaiswal was saying that in the year 2007, when the NDA Government was formed in Bihar, at that time one lakh seventy thousand girl students were studying in the ninth class. When the Chief Minister launched the cycle scheme there, their number increased to about 15 lakhs. Therefore, there is a need for the Government of India to provide more resources to the States. Unless resources are given to the States, the children of the poor who go to study in government schools will not be able to avail the benefits.

[English]

SHRI PREM DAS RAI (SIKKIM): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to participate on the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Second Amendment) Bill. I welcome the Bill, and my Party, the Sikkim Democratic Front supports this particular Bill.

Sir, the reasons, the positives and the negatives of this Bill have already been discussed. I welcome the fact that we are having a debate on this particular amendment because I am sure that there are many good ideas which will be harvested by the hon. Minister. In this connection, I would like to make two or three quick points.

First of all, the question of putting the onus on the teacher or putting the onus on the student as to how they will educate themselves is something which needs to be thoroughly discussed. I do not think that it is completely the responsibility of the teacher. But there is also some responsibility of the parents as well as the student. There has been a thought that students are being over-burdened and, therefore, the Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act was enacted. When the Right to Education was brought, it came first as a right and then the question of who is responsible. There are many stakeholders in this whole game and that needs to be thought through very carefully.

Sir, in Sikkim, I had the opportunity of spearheading one particular programme called, EQUIP (Educational Quality Improvement Programme) in our State and this is something which was done to raise the standards of leadership in schools and also to foster a culture of education and finally it was a question of how pedagogy and how students can be taught in a better and a more reliable way. This has led to a remarkable change in the way education is being given in Sikkim schools.

I think that even if we have detention at Class 5 and Class 8, it will do a world of good because there is at least a bar that children have to take a test and meet the particular standards.

With these words, I thank you very much and I am sure that this is something that will go a long way in helping our children.

[English]

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. I would like to say that elementary education is the basic foundation of the education structure. Suppose you are not able to empower and strengthen elementary education, definitely the entire system will collapse. That is what we are experiencing in the Indian system of education.

Sir, here in the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Second Amendment) Bill, the pertinent question which is being discussed is whether any evaluation or assessment is required during the time of elementary education. We have discussed this aspect in detail in the Standing Committee on Human Resource Development. There were divergent opinions regarding this aspect. It is a very controversial and complicated issue and so, it is very difficult to find an answer to this particular question. But after a threadbare discussion, the Committee unanimously adopted the position to let State Governments to see whether any children have to be given detention or no detention. So, the Detention Policy has to be determined by State Governments because Education is a State Subject and it is in consonance with the federal character of our Constitution. Therefore, I support this Bill.

Article 45 of the Constitution of India provides for compulsory universal and free education to all the children below the age of 14 years within 10 years from the date of commencement of the Constitution. But even after 68 years, we are not able to provide compulsory universal and free education to all the children below the age of 14 years. Subsequently, we have made it a Fundamental Right in the year 2012 as per Article 21A of the Constitution and for this purpose, an Act was passed by this Parliament in 2009. But I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether any assessment has been done between 2009 and 2018. ... (*Interruptions*) Yes, I appreciate the UPA Government. I appreciate the UPA Government. ... (*Interruptions*). Shri Kapil Sibal, the then Minister had done a remarkable job in enunciating this law. ... (*Interruptions*) My question to the hon. Minister is, whether any assessment has been done since 2009 to 2018? I want to know, whether any strategic progress has been made in respect of dropouts, in respect of enrolments and also for elementary education. The budget allocation has to be increased.

[Translation] THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very glad that 24 members participated in this discussion. Everyone has supported this Bill. Mohammad Bashir ji's opinion was slightly different, but I respect that as well. ... (*Interruptions*) Gandhi ji, I have sent you a district profile, sent it to all the Hon. Members. What is the condition of education in the district you come from? I have sent you what came out in the National Assessment Survey. You should see how serious the situation is, only then we will understand something. From 2012, it has fallen further in 2016. What is the cause of that? The reason for this is that accountability has ended in the entire education system. Neither teachers nor students have anything to do with the end of accountability. As Shri Saugata Rai ji said that people practice more for exams because it is a psychology. No-detention became like an exemption for not studying. Therefore, work was done on it as per the demand of all the States, parents and student organisations. Work on this continued for three-four years. Two committees were formed. Out of all the States, only four-five states said that they do not want to make any changes, but the rest wanted to remove the no-detention policy. To find a way around this I wrote there [English] Unanimously we decided that this decision be taken by the respective State Governments. [Translation] By doing this, we took a unanimous

decision by taking everyone into confidence that those who want to do it should continue the no-detention policy and those who want to change and detain should do it. This right has been given to the states. Second is who will conduct the exam? The State Government will decide this. We will make guidelines and write everything in it whether you can conduct state level examination, district level examination or school level examination. Today, due to no-detention, studies are not being conducted. Now that study will begin.

Third is that no one will go out of the school. It is not that if detained, then expelled from school. The child will remain in school. He will get two opportunities for the exam. He will also be given remedial training. Nothing can be more saddening than a fourth grade student unable to read a second grade text and a seventh grade student unable to do fifth grade mathematics. [English] It is a broken education system and we have to rebuild our education system. [Translation] 80-90 percent of us have studied in Zila Parishad schools. Those schools were the best. But why have they lagged behind today? They have to be re-established in education. To improve the quality of government education, we gave the slogan – Education for all, good education. What Dushyant ji said is true that every year four percent children are decreasing from government schools and every year eight percent children are increasing in private schools. Why is it so? Because

parents also started feeling that the situation is no longer like that in government schools.

But in the States which made good efforts, I saw in Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, students started coming back from private schools to government schools ... (*Interruptions*) This is happening in many places.

[English]

SHRIMATI P.K. SHREEMATHI TEACHER (KANNUR): Same is the case in Kerala.

SHRI PREM DAS RAI (SIKKIM): It is happening in Sikkim also.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Sikkim is included in it, Kerala is also there. Those who do the work will benefit from it and it should be done. Therefore, our request is that there should be studies in schools, students should learn, teachers should teach, this is everyone's responsibility and a matter of accountability. That's why we have brought it and we will do this work. I am grateful for the support you all have given me.

A couple of good suggestions have come in, I am only mentioning them as time is short. First of all, accountability, quality and training of the teacher is the most important issue. I would like to tell you that when Right to Education was implemented in 2009, 15

lakh teachers were unqualified, who did not have a Diploma in Education and they remained unqualified for nine years, at most one lakh of them were trained. But last year, on the basis of our own platform, you had passed a Bill giving us a two-year extension. Taking advantage of that, we started both online and offline education on our own platform. I am happy that fourteen and a half lakh teachers are simultaneously doing Diploma in Education today, this is also a record in the world. Their first examination of first year was over and everyone appeared in it. Those who failed in it will get one more chance, they will not get more chances than that. Therefore, I also want to tell the teachers that this is their last chance, you should study for it seriously. Their final exams will be in March 2019. They have a chance of passing them and they should do it.

Second is accountability, as many people said that you will detain the student but what will you do about the teacher, he did not teach, there should be some accountability for this. Just now an Hon. Member told me that the school is running till 8 o'clock in the night. If the school is run till 8 pm, then some teachers are very good and they should be encouraged. Schools that do good work should be appreciated, but it depends on the quality of the teachers.

The second issue that came up was that there are not enough teachers, this is not true. I am telling you the truth now that one teacher is required for every thirty students. There are so many teachers and

students in the country, I am talking about government schools, there the overall ratio of one is to thirty meets ... (*Interruptions*) Wait for a minute, that is what I am telling. This is shocking, but this ratio is correct in majority States, I will give you those figures also. The question is that their deployment is not proper. Thousands of teachers live in the state capital and there are zonal centres or district centres and there are one lakh schools in small villages which are one teacher schools. It is not that there is a shortage of teachers in some states, the states should fill it, we help them in this, we also assist them financially. Therefore, I want to say that there is no shortage of teachers, but their deployment should be proper, this is an issue I want to stress on.

SHRI AJAY MISHRA TENI (KHEERI): Who will do this?

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: The State Government will do this. Prior to this year's PBA meeting, we had informed all States that there will now be a strict policy of accountability and the funding you receive will depend on the actions you commit to undertake.

Secondly, parents also have responsibilities. ... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR JAKHAR (GURDASPUR): Sir, I am on a point of order.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There is no point of order.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Minister, you please continue.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR JAKHAR: In a statement given on 4th December, 2017, it was submitted that there was a shortage of one million teachers ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: I will tell you. There is a shortage in certain States, but in many States, it is sufficient. That is what I am saying. That is one major point.

[Translation]

A suggestion has come that every school should have facilities like toilets, drinking water, clean premises, class rooms etc. and Supriya ji, funds have not been stopped for class rooms. [English] Now, we have converted Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan into Samagra Shiksha and takes care of pre-school to 12th. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): How much money are you giving? ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: That is what I am telling you. The total education budget, which was Rs. 63,000 crore in 2013-14, is now Rs. 1,10,000 crore – Rs. 85,000 crore in regular budget and Rs. 25,000 crore through HEFA. So, funds are coming. For Samagra Shiksha, last

year the provision of money was Rs. 28,000 crore and this year it is Rs. 34,000 crore and for the next year, it will be Rs. 41,000. There is 20 per cent increase in each year. ...(*Interruptions*) I am giving you the figures.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: We know that allocation is there. How much money have you disbursed?

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: I will give you State-wise figures. ... (*Interruptions*) I will give you State-wise figures. In a couple of minutes, I will complete because we have to complete it by 6 o'clock. One more good point was raised about mid-day meal. Let me tell you this is the world's biggest successful scheme. [Translation] It was started by the first Government and it is still continuing. We are spending 17 thousand crore rupees on it and feeding 10 crore children daily. This is a very good and very successful programme. To make it more successful, we are bringing some new schemes in it as well. We will announce this also in time. But I will say once again that today we have taken a historic decision. Because this decision will bring scrutiny and accountability. There must be education, there must be learning, there must be teaching, and there must be reading and all of this together will constitute true education, because our objective is education for all, and quality education for all. Thank you.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

“That the Bill further to amend the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

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

The question is:

“That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1

**Short title, extent and
commencemnt**

Amendment made:

Page 1, line 3, -

for “(Second Amendment) Act, 2017”

substitute “(Amendment) Act, 2018” (2)

(Shri Prakash Javadekar)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

“That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Enacting Formula

Amendment made:

Page 1, line 1,-

for “Sixty-eighth”

substitute “Sixty-ninth”. (1)

(Shri Prakash Javadekar)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

“That Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Long Title was added to the Bill.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: I beg to move:

“That the Bill, as amended, be passed.”

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

“That the Bill, as amended, be passed”.

The motion was adopted.

**STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: DISAPPROVAL OF THE
FUGITIVE ECONOMIC OFFENDERS ORDINANCE, 2018**

AND

THE FUGITIVE ECONOMIC OFFENDERS BILL, 2018

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, Item Nos. 13 and 14 to be taken up together. Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury – not present.

Shri N.K. Premachandran.

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): I beg to move the following resolution: -

“That this House disapproves of the Fugitive Economic Offenders Ordinance, 2018 (No. 1 of 2018) promulgated by the President on 21st April, 2018.”

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF COAL,
MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE
AFFAIRS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):** I beg to move:

“That the Bill to provide for measures to deter fugitive economic offenders from evading the process of law in India by staying outside the jurisdiction of Indian Courts, to preserve the sanctity of the rule of law in India and for

matters connected thereto or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration.”

Sir, in the Budget 2017-18, the hon. Finance Minister had announced that the Government was considering to introduce legislative changes or probably even a new law to confiscate the assets of absconders who do not submit to the rule of law in India but actually go abroad leaving the country. There have been many instances of such economic offenders fleeing the jurisdiction of Indian courts anticipating the commencement or during the pendency of such criminal proceedings. When these economic offenders leave the Indian jurisdiction, it causes several problems. On the one hand, the existing civil and criminal provisions of law are not entirely adequate to deal with the severity of the problem and, on the other hand, there is no effective, expeditious and Constitutionally valid deterrent to ensure such people do not run away from the law.

This Bill makes provisions, after 70 years of Independence, for a Special Court where such fugitive economic offenders will be declared as such and against whom an arrest warrant can be issued. They can be brought back to India and they can be tried for the criminal prosecution, whatever offences they have

committed in India. Such people who do not submit to the rule of law, all the properties of such people, whether they are proceeds of crime or even otherwise, they can all be confiscated by the Government so that we do not overburden the courts. We have initially brought it for all such cases where the amount involved is more than Rs. 100 crore. This Bill also provides attachment of property of these fugitive economic offenders, confiscation and disentanglement of such fugitive economic offenders from defending any civil claims for this property.

I believe, this is the first time a Government has brought in a law to effectively bring back to India such economic fugitives who are evading the process of law. I do hope the hon. Members and this House will support the efforts of this Government to bring about not only deterrence but also the highest level of punishment to such economic offenders.

In view of the above, I commend this august House to consider and pass this Bill.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motions moved:

“That this House disapproves of the Fugitive Economic Offenders Ordinance, 2018 (No. 1 of 2018) promulgated by the President on 21st April, 2018.”

“That the Bill to provide for measures to deter fugitive economic offenders from evading the process of law in India by staying outside the jurisdiction of Indian Courts, to preserve the sanctity of the rule of law in India and for matters connected thereto or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration.”

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): Yesterday, in all-Party meeting, we had requested the Hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to refer the Bills which are coming before the House to the Standing Committees. He said, every Bill is going to the Standing Committee and without sending them to the Standing Committees we have not passed them. That is what he openly told.

Today, you are introducing and you are not keeping your own words. What is this?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR): Sir, this is an Ordinance. He very well knows, he is a very seasoned Parliamentarian, that all the Ordinances will directly come to the House and they will not go to the Standing Committees. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MOHAMMAD SALIM (RAIGANJ): Ordinances are there to bypass the Parliament. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Just to avoid all these things, you are doing it. You have brought all the six Ordinances in our absence just not to discuss here, not to send to the Standing Committees, not to send to the Joint Committees. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN(KOLLAM): As Leader Shri Mallikarjun Kharge has rightly stated, during this gap of three months, you have issued six ordinances. The second half of the Budget session was washed out. The session was washed out not because of the Opposition. Most of the Oppositions parties were ready to have debate and discussion in the House but unfortunately those political parties which are supporting either directly or indirectly this NDA Government, were disturbing the House. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Premachandran, you can continue tomorrow.

The House stands adjourned to meet on Thursday, the 19th July, 2018 at 11a.m.

18 00 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, July 19, 2018/ Ashadha 28, 1940(Saka).

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