

LOK SABHA
SYNOPSIS OF DEBATES
(Proceedings other than Questions & Answers)

Monday, December 16, 2024 / Agrahayana 25, 1946 (Saka)

SUBMISSION BY MEMBER

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE; AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT) *responding to the issue raised by several Hon. Members said:* Just now, some statements were made here by the hon. Member regarding Vijay Diwas. I would like to submit that one of the two issues that she raised pertains to the painting which was earlier installed in the Ministry of Defence and has now been removed from there. I would like to bring it to the notice of the House that the said painting has been installed with full honour in the most fitting place Manekshaw Auditorium so that more people can have a glimpse of it and get inspiration. I believe that such a political statement should not be made on the issues related to the Indian Army and its honour and valour. I think that all the hon. Members sitting in Parliament need to be conscious of their responsibility and they should think and keep this fact in mind before making any comment.

***MATTERS UNDER RULE 377**

- (1) **SHRI PARSHOTTAMBHAI RUPALA:** laid a statement regarding the need to take comprehensive measures to ensure security of oil and natural gas pipelines.
- (2) **SHRI PARBHUBHAI NAGARBHAI VASAVA:** laid a statement regarding the condition of washrooms in Railway Coaches.
- (3) **DR. RABINDRA NARAYAN BEHERA:** laid a statement regarding the

* Laid on the Table as directed by Chair.

need to set up a Research Institute of Indian Ocean Cultural Studies in Jajpur district, Odisha.

- (4) **SHRI LUMBA RAM:** laid a statement regarding four-laning of Jherda-Mander- Revdar-Sirohi NH and construction of by-pass roads.
- (5) **SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH GANGWAR:** laid a statement regarding the need to provide air connectivity to Bareilly with various cities of the country.
- (6) **SHRIMATI KRITI DEVI DEBBARMAN:** laid a statement regarding the need to ensure timely passage of the 125th Amendment to the Constitution regarding empowerment of Autonomous District Councils in the Sixth Schedule Areas.
- (7) **DR. FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE:** laid a statement regarding conservation of National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries in the country.
- (8) **DR. VINOD KUMAR BIND:** laid a statement regarding four laning of Mirzapur – Gopiganj road.
- (9) **SHRI ARUN GOVIL:** laid a statement regarding facilities for Senior Citizens.
- (10) **SHRI DILIP SAIKIA:** laid a statement regarding the need to establish a Tribal University in Karbi Anglong district of Assam and also set up a Campus of Indira Gandhi National Tribal University at Udalguri in the State.
- (11) **SHRI DULU MAHATO:** laid a statement regarding the need to establish a 150-bedded ESIC hospital in Dhanbad, Jharkhand.
- (12) **SHRI RAMVIR SINGH BIDHURI:** laid a statement regarding the need to provide ownership rights of houses under the PM UDAY Scheme to people living in unauthorized colonies in Delhi.
- (13) **SHRI GOPAL JEE THAKUR:** laid a statement regarding the need to retain Akashvani Kendra at Darbhanga, Bihar and declare it as a broadcast centre for Maithili language programmes.

- (14) **SUSHRI S. JOTHIMANI:** laid a statement regarding the need to ensure strict compliance with the guidelines for treatment and rehabilitation of Persons with Mental Illness (PWMI).
- (15) **DR. NAMDEO KIRSAN:** laid a statement regarding the need to increase Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna (PMAY) subsidy.
- (16) **SHRI S. SUPONGMEREN JAMIR:** laid a statement regarding the need to fix the salary and allowances of Krishi Vigyan Kendra employees at par with those of ICAR and Central Agricultural University employees.
- (17) **SHRI ANTO ANTONY:** laid a statement regarding the need to revise Standard Input Output Norms (SION) for regulating duty free import of natural rubber.
- (18) **SHRI SUKHDEO BHAGAT:** laid a statement regarding the need to construct a rail over-bridge at Itki in Ranchi, Jharkhand.
- (19) **SHRI PUSHPENDRA SAROJ:** laid a statement regarding stoppage of trains in Pratapgarh and Kaushambi districts of Uttar Pradesh.
- (20) **SUSHRI IQRA CHOUDHARY:** laid a statement regarding the need to review the inclusion of Muzaffarnagar and Shamli districts in National Capital Region.
- (21) **SHRI KALIPADA SAREN KHERWAL:** laid a statement regarding the need for a separate religion code to 'Saridharam' and 'Sarna Dharam' followed by Santhals and other tribals in various parts of the country.
- (22) **SHRI KIRTI AZAD:** laid a statement regarding the need to ensure protection of sensitive data of beneficiaries availing treatment under Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PMJAY).
- (23) **SHRI ARUN NEHRU:** laid a statement regarding the need for synchronization of portals operated by Central Government and various State Governments to address the threat of cyber-crime in the Country.
- (24) **SHRI SRIBHARAT MATHUKUMILLI:** laid a statement regarding the

need to curb pollution caused by transportation of coal and iron ore at Visakhapatnam Port, Andhra Pradesh.

- (25) **SHRI SUNIL KUMAR:** laid a statement regarding the need to establish a Handicraft Training Institute at Harnatand in Valmikinagar Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar.
- (26) **SHRI BAJRANG MANOHAR SONWANE:** laid a statement regarding the need for CBI inquiry into the increasing criminal activities in Beed district, Maharashtra.
- (27) **SHRI NARESH GANPAT MHASKE:** laid a statement regarding the need to take steps for timely completion of Inland Passenger Water Transport System in Maharashtra.
- (28) **DR. RAJKUMAR SANGWAN:** laid a statement regarding the need to set up a bench of Allahabad High Court at Meerut, Uttar Pradesh.
- (29) **SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN:** laid a statement regarding the need to provide compensation for land acquisition for green Field National Highway No. 744 as per the terms and condition applied to N.H. 66.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS-FIRST BATCH-2024-25-
Contd.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL *initiating said:* Our economy is deeply in trouble and it warrants urgent action and attention. The data and the trends emerging from recent months highlight serious challenges affecting the Indian economy. The challenges have been created by policy missteps and a lack of strategic action from the Government to address the current crisis. The GDP growth has fallen to 5.4 per cent. This serious slowdown underlines the fragility of our economic recovery. The decline in wages is one of the most alarming situations in this country now. Wages in key sectors like IT, retail, logistics, Fast Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG), banking and engineering have not risen significantly over the past few years. This is leaving the people with a reduced purchasing power and in turn, it is reducing the

domestic demand. In rural India, over the past five years, the real wages have fallen by 0.4 per cent. Agricultural wages have grown by a meagre 0.2 per cent. A majority of non-farm employment is informal and low-paying in our country. In contrast, the corporate profits have multiplied. The inability to provide quality jobs is the major issue. The jobs that are being created are neither well-paying nor productive at all. Instead of creating jobs, the Government is cutting the thumbs of the small businesses and MSMEs and even crushing the dreams of millions of youths in the country. Nowadays, MGNREGA is affected very badly. MGNREGA is one of the best tools for encouraging the economic sector at the lower level. Inflation is skyrocketing. The increase in the cost of daily essential commodities continues to erode the savings and purchasing power of the common man, which is very detrimental. As per the latest update of the Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI), we have 234 million people living in poverty in India. Every State has a right to have an equal share of the Union Budget. The State of Karnataka has faced a significant financial setback losing Rs. 1,87,867 crore since 2017-18 due to the stepmotherly treatment by the Central Government. Wherever the Opposition is ruling, the Government is having a step-motherly treatment towards those States. This is a very serious concern. Regarding natural calamities in Wayanad, even after a period of five months, the Union Government is not releasing special assistance to Kerala. This is a discussion for Supplementary Demands for Grants, but the country is seeking answers from the Government for the above-mentioned issues raised.

DR. SANJAY JAISWAL: Our Government is providing about Rs 4.5 lakh crore as a subsidy to the poor and farmers of the country in the year 2024-25. A subsidy of Rs 7 lakh 57 thousand crore was given in the year 2021-22 and not only this, we have given more than Rs 5 lakh crore to the states under the centrally sponsored schemes. At present, we are asking for as much additional funds in the Supplementary Demands for Grants for farmers as it used to be the total budget of the Ministry of Agriculture in the past. We are demanding about Rs 25 thousand crores at present. We have given Rs 3 lakh 46 thousand crore in cash to the farmers of the country through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) under the PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi and this entire amount has been given to the farmers. Seven schemes worth Rs 14 thousand 235 crore have been approved by the present Government for the

welfare of farmers. We have made a record increase in MSP in 10 years. I would like to thank the Hon. Prime Minister and Finance Minister that they have now reduced the fiscal deficit to 4.9 percent. This demonstrates how effectively the Government is managing its finances. I express my gratitude for the separate provision of Rs 317 crore for rare health diseases in this Supplementary Demand. Similarly, the amount of Rs 89 crore given in the Supplementary Demand for Health Research is also a very good decision. An additional amount of Rs 128 crore has been allocated for cashless treatment of individuals injured in road accidents which highlights the Government's sensitivity to their needs. This year the present Government has spent more than Rs 48 lakh crore. If we give proper opportunities to our youth and women, then no one can stop this country from becoming a developed nation by 2047. While the UPA provided only Rs 75 thousand crore as grants to Bihar over 10 years, under the leadership of the Hon. Prime Minister, Bihar has received Rs 2 lakh 81 thousand crore as grants. If we want to develop this country, every entrepreneur in India must step forward to contribute. I fully support the Supplementary Demands for Grants brought in by the Hon'ble Finance Minister. I believe that through these public welfare schemes, India will surely become a developed nation by the year 2047.

SHRI LALJI VERMA: We passed the Budget only in July. Our planning wasn't strong enough that within a month, we had to make supplementary demands. The entire year's budget was estimated, and if the expenses were anticipated, they should have been included in the main budget itself. In many departments, we have seen that we cannot even spend 50% of the main budget. This reflects poor planning and inaccurate estimates. The lack of a good budget is leading to increased economic inequality in the country. We should be promoting small and medium-sized industries, as well as employment-generating sectors to ensure every person has access to employment, but we have failed to do so. In this country, 70% of people rely on agriculture for their livelihoods. Our great leaders always emphasized that the development of this country passes through fields and farms. But we have not focused on this direction. Today, farmers are struggling. While farmers need subsidies on DAP fertilizers, the prices continue to rise, and we are failing to provide them at reasonable rates. Large industrialists are getting a significant portion of their loans written off by banks, yet despite repeated requests from farmers, their loans are not being waived. Today, farmers are fighting for the

Minimum Support Price (MSP). If we can provide free grain to 82 crore people today, it is the result of the hard work and efforts of farmers, but the government is not ensuring a guaranteed MSP for the farmers' produce. If the condition of farmers does not improve, the country's situation will not improve either. We need to increase the income of farmers and reduce their production costs. There has been no provision in this budget to ensure easy access to electricity connections for farmers. In our country, there are SCs, STs, OBCs, and other disadvantaged groups, all of whom require significant financial support for education. However, this budget has not made any provision to provide free education to the children of Scheduled Castes, Backward Classes, or other disadvantaged groups. If we do not move forward in this direction, we will certainly not be able to improve the nation. The budget also makes no mention of unemployed youth. Merely stating 'developed India' will not lead to national progress. We need to create concrete plans. The economic situation of the country is dire. If you want to benefit farmers, you need to give them subsidies on food, pesticides, seeds, and electricity connections. Only then will farmers benefit. Furthermore, there is no provision for scholarships for Scheduled Caste students in this budget. I request the government to take the initiative in this area to address their issues. You are undermining the reservation system and depriving these people of their rights

PROF. SOUGATA RAY: There is nothing to oppose the Supplementary Demands for Grants because the money has already been spent. The Government has set a target of 4.9 per cent. Now, these Supplementary Demands will push up the financial deficit. Our growth projections for the last quarter have slipped to 5.4 per cent. Unless the economic growth rate comes up, the country cannot progress. Inflation has also shown an upward trend. It has gone up to 6.2 per cent. As a result, the middle class will be put in difficulties. Industrialist and capitalist profits are increasing and the salaries of the middle classes and working classes are coming down. At this rate of growth of 5.2 per cent in the last quarter, the Indian economy cannot make progress. The state of West Bengal has been deprived of NREGA funds. We have been deprived of PM-AWAS Yojana. This economy is not in a fair shape for this supplementary demand for grants. The problems caused by big industrialists for the Indian economy need to be considered. More advantages to the poorer sections have to be given. The economy is hamstrung by a lack of policy and by lack of clarity.

SHRI D. M. KATHIR ANAND: I want to concentrate on my area, that is, agriculture. Major schemes like PM-KISAN, MISS, Crop Insurance, RKVY, and Kishori Shakti Yojana, etc. are being run. The government once promised in 2016 to double the farmers' income by 2022. Thirty-five percent of the applications under PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana were found to be ineligible. PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana cash benefits given in three separate instalments are not for all farmers. The scheme excludes a significant chunk, that is, nearly 5.37 crores of landless families or 2.4 crores of people with leased land. As per The Standing Committee on Agriculture 2020, the PM-KISAN Scheme cannot be effectively implemented because there are a lot of lacunas in the non-availability of land records, and non-transference of land to the heirs of deceased landholders. Benefits under such schemes are not available to tenant farmers because all agriculturists are not landowners. The budget for the Crop Insurance Scheme has recorded a three per cent decrease. Agriculture is the backbone of India. The State of Tamil Nadu is the first agricultural state where a free electricity scheme was implemented in 1989. Nearly three to three and a half lakhs of agriculturists have been benefited because of this kind of scheme in the State. The subsidy for the production and distribution of seeds should be extended for all the varieties. Relief should be given to my state as it is facing a lot of difficulties. Major issues in Kerosene distribution should be resolved. Vellore Airport should be opened soon. Ex-military personnel are not being given treatment in hospitals. Government should treat Tamil Nadu on equal footing and we are ready to cooperate.

SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY: In this year's General Budget passed during the Monsoon Session, the NDA Government under the leadership of Shri Narendra Modi, announced a fund of Rs.25,000 crore for our capital and other infrastructure projects. Our hon. Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has launched a scheme called Swarana Andhra -2047. Through this vision, he is aiming for a 2.4 trillion-dollar economy with an annual growth rate of about 15 per cent for our State. Many Centrally-sponsored schemes have been launched for the development of our State. For a prosperous India, you should allow 75 per cent of the GST collected from a particular State to go into that State itself. Last year, the Housing and Urban Development Ministry was allocated Rs. 85,000 crore. I would request the hon. Minister to increase its allocation to Rs. 1,50,000 crore. The modernisation of the Buckingham Canal in Andhra Pradesh is very much required

for the State. Mr. Chandrababu Naidu *Garu* has taken up interlinking of the Godavari-Pennar which will cost about Rs. 72,000 crore. The Renigunta project needs about Rs. 3,500 crore. Our Standing Committees should also be allowed to undertake tours to foreign countries. The MPLAD Fund has to be increased to Rs. 25 crore.

SHRI ANIL YESHWANT DESAI: As per the data released by the National Statistics Office, the GDP growth stood at 5.4 per cent, which is much lower than the projections made by the Reserve Bank of India, which stood at more than seven per cent. If the target of 4.9 per cent is to be achieved, it will have to cut down majorly on its Government expenditure. The Central Government tries its best by declaring schemes like Startup India, but very few of these startup programmes emerge successful. The ever-growing inflation is not going to come down, but I think this Appropriation Bill will take care of all this. The agriculture sector is the only sector where we could see growth in the last quarter. The Government should think of giving MSP the way it is being calculated by the farmers. In Maharashtra, soybean or cotton or maize cultivating farmers are suffering because whatever MSP is being declared, I think that needs to be taken into consideration. There is a provision made in the Department of Public Enterprises for meeting additional expenditures towards salaries and allowances. The Insurance Act is going for the amendment which will provide for 100 per cent FDI. Lastly, I would like to request that the GST rates of Mediciclaim should be rationalised.

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: I stand in support of the List of Supplementary Demands for Grants. A list of Supplementary Demands is something that we all support because it is the need of the hour. Decrease in consumption growth, persistent inflation, the necessity of sticking to a monetary policy, the alarming lower private investments and sluggish FDIs really are worrying all of us. There was a time when the interest rates used to be 11-13 per cent, but now it has come down to 6-7 per cent. The NBFCs have to be regulated. The current account deficit is another very important question because exports have gone down and imports have gone up. I welcome the 11-Point Programme. We are looking to be a global player, improving our relationships with all the countries, then why are we not working on the double taxation issue? How are we going to get more foreign investments? Talking about agriculture, they have started many

schemes but I would like to specifically ask this Government that they have committed to a complete loan waiver, especially from Maharashtra, so will there be a complete loan waiver? When will this Government have the census for delimitation?

SHRI NARESH GANPAT MHASKE: The banking sector, record FDI, Digital India, Clean India, and housing schemes—these are just a few examples of how the country is moving in a new direction today. We now see India as the world's largest economy. The payment for the ₹1.31 lakh crore oil bonds issued by the UPA government will need to be made by the current and upcoming central governments between October and March 2026. Our government has taken the bold step of reducing subsidies in the oil and gas sector by up to 85%. Additionally, the export prices of petroleum oils and bituminous minerals have also increased. The constitutional responsibilities entrusted to us have been fulfilled through initiatives such as the Ladki Bhain Yojana, Ladka Bhau Yojana, Aapla Dava Khana, Samruddhi Mahamarg, and the Coastal Road projects. For the agricultural sector, a provision of ₹7,691.81 crore has been made, with a particular focus on farmers' prosperity and self-reliance. Between 2014 and 2024, there has been a significant increase in the number of bank branches. I support this Appropriation Bill.

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: This discussion is taking place at a time when India's economy grew at the rate of 5.4 per cent in the second Quarter. The economy is running on the support of capital expenditure by the Government. Any economy runs on five factors— savings, consumption, investment production and employment. Unfortunately, India's economy is in shambles on these five parameters. In the year 2013-14, the savings to GDP ratio of the country was 34 percent, which has come down to 31 percent in the year 2023-24. Consumer consumption has fallen from 60 per cent in 2013-14 to 55 per cent in 2023-24. The investment to GDP ratio was 33.8 per cent in 2013-14, now it has fallen to 29.6 per cent in 2023-24. The unemployment rate was 5.42 percent in the year 2013-14, now it has increased to 8 percent in the year 2023-24. Employment is not being created in the economy today, so the Government is forced to distribute free rations to the people. Our farmers have been agitating on the road for years. I want to ask the Government why it is not ready to talk to the farmers. As of March 31, 2012, the Government's debt was Rs. 55,87,150 lakh crore. Now, this debt will shoot up to

Rs. 181,68,456 crore on March 31, 2025. The economy is collapsing today. The Government's fiscal deficit in the year 2013-14 was just Rs. 5,02,858 crore. But it has increased to Rs 16,53,070 crore in the year 2023-24. In May 2014, the dollar rate was 58.58 rupees. Today, it is 84 rupees and 87 paise. In the year 2014, the LPG cylinder used to cost Rs. 410, but now it costs Rs. 803 in the year 2024. In 2014, mustard oil was priced at Rs. 90 a litre, today it costs Rs. 165 a litre. In 2014, flour price was Rs. 22 per kg, today it is Rs. 55 per kg and milk costs Rs. 35 a litre then, today it costs Rs. 60 a litre. The housewives of this country are crying due to inflation, and it has become very difficult for the common man to manage his household expenses. Ten per cent of India's people own 77 per cent of India's capital today. How can this economy run with such inequality?

SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY: Under the leadership of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, the Indian economy has become a global power today. Ten years ago, we were counted among the five most fragile economies in the world. Today, we are the fifth-largest economy in the world. Ten years ago in the year 2014, the GDP growth rate was only 4.7 percent. They did not take care of the economy due to corruption. Today, with a GDP growth rate of 8.2 percent, India is the fastest-growing economy in the world. During their time, inflation was near 11 per cent, today we have kept it checked at 5.4 per cent. Our forex reserves of around \$658.2 million are at an all-time high figure today. The poor people are also using banks today. Amount meant for them goes directly to the accounts of about 34 crore people through Direct Benefit Transfer. Around 3.8 crore income tax returns used to be filed earlier, now 6.86 crore income tax returns are being filed. Earlier there were 74 airports, now there are 149 airports. The electrification of 95 percent of the broad-gauge line of the railway has been completed. It is a big achievement. During the UPA regime, before the year 2014, seven to eight lakh rural houses used to be built every year. Now 45 lakh rural houses are built every year under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. Ten years ago, during the UPA regime, rural sanitation was 39 per cent. Now it is 97 per cent. 100 per cent of villages have the facility of electricity supply today. Thanks to the Ujjwala scheme, women have got rid of earthen stoves and smoke. 33 crore cards have been issued under the Ayushman Bharat Yojana. Nearly Rs. 79,000 crore has been spent on the treatment of needy people during the last 10 years. In fact, it is the world's largest healthcare scheme. Efforts have been made to bring street vendors engaged in the unorganised sector

to the organized sector by providing around Rs. 78 lakh crore to them. Collateral-free loans worth Rs. 11,000 crore have been provided. About 25 crore people have been lifted out of poverty. Rs. 34 lakh crore has been transferred through DBT. During the UPA government, there used to be a budget of Rs. 20,000 crore for farmers and now in the budget for the year 2024-2025, Rs. 1,50,000 crore has been kept for the farmers. To promote agricultural infrastructure, Rs. 4,000 crore has been given for the projects under the Agricultural Infrastructure Fund so that farmers can benefit from it. Our party's job is to provide structured support to farmers. Congress always focuses on middlemen; we focus on direct benefits. They neglected infrastructure; we are building a future for the country. We are ensuring food security. We are focussing on the continuous modernisation of road networks and the enhancement of road quality standards and road safety initiatives. UPA built roads, we built a complete transport ecosystem. While UPA neglected safety, we prioritised human life. Our infrastructure vision is not just about cement and concrete, but it is about care and compassion.

DR. GUMMA THANUJA RANI: I would like to urge the Union Finance Minister to take steps to halt the disinvestment of the Vizag Steel Plant. It is the largest public sector industrial unit in the State creating employment opportunities for close to around 20,000 people directly and many other indirect employment opportunities. I would like to urge the hon. Finance Minister instead of taking the disinvestment route, kindly do support some measures like allotting captive iron ore mines to bring down input cost and swapping high-cost debt with low-cost debt and converting debt into equity through equity conversion. The measures could ease the burden of the debt serving and improve the financial sustainability of the plant. The second major issue, especially in my constituency of Araku, is the relief and rehabilitation of people in the four mandals of Rampachodavaram because of the damage caused by the Polavaram Irrigation Project. I urge the Central Government as well as the State Government of Andhra Pradesh to ensure timely disbursement of the compensation package as well as providing secure alternative areas for rehabilitation, especially for the Tribal Community. The tribal people have already sacrificed a lot. The Pradhan Mantri Kisan MaanDhan Yojana offers a contributory security policy. However, the assured pension of Rs. 3000 has been the same for the past five years. Given the average annual inflation, I would like to urge the Central Government to increase this amount to, at least, Rs. 7000.

SHRI SUDHAKAR SINGH: I have gone through all the Supplementary Demands for Grants. The country has not yet conducted a socio-economic census. But Bihar is one such state where the socio-economic census has been completed and the figures that have emerged show a frightening picture of Bihar. Two figures are very frightening. One, the largest number of people living below the poverty line are within Bihar. Secondly, we are at the bottom in the field of education. If the Government of India does not help to increase the investment that is needed to increase our higher education, then Bihar would be lagging behind the national average and the obvious impact on our poverty alleviation will continue to be visible. I would like to talk about the farmers because I have seen that the Government has sought funds for the farmers. There is an outcry for fertilizer all over the country. Fertilizer is not available anywhere in North India, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab. If farmers are not getting fertilizer even after excess availability, then it is a matter of concern. We are spending the maximum amount of subsidy on fertilizer. It has been a long-standing demand of our farmers that the subsidy on fertilisers should go directly into the accounts of the farmers and not to the companies. These companies are not able to deliver fertilizer to the farmers even after taking subsidies from the Government of India. The farmers of our country are agitated for the guarantee of minimum support price. The distribution of the remaining 58 per cent in the Consolidated Fund of the Government of India after giving 42 per cent to the States is not fair. That money should be used for the common good, it should be for poverty alleviation. The backward States, which are below the national average, should get money from that fund. But, that money is not going there and going to the States which are already developed.

DR. M. P. ABDUSSAMAD SAMADANI: When we deal with any field of our national life, including the economy, we have to keep the very important pluralistic aspect of India's national system in our mind. When it comes to the economy, there is poverty, unemployment and inflation. But we have to take the backward communities, the backward sections of society and the marginalised society if we really want our economy to grow and progress. I would like to emphasize here that when we specifically focus on the economy, the real power today is technological power. Technological advancement is highly essential. India has reached that race. We admit it. But along with this digital revolution, we have to take into consideration the conditions of our farmers. First of all, that has to be

corrected and undone before taking the economy of the country into progress.

***SHRI GURMEET SINGH MEET HAYER:**

***SHRI SUBBARAYAN K.:**

SHRI RAJARAM SINGH: We are moving towards a five trillion economy, this statement comes often from the ruling party, but they do not discuss where India stands in the Global Hunger Index. Where do we stand on human index development in terms of health and education? We see that inequality is increasing and this is being called the development of India. I would like to say that the agreements signed with the farmers should be implemented. After a lot of struggle in the matter of land acquisition, the law enacted in the year 2013 should be implemented and compensation should be given to the farmers. We have two NTPCs. We provide electricity to the country, but the agreements that have been signed at the local level in the matter of providing electricity and employment, the villagers are constantly being neglected and there is a lot of disturbance. This has to be taken care of. The Government should give help to the poor States and give special status to Bihar.

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Before commencing my speech, I would like to raise a serious technical matter of grave concern regarding the parliamentary procedure in reappropriation of grants for which I am seeking a specific clarification from the hon. Minister. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether a Statement, as stipulated by the Rules, is being laid on the Table of the House. If it is not made, kindly state the reason. I would like to seek a specific clarification from the Minister, and if such a Statement is not laid on the Table of the House, I would also seek a ruling from the hon. Speaker regarding this matter. Now it has become a usual practice of Parliament to bring a series of Supplementary Demands for Grants in every financial year. The Public Accounts Committee has observed, rather reiterated, that the Ministers and the Departments have been coming with Supplementary Demands for Grants without conducting a proper scrutiny of the expenditure incurred and likely to be incurred by them during the financial year. This is happening due to the lack of foresight of various Ministries

* Please see Supplement.

and Departments. When we are proudly claiming that India is the fastest growing economy in the world, aiming to be the third largest economy in the world and a developed country by 2047, the basic genuine issues of the common people are still there. There has been exponential growth of unemployment in the country, which was never experienced in the country during the post-independence period. There are also so many other issues like price rise and poverty which remain as such. They need to be addressed. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, how she is going to address all these things? I would like to seek clarification from the Minister. When I examined the expenditure on the MSME sector – Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises – which is a labour-intensive sector and plays an important role in the growth of the economy, I found that it is less than 50 per cent.. I do not know how the revised outlay has come now because the revision will come only after the financial year ends. In this case, the advance revision of outlay has come. I cannot understand this. I request the hon. Minister to clarify this. The doubling of farmers' income by 2022, was one of the promises made by the Prime Minister during 2014. What happened to the doubling of the income of the poor farmers? There is a GST of 18 per cent on renting of commercial property. A registered person who takes a rented building from an unregistered person shall have to remit 18 percent of GST through a reverse charge mechanism. That has to be reviewed. The first-year commission of the LIC agents has been reduced from 35 per cent to 28 per cent. Fourteen lakh LIC agents are suffering. That has to be corrected. As regards the cashew industry, 2.5 percent of custom duty is to be reviewed. All these issues have to be considered and I am seeking very specific clarification regarding all these points. With these points, I would like to oppose the Supplementary Demands for Grants put forward to the House by the Government.

SHRI ANAND BHADAURIA: I have risen today to express my disagreement with the Grant No. 3 Bill, 2024 presented by the Government in the House. The people of the ruling party were shouting from the top of their voices that a provision of lakhs and crores of rupees had been made for the farmers. If lakhs and crores of rupees have been allocated for the farmers, then why are farmers from Bihar to every corner of Uttar Pradesh today forced to stand in long queues for DAP and face police lathi charges? I have seen lakhs and crores of rupees of the industrialists of this country being waived off, but can't the Government waive the debt of the poor farmers of the village? We will demand from the Government that

the debt of the poor farmer of the village should also be waived off. I would like to know whether the Government has made any plan for the unemployed of Uttar Pradesh. Whether the Government is going to set up any industry so that the unemployed can get employment. A provision of Rs 8500 crore has been made for the Ministry of Education and Rs 7300 crore for the Ministry of Health, which is insufficient as per the growing population of the country and the need of health institutions. A number of medical colleges have been established on paper in Uttar Pradesh, but neither admission is taking place in medical colleges nor there is equipment. During the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly elections in the year 2022, the Hon. Prime Minister had promised from the stage that after March, the responsibility of stray animals would be his, but whether the Government has formulated an action plan for those stray animals? If it has formulated any plan, then this House, this country and the public want to know about the same. The backward and poor classes have been ignored in the Supplementary Demands. There is no concrete provision for the welfare of Dalits, Tribals and Backward Classes. This Supplementary Demand for Grants is a symbol of the Government's anti-people policies and financial irresponsibility. There has been a lot of propaganda regarding the Har Ghar Jal Yojana under the Jal Jeevan Mission. The roads which were constructed in the previous years not only in Uttar Pradesh, but in the entire country, now have been dug up, and pipelines have been laid. The Government may probe the same and get the roads repaired.

SUSHRI SAYANI GHOSH: Supplementary Demands for Grants are a constitutional provision, and I agree that there should be no objection to them. However, the question arises, if the Government is unable to spend the funds it already has, why does it need further allocations? The Government has spent much less this year compared to the previous year. Due to the continuous rise in the prices of vegetarian dishes, vegetables, and groceries, life has become very difficult for the middle class. 74% of Indians are unable to afford a healthy diet. Domestic savings have plummeted to their lowest level in 50 years. Around 48% of families in the country are facing financial crises, where their expenses exceed their income. Economic inequality in India is at its highest in 100 years. In the second quarter of 2024-2025, the country's GDP growth rate has fallen to 5.4%, the lowest in the past two years. The Government's total debt has reached ₹1.76 lakh crore, meaning each Indian is bearing a burden of ₹1.25 lakh. Prime Minister Ji had promised to provide

2 crore jobs per year, totalling 20 crore jobs. What happened to those jobs? What happened to those promises? Prime Minister Ji often talks about 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas,' but if this is true, why are Indians leaving the country? Between 2018 and 2023, 6.7 lakh Indians renounced their citizenship. According to available reports, by July 19, 2024, the West Bengal government owes ₹1.23 lakh crore for major programs like MGNREGA, PMAY, PMGSY, the National Health Mission, and the Central Food Subsidy. Additionally, there is an estimated ₹40,806 crore pending, bringing the total amount to ₹1.71 lakh crore. We are not provided with funds for healthcare schemes simply because the colour coding doesn't match. If the government dislikes the colour, does that mean Bengal's people should be denied their rightful funds? Under your 'Amrit Kaal,' the cost of medical treatment has doubled over the last five years. Medical inflation is at 14%. The prices of regularly used medicines have increased by 50%. While you are asking for grants for civil aviation, one domestic flight round trip ticket costs ₹20-30 thousand. You are seeking funds for education but deliberately ignoring the fact that, according to your own statistics, 11 lakh children have dropped out of school. As for legal aid for the poor, you have failed to provide legal assistance to more than 1% of the eligible population. In public enterprises, 5.1 lakh jobs have been eliminated in the past decade. The railway sector alone has nearly 2.5 lakh vacant posts. I had once requested the Department for a Metro extension from Baruipur to Kavi Subhash in my Jadavpur constituency. I received a letter stating that the project was economically unfeasible and unprofitable. I fail to understand whether people are voting for their benefit or for yours. For your benefit, you have even discontinued concessions for senior citizens, and then proudly claim that in 2022-23, you earned ₹2,242 crore from 15 crore senior citizens. Prime Minister Ji launched the 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' program ten years ago, but 80% of the funds were spent on publicity, marketing, and advertising.

DR. K. SUDHAKAR: I would like to put forth my views supporting the first batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants 2024-25 and the Appropriation Bill. I would like to say that "Viksit Bharat 2047" is not merely a slogan for us. It is hon. Prime Minister's commitment towards Viksit Bharat. The budget in the last 10 years has more sanctity and credibility which has maximised the value and the impact of hard-earned taxpayers' money. When we show good figures, the Opposition says that the growth is normal and the growth is organic. But when

some parameters go down, then they show the finger to the Government saying that it is the fault of the Government. There is a continuous false narrative on tax devolution by the Opposition. The Congress and its alliance partners' allegation about injustice to South India in particular overlooks the transformative fiscal reforms introduced by the NDA Government. The devolution of funds to the States has been increased under this Government. The Grant-in-Aid from the Government of India between 2004 and 2014 was only Rs. 60,779 crore; as against this, during our regime, it is Rs. 2,08,832 crore. The Opposition talks about cooperative federalism only when it comes to the devolution of funds or Grants-in-Aid, but when it comes to the implementation of programmes, it is not taken care of. Today, there is neither a New Education Policy nor a State Education Policy in Karnataka. School education and higher education are in limbo. The students of higher education are facing hardships. Regarding farmers' welfare, I would like to say that in 2013-14, a loan of Rs. 7 lakh crore was extended to the farmers; whereas, under this Government, the loan was increased to Rs. 19 lakh crore for the farmers. Whatever the prices were of urea or DAP in 2018, it still exists even today in spite of the geopolitical situation and post-COVID situation. The agriculture growth rate is 3.4 per cent in NDA's regime. The establishment of 9000 PACS is revolutionizing economics in the rural part of India. It can empower the communities by fostering economic growth.

SHRI CHAMALA KIRAN KUMAR REDDY: I rise today to participate in the discussion of the Supplementary Demands for Grants. Due to the loan of Rs. 7 lakh crore, today every month our state is paying Rs. 6,000 crore or more just as an interest amount. I want to bring a few issues to the notice of the Government with regard to agriculture and irrigation. There are a number of significant issues with regard to the Minimum Support Price system in India. While the Government notifies MSP for more than 20 crops, the procurement process is severely limited and primarily focused on rice, wheat and coarse grains, and to a limited extent, pulses. The demand of the farmers is that the Government should procure all the crops covered under MSP and make a legal guarantee. In the last 10 years, more than 1,12,000 farmers committed suicide due to the wrong policies of this Government. During the last two to three years, there have been a lot of protests against this Government. But, still, this Government is not listening to their demands. India's agriculture exports have declined to 8.2 per cent in the fiscal year

2023-2024. Investment in agricultural research has decelerated since 2011. It was promised at the time of the bifurcation of the state that the Palalmuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme would get the National Project status. But till now, it has not got the National Project status. As regards the procurement by the Cotton Corporation of India, I would like to say that they are creating a lot of nuisance which has to be sorted out. Regarding the health sector, I would like to say that India's public health spending is abysmally low.

***SHRI ESWARASAMY K.:**

SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: I rise to speak in favour of the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2024-25. Provisions have been made in it to provide relief to agriculture and farmers. In particular, a demand of earmarking Rs 3132 crore has been made for the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana. The target has been set to complete the ongoing work and schemes under which people are getting the benefits. This Government has taken a big step by giving self-employment opportunities to the youth. The Jan Dhan Yojana has boosted the morale of the poorest of the poor and they feel that they are also a part of this society. An amount of Rs 127 crore has been earmarked in this demand for the Ayushman Yojana in the health sector. This will be a great relief to the poor. Today, whether it is airport, railway station, highway, expressway, or electricity, every sector is witnessing unprecedented development. The availability of water has been ensured through the Jal Jeevan Mission. Apart from this, many big schemes have been implemented in the country. Today, this Government has worked to support the sisters of the country through self-help groups. This has boosted the morale of our sisters. There have been many improvements in the banking sector as well. Now the nature of banks has changed and their way of working has also changed. Many schemes are running at a fast pace in Jammu and Kashmir. I have also been assured that there will be no hindrance in the fast pace at which these schemes are running. This is a matter of relief for the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Due to certain reasons, the farmers of the border areas have not received their compensation since 2012. I want that this should also be taken care of in these supplementary demands so that the farmers can get compensation.

* Please see Supplement.

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UTPAL KUMAR SINGH
Secretary General

**Supplement covering the rest of the proceedings is being issued separately

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from this country. Let them, in the first instance, prove their honesty by offering apology for the electoral bond irregularities. They should also be punished. Those in power termed in as legal although the Hon Supreme Court categorically stated the electoral bonds as illegal. The Governments wants to continue to be in power by misguiding the people through superstitions and misconception.

***SHRI ESWARASAMY K.:** Our Prime Minister in February 2016 announced that by 2022 he would be doubling the income of farmers. But agriculture remains worst hit during the last 10 years. The situation of farmers is getting worse day by day. This Government introduced Crop Insurance Scheme with lots of fanfare in the year 2016. But it has failed to implement it properly. This has affected crores of farmers. The demands of farmers are ignored and the Insurance companies are making profit. My Pollachi Parliamentary Constituency is called the coconut lack town. Since there is a record production of coconut in Pollachi area, it contributes much to the production and export of coir in the country. Of the total coir production of the country, 60 per cent is manufactured by Tamil Nadu. There is a market for coconut products for Rs. 3000 crore annually. But coconut production has been affected during the last some years due to water shortage issues, inadequate rainfall, wilt diseases and other issues. Crop Insurance Scheme has further increased the worries of farmers manifold. Interestingly, instead of solving the issues concerning the Crop Insurance Scheme, the Union Government has started reducing its allocation. Tamil Nadu Government is providing interest free loans to farmers through cooperative Banks from May 2021 to December 2023, as much as an amount of Rs. 35.85 crore has been given as loan to farmers. Likewise, massive allocation has been made for school Education by the DMK Led Govt. Union Government has stopped the release of Rs. 2100 crore under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. This is highly condemnable. Tamil Nadu did not accept the National Educational Policy as some provisions of that policy are against the Dual Language policy of the Government of Tamil Nadu. In this scenario, stopping the release of funds to the State is dictatorial attitude. I urge the Union Government, instead of fighting with the State Governments of the Opposition ruled States, should concentrate on allocation of adequate funds for implementation of Schemes in major sectors, particularly for Tamil Nadu.

* Original in Tamil.

SHRI SRIBHARAT MATHUKUMILLI: In this Batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants, I would like to speak about some specific points, in particular for the Ministry of Steel for allocating funds to revive the RINL Steel Plant. From the verge of almost being shut down with only one furnace running, now two furnaces are running. The second thing is the footwear industry. It is quite disorganized. Most of India does not even know about the research that is happening. The other thing I would request is to separate it from the leather industry because not all footwear is leather now. All different kinds of materials are coming into it. The next point is about urban planning. The money that happens to be transferred to urban local bodies is a mere 0.5 per cent of the GDP, but the contribution of cities to our GDP is almost 60 per cent. If there are good cities that are planning for the future and if they can be incentivized through grants for major infrastructure development, then that would help us abate the problems preemptively instead of being reactive. Coming to the State of Andhra, over the last five years because of the potential mal-intent and delay of many critical projects like Amaravati or Polavaram, the cost of these projects has increased. The support of the Central Government is requested in line with what has already been announced in this Budget to develop the capital city of Amaravati and to complete the Polavaram project by 2028. If we can bridge the gap between what the industry needs and what is the available workforce and start bridging the gap through skill development and education, this demographic dividend that exists will become a huge dividend for the nation and help not just the State of Andhra Pradesh prosper, but all the States of India prosper.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN: Demonetization was a golden decision. After demonetization, the Government did not even provide information about black money. GST is the largest way of theft for big businessmen. The amount of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana is very low which cannot fulfil the dream of anyone. The funds under the said scheme get embezzled. Nothing has been provided to ASHA workers and cooks in this Budget. I would like to request the Government to provide a special package for the rehabilitation of all the closed factories of Bihar such as Sasaram Mill, Jute Mill, Katihar and all the sugar mills. I am of the view of 'Special State and special package'. Bihar is the poorest State in the world. As per the caste-based census, Bihar has the lowest rank in the world in terms of social, economic and educational status. Bihar suffers a maximum migration and unemployment.

Bihar lies at the bottom in terms of educational growth. People of Bihar should get pensions and scholarships. The Government should provide an unemployment allowance of at least five to six thousand rupees to the young unemployed people. I would like to make a request regarding maize, Makhana, fish and tea leaves in Purnia. I would like to request the Government to set up five factories of maize, Makhana and tea leaves. The construction of a high dam is our dream. I would like to request the Government to assist in the rehabilitation of the new Bhim Nagar barrage. Tourism plays the most important role in the development of Bihar. There are two obstacles in the development of Bihar, flood and drought. I would like to request to provide a budget for the railway scheme in Bihar. I would also request to set up a High Court bench in Bihar and IIM and IIT in Purnia.

ADV. FRANCIS GEORGE: The farmers are on a strike. The point is whether the debt-ridden farmers will be helped out of these Supplementary Demands. In the case of Kerala, stepped-up step-motherly treatment is being given. I would cite one case of Vizhinjam International Seaport, a container terminal port. This is not a project of Kerala. This is a project which is to the benefit of the whole country. Viability Gap Funding is provided as a grant and not as a loan. But in the case of Kerala alone, out of all the States in the country, it has been given as a loan. In the case of Global City, Kerala has already approved Rs. 840 crore for land acquisition, and a Market Demand Assessment Report confirms the project's viability. But the delay in the final approval risks stalling this infrastructure initiative, which promises economic growth and next-generation industrial hubs. Kerala is seeking to face severe financial challenges due to retrospective borrowing ceiling cuts; and also due to the reduced Central transfers, we are losing about Rs. 4,710 crore annually. These are being denied to a State like Kerala, which is a financially stressed State. As large sums are being appropriated under these Demands for Grants, the case of States like Kerala be considered beneficially and sympathetically.

SHRI SHASHANK MANI: Hon'ble Prime Minister has mentioned 'Collective Efforts (*Sabke Prayas*)' during the discussion on the 75th anniversary of the Constitution. The Congress Party is a party with a colonial and elitist mindset. Instead of economic liberation, it has led people towards economic slavery. For this I condemn them. The grant of Rs. 9,900 crore for agriculture and farmers welfare

provided by the Government reflects our Government's goal of focusing on farmers. A grant of Rs. 231 crore focussed on tier-3 and tier-2 districts has been provided to the Ministry of Civil Aviation. Aviation facilities are soon going to be provided from Kushinagar Airport situated in my Parliamentary Constituency. Waterways are being developed not only in coastal areas but also in our rivers. A port is also being developed on the Narayani River in my Lok Sabha Constituency. People residing in ten neighbouring districts will be able to export their agricultural produce which will lead to the development of our region. A grant of Rs. 500 crore has been given for backward regions like Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh. I appreciate the Government's decision to provide these additional grants as it is meant for the poor, farmers, particularly people from the Dalit and Backward classes. Along with this, this grant will empower the youth, women and farmers. This grant would provide immense confidence to me as well as the 26 lakh people of my Lok Sabha Constituency.

SHRI RAHUL KASWAN: There are several schemes of the Government for the agriculture sector. However, the assessment of the value and significance of the said schemes at present requires a lot of brainstorming. Though the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana has been a good scheme, but the Government does not pay its share of the premium amount. The farmers have not yet received payment for the purchase made during the year 2023. The farmers are forced to resort to sitting in protest on the border near Delhi today. The Government is not even able to set up Procurement Centres for the farmers. FPOs are only limited to selling fertilizers. There is only one 'Didi' in the Churu district under the Namu Drone Didi scheme and only one drone has been provided during the last five-year term. There are many lacunae in the implementation of the scheme. The condition of farmers is very poor. Forty-eight thousand hamlets (*Dhanis*) of Churu district lack electricity supply even after 11 years of this Government's term. In my Constituency Churu, all the villages are connected by roads but additional roads are required to be constructed in our area. I would like to request that the guidelines of Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana should be revised and the population cap of 250 should be reduced to 150 people for connectivity. Provision must be made for providing multiple connectivity roads. Provision of connecting different villages and at least connecting all the villages with the Panchayat headquarters must be made under this scheme of the Ministry of Rural Development. The tendering process for the

Setu Bandhan scheme was completed in March 2023 but the work has not started till date. Several schemes have been launched but farmers and the farming sector have not benefitted. The amount of funds under the MPLAD scheme must be increased and along with this, a separate financing pattern must be devised by the Ministry of Rural Development for the Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana catering for the long term. The installment amount under the said pattern must be paid by the Government so that villages and farmers can be strengthened.

SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV: On behalf of my party, I strongly oppose the Supplementary Demands for Grants presented by the Hon'ble Minister of Finance. The Government had promised to provide two crore jobs every year, but today, India has the highest unemployment rate. Despite the legal promise to give our farmers one and a half times the support price of their crops as per the recommendations of the Swaminathan Committee, the Central Government has not implemented that law to date. Farmers are being put behind bars and are being fired upon. Such atrocities on farmers used to be committed either during the rule of the British or are being committed today under the rule of the Bharatiya Janata Party. The MSP has not yet been released by the Government. Farmers' loans have not been waived to date. We want the Government to give pensions to both our farmers and labourers. I would like to urge the Government to make education from primary, and nursery to post-graduation and research free of cost for our youth. Our youths must not get lathi-charged, but they should get appointment letters from the Government. I would like to request on behalf of all MPs that the ceiling of 35 for the treatment of the poor should be removed to make it completely accessible. I further request the Government to provide employment to the MNREGA workers and withdraw the Agniveer scheme. Similarly, the honorarium of all contractual workers, ranging from employment service, Anganwadis, ASHA workers, Panchayat Assistants, Shiksha Mitras, instructors and cooks must be increased and they should be made permanent employees.

SHRI VISHALDADA PRAKASHBAPU PATIL: There is a lesser subsidy for fertilizers. Farmers are facing losses due to an increase in the GST rate on fertilizers and a 40 percent increase in their prices. Farmers are angry today because they are not getting as much benefit as they should have got. Therefore, farmers are protesting at the Delhi border. Rs 213 crore is not enough for Agricultural Research.

More funds need to be given to the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund. No provision has been made for constructing a new airport in Sangli. GDP has come down to 5.4 percent in the second quarter. When Modi ji was not the Prime Minister, despite having a seven percent GDP, he had said that the rupee should not weaken rapidly, the growth rate should not fall and inflation should not increase. Today all these three things are happening, but the Government is not ready to pay attention. It is because the Government does not have a focus on the manufacturing sector. We have to increase the economic growth rate to at least eight percent if we have to come out of this.

SHRI C. N. ANNADURAI: I strongly believe that Tamil Nadu will get all pending compensation shares out of the GST compensation fund. The farmers of Tamil Nadu, being severely affected by Cyclone Fengal and landslide urgently need rehabilitation and compensation. However, the Ministry of Home Affairs has approved the release of Rs. 944.80 crore, which is squarely inadequate. I, therefore, strongly demand that the Union Government to make a provision for an adequate amount of compensation, relief and restoration in the interest of the people of Tamil Nadu. I hope that the Supplementary Demands for Grants of Rs. 7,692 crore under PM-Kisan and related programmes will be adequately devolved amongst various States including Tamil Nadu for the benefit of farmers. I strongly believe that the Tiruvannamalai parliamentary constituency will benefit immensely benefited by the optimum utilization of funds earmarked as the Universal Services Obligation Fund by the Department of Communication.

SHRI DURAI VAIKO: The recent announcements made by the LIC management have caused serious setbacks to the 14 lakh LIC agents and their 70 lakh family members. I would request that there should be no reduction in the first-year's commission and that the overall commission is also increased as per the request of the 14 lakh LIC agents. The move to reduce the entry age to all popular insurance policies from 55 to 50 years would prevent lakhs of people from getting themselves insured, I would recommend the entry to be increased to 60 years. Despite the good financial performance of LIC, the bonus and sum assured on policies have been reduced and the premiums have also been increased. I would urge the Finance Minister that LIC decreases the premiums and increases the bonuses and sum assured. The minimum sum assured is to be retained at Rs. 1 lakh

instead of Rs. 2 lakh. I request the Union Government to approve the Trichy Metro Rail Project and sanction the necessary funds for its speedy implementation.

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: During the tenure of Shri Manmohan Singh, a new committee i.e. National Advisory Council was formed. The lands of the people of Andaman and Nicobar Islands were converted into buffer zones. Jarawa Reserve was set up on the eastern coast. The people of the eastern coast of Andaman are revolutionary for whom a settlement was established. When the Tsunami hit the island and the farms were submerged, the Government provided only Rs. 9 lakhs and occupied hectares of land. The Tsunami scam took place during the tenure of the Shri Manmohan Singh Government. People came to Viper Island of Andaman in the year 1864. Revolutionaries came to Viper Island from India and other places and there was the first open jail, Viper Chain Gang Jail, where Hamirpuria was sent. In that jail, our patriotic people were made to work with chains tied around their waist and feet. That island was sold in the name of a casino. Arnab Goswami saved my island. I would like to request to conduct a CBI enquiry regarding all this. Potato, onion, garlic, vegetables, cauliflower, cabbage and date jaggery come from Bengal to Andaman and Nicobar, which was stopped because an MP from BJP was elected in Andaman. In the last five years, Rs.16 lakh was provided to Andaman Zila Parishad. Is this adequate enough for the construction of roads? Rs. 4 lakh were provided to the committee and Rs. 50 lakh to the Gram Panchayat. Is this fund adequate for the construction of roads? In the year 2018, Prime Minister Modi Ji provided Rs.344 crore for the construction of 279 kilometers of road in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.s

PROF. VARSHA EKNATH GAIKWAD: Today Supplementary Demands for Grants of Rs. 87762 crores have been brought. The original budget was Rs. 48 lakh crores and the supplementary demand is 1.8 percent of it. I want to say that this demand has 203 pages and after reading them it seems that all this is hollow. I want to say that Indira ji had also shown her strength by conducting surgical strikes and dividing Pakistan into two parts and creating Bangladesh. The Government must take responsibility for the situation prevailing in Bangladesh. For the sake of peace in Tamil Nadu and Sri Lanka, the late Rajiv Gandhi ji had sent the troops there. Manipur has been burning for the last one year, but the Hon. Prime Minister of this country does not have time to visit Manipur. Today the poor man is

struggling and means of profits are being created for the rich friends, and contracts are being created for them. While talking about number 42 of the Supplementary Demands for Grants here. I would like to start with the issue of “Transfer to States”. Last week, a few women visited a Government hospital in Hingoli for family planning surgery. Due to a lack of adequate beds, 43 women had to sleep on the floor in the cold. Is this the “Laadli Behan” scheme of our state? According to the report of the year 2021, as much as 72 percent of the hospital beds are in urban areas and the condition of rural areas is very poor. Only 40 percent of the budget of the National Health Mission is allocated by the Ministry of Health. The health budget of our state is 4.6 percent of the total expenditure while our state currently has a “double engine Government”. I would like to talk about the “Udan” scheme that in the seven new airports that have been given, plane landing and parking charges have been increased by 350 percent. Whatever they charge, they charge from the airline company and the companies in return charge the customer for the same.

SHRI RAVINDRA DATTARAM WAIKAR: The Supplementary Demand for Grant is an important document to reflect the financial priorities of the country. Under this, funds have been demanded through 83 grants and three appropriations. Under this, Provisions for funds have been made for the Prime Minister Kisan Samman Nidhi and Scheduled Caste and Tribe Sub-Plan. Along with this, provisions of funds have been made under the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund and for Chaudhary Charan Singh National Agricultural Marketing Institute. As also, provisions for funds have also been made for civil aviation, Regional Connectivity Schemes, urban development and transportation, metro projects, National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRRTC), Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Financial Services and Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT). Today, under the leadership of Narendra Modi, the economy of the country has been growing at the fastest pace in the world. Ten-twelve years ago, there were very few startups in India. Now investment in startups has increased 15 times. Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U), more than 1.18 crore houses have been sanctioned, of which more than 87.25 lakh have been constructed and delivered. This is a momentous occasion for realising the developmental vision of the Government with the promise of ‘Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas’.

ADV. CHANDRA SHEKHAR: When will the Government start the stalled Population Census along with the Caste census to allocate the budget for inclusive growth in proportion to the population of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes? I request to increase the MGNREGA fund to ensure employment of at least 6 months or 180 days to Active Card Holder workers to instill in them a sense of pride in earning their bread and promote the right to live with dignity. There is a need for more Anganwadi workers and a budget. May I know how the Government is going to increase the expenditure on Health and whether it is proposed to bring it to an acceptable level of 6% of GDP? Kindly provide the state-wise details of Kisan Samman Nidhi given to labourers and marginal farmers. Honourable Minister of Agriculture is requested to provide State-wise details of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe land holding vis-à-vis General Castes. There are rapes and murders of SC/ST women, I demand from the Prime Minister that the security of these classes be ensured.

SHRI DARSHAN SINGH CHOUDHARY: I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants. Four-laning of roads is required in our area. It is necessary from the development point of view and also from the strategic point of view. If the four-laning road from Harda-Timarni to Narmadapuram, from Narmada Puram to Pipariya to Kareli is completed, then the development of our area will get momentum. Sugarcane is cultivated in our area, I request to work on giving subsidies on it. Work should be done to provide benefits to the farmers by forming a collective Mill. Basmati paddy is grown in abundance in our area, GI tag is being demanded. I request that proper MSP should be declared on this. I request the Honorable Finance Minister that Gau Mata's products should be promoted. Work should be done to revive the products of Gau Mata through cooperative banks.

DR. M. K. VISHNU PRASAD: As far as supplementary demands for grants are concerned and I would like to say that in the recent floods in Tamil Nadu, there was record rain. Our Prime Minister always boasts and says, "India has sent so many satellites. India is a very technically advanced country" But unfortunately, we are ashamed to say that we cannot predict whether because of global warming and extreme climate conditions. In future, it's going to be a regular thing. We do not know how we are going to manage. As far as loan for agriculture, education, middle and small sectors, and small vendors is concerned, the government is very very

biased. Our students can clear the NEET exam. After the NEET exam, they are going for a loan. But unfortunately, they are not able to get the loan. This government talks about the Vishwakarma scheme. Do whatever your forefathers have been doing. Does this government not want a carpenter's son to become a scientist? Does this government not want a tailor's son or daughter to become a judge? This is why this government is only paper Sarkar. The Government has no concern about the future of India and future generations. This is a very clear display of Manu Dharma and Sanatana. Shri Rahul Gandhi and our CM Stalin Ji will never allow BJP to enter the state of Tamil Nadu. This is for sure. This government has now a new dimension for tax, terrorism tax. There is an 18% tax on almost everything. There is no 5% tax. Almost 90% of the products have got 18% tax. Whereas civil aviation has got only 5%. Anybody who wants to travel by air pays a 5% tax. But when a poor farmer or a poor weaver goes on a moped, he has to pay almost more than a hundred percent tax. Excise Duty was 3% on petroleum products in 2015. Now it is almost ₹40 per litre. Bangladesh takes our petrol. We are the second largest exporter of refined petroleum. Regarding Toll Plaza, it is a daylight robbery. In Tamil Nadu, a large number of tolls are there, especially from Cuddalore to Chidambaram as a new toll has been announced. Our bus owners associations are pleading, but this government is deaf and mute. Regarding the Caste-based census, this government should conduct a Caste-based census immediately. There is no mention about it in the supplementary. .Regarding NLC, there is a public sector undertaking in Cuddalore called NLC, which is a Navratna. They have promised to open a Ghatampur thermal station by 2020. Till now they have not opened it. They have not given COD and almost ₹6000 crore escalation has taken place. They want a double track in Cuddalore. We want a Vande Bharat train that should go from Chennai to Rameswaram via Banruty, Cuddalore and Chidambaram

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Speaker Sir said that this is the first batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants 2024-2025. The gross additional expenditure is approximately Rs. 87 thousand 763 crore. The Finance Minister asked for Rs. 3500 crore in the Prime Minister Kisan Samman Nidhi. The government made a provision of Rs. 9691 crore for agriculture and farmer welfare. The Prime Minister made arrangements for the Prime Minister Kisan Samman Nidhi that Rs. 6000 will be given in three instalments of Rs. 2000 each in a year. As far as Prime Minister

Samman Nidhi is required for the basic needs of farmers like fertilizers, irrigation, pesticides, and insecticides, the government is giving three instalments of Rs. 2000 each. A provision of Rs. 6000 crore has also been made for the Agricultural Infrastructure Development Fund. In this supplementary in defence, Rs. 8044 crore has been sought for the contribution of ex-servicemen. A provision of Rs. 1500 crore has been made for the contributory health scheme of ex-servicemen. For the first time, the government has made a provision that if any accident occurs anywhere on the entire highway, no matter who the person is, whether he has money or not, whether he is accompanied by anyone or not, the government will take action to provide cashless treatment in hospital. Foreign investment in India was 34.58 billion dollars in the year 2014 and today it has increased to 667.4 billion dollars in the year 2024. The gross domestic growth rate is 8.20 percent. The inflation rate has come down from 10.02 percent to 3.65 percent. Defence exports worth Rs.21 thousand 83 crore have been made. Cabinet Approves Seven Major Schemes for Improving Farmers Lives and Livelihoods with a total outlay of Rs. 14,235 crore. There is a provision of Rs. 3979 crore for Crop Science for Food and Nutrition which will work for food security till the year 2047. The government has also made a provision of Rs. 1202 crore for the Agricultural Science Centre. Today, under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, work has been done to build 765601 kilometers of roads and connect villages. With Rs. 324186 crore, work has been done to transform the lives of villages, farms and farmers of the country.

DR. AMAR SINGH: I have only one suggestion for the government that while preparing the budget, the need for supplementary demand should be avoided. Apart from this, I have some questions for the government. I want to ask the Hon'ble Minister of Finance that in the last quarter from July to September, the GDP was 5.4 percent, why has it come down from 8.6 percent last year? Secondly, the information furnished by the Minister of Finance does not contain data on the unorganized sector. When will our per capita income go above 4,500 US dollars so that we can come in the upper middle-income category? Why has household savings remained at 5.1 percent? Why has the gross financial capital formation decreased? Why did you keep the education budget at 1.5 percent in the year 2024-25? Punjab has many issues. Its economy is weak. If you allocate 15 to 20 thousand crore rupees to Punjab for diversification for five to seven years, then diversification will happen. The Government should bring MSP under the ambit of law. Fatehgarh

Sahib should be included in the International Tourist Circuit.

DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY: While supporting the Supplementary Demands for Grants by the Finance Minister, I would like to say that the prices of neem-coated urea, phosphate, nitrate, and zinc for farmers were not allowed to increase. Apart from that, the Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana was started. One thousand crore rupees were given to the Himalayan states of Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand, and Himachal Pradesh in this budget to increase the facilities there. Police were modernized, and cyber security was strengthened. The Hon. Prime Minister's goal is that after the year 2025, not a single district should be affected by Naxalism. The government has made a provision of approximately Rs 4000 crores in this budget to eliminate Naxalism. Money has also been given in this budget for Niti Aayog so that all projects can be completed on time. A large part of the allocation from this budget has been given as a loan to Mauritius, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Nepal, and Latin American countries with which we would do business. After China's exit, post-Corona and after the change of regime in Bangladesh, the whole world wants to come to India for manufacturing. For the development of India, the Government will have to improve its relations with those countries. In this budget, the Government has built ports on the Ganga and Brahmaputra rivers. If we have to go to Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, then India will have to be connected to Manila by road. In this budget, the Hon. Finance Minister has talked about building a road from Raxaul to Haldia and Buxar to Bhagalpur so that we could provide a port to Nepal and restore our ties.

SHRI HANUMAN BENIWAL: Today, various Ministries have demanded additional funds under the Supplementary Demands for grants presented for the year 2024-25, whereas 15 Ministries of the Union Government have not even spent 15 per cent of the allocation made to them during the year 2023-24. Farmers are struggling for DAP urea in many states including Rajasthan. Farmers' produce is not being purchased at the support price. Even today, procurement is not being done at many places in Rajasthan. The procurement centre is closed. Rajasthan should get the status of a special state as we meet all the criteria. I demand that MSP should be brought under the ambit of law.

UTPAL KUMAR SINGH
Secretary General

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