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

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Tuesday, March 11, 2025 / Phalguna 20, 1946 (Saka)

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THE IMMIGRATION AND FOREIGNERS BILL, 2025

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI) *moved that leave be granted to introduce a* Bill to confer upon the Union Government certain powers to provide for requirement of passports or other travel documents in respect of persons entering into and exiting from India and for regulating matters related to foreigners including requirement of visa and registration and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

SHRI MANISH TEWARI *opposing the motion for introduction of the Bill, said*: This Bill is in violation of certain Fundamental Rights on multiple counts. Clause 3(1) through its first proviso grants omnibus powers to the Union Government to restrict the entry of any foreigner into India. It vests absolute discretion in the Government to prohibit the entry of any foreign national, including Persons of Indian origin. The second proviso to Clause 3(1) fails to provide an appeal mechanism against a decision of the Immigration Officer, which violates the fundamental canons of natural justice in jurisprudence. These provisions have the potential to be misused by any Government of the day. Clause 14 empowers the Union Government to order the closure of any premises either entirely or for specified periods merely on the grounds that it is frequented by a foreigner. This is a violation of Article 19(1)(g) of the Constitution. Either this Bill should be withdrawn or this should be referred to the Joint Parliamentary Committee for very careful consideration because it violates multiple articles of the Fundamental Rights under the Constitution of India.

PROF. SOUGATA RAY: I beg to oppose the Immigration and Foreigners Bill, 2025. There are already four Acts regarding entry and exit of foreigners in the country. They have served their purpose so far and a new law in their place appears

superfluous. I object to the new laws, especially with regard to the obligation of universities, as well as hospital, nursing home or any other medical institute admitting any foreigner. This will restrict inflow of talent into the country in the fields of academic and medical science. I would also like to mention that the intention of the Bill is to abolish certain laws. It proposes stringent fines on illegal entry, overstaying, document fraud, etc. While the Government speaks on decriminalising the law in general, the proposed legislation will be more stringent in case of foreigners. Bureaucratic interference will make it very difficult for any foreigners to stay in India.

SHRI NITYANAND RAI *replying said***:** We will have a detailed discussion on this Bill later. It is the sovereign function of the Government to allow the entry or departure of any foreigner into the country. This provision is also necessary from the security point of view. In every country, Immigration Officers carry out this work. The Government is committed to bringing maximum tourism to India and it is also providing related facilities. We want more and more people to come here, but they must comply with India's immigration laws. The provisions under Clause 14 are not new provisions and are necessary for the immigration of foreigners. This will rather facilitate foreign tourists. Even at present, it is mandatory for every hospital and medical institution to provide information about foreigners. This provision governs the stay and departure of foreigners in the country. The Immigration and Foreigners Bill, 2025 proposes a comprehensive legislation to deal with matters related to immigration and foreigners by repealing the existing four acts, namely, the Passports Act, 1920, the Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939, the Foreigners Act, 1946 and the Immigration Act, 2004. Out of these four Acts, three Acts belong to the pre-Constitution period. There is some overlapping in the four Acts, and that is why this Bill has been brought. The Bill adopts those provisions of the above four existing Acts, which are still considered necessary. The Bill also provides for a specific new provision for compounding of offences. The provisions of the Bill are expected to ensure better compliance of immigration laws.

The Bill was introduced.

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*MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(1) **CAPTAIN BRIJESH CHOWTA** laid a statement regarding the need for a long-term plan for conservation of Olive Ridley Turtles along the coast of Karnataka.

(2) **SHRI GOPAL JEE THAKUR** laid a statement regarding non-availability of NCERT Textbooks in Darbhanga district, Bihar.

(3) **SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH** laid a statement regarding the need for railway connectivity between Sheopur and Kota via Baran, Rajasthan.

(4) **SHRIMATI MANJU SHARMA** laid a statement regarding the need to undertake beautification of the Dravyavati River passing through Jaipur city in Rajasthan under Amrut Yojana and also declare the river area as a Tourist site.

(5) **SHRI ARUN GOVIL** laid a statement regarding the need to establish a National Museum in Hastinapur, Uttar Pradesh and include Hastinapur in the Krishna Circuit.

(6) **SHRI GYANESHWAR PATIL** laid a statement regarding the need to establish a Sports Academy in Khandwa Parliamentary Constituency, Madhya Pradesh.

(7) **SHRI LUMBA RAM** laid a statement regarding the need to expedite construction of Salgaon Dam Project.

(8) **SHRIMATI DAGGUBATI PURANDESWARI** laid a statement regarding the need to establish a Regional office of Coconut Development Board in East Godavari, Andhra Pradesh.

(9) **SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO** laid a statement regarding the need to run New Delhi - Bhubaneswar Rajdhani Express (train no. 22824) on every Friday and Bhubaneswar - New Delhi Rajdhani Express on every Sunday.

(10) **SHRI SUKANTA KUMAR PANIGRAHI** laid a statement regarding the need for all weather road connectivity in rural areas of Kandhamal district, Odisha.

(11) **SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL** laid a statement regarding the need to start pisciculture and aquaculture in chauras (wetlands) in

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* Laid on the Table as directed by the Chair.

Maharajganj Parliamentary Constituency.

(12) **SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL** laid a statement regarding the need to establish Kapilvastu Corridor.

(13) **SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL** laid a statement regarding the need for a comprehensive strategy to combat Obesity and Diabetes.

(14) **SHRI VIJAYAKUMAR *ALIAS* VIJAY VASANTH** laid a statement regarding the need for allocation of funds for overall development of Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu.

(15) **SHRI GAURAV GOGOI:** laid a statement regarding delay in passage of the Constitution (125th Amendment) Bill, 2019.

(16) **PROF. VARSHA EKNATH GAIKWAD:** laid a statement regarding the need to issue NOC from Ministry of Defence to facilitate redevelopment works in Vandre East-Assembly segment in Maharashtra.

(17) **SHRI B. MANICKAM TAGORE:** laid a statement regarding the need for construction of Road Over Bridge at Level crossing No. 367 and other railway infrastructure in Virudhunagar Parliamentary Constituency, Tamil Nadu.

(18) **SHRI MOHIBBULLAH:** laid a statement regarding the need to establish All India Judicial Services on the lines of other All India Services.

(19) **SHRI SANATAN PANDEY:** laid a statement regarding the need to confer Bharat Ratna upon Shaheed Mangal Pandey and take other measures in honour of the great revolutionary.

(20) **SHRIMATI PRATIMA MONDAL:** laid a statement regarding the need for financial assistance for construction and maintenance of embankments along Sundarban delta in West Bengal.

(21) **SHRI D. M. KATHIR ANAND:** laid a statement regarding the need to provide stoppage of important trains at Gudiyattam Town Railway Station in Vellore Parliamentary Constituency, Tamil Nadu.

(22) **SHRI LAVU SRIKRISHNA DEVARAYALU:** laid a statement regarding the need to take comprehensive measures to address issues concerning Human Trafficking in Andhra Pradesh and other parts of the country.

(23) **SHRI SANDIPANRAO ASARAM BHUMARE:** laid a statement

regarding the need for doubling and electrification of railway lines in Sambhaji Nagar Parliamentary Constituency, Maharashtra.

(24) SHRI RAJESH VERMA: laid a statement regarding the need to ensure easy availability of medicines for treatment of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy at affordable prices in the country.

(25) SHRI P. V. MIDHUN REDDY: laid a statement regarding the need to reinstate English medium education system and CBSE curriculum in Andhra Pradesh Government Schools.

(26) SHRI E. T. MOHAMMED BASHEER: laid a statement regarding the need to ensure Nehru Yuva Kendra as a platform for youth empowerment and social harmony.

(27) SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: laid a statement regarding the need to develop the portion of NH-183 from Kollam High School Junction to Kodavoor and extension of NH-183A from Bharanikavu Titanium Junction on NH-66 in Kerala.

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SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS 2024-25

SECOND BATCH 2024-2025

AND

DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS 2021-22

AND

THE MANIPUR BUDGET 2025-26- GENERAL DISCUSSION

AND

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS ON ACCOUNT (MANIPUR) 2025-26

AND

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (MANIPUR) 2024-25

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI *initiating said*: The second batch of Demands for Supplementary Grants has about 52 grants and three appropriations. The gross additional expenditure is about Rs 26,78,508 crore, out of which the largest allocation is on defence pensions, communications and subsidies on schemes related to agriculture and fertilizers. The Minister of Finance has tabled a Budget for Manipur envisaging an expenditure of Rs. 35,103 crore where the outlay for

social sector is about Rs 9,520 crores. It is a matter of great regret that the whole Cabinet of the Government is more dependent on speeches. Around 21 months ago, Hon. Prime Minister had said that peace was likely to be restored in Manipur very soon. But the situation is still very serious there. We want the Union Minister of Home Affairs to explain about the status of the Manipur Assembly today. Peace cannot be restored in the North-East at gunpoint. If the Government really wants peace there, it must have the patience to listen to the people of Manipur. There has been a violation of Article 174 (1) of the Constitution. The Government has been trying to restore peace at gunpoint for the last two-and-a-half years. But it has failed in its attempt. Please talk to the people of Manipur. Only political efforts can restore peace in Manipur. We respect all Prime Ministers, be it the former one or the existing one. In the deliberations between India and the US on tariffs, India has agreed that tariffs will be reduced. This tariff is associated with the automobile sector, textiles, gems and jewellery, steel parts and farmers. We have to talk about farmers and people working in the automobile and textile sectors. This Government came up with the Sovereign Gold Bonds scheme in 2015. Why does the Government want to discontinue this scheme now? Which one of the objectives of the Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme has been achieved? The Government's liabilities have increased by 930 per cent, and the Government has to pay around one lakh crore rupees. GST has become a new tool for blackmail, extortion and evasion. In 2023, evasion of GST has doubled to Rs.2 lakh crore. There is a provision in the Income Tax Bill that today an Income Tax Officer can see everything on your mobile phone and computer. They are using income-tax as a tool to harass people, shopkeepers, small traders, and small businesses. In 2010, manufacturing accounted for 17 per cent of the GDP, which today has dropped to 12.9 per cent. Even after the well management of Ease of Doing Business, today the manufacturing sector is on the decline. Investment in the private sector has declined. Investment should be made in such private sectors that have potential to generate employment, and these sectors are: apparel, leather, textiles, food products and wood paper. As against this proposition, big companies are given various kinds of succour through PLI schemes. Today, migration is taking place in every field. Our youth are not willing to be part of the Agniveer Yojana, rather they are going to Russia and Ukraine to participate in the war so that they can extend financial support to their households. Today, private investors, high-net-worth individuals, as well as laborers, are migrating. Why is private investment decreasing and why is the employment scenario not improving? Today, the informal sector is also growing. In this way, 85

percent of labor is in the informal sector. There is no room for manufacturing in the informal sector either. Moreover, Make in India has not added fillip to the manufacturing sector, nor has it boosted manufacturing in the informal sector, nor has it focused on providing employment through Make in India. Government employees have demanded that they do not need the Unified Pension Scheme, but rather the old pension scheme should be reinstated. Today, we are placing their demand in the House. The capital investment required in defence is only 25 percent. The total defence budget today is approximately 79 billion dollars. In this way, our country's defence budget is just four percent of the total budget.

SHRI BIPLAB KUMAR DEB: The Budget for the year 2025-26 reflects the country's growth rate. A budget of approximately ₹50 lakh crore has been presented, marking an increase of 7.4 percent over the previous budget. The nominal GDP growth, factoring along with the inflation, is estimated at 10.1 percent. This budget demonstrates the country's strengthening economic framework and shows progress toward a robust economic policy. One of the key highlights is that, alongside economic development and a strengthened economic system, the budget includes a provision to reduce liabilities by 50 percent by the year 2031. From 2004 to 2014, the budget allocated to Manipur was significantly less, but from 2014 to 2025, Hon'ble Prime Minister has increased it 143-fold. The imposition of President's Rule in Manipur was done in accordance with the Constitution. The rule mandates that a session must be convened within six months, and since the session could not be held, President's Rule was implemented. This is a constitutional provision that must be carried out. Peace and development have since been established in the Northeast. Today, the entire Northeast is recognized worldwide. The budget allocates ₹20,000 crore for the Nuclear Energy Mission. Thirty-six life-saving drugs have been exempted from customs duties. Individuals aged 70 and above, regardless of their caste or income, will be provided with an insurance plan worth ₹5 lakh. There is no need to set aside funds for sons' education, as scholarships are provided for them. The people of India have been given the world's largest health insurance scheme worth ₹5 lakh for medical treatment. MBBS and MD studies are now being conducted in regional languages across the country. Next year, 10,000 MBBS seats will be added, and over the next five years, 75,000 seats will be increased. 33 percent reservation has been introduced for women. A provision has been made to provide loans of up to ₹2 crore in easy installments to 5 lakh women entrepreneurs. Simplified loan arrangements

have been made for Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in large volumes. In this budget, provisions have been made for three urea plants to benefit the poor farmers in the country. The 'Kisan Samman Nidhi' scheme, the largest program for farmers, provides ₹6,000 in three installments (₹2,000 each) to farmers. Kisan Credit Card (KCC) loans have been increased up to ₹5 lakh. Development in the Northeast, including Manipur, Tripura, and Assam, has been carried out equally in all regions. A provision of ₹2,000 crore has been made for Artificial Intelligence, with an allocation of ₹6,000 crore for its research. Under this budget, broadband facilities will be provided to schools across the country. Broadband will be made available for those studying in classes 9, 10, 11, and 12 in the schools located in villages. India ranks third in the world for digital transactions, which benefits the Indian government and the 140 crore citizens by 12 percent of the GDP. The leaders of Congress and the Communist Party will make their sons and daughters doctors and engineers, but they have been exploiting the common people of India by making them laborers for a long time. This has come to an end under the leadership of the Honorable Prime Minister. Today there are about 1,59,000 startups in India. The Prime Minister's economic policy has worked to increase self-employment, thanks to which a large number of startups have come into existence. A large number of youth work in them, out of which more than 16.6 lakh people have also got employment. After the NDA Government came to power, the 32 percent share of the States has been increased to 42 percent. This was given to all the States, which include Bengal, Tripura, Andhra Pradesh, etc. Along with this, the States have been given additional borrowing power of Rs 1.6 lakh crore. This budget will benefit the entire country and a bright future will be ensured for the youth. Also, under the leadership of the Honorable Prime Minister, in the year 2047, India will place itself before the whole world as a developed India.

SHRI NEERAJ MAURYA: A lot of demands have come through supplementary demands. Many departments have been included in it. Today, in the field of agriculture, especially in Uttar Pradesh, small farmers are very unhappy and in trouble.. They are only looking forward to getting their income doubled. Farmers are not getting fair prices for their crops. They are not getting fertilizers. Nothing has happened about building cowsheds. I demand from the Government that the old pension should be restored. The condition of Government schools is such that they do not have resources, and children from villages, poor, backward, Dalit, and minority are enrolling themselves to study there. If we want to build a developed

India, then the One Country, One Education policy should be implemented. Money has also been demanded for the police department in the budget. But the police seem ineffective today, especially in my State. Unless there is work on the ground, just demanding a budget will get us nowhere. This Government should tell the House when it will implement the Shakti Vandan Act? Today, Manipur, plagued by violence, is waiting for a solution. The honourable Finance Minister has to present the budget of Manipur here, it would have been better if this budget had been passed in the concerned State assembly. The way Manipur is burning, neither the Union Government nor the state Government for that matter, has ever expressed any political will to find a solution to it. According to the latest report of the Home Ministry, about 77% of the violence that has taken place in the entire North-East India since the year 2023 has taken place in Manipur. The phase of violence is still continuing. People of the whole of India are still asking this question, when will the Prime Minister go to Manipur, but they are silent on this. Therefore, the Minister of Home, the Prime Minister should follow the Rajdharma and make some such arrangements that Manipur moves towards peace. It is necessary for all the parties to come to a consensus to restore peace there. The way the issue of forest and land, the problem of illegal immigrants, the network of drug trafficking and other legal aspects are on the rise due to the dispute there, it is clear that there is a deadlock on many fronts. There is a need to work on all these issues. The Government should call an all-party meeting and take everyone's cooperation and suggestions to restore peace in Manipur.

SHRI KIRTI AZAD: I had exposed the corruption of Rs 400 crore that took place in the field of sports. But the NDA Government, which claims to be honest, did nothing in this regard. The target of this Government was that in the year 2022, when we complete 75 years of our independence, everyone will have a roof over his head; everyone will have a tap in his household and there will be water in the tap. There will be gas, there will be electricity. But this target has been shifted to the year 2047. There is talk of creating a five trillion economy. It was also said that two crore jobs will be created every year. But repeatedly we hear that the Government is giving a five kg ration to 80 crore people. The Government is not even grateful to the taxpayers. The loan of Rs 14 lakh crore of the capitalists is waived off. They are taxed at 20 percent. We are taxed at 30 percent. If a farmer takes a tractor on loan, and if he does not pay one EMI, then the Bank officials come and take away his tractor from him, and the poor farmer is left helpless. If the

delivery boy is unable to pay the EMI of his motorcycle, his motorcycle is confiscated. His source of employment ends. Be it oil, soap, ghee, cheese, milk, flour, rice, you have imposed GST on all these. Everyone pays GST equally, be it a capitalist, a middle-class man or a poor man. If the indirect tax, i.e. GST, is reduced, then all 140 crore people can benefit. NDA has a majority in the GST Council. If they want, they can take decisions in favour of the States and the public. During the regime of Late Manmohan Singh, the price of crude oil was $ 112 per barrel and petrol was Rs 65 per litre. Today the price of crude oil is $ 80 per barrel, but petrol and diesel are hitting a century. West Bengal's GST dues have not been paid since 2022. Funds have not been released for the construction of affordable houses and even the funds for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has not been released. Whereas West Bengal leader Mamata Bandopadhyay has done good work with the State's fund for the welfare of the people in all areas including health. 'Swasthya Sathi' rolled out by Mamata Banerjee led Government has been adjudged to be the best. The essence is that the Government should not discriminate on the basis of party on issues of public welfare, rather the Government should have a single vision for all the countrymen. This is not being witnessed in the current Government.

SHRI ARUN NEHRU: I would like to start with something that is very fundamental to democracy which is 'cooperative federalism'. That is the foundation on which this democracy is being run. With cooperative federalism, revenue and burden have to be shared equally between the Centre and the States. But in the last 12 years, there has been so much power that has been centred or taken to the Union Government, that for every reason, you have to have the approval of the Union Government for the Urban Local Bodies and the local bodies to function. The divisible pool of resources is getting reduced; more towards the Centre and less towards the states. The Union Budget has given the benefit of approximately Rs. 72,000 as tax benefit to people who pay taxes of up to Rs. 12 lakh. But, I want to say in this regard that the average inflation rate for the last three years is six per cent – retail inflation, food inflation, and other business-related inflation. Now, if you take 12 per cent of Rs.12 lakh at six per cent, it is almost Rs.72,000. It nullifies all the benefits that the Union Government wanted to give to the citizenry. Now, corporate tax is approximately 22 per cent of the overall collection and individual tax is at 24 per cent. It is a big shift. The burden of running the country is shifting from the corporates to the individuals. The individuals bear more responsibility in the running of the country, which again is not going to strike a balance either. Now,

I would like to talk about the growth of direct taxes and indirect taxes. The growth of GST is going at approximately Rs.1.5 lakh to 1.8 lakh crore a year and income tax is at Rs.75,000 crore to Rs.1 lakh crore a year. If you go at the current rate, in the next three or four years, we are going to be at parity. Indirect taxes are going towards parity and are going to overtake direct taxes. So, I want the Government to notice that this growth rate is going to affect the future growth of this country. There are approximately 122 million people who file returns and pay taxes. If you remove the business houses and the people, there are approximately 1.2 billion people who are not spoken about or given fair representation, it needs to be across the budget. I also want to point out that these 1.2 billion people live below 100 rupees a day. I also want to appreciate hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to start a direct benefit scheme for women, which is called the Magalir Urumai Thittam that was followed by Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Delhi and the other northern States. This means the scheme that is developed and implemented in the South has gotten to the North and has been successful. The initiative of the southern governments to have social inclusion actually helps. There is a lot of talk and appreciation about UPI. UPI is a very good scheme. But out of Rs.23 lakh crores of transactions that happen every day in this country under UPI, Rs.20 lakh crores are being cornered by two American-owned companies. So, the data of this country is actually being let out freely in the name of UPI. Now, there is something called the Westphalian principle. It says that the best form of governance or the best way to reach resources from point A to point B is through decentralization. It is highly applicable in countries like Germany and Switzerland. According to it, in the institution called Panchayat Raj, they decide the resource allocation and the policy, industrial policy, local policy, expenditure, revenues, etc. There is an example of this. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Union Government decided that the States can decide local regulations on what and how it has to be done. The result of that is you had better tracking, better control, and better control on the mortality rates overall. I also want everyone to take notice of the debt to GDP ratio. Tamil Nadu's debt to GDP ratio is at 25.6 per cent. Today, Union Government’s ratio is at 57 per cent. A good amount of money is being spent on educating our future, sustaining our lead in education. Tamil Nadu's Graduate enrolment ratio is at 47 per cent, whereas our national average is about 27 percent. Today, women’s participation in labour is at 44 per cent in Tamil Nadu. The national average is at 18 per cent. An important thing is the two-language policy. When we got independence, UP, Rajasthan, and Tamil Nadu were at the same level. Today, we are better because of the two-language

policy. The Central Universities were established under the Constitution to improve scientific temper. We have incidences in certain universities in the South where very well-learned men are talking about how cow urine can actually be useful for human health. That is a wasteful expenditure of resources. There is a very good interaction about artificial intelligence and machine language that can help workers to be more productive, rather than the policy of this Government, which is actually giving AI to replace workers.

SHRI DHAIRYASHEEL SAMBHAJIRAO MANE: With regard to the Demands for Grants, I would like to bring to the notice that the Government has been working for the welfare of the people of the country at large. The agricultural reforms, empowerment of farmers and strong value chain have made this possible. Now, we have to reach a bigger target by making full use of the agricultural potential of the country. In this direction, the Government has announced the PM Dhan Dhanya Krishi Yojana. The area from which I hail is under massive sugarcane cultivation . If we have to increase the income from sugarcane, then it is necessary to formulate some policy for it through the government. I would like to suggest that if the use of ethanol is increased from the current 25 per cent to 50 per cent and if a standard rate of ethanol is maintained, then farmers are also likely to earn more from it. Secondly, we can also succeed in bringing the rising prices of petrol under control in a better way. Consumable sugar is used here for domestic use. According to the total population of India, only 30 percent of the sugar produced is given for domestic use. Seventy percent of sugar is given for commercial use. If these two mediums are taken at two different rates, then the farmers and the common people can get it at cheaper prices, and if there is a different rate for the corporate industry, then it is definitely going to be a big benefit for the sugarcane producing farmers. Thirdly, I would like to bring an important issue of pollution of the Painganga river to the notice of the Government. In my constituency, the Painganga river is being globally known as the River of Poison. We have had the problem of drinking a lot of impure water for years. For this, it is very important to constitute a special authority, through which it can be monitored, and definitely people can get pure water. Fourthly, the State Government is working to increase the height of the old Almaty dam. I request the Central Government to intervene in this matter, because of this, many flood-affected areas of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra have to suffer huge losses. Every year there is a flood situation in my constituency also. Certainly, the work of increasing its

height should stop. The announcement was made to give a pension in the name of EPS-95. But, even today, those poor pensioners are hoping to get justice from the government. On behalf of all of them, I request the Government to take cognizance of this issue. Kolhapur is known as Dakshin Kashi and is a major hub of tourism. It is also considered to be the stronghold of forts and the temple of Karveer Nivasini Mahalakshmi Ji is also there. While going to Tirupati, lakhs of devotees go via Kolhapur. Therefore, a tourism circuit needs to be created here, for which a special package is needed from the central government. IT is a good sector, which is growing in Maharashtra and a lot of children from Kolhapur work in the IT sector. If an IT park is built for them in Kolhapur, then it will definitely benefit the youth in the coming times and a good system will continue to run through it. There are good enterprises operating in the country, one of which is the Drypod venture, and Kolhapur is an intermediate destination for logistics in Sangli, Kolhapur, the surrounding areas, through which all these people will get the status of an economic corridor and a big treaty for import-export will be available from it.

SHRI ALFRED KANNGAM S. ARTHUR: I would like to point out that the State of Manipur has one Article which is enshrined in this Constitution. It is Article 371(C) which mentions the constitution and functions of a committee of the Legislative Assembly of the State consisting of members of that Assembly elected from the Hill Areas of that State. We have already bypassed our Constitution through this Budget. For the first time, I am seeing eight different forms of presentations. It is a very simple document. Why has it been made so complicated? The disproportionate assets should not be created between the hills and the valley. About 95 or 98 percent of the hills are occupied by the tribals in Manipur. When disproportionate assets are created, problems do occur. The marginalized and the poor people of our country, including those in my constituency, survive on NREGA as per the reports of the District Collectors in the DISHA meetings from all departments. In 2023-24, 50 per cent of the material component of NREGA has not been released, and also in 2024-25, nothing has been released. The Government is committed to paying. There is an injustice to the State. The Government is not even increasing the budget, Not to talk of clearing the dues. Two years' dues are not yet cleared. Manipur is the lowest per capita income generating State in the nation. The Government is not focusing on the core areas. For agriculture and horticulture, there is no increase in the Budget. The hills are redundant today. There is no income. Around 90 per cent of the State of Manipur is hills, lush green hills. We are an

agrarian society, which survives, and we have been adapting to change because our forefathers have taught us what it is to survive through agriculture. There is no scope for growth. Where do we sustain? Are we depending on NREGA? If it is NREGA, even there also, the funds are not released. The Central Government is not releasing the funds, and the State Government is not formalizing the actual plans that will be required for inclusive growth. I want to challenge the hon. Finance Minister, and so also the hon. Transport Minister. Come to my constituency, which is about 20,000 square kilometers. I will show him the sort of roads that his Ministry is making. When I had spoken to NHIDCL officials in the Disha Committee meeting, what did they say? They said that work orders are issued before land is acquired. How can the Government start issuing work orders before completion of the land acquisition process? The Government is talking about the JJM Scheme. I am sure the hon. Finance Minister will come and say that this has been done in JJM, PMGSY, and this has been done in PMJVK. The Government is going to take credit of so many things and I will refute each one. I will say very clearly today that every single thing that she is saying today is only on paper. What has happened to my State today? Who is responsible for that? I know you have imposed President's Rule. What has happened to the man who has been running the show for nearly two years? Is he behind bars? The least I expected was for an inquiry be initiated because the whole world knows he is on tape speaking about how he initiated this entire crime. Today, this Budget that I speak of is anti-people in Manipur. It is because the Government talks of the 60,000 who have been displaced today. All of their homes are ravaged, burnt, broken, and damaged. They are all displaced. There is no reflection in the Budget for those displaced. Today, the State is being governed by the Ministry of Home Affairs. The hill-valley section separation is mandatory. There is no separation of that. How would we know what is going to the hills and what is going to the valley? I would request the hon. Finance Minister to put this off, bring in the actual Budget and the Demands for Grants so that we can go into the discussion of what is going into the hills and into the valley, and understand a little bit of the pain and hardships that the State is going through. I wish, hope and pray that we, in this House together can solve this problem.

SHRI SHASHANK MANI: I rise to speak in support of the Supplementary Demands for Grants- Second Batch for the year 2024-25 presented yesterday by the hon. Finance Minister. India is presenting such a model of development which is memorable for the whole world. Today the conditions across the world are very

unfavorable. There is a tariff war going on, there is a deep concern about the environment also. Today there are wars taking place. But despite that, today when the average GDP growth of the world is 3.2 percent, we are growing by 6.5 percent. We have kept our deficit under control. I would like to thank the hon. Prime Minister for this excellent performance. The target of *Viksit Bharat* set by the Prime Minister for the next 23 years will make our GDP 10 percent of the world. You know that today the scenario of the entire warfare has changed due to non-kinetic warfare. I think more grants are needed for this. I would like to make a proposal that if a dedicated battalion is raised for Drone related operations in the future, then it should be named after Mangal Pandey and Rani Laxmibai because if these warriors of Purvanchal are connected to modern warfare today, then the whole country and Purvanchal will feel honoured. Now, coming to my constituency, we are trying for urbanization, in which the help of farmers, private industries of the local government is being taken. I want the Government to help us out on this count.

SHRI RAMPRIT MANDAL: I would request the Government to restore peace in Manipur as soon as possible and re-establish an elected government in the State under a democratic system. The people of the State also have the same desire. A Budget of Rs 35,104 crore has been earmarked for Manipur for the year 2025-26. This is a very good Budget for the state. Manipur is a very sensitive State. The main reason for unrest in the state is infiltration. The Government has deployed additional police personnel in the state to address the problem. Thus, budgetary provisions are very important for the development of the state and for maintaining lasting peace there. Everyone knows the problems being faced by the residents of Manipur for the last two years attributed to the ethnic violence. My request is that peace be established in Manipur. The residents of the state should get peace like before. The Government should ask both the communities to sit on one table and hold talks and appeal to the public to restore peace today. This is important because loss of faith has surfaced during the violence. It needs to be bridged. Further, there is a need to talk to representatives of all parties to maintain peace in the state. The Hon. Finance Minister has approved the demands for additional expenditure over and above the estimates of the same Budget in Defence, Communication, Agriculture, Finance and other departments for the financial year 2024-25. It is hoped that this step will prove capable of taking the country forward and making India a developed nation in the world on the path of progress. I come from the state of Bihar. My state is lagging behind in terms of development. It is hoped that the

Central Government will work towards providing additional funds to realize the dream of a developed Bihar of our Chief Minister. The demand for the status of a special state is also pending. The Hon. Prime Minister needs to pay attention to that also. The state of Bihar is affected by floods every year, I hope that the Hon. Prime Minister will talk to the Nepal Government and work towards finding a lasting solution to this problem as soon as possible.

SHRI KRISHNA PRASAD TENNETI: I would like to begin by thanking our hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Finance Minister for their visionary governance. I would also like to express my gratitude for the steps taken to revive the construction of the futuristic city of Amaravati in the State of Andhra Pradesh, reviving the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, the creation of the South Coast Railway Zone, as well as the revival and completion of the Polavaram Irrigation Project. My constituency Bapatla faces a multitude of challenges in development and welfare. To this end, I have constantly sought the inclusion of Bapatla under the Aspirational District Programme, and I am surprised to note that none of the blocks of the district are included in the 500 aspirational blocks of the country. I appeal to NITI Aayog and the hon. Minister of Planning, that my district and the blocks be added to the Aspirational Districts. At the outset, I thank the Government for its generous support in building Amaravati, the capital city. I urge the Central Government to earmark a part of allocation to the Visakhapatnam Metro Project and the Vijayawada Metro Project for the benefit of the people living there. Another important scheme that is closely linked to sustainable housing is the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. I applaud the Government's revolutionary initiative that aims at connecting one crore households with domestic solar rooftop facilities by 2027. In this regard, I would like to request the Government to launch a special drive to saturate the scheme in my constituency of Bapatla, which receives solar radiation of around 5.35 kilowatt-hour per square metre. The provision of selling surplus power back to DISCOMs everywhere in the country will create additional income for households. However, solar rooftop panels require strong structural integrity, which may not be available in *kuccha* houses. I would request the Government to ensure coordination between the Ministries concerned to give 100 per cent housing in the entire country so that this scheme can also be fruitfully implemented. The Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana and the National Skill Development Mission have been instrumental in transforming the skill landscape of the entire country. I would shift my focus to rural development

and the flagship scheme of MGNREGA. I would like to congratulate the Government on the successful operation of the scheme, which is also reflected in the 8.3 per cent increase in demand under the scheme in December 2024 as compared to 2023. I would also urge the Government to ensure that the increase in work demand is met with commensurate funds to ensure the fulfilment of the wage component of the scheme. Under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister, India has also established itself as a global powerhouse in healthcare production, supplying 20 percent of the world's generic medicines and 60 percent of the vaccines. I implore the Government to ensure adequate funding for health programmes which people have reposed their trust in, such as the National Health Mission. I am sure with the cooperation between the State Government and the Union Government, the dream of Viksit Bharat and Viksit Andhra is not too far away.

***SHRI SUBBARAYAN K:**

DR. AMAR SINGH: We all know what has been happening in Manipur for the past one and a half year. There has been extensive damage, devastation, houses have been charred, shops have been burnt, and unfortunately, many people have also lost their lives. Millions of people have been displaced so far. I would like to request the Union Government through you to provide 500 crore rupees because this state is in great distress. The government has the right to bring a supplementary budget. Why have all the departments been unable to do anything? Since 1947, there has been no such inequality in the country. The poor are getting poorer and the rich are getting richer. 1.6 percent of the population is paying more tax than all the corporates. This is the functioning of this government. Our country ranks at 141st in per capita income. On the international level, we rank 141 among 197 countries. What are you doing, where are you taking the country? I think there is the highest unemployment at this time. You tell us every day that growth is happening. This growth is only in the organized sector. You are not showing us the growth of the unorganized sector. The net household savings as a percentage of GDP have been at the lowest level for a very long time. Household consumption has not been this low in the last 50-60 years as it is now. This is the economic policy of the Government. Tax burden on the public is being increased. GST has devastated MSMEs. They are in distress. You have halved corporate tax in five

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* Please see supplement.

years and given a concession of ten lakh crores, how many jobs have been generated therefrom and how much new investment has arrived. The |Government has provided an income tax relief of twelve lakh rupees. This has benefited less than one crore people. As far as the condition of the states is concerned, they have been brought within the ambit of GST, but their share has decreased. The budget for all social sector departments has been reduced. Wages are not being increased nor is the cess being reduced on petrol and diesel. The Union Government is not willing to provide MSP to farmers. Another thing is that our underground water has been severely damaged. My demand is that the Union Government ought to grant us a special package for diversification. Also, increase wages under MGNREGA. Due to GST, all industries in Mandi Gobindgarh, Khanna, Doraha, Sahnewal of my parliamentary constituency are in trouble. Please resolve their issues. An airport was sanctioned in Halwara under the 'Udaan Scheme' in my parliamentary constituency in the year 2018. But it has not been operational so far. Please make it operational. In my parliamentary constituency, Shri Fatehgarh Sahib, is a holy place. Please provide a special package for the same.

SUSHRI SAYANI GHOSH: After 22 months of demanding, protesting, criticising and shouting, the Government is finally compelled to discuss Manipur. They are forced to debate on Manipur today because the President's Rule has been imposed in the State of Manipur. Ethnic violence has been ongoing in Manipur for over 600 days, resulting in the deaths of more than 240 brothers and sisters from Manipur. Over 1500 people have been injured. More than 5600 arms and 6.5 lakhs rounds of ammunition have been looted from police armouries. However, the government did not break its silence on Manipur. The Indigenous Tribal Leader's Forum and the Kuki Front organised a mass rally, alleging that the Central Agencies were cherry-picking in order to appease the majority community at the expense of the minorities. The people of Manipur are our own people because this state is a part of our country. Taking the ongoing ethnic violence there into consideration, the Government should have taken steps, but not even a single substantial step was taken by the Union Government to handle the Manipur crisis. It was the widespread reporting of the shameful incident of public humiliation of two tribal women which led to the judicial intervention of the Supreme Court demanding accountability from the State Government. Manipur has experienced higher inflation rates every month since violence broke out in the State. The budget for health care slashed by 23 per cent and 11.5 per cent, and the budget for education was slashed by 17 per cent and

5.6 per cent in the past two years. The price rise is bleeding every family dry. According to media reports, more than 80 people have died at a relief camp in Churachandpur, sometimes from trauma, sometimes from malnutrition, and sometimes from illness. The youth have no future and women and children are cramped in the relief camps there. The president rule was imposed not to restore peace in Manipur but to salvage the BJP's political reputation after months of inaction. This is the truth. It was said that the Government will talk to both the groups so as to bridge the ethnic divide at the earliest, and a Peace Committee under the Chairpersonship of the Governor of Manipur was constituted, but there has been no development since.

SHRI RAJU BISTA: Since 2014, the funds allocation to West Bengal by the Union Government through tax devolution, grant-in-aid etc has witnessed a significant increase. I am grateful to the Union Government for this, but I am also pained to say that the money that it allocates for 10 crore people of West Bengal, does not reach the common man. The budget given to West Bengal for various schemes and development projects is not reaching its rightful place, due to which the common people are deprived of their benefits. Poor tea garden workers are also not being taken care of. At present, a provision has been made to divert 30 per cent of the land of tea garden workers in West Bengal for non-tea purpose and tea tourism. I totally oppose it and the people of Darjeeling Terai Dooars oppose it. This is a direct attack on our indigenous tribal people. Not only this, it also violates Article 21 of the Indian Constitution. This is even in contravention of West Bengal's own Land Reform Act 1955. The real owners of this land are our workers. Under the Indian Constitution, the people of Darjeeling, Terai and Dooars should get justice. There have been a lot of irregularities in the implementation of the 'Jal Jeevan Mission' programme. I would like to request the Union Government to ensure that our people get their share of water. Under the disaster budget, the West Bengal government gets Rs 1200 crore annually, but till date our people have not got anything. For West Bengal, an amount of more than Rs 64 thousand crore rupees has been allocated for 4,660 km railway lines under 45 different projects of the Railways and 101 more Amrit stations are being built therein. Apart from this, a lot of work has been done in other areas of railways in Bengal.

DR. M. P. ABDUSSAMAD SAMADANI: This Government is failing utterly in all the spheres of development. The Government is not coming forward

with any concrete policy for the upliftment of minorities, weaker sections and backward sections of the society. Growth will be possible only in an atmosphere of social peace and peaceful co-existence. Whether it is in Manipur or any other State in the country, we need programmes for alleviating distress. Economic discrimination has to be fought with tools of social justice embedded in economic justice. In the age of Artificial Intelligence, we have to take into consideration the technological risks confronting us. Excessive dependence on digital networks will be highly dangerous. Most of our people will not be able to seize the opportunities offered by Artificial Intelligence, data science, robotics, and FinTech. I would like to emphasize the point that these tools, and these new measures will not be accessible to a large section of our society. Ten lakhs of ASHA workers across India are playing a crucial role in health care, community health awareness, immunization, and so on. Even this word 'volunteer' is a kind of injustice in the case of ASHA workers that allows the State to deny their minimum wages, gratuity, and other employment and retirement benefits. So, I seek a clarification from the Government on whether it will be willing to remunerate ASHA workers with a full-time salary. Bridging the digital divide is important, but more than that, the divide between ‘haves’ and ‘have-nots’ has to be addressed.

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UTPAL KUMAR SINGH
Secretary General

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

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

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Tuesday, March 11, 2025 / Phalguna 20, 1946 (Saka)

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SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS 2024-25
SECOND BATCH 2024-2025
AND
DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS 2021-22
AND
THE MANIPUR BUDGET 2025-26- GENERAL DISCUSSION
AND
DEMANDS FOR GRANTS ON ACCOUNT (MANIPUR) 2025-26
AND

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (MANIPUR) 2024-25

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***SHRI SUBBARAYAN K.:** Manipur has become an example for how the governance would fail if there is a Double Engine Government. The Prime Minister has the political responsibility to bring harmony among the two Groups of people of Manipur. I urge that Hon. The Prime Minister should directly intervene in this matter and bring peace and normalcy in Manipur. As regards the Supplementary Demands for Grants, those in power have forgotten the people of this country. There is nothing in the interest of the people of this country, and Everything there is in the interest of the corporates. I urge that the corporate tax should be levied at the rate of 70 percent. The Union Government should submit a White paper on the functioning of the two important sectors, such as MSMEs and farming. The Government should legislate a suitable law to abolish the contract system of labourers or workers in all the departments. I urge the Hon Finance Minister to announce the increase in MPLAD

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* Speeches made by other hon. Members have already been included in the Synopsis (Main).
** Original in Tamil.

Funds from Rs. 5 Crore to Rs. 18 Crore per year. The Union Government should implement the Old Pension Scheme for all. Lakhs of unemployed labourers come for employment to places like Tiruppur, Coimbatore and Erode in Tamil Nadu. As a result, the infrastructure of Tiruppur gets totally disturbed. I urge upon the Hon. Minister of Finance to announce a special package for Tiruppur which earns a lot of foreign exchange for our country.

***SHRI S. VENKATESAN:** I wish to emphasize that opposing the imposition of Hindi is equivalent to strengthening India. India is about treating all languages of our country with equality. NITI Aayog's report says that Tamil Nadu remains on top among the States of this country in eradication of poverty. Your Economic Survey says that Tamil Nadu remains on top among all other States as regards human resource development and in the textile exports of the country. From Higher Education to Public Health, Tamil Nadu remains in the forefront. Against a tax revenue of Rs. 1 paid by Tamil Nadu, the Union Government pays back only 29 paise to Tamil Nadu. What an injustice is this? When we ask our rightful share, you make false allegations against us. You are making an open attack on federalism on all fronts, including education, finance and governance. You make States bow before you by depriving them of finances. If they refuse to bow before you, then you address them as uncivilized. We are determined to uphold the federalism of our country against the denial of rightful dues to the southern States of our country. The Budget presented by you is taxing more on the MSMEs and providing tax relief to the corporates. This one-liner can explain how faulty your tax system is. Similarly, the Union Government has not released the instalment dues of MGNREGA for the last 3 months. Payments to the tune of Rs. 121 crore are delayed by the Union Government, which is due to the labourers of Madurai. Our Education Minister of the Union says that only when Tamil Nadu follows the New Educational Policy, Rs. 2500 crore that is due for educational projects in Tamil Nadu would be released. Those in power at the centre think that they can make us bow before them due to denial of funds. I wish to say they will fail in making us bow before them as Tamil society is filled with self-dignity and rational nature which will teach them a lesson for sure.

#DR. RANI SRIKUMAR: Since 3 May, 2023, the State of Manipur is on fire where the violent clashes between Meitei and Kuki Groups have turned into riots. More than 250 people were burnt alive and 60 thousand people have become refugees.

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* Original in Tamil.
**Original in Tamil.

More than 15 lakh students have lost their education. When you cannot protect your arms depot, how will you protect the common people of this country? Are you not interested in finding the solution to the problem faced by a small State of our country? Women and children were the most affected persons in these violent incidents of Manipur. Women are acquiring Degrees and legislating laws of the country. On the other have Kuki women were paraded naked and were subjected to gand rape. There is an increase in the number of sexual harassment incidents against women. Intrusion, drug-trafficking are some of the reasons cited to justify the attack of Kuki Groups in Manipur, and the Union Government has failed to take any action against them. Only 2.2 per cent is the increased allocation for education in Manipur State. Only 2.2 per cent is the increase in the allocation for the health sector of Manipur. They have reduced the funds meant for tourism by 79.4 per cent. There is a 17.7 per cent reduction of funds meant for the relief and disaster management department. The Labour and Employment department has seen a reduced allocation of 23.8 per cent. Reduction of funds stands at 29.8 per cent as regards the Department of Food and Consumer Affairs. For agriculture, the fund allocation is reduced by 5.1 percent. They have reduced the allocation to Samagra Shiksh Scheme by 1.5 percent. Scholarships for OBC students have seen a reduction of 22.9 percent. National Food Security Scheme has witnessed a reduction of 23.7 percent. For Jal Jeevan Mission, the fund allocation is reduced by 48.3 percent. For the city monitoring scheme of crimes against women under the Nirbhaya Fund, the allocation has seen a drastic reduction of 5.5 percent. Which is a matter of concern as well. The Union Government has reduced the allocation of the PM-AJAY Scheme by 36.2 percent. I want the Union Government to explain the measures taken by the Union Government as regards providing livelihood, education and protection to the people of the State of Manipur.

DR. ANGOMCHA BIMOL AKOIJAM: First of all, this Manipur Budget should have been discussed on the Floor of the State Assembly. This Budget speaks of the exclusions and the contemptuous nature in which the present Government has dealt with the State of Manipur. In Manipur, the fiscal liability is 37.07 per cent of the GSDP, which shows a terrible State of the economy. Out of 61 per cent of revenue expenditure, around 45 per cent goes to salaries and pensions. Capital expenditure is only 39 per cent. Non-tax revenue component is one per cent. We were expecting additional or diversification of the additional sources for the non-tax revenue of the State and measures to deal with this debt burden, but there is nothing of that kind. 60,000 people are rendered homeless. Villages are wiped out. Women and children

are suffering. Children are not able to go to school. We had this crisis for 21 months, but there is nothing of that kind. A State cannot deal with this crisis without the help of the Centre. We are asking for an additional source of money from the federal Government. Nothing has been provided for floods in my home State. Anti-India feeling emerged in Manipur unlike anywhere in this country because of the continuous follies of the State Government and the Government of this country. This Budget is not taking care of the IDPs, not taking care of the basic needs of that economy, not taking care of the floods, and it has become a ritual. I hope one day we will be able to say that we are all Indians and we feel the same feeling as everybody else.

DR. BHOLA SINGH: In the last ten years, our Government has worked in every field. Our Government has worked to provide more than 4 crore Pradhan Mantri Awas to the poor of the country. With the Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Card Scheme, the poor of the country can get good treatment in case of illness. More than 10 crore families have been provided gas connections by the Government through the Ujjwala scheme. Our Government has provided a good platform to the farmers by creating e-NAM Mandi in every district so that the farmers can sell their crop produce at better places. In my area and some other areas, there are some houses which have brick walls but their roofs are kutcha or they are made of tin sheds. I request the government to include such houses in the guidelines of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. There is a need to build a ring road for my constituency. There is a Chola station in my district on the line from Bulandshahr to Lucknow via Aligarh and arrangements should be made to stop trains by making a new stoppage at this station. My area is very close to Delhi and a lot of patients from my area come to AIIMS for treatment. Therefore, the decision to build a 200-bed centre in the day-care centre Bulandshahr, if taken in this session, then I request that it should be done in this session.

SHRI ABHAY KUMAR SINHA: A budget of Rs 35,104 crore has been presented for Manipur. Thousands of people were rendered homeless in the Manipur tragedy. Even today, 58,357 people are living in about 351 relief camps. 70 percent of the population in Manipur is dependent on agriculture. The paddy fields there have been burnt, markets have been destroyed. There is no concrete policy for their rehabilitation in this budget. No provision has been made for the homeless people and the children who have become malnourished. In the budget of Bihar, it was announced that 358 new degree colleges will be opened, but the universities that already exist do

not have faculty members. I come from Aurangabad district. There are about 100 to 150 primary schools in Aurangabad that have been shifted to other places. Our students are still forced to study far from home. Bihar should be given the status of a special state.

SHRI MADDILA GURUMOORTHY: The Polavaram Project plays a crucial role in irrigation, water security and regional development. It deeply concerns the State of Andhra Pradesh that the height of the dam is getting reduced from 45.72 meters to 41.15 meters. This will have a huge impact on the irrigation of about 7.5 lakh acres of land, the drinking water supply and hydroelectric power generation also. Therefore, the Central Government must uphold the original height of the dam and storage capacity to secure the project's long-term benefits. There is a huge gap between the allocation of funds under the Union Budget and the execution cost. The sanctioned budget of Rs. 5,936 crore, which is only 20 per cent of the cost, is insufficient to meet the project completion deadline. The Central Government must provide appropriate funding to prevent cost overruns and delays. The Central Government must immediately shift the Polavaram Project Authority CEO's office to Andhra Pradesh. It will enhance efficiency, accountability, and execution speed. The YSR Congress Government had undertaken a revolutionary initiative by securing approval for 17 new Government medical colleges. Even though sufficient infrastructure is there, the National Medical Commission withdrew permission for Dr. YSR Government Medical College at Pulivendula. We demand not to privatise these 17 medical colleges. Vizag Steel plant is also put into jeopardy. The Government of India committed to the development of a new major port at Dugarajapatnam in the Tirupati parliamentary segment and establishing an integrated steel plant in YSR Kadapa district. Despite this, the project's initiation has not yet commenced. As mentioned in the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, the Special Category Status for Andhra Pradesh was promised. However, in the 2025-26 Union Budget also, there is neither an allocation nor even a mention of Special Category Status for Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI RAJA RAM SINGH: I rise to speak on the Budget and the Supplementary Demands for Grants of Manipur. The budget allocated for Manipur should be used for peace, harmony and unity. The ruling party and its Government should consider this. Agriculture should be made profitable. The sharecroppers do not get the Kisan Samman Nidhi, while they have taken care of 70 percent of the farming.

The cultivated land is decreasing. It is constantly being acquired. The farmers are not getting proper compensation. If you put a supplementary demand in the budget to stop this unjust step, then make provision in it. You have repeatedly said that Bihar has got a lot. Bihar should be given special status. Some measures should be taken to eradicate poverty there. No announcement has been made for a permanent solution to the flood and drought there. No money has been provided for the Indrapuri Reservoir and the Sone Canal System in Magadh region. In Bihar, one of the important projects to link the agriculture sector with the industry is the Barun-Bihta railway line, but it has been put on the backburner. Today, development work is increasing pollution and disrupting ecological balance. Badhta village is a block in Hazaribagh, where there is good cultivation for the crop. Unfortunately, there is coal under this village and an agreement has now been made for it. Therefore, ecological balance has to be kept in mind while formulating a development strategy.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN: I would like to talk about two-three issues. In the stock market lakhs of crores of rupees have been lost from October to January. About 25 lakh crore rupees of PSUs have been lost. Two communities are continuously fighting in Manipur for the last two years. There is a mafia outside India which supplies drugs to the state. Drugs are the root cause of the dispute in the entire Manipur. For the first time, the Government has to topple its own Government and impose President Rule in the State. There are about 30 crore youths who are unemployed and uneducated. There is no provision of unemployment allowance in the Budget. There is no Government scheme for the street vendors. The biggest burden in India pertains to health and education. Diagnostic tests like ultrasound, CT-scan, etc. are not conducted free of cost. These tests are a big burden for the middle class and the poor. Education involves coaching. It is a big burden for children belonging to the middle class. Today farmers are forced to buy fertilizers at a very high price. An arrangement should be made under the cooperative system in this regard. There should be an AIIMS at Kosi. A cancer hospital should be set up in Purnea, provision should be made in the Budget for the factories lying closed, and special status be accorded to the state, and a special package should be announced for the state.

SHRI RAHUL SINGH LODHI: Today I would like to talk about the Ken-Betwa project to be implemented under the river interlinking project. Before the year 2014, no Government paid attention towards Bundelkhand. After the completion of

the Ken-Betwa project, irrigation facility will be provided to 8 lakh 11 thousand hectare land of Madhya Pradesh and 2 lakh 50 thousand hectare land of Uttar Pradesh and drinking water will be made available to lakhs of people of both these states. Water will be available for the Bundelkhand area and Bundelkhand will witness positive changes.

***DR. THOL THIRUMAAVALAVAN:** At the outset, I wish to pinpoint that the southern States including Tamil Nadu are being ignored as regards the devolution of funds collected through tax revenues. The net proceeds of taxes under the 14th and 15th Finance Commissions stood at 41 per cent, and it is shocking to note that the Union Government has been trying to reduce this to 40 per cent. This 41 per cent devolution on the net proceeds from taxes should not be reduced at any cost. Rather, this percentage of net proceeds from taxes should be increased to 50 per cent. The funds provided to Tamil Nadu are being reduced in the name of mentioning it as a developed State. Not only Tamil Nadu, all the southern States of our country are being ignored in this way. In order to encourage the developed States, as an incentive, the devolution of funds meant for them should be increased. I want to question whether it is justifiable to punish the developed States for no fault of theirs. Under the 9th Finance Commission, the total share in devolution stood at 7.9 per cent for Tamil Nadu. Whereas this has further been reduced to 4 per cent during the 15th Finance Commission. You should ponder over this matter as to why such a punishment was given to Tamil Nadu. The Union Government has been implementing Centrally-sponsored schemes in the country with fund sharing from the Union. But this ratio has now been changed from 75:25 to 60:40 between the Centre and the States. This has caused a huge financial burden on the States. I urge that this financial burden on the States should be reduced. Collection of Cess and Surcharge has become a burden for the States. The major part of such collection of taxes is taken away by the Union Government. I urge that the Union Government should also share the funds collected through Cess and Surcharges with the State Governments. The criteria relating to this fund sharing with the States should be redesigned and put to review. I further urge that it should be redesigned in such a way that the developed States are not affected by that. MGNREGA funds should not be withheld by the Union Government but should be immediately released to the States concerned, including Tamil Nadu.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: In 2023-24, the Government allocated Rs.

*Original in Tamil.

3,097 crore for Ministry of Minority Affairs. The Ministry surrendered Rs. 2,060 crore, barely utilizing the funds. The same rule or pattern is being followed in 2024-25 where the allocation of Rs. 3,183 crore has been slashed to Rs. 1,681 crore with no effort to demand admitted funds through the Supplementary Demands. Scholarships for minority students have been gutted. The Government is not willing to make the minority scholarships demand-driven. The unit cost of the scholarship for the three schemes has not been revised since 2007-2008. Scholarships are not being sanctioned since 2022-23. The PM VIKAS scheme for skilling and entrepreneurship of minorities has met the same fate. The Budget for this scheme has been slashed from Rs. 500 crore in BE to just Rs. 220 crore in RE 2024-25. In the supplementary grants, for the Ministry of Agriculture, there is a Scheduled Castes Sub Plan. Since 2021, the utilization has never crossed 70 per cent. I demand that the Government should ensure that from the Scheduled Castes Sub Plan, the Scheduled Caste farmers should benefit. On Atmanirbhar Bharat, about 30 per cent of India's urea imports, in 2023-24, came from China, which makes Indian prices vulnerable to China's trade policies. If the US imposes tariffs, this could decrease India's GDP growth by 0.6 per cent. The imposition of higher tariffs will make Indian produce less competitive, affecting incomes in the agriculture sector. Jewellery and precious metals are at a risk because of US tariffs. This tariff hike could reduce demand and could impact jobs in Surat and Mumbai. I want a categorical assurance from the Minister and the Government that the US tariff will not be imposed on India from April 2. The Bilateral Trade Agreement is going on, but Phase-I is due by September. The EU market also has become restrictive. This Government should give a categorical assurance that the CBAM and EUDR will not be imposed on India by the EU. India should get a sanction waiver for Chabahar Port. In Manipur, about 14,763 school-going children are displaced due to violence. Ninety-six schools have been used for relief measures. And this Government has increased only two per cent for education in respect of Manipur. In Manipur, in displaced camps, 65.8 per cent of the people are suffering from PTSD and 24.8 per cent are suffering from moderate anxiety. But for the help, there is only an increase of Rs. 4 crore. There has been a 19 per cent reduction in water supply and sanitation. There has been a significant cut in capital outlay in Manipur Budget from Rs. 1,612 crore to Rs. 1,307 crore. Central assistance has been reduced from Rs. 60 crore to Rs. 15 crore. 5000 hectares of agricultural land and 15,437 metric tonnes of paddy crops worth Rs. 38.6 crore have been lost due to ethnic violence but agricultural allocation has been reduced by 8 per cent. The total budget for police has been cut by two per cent compared to the last year.

SHRI ARVIND GANPAT SAWANT: It is a welcome step that the budget for the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers has been increased, but we need to calculate the effects of chemicals and fertilizers on our land. I demand that more attention should be paid to the organic products. The Government should take steps in this regard. Chimpi airport in Konkan needs the attention of the government. Right now, not a single flight operates there. You have also reduced the budget of civil aviation. I expect you to waive off the loans of BSNL and MTNL just like you did in case of corporates. With this, they will emerge stronger again. Funds are being raised by using the land bank. Attention should be paid to DIPAM which has failed miserably. I would like that the state boards should not be devalued. We should increase their valuation and upgrade them. People are not getting education in their mother tongue. If people don't get to know their mother tongue and don't have a clue about the history of their country, how will they connect with their country? I request the Finance Minister to pay serious attention to the Ministry of External Affairs, which is an important ministry. Its budget has been reduced by 10 thousand crore rupees.

***SHRI APPALANAIDU KALISETTI:** With additional outlay of 6 lakh crores and 51,000 crores of net expenditure, this budget proves to be an important tool for our country's development. In this period of Amrit Kaal, Andhra Pradesh is going through a critical phase. I request the Union government to bail out Andhra Pradesh out of the economic crisis it suffered in the last 5 years. I welcome additional funds of Rs 2,185 crores for PM Kisan Nidhi. Though this will benefit 9 crore farmers throughout the country, it will be of less beneficial to farmers of our state. 50% of the agriculture land is under cultivation of tenant farmers, who are not getting benefits from any farmers' welfare scheme. The eligibility year is fixed in 2019, which needs to be revised as land holding changes every year. Thirdly, Rs 6,000 is not enough for financial assistance to farmers, as the input cost of agriculture has increased substantially. Due to the previous government's policies, these fisheries and animal husbandry. For the financial year 2022-23, the budget allocated was 60 crores, which has been reduced to 12 crores for the year 2023-24. I request the Union government to allocate at least Rs 100 crores for this mission. Water security is another important issue in our state of Andhra Pradesh. I thank the Union government for allocating ₹5,900 crores out of ₹12,000 crores for the Polavaram project. We could have provided irrigation facilities to 7 lakh acres of agricultural land, and a drinking water

*Original in Telugu.

facility to 540 villages.

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: I rise to oppose the Second Batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants of 2024-25, Demands for Excess Grants of 2021-22, Demands for Grants of 2025-26 for the State of Manipur and the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the State of Manipur. The discussion on the Budget along with the Demands for Grants on Account for the State of Manipur is totally unfair and improper because these two issues are entirely different. The Supplementary Demands for Grants, the Second Batch for the financial year 2024-25, include 52 grants and three appropriations. An amount of Rs. 6.78 lakh crore as an additional expenditure than the budget estimate of expenditure means there is a lack of foresight and planning in the budgetary process. The total budget estimate for the last financial year was around Rs.46 lakh crore. Out of that, Rs. 7.5 lakh crore is coming as the Supplementary Demands for Grants. It puts a question mark on the sanctity of the budget proposals, the budget estimate and the budget expenditure. Savings of Around Rs. 6 lakh crore need to be re-appropriated under various ministries and departments, which needs to be dealt with seriously. It is quite unfortunate that in this Supplementary Demand for Grants Rs. 67 lakh of token provision is being sought and as per the Parliamentary procedure, a statement has to be laid on the Table of the House in case of advance, which has not been done. I would like to seek clarification from the hon. Finance Minister, as well as a ruling from the Chair in this regard. There is an investment of Rs. 6,783 crore to recoup the advance from the Consolidated Fund of India for equity infusion in Vizag Steel Plant. I welcome the step taken by the Government, as due to this, the privatization will be over, but why is it not available for other public sector undertakings also? Around Rs. 35 lakh is misclassified under Demand Number 84 which relates to excess grants for the financial year 2021-22. I would like to know about those responsible for this misappropriation.

DR. SAMBIT PATRA: Under the leadership of Prime Minister, every rupee that flies out of the coffer of the exchequer is under the radar of 'ATC' i.e. Accountability, Transparency and Clear vision for development. The Supplementary Demands for Grants have sought higher expenditure for Power Grid Corporation of India Limited. During the UPA regime, in July 2012, the Northern Grid, the Eastern Grid and the North Eastern Grid, all three failed and about 700 million people were plunged into darkness. However, on 30th May, 2024, even 250 GW requirement isn't a problem. World's largest unified power grid is what our hon. Prime Minister has

given to the nation. In case of Manipur, the Government has implemented a series of measures aimed at providing immediate relief, long-term rehabilitation and economic stability for the Internally Displaced Persons. These initiatives are Housing Assistance First, wherein pre-fabricated housing would provide immediate shelter to 3,000 families. Of this, 2,660 houses have been completed and 2,520 houses have been occupied. An additional amount of Rs. 27 crore has been released to support the housing reconstruction efforts in Manipur for those who are internally displaced. Relief camp operations have been sustained with an allocation of Rs. 280 crore. A compensatory package of Rs. 32 crore has been provided to farmers who have suffered agricultural losses due to the conflict. A total of 11,763 displaced students have been enrolled in various educational institutions. A college student's rehabilitation scheme had been introduced in 2023. For employment and skill development of displaced people, 426 IDP-led startups have received Government support. Air India, Indigo Airlines, and the Ministry of Tourism have given placement to 500 displaced youth of Manipur. Free medical treatment has been provided to the IDPs at JNIMS. Provision has also been made for pregnant women in relief camps.

SHRI AMAR SHARADRAO KALE: Thank you very much for allowing me to speak on the General discussion on the budget for the state of Manipur for 2025-26. We all are well aware of the situation in Manipur. On 3rd May, 2023, violence erupted in the state of Manipur and it continued for the next two years without pause. The Union Government did not take any cognizance of this violence, which led to complete chaos and lawlessness.

SHRI ANAND BHADAURIA: Thank you, for giving me an opportunity to talk about Supplementary Demands for Grants and the Budget of the Manipur. The Budget of Manipur is presented in the House at a time when half of the population of the state is living in relief camps. Who will benefit from this Budget? There is no mention from where the amount of 51 thousand crore rupees sought by the Government as additional Budget, will be financed. The absence of any new head implies that the planning of the Government is not correct, fiscal discipline is not right. US aid has been discontinued. As per the report of the Ministry of Finance, the money received from US aid is invested in economic projects in India. The farmers will not benefit from Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojna. The amount provided under MPLADs be increased from Rs. 5 crore to 25 crore.

SHRI HANUMAN BENIWAL: The Government is demanding additional budget, but the budget allocated to the states is not monitored properly. Out of the funds sent for various schemes of the central government, Rs 1.40 lakh crore is still lying in bank accounts. Small leases of one or two hectares should be given to farmers for limestone, gravel and other minerals extracted in many districts of Rajasthan, including my parliamentary constituency, Nagaur. Recently, a notification has been issued to include barytes, quartz, feldspar and mica, etc., from minor to major minerals, which will harm lakhs of small entrepreneurs of Rajasthan. I demand resumption of tungsten mining in Degana area of Nagaur district. I demand that the world-famous 'paan methi' grown in my constituency be given a GI tag. Even after the directions of the NGT, the contaminated water being discharged by textile and other factories in the Bandi River located at Pali, Jojri river in Jodhpur and Luni river located in Balotra district of Rajasthan, is making the agricultural land barren and spreading diseases. Such polluting factories should be seized and a permanent solution should be found immediately to stop the contaminated water discharge in the rivers. I demand that arrangements should be made for the treatment of dirty water and its proper drainage in all urban units of Rajasthan, including Sikar under the AMRUT Yojana or any other scheme. I demand that the Union Government intervene in the Rajasthan-Punjab water dispute and settle the pending water disputes of Rajasthan. The flow of contaminated water from Punjab into the canals of Rajasthan should be stopped. A law should be made to guarantee procurement at MSP so that the economic condition of the farmers gets improved. The Central Government should waive the entire debt of the farmers and reduce the prices of petrol and diesel.

ADV. FRANCIS GEORGE: I rise today to discuss Manipur's Budget. Parliament now bears the responsibility of Manipur's legislature. Financial continuity and accountability must be given priority in the state. Budget of Rs.35104 crore professes on infrastructure, security, social welfare, relief and rehabilitation. We must rebuild trust and religious harmony in the state. I urge earmarking relief funds for restoring places of worship. Manipur's diversity is its strength. Christian communities, in particular, need assurance through tangible support; rebuilding churches and ensuring welfare reaches those in camps. There should be accountability and transparency in this regard. This budget must be more than numbers. We need clear timelines, accountability mechanisms and a path to elections. Let this Budget be a beacon of justice, inclusion, and renewal. Let us pledge that No citizen of Manipur will be left behind.

ADVOCATE CHANDRA SHEKHAR: The safety of women and children in Manipur may be ensured. The situation in Manipur has tarnished the country's image globally. Farmers should be provided a Minimum Support Price, their electricity bills and loans should be waived. Subsidy on fertilisers should be increased and there should be transparency in distribution of fertilisers. The government should ensure that Buddhists are given their rights, it should respect the sentiments of the Jain community and take measures to stop attacks on Christians. The norms for Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna need to be modified. Central schools should be opened in the Nagina Lok Sabha constituency, and the existing central schools should be equipped with all the necessary facilities and amenities.

SHRI ANUP SANJAY DHOTRE: History is being created during the ten years of Modi ji's rule. We have a double engine Government in Maharashtra. This Government has given benefit of housing scheme to four crore people and in Maharashtra our leader Devendra Fadnavis ji has released an additional fifty thousand rupees for the housing scheme. However, I would like to place a few demands for my parliamentary constituency. The Government has allocated Rs 1,000 crore for Akola, Bhusawal and Jalgaon station in my constituency. I would like these stations to be developed at the earliest with this amount of Rs 1,000 crore. There is a 1400 meter long line in Akola.

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE: The Budget regarding Manipur should have been discussed about 20 months ago. Manipur has suffered more than any State due to the recent inflation and economic woes in the country, and there was no action from the Centre for the restoration of peace and for a dialogue to help the displaced return to their homes. We have repeatedly said that the hon. Prime Minister should go to Manipur and visualise the position, but unfortunately, five minutes' time has not been allocated by the hon. Prime Minister to go to Manipur. Now, in such a situation, a very little amount of money has been allocated to Manipur. How can it help the people of Manipur to develop? Manipur has not got any justice from the hon. Prime Minister. Article 356 should not have been imposed in Manipur. An election should be held immediately in Manipur.

SHRI VISHALDADA PRAKASH BAPU PATIL: Hon. Finance Minister is not able to plan for the whole year even after presenting the budget four times. Out of the budget of Rs 48 lakh crores, Rs 6.75 lakh crores have been reorganised. The government has not been able to spend the provision of Rs 6.25 lakh crores. Now this

budget has been brought to utilise this money elsewhere. I would like to deliberately mention here that provision has been increased nominally for pension, but the budget is silent about EPS-95, which has been the demand of the people. EPS-95 should have been included in the budget. I would like to know why the budget for Manipur is being presented here. Manipur has to be put under presidential rule under Article 356. Similar situations prevail all over the country. The Government has not allocated funds required for my state, Maharashtra, even though they have the funds. Hence I oppose the supplementary demands for grants.

TAPIR GAO: I support the Demands for Grants of Accounts for Manipur for the year 2025-26 and the Supplementary Demands for Grants (2024-25). The North-Eastern states have been given the name of 'Ashtalakshmi for the development of the North-Eastern region. Today, there is a direct flight from Delhi to Dimapur-Itanagar-Imphal-Agartala-Mizoram. At present, the North-Eastern states are connected by air services, railways, waterways and highways. Every state capital of the North-Eastern states is being connected with four-lane roads. In the past, there were border issues with Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Mizoram and Tripura. At present, all border disputes have been resolved. Peace is returning to the North Eastern states very fast. The incident in Manipur is very sad and we all should move forward to resolve this matter. The Dimapur to Imphal highway, Jiribam to Imphal highway, Imphal to Moreh highway, Imphal to Churachandpur highway and Imphal to Ukhrul highway are being constructed. Tribals, other backward classes and minorities are developing there. The Bodoland Underground Agreement, the Tripura Underground Agreement, the Karbi Anglong Agreement and several other agreements have been executed.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE; AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN) *replying said*: A lot of Members have participated in the discussion. I will highlight the top features of each one of them. The Second Supplementary Demand for Grants has 52 Demands and three Appropriations. The three Appropriations pertain to the Supreme Court of India, Repayment of Debt, and also the Department of Space. The authorization for the Second and the Final Batch of Supplementary Demand for Grants is being sought for gross additional expenditure of about Rs.6.79 lakh crore. The net cash outgo on the Cash Supplementary is about Rs.51,463 crore. The Technical Supplementary is about Rs.6,27,045 crore. These are not new ones. They are matched by savings in various

sections within the same grants and also recoveries. There is also a recoupment of Contingency Fund advance which is Rs.19,765 crore. So far as Cash Supplementary is concerned, the most important thing is the one which is given for fertilisers which is Rs.14,100 crore. We have also arranged for a pre-funding of the Unified Pension Scheme Fund of Rs. 7,000 crore because it is going to be effective from 1st April, 2025. One other point I would like to highlight is that we have fiscally restored the public finance of J&K. This is a point I would humbly like to place before this House because the fiscal deficit to GSDP of J&K was over 12 per cent. That has now been brought down to three per cent in the last four years. I would definitely say that we will continuously support J&K to make sure the UT Government focuses on development-related activities and prioritizes them because we are here to support them if the State needs a lot of development activities. The Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare receives Rs. 2,186 crore. This is an enhancement of an outlay for the PM Kisan, and also the BE of the forthcoming year 2025-26 is kept in mind with this enhancement taken on board. Also, we must understand that this Supplementary Demands for Grants in the technical supplementary gives a big role for Rs. 5,54,349 crore. That Rs. 5,54,349 crore goes for repayment of debt, repayments of 14-day treasury bills because we cannot estimate how much the States would keep in the treasury bills, so approximately it is Rs. 4 lakh crore. The 91-day treasury bills amount to Rs. 70,745 crore. Essentially, we are removing the high-cost debt from our shoulders through advanced redemption of those debts. Due to this redemption, the borrowing rates for the Government have all come down. So, the Government of India's borrowings have come down. It is a constant endeavour to ensure that we do not have excess demand. The Excess Demand for Grants for 2021-2022 is Rs. 1,291 crore. We will ensure that we do not have too many Excess Demands happening because frequently we are looking and reviewing at cutting down. Again, the total receipts for the Manipur Budget are Rs. 35,368 crore and revenue receipts are Rs. 27,231 crore. The total expenditure has been estimated at Rs. 35,104 crore. A receipt of Rs. 1,300 crore is projected under the special assistance for States. So, it is a Vote on Account for six months at this stage for an amount of Rs. 17,947 crore. We are providing all the financial assistance to support a faster recovery of the economy for Manipur. The Supplementary Demand for Grants for 2024-2025 is an amount of Rs. 1,861 crore. It covers 20 Demands and one Appropriation. One good thing that has already been done for the Manipur finance management is that they never had a Contingency Fund till now. On the GST on temple matters, GST is exempted completely for supply of 'prasad' in the temple, and if there are religious ceremonies

which are being conducted, even they are totally exempt. Services by any entity registered under the Sections 12AA and 12AB of the Income Tax Act by way of charitable activities are also completely exempt. In GST Council, I would like to say that 99.9 times, every decision taken there is unanimous. It is clearly looking at the category, revenue position, and revenue foregone, and that which is for public cause, the Council takes support. So, I would say, when it comes to GST, it is not just the Finance Minister of the country, everybody is in the GST Council, as much as a concern that you have on GST when you talk. Regarding the concern raised on defence-related matters. I would like to say that under Prime Minister's leadership, we have now got defence products being exported to over 85 countries with over 100 companies actively contributing to this growth. India's defence exports have achieved milestones, increased 30 times over what they were in 2013-14, that is, Rs.686 crore. Today, in 2023-24, it has touched Rs.21,083 crore of exports. So, when we are talking about Defence, we are not looking at it as just audit and accounting, but actual progress is happening under the Prime Minister's leadership. Similarly, I would like to inform the hon. Member that the Manipur Budget bifurcation is intact. The documents prepared in this Budget also have this bifurcation. Moreover, with the collective effort of both the Central and State Governments, there has been an improvement in the law and order situation in the State to a large extent. There has been a decreasing trend in the deaths, injuries, arsons, firing and so on. An amount of Rs. 400 crore has been provided under the MHA's special package for relief camp operations. Under the PM Awas Yojana (Gramin), 7,000 houses have been approved very recently to provide housing to those who are displaced. Priority is also given for release of funds from the Centre for Centrally sponsored schemes. With regard to technical Supplementary over Rs. 6 lakh crore. Rs. 5.5 lakh crore pertains to a single appropriation, that is, repayment of debts. The Central Government is helping the States and providing a platform for short-term investment, which can be withdrawn by the States on a need basis. Similarly, in the context of the debt, to compare a State's debt with the Centre's debt may not be appropriate. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Member because the debt to GSDP of Tamil Nadu is for the State and only for the State, while the debt to GDP of the Union Government is for the country as a whole including exclusive subjects which have no bearing on the States such as Defence, Railways, communication and foreign affairs. The Union Cabinet approved Viability Gap Funding for the schemes for implementation of offshore wind energy projects. Again, Tamil Nadu Defence Industrial Corridor has six nodes, namely, Chennai, Tiruchirappalli, Coimbatore, Salem, and Hosur. That is granted by the Central

Government. Similarly, PM MITRA Mega Textile Park in Virudhunagar is one of the seven under the PM Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel scheme. The PM virtually inaugurated 11 new Government medical colleges in Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu was one of the four States selected under the Promotion of Medical Device Parks Scheme, with a final approval for financial assistance of Rs. 100 crore, which is given. 1,302 kilometres of new tracks are there only in Tamil Nadu. 2,152 kilometres of electrification have been done. The Chennai Metro Rail Project Phase-II was approved by the Union Government as a Central sector project. Similarly, 4,100 kilometres of national highways have been constructed in Tamil Nadu since 2014. A development of 2,414 kilometres of national highway corridors with a tentative capital cost of Rs. 81,131 crore is approved in Tamil Nadu under Phase-I of Bharatmala Pariyojana. Moreover, airports have been operationalised under the Regional Connectivity Scheme – UDAN. Salem was included in the UDAN scheme in 2018. Airports are also planned to be operationalised in Neyveli and Vellore. Coimbatore and Tiruchirappalli airports are covered under Krishi Udan Scheme to assist farmers in transporting agriculture products. The Prime Minister inaugurated the new Integrated Terminal Building Phase-I of Chennai International Airport. Similarly, the renovation and modernisation of Grand Anicut Canal System is underway. The PM inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of a multiple development project worth Rs. 17,300 crore at Thoothukkudi in Tamil Nadu. I would also like to recollect about this worry that the debt of Tamil Nadu is far lesser than the debt of India. Because of COVID, the debt to GDP went to the level of 61 per cent of GDP. We have already brought it down to 57 per cent and by 2030, as per the recommendation of one of the Committees, we will bring the debt to GDP to 50 plus or minus one by 2030, that is 50 per cent of the GDP. We want all the States to develop, goodwill and courtesies be extended. Unfortunately, Tamil Nadu was one of the weakest performers before and after the pandemic in children's proficiency in reading, arithmetic, and digital literacy across India. I want to say what we have delivered. Under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, 54 crore Jan Dhan bank accounts have been opened. Under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, 54 crore Jan Dhan bank accounts have been opened. Under the PM Awas Yojana, four crore houses have been constructed for the poor. Under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, 12 crore household toilets have been built. Under the Saubhagya Yojana, 21 crore rural households have been electrified. Under the Jal Jeevan Mission, over 12 crore households have been provided with tap water connection. Similarly, under the PM Ujjwala Yojana, 10.3 crore LPG connections have been provided. Under the Ayushman Bharat, 36 crore people have got health

insurance cover of Rs. 5 lakh. Before I conclude, I would like to emphasize that the National Education Policy brought by our Hon. Prime Minister will be helpful to all the poor and downtrodden people across the country.

All the Demands for Grants were voted in full.

All the Supplementary Demands for Grants were voted in full.

THE APPROPRIATION (NO. 2) BILL, 2025

The Bill was passed.

THE APPROPRIATION BILL, 2025

The Bill was passed.

THE MANIPUR APPROPRIATION BILL, 2025

The Bill was passed.

UTPAL KUMAR SINGH
Secretary General

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