

C O N T E N T S

**Fifteenth Series, Vol. XXXIV, Fourteenth Session, 2013/1935 (Saka)
No.5, Monday, August 12, 2013/Sravana 21, 1935 (Saka)**

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THE SPEAKER

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PANEL OF CHAIRMEN

Shri Basu Deb Acharia

Shri P.C. Chacko

Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan

Shri Inder Singh Namdhari

Shri Franciso Cosme Sardinha

Shri Arjun Charan Sethi

Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh

Dr. M. Thambidurai

Shri Satpal Maharaj

Shri Jagdambika Pal

SECRETARY GENERAL

Shri T.K. Viswanathan

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, August 12, 2013/Sravana 21, 1935 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MADAM SPEAKER in the Chair]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House about the sad demise of Shri Ram Naresh Tripathee who was a Member of Thirteenth Lok Sabha from 1999 to 2004 representing the Seoni Parliamentary Constituency of Madhya Pradesh.

He was also a Member of Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly from 1993 to 1998.

An able parliamentarian, Shri Tripathee served as Member of Committee on Food, Civil Supplies and Public Distribution.

Shri Ram Naresh Tripathee passed away on 5th August, 2013 in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh at the age of 56.

We deeply mourn the loss of Shri Tripathee and I am sure the House would join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.

11.02hrs

The members then stood in silence for a short while.

MADAM SPEAKER: Question Hour. Question No.81 - Shri Premchand (Guddu).

... (*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

... (*Interruptions*)

11.03 hrs

At this stage, Shri M.B. Rajesh, Shri N. Kristappa, Dr. N. Sivaprasad and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

MADAM SPEAKER: What is all this? What is happening?

... (*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: No, this is completely unacceptable. What is this? What is happening? Please go back to your seats.

... (*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 1200 hours.

11.03 ½ hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Twelve of the Clock.



12.00 hrs

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Twelve of the Clock.

(Madam Speaker in the Chair)

REFERENCE BY THE SPEAKER

Congratulations to Ms. P.V. Sindhu on winning medal in World Badminton Championship; and to Shri Soumyajit Ghosh and to Ms. Manika Batra on winning Under-21 World Table Tennis Championship

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I am sure all of you will join me in extending our felicitations to Ms. P V Sindhu for winning a bronze medal in the World Badminton Championship at Ghuangzhou in China on 10 August, 2013.

The House also congratulates Shri Soumyajit Ghosh and Ms. Manika Batra for winning the under-21 Men's and Women's singles titles in Table Tennis respectively at World Tour Brazil Open at Santos in Brazil on 11 August, 2013.

These outstanding achievements are matter of national pride and will be a source of inspiration for all the upcoming sportspersons.

We convey our best wishes to Ms. P V Sindhu, Shri Soumyajit Ghosh and Ms. Manika Batra for their future endeavours.

... (*Interruptions*)

12.0 hrs.**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

MADAM SPEAKER: Now Papers to be laid.

... (Interruptions)

At this stage, Shri M. Venugopala Reddy, Shri N. Kristappa, Dr. N. Sivaprasad and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

... (Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: What are you doing?

... (Interruptions)

श्रम और रोज़गार मंत्री (श्री शीश राम ओला): अध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :-

1. (एक) सेंट्रल बोर्ड फॉर वर्कर्स एजुकेशन, नागपुर के वर्ष 2011-2012 के वार्षिक प्रतिवेदन की एक प्रति (हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी संस्करण) तथा लेखापरीक्षित लेखे।
(दो) सेंट्रल बोर्ड फॉर वर्कर्स एजुकेशन, नागपुर के वर्ष 2011-2012 के कार्यकरण की सरकार द्वारा समीक्षा की एक प्रति (हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी संस्करण)।
2. उपर्युक्त (1) में उल्लिखित पत्रों को सभा पटल पर रखने में हुए विलम्ब के कारण दर्शाने वाला विवरण (हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी संस्करण)।

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 9320/15/13)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History, Coimbatore, for the year 2011-2012, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History,

Coimbatore, for the year 2011-2012.

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

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 9321/15/13)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited and the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence, for the year 2013-2014.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 9322/15/13)

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development, Sriperumbudur, for the year 2011-2012, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development, Sriperumbudur, for the year 2011-2012.
- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 9323/15/13)

... (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Export Inspection Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2011-2012.
 - (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Export Inspection Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2011-2012, together with Audit Report thereon.
 - (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Export Inspection Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2011-2012.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 9324/15/13)

... (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 1788(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated 21st June, 2013, mandating packaging of Foodgrains and Sugar in jute packaging material has been extended for a further period of three months from the date of expiry of the said order or until further

orders, whichever is earlier under sub-section (1) of Section 3 of the Jute Packaging Material Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities Act, 1987.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 9325/15/13)

(2) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 1485(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated 7th June, 2013, regarding nominations of two members of Lok Sabha and one member of Rajya Sabha in the National Jute Board for a period of two years issued under sub-section 4(b) of Section 3 of the National Jute Board Act, 2008.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 9326/15/13)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy of the Central Motor Vehicles (First Amendment) Rules, 2013 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 207(E) in Gazette of India dated 8th April, 2013 under sub-section (4) of Section 212 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 9327/15/13)

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 10 of the National Highways Act, 1956:-

- (i) S.O. 842(E) published in Gazette of India dated 28th March, 2013, regarding acquisition of land for building, maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 11 in the State of Rajasthan.
- (ii) S.O. 1713(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th July, 2012 regarding levy/collection of user fee in respect of Amravati Bypass on National Highway No. 6 in the State of Maharashtra.

- (iii) S.O. 839(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 2013 regarding levy/collection of user fee in respect of Pune-Solapur Section on National Highway No. 9 in the State of Maharashtra to four lane divided carriageway and operation and maintenance of the section.
- (iv) S.O. 837(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 2013 regarding levy/collection of user fee in respect of Ahmedabad-Godhra Section on National Highway No. 59 in the State of Gujarat to four lane divided carriageway and operation and maintenance of the section.
- (v) S.O. 835(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 2013 regarding levy/collection of user fee in respect of Rohtak-Bawal Section on National Highway No. 71 in the State of Haryana to four laning and operation and maintenance of the section.
- (vi) S.O. 624(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th March, 2013 regarding levy/collection of user fee in respect of Bamanbore-Garamore Section on National Highway No. 8A in the State of Gujarat.
- (vii) S.O. 485(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th February, 2013 regarding levy/collection of user fee in respect of bridge constructed across river Narmada at Zadeshwar in the years 1997 and 2000 on National Highway No. 8 in the State of Gujarat.
- (viii) S.O. 315(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st February, 2013 regarding levy/collection of user fee in respect of Amritsar-Wagah Border Section on National Highway No. 8A in the State of Punjab.
- (ix) S.O. 581(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th March, 2013 rescinding Notification No. S.O. 1088(E) dated 5th May, 2008.

- (x) S.O. 70(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th January, 2013 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 371(E) dated 14th February, 2011.
 - (xi) S.O. 105(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th January, 2013 regarding acquisition of land for building, maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 13 (Solapur-Bijapur Section) in the State of Karnataka.
- (3) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at item No. (i) and (ii) of (2) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 9328/15/13)

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions) ... **

* Not recorded.

12.03 hrs.

**MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA
AND
COMPANIES BILL AS RETURNED BY RAJYA SABHA WITH
AMENDMENTS ***

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Madam, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

"I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Companies Bill, 2012, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 18th December, 2012, has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 8th August, 2013, with the following amendments:-

ENACTING FORMULA

1. That at page 1, line 1, *for* the word "Sixty-third" the word "Sixty-fourth" be *substituted*.

CLAUSE 1

2. That at page 1, line 4, *for* the figure "2012" the figure "2013" be *substituted*

SCHEDULE I

3. That at page 241, line 37, *for* the figure "2011" the figure "2013" be *substituted*.
4. That at page 254, line 26, *for* the figure "2011" the figure "2013" be *substituted*.
5. That at page 254, line 33, *for* the figure "2011" the figure "2013" be *substituted*.
6. That at page 258, line 26, *for* the figure "2011" the figure "2013" be *substituted*.
7. That at page 258, line 36, *for* the figure "2011" the figure "2013" be *substituted*.

* Laid on the Table.

SCHEDULE III

8. That at page 265, line 13, *for* the figure "2012" the figure "2013" be substituted.

SCHEDULE V

9. That at page 286, line 19, *for* the figure "2012" the figure "2013" be substituted.

I am, therefore, to return herewith the said Bill in accordance with the provisions of rule 128 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha with the request that the concurrence of the Lok Sabha to the said amendments be communicated to this House.”

2. Madam, I also lay on the Table the Companies Bill, 2013 as returned by Rajya Sabha with amendments.
-

12.03 ½ hrs.**STATEMENT CORRECTING REPLY TO UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6398 DATED 6TH MAY, 2013 REGARDING HOWITZER GUNS ALONGWITH REASONS FOR DELAY ***

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH): Madam, on behalf of Shri A.K. Antony, I beg to lay a Statement on the Table of the House.

I had answered the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.6398 relating to Howitzer Guns asked by Shri Ramesh Bais, Shri Rudra Madhab Ray and Shri Jeetendra Singh Bundela on 06.05.2013.

Information was sought in the Question regarding (a) whether the Government proposes to modernize the Howitzer guns with the help of the private sector; (b) if so, the details thereof; and (c) the steps taken by the Government to give priority to indigenous companies working in the defence sector? It was inadvertently mentioned in the reply to (a) & (b) that three Indian vendors, including two private sector companies, have been selected for trials of their equipment. The factual position is that three Indian companies (including two from private sector) and one foreign company were in the running till the TEC stage. However, only two Indian companies and one foreign company reached the trial stage (and not three Indian companies as mentioned in the answer). The third vendor to reach the trial stage was M/s Rosoboronexports, Russia.

The position at the trial stage therefore was that the following three vendors were selected to field their equipment for trials:

- i) M/s L&T in partnership with M/s Samsung Techwin, South Korea.
- ii) M/s BEML, India in partnership with M/s Konstrukta Defence, Slovakia
- iii) M/s Rosoboronexports, Russia.

* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 9329/15/13.

STATEMENT TO BE MADE BY THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE CORRECTING THE REPLY TO PART (B) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.6398 ASKED BY SHRI RAMESH BAIS, SHRI RUDRA MADHAB RAY AND SHRI JEETENDRA SINGH BUNDELA REGARDING 'HOWITZER GUNS' ON 06.05.2013.

QUESTION	ANSWER ALREADY GIVEN	REVISED ANSWER
SHRI RAMESH BAIS SHRI RUDRA MADHA RAY SHRI JEETENDRA SINGH BUNDELA	RAKSHA MANTRI (AK ANTONY)	
(a) whether the Government proposes to modernize the Howitzer guns with the help of the private sector; (b) if so, the details thereof; and	(a) & (b) : A case for procurement of Qty. 100 x 155 mm/52 Calibre Tracked (Self-propelled) Guns is in progress wherein three Indian vendors, including two private sector companies, have been selected for trails of their equipment.	(a) & (b) : A case for procurement of Qty. 100 x 155 mm/52 Calibre Tracked (Self-propelled) Guns is in progress where three vendors, i.e. two Indian vendors M/s. L&T and BEML and one foreign vendor M/s Rosoboronexports Russia have been selected for trail of their equipment.
(c) the steps taken by the Government to give priority to indigenous companies working the defence sector?	(c) The recent amendments to the DPP-2011 which have been accepted by the Defence Acquisition Council aim to give higher preference to indigenous capacity in the Defence Sector.	(c) No change.

REASONS FOR DELAY

Reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.6398 was laid on the Table of the House on 06.05.2013. The Lok Sabha was prorogued from 10.05.2013. Subsequently, it has come to notice while the House was not in Session that the reply given against para (a) & (b) of the Question was partially incorrect.

The Monsoon Session of Parliament is commencing on 5th August, 2013. The statement of correcting reply to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.6398 is being tabled on 1st Question Day allotted to Ministry of Defence.

12.04 hrs.**STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE
109th Report**

श्री जगदीश शर्मा (जहानाबाद): अध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं बागान क्षेत्र चाय और कॉफी उद्योग का निष्पादन के बारे में समिति के 102वें प्रतिवेदन में अंतर्विष्ट समिति की टिप्पणियों/सिफारिशों पर सरकार द्वारा की-गई-कार्यवाही के संबंध में वाणिज्य संबंधी स्थायी समिति का 109वां प्रतिवेदन (हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी संस्करण) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

12.04 ½ hrs**ELECTION TO COMMITTEE
Tobacco Board**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): I beg to move the following:

“That in pursuance of clause (b) of sub-section (4) of section 4 of the Tobacco Board Act, 1975 read with rule 4 of the Tobacco Board Rules, 1976, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to serve as Members of the Tobacco Board, subject to other provisions of the said Act and the rules made thereunder.”

... (Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.00 p.m.

12.05 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen of the Clock.



14.00 hrs

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Fourteen of the Clock.

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair)

... (Interruptions)

14.0 ¼ hrs

At this stage, Shri M. Venugopala Reddy and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

14.0 ½ hrs

**ELECTION TO COMMITTEE - Contd
Tobacco Board**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

“That in pursuance of clause (b) of sub-section (4) of section 4 of the Tobacco Board Act, 1975 read with rule 4 of the Tobacco Board Rules, 1976, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to serve as Members of the Tobacco Board, subject to other provisions of the said Act and the rules made thereunder.”

The motion was adopted.

श्री कीर्ति आज़ाद (दरभंगा): उपाध्यक्ष जी, हम एक बात कहना चाहते हैं... (व्यवधान)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय: आप एक मिनट रुक जाएं।

14.01 hrs.

RIGHT TO INFORMATION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2013*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Item No. 12, Shri V. Narayanasamy.

... (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): With your kind permission, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Right to Information Act, 2005.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Right to Information Act, 2005.”

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Minister may now introduce the Bill.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

... (*Interruptions*)

प्रो. सौगत राय (दमदम): उपाध्यक्ष जी, आप सुनते ही नहीं हैं, ऐसे कैसे हाउस चलाएंगे। I have given a notice to oppose this Bill.

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय: आपका नोटिस डिसअलाऊ कर दिया गया है। इसलिए बोलने का कोई सवाल नहीं है।

... (*व्यवधान*)

PROF. SAUGATA ROY : I have asked for a point of order and you did not allow me to speak ... (*Interruptions*)

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 12.08.2013.

14.03 hrs

SECURITIES LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2013*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Item No. 13, Shri Namo Narain Meena.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): Sir, on behalf of my senior colleague, Shri P. Chidambaram, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992, the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 and the Depositories Act, 1996.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992, the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 and the Depositories Act, 1996. ”

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Minister may now introduce the Bill.

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 12.08.2013.

14.03 ½ hrs**STATEMENT RE: SECURITIES LAWS (AMENDMENT)
ORDINANCE***

MR. DEPUTY-SPEKAER: Item No. 14, Shri Namu Narain Meena.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for immediate legislation by promulgation of the Securities Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 2013 (No. 8 of 2013).

* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 9330/15/13.

14.04 hrs**MATTERS UNDER RULE 377 ***

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the Matters under Rule 377 shall be laid on the Table of the House. Hon. Members who have been permitted to raise Matters under Rule 377 today, and are desirous of laying them, may personally hand over slips at the Table of the House within 20 minute. Only those matters shall be treated as laid for which slips have been received at the Table within the stipulated time. The rest will be treated as lapsed.

* Treated as laid on the Table.

(i) Need to protect the interests of insurance industry while allowing FDI in insurance sector

SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR (KARIMNAGAR): I would like to draw the attention of the Government regarding the dire need to protect the overall interests of the insurance industry in view of the Government's move to increase the FDI limit in Insurance sector to 49%.

Recently Union Cabinet cleared FDI in insurance up to 49% through automatic route. This move will adversely affect the nation's economic health and its sovereignty in the long run throwing the country's economy into chaos. The implication of allowing easy entry for profit-seeking players on financial stability of the country is underplayed as these players are known to adopt practices that have had adverse consequences even in the developed markets. It is the pertinent worry among the general public and in insurance industry that the increase in FDI limit will increase the influence of MNC companies and strengthen their resolve to stay somehow in the market by resorting to unethical market interventions through their products and practices.

The general public and the insurance industry are of the firm opinion that the increase in FDI will neither benefit the Indian economy nor the Insuring public. Instead, increase in FDI will derail the Indian economy, destabilize the insurance industry, throw to wind healthy practices built over the years and dent the people's trust in savings. Such move is ill-conceived and not in the interest of economy or the nation. Hence, I request the Government, to see and ensure that the interests of the insurance industry are protected while allowing the FDI in Insurance without compromise at any stage.

(ii) Need to release Rs. 150 crores of pending service tax to Pune Cantonment Board, Maharashtra

SHRI SURESH KALMADI (PUNE): About 196 year old Pune Cantonment Board (PCB) is now a days in acute financial crisis. To pay the salaries of the staff and to keep the development work on track, the PCB has to use its Rs. 40 crore fixed deposit to avoid financial crisis. The Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) used to give about Rs. 1.25 crores per month to PCB as an octroi share. But due to introduction of Local Body Tax (LBT), the PMC has not given any Property Tax, Property Rent, Service Tax, Entry Fee to PCB. The PCB demanded Rs. 75 crores against octroi collection from Pune Municipal Corporation. But no response was received. Hence the PCB has requested the Central Govt. for a permission to collect the local body tax on their own.

As the Pune Cantonment Board is in worst financial crisis, I urge upon the Central Government to release about Rs. 150 crores to Pune Cantonment Board against the service tax pending with the Centre to bail out PCB from the financial crisis.

(iii) Need to send a Central team to assess the loss of lives and property due to heavy rains and floods in Kerala and provide assistance to the Government of Kerala to tide over the problem

SHRI K. P. DHANAPALAN (CHALAKUDY): Kerala is facing the worst disaster due to heavy rain and flood this year since the onset of Monsoon. Many people lost their lives due to landslides, drowning and flash floods. Hundreds of houses have been damaged due to heavy rain and storm and thousands of people shifted to relief camps. Landslides triggered by heavy rain and flash floods claimed 14 lives in the high range Idukki district of Kerala and many people are missing. Casualties were reported from many other places also. The state has sought the help of Armed forces for rescue operations in Idukki. The water level in Periyar river is rising as shutters of Idukki and Mullaperiyar reservoirs and many small dams have been opened. Inhabitants on the riverside area have been shifted to relief camps opened in schools and other temporary shelters. Roads linking the hilly districts with the rest of the state have been damaged due to heavy landslides. The damages to crops and roads amount to crores of rupees. Sea erosion during the Monsoon also caused casualties in Kerala, as it has a 550 km coastline, hence it is also requested to include sea erosion in the list of natural calamities. A total of 131 people have died in rain-related incidents in the state since the onset of the monsoon season till 31st July this year. The state is not able to compensate the damages caused by the heavy rain without central assistance. The state government has already sought central assistance for a total loss of Rs. 887.85 crores for the widespread damage in 1028 villages. Hence I request that the Govt. of India may take immediate steps to send central team including Ministers to assess the casualties in Kerala and for releasing central assistance to overcome the damages caused to Kerala due to heavy rain and flood. I also request that a unit of National Disaster Management Authority may be established in Kerala immediately.

(iv) Need to frame a policy for the welfare of orphan children in the country

SHRI RAJIAH SIRICILLA (WARANGAL): I would like to draw the kind attention of the Government regarding the dire need to provide civil rights to Orphans in the country. As the Government is aware that there are different definitions of the term Orphan. Social orphans come from families where the child cannot be cared for because of incarceration, extreme poverty, physical abuse and abandonment. Various official reports show that the orphans in India constitute 6 to 10 per cent of the population. As per the recent survey of UNICEF and SOS Children Village, about 20 million children, about 4% of their population in India and more than people living in Delhi are orphans. Out of them 0.3% are parentless and the rest are abandoned and roam in the streets. Orphans lack legal and social identity and have little or no access to social support structures and protective mechanisms in India. Entry into primary schools and colleges, applying for a job and even applying for a SIM card is often impossible for orphaned people due to their lack of identity. There is no identity for the orphans. They were excluded from the policies and from the special programmes and schemes. There is no special law or act for orphans. They are at high risk in the society.. I have also raised this issue earlier but nothing happened so far which amounts to denying them civil rights. I, therefore, request the Government, through the Chair, that there should be Civil Rights of Orphans like Right to reservation in education and employment and also legislations be enacted to properly define them in consultation with State Governments including Andhra Pradesh without any further delay.

(v)Need to strengthen the security in Tiger Reserves to protect the tigers from poachers and declare Nagpur as the World Tiger Capital

SHRI VILAS MUTTEWAR (NAGPUR): I intend to raise a very important matter concerning the security and other arrangements for safeguarding and protecting tigers in the wildlife sanctuaries in the country.

The reports appearing in media and other sources indicate that highly technically trained and organized gang is engaged in poaching resulting in their killings. It is learnt that 337 tigers lost their lives due to the activities of various gangs operating in the wildlife sanctuaries during the last ten years. Despite Rs. 600 crores allocated during 2008-12 for tiger conservation efforts, the basics including patrolling, field monitoring, detection, enforcement etc. are all in a sorry state of affairs. Organized gangs of criminals who have been indulging in poaching and smuggling forest wealth are responsible for killings of 25 tigers.

As per the National Tiger Conservation Authority, only 1411 tigers are remaining in India. A century ago, India had about 40000 tigers.

Vidarbha has 80% of Maharashtra's forest cover which is home to varied flora and fauna. Out of the 40 tiger reserves of India, 13 are near Nagpur. Nagpur today is the Tiger Gateway of India. Therefore, there has been a constant demand to declare Nagpur as the World Tiger Capital.

With a view to check the continued instances of poaching by organized gangs of criminals and smugglers, I would urge upon the Government (i) to ask the CBI and other enforcement agencies to stop to the nefarious activities of poachers and smugglers (ii) to release 400 crores to strengthen the security and other measures and (iii) to declare Nagpur as World Tiger Capital.

**(vi) Need to declare persons missing following floods and landslides in
Uttarakhand as 'Missing Presumed Dead' to enable their dependents
to get compensation and other facilities**

श्री सतपाल महाराज (गढ़वाल): मैं सरकार का ध्यान उत्तराखण्ड में आई दैवीय आपदा में असमय मृत्यु को प्राप्त हुए देश के निवासियों व लापता लोगों की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं। सर्वप्रथम, तो मैं असमय मौत को प्राप्त हुए व्यक्तियों को श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करता हूं तथा उनके परिवार के सदस्य को इस आघात को सहने की शक्ति प्रदान करने की कामना करता हूं।

जैसा कि आप सब जानते ही हैं कि उत्तराखण्ड में आई दैवीय आपदा में स्थानीय निवासियों के साथ-साथ उत्तर प्रदेश, मध्य प्रदेश, राजस्थान, दिल्ली, महाराष्ट्र, गुजरात, हरियाणा, आंध्र प्रदेश, बिहार, पंजाब, झारखण्ड, पश्चिम बंगाल, ओडिशा, छत्तीसगढ़, कर्नाटक, तमिलनाडु, जम्मू-व-कश्मीर, असम व पांडिचेरी के लोगों के लापता होने की सूचना है। इस संबंध में मैं यहां यह कहना चाहता हूं कि जिस प्रकार सुनामी के समय लापता लोगों को Missing Presumed Dead घोषित किया गया था इसी प्रकार आपदा में भी लापता लोगों को Missing Presumed Dead घोषित किया जाना चाहिए जिससे उनके कानूनी वारिस उनके बैंक अकाउंट, इंश्योरेंस, फण्ड तथा अन्य कोई कार्य है, उसे सम्पादित कर लें। जो लापता व्यक्ति सरकारी नौकरी में थे, उनके बच्चे अनुकम्पा आधार पर नौकरी के लिए आवेदन कर सकें।

मेरा केन्द्र सरकार से अनुरोध है कि वह राज्य सरकारों को निर्देशित करें कि जो व्यक्ति उत्तराखण्ड की आपदा में लापता हैं उन्हें Missing Presumed Dead घोषित करें जिससे उनके कानूनी वारिस तत्काल मुआवजा व अन्य सुविधाएं शीघ्र प्राप्त कर सकें।

(vii) Need to name the modernized Chennai domestic Terminal-II as Kamarajar Terminal-II

SHRI MANICKA TAGORE (VIRUDHUNAGAR): Chennai International airport had two terminals and the domestic terminal was named 'Kamarajar Terminal' and the international terminal was named as "Anna Terminal" in honour of former Chief Minister C.N. Annadurai.

Now both the terminals have been upgraded and modernized at the cost Rs. 2300 crores. After the expansion and modernization of the Chennai Airport, the existing passenger terminal has been changed into Cargo terminal and the new domestic terminal has become the second terminal at the Chennai Airport. But so far modernized second terminal (domestic terminal) at Chennai airport has not been named and it should be continued to be called 'Kamarajar Terminal-II'. However, this has not been done so far. The Chennai International terminal may continue to retain the name as 'Anna Terminal' as called before modernization of the airport.

The Union Government may be aware that some airports in the country were modernized and retained their old name even after their modernization like Lucknow airport retained its old name as Chaudhary Charan Singh and Kolkata airport retained its old name as Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport. In the same way, the modernized Chennai Airport Terminal -II may also be named and called as Kamarajar Terminal-II.

Hence I urge upon the Union Government to take necessary action to name the Chennai domestic terminal as Kamarajar Terminal-II.

**(viii) Need to name Central University in Motihari and Gaya in Bihar as
'Mahatma Gandhi Central University' and Gautam Buddha
Central University' respectively**

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह (पूर्वी चम्पारण): महात्मा गांधी की कर्मभूमि चम्पारण का मुख्यालय मोतिहारी है । चम्पारण की जनता की वर्षों पुरानी मांग बिहार सरकार के लगातार अनुरोध एवं बिहार के सांसदों के प्रयास के बाद भारत सरकार ने मोतिहारी में केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय की मांग तो मान ली है किंतु सभी सांसदों, बिहार की सरकार और वहां की जनता की मूल भावनाओं एवं इच्छा के अनुसार महात्मा गांधी जी का नाम इसमें सरकार ने नहीं जोड़ा है । जवाहर लाल जी, श्रीमती गांधी जी और राजीव गांधी जी के नाम से देश में केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय स्थापित हैं । मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि मोतिहारी में महात्मा गांधी केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय एवं गया में गौतम बुद्ध केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय नाम रखा जाए ।

**(ix) Need to set up a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Dabra,
Gwalior District, Madhya Pradesh**

श्रीमती यशोधरा राजे सिंधिया (ग्वालियर): सीमा सुरक्षा बल टेकनपुर (जिला ग्वालियर) में कार्यरत सेना के अधिकारी/कर्मचारियों के बच्चों की सुविधा हेतु एवं राजस्व अनुभाग डबरा में पदस्थ केन्द्र सरकार/राज्य सरकार एवं स्थानीय निवासियों के बच्चों के अध्ययन सुविधा हेतु डबरा में एक केन्द्रीय विद्यालय प्रारंभ किए जाने हेतु आयुक्त, केन्द्रीय विद्यालय संगठन, नई दिल्ली से मेरे द्वारा पिछले कई वर्षों से प्रयास किया जा रहा है ।

जिला प्रशासन द्वारा केन्द्रीय विद्यालय के लिए डबरा के समीप ग्राम सिमिरियाताल में उपयुक्त भूमि भी उपलब्ध करवा दी है । इसके अतिरिक्त, जिला शिक्षाधिकारी ग्वालियर द्वारा भी अपेक्षित जानकारी क्षेत्रीय अधिकारी, केन्द्रीय विद्यालय संगठन, आगरा संभाग को प्रेषित की जा चुकी है ।

सीमा सुरक्षा बल टेकनपुर (जिला ग्वालियर) में पदस्थ अधिकारी/कर्मचारियों के बच्चों को प्रतिदिन 40 कि.मी. यात्रा कर केन्द्रीय विद्यालय, ग्वालियर जाना पड़ता है । जिसके कारण बच्चों और अभिभावकों को कई परेशानियों का सामना करना पड़ता है ।

अतः सरकार से आग्रह है कि इस दिशा में प्रभावी पहल कर डबरा में केन्द्रीय विद्यालय की स्थापना यथाशीघ्र की जाए ।

(x) Need to ensure safety and security of journalists in the country

श्री शैलेन्द्र कुमार (कौशाम्बी): देश में पत्रकारों की सुरक्षा के लिए कानून बनाने की आवश्यकता है । पत्रकारिता भारतीय लोकतंत्र का एक अंग है । पत्रकारों को अपने परिवार को लेकर गुजर बसर कैसे करें, यह सुनिश्चित होना चाहिए । पत्रकार सुरक्षा कानून संसद में पास होना चाहिए । पत्रकारों की जान माल की सुरक्षा हो । हमलावरों पर गैर-जमानती धाराओं में मुकदमा दर्ज हो । इसे शासकीय कार्यों में बाधा के समान अपराध समझा जाना चाहिए । किसी भी घटना की जांच की समय सीमा सुनिश्चित होनी चाहिए । पत्रकारों के उत्पीड़न की जांच हेतु उच्च स्तरीय शासकीय समिति का गठन करना चाहिए । समिति में शासकीय समिति के अलावा पत्रकारों को शामिल किया जाना चाहिए । केन्द्र सरकार तत्काल संसद में बिल लाकर सुरक्षा की गारंटी लें ।

(xi) Need to provide separate budget for payment of wages to Gram Rojgar Sevaks under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme and also provide accident insurance cover to all the workers engaged in MGNREGA scheme

श्री रमाशंकर राजभर (सलेमपुर): मनरेगा के अंतर्गत प्रदेश की ग्राम पंचायतों में संविदा पर कार्यरत ग्राम रोजगार सेवकों को नियमित किया जाये तथा नियमितीकरण के उपरांत मिलने वाली समस्त सुविधायें भी प्रदान करायी जाये । प्रत्येक ग्राम पंचायत में एक नियमित कर्मचारी उपलब्ध होने से आम नागरिकों को तीव्र गति से समस्त योजनाओं का लाभ प्राप्त होगा ।

मनरेगा अंतर्गत संविदा पर कार्यरत ग्राम रोजगार सेवकों व अन्य कार्मिकों का मानदेय भुगतान केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा निर्धारित 6 प्रतिशत प्रशासनिक व्यय मद से करने की व्यवस्था की गयी है । जो किसी भी रूप से सही नहीं है, क्योंकि ग्राम पंचायतों का भौगोलिक क्षेत्रफल वार्षिक लेबर बजट भिन्न-भिन्न होता है । उत्तर प्रदेश में प्रशासनिक व्यय मद को पांच भागों में बांटा गया है । 1. सोशल आडिट 2. मनरेगा सेल उ0 प्र0, 3. जनपद स्तर, 4. विकास खण्ड, 5. ग्राम पंचायत स्तर । ग्राम पंचायत में 05/- रूपये प्रति मानव दिवस सृजन के आधार पर प्रशासनिक व्यय मद का निर्धारित किया गया है । जबकि ग्राम रोजगार सेवकों को न्यूनतम 3300 /- रू0 मानदेय भुगतान देने का शासनादेश जारी हुआ है । उदाहरण स्वरूप एक ग्राम पंचायत में एक वित्तीय वर्ष में 7920 मानव दिवस सृजित होने पर ही नियत मानदेय 3300/- रू0 प्रतिमाह भुगतान हो पायेगा अर्थात एक वित्तीय वर्ष में ग्राम पंचायत में 60:40 के हिसाब से परियोजनाओं पर लगभग 16.5 लाख रूपये व्यय होना चाहिए जो किसी भी दशा में समान रूप से प्रत्येक ग्राम पंचायत के लिए संभव नहीं है । इस विसंगति व्यवस्था से किसी भी ग्राम रोजगार सेवक अथवा अन्य कार्मिक का शासनादेशानुसार निर्धारित न्यूनतम मानदेय भुगतान किसी भी दशा में नहीं हो पायेगी ।

चूंकि संविदा पर कार्यरत शिक्षामित्रों, आंगनवाडी सहायिकाओं या अन्य विभागों में कार्यरत संविदा कार्मिकों में मानदेय भुगतान की व्यवस्था प्रशासनिक व्यय मद पर आधारित नहीं है । और उनको समय से मानदेय भुगतान होता रहा है । अतएव रोजगार सेवकों व अन्य मनरेगा कार्मिकों का प्रशासनिक व्यय मद पर आधारित मानदेय भुगतान की व्यवस्था को समाप्त करके प्रत्येक माह न्यूनतम नियत मासिक मानदेय भुगतान हेतु पृथक बजट की व्यवस्था करायी जाये ।

देश में आम व्यक्तियों को सरकार द्वारा निःशुल्क बीमा की सुविधा प्रदान की जा रही है, वहीं मनरेगा अंतर्गत पंजीकृत जॉब कार्डधारकों को रोजगार दिलाने में सहायक ग्राम रोजगार सेवक व अन्य मनरेगा कर्मियों को बीमा की सुविधा नहीं है, जो अत्यंत ही खेदजनक है । अतएव ग्राम रोजगार सेवक सहित अन्य संविदा कार्मिकों के पारिवारिक सुरक्षा के लिए स्वास्थ्य एवं दुर्घटना बीमा का सुविधा प्रदान करायी जाये ।

(xii) Need to provide compensation to farmers whose lands have been acquired for construction of bridge on river Kosi in Supaul parliamentary constituency, Bihar

श्री विश्व मोहन कुमार (सुपौल): मैं माननीय पथ परिवहन एवं राजमार्ग मंत्री जी का ध्यान मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र सुपौल में कोसी नदी पर बनाये गये पुल से संबंधित समस्या की ओर आकृष्ट करते हुए कहना है कि हाल में ही माननीय पथ परिवहन एवं राजमार्ग मंत्री जी ने इस पुल का उद्घाटन किया, किंतु आज से 8 वर्ष पूर्व एन.डी.ए. के शासन काल में इस पुल शिलान्यास तत्कालीन प्रधानमंत्री जी ने किया था एवं पुल निर्माण के लिए किसानों की जमीन अधिगृहित की गयी थी किंतु आज तक किसानों का मुआवजा राशि नहीं दी गई न ही विस्थापित परिवार को अन्य सारी सुविधाएं दी गयी जिसके कारण विस्थापित परिवारों में रोष व्याप्त है ।

अतः माननीय मंत्री जी से आग्रह है कि अधिगृहित जमीन का मुआवजा आज के बाजार भाव से किसानों को दी जाए साथ ही साथ विस्थापित परिवार को बसाने के साथ प्रत्येक परिवार में से एक सदस्य को सरकारी नौकरी देने की कृपा करें जिससे कि समस्याओं का समाधान हो ।

(xiii) Regarding the proposal to privatise the operation and management of Airports in Kolkata, Chennai, Guwahati, Ahmedabad, Lucknow and Jaipur

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): The airports in Kolkata and Chennai were modernized by the Government of India at a cost of Rs. 2300 crores and 2100 crores respectively. Now the AAI under the Govt. of India is planning to handover these airports to private parties for operation and management. This is strongly opposed by the people as well as by all the unions and associations of the employees and officers of the AAI. The AAI is also proposing to privatize airports in the Guwahati, Ahmedabad, Lucknow and Jaipur. It means handing over public assets to private parties. I strongly urge upon the Government not to handover operation and management of above said airports to the private parties.

(xiv) Need to set up adequate cold storage facilities, food processing industries and an agricultural export zone in Krishnagiri district, Tamil Nadu

SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM (KRISHNAGIRI): In my Krishnagiri District, mango cultivation occupies a prominent place. Mangoes are cultivated here in nearly 40,000 hectares of land and the annual production is around 4 lakh tons. Large varieties of mangoes cultivated here are exported throughout the country and abroad fetching huge foreign exchange to the Government. Considering the high potential in this region, the National Horticultural Mission has identified and declared Krishnagiri district for promoting mango cultivation.

As the mango production is plenty, so is the production of mango pulp. The mango pulp industry in Krishnagiri District is the second largest exporter of pulp in the country generating revenue of about Rs. 500 crore foreign exchange annually. Large number of mango processing units are also functioning here and the annual pulp production level is about 1 lakh tons. Out of the total mango pulp produced in India, 1/4 is contributed by both Krishnagiri and the neighbouring Dharmapuri districts. The increasing demand for mango pulp envisages rapid expansion of mango pulp industries in the region.

Therefore, to cope with the increasing cultivation of mangoes and production of large quantities of mango pulp, I urge upon the Union Government to set up proper cold storage facilities, establish adequate food processing industries and also set up an Agricultural Export Zone in Krishnagiri District, Tamil Nadu at the earliest.

(xv)Need to increase the number as well as amount of money of various scholarships awarded to the students in country

SHRI A. SAMPATH (ATTINGAL): Various Scholarships provided by the Ministry of HRD and also by the ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment to students either on the basis of merit or on the basis of socio- economic condition need to be increased both amount-wise and number-wise. While the rate of inflation and the cost of living have become very high, the amount of scholarship awarded to students is inadequate to meet even their urgent needs. The allotment of the Planning Commission in this regard is very low and without any justification. Some of the schemes are not at all useful for intended beneficiaries.

Hence, I urge upon the GOI to immediately hold consultations with various stake holders and to ensure that the number and the amount of various scholarships are increased in accordance with the present day realities.

(xvi)Need to send a Central team to assess to loss of lives, crops and property due to floods in Andhra Pradesh and provide financial assistance to the State

SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO (KHAMMAM): The flood situation continues to be grim as the river Godavari flooded numerous villages in Warangal, Karimnagar, Khammam, Adilabad, Nizamabad, East and West Godavari districts of Andhra Pradesh and left more than 150 villages marooned. Warangal and Karimnagar districts have been worst affected . Perur in the Khammam district has recorded an unprecedented rainfall perhaps the highest rainfall in the State's history. Many people have lost their lives and many houses collapsed. Crops raised over 69,000 hectares of land were inundated.

I, therefore, urge the Government to send a Central Team to assess the loss and provide central assistance immediately.

(xvii) Need to close down liquor shops along National Highways in the country

श्री बलीराम जाधव (पालघर): राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों के दोनों तरफ शराब बेचने के लिए राज्य सरकारों ने दुकानें खोलने की स्वीकृति दी है और खूब जोर-शोर से शराब की इन खोली गई दुकानों से शराब की बिक्री की जाती है। लोग इन दुकानों से शराब लेते हैं और पीते हैं और फिर गाड़ी चलाते हैं जिससे राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों पर सड़क दुर्घटनाएं होती हैं। अब केन्द्र तथा राज्य सरकारों इन सड़क दुर्घटनाओं से चिंतित होकर इन दुकानों को यहां से हटाकर अन्यत्र कहीं ले जाने पर विचार कर रही है। सरकार के इस प्रयास पर शराब बेचने वालों ने कोर्ट का सहारा लेना शुरू किया है। अतः मेरा सरकार से आग्रह है कि राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों के दोनों तरफ कोई शराब की दुकान न खोली जाए तथा जो दुकानें पहले खोली गई हैं उनको अन्यत्र कहीं दूसरी जगह ले जाएं। मेरा ऐसा मानना है कि सरकार के इस कदम से सड़क दुर्घटनाओं में काफी कमी आएगी और राजमार्ग में हो रही दुर्घटनाओं में काफी कमी आएगी।

14.05 hrs**OBSERVATION BY THE CHAIR**

Deprecating conduct of some members in the House

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the conduct of several Members in the House today, in showing banners and placards in the well of the House, shouting slogans; and one Member dressed up dramatically and attempting to play flute in the well of the House was highly derogatory to the dignity of the House.

I deprecate the conduct of the Members in strongest possible terms and hope that there shall not be a recourse to such behaviour in future.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats.

... (*Interruptions*)

चौधरी लाल सिंह (उधमपुर): मैडम, किशतवाड़ को जिस तरह से बर्बाद किया गया है, वहां 110 दुकानें जलाई गयी हैं, उसकी सीबीआई इन्क्वायरी करायी जाए।... (व्यवधान)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats.

... (*Interruptions*)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : किसी की बात रिकार्ड में नहीं जाएगी।

... (व्यवधान) *

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please go to your seats.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 3 p.m.

14.06 hrs

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Fifteen of the Clock.*

* Not recorded.

15.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha reassembled at Fifteen of the Clock

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh *in the Chair*)

... (*Interruptions*)

15.01 hrs

At this stage, Shri M. Venugopala Reddy and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

... (*Interruptions*)

सभापति महोदय : सदन की कार्यवाही शुरू की जाती है, आप लोग कृपया अपना आसन ग्रहण कीजिए।

... (व्यवधान)

सभापति महोदय : आप लोग कृपया अपना आसन ग्रहण कीजिए।

... (व्यवधान)

सभापति महोदय : आप लोग अपनी सीट पर चले जाइए।

... (व्यवधान)

सभापति महोदय : माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी आप बोलिए।

... (व्यवधान)

15.02 hrs**STATEMENT BY MINISTER*****Current account deficit**

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Last year, at this time, the foremost challenge to the Indian economy was the growing fiscal deficit. Hence, on August 6, 2012 I made a statement on the path of fiscal consolidation that we intended to take. ... (*Interruptions*)

सभापति महोदय : केवल माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी की बात रिकार्ड में जाएगी।

... (व्यवधान)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Following the report of the Vijay Kelkar Committee, we promised to contain the fiscal deficit at 5.3 percent of GDP for 2012-13. While presenting the Budget, I was able to say that the fiscal deficit, according to the revised estimates, had been contained at 5.2 percent, and you extended your support to me. I thank you for your support. Actual numbers are even better, and the fiscal deficit for 2012-13 stood at 4.9 percent.... (*Interruptions*)

I recall this to underscore the point that, working together, we can meet the challenges faced by the economy. ... (*Interruptions*)

Since the world economy is challenged, India's economy also faces challenges. One of the main challenges is the Current Account Deficit (CAD). In 2011-12, while financing the CAD, we had to draw upon reserves to the extent of USD 12.8 billion. Last year, we had a larger CAD at USD 88.2 billion. Nevertheless, we were able to fully and safely finance the CAD, and do even better. We added USD 3.8 billion to the reserves. We contained the CAD at 4.8 percent of the GDP. ... (*Interruptions*)

This year too, investors and analysts have raised concerns about the CAD. Their concerns are reflected in the pressure on the exchange rate. The RBI has taken a number of measures to increase the interest rate at the short end and this

* Placed in Library See No. LT 9330/15/13

has contained the depreciation of the rupee to some extent. However, we believe that we have to do more to contain the CAD, to reduce volatility in the currency market and to stabilise the rupee.... (*Interruptions*)

There have been extensive consultations among the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas and the Reserve Bank of India. We have the Ministry of Commerce's estimates of exports and imports and of the trade gap. Based on these consultations, we have estimated the CAD for the current year and have decided on certain measures that would ensure that the CAD will be fully and safely financed in the current year.... (*Interruptions*)

The measures that we will take to reduce the CAD include:

- (i) Compression in import of gold and silver
- (ii) Compression in demand for oil
- (iii) Compression in certain imports (non-essential nature)

We will also take measures to enhance the capital inflows into India and these will include:

- (i) Public sector Financial Institutions to raise quasi-sovereign bonds to finance long term infrastructure
- (ii) Liberalising ECB guidelines
- (iii) PSU oil companies to raise additional funds through ECBs and trade finance
- (iv) Liberalising NRE/FCNR deposit schemes

As a result of these measures we expect that the CAD will be contained at USD 70.0 billion while the inflows will increase to a level that will be sufficient to finance the CAD. We also expect that, like last year, there will be a small accretion to reserves at the end of the current year.... (*Interruptions*)

If the CAD is contained at USD 70.0 billion, it will amount to 3.7 percent of GDP (as against 4.8 percent in 2012-13).... (*Interruptions*)

Notifications in respect of tariff rates will be laid before Parliament in the usual course. Administrative measures, as and when taken by the competent authority, will be put in the public domain. I am sure I can count on your support for the measures that we intend to take.

... (*Interruptions*)

सभापति महोदय : सदन की कार्यवाही 13 अगस्त 2013 को 11 बजे तक के लिए स्थगित की जाती है।

15.05 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday 13th August,
2013/Sravana 22, 1935(Saka)*
