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Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

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Shri Anoop Mishra

LOK	SAI	BHA	DEBA	ATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, December 15, 2014/Agrahayana 24, 1936 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[HON. SPEAKER in the Chair]

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. KUMAR (TIRUCHIRAPPALLI): Madam, we gave a notice. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: I will allow you after the Question Hour.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: I will allow you during the 'Zero Hour'.

... (Interruptions)

11.01 hrs

At this stage, Shri P. Kumar and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

11.01 ½ hrs

At this stage, Shri Abhishek Banerjee and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

... (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): Madam Speaker, the issue that is being raised by AIADMK Members, which has agitated them, has been taken note of by the Government. They said that the Railway Board had asked some questions in the examination conducted by it which were not relevant at all – about the convicted persons, etc. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, you have to go back to your seats. You cannot speak from the well of the House. You have to go back to your seats and then speak.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: The Government have already taken note of it. We will convey the necessary advice to the people concerned. Be rest assured about that. I have already said that it was not a relevant question. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats and you cannot speak from here.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Madam, even on the issue of CBI, the Government... (*Interruptions*) Please give a notice separately.

HON. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, let them go to back to their seats and then only you may say something. Hon. Members, first you must go back to your seats. It cannot be like this. Please go back to your seats.

... (*Interruptions*)

11.03 hrs

At this stage, Shri P. Kumar and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

SHRI P. KUMAR: Madam, recently, the Railway Board conducted an examination where they have wrongly included Q. No. 43. Hon. *Puratchi Thalaivi* Amma is the God of Tamil people and also of many other Indians. They have wrongly included the name. The case is pending before the High Court. This action is highly condemnable. Hence, the Government must take action against the Railway Board immediately.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: I have already submitted to the House that this issue has come to our notice. We will take up the matter with the Railway Board and also advise them accordingly. This question is not relevant at all. I do not know why they have put that question. I assure you that the matter will be taken up with the Railway Board and needed action will be taken. ... (*Interruptions*)

On this other issue also, the Government ... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, let them go back to their seats. It cannot be like this. Let them go back to their seats, if they want to hear what the Minister is saying. Otherwise, how can you say anything?

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: If you want to raise something, you should go to your seats and then the Minister will say something but not in this way. I am sorry. If you want to make *hulla gulla*, you can do so. It is your right.

11.05 hrs

At this stage, Prof. Saugata Roy and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

HON. SPEAKER: Actually, this is not the procedure. As a special case, I am allowing you. सौगत राय जी, इसको हमेशा की बात मत बनाइए।

...(व्यवधान)

11.06 hrs

SUBMISSION BY MEMBER

Re: Reported Misuse of Central Bureau of Investigation

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): Today, I have given notice of Calling attention and for 'Zero hour' on the misuse of CBI by the Central Government. The CBI is a premier investigation agency of the country but in the past, when the Ruling Party was in the Opposition, they used to call the CBI as Congress Bureau of Investigation. The Supreme Court has called the CBI as 'caged parrot'. The CBI's former director ... * was asked to recuse from the investigation into the 2G scam. ...(व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : नाम मत लीजिए।

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: Now, CBI on the instigation of those in power and the President of the Ruling Party has launched an assault on the West Bengal Government and they are trying to subjugate the State Government by arresting TMC Leaders. We want to state that the CBI has to be removed from the control of the Prime Minister and given to the Lokpal. It is being used politically.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Madam, this is not allowed. Saugata Ji is a senior member. He has given notice for 'Zero Hour' and he has given a notice for Calling Attention. It is for the Chair to admit it either way.... (*Interruptions*) Sultan Ahmed Ji, do not make comments. The hon. Member has taken the name of Jagdambika Pal. I request all of us to respect each other.

Madam, he has made a comment about my Party President. I totally condemn it.

_

^{*} Not recorded

Second point is that a legal battle cannot be substituted by political battle. If someone is aggrieved by legal action, there are other avenues available to them. ... (*Interruptions*) The Government does not believe in misusing the CBI. That regime has gone which you were supporting earlier. That regime has gone. Now, this Government gives full freedom to CBI. Be rest assured but at the same time, do not come to the rescue of the people who are tainted. You would also get bad name unnecessarily. This is my advice. (*Interruptions*)

श्री रवीन्द्र कुमार पाण्डेय (गिरिडीह): महोदया, मंत्री जी द्वारा मंत्रालय का कार्यभार संभालने के पश्चात् एमएसएमई विभाग में कई महत्वपूर्ण फैसले लिए गए हैं, जिनके कारण छोटे उद्यमियों का अत्मविश्वास बढ़ा है।...(व्यवधान)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Madam, Rule 349 says that they cannot exhibit the photos. He is showing photo which is totally objectionable. ... (*Interruptions*) I request the Chair to name the Member. Otherwise, this will become a practice. HON. SPEAKER: Sultan Ahmed Ji, this is not proper. Whatever you are doing is not proper. I am sorry.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Sultan Ahmed Ji, please do not show posters. I am requesting you. This is not allowed.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: That poster has to be withdrawn. This is a very bad precedent. This is very bad precedent of bringing something from Bazaar and then bringing it to the House and trying to portray something which is totally not acceptable. Rule 349(xiv) says that this is not allowed.

11.09 hrs

At this stage, Prof. Saugata Roy and some other hon. Members left the House.

11.10 hrs

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

HON. SPEAKER: Question No. 301, Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey.

(Q.301)

श्री रवीन्द्र कुमार पाण्डेय : अध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं आपके माध्यम से पूछना चाहता हूं कि क्या सरकार झारखण्ड में प्रायरिटी लेंडिंग स्कीम के तहत कृषि आधारित उद्योग एवं सूक्ष्म-लघु उद्योगों के विकास के लिए क्या कार्य किए जा रहे हैं? सरकार द्वारा निर्धारित लक्ष्य को शत-प्रतिशत हासिल करने के लिए और एमएसएमईडी एक्ट, 2006 के दिशा-निर्देशों का अनुपालन कराने हेतु संबंधित विभाग एवं बैंक्स को उत्तरदायी बनाने के लिए, उनको दण्डित करने के लिए प्रभावी कानून बनाने की बात है। लघु उद्यमियों के पैंडिंग आवेदन और स्वीकृत आवेदन का शीघ्र से शीघ्र निष्पादन हो। यदि हां तो यह कब तक किया जायेगा और यदि नहीं किया गया है तो इसकी पूरी जानकारी क्या है?

श्री कलराज मिश्र: महोदया, माननीय सदस्य ने सूक्ष्म, लघु और मध्यम उद्योग के संबंध में, उनके विकास के बारे में, उनकी स्थापना के बारे में बड़े विस्तार से प्रश्न किया है और मैंने पूरे विस्तार के साथ उसका उत्तर भी दिया है। उसमें उन्होंने झारखंड के बारे में विशेष रूप से जानकारी प्राप्त करनी चाही है। कृषि पर आधारित छोटे-छोटे उद्यमों के विकास के लिए मंत्रालय क्या करने जा रहा है, इस संबंध में उन्होंन प्रश्न पूछा है।

दूसरा प्रश्न पूछा है कि जो अस्वीकृत हुए हैं या पैंडिंग एप्लीकेशंस हैं, उनके निपटान के लिए क्या कियक? मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि झारखंड में वैसे पूरे लघु उद्यमियों की संख्या छः लाख से ऊपर है, जिसमें पंजीकृत केवल 14 हजार हैं और इसमें लगातार जो भी काम होता है, वह चूंकि व्यक्तिगत प्रयास के आधार पर ही होता है। जो भी सूक्ष्म, लघु और मध्यम उद्योग के अंतर्गत चीजें आयेंगी, उनके मापदंड के आधार पर निश्चित रूप से उन्हें स्वीकृत किया जायेगा और सरकारी स्तर पर दी जा रही सुविधाएं जो विशेष रूप से संयंत्र की दृष्टि से होती है, उसके लिए स्वीकृति प्रदान भी की जायेगी।

जहां तक पैन्डिंग एप्लीकेशंस के निराकरण का प्रश्न है, मैं बताना चाहूंगा कि मंत्रालय की तरफ से चाहे बैंक के द्वारा ऋण लेने का प्रश्न होगा, उसमें दी गई एप्लीकेशंस होंगी, चाहे क्रेडिट लिंक कैपिटल सब्सिडी स्कीम के अंतर्गत दी गई होंगी, सभी का निपटान हमने तीन महीने के अंतर्गत ऑन लाइन कर दिया और लगभग सब पूर्ण हो गये हैं और उसकी प्रक्रिया हमने इस तरीके से प्रारम्भ की है कि सारी एप्लाकेशंस आ जायेंगी, ऑन लाइन होंगी और उन्हें निपटाने में किसी भी प्रकार की कठिनाई नहीं होगी।

श्री रवीन्द्र कुमार पाण्डेय: अध्यक्ष महोदया, जैसा कि मंत्री जी ने बताया कि वर्तमान में झारखंड प्रदेश और बिहार में ऐसा देखने को मिला है कि कृषि आधारित या छोटे उद्योग बंदी के कगार पर हैं, चूंकि सरकारी बैंक के द्वारा ऋण की व्यवस्था करने की बात है या उन्हें और भी सपोर्ट मिलने की बात है, उसमें उन्हें काफी कुछ मिलता नहीं है। जैसा अभी मंत्री जी ने कहा कि तीन महीने में सबका निपटान कर दिया है। हमें इस बात की खुशी है, लेकिन वर्तमान में इसकी स्थिति बहुत बुरी है। मैं मंत्री जी से निवेदनपूर्वक कहना चाहूंगा कि इसमें थोड़ी रफ्तार और तेज की जाए, ताकि जो गांव देहात के लोग हैं, वे इसका फायदा उठा सकें।

माननीय अध्यक्ष: वह करेंगे, सुझाव है।

श्री कलराज मिश्र: माननीय सदस्य ने जो सुझाव दिया है, हम इसे और पूर्ण करने की दिशा में प्रयत्न करेंगे।

श्री रामा किशोर सिंह: अध्यक्ष महोदया, माननीय मंत्री जी ने उत्तर विस्तारपूर्वक दिया है। लेकिन सबसे मुख्य बात है कि माननीय मंत्री जी ने प्रश्न 'ख' के उत्तर में कहा है कि उद्यमों की स्थापना व्यक्तिगत प्रयास है, जिसके लिए परियोजना की आर्थिक दृष्टि से लाभप्रदता आदि की जांच करने के पश्चात बैंक वित्तीय संस्थान, सूक्ष्म, लघु और मध्यम उद्यमों को ऋण प्रदान करता है।

में आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यही जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या सरकार का विचार बिहार सिहत देश में लघु, सूक्ष्म और मध्यम उद्योगों की स्थापना, आधुनिकीकरण और विकास के लिए प्रत्येक जिला उद्योग केन्द्र पर संबंधित उद्यमियों के आवेदनों, शिकायतों का निष्पादन, सिंगल विंडो सिस्टम के माध्यम से एक निर्धारित समय के अंतर्गत करने, जिला उद्योग केन्द्र में उद्यमियों के लिए उपस्थिति पंजी उपलब्ध कराने, उद्योग विभाग द्वारा स्वीकृत आवेदनों को सीधे बैंक भेजकर उद्यमियों को ऋण सुनिश्चित कराने और नियमों का उल्लंघन करने वाले बैंकर्स या अधिकारियों को दंडित करने हेतु प्रभावी कदम उठाने का सरकार के द्वारा यदि कोई विवरण है तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

श्री कलराज मिश्र: अध्यक्ष महोदया, माननीय महोदय ने दो भागों में प्रश्न पूछा है। एक तो इन्होंने व्यक्तिगत प्रयास कहा है। व्यक्तिगत प्रयास जरूर है लेकिन उसमें तेजी लाने के लिए हम कई अवेयरनैस कार्यक्रम कर चुके हैं और लगातार करते रहते हैं। इस बार के हमने 1474 अवेयरनैस कार्यक्रम किए हैं। पिछले तीन वर्षों के अंदर 8633 अवैयरनेस के कार्यक्रम हुए हैं, जिसके अंतर्गत उद्यमी आगे बढ़े हैं। दूसरा, बैंकों की समीक्षा की दृष्टि से माननीय सदस्य ने कहा है कि उसके कारण काफी परेशानी होती है और जिला स्तर पर जो शिकायतें की जाती हैं, उसका निस्तारण नहीं होता है। मैं इस बात से सहमत हूँ कि बैंकों के कारण

लघु उद्यमियों को काफी किठनाई आ रही है। समय से कर्जा न उपल्ध होने के कारण बहुत सारे उद्यम बंद हो रहे हैं। इनका एनपीए हो रहा है, एनपीए हो जाने के कारण उनकी किठनाई बढ़ती है। इसके निस्तारण के लिए जैसे उन्होंने सिंगल विंडो सिस्टम की बात कही है, उस दिशा में हमारा प्रयास जारी है और हम कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि एक फॉर्मेट बकायदा इंटरनैट पर रखा जाए ताकि उद्यमियों को इधर-उधर भटकना न पड़े और एप्लिकेशन के माध्यम से सुविधापूर्वक वे अपने उद्यम को प्राप्त करने में सक्षम हो सके।

SHRI S.P. MUDDAHANUME GOWDA: Madam, a lot of money is being given to young entrepreneurs in the country to establish MSMEs. The Department of MSMEs has no monitoring mechanism to find out whether the money given to young entrepreneurs through bank loans is being properly utilized, and whether the persons to whom the money is given have really made use of the opportunity given to them. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what is the percentage of success of the young entrepreneurs who made use of this loan under MSME scheme.

श्री कलराज मिश्र: महोदया, उसकी मॉनिट्रिंग की दृष्टि से राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर हमने एक सिमित बनाई है। विभाग के सैक्रेट्री उसके अध्यक्ष होते हैं। उसमें कई अन्य लोग हैं, बैंकों के भी प्रतिनिधि हैं। उस आधार पर हम उसकी मॉनिट्रिंग करते हैं और जहां तक आपने दूसरा प्रश्न किया है कि प्रतिशत क्या है, मैं इतना कहना चाहूंगा कि जितनी भी यूनिट्स इस समय काम कर रही हैं या बंद पड़ी हैं, रिज़र्व बैंक ऑफ इंडिया ने उसके बारे में आंकड़े प्रस्तुत किए हैं। इस समय पूरे देश भर में पंजीकृत और अपंजीकृत, 3 करोड़ 60 लाख इकाइयां हैं। लेकिन इस समय जो सिक यूनिट्स हैं, जो बंद पड़ी हैं, वे लगभग 4 लाख से ऊपर हैं। यह निश्चित ही एक कठिनाई है। उसके रिवाइवल के लिए हमारी तरफ से कोशिश चल रही है। उसके लिए भी हम पैसे खर्च कर रहे हैं। यह स्थिति है। इसमें प्रतिशत तो हमने अभी निकाला नहीं है। लेकिन उसका स्वरूप यह है।

श्रीमती भावना पुंडिलकराव गवली: अध्यक्ष महोदया, मंत्री जी ने डिटेल में अपना उत्तर दिया है, लेकिन हमें यह अनुभव होता है कि जब-जब हम विजिलेंस मॉनिट्रिंग कमेटी की बैठक लेते हैं, उसमें भी बैंकों के बारे में हम पूरी जानकारी लेते हैं। अफसरों के साथ चर्चा करने बाद भी हमें वहां पर रिज़ल्ट कुछ नहीं मिल पाते हैं। हम देख रहे हैं कि हमारे देश में बेरोज़गार युवाओं की इतनी संख्या बढ़ रही है कि हम उन्हें कोई नया रोज़गार भी नहीं दे पा रहे हैं। ऐसी स्थिति में लघु और मध्यम उद्योग की बात हम करने जा रहे हैं। आपने कहा कि अभी ऑन लाइन शुरूआत की है, नई शुरूआत हुई है।

महोदया, महाराष्ट्र के विदर्भ में कभी सूखा पड़ता है, कभी वहाँ बारिश होती है और बाढ़ आती है,

देश में ऐसे बहुत सारे राज्य हैं, जहाँ कुछ भागों में बहुत कठिनाई के साथ लोग अपना गुजारा करते हैं।

मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहती हूँ कि जहाँ पर लोगों को जीवन जीने में कठिनाइयों का

सामना करना पड़ता है और रोजगार के जो अवसर वहाँ के लोगों को मिलने चाहिए, क्या सरकार ऐसे

राज्यों के लिए अलग से कोई नीति बनाने जा रही है? यहाँ पर सूखे की बात हुई है। क्या हम ऐसे राज्यों

के लिए कोई अलग से नीति बनाने जा रहे हैं? मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यही जानना

चाहती हूँ।

श्री कलराज मिश्र: महोदया, माननीय सदस्या ने जो प्रश्न किया है, उसे प्रश्न के रूप में नहीं, उसे सुझाव

के रूप में मैं ग्रहण करता हूँ और हम इस सम्बन्ध में निश्चित रूप से विचार करेंगे।

HON. SPEAKER: Question 302

SHRI P.R Senthilnathan- Not present.

(Q.302)

श्री रत्न लाल कटारिया : महोदया, किसी भी देश की उन्नित के लिए उसका मैन्युफैक्चरिंग सेक्टर बहुत महत्व रखता है। यू.पी.ए. के शासनकाल में पॉलिसी पैरालाइसिस की वजह से करोड़ों कार्य दिवस की क्षिति हुई है और हजारों करोड़ रूपये का नुकसान तालाबन्दी और हड़ताल की वजह से हुआ है। भविष्य में उस प्रकार की स्थिति देश में नहीं बननी चाहिए।

मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री महोदय जी से जानना चाहूँगा कि मालिक और मजदूरों के बीच अच्छे सम्बन्ध बनाने के लिए मंत्रालय ने क्या-क्या कदम उठाये हैं, तािक वे आपस में एक-दूसरे को एक-दूसरे का प्रतिद्वन्दी न समझकर राष्ट्र के निर्माण में मिलकर काम करें। अगर इस प्रकार की कोई पॉलिसी प्रनाउन्समेंट हमारी सरकार ने की है तो उसके बारे में माननीय मंत्री जी सदन को अवगत कराएं।

SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA: Hon. Speaker Madam, I have already given the information to the House. In 2011, 179 strikes were held due to which 46,96,807 man-days were lost. In 2012, 265 strikes were held and the man-days lost were 28,49,753. In 2013, 178 strikes took place resulting in loss of 28,66,000 man-days. So what I want to impress upon the hon. Member is that there is a reducing trend in terms of loss of man-days, particularly in 2014 that has come to 89 strikes and loss of 11,67,987 man-days. So the trend is already in the decline and industrial relations between the employer and employee are very cordial. Whenever necessary, even in cases of lockouts, this Government has primarily given more concern for the tripartite meetings. Whenever strike, lockout or any such thing arises, we will first of all try conciliatory methods. पहले समझौत किया जाता है। अगर समझौत से नहीं हो पाता है तो जो हमारे असिस्टेंट लेबर कमिश्नर होते हैं और राज्य के अधिकारियों से भी हम लोग बात करते रहते हैं। हम बात करके ज्यादा से ज्यादा समस्या सुलझाने की कोशिश करते हैं। हम इसी आधार पर काम करते हैं।

श्री रत्न लाल कटारिया : अध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी को बताना चाहूँगा कि तालाबंदी और हड़तालों की वजह से हमारे देश में लाखों मज़दूर अपनी आजीविका खोते रहे हैं। आई.एल.ओ. की भी इस प्रकार की बहुत सी रिपोर्ट पहले आई हैं और अभी सत्यार्थी जी को भी इसी विषय पर नोबल पुरस्कार मिला है। औद्योगिक क्षेत्र में कई उद्योग ऐसे हैं, जैसे शीशा उद्योग है, दियासलाई बनाने का उद्योग है, जहाँ पर बच्चों से काम लिया जाता है। हम यह चाहते हैं कि अब वर्तमान सरकार के रहते

इस प्रकार की स्थिति देश में न बने, हमारे बच्चों का भविष्य सुरक्षित हो और हमारे मज़दूरों का भविष्य सुनिश्चित हो, इस प्रकार का एक बहुत अच्छा वातावरण बनाने के लिए मंत्रालय ने क्या-क्या कदम उठाए हैं तथा उनके रीहैबिलिटेशन के लिए क्या-क्या कदम उठाए हैं? जो भी डिसप्यूट्स चल रहे हैं, उनके सैटलमैंट का तथा डिसप्यूट्स के सॉल्व होने का कितना परसेंटेज हैं?

SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA: Madam, the question is in two parts. First, he is asking about the pro-active measures taken by this Government. Secondly, he is asking about the pendency of court cases.

As regards court cases, I have already mentioned, we prefer the conciliatory methods. A lot of statutory authorities are also there. Those authorities have their own procedures like committees, tribunals and courts. But we give much importance to conciliatory methods. All the court cases come under the Industrial Disputes Act. In 2012, a total of 10,290 cases were pending in different courts, out of which, 6029 cases have been disposed of and still 4261 cases are pending. It is a continuous process and as per the latest report, in 2014-15, a total of 5546 cases were pending, out of which, 1077 cases were disposed of and still 4469 disputes are pending.

The hon. Member has asked a very important question. This Government led by Shri Narendra Modiji, is concentrating more on unorganized sector which is a very important sector. It constitutes 93 per cent of the total work force. Therefore, our emphasis is on this sector and if any further question comes up on this, I will answer that.

SHRI K.N. RAMACHANDRAN: Madam, some large industries closed down suddenly without prior notice. For example, in my Constituency, Nokia suddenly closed down its unit without prior notice and because of that about 5000 employees have suffered. What action has been taken by the Government to avoid such a situation?

SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA: Madam, the hon. Member from Tamil Nadu has asked a very important question. It is a very serious concern for us also. The Nokia Private Limited company had set up a plant in Sriperumbudur in the Special Economic Zone in January 2006. The Company came into red due tax liability enforced by the Government of Tamil Nadu. There was also absence of orders from Microsoft. The hon. Supreme Court had ordered a separate tax in March 2014 to give guarantee money of Rs.3500 crore before the transfer of this plant to Microsoft. This is due to the ceiling imposed by the tax department and preventing the exploring potential opportunity for the transfer of the factory in the interest of the last term viability of the Plan. Now, the hon. Member has asked about the suspension of the Plan, due to the closure of the Plan, the services of about 6600 employees have been affected directly and about 10000 people indirectly. In this, the establishment has offered some good initiatives like consultancy services, employment and training. We are in consultation with them.

माननीय अध्यक्ष: हो गया। आप बाद में उनसे मिल लें।

...(व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: अभी प्रश्न खत्म हो गया है। फिर कभी पूछ लें।

...(व्यवधान)

(Q.303)

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN: Sir, first Railway Minister of this Government had made it amply clear that the top priority of Railway Ministry would be on matters relating to safety. We are all happy about such a statement and we welcome it. The Railway Ministry had appointed a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Anil Kakodkar to make recommendations for ensuring safety and security in the Railway. The Kakodkar Committee has made 106 recommendations and one of the major recommendations of the Kakodkar Committee was to set up Railway Safety Authority under the Government. I would like to know from the Minister as to what concrete measures have been taken by this Government to implement the recommendations of the Kakodkar Committee report as also the status of its implementation.

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: अध्यक्ष महोदया, अनिल काकोदकर समिति की जो संस्तुतियाँ हैं, उनमें से कुछ को पिछले दिनों रेलवे ने इंप्लीमैंट किया है। कुछ बाकी रह गई हैं जो आने वाले दिनों में अनुमोदन के पश्चात निश्चित रूप से इंप्लीमैंट कर दी जाएँगी।

जहाँ तक सेफ्टी मीज़र्स का सवाल है, बजट में निश्चित रूप से पूर्व मंत्री जी ने सेफ्टी को लेकर चिन्ता भी ज़ाहिर की थी और जो बजट एलोकेशन है, 33 हज़ार करोड़ रुपये की तुलना में लगभग 43 हज़ार करोड़ रुपये पिछले दो वर्षों में किया गया है, मैं समझता हूँ वह इस बात का स्पष्ट प्रमाण है कि दो वर्षों में 10 हज़ार करोड़ रुपये की वृद्धि इस मद को लेकर हुई है। यह रेलवे के लिए टॉप प्रायॉरिटी का विषय है और निश्चित रूप से इस दिशा में रेलवे प्रयत्नशील है।

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN: Madam, Speaker, unfortunately the senior Minister is not present in the House. He is known for his professionalism... (*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: But the hon. Minister has replied to your question. You should not make such remarks. He has replied to your question. He is eligible for that.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN: Madam, I am not casting aspersions on him. I am only speaking about the greatness of that Minister. He is known for

his professionalism and his dynamism. He comes from the Konkan region of Maharashtra.

Madam, you would know it much better that during every monsoon the passengers along the Konkan route are put to great hardship and misery because of the heavy landslide over there. My own family had a traumatic experience on this route during one of the monsoons. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what measures are being taken to ensure the safety of the passengers during monsoon along this route. Also, I would like to know as to what steps are being taken by the Government to double the Konkan route.

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: अध्यक्ष महोदया, मूल प्रश्न से इस प्रश्न का बहुत संबंध नहीं है, लेकिन जो जानकारी माननीय सदस्य ने कोंकण रेलवे के संदर्भ में चाही है, उसका लिखित उत्तर इनके पास दे दिया जाएगा, एक-दो दिन में मैं भिजवा दूँगा। ...(व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: यह सेफ्टी का ही प्रश्न है और वहाँ लैंडस्लाइड होती है, यह बात सही है।

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN: This is connected to safety.

MADAM SPEAKER: I am protecting you. I am telling the hon. Minister.

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: अध्यक्ष महोदया, मानसून के दौरान जो उपाय करने होते हैं, वह हर साल रेलवे किया करती है लेकिन जब बारिश अधिक हो जाती है, जब रेलवे ट्रैक पर पानी जमा हो जाता है तो निश्चित रूप से उसमें कठिनाई होती है। उस क्षेत्र में पानी के कारण ये कठिन स्थितियाँ आती हैं, लेकिन निश्चित रूप से यह सर्वोच्च प्राथमिकता का विषय रहा है और उस पर रेलवे बराबर गंभीर रही है।

SHRI P.K. BIJU: Madam Speaker, the Railway Minister has placed the written answer on the Table of the House.

Madam, it is alarming to see that more than 2,25,863 vacancies are existing on the safety side alone. As regards the expenditure part, the RE and the actual figures are given. We are spending the budgetary allocation in each year and we are introducing more than 100 trains in each year but the Ministry's claim is that 2,25,863 vacancies has not affected the safety of the passengers. It is said in the written answer that efficiency in operational performance is maintained by

appropriate man power planning. It is a wrong answer. In the last month also, we have witnessed a tragic railway incident and its inquiry is going on.

The post of Member (Electrical) is vacant in the Indian Railways. The posts of GM and DRM are also vacant. The Government has recruited only some casual labourers and empanelled labourers but they are not ready to fill the important key posts.

I would like to ask the hon. Minister, through you Madam, one question. The Standing Committee relating to Roads and Highways recommended for the autonomy for Railway Safety Commission. I would like to know the steps taken by the Government for the autonomy to be given to the Railway Safety Commission or the steps which they are contemplating to take in this regard.

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: महोदया, माननीय सदस्य ने कई प्रश्न एक साथ पूछे हैं।

माननीय अध्यक्ष: आप केवल ऑटोनमी के बारे में ही जवाब दीजिए।

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: महोदया, 2 लाख 25 हजार पद रिक्त हैं, लेकिन उसमें सेफ्टी से संबंधित पद 1 लाख 28 हजार के आस-पास हैं। जहां 14 लाख 50 हजार कर्मचारी हैं, वहां इतने पद रिक्त होना एक स्वाभाविक प्रक्रिया है और रेलवे में भर्ती का काम निरन्तर चलता रहता है। पिछली नवम्बर में 62 हजार पदों की लिखित परीक्षा रेलवे ने करायी है और 81 हजार पदों के लिए हमने विज्ञापन दिया हुआ है। प्रतिवर्ष का चार्ट हमने दिया हुआ है। मैं समझता हूं कि इस दिशा में यह ऑन-गोइंग प्रोसेस है और यह चलता रहता है। कुछ विरुठ पदाधिकारियों की बात उन्होंने उठायी है, जैसे कि मैम्बर इलेक्ट्रिकल की बात कही है, कुछ जनरल मैनेजर के पद भी खाली हैं। सरकार उस प्रक्रिया में लगी हुई है और आपको पता है कि पदों की भर्ती की एक सरकारी प्रक्रिया है, जैसे ही अनुमित मिलेगी शीघ्र ही इन पदों को भर दिया जाएगा।...(व्यवधान)

श्री जगदम्बिका पाल: अध्यक्ष महोदया, माननीय मंत्री जी ने काफी विस्तार से उत्तर दिया है। मैं उनका आभारी हूं कि यात्रियों की सुरक्षा को उन्होंने सर्वाच्च प्राथमिकता दी है। जैसा कि उन्होंने उल्लेख किया कि वर्ष 2011-12 में 33,499 करोड़ रुपये का सुरक्षा का प्रावधान था तो हमारी सरकार ने 43,443 करोड़ रुपये का सुरक्षा के लिए प्रावधान किया है। निश्चित तौर से 10 हजार करोड़ रुपये की वृद्धि हुई है। लेकिन जैसा कि माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि यह भी वास्तविकता है कि 2,25,863 सुरक्षा से जुड़े हुए हैं और देश के 16 रेलवे जोन्स में पद रिक्त हैं। इन्होंने यह भी उल्लेख किया कि 62 हजार पदों का एग्जाम...(व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: आप प्रश्न पूछिए।

श्री जगदम्बिका पाल: महोदया, पिछले चार वर्षों में कुल 79 हजार की भर्ती की गयी। वर्ष 2011-12 में 23 हजार, 2012-13 में 28 हजार, वर्ष 2013-14 में 31 हजार हुई। इस तरह से इन दो लाख पदों की भर्ती तो अगले दस वर्षों में हो पाएगी। क्या माननीय मंत्री जी इस भर्ती प्रक्रिया में तेजी लाने के लिए इसे टाइम बाउण्ड तरीके से करेंगे? यदि इम्पैनलमेंट के लिए रेलवे बोर्ड को मिनिस्ट्री भेजती है कि इतने रिक्त पदों को भरने की कार्रवाई आप करें और रिटन एग्जाम और इंटरव्यू एग्जाम टाइम बाउण्ड हों, जिससे इन पदों को भरा जा सके। साथ ही माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा...(व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आपका प्रश्न हो गया है। एक साथ इतने प्रश्न नहीं होते हैं। आपका प्रश्न है कि टाइम बाउण्ड करना है।

श्री जगदम्बिका पाल: महोदया, हम एक ही प्रश्न पूछ रहे हैं कि ओवर एज असैट्स को बदलने की जो बात कही गयी है तो यूपी और बिहार में जो पुराने पुल हैं, जिनके कारण कई एक्सीडेंट हो चुके हैं। अभी मगहर में, गोरखपुर में...(व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: आपका एक प्रश्न हो चुका है कि भर्ती को सरकार टाइम बाउण्ड करे।

श्री जगदिन्बिका पाल: महोदया, यह भी बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है यदि माननीय मंत्री जी उत्तर देना चाहें तो दे दें। श्री मनोज सिन्हा: महोदया, माननीय सदस्य ने जो प्रश्न पूछा है, उसके संदर्भ में मैंने पहले ही उत्तर दिया है कि 82 हजार पदों का विज्ञापन हमने निकाला है और विज्ञापन और भर्तियों के बावजूद प्रतिवर्ष इतने बड़े ऑर्गेनाइजेशन में लोग अवकाश प्राप्त करते हैं, कुछ लोगों की स्वाभाविक मौत हो जाती है। कुछ स्वत: रिटायरमेंट ले लेते हैं। इसके कारण पदों की रिक्ति रहती है और रेलवे रिक्रूटमेंट बोर्ड पूरी तरह से ऑपरेशनल है। मैं समझता हूं कि भर्ती की प्रक्रिया ठीक है और यदि इसमें और तेजी लानी होगी तो इस पर हम विचार करके प्रभावी कार्रवाई करेंगे।

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Madam Speaker, in the reply the hon. Minister has extensively talked about safety and the new precaution methods that they are using. With such a big gap between the people they require and the technology, is the education that we are getting today compliant to the jobs which are more technological in nature?

In Maharashtra, from where I come, the Mumbai suburban railway uses the maximum utility of passengers. There are a lot of issues regarding the safety of people, particularly the safety of women. There is so much of new technology which is required. Are we equipped to play along with the new technology? Does the manpower and the new technology match?

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: माननीय सदस्य ने जो प्रश्न पूछा है, मैं उनको बताना चाहूंगा कि नयी टैक्नोलॉजी का उपयोग हम बराबर करते रहते हैं। सेफ्टी ड्राइव भी रेलवे चलाती है और अपने कर्मचारियों की ट्रेनिंग का काम भी हम निरंतर जारी रखते हैं। सुरक्षा की वृद्धि के लिए हम अनेक प्रकार के नये उपकरणों का उपयोग करते हैं, जैसे अभी आरडीएसओ ट्रेन कॉलिजन एवॉइडेंस सिस्टम का ट्रायल कर रही है। यूरोपियन तकनीक पर आधारित ट्रेन प्रोटैक्शन एंड वॉर्निंग सिस्टम - दो को पॉयलट बेसिस पर हमने कुछ जोनल रेलवे पर चलाना आरंभ किया है और मैं समझता हूं कि इस दृष्टि से कर्मचारियों को पर्याप्त ट्रेनिंग दी जाती है और इसमें कोई लापरवाही रेलवे नहीं करती।

SHRI JAYADEV GALLA: Thank you Madam Speaker. The Railways have spent more than Rs. 20,000 crore on safety in the last four to five years. The hon. Minister has spoken about the Train Protection and Warning System, the Train Collision Avoidance System, the Vigilance Control System. But these systems are yet to be fully rolled out.

But my question is regarding a much more simple device, that is the Automatic Smoke Alarm System. There are 40,000 non-a/c coaches, which are 85 per cent of the total coaches, that do not have any defence against fire.

So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the reason for not fitting the Automatic Smoke Alarm System in non-a/c coaches. What plan of action does he have to fit these coaches with this System in the next few years?

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: माननीय सदस्य ने जिस सिस्टम की बात कही है, उसका प्रयोग रेलवे में होता है लेकिन संसाधनों की कमी के कारण हर कोच में यह ईक्वपमेंट हम नहीं लगा सकते हैं। लेकिन जैसे-जैसे संसाधनों में वृद्धि होगी, इस उपकरण का प्रयोग हम पूरे रेलवे में करेंगे।

(Q.304)

श्री प्रहलाद सिंह पटेल : माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, 70-80 साल के श्रमिक आंदोलनों में जो राष्ट्रवादी विचार रहा है, उसकी बड़ी ठोस मांग रही है कि श्रमिकों को श्रम कानूनों का लाभ मिले और उद्योगपतियों को भी हतोत्साहित न होना पड़े लेकिन अगर कोई उद्योगपित कोई ऐसी गलती करता है तो उसके बारे में जरूर जांच होनी चाहिए। मैं सबसे पहले सरकार को इस बात के लिए बधाई दूंगा, खासकर माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी को बधाई दूंगा क्योंकि यह एक ऐतिहासिक कदम है जो श्रमिकों के हित में है। जिस पोर्टल की बात सरकार ने शुरु की है, उससे दो बातें उत्तर में साफ लिखी हैं कि यदि कोई इंडस्ट्री का निरीक्षण होगा तो 72 घंटे में उसकी रिपोर्ट ऑनलाइन करनी होगी और उसका लाभ सीधे श्रमिकों को मिलेगा क्योंकि उनके अधिकार सुरक्षित होंगे। लेकिन जो संख्या इसमें दी गई है, चार मुख्य रूप से नामित संगठन हैं:- मुख्य श्रम आयुक्त, श्रम सुरक्षा महानिदेशालय, कर्मचारी भविष्य निधि संगठन और कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम। इन चार के भीतर आने वाले जितने भी नियोक्ता हैं, इसमें उत्तर में यह जरूर दिया गया है कि 59 नये प्रतिष्ठान जोड़े गये हैं। कुल संख्या 7,13624 मजदूरों की है जिनको पोर्टल मिला है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि वास्तव में इन चार संस्थानों के भीतर आने वाले कुल कितने मजदूर हैं एवं नियोक्त कितने हैं? अगर वह संख्या सामने आ जाए तो देश के सामने भी यह तुलना करने में सुविधा होगी कि गित क्या है?

SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA: The hon. Member has rightly pointed out some of the issues. The very purpose of this Shram Suvidha Portal is transparency, accountability and employability. These three things are more important. For that reason, we have come up with this Portal. Our hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji has inaugurated this programme on 16th October under the name of Shram Suvidha Programme. The very purpose of this programme is the allotment of a unique Labour Identification Number. The Portal is there. The Portal is centrally data-based. This is for e-krani, as I have mentioned. The second thing is e-business. There is single return for 16 labour laws. It is a sort of simplification.

The second thing which we have observed is that it has been operationalized in four organisations – The EPFO, the ESIC, DGMS and the CLC (C). Under this, as of today, 7,40,850 establishments are covered in which inspection is done, as I have mentioned. I would tell you very clearly that more

transparency will be there in the inspection scheme. There will not be any inspector raj.

I will also give you some data. The total number of inspections which have been assigned is 16,030. This inspection is not man-made. The computer itself will do it. We will give the feedback to the computer. The computer itself will take the random sample. Inspection has to be done based on the random sample. There will not be any discriminatory power to the inspectors. For that reason, we have assigned 16,030 inspections, out of which the inspector has to submit the inspection report within 72 hours. It is mandatory. The result is 12,883 on the Portal. The pending number is 1,681. For that, the e-kranti is there. A lot of purpose is served. I will not explain much of these things. But this Shram Suvidha Programme ensures accountability and transparency.

माननीय अध्यक्ष: काफी अच्छा विस्तृत उत्तर हो गया।

श्री प्रहलाद सिंह पटेल : माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, मुझे ये बातें पता हैं और देश को भी पता होनी चाहिए कि वास्तव में यह सुविधा श्रमिकों को भी संरक्षण देती है और उसमें पारदर्शिता बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है। मैंने यह चाहा था कि नियोक्ताओं की संख्या देश के सामने आ जाए और उसके भीतर जो रजिस्टर्ड हैं,...(व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: वह जानकारी उन्होंने दे दी।

श्री प्रहलाद सिंह पटेल: माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न यह है कि जो चार संस्थाएं हैं- श्रम आयुक्त, श्रम सुरक्षा महानिदेशालय, कर्मचारी भविष्य निधि, ईपीएफ के जो राज्य बीमा निगम हैं, जो इनके भीतर नहीं आते, उदाहरण के लिए कि चूड़ी उद्योग है, उसमें रिजस्ट्रेशन ही नहीं है। लेकिन जब रिजस्ट्रेशन ही नहीं है तो ईपीएफ या किसी सीमा के भीतर वह नहीं आएगा। असंगठित क्षेत्र के मजदूर बहुत बड़ी संख्या में हैं जो इस दायरे में आने चाहिए। इसीलिए मैंने संख्या पूछी थी कि कुल संख्या कितनी है? इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि जिनको तथाकथित रूप से असंगठित क्षेत्र के मजदूर कहते हैं लेकिन वे इस पोर्टल की सीमा के भीतर आते हैं, विशिष्टतम पहचान संख्या उनको मिलनी चाहिए। मैंने मंत्री जी से स्पेसिफिक पूछा है कि जैसे चूड़ी उद्योग है, जैसे और भी सारे उद्योग हैं, क्या उनको भी शामिल करने के लिए अलग से कोई प्रयास होंगे?

SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA: It is a very good question raised by the hon. Member. My Government is considering identification and registration of

unorganised workers. इन सारे असंगठित मजदूरों के लिए एक नेशनल कार्ड भी दिया जाएगा, पोर्टेबिलिटी कवर में भी इनको लाया जाएगा और हम लोग एक स्मार्ट कार्ड सामने ला रहे हैं और उसके अंदर जो यूनिवर्सल एकाउंट नम्बर रहता है, उस नम्बर से जितने भी असंगठित मजदूर हैं, विशेषकर जो हाउसिंग सैक्टर में हैं और उसी तरह से जो आंगनवाड़ी वर्कर्स हैं, ऐसे लोगों के लिए सोशल सिक्योरिटी सुविधा बहुत जरूरी है। उसके लिए स्मार्ट कार्ड में तीन स्कीम्स हैं:- पहली स्कीम केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना, दूसरी स्कीम आम आदमी बीमा योजना और तीसरी स्कीम इंदिरा गांधी ओल्ड एज पेंशन है। इन तीनों को सेन्ट्रलाइज़ करके अनऑर्गनाइज्ड सैक्टर को कार्ड दिया जाएगा। श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी की सरकार आने के बाद इस तरह का निर्णय पहली बार लिया जा रहा है।

श्री धर्म वीर गांधी: महोदया, पिछले कुछ सालों से सदन में यूनिक और स्मार्ट जैसे शब्द सुनने को बहुत मिल रहे हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि यूनिक आइडेंटिफिकेशन नंबर केवल एम्प्लोयर को मिलेगा या मजदूरों को भी इसका लाभ मिलेगा? Is the employer obliged to tell the number of people he is employing in his industry or enterprise and the ESI benefit or benefits of pension he or she is giving in that enterprise? Is it for the employers only or does it involve 70 per cent of unorganised sector employees also?

SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA: Madam, I have already stated that Labour Identification Number is connected to the employers and Universal Account Number will come to all the employers and all the employers will be covered under this scheme. I would like to inform you that 4.2 crore employees will also come under this scheme and in future daily monitoring and weekly monitoring will be done and assessments will be made. A large number of work force in the country will be covered under this scheme. I feel that even the contract labour will also come under this scheme. In future, we are planning to include unorganized sector employees also under this scheme.

श्री कामाख्या प्रसाद तासा : अध्यक्ष जी, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से आपके माध्यम से पूछना चाहता हूं कि असम के चाय बागान के लेबर्स और इंडस्ट्री को भी स्वयं सुविधा पोर्टल्स में क्या शामिल किया गया है?

श्री बंडारू दत्तात्रेय: अध्यक्ष जी, चाय बागान के लेबर्स के लिए अलग से प्रावधान हैं लेकिन वेस्ट बंगाल और असम में बहुत गम्भीर समस्या है। यहां की समस्याएं अलग हैं और राज्य सरकार के अधीन आती हैं। मैं हर्ष के साथ बताना चाहता हूं कि आने वाले समय में राज्य सरकार भी इस पोर्टल में आने वाली हैं। अभी तक दस राज्य सरकारें पोर्टल में आने को तैयार हैं। यदि सम्बन्धित राज्य सरकारों के साथ समझौता हो जाता है तो चाय बागान के वर्कर्स भी आ सकते हैं।

(Q.305)

SHRI KARADI SANGANNA AMARAPPA: Madam Speaker, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether linkage of Aadhaar Card is mandatory under the Direct Benefit Transfer of LPG Scheme for all the LPG consumers.

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Madam, there is no mandatory provision for the new modified DBTL Scheme. Bank account is another option and so Aadhaar Card is not mandatory.

SHRI KARADI SANGANNA AMARAPPA: Madam, this scheme is a good scheme. What is the percentage of Aadhaar Card holders in the country and what action the Government has taken to give Aadhaar Card to all LPG consumers?

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Madam, as I said earlier, Aadhaar Card is not mandatory for this scheme. There are different percentages of Aadhaar seeding in different States. Now we are concentrating on bank account for transfer of LPG subsidy.

SHRI VINCENT H. PALA: Madam Speaker, the Direct Benefit Transfer of LPG Scheme was launched on the 15th of last month in 54 districts of the country whereas for the rest of India it is scheduled to be launched from 1.1.2015. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how many people have taken connections and what is the percentage of success under this scheme for the last one month? I would also like to know as to what is the plan of the Government for the next launch and whether the Government will give benefit under this scheme to those people who do not have bank account and Aadhaar Card.

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Madam, the hon. Member has put a very pertinent question. In 54 districts, now the seeding process is around 75 per cent. In the rest of the country, out of 15.3 crore consumers, 25 per cent are already seeded to bank or Aadhaar.

There are two-three steps. For those who have Aadhaar and those who have already seeded their LPG number with Aadhaar number with their respective bank account, it is fine. Aadhaar connection is not mandatory. Now, those who have bank accounts, they have to identify, they have to give their bank number to the LPG distributor. LPG distributor's responsibility is to seed that bank account with their LPG consumer number. That is going on. Those who do not have a bank account, now, in the recent campaign, with the new Jan Dhan scheme, a lot of people have already opened their accounts. Still those persons who do not have bank accounts, they will now open their accounts at LPG distribution point. That facility will also be there at the LPG distribution point.

SHRI M.B. RAJESH: Madam Speaker, there are many complaints that even those consumers who have got Aadhaar cards and bank accounts are not getting subsidy credited to their accounts. Even the oil marketing companies are pleading that they are helpless and they cannot ensure that subsidy will be credited to their accounts. Even I have received many complaints from consumers in my constituency. So, I would like to know, through you, Madam, what steps the Government proposes to take, or whether the Government has already taken any steps to ensure that whatever limited subsidy is available, that will be credited to the accounts of those consumers who have even Aadhaar cards. Those who do not have Aadhaar cards, their problem is bigger than this. So, I am asking about those consumers who have got an Aadhaar card; whether the Government will ensure that subsidy will be available, at least, to them. Thank you, Madam.

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Madam, as I have already clarified, firstly,

Aadhaar card is not mandatory. Secondly, bank account is also another option.

Those who do not have any bank account can also avail of the scheme. They can

open their bank accounts; they can seed their bank account number and LPG

consumer number within the next three months. I appreciate the hon. Member's

question because he is from Kerala. The whole State of Kerala has adopted this

new scheme. Till 10th of December, 3578 complaints are there. Out of them,

already 2999 complaints are complied with.

Through you, Madam, I would like to assure, there is a new portal, namely,

'mylpg.in'. Those who have any problem, they can put their complaint in the

'mylpg' portal. They can put their complaint in the LPG distribution point also in

a box. This is a new scheme. This is a very ambitious scheme in which 15 crore

consumers will converted – their LPG consumer number – through bank account.

So, certainly this will be a challenging task. With the help of all the hon. MPs,

this can be a very successful programme. This will save money and this will

facilitate a good delivery mechanism to consumers.

HON. SPEAKER:

Question 306

Shri Kalyan Banerjee – not present.

Mr. Minister, you can lay your Statement on the Table of the House.

(Q. 306)

डॉ. वीरेन्द्र कुमार : अध्यक्ष महोदया, सरकार कामगारों के हित संरक्षण के लिए काफी गंभीर है। इस संबंध में काफी प्रावधान किए गए हैं। कारखाना (संशोधन) अधिनियम के द्वारा भी सरकार इस दिशा में काफी प्रयास कर रही है। किन्तु, प्रश्न के भाग 'घ' में उत्तर दिया गया है कि पोत पुनःचक्रण/पोतभंजन सहित विनिर्माण क्षेत्र में नियोजित कामगारों के लिए सुरक्षा, स्वास्थ्य एवं कल्याण सुनिश्चित करने हेतु संविधियां सरकार द्वारा अधिनियमित व्यापक विधानों नामतः कारखाना अधिनियम, 1948 और उसके अंतर्गत बनाए गए नियमों के रूप में उपलब्ध हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदया, व्यवहार में यह देखने में आता है कि पोतभंजन के काम में जो कामगार लगे रहते हैं, उनमें से अधिकांश कार्य ठेकेदारों द्वारा कराए जाते हैं और वे कॉन्ट्रैक्ट बेसिस पर कराए जाते हैं।

12.00 hrs

उनका न तो कोई नम्बर रखा जाता है औ न ही उनके सुरक्षा के बिन्दुओं पर ध्यान दिया जाता है। ...(व्यवधान) मैं उसी बिन्दू पर आ रहा हूं कि उनको न तो जूते दिए जाते हैं, न हेलमेट दिया जाता है, न ग्लास दिए जाते हैं और न ही उनको ड्रेस दी जाती है। जिस तरह के जोखिम में वे लोग काम करते हैं, कई बार जलने की घटनाएं हो जाती हैं। लौह अयस्क उनके ऊपर गिरने से कई बार फेटल और नॉन फेटल एक्सीडेंट हो जाते हैं। ऐसे ठेकेदारों के द्वारा लापरवाही करने के विरुद्ध प्रबंधन द्वारा क्या उनको ब्लैक लिस्टेड करने की कार्यवाही की जाएगी?

श्री बंडारू दत्तात्रेय: इसमें यह बहुत हैज़ार्डस माना जाता है। इसे खतरनाक कहा जाता है, इसिलए इस एक्ट के तहत इसे नामांकित किया है। इसके लिए उसमें जो-जो प्रावधान किए हैं, जैसे उन्हें सुविधाएं प्राप्त कराना, काम करते समय गोगल्स, हेलमेट और गल्वस आदि लगाना। The concerned State Government is the statutory authority. That is why, keeping in view the ship breaking activities in Gujarat, we have sanctioned a 50 bedded hospital at Alang, Gujarat. All precautionary measures have been taken. The concerned Act is there. Everything is happening according to the Act. The DG is in contact with all statutory authorities. Along with that, there will be a conference of inspectors every year also.... (Interruptions)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: अगर वे सेफ्टी नहीं लेते हैं तो क्या करते हैं?

12.01 hrs

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

HON. SPEAKER: Now, Papers to be laid. Item No. 2 – Shri Bandaru Dattatrey. THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Board for Workers Education, Nagpur, for the year 2012-2013, alongwith Audited Accounts.
 - (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Board for Workers Education, Nagpur, for the year 2012-2013.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1223/16/14]

- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of Section 7 of the Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952:-
 - (i) The Employees' Pension (Second Amendment) Scheme, 2014 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 593(E) in Gazette of India dated 19th August, 2014.
 - (ii) The Employees' Provident Funds (Amendment) Scheme, 2014 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 608(E) in Gazette of India dated 22nd August, 2014.
 - (iii) The Employees' Pension (Amendment) Scheme, 2014 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 609(E) in Gazette of India dated 22nd August, 2014.

(iv) The Employees' Deposit-Linked Insurance (Amendment) Scheme, 2014 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 610(E) in Gazette of India dated 22nd August, 2014.

(4) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 689(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated 25th September, 2014, containing corrigendum to the Notification No. G.S.R. 320(E) dated 6th May, 2014 issued under the Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1224/16/14]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Petroleum Technology, Rae Bareli, for the year 2013-2014, alongwith Audited Accounts.
 - (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Petroleum Technology, Rae Bareli, for the year 2013-2014.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1225/16/14]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
 - (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Balmer Lawrie Investments Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2013-2014.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Balmer Lawrie Investments Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2013-2014, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1226/16/14]

खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा इस्पात मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री विष्णु देव साय): अध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं खान खान और खनिज (विकास और विनियमन) अघिनियम, 1957 की धारा 28 की उपधारा(1) के अंतर्गत निम्नलिखित अधिसूचनाओं की एक-एक प्रति (हिन्दी तथा अग्रेजी संस्करण) सभा पटल पर रखता हूं:-

- (1) सा.का.नि. 630 (अ) जो 1 सितम्बर, 2014 के भारत के राजपत्र में प्रकाशित हुए थे तथा जिनके द्वारा खान और खनिज (विकास और विनियमन) अधिनियम, 1957 की दूसरी अनूसूची में कतिपय संशोधन किए हैं।
- (2) सा.का.नि. 631 (अ) जो 1 सितम्बर, 2014 के भारत के राजपत्र में प्रकाशित हुए थे तथा जिनके द्वारा खान और खनिज (विकास और विनियमन) अधिनियम, 1957 की तीसरी अनूसूची में कतिपय संशोधन किए हैं।
- (3) खनिज छूट (सूसरा संशोधन) नियम, 2014 जो 8 अकर्तूवर, 2014 के भारत के राजपत्र में अधिसूचना संख्या सा.का.नि. 710 (अ) में प्रकाशित हुए थे।

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1227/16/14]

12.03 hrs

COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT LOCAL AREA DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (LOK SABHA) Statements

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (KARUR): I beg to lay on the table the following Statements (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on MPLADS (Lok Sabha):-

- (1) Statement showing further action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Tenth Report of the Committee regarding Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in their Seventh Report (15th Lok Sabha) on the Subject 'Development of SC/ST areas through MPLADS funds'.
- (2) Statement showing further action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Twelfth Report of the Committee regarding Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in their Ninth Report (15th Lok Sabha) on the Subject 'Procedure on Provision of MPLADS funds for natural calamities'.
- (3) Statement showing further action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Thirteenth Report of the Committee regarding Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in their Eleventh Report (15th Lok Sabha) on the Subject 'Execution of MPLADS works through Societies/Trusts/NGOs'.

15.12.2014 40

12.03 ½ hrs

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE 9th Report

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): Madam, I beg to present the Ninth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

12.03 3/4 hrs

STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR

1st and 2nd Report

डॉ. वीरेन्द्र कुमार (टीकमगढ़) : अध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं श्रम संबंधी स्थायी समिति के निम्नलिखित प्रतिवेदन (हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी संस्करण) प्रस्तुत करता हं:-

- (1) श्रम और रोजगार मंत्रालय की अनुदानों की मांगो (2014-15) के बारे में पहला प्रतिवेदन।
- (2) वस्त्र मंत्रालय की अनुदानों की मांगों (2014-15) के बारे में दूसरा प्रतिवेदन।

12.04 hrs

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

(i) Declaration of 21st June as International Day of Yoga*

विदेश मंत्री तथा प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य मंत्री (श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज): माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदया, हम सभी ने संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ द्वारा 21 जून को भारत की पहल पर अंतर्राष्ट्रीय योग दिवस घोषित किए जाने का सुखद समाचार 11 दिसम्बर की शाम को सुना। एक भारतीय होने के नाते इस सुखद समाचार पर वक्तव्य देते हुए मुझे गर्व का अनुभव हो रहा है। सर्वप्रथम मैं इस पुनीत सदन का ध्यान हमारे प्रधान मंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी की इस व्यक्तिगत पहल को संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ में मिले अभूतपूर्व समर्थन की ओर आकृष्ट करना चाहूंगी। संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ के वार्षिक कैलेंडर में तकरीबन 118 दिवसों/वर्षों या वर्षगांठों को सूचीबद्ध किया गया है। 11 दिसम्बर को संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ के कुल 193 देशों में से 177 देश अंतर्राष्ट्रीय योग दिवस के प्रस्ताव के सह प्रायोजक बने, को-स्पोंसर बने।

माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदया, संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ में इस प्रकार के किसी भी प्रस्ताव पर सह प्रायोजकों की यह सर्वाधिक संख्या है। आज तक सबसे ज्यादा संख्या है, जो इस प्रस्ताव के सह प्रायोजकों को मिली है। सह प्रायोजक का अर्थ है कि इन राष्ट्रों ने न केवल भारत का समर्थन किया, अपितु इस पहल को स्वीकारने की अपनी सार्वजनिक इच्छा भी व्यक्त की।

यह भारतीय कूटनीति की विजय है कि सह प्रायोजकों की सूची इतनी लंबी है। जहां एक ओर हमें सुरक्षा परिषद के सभी पांच स्थायी सदस्यों का समर्थन मिला, वहीं दूसरी ओर हमें प्रशांत क्षेत्र के छोटे द्वीप समूह वाले उन देशों का भी समर्थन मिला जिनके साथ प्रधान मंत्री जी ने अपनी फीजी यात्रा के दौरान भेंट की थी। हमें अफ्रीका के मध्य से लेकर समूचे यूरोप तक, दक्षिण एशिया के हमारे पड़ोसी राष्ट्रों से लेकर सुदूर कैरेबियाई और लैटिन अमेरिका के हमारे मित्रों तक सभी का समर्थन मिला। सभी एक स्वर में हमारे समर्थन में उठ खड़े हुए।

मेरा ऐसा मानना है कि सभी क्षेत्रों से मिला व्यापक समर्थन हमें दो चीजें दर्शाता है। पहला, यह इस बात का प्रतिबिंब है कि भारतीय संस्कृति की समृद्ध धरोहर विशेषकर योग के प्रति विश्वव्यापी रूझान है। हालांकि हम सभी योगी नहीं बन सकते लेकिन योग को अपनी दिनचर्या में शामिल कर हम तन और मन के बीच एकात्मकता तथा प्रकृति के साथ तादात्मय स्थापित कर सकते हैं।

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^{*} Placed in Library, See No. LT 1228/16/14

इससे भी ज्यादा महत्वपूर्ण बात यह है कि अंतरर्राष्ट्रीय योग दिवस को मिला व्यापक समर्थन और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय समुदाय द्वारा इसको हृदय से स्वीकारना यह दर्शाता है कि किस प्रकार प्राचीन भारतीय परम्पराएं विश्व की आज की आवश्यकताओं के साथ सामंजस्य स्थापित करती हैं। जैसा कि प्रधान मंत्री जी ने न्यूयार्क में कहा योग सदियों पुराने भारतीय दर्शन को अभिव्यक्त करता है और मनुष्य और प्रकृति के बीच समग्रता लाता है। यहां मैं प्रधान मंत्री जी के भाषण के कुछ अंश उद्धत करना चाहूंगी। उन्होंने कहा --- ''योग हमारी पुरातन पारम्परिक अमूल्य देन है। योग मन व शरीर, विचार व कर्म, संयम व उपलब्धि की एकात्मकता का तथा मानव व प्रकृति के बीच सामंजस्य का मूर्त रूप है। यह स्वास्थ्य व कल्याण का समग्र दृष्टिकोण है। योग केवल व्यायाम भर न होकर अपने आप से तथा विश्व व प्रकृति के साथ तादात्मय स्थापित करने का माध्यम है"।

माननीय सदस्यगण, 27 सितम्बर, 2014 को संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ की आम सभा के अपने प्रथम संबोधन में माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने इस प्रस्ताव को आधिकारिक तौर पर रखा था। उसके ठीक 75 दिनों के भीतर शुक्रवार 11 दिसम्बर को संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ द्वारा इस प्रस्ताव को स्वीकार कर लिया गया। जिस शीघ्रता के साथ इस प्रस्ताव को रखा और स्वीकारा गया यह अपने आप में एक उपलब्धि है।

इस प्रस्ताव को मिला अपार समर्थन और इतनी सुगमता के साथ इसका स्वीकार किया जाना हमारी सरकार द्वारा विश्व स्तर पर किए गए कूटनीतिक प्रयासों का प्रत्यक्ष प्रमाण है। मैं इसे नए भारत की कूटनीतिक सफलता का एक महत्वपूर्ण घटक मानती हूं। "मेक इन इंडिया", "स्वच्छ भारत" और अब "अंतर्राष्ट्रीय योग दिवस" ये सभी जीवंत, खुशहाल और समृद्ध भारत की हमारी यात्रा के ऐसे पड़ाव हैं जिनकी छाप और जिनका प्रभाव हमारी सीमाओं के परे भी महसूस किया जा रहा है। विश्व के प्रमुख योग संगठनों ने हमारे प्रस्ताव व हमारी पहल को ह्रदय से सराहा है।

इससे पूर्व वर्ष 2007 में संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ ने महात्मा गांधी जी के जन्म दिन 2 अक्टूबर को अंतर्राष्ट्रीय अहिंसा दिवस घोषित किए जाने के भारतीय प्रस्ताव को पारित किया था। अंतर्राष्ट्रीय अहिंसा दिवस और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय योग दिवस दोनों मिलकर अंतर्राष्ट्रीय जगत में भारत के विशिष्ट योगदान को दर्शात हैं। इन दोनों पहलों का सार समग्र भारतीय दर्शन की अभिव्यक्ति है जिसे हम "वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम" कहते हैं अर्थात् सम्पूर्ण विश्व एक परिवार है। मैं तो यहां तक कहूंगी कि यह सम्पूर्ण भारतीय जीवनशैली का परिचायक है — विश्व के सामने उपस्थित समस्याओं के समाधान की ओर एक रचनात्मक पहल; जो हमारे पर्यावरण के साथ तादात्मय में हो।

जैसा कि मैंने 3 दिसम्बर को लोक सभा में कहा था, हमारी वैश्विक आकांक्षाओं की पूर्ति विश्व को अपने साथ लेकर चलने से पूरी हो सकती है। अध्यक्ष महोदया, अंतर्राष्ट्रीय योग दिवस की घोषणा विश्व को अपने साथ लेकर चलने की हमारी सरकार की प्रतिबद्धता की एक महत्वपूर्ण उपलब्धि है।

मैं संसद के अपने सभी साथियों को आश्वस्त करना चाहूंगी कि आने वाले दिनों में भी हम विश्व को अपने साथ लेकर चलने के अपने अनवरत संकल्प को दर्शाते रहेंगे।

जहां एक ओर हमने भारत और सम्पूर्ण दक्षिण एशिया को समृद्ध बनाने के लिए सिक्रय और अभिनव प्रयोगों की लगातार वकालत की है, वहीं दूसरी ओर हम भारत की "सॉफ्ट पावर" जिसंमें शामिल हैं भारत की समृद्ध संस्कृति और उसके लोगों की विविधता और विशिष्टता, इसको विश्व के सामने लाने के नए उपायों पर विचार करते रहेंगे और उन पर काम भी करते रहेंगे। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

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12.10 hrs

(ii) (a) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 253rd Report of the Standing Committee on Industry on Action Taken by the Government on recommendations/observations contained in the 244th Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2013-14), pertaining to the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises *

सूक्ष्म, लघु और मध्यम उद्यम मंत्री (श्री कलराज मिश्र):

- (1) महोदया, सूक्ष्म, लघु और मध्यम उद्यम मंत्रालय से संबंधित अनुदानों की मांगों 2013-14 के बारे में सिमित के 244वें प्रतिवेदन में अंतर्विष्ट सिफारिशों/टिप्पणियों पर सरकार द्वारा की गई कार्रवाई के संबंध में उद्योग संबंधी स्थायी सिमित के 253वें प्रतिवेदन में अंतर्विष्ट सिफारिशों के कार्यान्वयन की स्थिति के बारे में वक्तव्य सभापटल पर रखता हूँ।
- (b) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 258th Report of the Standing Committee on Industry on Action Taken by the Government on recommendations/observations contained in the 245th Report of the Committee on 'Review of Implementation of MSMED Act, 2006', pertaining to the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises' **

सुक्ष्म, लघु और मध्यम उद्यम मंत्री (श्री कलराज मिश्र):

(2) सूक्ष्म, लघु और मध्यम उद्योग मंत्रालय से संबंधित एमएसएमईडी अधिनियम, 2006 के कार्यान्वयन की समीक्षा के बारे में समिति के 245वें प्रतिवेदन में अंतर्विष्ट सिफारिशों/टिप्पणियों पर सरकार द्वारा की गई कार्रवाई के संबंध में उद्योग संबंधी स्थायी समिति के 258वें प्रतिवेदन में अंतर्विष्ट सिफारिशों के कार्यान्वयन की स्थिति के बारे में वक्तव्य सभापटल पर रखता हूँ।

HON. SPEAKER: Item No. 9 --- Calling Attention, Shri P.V. Midhun Reddy. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): Madam, allow me to raise my issue.

^{*} Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 1229/16/14

^{**} Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 1230/16/14

HON.SPEAKER: I will allow you to raise your matter during the 'Zero Hour'. Please take your seat.

12.11 hrs

<u>CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC</u> <u>IMPORTANCE</u>

Situation arising out of food adulteration in the country and steps taken by the Government in this regard

SHRI P.V. MIDHUN REDDY (RAJAMPET): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Health and Family Welfare to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The situation arising out of food adulteration in the country and steps taken by the Government in this regard."

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): Madam Speaker, consumption of adulterated and spurious food items is a serious health hazard and the Government is fully conscious of its deleterious effect on the consumers. With the objective of consolidating the laws relating to food and for laying down science based standards for articles of food as also to regulate their manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import, to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, the Food Safety and Standards Act was enacted in 2006. Subsequently, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) was established in 2008. The Food Safety and Standards Rules and six FSS Regulations, were also notified in 2011.

The Food Safety and Standards Act became operational with effect from 05.08.2011. The food regulatory framework has now moved from the one limited to prevention of food adulteration to safe and wholesome food regime. The responsibility for enforcement of the Food Safety and Standards Act and Rules and Regulations made thereunder primarily rests with States/UTs.

The Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 provides for graded penalties for infringement of the provisions of the Act. Penalties/punishment for selling food not of the nature or substance or quality demanded; sub-standard food; misbranded food; misleading advertisement; food containing extraneous matter; unsafe food for possessing adulterants etc., have been specified in the Act.

To curb the menace of food adulteration, regular surveillance, monitoring and sampling of food products is undertaken by the State /UT Governments under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, Rules and Regulations made thereunder. Instructions in this regard are issued by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) from time to time. Random Samples of food items are also drawn by the State Food Safety Officers and sent to the laboratories recognised by the FSSAI for analysis. In cases, where samples are found to be not conforming to the provisions of the Act and the Rules & Regulations made thereunder, penal action is initiated against the offenders. Based on information received from States/UTs, the details pertaining to last two years are as under:

Year	analysed	Samples found adulterated	No. of cases launched (criminal/civil)
2012- 13	69,949	11021	7179
2013- 14	72,200	13,571	10235

The Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011, prescribe limits for pesticide residues, naturally occurring toxic substances and metal contaminants. A Scientific Panel on Pesticides and Antibiotic Residues has been constituted under the FSSAI and the Panel has been delegated the power to fix the maximum residues levels of pesticides and antibiotic Residues in food commodities. Further, the exercise for harmonization of the maximum residue limits for pesticide residues in food commodities with

codex standards is presently being undertaken by the FSSAI.

The Ministry also proposes to comprehensively review the Food Safety and Standards Act, Rules & Regulations made thereunder to address the concerns of the Courts including in matters relating to food adulteration and the numerous representations received from the Food Business Operators. It is also proposed to revisit the punishment stipulated for milk adulteration and make it more stringent. SHRI P.V. MIDHUN REDDY: Thank you Madam for giving me this chance.

Madam, I would like to start with a quote of Swami Vivekananda. It says, "Brave, bold men and women, these are what we want. What we want is vigour in the blood, strength in the nerves, iron muscles and nerves of steel, not...... Avoid all these. Avoid all misery.".

Madam, I recall this quote of the great saint with reference to building a strong nation but these qualities envisaged by him will be a far fetched idea if we do not curb the menace of food adulteration. This is a greater threat than the border issues or the terrorist threat that our country is facing today. If we do not check food adulteration, we will lose more lives than in any war. It has got the potential of a weapon of mass destruction. Even basic things like water, milk and oil are in the long list of adulterated foods. No attention is paid.

If we take the case of water, we find a lot of water in the market branded as purified water. We know most of the water bottles in the market are spurious. We are a country where we have a slogan, 'Make in India'. We want other people from other countries to come to India and make their products. We are the same country which has sent Unmanned Mission to Mars and we launched satellites of other countries. But the irony is that we still find foreigners bringing their own water bottles to India when they come to India.

If we take the case of milk, earlier it was like adding water to milk was the common form of adulteration. But now it has reached hi-tech proportions with synthetic milk, which is made of caustic soda, soap, urea and oil. Synthetic milk causes cancer and is harmful to heart, liver and kidneys. It is highly dangerous for

pregnant women, babies and children. The problem is that once the milk is obtained from the milch cow, it has to be stored within 4-5 hours. The dairies do not check the milk properly and most of the dairies are unregulated. Except for a few major dairies, most of the dairies do not check the milk properly, and this synthetic milk is mixed with the normal milk and supplied to everybody, to each and every household.

The other danger is that now-a-days it is a big trend that they are injecting hormone injections like oxytocin to cows to increase their yield and get more milk. *The Nutrition Digest*, a publication of American Nutrition Association, says that milk from cows given hormone injections increased the risk of various cancers when consumed by humans. Still studies are being done on the effects of these hormone injections, specially, oxytocins which are freely being given to all the cattle in the country. It is a very dangerous development in our country. The effect of oxytocin is not only harmful for humans but it is really harmful for the cattle also because these oxytocin injections are administered daily to the cattle. I can say that this is a more heinous crime than cow slaughter because the cattle are in great pain. The cow slaughter law, which we have, will have no meaning if you do not control these Oxytocins in the country.

Another major threat the country is facing today is resistance to antibiotics. It is not only a threat in our country but throughout the world. A lot of countries are facing this problem. The presence of antibiotic residues in honey, meat, poultry and egg products consumed can produce resistance in bacterial population in the human body. These bacteria cause difficulties in treating human infections. This is largely due to unregulated use of antibiotics in animals. People use antibiotics in animals to prevent them from diseases and increase their breed in a very short period of time.

The World Health Organisation has identified antibiotic resistance as one of the three threats to the human population in the world. The US Centre for Disease Control and Prevention has described antibiotic resistance as one of the world's

most pressing problems as a number of bacteria resistant to antibiotics have increased in the last decade. If this trend continues, Madam, we will not have any frontline medicines, which will treat basic diseases like typhoid, malaria and even other common fevers. It will lead even to a bigger health disaster than the one which is posed by bird flu, swine flu and Ebola in our country. Studies show that prolonged use of antibiotics cause cancer, asthma and cardiac malfunctions in infants. The latest one reported in the country is the new disease called Inflammatory Bowel Syndrome (IBS). These antibiotics kill the useful bacteria in the stomach, which leads to ulcer. A lot of people are suffering from this IBS syndrome.

Madam, artificial ripening of fruits is also causing many problems in our country. The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has listed a number of chemicals and pesticides, which cause cancer. Calcium carbide and ethylene are among them. Calcium carbide is most commonly used in India. It is used in ripening of mangoes, bananas and even papayas and tomatoes. These fruits when consumed affect all the vital organs like liver, kidney, heart and stomach. It is very dangerous to the health. There is no regulation to prevent the calcium carbide, which is being used very commonly in the country.

Another problem which I would like to bring to the notice of the House and which is the most burning problem today in the country, is the unregulated use of pesticide. The studies show that pesticides can cause health hazards like birth defects, nerve damage and various cancers. The most affected are the rural folks, who are unaware of these dangers. A study conducted by researchers in Rajasthan University has shown that there are alarming levels of Organochlorine Pesticides in the blood and milk of lactating mothers. This is a very dangerous news because mother's milk is a gift to us from God. It is the purest of the pure things what God has given to us. It is really pathetic that we have contaminated even mother's milk. It is not only in Rajasthan but studies in various other parts of the country have shown similar results.

Madam, I would like to say that when you have laws to protect women and children from atrocities, there are more women and children being affected by food adulteration than the actual atrocities committed on them. I would like to cite an example of my native village from where I come. Twenty years ago there was just one cancer patient in the village. But now in a population of thousand people, 50 people are suffering from cancer. Most of them are unable to get proper treatment. It costs them lakhs and lakhs of rupees for them to get treated. This crisis is not only in my constituency but is a national crisis right now with the number of cancer patients increasing in the country.

Through yourself, Madam, I would request the Government to take up a health scheme like Arogya Shree which was started by our former Chief Minister the late Y. S. Rajasekhara Reddy *garu* in Andhra Pradesh, where any poor person can go to the hospital of his choice and get treatment for any ailment which he is suffering from. It will really help the people of the country if such a scheme is launched by the Government.

I am not exaggerating when I say that there is hardly any food that is left unadulterated. It has reached such proportions that strict laws need to be enacted to curb it. Statistics show that the current laws are inadequate and the culprits are going scot-free with meagre fines and small punishments. Adulteration is as good as poisoning the public and, therefore, strict laws should be there; punishments given should be as severe as in 'attempt to murder' cases and the adulterators have to be booked under such provisions. The Supreme Court has urged that anyone found involved in the illicit activity should be dealt with a firm hand. The Apex Court has stated that milk adulteration should attract 'life imprisonment', and asked the Government to take a serious view of this. The Apex Court has also slammed the current maximum punishment of six months as grossly inadequate.

Though much of the action lies in the hands of the State, I urge the Central Government to step in and play a proactive role as it is a national crisis right now. I urge the Government to form a high-powered committee as coordinated efforts

of the Ministries of Health, Food and Agriculture will deliver the desired results, what we require.

Every Indian, including all of us, is consuming what I call 'slow poison'. Knowingly or unknowingly, water, rice, wheat, vegetables, milk, meat, fruits or sweets, whatever we are taking, in other words, whatever we are eating is making our country a nation with the highest number of cancer patients, and people are suffering from the effects of food adulteration. Even every child in the womb is a victim of adulteration these days. I am afraid of this unseen enemy, which enters each household everyday.

Madam, as they say, "A stitch in time saves nine", if we put in strong rules and regulations, and enact strong laws, we can save crores of rupees for the country in terms of healthcare costs. These man-made problems should not be a deterrent in the development of the nation.

In the end, I would like to thank our hon. Prime Minister for bringing in Swachh Bharat for a 'Clean India'. Madam, through you, I would request the Government to bring a new initiative like "Shuddh Bharat" where we get clean water and clean food. I thank you, Madam, for giving me the chance to speak on this issue.

डॉ. सत्यपाल सिंह (बागपत): माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदया, इस विषय पर बोलने का अवसर देने के लिए बहुत-बहुत आभारी हूँ। आज का विषय जीवन और मृत्यु के प्रश्न का विषय है। यह सवा सौ करोड़ लोगों का प्रश्न नहीं, बल्कि आगे आने वाली पीढ़ियों का भी विषय है। यह केवल मनुष्यों से ही नहीं, बल्कि पशुओं और पक्षियों से भी संबंधित विषय है। इसलिए इस विषय पर बोलने के लिए मैं चाहता हूं कि आप थोड़ा समय दें।

सबसे पहले मैं आदरणीय मंत्री जी का बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद करता हूँ। उन्होंने समस्या की गंभीरता और इसकी व्याप्ति को मानकर एक कठोर कानून लाने की बात कही है। इसके साथ-साथ मैं इस बात के लिए भी उनका धन्यवाद करना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने इस बात को उजागर किया और इस बात को माना है कि पिछली सरकार में फूड सेफ्टी एंड स्टैंडर्ड कानून बनाया गया, वह वर्ष 2006 में बना। दो वर्ष के बाद उसकी अथॉरिटी बनी, पाँच वर्ष के बाद उसके रूल्स और रेगुलेशंस बने। यह केस ऑफ पॉलिसी पैरालिसिस

का नहीं, बल्कि यह केस ऑफ कोमा है। ऐसा लगता है कि पिछली सरकार सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य के प्रति किस प्रकार से खिलवाड़ कर रही थी।

अध्यक्ष महोदया,

" एक दो ज़ख्म नहीं, सारा जिस्म है छलनी। दर्द बेचारा परेशान है, कहाँ से उठूँ।"

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप दो-तीन क्लियरिफिकेशन भले ही पूछें, पर बहुत लम्बा भाषण न दें।

डॉ. सत्यपाल सिंह : मैडम, चाहे दूध हो, चाय हो, फल हो या सब्जी हो, सॉफ्ट ड्रिंक हो या हार्ड ड्रिंक हो, घी हो या तेल हो, सब जगह मिलावट का बोलबाला है। पिछले हफ्ते ही इस सदन ने मानसिक रोगों के बारे में चर्चा की थी। मानिसक रोगों के लिए कितने हॉस्पिटल्स हैं, कितने डाक्टर्स हैं, कितने रोगी है? हम सिम्पोमेटिक ट्रीटमेंट की बात करते हैं, लेकिन जब तक हम उसके मूल में नहीं जाएंगे - प्रज्ञापराधो ही मूलं सर्वरोगानाम - उसके पीछे क्या है, उसे देखना होगा। इसीलिए हमारे पूर्वजों ने कहा था कि आहार शुद्धो ही सत्व शुद्धो, सत्व शुद्धो दुर्वास्मृति। अगर आहार शुद्ध है, भोजना शुद्ध है तो सब कुछ ठीक हो सकता है। आज इस देश में आहार ही इतना अशुद्ध हो गया है, इसलिए ये सारी प्राब्लम्स हो रही हैं। हम लोग कहते हैं - जैसा खाए अन्न, वैसा हो जाए मन।

में अपने कलीग रेड्डी जी को धन्यवाद देता हूं और उनकी बात को सप्लीमेंट करते हुए कहना चाहता हूं कि जब सवेरे कोई आदमी उठता है, चाहे पानी पिए, दूध पिए या चाय पिए, सब में मिलावट है। पानी में फ्लोराइड है, नाइट्राइट है, नाईट्रेट है, कोबाल्ट है, आर्सेनिक है, अलग-अलग चीजें मिली हुई हैं। चाय में पता नहीं क्या-क्या मिला रहे हैं और दूध की हालत इतनी खराब हो गयी है कि हमारी एजेंसीज कहती हैं कि मार्केट में जो दूध मिल रहा है, उसमें से 70 प्रतिशत दूध मिलावट वाला दूध है। उसमें कास्टिक सोडा, यूरिया, स्टॉर्च और व्हाइट पेंट मिलाया जा रहा है। उससे अलग-अलग तरह की बीमारियां हो रही हैं, किडनी की बीमारी हो रही है। दूध को कैसे लम्बे समय तक सुरक्षित रखा जा सकता है, उसके लिए कुछ डेयरियां हेयर ब्लीच कैमिकल्स मिला रही हैं। हाइड्रोजन पैराक्साइड और पोटेशियम हाइड्रोक्साइड जैसे केमिकल मिलाए जा रहे हैं जिनको डिटेक्ट करना मुश्किल है। इससे अलग-अलग तरह की बीमारियां पैदा हो रही हैं। पनीर और मावा में आज आर्जिमोन ऑयल मिलाया जा रहा है जिससे अलग-अलग बीमरियां पैदा हो रही हैं। दूध जल्दी से और ज्यादा मात्रा में हो, इसके लिए जानवरों को आक्सीटोसिन इंजेक्शन लगाया जाता है। लोग कहते हैं कि यह इंजेक्शन लेबर पेन के लिए गर्भवती महिलाओं को लगाया जाता है। Mother experiences labour pain once, लेकिन गाय-भैंस दिन में दो-दो बार उसको

महसूस करती हैं। एक तरफ हम कानून बनाते हैं कि जानवरों के प्रति कोई निर्दयता न दिखाए, लेकिन आज इस देश में जानवर इसे सहते हैं।...(व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : इसमें भाषण परिमटेड नहीं है। आप अपना क्लेरिफिकेशन पूछिए।

डॉ. सत्यपाल सिंह : घी में चर्बी मिलाई जा रही है। अगर आप एलाऊ करें, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी को दोनीन सुझाव देना चाहता हूं। हमारे देश में बहुत ही टफ एंड स्ट्रिंजेंट लॉ बनाए जाएं, उसके लिए स्पेशल कोर्ट्स बनाए जाएं और हैवी पिनशमेंट उसमें दिए जाएं। आजकल जो प्रावधान है, पैसे का ज्यादा फाइन होता है, उसमें जेल बहुत कम है और एनफोर्समेंट लॉ ठीक नहीं है। म्यूनिसिपल कारपोरेशन्स एवं म्यूनिसिपल काउसिंल्स के officers are chronically corrupt. उसके लिए मेरा सुझाव है कि ऐसे मामलों में जो अधिकारी पकड़े जाएं, उनके लिए ज्यादा पिनशमेंट देने का प्रावधान कानून में होना चाहिए। फूड टेस्टिंग लेबारेट्रीज और फूड इंसपेक्टर्स की संख्या ज्यादा होनी चाहिए। इसके साथ ही, पब्लिक अवेयरनेस बढ़ाई जाए कि कैसे सिम्पल स्क्रीन टेस्ट से पब्लिक देख सके कि उसमें क्या मिलावट हो रही है।...(व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: आप क्लेरिफिकेशन्स पूछिए। सजेशन्स आप लिखकर भेज दीजिए। अगर मंत्री जी से आपको कुछ नहीं पूछना है तो हो गया। बैठिए।

माननीय मंत्री जी।

श्री जगत प्रकाश नड्डा: मैडम, स्पीकर, अभी कॉलिंग अटेंशन मोशन में माननीय सदस्य मिधुन रेड्डी जी एवं सत्यपाल सिंह जी ने जो चिन्ता जाहिर की है, वह सरकार के ध्यान में है। इस चिन्ता का सही रूप में निवारण किया जाए, उसके लिए सरकार प्रयासरत भी है और कार्यरत भी है।

सबसे पहली बात तो यह है कि माननीय सदस्य ने थ्रेट के रूप में कहा है। मैं इसे थ्रेट से ज्यादा एक चैलेंज के रूप में लेता हूं और मंत्रालय इससे ओवरकम करने के लिए भरसक प्रयास कर रहा है। एक बात हमें समझनी होगी कि जहां तक कन्टैमिनेशन का सवाल है या एडल्ट्रेशन का सवा है, इसके नये-नये तरीके और नये ढंग समाज में लोग उपयोग करते रहे हैं। At one particular time, we are going to get a result which is going to be absolutely free from adulteration इससे ज्यादा प्रैक्टिकल बात यह होगी कि It is a continuous process which we have to develop. A mechanism has to be developed which is continuous, which is regulatory, which monitors and which also finds ways and means to curb adulteration जो नये-नये तरीके से मार्किट में इम्पलीमेंट हो रहे हैं, उसके बारे में भी हमें ध्यान रखने की जरूरत है।

में दोनों माननीय सदस्यों की चिंता को अपने साथ समावेश करता हूं और आपके माध्यम से सदन को यह विश्वास दिलाना चाहता हूं कि सरकार इस मामले में पूरी तरह से प्रयासरत है, कार्यरत है और इस चैलेंज को हम सीरियसली मीटआउट करना चाहते हैं। वर्ष 2006 से पहले फूड एडल्ट्रेशन एक्ट से काम चल रहा था, लेकिन जैसे-जैसे एडल्ट्रेशन की मैथडोलॉजी बढ़ी, More stringent laws were needed. That is why, in 2006, we came with the Food Safety and Standards Act. उसके प्रोवीजन और रैगूलेशन्स बनने में कुछ विलम्ब अवश्य हुआ, लेकिन अब समय आ गया है कि इस सारे एक्ट को रिविज़िट करने की आवश्यकता है। रीविज़ट करने के लिए सरकार प्रतिबद्ध है। मैंने आज से दो दिन पहले ही एक टास्कफोर्स गठित किया है और उस टास्कफोर्स को within 45 days, they have to give their suggestions. उन सजैशन्स को हम पब्लिक डोमेन में भी डालेंगे ताकि हमें जनता का इनपुट भी इस बारे में प्राप्त हो सके। हम इसे और स्ट्रिन्जन्ट बनाना चाहेंगे। मिल्क के इश्यु पर सुप्रीम कोर्ट की डायरेक्शन आयी है। But milk is one segment जब हम रीविज़ट कर रहे हैं तो हमने यह कोशिश की है कि सारे एसपैक्ट्स को हम देखें और जितने भी फूड आइटम्स हैं और जो केवल ऑर्गेनाइज्ड और अन-ऑर्गेनाइज्ड सेक्टर में प्रोड्यूस हो रहे हैं वही नहीं, बल्कि जो इम्पोर्टिड फूड आइटम्स हैं, उनको भी रीविजट करने की जरूरत है और इस दृष्टि से हम प्रयासरत हैं।

जहां तक ऑक्सीटोसिन का सवाल है, मैंने पहले भी कहा कि इसका मिसयूज हो रहा है, लेकिन जो रूल्स और रैगूलेशन्स हैं, वे अपने आप में काफी स्ट्रिन्जेन्ट हैं। The issue is of implementation. The implementation part is with the States and the Union Territories. But I do not want to say that. It is a blame game कि मैं उन पर इस विषय को डाल दूं। रूल्स-रेगूलेशन्स बनाना हमारा काम है और हम बना रहे हैं। We are trying to be more stringent because यह मानवता से जुड़ा विषय है और इसमें कोई दो राय नहीं है कि पहले कम्यूनिकेबल डिसिसिज़ का बर्डन हमारे ऊपर था, लेकिन अब इक्वली नॉन-कम्यूनिकेबल डिसिसिज़ का बर्डन भी बढ़ गया है और ये नॉन-कम्यूनिकेबल में जो फूड आइटम्स हैं, इनका भी एक बहुत बड़ा रोल रहा है। We have to be very serious on this issue. इसलिए हम मैनपावर और इनफ्रास्ट्रक्चर पर विशेष रूप से ध्यान देने वाले हैं। क्योंकि आज एनालिसिस की देश में बहुत कमी है। लेबोरट्रीज़ हमारे पास हैं, लेकिन इनको और इक्यूप करने की जरूरत है। इनकी संख्या बढ़ाने की जरूरत है। पब्लिक प्राइवेट पार्टनरिशप में भी लेबोरट्रीज़ को आगे लाने की जरूरत है। कम समय में बड़े स्केल पर इसकी इम्पलीमेंटेशन को और कारगर करना पड़ेगा और इसके लिए मंत्रालय किटबद्ध है। इस बात का मैं विश्वास दिलाना चाहता हं।

बहुत से विषय सत्यपाल जी ने और रेड्डी जी ने रखे हैं। उन्होंने बीमारियों के बारे में बताया है कि किस तरह से बीमारियां बढ़ रही हैं। मैं सिर्फ इतना ही कहना चाहूंगा कि नॉन-कम्यूनिकेबल डिसिसिज़ का बर्डन बढ़ रहा है और इसलिए हमें इस बात के लिए प्रयासरत रहना होगा कि हम शुद्ध भोजन और शुद्ध फूड मैटिरियल्स उपलब्ध करवा सकें।

उनकी चिंता जायज है, मंत्रालय उसको गंभीरता से लेता है और बहुत जल्द हम इस एक्ट को रीविजिट करने वाले हैं। A task force has been formed. वह फोर्स 45 दिनों के अंदर अपनी रिपोर्ट देगी। पब्लिक डोमैन में हम इसको डालेंगे और जल्द से जल्द हम इसको मोस्ट स्ट्रिन्जेंट बनाएंगे। इस बात का मैं विश्वास दिलाना चाहता हूं। धन्यवाद।

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1231/16/14]

15.12.2014 56

12.41 hrs

(iii)Arrest of a youth running Twitter handle on behalf of ISIS*

गृह मंत्री (श्री राजनाथ सिंह): माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, मैं सोशल मीडिया के माध्यम से ISIS का प्रचार करने वाले युवक की बैंगलूरु में हुई गिरफ्तारी के सबंध में बोलने के लए खड़ा हुआ हूं।

लगभग 24 वर्षीय मेंहदी मसरूर विश्वास को unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 की धारा 3,13, और 18 एवं सूचना प्रोद्योगिकी अधिनियम की धारा 66 (च) और IPC की धारा 125 के अंतर्गत अपराध संख्या 12/18/2014 में बैंगलूरु पुलिस द्वारा 13 दिसंबर, 2014 को गिरफ्तार किया गया। उक्त अभियुक्त एक Twitter Account के माध्यम से ISIS सामग्री परिचालित करने में अपनी भूमिका के बारे में यूनाइटेड किंगडम में इलैक्ट्रॉनिक मीडिया में सर्वप्रथम प्रकाश में आया। उसकी गिरफ्तारी के लिए सूचना जुटाने में, केन्द्रीय एजेंसियों ने कर्नाटक पुलिस के साथ मिलकर कार्य किया। मेंहदी का, यूजर नेम 'शामी विटनेस' के अंतर्गत एक Twitter Account था। वह ISIS की मुख्यत: अरबी भाषा की साइटों को देखता था और फिर उनकी विषय वस्तु का अंग्रेजी में अनुवाद करता था और उस सामग्री को अपने Twitter Account पर डाल देता था।

पूछताछ के दौरान मेंहदी ने यह खुलासा किया कि उसके Twitter Account को देखने वाले 60 प्रतिशत से अधिक लोग पश्चिमी देशों के गैर-मुस्लिम लोग थे और उसके अधिकांश मुस्लिम फोलोअर्स पश्चिमी देशों, विशेष रूप से यूनाइटेड किंगडम के थे। मेंहदी ने अपने कॉलेज के दिनों के दौरान इंटरनेट के जिए सीरिया, इराक और अफगानिस्तान में होने वाले घटनाक्रमों पर गहन नज़र रखनी शुरु कर दी और वह वर्ष 2009 से सोशल नेटवर्किंग साइटों पर सिक्रय रहा है। कुछ समय से मेंहदी ने 'ज़ेहाद' से संबंधित मामलों पर सोशल नेटवर्किंग साइटों पर लोगों से सम्पर्क करना शुरु कर दिया।

मेंहदी कोलकाता के एक मध्यम वर्गीय परिवार से संबंध रखता है और उसने वर्ष 2012 में गुरुनानक देव प्रोद्योगिकी संस्थान से इलैक्ट्रीकल इंजीनियरिंग की पढ़ाई की है। कैम्पस भर्ती अभियान के बाद वह आईटीसी बैंगलूरु में आ गया और इस समय वहां पर नियुक्त है।

मेंहदी विश्वास से की गई पूछताछ से यह पता चला है कि उसकी गतिविधियां आईएसआईएस समर्थक सामग्री को अपने ट्विटर एकाउंट और सोशल मीडिया साइटों पर पोस्ट तथा रीपोस्ट करने तक

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^{*} Placed in Library, See No. 1232/16/14

सीमित थीं। उसने ISIS के लिए लोगों की भर्ती करने से इंकार किया है। पूरे प्रकरण की आगे जांच जारी है।

श्री मिल्लिकार्जुन खड़गे (गुलबर्गा) : माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, मैं इसके बारे में एक क्लेरिफिकेशन चाहता हूं।...(व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: वैसे तो स्टेटमेंट पर कोई क्लेरिफिकेशन नहीं होता है।

...(व्यवधान)

श्री मिल्लकार्जुन खड़गे: मुझे उनसे स्टेटमेंट पर एक क्लेरिफिकेशन चाहिए कि इतनी जल्दी हमें कंक्लूजन पर नहीं आना चाहिए कि वह दूसरों को रिक्रूट नहीं करता था।...(व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: नहीं, वह तो उन्होंने कहा भी नहीं है।

...(व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: खड़गे जी, इसमें कोई कंक्लूजन की बात नहीं है। स्टेटमेंट पर प्रश्न नहीं होता है। आप बैठिये।

...(व्यवधान)

HON. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions) ... *

माननीय अध्यक्ष : उन्होंने जांच जारी है, कहा है। सौगत राय जी, आप बैठिए। केवल स्टेटमेंट दिया है और जांच जारी है, ऐसा कहा है।

...(व्यवधान)

HON. SPEAKER: No, I am not allowing. Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions) ... *

माननीय अध्यक्ष: अब मैंने शून्यकाल कहा है।

...(व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: कापी टेबल पर रखी है, वह आपको मिल जायेगी।

...(व्यवधान)

*

^{*} Not recorded.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : कापी टेबल पर रखी है, वह आपको मिल जायेगी, आप बैठिये। श्री ध्रुवनारायण जी, आप बोलिये।

SHRI R. DHRUVANARAYANA (CHAMARAJANAGAR): Hon. Speaker Madam, I want to raise an important issue regarding a problem faced by domestic sericulture industry as well Indian sericulture farmers. Madam, India is the second largest silk producing country in the world after China and the state of Karnataka stands first in the production of silk, quantity-wise as well area-wise. During the Central Budget 2012-13, customs duty on silk i.e. import duty was reduced from 30 per cent to 5 per cent. This reduction in import duty on silk adversely affected our domestic sericulture industry as well as sericulture farmers. During the Central Budget 2013-14, import duty on silk was raised from 5 per cent to 15 per cent against the request from the State Government of Karnataka. This import duty of 15 per cent is not enough. My humble request to the Textile Ministry is to kindly get the import duty on import of silk enhanced from 15 per cent to 30 per cent to safeguard the domestic sericulture industry as well as Indian sericulture farmers.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Gaurav Gogoi, Shri S.P. Muddahanume Gowda, Shri D.K. Suresh and Shri B.N. Chandrappa are permitted to associate with the matters raised by Shri R. Dhruvanarayana.

श्री रवनीत सिंह (लुधियाना): मैडम, मैं बहुत ही इम्पार्टेंट इश्यु पर आपका, सदन और सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं। जो दंगा पीड़ित परिवार थे, पिछले दिनों यूपीए सरकार ने भी उनकी माली मदद की और उन्हें फ्लैट दिये और एनडीए सरकार ने भी उन्हें पांच-पांच लाख रुपये दिये हैं, जिसका हम स्वागत करते हैं। लेकिन जो लम्बी लड़ाई पंजाब में टैरिएज्म के दौरान चली, जिसमें 35 हजार लोग, जिनमें हिन्दू, मुस्लिम, सिख, इसाई शहीद हुए, उसमें पुलिस वाले भी शहीद हुए, उनके बारे में किसी ने नहीं सोचा। बल्कि जिन्होंने उन 35 हजार लोगों को शहीद किया, जिन्होंने देश की रक्षा के लिए अपनी शहादत दी, आज मेरा यह कहना है कि वहां की सरकार और बीजेपी वाले, जो अपने आपको देशभक्ति का पाठ पढ़ाते हैं, वहां की सरकार जो वहां के टैरिस्ट्स हैं, उनकी फोटोज, उनकी यादगार, दरबार साहब गोल्डन टैम्पल के अजायबघर में लगवा रही है।

माननीय अध्यक्ष: आप केवल डिमांड कीजिए।

श्री रवनीत सिंह : लेकिन उन 35 हजार लोगों का कोई ख्याल नहीं कर रहा है, उन्हें कोई पूछ नहीं रहा है। इसलिए मेरी यह अपील है कि जो 35 हजार लोग शहीद हुए हैं, उनकी याद में कोई बड़ा मैमोरियल बनाया जाए, चाहे वह पंजाब में बने, चाहे दिल्ली में बने और उन्हें नौकरियां मुहैय्या कराई जाएं।

माननीय अध्यक्ष: श्री कपिल पाटील, आप बोलिये।

श्री रवनीत सिंह : मैडम, यह बहुत सीरियस बात है, लोगों ने वहां अपनी शहादतें दी हैं।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : हां आप बोलिये, मैंने कब मना किया है।

श्री रवनीत सिंह: नौकरियों के साथ-साथ उन्हें फ्लैट और कम से कम 15-15 लाख रुपये की मदद की जाए। जिन्होंने देश को तोड़ने की कोशिश की है, उनके लिए पंजाब की सरकार यादगार बना रही है, उनके अगेन्स्ट सख्त से सख्त कार्रवाई की जाए तथा बीजेपी वाले उनका साथ छोड़ें, जिसके कारण हिन्दुस्तान और पंजाब में एक गलत मैसेज गया है। यह मेरी आपसे विनती है।

श्री जनार्दन सिंह सीग्रीवाल (महाराजगंज): माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं आपका ध्यान अपने संसदीय निर्वाचन क्षेत्र 19, महाराजगंज, बिहार के विभिन्न प्रखंडों में फैली हजारों एकड़ कृषि योग्य जमीन में पिछले कई वर्षों से जल-जमाव रहने की ओर दिलाना चाहता हूं। मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र सारण जिलान्तर्गत प्रखंड माझी का तालपुरैना, दीघा प्रखंड एकमा एवं लहलादपुर का धूरदह, प्रखंड मशरख का बहियारा और घोघिया प्रखंड, बनियापुर का बहियारा, कन्हौली मनोहर, प्रखंड जलालपुर का ककरहट, बड़कागांव...

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप थोड़े में पिढ़ये, पूरी बात नहीं पढ़नी है। जीरो ऑवर में लम्बा-चौड़ा नहीं बोलते हैं। श्री जनार्दन सिंह सीग्रीवाल : बड़कागांव जैसे चॅवर तथा सिवान जिलान्तर्गत भगवानपुर का का बसहरा, बड़ईला, बिहुना, बगाही चॅवर, प्रखंड महाराजगंज का सरैयाँ चॅवर जैसे अन्य कई चॅवरों में बारहो मास जल जमाव रहता है। मेरे क्षेत्र के हजारों किसान परिवारों का जीवन-यापन करना कितन हो गया है। अपनी जमीन होते हुए भी इन परिवारों को इधर-उधर भटक कर गुजर-बसर करना पड़ता है। जबिक पहले इन क्षेत्रों में इतनी अच्छी फसल होती थी कि वहां के किसान अपने अलावा दूसरों का भरण-पोषण करने का काम करते थे। इन जगहों पर अच्छी तरह से धान और मक्का की फसल हुआ करती थी। लेकिन आज वहां जल जमाव की वजह से किसान बदहाल हैं, परेशान हैं और भुखमरी के कगार पर हैं। उनकी अर्थव्यवस्था पर काफी कुप्रभाव पड़ा है। महोदया, सरकार से मेरा आग्रह है कि उन क्षेत्रों में फैले जल जमाव को खत्म करने हेतु विशेष योजना तैयार करें जिससे उन हजारों किसान परिवारों का जीवन-यापन ठीक से व्यतीत हो सके या फिर उस जमीन पर जल से आधारित कृषि को बढ़ोत्तरी देने की सरकार योजना बनाए।

डॉ. रमेश पोखिरियाल निशंक (हरिद्वार): महोदया, संस्कृति, साहित्य, ज्ञान, विज्ञान, वीरता और खेल में उत्तराखण्ड ने पूरे देश को बहुत सारे रत्न दिए हैं। वर्तमान में खेल की दिशा में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर सम्मान बढ़ाया है। किंतु वहां पर खेलों को गंभीरता से नहीं लिया जा रहा है। काशीपुर साई सब सेंटर से फुटबाल, टेबल टेनिस, ताइक्वान्डो एवं एथलेटिक्स आदि खोलों को हटाया जा रहा है जब कि ये खेल राज्य के परंपरागत खेल हैं और उत्तराखण्ड राज्य खेल राज्य घोषित हो चुका है। इन खेलों में खिलाड़ियों ने राष्ट्रीय-अंतर्राष्ट्रीय खेल प्रतियोगिताओं में प्रतिभाग ले कर पदक जीते हैं। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि उत्तराखण्ड को खेलों का हब बनाया जाए क्योंकि यहां साहिसक क्रीडा है, जिसने बछेन्द्री पाल जैसे अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर की महिला पर्वतारोहण को दिया है। यहां पर हिम क्रीडा है, औली है, जल क्रीडा है, कुश्ती है, बॉक्सिंग है, फुटबॉल है। चाहे वे क्रिकेट में महेंद्र सिंह घोनी का योगदान हो, उन्मुक्त चंद हों, मिनष पांडे हों, चाहे निशानेबाजी में जसपाल राणा रहे हों, चाहे एकता बिष्ट रही हों, हेमलता काला, चंद्रप्रभा एतवाल, मेजर हर्षवर्धन, पद्मबहादुर मल बॉक्सिंग में रहे हों, थापा ने एशियाड में पदक जीता है। अतः तमाम ऐसे दर्जनों लोग हैं, जिन्होंने राष्ट्र ही नहीं अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर हमारे देश का सम्मान बढ़ाया है। मेरा आपसे विनम्र निवेदन है कि सरकार उसको एक विशेष हब के रूप में विकसित करे तािक वहां से खिलाड़ी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर देश का सम्मान बढ़ायां है। केतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर देश का सम्मान बढ़ायां है। केतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर देश का सम्मान बढ़ायं।

*SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE (BARAMATI): Hon'ble Speaker, for the last 6 months, entire Maharashtra has been facing serious drought conditions. We all know about it and we have also discussed it earlier. Government of Maharashtra is constantly requesting Central Government for relief and assistance. In the last 2 days, through TV channels and newspapers we came to know that throughout Maharashtra and especially in Nasik and Dhule district, there was severe hail storm and heavy rain. Grapes, Pomegranate and Onion crops got severely affected by this. So, all the farmers are in distress and facing serious troubles. It is my request through you that Central Government should look into the matter and provide the necessary assistance and relief demanded by the Government of Maharashtra.

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^{*} English translation of the speech originally delivered in Marathi.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री नाना पटोले एवं श्री अरविंद सावंत को श्रीमती सुप्रिया सुले द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ संबद्ध करने की अनुमति प्रदान की जाती है।

डॉ. किरिट पी. सोलंकी (अहमदाबाद): महोदया, मैं आपका धन्यवाद करता हूँ कि आपने मुझे एक महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर बोलने की अनुमति दी है।

भारत एक कृषि प्रधान देश है। भारत का किसान सख्त मेहनत कर के देश को उन्नित की ओर ले जा रहा है। मैं गुजरात प्रदेश के किसानों के बारे में बात करना चाहता हूँ। महोदया, गुजरात में किसान कपास का उत्पादन करते हैं, देश के करीब 50 प्रतिशत कपास के उत्पादन में गुजरात के किसानों का अहम योगदान है। गुजरात के किसान सख्त मेहनत करते हैं। मगर आज स्थिति ऐसी हुई है कि उनके उत्पादन मूल्य से भी कम मूल्य में कपास बेचा जाता है। वहां किसान आंदोलन पर उतरे हैं। किसान आज बहुत ही बेहाल स्थिति में है।

महोदया, आपके माध्यम से मैं पूरे सदन और सरकार से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि किसानों को उनके कपास के उत्पाद का न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य 300 रूपए प्रति बेल से अधिक देना चाहिए। आपने मुझे बोलने की अनुमति दी, इसके लिए मैं आपका बहुत आभारी हूँ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष: श्री रामसिंह राठवा अपने आपको डॉ. किरिट पी. सोलंकी जी के विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करते हैं।

श्री दिनेश कश्यप (बस्तर): महोदया, मैं आपका ध्यान रेल परियोजना के बारे में दिलाना चाहता हूँ। मेरा संसदीय क्षेत्र बस्तर आदिवासी बहुल क्षेत्र है और यह सर्वाधिक नक्सल प्रभावित क्षेत्र है। मैं छत्तीसगढ़ की आर्थिक रेल लाइन और भिलाई इस्पात संयंत्र की जीवन रेखा मानी जाने वाली रावघाट रेल परियोजना के बारे में आपके माध्यम से कहना चाहता हूँ। 11 दिसम्बर, 2007 को सेल-एन.एम.डी.सी.-रेलवे व छत्तीसगढ़ सरकार के मध्य एम.ओ.यू. हुआ और इसके लिए पाँच साल का समय निर्धारित किया गया था, लेकिन अभी तक इसके निर्माण के सम्बन्ध में कोई पहल नहीं हुई है और कोई कार्य नहीं हुआ है।

महोदया, फर्स्ट फेज में रेल लाइन का निर्माण होना था और फर्स्ट फेज पूरा होने पर सेकेंड फेज में दूसरा निर्माण होता। बस्तर क्षेत्र क्षेत्रफल की दृष्टि से केरल राज्य से भी बड़ा है, लेकिन रेल सुविधा की दृष्टि से वहाँ कुछ भी नहीं है। यह बात अलग है कि जापान को हमारा लोहा जाता है, हिन्दुस्तान को जाता है, लेकिन बस्तर के लोगों को, जो आदिवासी बहुल क्षेत्र है, नक्सल प्रभावित क्षेत्र है, वहाँ के लोगों के लिए रेल सुविधा की दृष्टि से कुछ भी नहीं है। अगर हमको बस्तर से रायपुर आना हो तो हमको सड़क मार्ग से

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300 किलोमीटर आना पड़ता है और आये दिन दुर्घटनाएं होती रहती हैं। अगर हमको रायपुर से दिल्ली आना होगा तो भी हमको असुविधा होती है।

महोदया, मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि आजादी के इतने वर्षों बाद भी, यू.पी.ए. सरकार ने तो इस पर कोई कार्रवाई नहीं की, लेकिन लोगों की आस्था माननीय प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के ऊपर है, हमारे रेल मंत्री सुरेश प्रभु जी के ऊपर है। मैं आपके माध्यम से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि बस्तर जैसे पिछड़े हुए क्षेत्र को, जहाँ पर सुरक्षा के साथ विकास किया जाना है, इसके लिए आप पहल करेंगे ताकि वहाँ के लोगों को रेल सुविधा, रेल विस्तार का लाभ मिल सके। आजादी के इतने वर्षों बाद भी हमको किसी प्रकार का कोई लाभ नहीं मिल रहा है। आपने मुझे समय दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपको बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

श्री संतोख सिंह चौधरी (जालंधर): महोदया, मैं एक बहुत गम्भीर मुद्दे पर बात करना चाहता हूँ। पंजाब और दूसरे राज्यों के लाखों लोग विदेशों में बसे हुए हैं और वहाँ मजदूरी करके वे अपने परिवारों को पैसे भेजते हैं। थोड़ा अरसा पहले माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी विदेशों में गए और वहाँ उन्होंने विदेशों में रहने वालों को कहा कि आप भारतवर्ष में इन्वेस्टमेंट करो और आपके लिए पॉलिसीज भी हम चेंज करेंगे। उनके आते ही 14 अक्टूबर को सेन्ट्रल बोर्ड ऑफ एक्साइज एंड कस्टम ने, जो विदेशों से लोग यहाँ अपने परिवारों को पैसे भेजते हैं, जो पैसे की रिमिटेन्स करते हैं, उस पर 12.36 परसेंट सर्विस टैक्स लगा दिया। यह उस सर्कुलर के उलट है, जिसमें यू.पी.ए. गवर्नमेंट ने जुलाई 2012 में यह क्लेरिफाई किया था कि किसी भी बाहर से आने वाले पैसे पर सर्विस टैक्स नहीं लिया जाएगा।

में समझता हूँ कि जो विदेशों में रहने वाले लोग हैं और उनके जो परिवार हैं, उनके साथ यह बहुत भारी अन्याय है, क्योंकि जब वे पैसे भेजते हैं तो वे वहाँ भी टैक्स देते हैं और जब वह पैसा यहाँ आता है तो उस पर भी उन्हें टैक्स देना पड़ता है। इसका यह इफेक्ट होगा कि एक तो उनको नुकसान होगा और दूसरा इससे देश में ब्लैक मनी और हवाला को प्रोत्साहन मिलेगा। एक तरफ तो भारत सरकार यह कह रही है कि ब्लैक मनी लाना है और हवाला खत्म करना है, लेकिन दूसरी तरफ मैं समझता हूँ कि यह सर्कुलर जारी करके एक बहुत भारी अन्याय किया गया है। मैं भारत सरकार से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि फौरी तौर पर इस सर्कुलर को वापस लिया जाए।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री गजेन्द्र सिंह शेखावत अपने आपको श्री संतोख सिंह चौधरी जी के विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करते हैं।

13.00 hrs

श्री रामदास सी. तडस (वर्धा): माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय वन एवं पर्यावरण मंत्री जी का ध्यान अपने संसदीय क्षेत्र वर्धा में बढ़ रहे प्रदूषण की ओर आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ। वर्धा राष्ट्रिपता महात्मा गांधी जी का कार्यस्थल रहा है। सेवाग्राम कुटिया में बापू ने अपने जीवन के कुछ साल बिताए। सेवाग्राम कुटिया राष्ट्रीय धरोहर है जिसकी स्थिति प्रदूषण के कारण बहुत ही दयनीय हो रही है। शहर में उत्तम गाल्वा स्टील प्लांट है जिससे शहर में प्रदूषण बढ़ रहा है। साथ ही देवली और एम.आर.डी.सी. तथा महालक्ष्मी इंडस्ट्रीज़ का प्रदूषण बढ़ रहा है। इसकी जाँच की आवश्यकता है। मैंने पूर्व में भी इस संदर्भ में नियम 377 के अधीन मामला उठाया था, लेकिन गोल-मटोल एवं निराधार जवाब मिला है। लोगों को काफी परेशानी हो रही है। महोदया, इस समस्या के निदान करने हेतु एक कमेटी बनाकर जाँच करने की आवश्यकता है जिससे वर्धा प्रदूषण मुक्त हो।

श्री ओम प्रकाश यादव (सीवान): अध्यक्ष महोदया, हमारे निर्वाचन क्षेत्र सीवान, बिहार में दो केन्द्रीय विद्यालय स्थित हैं। 2004 में केन्द्रीय विद्यालय प्रारंभ हुआ। वह प्राइवेट कालेज दारोगा राय कालेज में चल रहा है। दूसरा, 2012 में जो केन्द्रीय विद्यालय की स्वीकृति मिली, वह दरौंदा प्रखंड के ग्राम उजाय के प्राइवेट मकान में चल रहा है। बार-बार प्राचार्य के अनुरोध के बावजूद भी जिला प्रशासन और बिहार सरकार ज़मीन आबंटन नहीं कर रही है जिससे विद्यालय का अपना भवन बन सके। इससे बच्चों को काफी असुविधा हो रही है। न चारदीवारी है तथा दुर्घटना होने की भी संभावना है। हम आपके माध्यम से केन्द्र सरकार के मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करना चाहेंगे कि वे पहल करें, बिहार सरकार से बात करें और दोनों विद्यालयों के लिए ज़मीन आबंटित कराने की कृपा करें।

श्रीमती रीती पाठक (सीधी): अध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं आपका धन्यवाद करती हूँ कि आपने मुझे शून्यकाल में बोलने का अवसर प्रदान किया। आज मैं आपके माध्यम से अपने संसदीय क्षेत्र की तरफ ध्यान आकृष्ट कराना चाहती हूँ। मेरा निर्वाचन क्षेत्र मध्य भारत का अपार दैवीय संपदाओं से भरा हुआ क्षेत्र है। यह जनसंख्या व क्षेत्रफल की दृष्टि से तो काफी बृहद है, किन्तु सुविधाओं की दृष्टि से काफी पीछे है। इस 21वीं शताब्दी में जहाँ 3जी और 4जी जैसी टैक्नोलॉजीस का उपयोग किया जा रहा है, वहाँ के लोगों को मोबाइल नैटकवर्क के अभाव में खासा परेशानियों का सामना करना पड़ता है। अध्यक्ष महोदया, मध्य भारत का यह क्षेत्र सूचना व प्रौद्योगिकी के क्षेत्र में पृथक भारत की अनुभूति करता है। अतः मैं इस सदन और आपके माध्यम से माननीय संचार मंत्री जी से यह निवेदन करती हूँ कि संचार के इस अछूते क्षेत्र में विशेष अनुदान देकर पुराने संयंत्रों का नवीनीकरण व नए टावर लगवाने की विशेष कृपा करें।

SHRI ARVIND SAWANT (MUMBAI SOUTH): Madam, Speaker, Mumbai South is considered to be one of the most high profile constituencies in the country. It is inhabited by rich and eminent people. It is one side of the coin. The other side of the coin is that this place is inhabited even by the most poor people as well. Of late, the hon. Minister, Shri Venkaiah Naidu has stated in the Parliament that the Government is much concerned about the rehabilitation of the people who are staying in slums. I congratulate the Government for showing their concern. But at the same time I would like to bring to the notice of the House that, in my constituency particularly, there are nearly 16,104 old buildings, out of which 13,366 buildings had been constructed prior to 1940. Some of them are even more than 100 years old. The Minister mentioned of some models which are there in the State of Gujarat and Maharashtra known as Slum Rehabilitation Schemes but those schemes do not apply in respect of the old buildings which are there.

Madam, through you, I would like to bring it to the notice of the Government as also to the Minister that I express my serious concern over this issue. Out of these numbers, about 5000 buildings are in dilapidated condition. The Government has declared that it is dangerous to live in these buildings, but people are living in those houses putting their lives at stake. Therefore, I would like to request the Government that while preparing a Plan for the rehabilitation of the slums, they should incorporate in that the old buildings of the Mumbai also for rehabilitation.

Madam, I thank you for permitting me to raise this issue before the Government. While rehabilitating them, I urge upon the Government to incorporate the old buildings and construct new houses for them under the Pucca Ghar Scheme which is the dream of our hon. Prime Minister.

HON. SPEAKER: Dr. Pritam Gopinath Munde is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Arvind Sawant.

SHRI C. MAHENDRAN (POLLACHI): Madam Speaker, I convey my sincere thanks to the People's Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, honourable Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, for giving me an opportunity to represent the public of Pollachi parliamentary constituency.

I wish to inform that, in my constituency, nearly, 92,000 hectares are under coconut cultivation. This amounts to one-fourth of coconut cultivation area in Tamil Nadu. Due to failure of South-West and North-East monsoon, the coconut farmers are in a crisis and are facing great loss in producing copra. Hence, the production of copra is dwindling in my constituency. With great hardship, 2,02,000 metric tonnes of copra are being produced. The agriculturists could not survive in the coconut cultivation as the Minimum Support Price of copra fixed by NAFED is only Rs. 52.50 per kilogram. Recently, I have come to understand that the price has been increased by Rs. 3 per kilogram. In fact, the open market copra is being traded around RS. 105 per kilogram.

The people's Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, hon. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, had already requested that the procurement price of copra fixed by NAFED has to be increased to Rs. 140 per kilogram to relieve the coconut farmers from the financial crisis.

Madam Speaker, this is not my personal request but it is for the welfare of crores and crores of coconut farmers throughout India as regards fixing the Minimum Support Price of copra at Rs. 140 per kilogram.

I shall be very much pleased if the procurement price of copra is fixed by NAFED at Rs. 140 per kilogram, arrange adequate compensation and release the required funds from the Market Price Stabilization Fund in this financial year itself.

SHRI JAYADEV GALLA (GUNTUR): Madam Speaker, even though red chilli may not be the king of spices, it matches with the king of spices – black pepper – in terms of pungency, taste and flavour and has become the most important ingredient of spices and hence called the universal spice.

Out of the major chilli producing countries, Indian chilli has dominated the world due to its superior quality and pungency. In India, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Odisha, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh are the major chilli producing States. Out of these, within Andhra Pradesh, Guntur district produces more than 20 per cent of the global output of chillies. In spite of having many advantages, we are not able to capitalise the market, produce and export more chillies to other countries. It is all due to unorganised way of production, marketing, R&D, export, maintaining world quality standards, etc.

I strongly feel, to address all these deficiencies, that there is an urgent need to have a separate Chilli Board on the lines of Spices Board, Rubber Board, Tobacco Board, Coffee Board, etc. as APEDA is not able to justify the promotion and export of chillies.

So, I request, through the hon. Chair, the Government of India to immediately set up a separate Chilli Board with its Headquarters at Guntur, Andhra Pradesh for production, promotion and export of Indian chillis. I submit that the proposed Board can take up the following measures which will not only help the chilli farmers but also the domestic and export market of chillis such as regulation of area and production, easy and timely access to credit, timely availability of inputs, development of new market avenues, promotion of exports, capacity building of the stakeholders, access to post harvest technology and infrastructure, regulation of market and avoiding middle men, fair and remunerative price to the farmers, assured production in term of quality, scope for establishment of value added and other allied industries.

SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU (SRIKAKULAM): Madam Speaker thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak during the 'Zero Hour'. This is a concern relating to the farmers of India. Agricultural production and farm incomes have gradually decreased over the past few years because of natural disasters, such as drought, cyclones, landslides, earthquakes.

The farmers also face other problems, such as sale of spurious seeds, fertilizers, pesticides and fire. Because of this and also because of the growing commercialisation of agriculture, the farm income has reduced considerably.

Therefore, I would request the Government of India to set up a separate agriculture crop insurance wing in the Agriculture Ministry. Presently there is a scheme, but the farmers, because of being illiterate and because of not knowing the financial procedures of the scheme, are not able to get the benefits.

If you look at the insurance schemes run by the LIC, they are all prevalent throughout the country, including in the rural areas. That is because of the LIC agents who get an incentive every time some one takes insurance. So, similar setup has to be evolved in the agricultural insurance also. There has to be crop insurance agents, who will go to the farmers, educate them and also make them take the insurance so that they get the benefits. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Arvind Sawant and Shri Dushyant Chautala are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu.

ज़ीरो आवर में हमेशा छोटा भाषण और अपनी एक डिमांड रखनी होती है, लम्बा-चौड़ा भाषण नहीं।

SHRI M.B. RAJESH (PALAKKAD): Thank you, Madam Speaker. The international crude prices are at a five-year low today. It was 148 dollars per barrel five years ago. Now, it has come down to 62 dollars per barrel. Unfortunately, this huge benefit has not been passed on to the consumers. Instead, the Government has increased the excise duty twice within a month. The Government is earning an additional revenue of Rs. 4,000 crore. Whenever the international prices have increased, the Government had been quick to raise the domestic oil prices. But

when the international prices are falling, the Government is reluctant to reduce the prices.

Of course, there was some reduction. But whatever reduction that was done was nominal and it is much lesser than the big fall in the international prices. Around 52 countries, including many of our neighbours, have much lesser diesel prices in their countries than we have. This is a situation of 'head I win, tail you lose'. This kind of a situation has been created. This amounts to deception of the people.

I would like to appeal to the Government to roll back the additional excise duty imposed on petroleum products and to reduce the prices in order to give benefit to the consumers, to the fullest extent matching the fall in the international prices of crude oil. Thank you very much.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri P.K. Biju, Dr. A. Sampath, Shrimati P.K. Shreemathi Teacher, Shri P. Karunakaran, Dr. K. Kamaraj, Shri Md. Badaruddoza Khan, are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri M.B. Rajesh.

श्री भगवंत मान (संगरूर): मैडम स्पीकर, पंजाब के लोग पूरी दुनिया में बसते हैं, जैसे अमेरिका, कनाडा, ऑस्ट्रेलिया में। हमारे चंडीगढ़ का जो इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट है, उसका जो निर्माण है, उसको ऑपरेट करने का मामला बहुत दिनों से लटक रहा है। इससे चार स्टेट्स - जम्मू व कश्मीर, हिरयाणा, हिमाचल प्रदेश और पंजाब- प्रभावित हो रहे हैं। जब लोगों को बाहर ट्रैवल करना होता है, तो उन्हें और उनके रिश्तेदारों को दिल्ली आना पड़ता है, जिससे पैसा और समय बर्बाद होता है।

मैं आपके माध्यम से सिविल एविएशन मिनिस्ट्री से आग्रह करना चाहता हूं कि चंडीगढ़ इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट को जल्दी से जल्दी चलाया जाए। जैसे एयर कनाडा अभी दिल्ली के लिए शुरू हो रही है तो सिविल एविएशन मिनिस्ट्री को चाहिए कि उसे सीधे चंडीगढ़ के लिए शुरू करें ताकि इसका लोगों को बेनेफिट मिल सके। पंजाब में इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट होने से चंडीगढ़ को भी फायदा होगा और हमारे लोगों का पैसा और समय बचेगा।

SHRI R.P. MARUTHARAJAA (PERAMBALUR): First of all, I would like to thank the hon. Speaker for giving me an opportunity to place my request in this prestigious House on behalf of the people of my constituency, Perambalur. I humbly submit my profound thanks to the Tamil Nadu Makkalin Mudhalvar Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

My constituency people have many pending, unresolved issues. It includes starting new train service between Ariyalur and Namakkal, *via* Perambalur, Thuraiyur and Musiri. Secondly, please allot necessary fund to construct a new subway at Uttamar Kovil Railway Station KM 326/10 meter of Villupuram Trichy Chord Line. Thirdly, Lalgudi is the taluk headquarters of the revenue division of the southern part. So, kindly take steps to issue orders for stoppage of the following trains: Train No. 16127/16128; 16714/16713; and 16107/16108.

In Lalgudi Railway Station, there is no roof in Platform No.3. It causes inconvenience during rainy and summer seasons to the general public. Please arrange separate PRS facilities for reservation. I request the hon. Minister, through you, Madam, to take necessary steps for installing touch-screen facilities and ensuring regular electric supply in the railway station.

Finally, I urge the Government to change the reservation timings to 9 AM to 1 PM and 2 PM to 6 PM. Fro this act of kidness, my constituency people would be grateful to you for ever.

श्री चन्द्रकांत खेरे (औरंगाबाद): अध्यक्ष महोदया, आपने मुझे एक महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर बोलने का अवसर दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूं। प्रभु रामचन्द्र जी की जन्मभूमि अयोध्या है। देश और दुनिया के सारे श्रद्धालुओं, करोड़ों हिन्दुओं की आस्था का प्रतीक राम मंदिर का निर्माण करना है। वहां रामलला की मूर्ति स्थापित है, इसलिए वहां राम मंदिर का निर्माण होना चाहिए, यह सभी लोगों की डिमांड है।...(व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदया, अभी मैंने शुरुआत की है, मुझे बोलने दीजिए। आज मैं भगवा शर्ट पहन कर आया हूं, मैं इसके लिए बोलना चाहता हूं। सभी लोगों की डिमांड है, सभी श्रद्धालुओं और हिन्दुओं की आस्था है।

अध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार को बात बताना चाहता हूं, अब तो मुसलमानों की भी, उनकी ओर से भी...(व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: वह मामला तो कोर्ट में है न।

...(व्यवधान)

श्री चन्द्रकांत खेरे : मुख्य जो पेटीशनर है,...(व्यवधान)

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Madam, it is a controversial matter.... (*Interruptions*)

श्री चन्द्रकांत खेरे: सम्माननीय हाशिम अंसारी ने भी कहा कि राम मंदिर का निर्माण होना चाहिए।...(व्यवधान) मुझे बोलने दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान) आप भी हिन्दू हैं। ...(व्यवधान)

में यह कहना चाहता हूं कि कई मुस्लिम महिलाओं ने भी प्रधान मंत्री जी के कार्यालय में जाकर कहा कि राम मंदिर का निर्माण किरए।...(व्यवधान) कल भी मुंबई में सभी साधु-संतों की उपस्थिति में बहुत बड़ा कार्यक्रम हुआ, विश्व हिन्दू परिषद् का कार्यक्रम हुआ।...(व्यवधान) वहां दोनों शंकराचार्य जी, काशी के शंकराचार्य जी और कांची के शंकराचार्य जी एवं कई लोगों ने कहा कि राम मंदिर का निर्माण होना चाहिए।...(व्यवधान) परमपूज्य जगदगुरू नरेन्द्रचार्य महाराज ने भी कहा कि राम मंदिर का निर्माण होना चाहिए। सारे साधु-संत योगी आदित्य नाथ जी ने भी परसों कहा कि राम मंदिर का निर्माण होना बहुत जरूरी है। ...(व्यवधान) हमने भी जब कारसेवा की, ...(व्यवधान) हमने लाठी भी खाई।...(व्यवधान) राम मंदिर का निर्माण होना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान) जहां प्रभु रामचन्द्र की भूमि है, वहां राम मंदिर का निर्माण होना चाहिए।...(व्यवधान) ये निर्माण जल्दी-जल्दी करें।...(व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं आपके माध्यम से कहना चाहता हूं कि 13वीं लोक सभा में मैंने एक प्रश्न रेज़ किया था तो प्रधान मंत्री श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी जी ने कहा कि अपना पूरा बहुमत आने दीजिए, राम मंदिर का निर्माण करेंगे। इसलिए मेरा कहना है कि आज पूरा बहुमत हैं।...(व्यवधान) 335 अपने सांसद हैं।...(व्यवधान) सभी लोग चाहते हैं कि आदरणीय मोदी जी के काल में राम मंदिर का निर्माण होना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं आपके माध्यम से आदरणीय मोदी जी और अपनी सरकार को यह कहूंगा कि राम मंदिर का निर्माण होना चाहिए। हमारा पूरा बहुमत है, कोई कुछ बोलेगा नहीं।...(व्यवधान) इसके लिए सभी हिन्दुओं की आस्था है, वह आस्था की प्रतीक रामलला की मूर्ति और राम मंदिर का निर्माण होना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान) धन्यवाद।

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN (VADAKARA): Madam, the matter is *sub judice*. Therefore, it should not be allowed.... (*Interruptions*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: श्री अश्विनी कुमार चौबे, श्री केशव प्रसाद मौर्य और श्री भैरों प्रसाद मिश्र को श्री चन्द्रकांत खैरे द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ संबद्ध करने की अनुमित प्रदान की जाती है।

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): Madam, I would like to invite the attention of this august House to a very important issue which has been reported today. It is about the reported move of the Central Government to celebrate the birth anniversary of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya as a Good Governance Day on 25th December. ... (*Interruptions*) It is Christimas Day.

माननीय अध्यक्ष: इसमें क्या करना है?

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: The day in which they are celebrating this event is the birth day of Jesus Christ celebrated all over the world. We are not against Shri Vajpayee ji or celebrating the birth day of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. It is a good thing, not a bad thing.

The point is that the Navodaya Vidayalaya has issued a circular to the schools operating in the rural areas on the lines of the Kendriya Vidayalayas. The schools are affiliated to CBSE. The Navodaya Vidyalaya circular says that the CSBE will be organizing an Essay Competition on December 24th and 25th, the topics for which will be declared on December 23rd. The Essay Competition will be held for standards I to V; VI and VII and IX and X.

The Commissioner of Navodaya Vidayalaya Samiti Shri V.S. Motiyal has asked the schools to conduct Quiz Competition, screen documentaries on the best practices in good governance and carry out related activities on Christmas Day. Is it good governance? ... (*Interruptions*) On Christmas Day, every Christian will go to church for prayers. Not only Christians, but all the people will go to churches. From 24th night onwards and also on 25th morning, every Christian family and those who are associated with them will be in church for the devotional riturals

and prayers. Asking the children to be present in schools on that auspicious day for participating in programmes like Essay Competition and Quiz Competition would really hurt the sentiments of the minorities. Being a sovereign, secular and democratic country, how can the Government of India insist on this type of activities on Christmas Day? Is it good governance? ... (*Interruptions*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: आप केवल अपनी बात रखिए।

...(व्यवधान)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Madam, celebrating Vajpayeeji's birthday is a good thing. But I think Vajpayeeji would not want any honour like this at the expense of suppressing the faith of the minorities. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Mullapally Ramachandran, Shri N.K. Premachandran, Shri P.K. Biju, Shri M.B. Rajesh, Dr. A. Sampath and Shrimati P.K. Shreemathi Teacher are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri K.C. Venugopal.

Shri Badaruddoza Khan.

... (*Interruptions*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आपने अपना मैटर बता दिया है।

...(व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: ज़ीरो आवर में बाकी कुछ नहीं होता।

...(व्यवधान)

HON. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Md. Badaruddoza Khan says.

(Interruptions) ... *

SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN (MURSHIDABAD): Madam Speaker, I would like to draw the attention of the Railway Minister, through you, that there is a rail bridge on river Bhagirathi in Murshidabad District of West Bengal. The construction work of this bridge has been completed at least 1 ½ years ago. ... (*Interruptions*) But the bridge cannot be accessed or used due to some land dispute

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^{*} Not recorded.

in approach road towards Azimganj Junction. ... (*Interruptions*) But the agony is that till now there is no initiative taken by the Government to solve the problem in this regard. A bridge constructed at a cost of more than Rs. 100 crore will be damaged if it is not used for a long time. ... (*Interruptions*) So, I request the hon. Railway Minister, through you, to take some initiative and take immediate steps to start using of this bridge as early as possible so that the problem may be solved. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bidyut Baran Mahato - Not present ... (Interruptions)

श्री रवीन्द्र कुमार पाण्डेय (गिरिडीह): अध्यक्ष महोदया, मेरे गिरिडीह लोक सभा क्षेत्र के अंतर्गत लगभग 630 मेगावाट विद्युत उत्पादन क्षमता वाले बोकारो थर्मल पावर प्लांट में आज दस दिनों से बिजली उत्पादन ठप्प है। अभी तक लगभग 12 करोड़ रुपये का नुकसान हो चुका है।...(व्यवधान) एक तरफ झारखंड में बिजली की कटौती पांच से छ: घंटे तक है। डीवीसी का कहना है चूंकि यहां कोयले की खपत ज्यादा है, इसलिए हम अंडाल और कोडरमा प्लांट को चलाना चाह रहे हैं।...(व्यवधान) डीवीसी के वरीय अधिकारियों के निर्देश पर विद्युत संयंत्र को चालू नहीं किया जा रहा है।...(व्यवधान) वहां लगभग दो हजार रैगुलर और ठेका मजदूर बेकार बैठे हुए हैं।...(व्यवधान) डीवीसी का कहना है कि कोडरमा में 500 मेगावाट क्षमता वाले एक यूनिट के अलावा अंडाल से बिजली उत्पादन शुरू होने के कारण फिलहाल बीटीपीएस को बंद रखा है क्योंकि यहां कोयले की खपत कम है तथा विद्युत उत्पादन अधिक है।...(व्यवधान) इस नीति के कारण विद्युत उपभोक्ताओं की परेशानी बढ़ रही है और सरकार के राजस्व में घाटा हो रहा है।...(व्यवधान)

अत: मेरा सरकार से आग्रह है कि बीटीपीएस में विद्युत उत्पादन शुरू करने और विद्युत उत्पादन बाधित करने वाले अधिकारियों के विरुद्ध कार्यवाही करने की कृपा की जाए।...(व्यवधान)

13.23 hrs

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

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.30 p.m.

13.24 hrs

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

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14.32 hrs

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Thirty -Two Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

(Hon. Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377 *

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

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

... (Interruptions)

(i) Need to construct a bridge across river Gandak between Pakhnaha in Bettiah, Bihar and Tamkuhi in Kushinagar district, Uttar Pradesh

डॉ. संजय जायसवाल (पश्चिम चम्पारण): भगवान बुद्ध ने आखिरी बार अपने शिष्यों को केसरिया (बिहार) में संबोधित किया था तथा वहाँ से कुशीनगर (उ०प्र०) प्रस्थान कर गए थे जहां उनका महानिर्वाण हुआ । वे गंडक नदी को पखनाहा-तमकुही से पार किए थे । वर्षों से बिहार तथा उत्तर प्रदेश के नागरिक पखनाहा-तमकुही घाट पर पुल बनाने हेतु संघर्षरत है ।

अतः मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध हे कि बुद्धा सर्किट मार्ग में बेतिया से कुशीनगर पथ में पखनाहा-तमकुही पुल को शामिल किया जाए जिससे इस मार्ग से नन्दनगढ़ बौद्ध स्तूप, अररोज एवं लोरिया अशोक स्तम्भ सीधे कुशीनगर से जुड़ सकें और भगवान बुद्ध द्वारा चले गए मार्ग से पर्यटक सीधे बौद्ध स्थलों का दर्शन कर सकें।

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^{*} Treated as laid on the Table.

(ii) Need to undertake measures to check discharge of effluents in Bagad river by industrial factories in Gajraula under Amroha Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh

श्री कॅवर सिंह तॅवर (अमरोहा): मैं सरकार का ध्यान अपने संसदीय क्षेत्र में लगातार बढ़ रहे जल एवं वायु प्रदूषण की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं । गजरौला शहर की कई फैक्ट्रियों में रसायनों का उत्पादन होता है जिसमें जुबिलेन्ट आर्गेनिक्स प्रमुख है जो थोड़ा आगे जाकर गंगा नदी में मिलती है । इस फैक्ट्री का गंदा व रसायनयुक्त पानी बगद नदी में छोड़ा जाता है । पानी को जमीन सोख लेती है जिसके कारण वहाँ भूजल भी संक्रमित तथा दूषित हो गया है ।

इन फैक्ट्रियों के आसपास लगभग 30-35 किलोमीटर के क्षेत्र के लगभग 50 गाँवों में नलों से संक्रमित जल पीने को लोग मजबूर हैं जिसके कारण यहाँ के लोग कैंसर, ब्लड कैंसर, हैपेटाइटिस-सी जैसी जनलेवा बीमारियों के शिकार हो रहे हैं । लोग समय-समय पर इस समस्या के समाधान के लिए आवाज उठाते रहे हैं, पर आज तक इस समस्या का कोई समाधान नहीं हुआ है ।

अतः मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध हे कि इसके लिए एक जांच समिति बनाई जाए ताकि लोगों के स्वास्थ्य व जीवन की रक्षा की जा सके।

(iii) Need to include Bhojpuri in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution

योगी आदित्यनाथ (गोरखपुर): विश्व की सबसे बड़ी बोली भोजपुरी लगभग 70 हजार वर्ग किलोमीटर के क्षेत्र में 16 करोड़ लोगों द्वारा बोली जाती है । उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार, मध्य प्रदेश तथा झारखंड में इसका प्रयोग व्यापक है । नेपाल के तराई क्षेत्र, मॉरीशस, फिजी, त्रिनिदाद, थाईलैण्ड, हॉलैण्ड, मलेशिया तथा सिंगापुर सिंहत 27 देशों में भी इसका व्यापक आधार है । ऋग्वेद में महर्षि विश्वामित्र द्वारा 'भोज' शब्द जिससे भोजपुरी बनी, का उल्लेख तो है ही, महाभारत सिंहत विभिन्न धर्मग्रन्था से होते हुए मालवा के राजा भोज, उज्जैन के भोज, गुर्जर प्रतिहार भोज, काशी तथा डुगराँव के भोज राजाओं का इतिहास भोजपुरी की व्यापकता, विशालता और प्राचीनता का गवाह है ।

संत साहित्यकारों गुरू गोरखनाथ जी, चौरंगीनाथ जी, योगिराज भतृहिर, कबीरदास, कमलदास, धरमदास, धरनीदास, पलटूदास, भीखा साहेब जैसे सैकड़ों सन्त साहित्यकारों, विचारकों और चिन्तकों ने अपनी लोक कथाओं, गीतों, लोकगाथाओं और लोकोक्तियों से भोजपुरी की पीढ़ी-दर-पीढ़ी एक कंठ से दूसरे कंठ तक पहुंचाया । महापण्डित राहुल सांकृत्यायन, भगवतशरण उपाध्याय और चतुरी चाचा जैसे रचनाकारों ने भोजपुरी गद्य साहित्य को नई ऊंचाइयाँ प्रदान की ।

भारतीय संविधान के मूल रूप में 14 भाषाएं ही आठवीं सूची में थी । बाद में इसमें संशोधन कर सिन्धी, कोंकड़ी, नेपाली, मैनपुरी, मैथिली, डोगरी, संथाली और बोडो को भी शामिल कर लिया गया । भोजपुरी संस्कृति इन सभी भाषाओं का आदर करते हुए यह जानना चाहती है कि जिस वजह से इन बोलियों को इस सूची में शामिल किया गया, उनमें से क्या कोई एक भी तत्व ऐसा है जिसे भोजपुरी भाषा पूर्ण न करती हो । यद्यपि गृह मंत्रालय ने भोजपुरी को आठवीं अनुसूची में शामिल करने की बात को सैद्धांतिक रूप से स्वीकार भी किया है, फिर भोजपुरी के साथ यह अन्याय क्यों ?

अतः मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि 16 करोड़ लोगों की भावनाओं को समझते हुए भोजपुरी भाषा को तत्काल आठवीं सूची में शामिल किया जाए ।

(iv) Need to provide adequate compensation and alternative land to people whose land has been acquired for Nauradehi Wildlife Reserve in Damoh Parliamentary Constituency, Madhya Pradesh

श्री प्रहलाद सिंह पटेल (दमोह): मैं सरकार का ध्यान नौरादेही चीता अभ्यारण्य द्वारा विस्थापित ग्रामीणों की समस्या की तरफ आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं । नौरादेही चीता अभ्यारण्य के द्वारा मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र दमोह (मध्य प्रदेश) के तकरीबन 23 गाँव विस्थापन के कगार पर हैं और उन ग्रामीणों के आवास और खेती की जमीन दोनों ही उनसे छिन जाएंगे । किसानों की करीब 1500 हेक्टेयर जमीन इस अभ्यारण्य के अंदर आ गई है जिससे ये किसान भूमिहीन होने के कगार पर है । मुआवजा 10 लाख प्रति परिवार तय किया गया है जो पर्याप्त नहीं है और न ही जमीन के बदले जमीन देने की कोई व्यवस्था की गई है । इस इलाके में दूर तक खाली जमीन उपलब्ध नहीं है जिस जगह पर उन गरीब किसानों का पूनर्वास किया जाएगा ।

मैं भारत सरकार विशेषकर वन एवं पर्यावरण मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा ताकि उन किसानों को उचित मुआवजा दिलाने तथा अन्यत्र खेती योग्य जमीन उपलब्ध कराने हेतु शीघ्र कदम उठाए जाएं जिससे किसान अपने परिवार का भरण-पोषण कर सकें।

(v) Need to augment railway services and passenger facilities in Barmer Parliamentary Constituency, Rajasthan

कर्नल सोनाराम चौधरी (बाड़मेर): मेरा संसदीय क्षेत्र अभावग्रस्त एवं मरूरथलीय क्षेत्र है। अब तक लोग जीविका हेतु मजदूरी एवं व्यापार के लिए दक्षिणी एवं उत्तरी भारत के महानगरों पर निर्भर थे और कई तो वहाँ के स्थायी निवासी भी हो गए। मारवाड़ी समूचे हिन्दुस्तान ही नहीं अपितु विश्व में छाये हुए हैं लेकिन अभी भी सांस्कृतिक परंपराओं एवं संस्कारों के कारण अपनी जन्मभूमि से जुड़े हैं। यहाँ अब प्रचुर मात्रा में प्राकृतिक संपदा के रूप में तेल, कोयला, लिग्नाईट, स्टील बेस लाइम, बेटोनाइट जिप्सम ग्रेनाइट आदि का भण्डार मिला है। इसी वजह से यहाँ भी औद्योगिक ईकायाँ स्थापित हो रही हैं। बाड़मेर औद्योगिक रूप से विश्व पटल पर उभर रहा है एवं जैसलमेर पर्यटन के क्षेत्र में अपना महत्वपूर्ण स्थान रखता है। सीमा से सटे होने के कारण एयरफोर्स, सेवा एवं बी.एस. एफ, के जवानों का आवागमन भी इसी क्षेत्र में होता रहा है, फिर भी इस क्षेत्र में रेलवे की सुविधाएं नाममात्र की हैं।

बाड़मेर-जैसलमेर दोनों सीमान्त जिले होने के अलावा समुद्री बन्दरगाह के निकट पड़ता है। अतः प्राकृतिक सम्पदा का निर्यात करने के लिए जैसलमेर-बाडमेर-अहमदाबाद-कांडला का रेलवे लाइन से जोड़ना नितान्त आवश्यक है। इस मार्ग का र्वा 2000-2001 में रेलवे विभाग द्वारा सर्वे कराया गया था जिसमें स्टेशन एवं मार्ग भी चिन्हित कर दिये गये थे परंतु बजट का प्रावधान नहीं हो पाया।

बाड़मेर-जैसलमेर जिले के साथ ही मार्ग में जालोर का कुछ हिस्सा आता है जिसकी जनसंख्या करीब 22 लाख है। साथ ही यहाँ से थलसेना, वायुसेना, पैरामिलिट्री फोर्सेज का पड़ाव इस सीमांत क्षेत्र में हमेशा रहता है। वर्तमान में रेल सेवाएं भी पर्याप्त नहीं है।

बाड़मेर एवं जैसलमेर से दक्षिणी व उत्तरी भारत को रेल सेवाओं से सीधा जोड़ा जाए तािक लोगों को आवागमन में सुविधा हो और व्यापारियों को माल ट्रांसपोर्टेशन में भी पैसा एवं समय दोनों की बचत होगी । जोधपुर रेलवे मुख्यालय पर जमीन की कमी होने के कारण यहाँ यात्री रेल गाड़ियों को रोकने, उनकी सफाई एवं मेन्टीनेन्स करने में परेशानी आ रही है । ऐसी स्थिति में बाड़मेर स्टेशन जहाँ पर्याप्त मात्रा में रेलवे के पास भूमि उपलब्ध है, वहां लोकोशेड एवं पार्किंग का निर्माण करवाया जाए तो कई गाड़ियों को बाड़मेर रोका जा सकता है । इससे दोहरा लाभ होगा । एक तो जोधपुर पर दबाव नहीं रहेगा । दूसरे, बाड़मेर की जनता को पर्याप्त गाड़ियां भी मिल जायेंगी ।

मण्डोर एक्सप्रेस (जोधपुर-दिल्ली-जोधपुर), सूर्यनगरी एक्सप्रेस (जोधपुर-बान्द्रा-जोधपुर), जोधपुर-जयपुर एक्सप्रेस, दिल्ली-सुजानगढ़-भगत की कोठी (14705-06) को बाड़मेर तक बढ़ाकर बाड़मेर में पार्क

किया जावे तथा गुवाहाटी एक्सप्रेस, यशवन्तपुरम एक्सप्रेस के फेरे बढ़ाये जाए । साथ ही मालाणी एक्सप्रेस (जैसलमेर-बाड़मेर-दिल्ली) में साधारण कोच की संख्या बढ़ाई जावे ।

अतः मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि वाणिज्यिक, सामरिक एवं सुरक्षा की दृटि से उक्त की व्यवस्था की जाती है तो विभाग एवं आम जनता के हित में होगा ।

(vi) Need to provide sewerage system in Sahajahanpur Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh

श्रीमती कृष्णा राज (शाहजहाँपुर): नदियों में बढ़ते प्रदूषण की समस्या जिले में सीवर लाइन की अनुपलब्धता इसका एक मुख्य कारण है। हमारी सरकार राष्ट्रीय स्वच्छता मिशन जैसे कार्यक्रम का संचालन कर रही है, दूसरी तरफ उत्तर प्रदेश के अधिकांश जिलों में सीवर लाइन उपलबध न होने के कारण अविशष्ट तथा मलयुक्त जल पूरे शहर में जहां-तहां फैला रहता है जिसके कारण विभिन्न प्रकार की बीमारियाँ पनपती रहती हैं, साथ ही शहर की सीवेज का जहरीला जल बिना शोधित किये सीधे नदियों में गिराया जा रहा है जिससे नदी के जल के साथ-साथ भू-गर्भीय जल भी पीने योग्य नहीं बचा है। हमारे संसदीय क्षेत्र शाहजहाँपुर में एक संस्था " पृथ्वी " साइन्टिफिक एसोसियेशन के सहयोग से किए गए अध्ययन में विगत दिनों जल में प्रदूषण की तथा खतरनाम रसायनों की मात्रा स्वीकृत मानकों से अधिक पायी गयी तथा सम्पूर्ण जल आर्सेनिक तत्वों से युक्त पाया गया जो जन-जीवन के साथ-साथ साग-सब्जियों एवं खाद्यान्नों के लिए हानिकारक है।

अतः मैं भारत सरकार से यह निवेदन एवं माँग करती हूँ कि मेरे जनपद शाहजहाँपुर में नगरपालिकाओं और नगर पंचायतों में सीवर लाइन बिछाने के साथ ही गंदे जल के निस्तारण के लिए शोधन यंत्र लगाये जाने के लिए आवश्यक कदम उठाए जाएं।

(vii) Need to improve BSNL mobile service in Garhwal Parliamentary Constituency, Uttarakhand

मेजर जनरल (सेवानिवृत्त) भुवन चन्द्र खंडूड़ी ए.वी.एस.एम.(गढ़वाल): मेरा संसदीय क्षेत्र गढ़वाल पर्वतीय क्षेत्र है । यहाँ दूरसंचार की सुविधाएं अभी तक मात्र नगरों तक ही सीमित हैं । ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में दूरसंचार सुविधाएं अभी तक उपलब्ध नहीं हो पा रही हैं जिसका मुख्य कारण टेलीफोन टावरों का उपलब्ध नहीं होना अथवा पहुँच से बाहर होना है । भारत संचार निगम लिमिटेड द्वारा वांछित स्थानों पर संचार टावर अभी तक मांग के अनुरूप स्थापित नहीं किए गए हैं और न ही निजी कंपनियों द्वारा इन क्षेत्रों में टावर स्थापित किये जा रहे हैं जिससे आज के तकनीकी युग में भी जनता को वह सुविधाएं नहीं मिल पा रही हैं जिस प्रकार की सुविधाएं देश के अन्य भागों में सरकार जनता को उपलब्ध करवा रही है ।

अतः मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि गढ़वाल संसदीय क्षेत्र के पर्वतीय क्षेत्रों (जनपद- पौड़ी गढ़वाल, चमोली, रूद्रप्रयाग व टिहरी) में तुरन्त विभाग द्वारा सर्वे कराया जाए और आवश्यकता के अनुरूप टेलीफोन टावर लगाने के स्थानों का चयन कर टावर शीघ्र लगवाएं जाएं तथा जनता को आधुनिक सुविधाएं प्रदान करने हेतु तत्काल कदम उठाएं जाएं ।

(viii) Need to expedite conversion of metre-guage railway line between Ahmedabad and Udaipur into broad-gauge

श्री डी.एस.राठौड़ (साबरकांठा): अहमदाबाद से उदयपुर रेलवे लाइन पर मीटरगेज से ब्रॉडगेज कन्वर्जन का कार्य पिछले तीन साल से चल रहा है लेकिन उस काम में बहुत प्रगति नहीं हो रही है। इस लाइन पर ट्रैफिक का बहुत दबाव है परंतु धीमी गति से चल रहे कन्वर्जन का कार्य के कारण रेल मंत्रालय को इसका लाभ नहीं मिल पा रहा है।

अतः मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि उपरोक्त रेलवे लाइन के मीटरगेज से ब्रॉडगेज कन्वर्जन कार्य में प्रगति लाने हेतु शीघ्र कदम उठाया जाए ।

(ix) Need to continue the supply of subsidized rations to tea labourers in Assam

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI (KALIABOR): The Centre has decided to stop subsidized rations meant for tea labourers and asked the state Government of Assam to do away with the system of allocating bulk food grains to the tea garden management. The decision will effect 19,28,719 families of tea garden labourers in Assam.

In this connection, Under the Essential Commodities Act 1955, each tea garden labourer in Assam gets 3.26 kgs of food grains including rice or wheat, every week at 55 paisa per kg from the tea garden management. Similarly, the dependent of the labourers is entitled to 2.44 kgs of food grains at the same rate per week. Their children get 1.22 kgs of the ration per week at the subsidized rate. Whereas the Assam government has been providing a total of 12,590 metric tonnes (MT) of rice and wheat to the garden management every month at subsidized rates for the purpose. This system has been in force in Assam for the last 60 years and removing it all of sudden and without making an alternative arrangement will affect the interests of the tea industry of not only North eastern States but also the national exchequer indirectly.

Hence, I request the Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry to kindly take necessary steps to cancel the circular issued for the purpose to protect the interests of the tea garden workers of North eastern states in general and Assam in particular.

(x) Need to allocate funds for setting up of Desalination Plants at Chennai, Ramanathapuram and Tuticorin in Tamil Nadu

SHRI J.J.T. NATTERJEE (THOOTHUKUDI): Tamil Nadu is faced with the problem of acute drinking water shortage with very little surface water and depleting ground water resources. This leaves no option but to go in for major desalination plants to convert sea water into drinking water. Tuticorin is also a water starved area. So the Tamil Nadu Government has drawn up a plan to set up a 100 MLD capacity desalination plant at a cost of Rs.1500 crore. The State Government is submitting the detailed project report to the Government of India. The State Government has requested the Central Government to bear at least 50% of the cost of the proposed project to be taken up in Chennai, Ramanathapuram and Tuticorin. I urge upon the Union Water Resources Ministry and the Urban Development Ministry to take up this issue with the Finance Ministry for allocation of funds in the next Budget for the benefit of the people of Tuticorin Constituency.

(xi) Need to continue to permit research work on embryonic stem cells in the country and provide adequate funds for the purpose

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI (BARRACKPUR): The National Guidelines for Stem Cell Research, as revised in 2013, mentions that stem cell therapy other than for haematological disorders shall be treated as investigational and conducted only in the form of a clinical trial after obtaining necessary regulatory approvals. Use of stem cells for any other purpose outside the domain of clinical trial has been considered unethical and hence is not permissible under the revised guidelines.

The aforementioned guidelines also restrict the research on embryonic stem cells. Stem cells, directed to differentiate into specific cell types, offer the possibility of a renewable source of replacement cells and tissues to treat diseases including muscular degeneration, spinal cord injury, stroke, burns, heart disease, diabetes, etc. Furthermore, cells derived from embryos are truly totipotent, which means that these are capable of giving rise to any kind of tissues. This makes embryonic stem cells a prospect for treatment of a wide range of diseases.

In the light of the importance of embryonic stem cells, and their superiority over adult stem cells, I would request the Government to continue to allow basic research on embryonic stem cells. Given the know-how, and the expertise of our scientific minds, India is one of the few countries in the world which can become a pioneer in this field. The abrupt ban of this research has resulted in a lot of hard work and funds going down the drain. I would also urge the Government to promote it through the Department of Biotechnology by means of increased allocations of funds for projects in this field.

(xii) Need to produce value added products from minerals produced by Indian Rare Earths Limited in Odisha

DR. SIDHANT MOHAPATRA (BERHAMPUR): In October 1984, Indian Rare Earths Limited (IREL) a central PSU set up a beach Sand Mineral Industry in Ganjam Coast, Odisha. For the past 30 years about 40% of the mineral deposits have been mined. IREL under Department of Atomic Energy has a strong technical strength behind it and it should set up a Titanium Dioxide and Titanium Metal Plant near its Odisha Plant. This value added product will generate several downstream industries.

As of now IREL is producing about 2,20,000 tonnes of Illuminate annually, and almost the entire quantity is exported. IREL should set up a plant to convert this quantity to value added products without export. Only after utilising the present capacity, further capacity enhancement of mining has to be considered. This will ensure availability of resources in our country for future requirement. Otherwise in the next 20 years the balance resource will be exhausted. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to take remedial steps in the this regard.

(xiii) Need to modernize jetties in Varsova and Madh in Mumbai North-West Parliamentary Constituency

श्री गजानन कीर्तिकर (मुम्बई उत्तर पश्चिम): समुद्री जल परिवहन तथा समुद्री जल प्लेटफार्मों की दुर्दशा की ओर सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ । देश में विशेषकर मुम्बई समुद्री जल स्टेशनों से प्रतिदिन कई नौका एवं जहाजों का आवागमन होता है । जहाज व नौका यात्रियों को चढ़ने-उतरने के लिए जो प्लेटफार्म/जेट्टी बनाई गई हैं, उनकी अवस्था काफी खराब हो चुकी है । कई टूटने के कगार पर हैं, तो कई टूटे-फूटे पड़े हैं, जिसके कारण अनेक बार दुर्घटनाएं हो चुकी हैं और आए दिन दुर्घटनाओं की संख्या बढ़ती ही जा रही है । मुम्बई उपनगरीय जिले के वर्सोवा से मढ़ तक आवागमन के लिए यात्री नौका सेवा शुरू है । यहाँ दोनों जल स्टेशनों/ जेटि्टयों की अवस्था अत्यंत दयनीय स्थिति में पहुँच चुकी है । वर्सोवा खाड़ी में काफी उँचाई तक मलबा जमा हुआ है जिससे कभी भी भयंकर दुर्घटना हो सकती है । वर्सोवा समुद्री तटों के आवासों में बड़ी संख्या में मछुआरे रहते हैं तथा अपने व्यवसाय के लिए इसी खाड़ी का उपयोग करते हैं । उनकी नौकाएं भी कई बार मलबे में फँसकर टूट जाती हैं ।

अतः मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि जल स्टेशनों की गंभीर स्थिति पर गौर कर अतिशीघ्र जल प्लेटफार्म/जेट्टी का आधुनिकीकरण किया जाए ताकि यात्रियों व व्यवसायियों को समुद्री आवागमन के लिए सुविधा प्राप्त हो सके, इससे पर्यटन को भी बढावा मिलेगा ।

(xiv) Need to provide adequate facilities to fishermen in Srikakulam Parliamentary Constituency, Andhra Pradesh

SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU (SRIKAKULAM): I would like to bring to your kind notice that the fishermen community face problems of lack of platforms in sea shores. This problem aggravates their safety and they face economic hardships.. In this connection it is imperative to lay down the safety norms to be observed in the sea area and construction of the shelters, rest rooms. In this connection, I request the Government of India to provide maximum welfare facilities to the fishermen community in my Srikakulam Parliamentary constituency in Andhra Pradesh as well as in the country.

(xv) Need to enhance the widow pension to Rs. 1500 per month and also raise financial assistance in order to enable them to marrying off their daughters

SHRIMATI P.K. SHREEMATHI TEACHER (KANNUR): For many people, losing a spouse or partner can be the single most stressful event in their life. Widowhood alters the routines, tasks and living arrangements that once characterized the everyday life of a married couple.

The personal strain is often considerable and is most acute for those women who are financially dependent on their husbands.

A widow pension is a payment from the government to a women whose husband has died. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to increase the monthly widow pension to Rs 1,500 from Rs 1,000 and also to enhance the financial assistance to the widows for marrying off their daughters.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): Sir, I want a reply from the Government on the issue raised by me during the 'Zero Hour'... (*Interruptions*) SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): Sir, the Government should reply.... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The 'Zero Hour' is over.

... (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, though it is not the practice, keeping in view the issue raised by hon. Venugopal *ji* and other Members, I would like to just clarify one thing though I am more keen that the Bill should be taken up and there is another important programme also.

Some of the newspapers today carried out an item... (*Interruptions*) SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: A very big item; not a small item.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Okay. They carried a very big item without any basis. We would like to clarify from the Government. I have talked to the Minister; I have talked to the Secretary also. The instructions from CBSE to conduct online essay competition on 24th and 25th December... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let him complete.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: From CBSE, Navodaya, Kendriya Vidyalayas, there is no Circular to say that they must run the schools on the day of holy Christmas on 25th December. There is no such instruction. This is my first point.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: On 24th also.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Just hear me. Secondly, Sir, this is a vacation season for schools depending on the climatic conditions. On the basis of the climate, the Navodaya Schools declare holidays. There are holidays, as per our

In residential schools, normally children stay there. This good information. governance essay writing competition is only online and voluntary even for them Whoever wants to participate in it, they can participate in it on 24th December, 2014 and if they do not want to participate, they need not participate. Nothing has been made mandatory. It has been made online. I think, Venugopalji understands as to what is online. So, there is no question of using any force. I am thankful that, at least, he accepts that Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji's birthday is also very important. Definitely, it is important because he is the man who brought the connectivity revolution in the country. So, the Government has decided to observe 25th as a 'Good Governance Day'. Keeping that in mind, these instructions were given but not to open any schools or conduct any essay writing competition. I would like to assure that no such thing is going to happen at all. I only hope that the media, important newspapers – I do not want to name any newspapers – should also verify it. ... (*Interruptions*) Then people will say that you are giving extra publicity only to *The Times of India*. What about other newspapers, *The* Hindustan Times, Navbharat Times, etc?... (Interruptions) My point here is that there is no such thing. Secondly, everything is optional. Thirdly, school holidays will continue as they were earlier. Fourthly, this essay writing competition is Fifthly, it is voluntary. Whoever is interested, can participate and whoever is not interested, need not to participate. On the 25th December, people are going to the church. They can happily go to the Church. They can offer their prayers and enjoy the Christmas also. Like others, I would also like to convey my best wishes to our Christian friends of this House and outside also. But from the Government side, there is no such move. This is a clarification that I would like to give. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The matter is over.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL : Sir, the hon. Minister has given directions to the concerned schools. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He has already replied that there is no such move.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: There is no such thing.... (*Interruptions*) Venugopalji, there is no such thing. I have instructions with me.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Sir, hon. Minister of HRD has sent a letter to the concerned schools. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: She has not sent any letter. ... (*Interruptions*) I had a talk with the Minister of HRD. She was there in my room just now. Her son is having some health problem. He is admitted to hospital and she wanted to go there. Otherwise, as a Parliamentary Affairs Minister, I have been taking proactive role to see that the concerned Minister also comes to the House and clarifies the position. Though it is not required as per the rules yet we do not want to go only by rules but we want to see that whatever information asked for is given to hon. Members also to the extent possible. Hon. Minister has clarified that nothing has been forced on anybody. There is no such Circular also because conducting essay writing competition is a different thing. But opening the school and making it mandatory is not there at all.

14.39 hrs

PUBLIC PREMISES (EVICTION OF UNAUTHORISED OCCUPANTS) AMENDMENT BILL, 2014

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we are taking up Item No. 11, The Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Amendment Bill. THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971, be taken into consideration."

Sir, the Public Premises Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971, Amendment Bill, provides for speedy machinery for the eviction of unauthorized occupants from public premises. This Act has been amended three times earlier, in the years 1980, 1984 and 1994. The present proposal seeks 4th amendment to the Act.

The major objective of the Amendment Bill was to bring the properties of Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) and other Metro Rails which may come up in future and also the properties of New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) within the ambit of the Public Premises Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

The 4th Amendment Bill namely the Public Premises Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Amendment Bill, 2011 was earlier introduced in the Lok Sabha in 2011. Then, it was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Urban Development by the then hon. Speaker. The Standing Committee had deliberated upon the issues and submitted the 20th Report on 14.05.2012.

On 14th May, 2012, the Standing Committee had given its Report after deliberations and after discussions. They made certain observations and recommendations to the Bill. The Lok Sabha could not take up this Bill because the Lok Sabha was subsequently dissolved.

In the meanwhile, somebody went to the Supreme Court also. The Supreme Court in its judgment dated 5.7.2013 in Civil Appeal No. 4064/2004 in the matter of S.D. Bandi *versus* Divisional Traffic Officer, Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation and others had given 20 suggestions. The Standing Committee had given four suggestions, which had been totally agreed upon and incorporated in this Bill. The Supreme Court had made 20 observations. Out of these 20 observations, 18 observations/suggestions have been accepted by this Government and incorporated as a part of this Bill.

The hon. Supreme Court in this judgment observed – I would like the entire House to carefully hear this – that the persons from all the three branches *viz.*, the legislature, the executive and the judiciary either by their influence or by lengthy procedure as provided in the Act, continue to stay in the government accommodation by paying paltry amount either by way of rent or penalty. It is a very serious observation, and that is the reality also, which most of us understand. In the meantime, the 15th Lok Sabha was dissolved. That is why, this Bill was lapsed at that time.

Now, in view of the observations/recommendations of the Standing Committee on Urban Development and suggestions of the hon. Supreme Court, it has now been proposed to make suitable amendments in Sections 2, 4, 5, 7 and 9 of the Public Premises (Eviction) Act, 1971 through a fresh amendment Bill called as 'The Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Bill, 2014.

Sir, I come to the major amendments.

Firstly, it is proposed to include within the meaning of public premises any premises belonging to, or taken on lease by, or on behalf, any company as defined

in Clause 20 of Section 2 of the Companies Act, 2013 (Companies Act, 1956 has now been amended as Companies Act, 2013) in which not less than 51 per cent of the paid-up capital is held partly by the Central Government and partly by one or more State Governments and includes a company which is a subsidiary of the first mentioned company and which carries on business of public transport including metro railways by carrying out suitable amendments in Section 2 of the Act. This is one amendment.

Secondly, in the existing Act, the public premises, in relation to the National Capital Territory of Delhi means, any premises belonging to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi, or any Municipal Committee or notified area committee come under the provisions as contained in Section 2 of this Act. To remove any doubts in future, it is proposed to bring Municipal Council within the purview of this Act.

Thirdly, there are three Municipal Corporations in Delhi now. Earlier, there used to be only one Municipal Corporation. That is why, it is proposed to substitute the words 'Municipal Corporation' by the phrase 'Corporation or Corporations' notified under Section 3 of the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957, as per the recommendation of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Urban Development.

Fourthly, as proposed by the Government of NCT of Delhi (Transport Department) and approved by the Cabinet, it is proposed to bring any premises belonging to, or taken on lease by, or on behalf of any Government Company as defined in Clause 45 of Section 2 of the Companies Act, 2013, only in relation to the National Capital Territory of Delhi, under the purview of public premises, by carrying out certain amendment in Section 2 of the Act.

Fifthly, as the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 is being amended to include any successor company constituted under or referred to in this Act to the existing Board of Trustees, it is proposed to make similar changes in Section 2 of this Act,

1971. This was proposed by the Ministry of Law and Justice and now approved by the Cabinet.

Sixthly, it is also proposed to make consequential amendments in Section 2 of the Act so that Officers of the proposed companies and New Delhi Municipal Council can be appointed as Estate Officers because Estate Officers are supposed to take action and initiative the proceedings. So, we are clarifying that these Officers of the proposed companies, which have been mentioned earlier, are the Officers of the New Delhi Municipal Council, who can be appointed as Estate Officers under Section 3 of the Act.

Sir, the observations/recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee and the suggestions given by the hon. Supreme Court were aimed at smooth and speedy eviction of unauthorised occupants from the public premises in a time-bound manner. The essence of this Bill is speedy eviction of unauthorised occupants from the public premises in a time-bound manner. In order to give statutory form to four recommendations made by the Parliamentary Standing Committee and 18 suggestions given by the hon. Supreme Court in the aforesaid judgment, they have been accepted by the Government.

Now, suitable amendments have also been proposed under Section 4, Section 5, Section 7 and Section 9 of the Act. So, there is no expenditure involved in this. It is only a change in the provisions of the Act. That being the case, I commend to the House to please discuss this; and keeping in view the larger interest of public in mind, support this Bill so that it can be made an Act and a speedy action can be taken against the unauthorised occupants, who are staying beyond the time given to them, and who are enjoying it without any right or authority. That is the purpose of this Bill.

Through you, Sir, I commend the Bill for consideration and subsequently, passing by this House. Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971, be taken into consideration."

KUMARI SUSHMITA DEV (SILCHAR): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Bill that this Government has moved today – Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Amendment Bill, 2014 – is a significant Bill.

As the hon. Minister has stated in his opening statement, this Bill had been moved by the UPA Government in 2011. Thereafter, it was referred to the Standing Committee, which gave its Report in May, 2012. What this Bill seeks to do is to take on board the recommendations of the Standing Committee as proposed in the Lok Sabha. Significantly, this Bill goes beyond what the Standing Committee said in the earlier Act of 2011. In that, it makes changes in Section 4, Section 5, Section 7 and Section 9, which are procedural, which set strict deadlines for the Estate Officer and for the person to whom notice of show cause has been issued. Amendments to Section 2(2) (E), sub-section (1), sub-section (3), sub-section (4), sub-section (5), I would say, are necessary in light of the new Companies Act, 2013, and the proposed amendments to the Major Ports Trust Act, 2013.

Significantly, Sir, the request that was made to the UPA Government by the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation to include their properties as public premises, has also been taken into consideration in this Bill. I think it is a good move in the right direction because the fact is that it is a settled principle that public purpose must supersede private interest. Therefore, we support this Bill.

Section 2(3), sub-section (1) is seeking to look into an anomaly that was raised in a writ petition 9644 of 2007. That is also welcome. It is because the High Court had actually rejected that PIL; and this Bill looks after that.

Sir, it is the law of the land that the Government always acts in greater public interest. Therefore, this 1971 Act gives the Government of India, a State

Government or any Government owned company, be it of the Central Government or the State Government, a privilege that it need not go to a court of first instance and undergo the rigours of a civil court. In greater public interest, it is a mechanism that is provided to the Government in view of the fact that the Government is, today, going to remove an unauthorised occupant and use that land or building in greater public interest.

I appreciate that, I understand that, and I would like to move from thereon to the Supreme Court judgment, which was passed in 2013. Very briefly, I would say that, that case dealt with a Government employee, who was a driver. He had been transferred, and he had refused to leave his accommodation because he had filed in the Tribunal for a stay order against his transfer order. The judgment is clearly dealing with Government accommodation. In that judgment itself, the opening lines were about people, about affluent people, who continue to stay in Government accommodation, be it employees, be it pubic representatives, be it hon. Judges of various courts.

Therefore, the court appointed an *amicus curie*. I think it was Shri Ranjit Kumar who gave his suggestions. Not only the Union of India but various State Governments also gave their suggestions and on the basis of which the Supreme Court gave some 18 or 20 suggestions. This Bill seeks to address those issues.

But there are certain issues that I would like this Government to consider in this Bill vis-à-vis the amendments that have been made in Sections 4, 5, 7 and 9. The net effect of it is what? From the day he issues a notice till the day an eviction order is passed, a person is given approximately, I think, 30 days. Under compelling circumstances, he can increase it by another 15 days. But the Supreme Court in its judgement is also asking, while you follow this procedure, you must stick to the rules of natural justice. So, effectively, what is happening? Effectively, what is happening is that from the date of notice to the order, which you are asking him to give in 15 days, and a reply within 10 days from the date of notice, you are forcing the Estate Officer to consider evidence and the reply to the show cause

notice within seven days. It is because within 10 days of the date of notice, I give my reply. Within 15 days, you are asking him to give me the order.

Under Section 9 of the Act, the Estate Officer has powers under the Code of Civil Procedure where he can summon a witness; he can examine a witness; he can look into documents; and therefore, he has the power to go into questions of fact. Now I ask this Government a question. Today, what Section 2 is saying? What are premises? Today, premises are not just a building. Today, when you talk of premises, you cannot just think of a public representative, who has lost an election, or a Minister, who is no longer a Minister, being asked to leave the bungalow. Today, Section 2 defines premises as land and building. The question also arises that there may be situations where the L&DO or the Government of India or the State Government has given a long lease to a hospital like Gangaram or to a prestigious institution, and maybe, that lease has run out. In those circumstances, is it practical to make such a draconian law and such a provision of procedure where the Estate Officer is bound to finish a trial within seven days from the date of reply to the notice?

I fully appreciate and I accept the stand of the Government that Government accommodation is expensive. Today, there are enough examples in this nation where they continue to stay in the most luxurious situation in the bungalows and houses after paying the penalty because that penalty is far, far less than the market rent value. But the question arises, in the same situation, if I give you the example of a hospital, if I give you the example of an orphanage or if I give you the example of a school, will they or should they be put through the rigours of this? This Government has given a provision under Section 5(2). I can understand what the hon. Minister is saying.

But I draw your attention to the Vikas Jain's case in the Supreme Court. I draw your attention to the case of *Indian Express* where this Act had been invoked, and the Supreme Court has repeatedly said and the Delhi High Court has repeatedly said that an Estate Officer is not a legal officer. He is not conversant

with complicated questions of possession, lease hold rights and adverse possession. Is he equipped to hold the trial in seven days?

Recently, in Vasant Kunj we saw that a lot of slum dwellers had been evicted by the Forests Department without notice. The Lieutenant Governor of Delhi then interfered to ask why there was no notice. So, there are situations that the Department can go under this Act to evict unauthorised occupants.

There are two types of unauthorised occupants, one, who comes into the land with unlawful means and the other, who enters into a premises lawfully but his authorisation ends. That distinction is also made in this Act. I am requesting and repeatedly saying that in a prestigious project like Delhi Metro Rail, in a prestigious project of DDA, in a prestigious Government project, it is incumbent upon this Government to give any government authority, the privileges that are there under this Act. But all I ask you is to make a distinction in the Act because the Supreme Court in the same judgement that you are seeking to implement through this Act has repeatedly said that these suggestions are with regard to misuse of government accommodations for judges or for public representatives in Lutyens Delhi. It may end up being a very draconian law in other situations where this country is still struggling to give housing to all, where this country is still struggling in giving lands to hospitals and schools. Thank you, Sir.

SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI (NEW DELHI): Thank you very much, Sir. In the beginning I want to state that I am part of the House Committee as well and only we know the kind of difficulties we faced in getting premises for the present Members of Parliament. Seeing it from that perspective, I would say – Mr. Banerjee would agree with me – it is very difficult. The so-called elite club, the Members of Parliament and some of the former Ministers continued to hold their bungalows in spite of the problems which new Members are faced with, including the Home Minister. The Home Minister did not get his requisite premise because others were holding on to it. It is coming from that background.

What my friend has stated about Vasant Kunj and all those areas, let me just remind her that those orders have come from the National Green Tribunal. The National Green Tribunal is a body as enshrined per law. If a court orders, no matter what this amendment will bring in or will not bring in. She is trying to confuse the issue and trying to get political mileage out of something which is completely not connected with the present amendment.

The present amendment is on a different line altogether. The present amendment is about the principal Act existed in 1971. There were two types of accommodations, the residential and temporary accommodations, such as hostels.... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: She is replying what she feels. She is not insulting anybody. Do not take it as an insult. She only differs in view on it. That is all.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI: I thought that the gentleman would be more conversant in English but if you want me to speak in Hindi, I will speak in Hindi.... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please address the Chair.

... (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI: Sir, I will address you.

The Central Government provides two types of accommodations. One is residential accommodation and the other is temporary accommodation such as hostel, guest house and holiday home. This is provided to employees, Members of Parliament and other people. Over a period of time it was found that these facilities were misused. These facilities were continued to be misused by certain beneficiaries, including Members of Parliament by overstaying or not surrendering it before the Government at the end of the given period. That is violation of the licensing term itself. To allow recourse without having to suffer delays through the civil suits is the purpose of this Act as stated under the 1971 Act.

There have been previous amendments as the hon. Minister stated. That amendment included two types of companies, which had paid-up capital upto 51 per cent shareholding in the Government, Centre or the State and which carry with metro railways business, which is Delhi Metro. This Bill without passing lapsed.

15.00 hrs

Previous amendments to include even the New Delhi Municipal Council of which I happened to be the Presiding Officer also was included in the definition. The amendment of section 2 carries a change to include relevant Acts that were passed; and the amendment of section 4 deals with 'Estate Officer'. The above two amendments were also introduced in 2011 Amendment Bill as well.

I will come to the changes which have been brought in. There are two instances where the Estate Officer who has information of unauthorised occupancy should issue a notice within seven days of receiving such information. This is mandatory on the part of the Estate Officer. Where the Estate Officer knows or has reasons to believe that there is unauthorised occupancy, he issues the notice as per procedure.

This makes the process a bit tighter by not leaving it to the 'opinion'. In earlier Act, the word used was 'opinion' –opinion of the officer as envisaged in the principle Act. The words that are used in the present amendment are 'has

information', 'knows or has reason to believe', bringing in a greater element of certainty in order to carry out an eviction procedure and to make it time bound where such certainty exists.

Now, sub-section (2) says that the person who has been given notice should respond within a period of seven days as opposed to the earlier provision that said, "Not earlier than seven days". The earlier provision, therefore, allowed an authorized occupant to respond to an eviction without any time limit being set. So, this is to do with time efficiency that the eviction order can be made within a certain time frame.

The eviction procedure has been dealt with in sub-section (1) of section (5). The procedure in the Act is to allow the person to introduce evidence and attend a personal hearing. As per the principles of natural justice, if satisfied that it is unauthorised, the Estate Officer will make the order of eviction and affix it on the premises. The amendment here is that the order will specify the date by which premises should be vacated and this should not be later than 15 days of the date of order. The principal Act does not set this time limit. So, it is again to deal with efficiency of time and in a time bound fashion.

Sub-section 2, according to the Act, says that if a person does not vacate by the date given in the order or within 15 days, the Estate Officer can take possession of it and use force if necessary. The amendment adds a proviso stating that the Estate Officer can extend the date to vacate the premises by another 15 days in case of compelling reasons. This particular proviso has been included to remove any difficulty that may arise if 15 days is not sufficient time to vacate. Therefore, even though occupancy is unauthorised, a total of 30 days is actually given as a measure of leeway under compelling circumstances with due understanding for the person concerned.

In regard to payment of rent or damages, the Estate Officer can make a written order that the person concerned has to pay rent or damage after assessing the same. Sub-section 2(A) of the Act says that the arrears of the rent or damages

will be paid with simple interest. The amendment here is to make it compound interest in view of the fact that the occupancy is unauthorised; and despite the provisions of this Act, there have been continued instances of unauthorised occupancy, a steeper monetary deterrent is sought to be created to make the Act more effective by adding the compound interest format.

Sub-section (3) of the Act says that a show-cause notice should be issued to the person for making such an order of payment which should be responded to within the time given on the notice. The amendment here is that the person should respond within 15 days. Again, it is to deal with efficiency of time. Adding sub-section 4, the amendment states that the Estate Officer should act on the payment order within 15 days of the show cause notice. Again, it is to deal with the efficiency of time. The proviso in the Act, that is sub-section 2 of section 9 says that an appeal can be taken after the expiry period if there is sufficient cause for the delay. The amendment to the proviso states that an appeal will be taken only in exceptional cases where there are compelling reasons for the delay. The reasons have to be recorded in writing. It makes the language tighter leaving less room for misuse, causing unnecessary delay. So, the entire process is, more or less, on the lines that it has to be finished in an efficient fashion and not really much substantive change except including Delhi Metro under the Act. The Act leaves the proviso open-ended that is sub-section 4 stating that the appeal shall be disposed of as expeditiously as possible. The amendment adds that, if possible, it should be disposed of within one month. So, what the amendment has done is to put it in a time frame fashion instead of leaving it open-ended that it could be done in any format.

Sir, all I need to say is that these are the amendments which are sought to sort out the confusion and not to confuse the issue. What my friend tried to do was to cause the confusion. The Act, in principle, remains the same as it existed. The amendments were made to dispose of appeals/notices, the authority of Estate Officers etc. in a time bound manner so that there is certainty. Keeping in view the

Supreme Court's Judgement, it was very embarrassing as a Member of Parliament that the Supreme Court had to pass orders for vacation. The issue that my friend tried to raise was pertaining to an order which was passed in 2012. It was sought to be implemented. The implementation of that order did not happen in the month of March, April or May because of Delhi elections and after that also, again there was no implementation. It would have resulted in the contempt of court. The National Green Tribunal's order is a court's order in nature. That would have led to basically the contempt of court and under those circumstances, the Delhi Government acted. It had very little bearing on the amendments which the Government has sought to present today by this Amendment Bill and I would request all the Members of Parliament to act in a manner which justifies us as Members sitting in the Parliament in the interest of both justice and morality of the House that we should not confuse the issues and keep focus on the amendments which have been brought by the Government.

SHRI R. GOPALAKRISHNAN (MADURAI): I thank you for the opportunity given to me to speak on this amendment Bill. As a disciplined soldier of AIADMK guided by our leader, Puratchi Thalaivi, Amma, I am participating in this discussion.

This Bill brings about discipline in evicting unauthorized occupants from public premises. Here, public premises refer to the areas and buildings in which Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) is operating. This Bill seeks to avoid delay in taking over the required land areas meant for DMRC. It is unfortunate that in some of the cases before the courts of law, DMRC itself was treated as an unauthorized occupant. So, it caused delay in carrying out DMRC's operations.

DMRC as a public sector undertaking held by the Union Government and the Government of NCT of Delhi was so far deprived of its status and legal rights. This amendment will enable DMRC to have its premises treated as public premises.

As far as New Delhi and the municipal areas of Delhi are concerned, illegal occupants went to the court of law seeking cover under the different names of municipal bodies like 'committees', 'councils' and 'corporations'. The situation is created because the New Delhi Municipal Committee became a Council and there was the trifurcation of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi. An anomaly was created in which the Estate Officers of the NDMC and the MCDs were approached by unauthorised occupants to evict the DMRC from their properties. This Bill seeks to remove this anomaly. Now with the passing of this Amendment Bill, the Estate Officers of the Municipal Council and the Corporation in Delhi will be able to adjudicate the cases relating to the DMRC.

This Bill has become necessary because the proceedings of the Estate Office had to meet many hurdles. This caused enormous delay in completing the works related to the functioning of the DMRC. Finally, the Supreme Court itself had to give 20 suggestions to the Government so that the public interest is upheld.

In 2011, when this Amendment Bill was brought before Parliament, this Bill was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee. The recommendations made by the Parliamentary Standing Committee came to the Government in the month of May, 2012. Accepting 18 of the suggestions made by the Supreme Court and two of the recommendations made by the Parliamentary Standing Committee, the Government has come with this Bill to this august House after about 30 months. It is to be pointed out that the Standing Committee of the previous Lok Sabha did not tolerate even a ten months delay on the part of the previous Government after obtaining the Cabinet approval for the amendment.

The Committee was of the opinion that DMRC should have found priority and the legislation should have been cleared without delay. The Committee wanted the Government to act swiftly at least in such matters and do not postpone things unnecessarily. When the Committee found the premises of the DMRC were not covered under the definition of public premises, it recommended to the Government to re-define section 3 of the Companies Act, 1956. Now, the DMRC will be able to get their premises vacated through the designated Estate Officer.

So far the rulings of the Estate Officers were challenged in the lower courts and it took years for disposal. Now through this amendment, appeals against the Estate Officer's rulings can be made only before the Court of the District Judge. A time limit of three to four months has also been prescribed. The Committee also wanted the Government to make a provision for summary trial before the Estate Officer. It had also expressed its desire that the District and Sessions Judge shall dispose of the appeal in a time bound manner.

This legislation shows that how the loopholes in our rule book can be exploited and can delay things meant for progress in public interest. This Bill upholds public interest to be more important in democratic governance.

Hereafter, this Bill will be a guiding light to many of the metro rail projects coming up in many parts of the country. This Bill will save public money by way of avoiding delay and cost overrun.

So, I would express my support to this Bill and conclude my speech.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): Sir, I rise to speak on the Public Premises Eviction of Unauthorized occupants (Amendment) Bill, 2014. This Bill has come in this form after going through the Standing Committee. The Bill has incorporated some of the recommendations made by the Standing Committee. Hence, there cannot be very great technical objection to the Bill.

Some changes made here are procedural changes. The earlier definition of 'public premises' included premises belonging to public undertakings, companies in which the Central Government had more than 51 per cent share. Now, since the Companies Act has been amended, the requisite amendments have been made in the Bill.

The other important change in the original Bill is that Metro Rail in Delhi-which is jointly owned by the Central Government and the Delhi Government and has got a lot of public premises within the area of Delhi - has been included in the Public Premises. Also, in Delhi there was earlier the New Delhi Municipal Council and now there is the NDMC, also instead of earlier Delhi Municipal Corporation, there are four corporations. As a result of that, the consequent change has been made. Some minor changes in the power of the Estate Officer and power of appeal have been made, to which I have no objection. But still I cannot give a free hand to the Minister in enforcing this Bill because as Members of Parliament you would be interested to know that we are being made victims of the Public Premises Act. It was not my intention to bring this up in the House. But I shall mention how we people from the opposition are being victimised, sought to be victimised under the Bill.

I was a Member of the Council of Ministers in UPA-II Government. We resigned from our offices on 21st September 2012. I was earlier allotted a Type-VII house as a member of the Council of Ministers. I was continuing to stay there between 2012 and 2014 election. I received no letter from the Government. Then suddenly on 3rd November, I received a letter from the Director of Estates saying

that I should vacate the house since it was a General Pool house and I should go to a Lok Sabha Pool house. I wrote to the Minister for Urban Development saying that I had been staying in that House, so if he could convert it into a Lok Sabha Pool house, it would be nice. I received no reply from the Minister of Urban Development.

Then suddenly I received a letter dated 1st December from the Estate Officer saying that this was a notice under subsection (i) and clause (b) of subsection (2) of section 4 of the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971. I had not heard of this law before. I had no dealing with it. Even after I wrote to the Urban Development Minister with a copy to the Chairman of the House Committee, they issued this very insulting order to an elected Member of Parliament.

I know the Urban Development Minister has been very prompt in evacuating premises held by people who have lost. If I am not entitled to a Type-VII accommodation, I am not going to beg the Minister to let me keep my present accommodation. I then met the Chairman of the House Committee. I said that they gave me eviction notice while as a Member of Parliament of Lok Sabha I was not allotted a House yet. I went and met the Estate Officer. He said he had nothing to do with Urban Development and that he was a law officer. I said, "Fine, I have met you and I have informed that I have not been allotted any house".

One Joint Secretary of the Urban Development Ministry wrote me a letter which is extremely rude. I am not an usurper. For two years, the Directorate of Estates in the Urban Development Ministry slept. Suddenly, they have woken up. I do not know by whom they are prompted. Then they are busy giving a notice of eviction to a duly elected Member of Parliament who has been occupying a house for more than five years. I take strong exception to this.

We are strengthening the hands of Urban Development Minister, but does it mean that Members of Parliament will be evicted or given notice of eviction without giving them alternate accommodation? It is not only me. Shri Sudip

Banerjee who was also a Minister and resigned with me, who is the leader of the AITC in Parliament, got a similar letter and he has also not been allocated a house. श्री अर्जुन राम मेघवाल (बीकानेर): बनर्जी नहीं, बंदोपाध्याय। ...(व्यवधान)

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: Okay, it is Sudip Bandyopadhyay. Sudip is today in hospital being unwell, otherwise he would have spoken. Now, I say that if unauthorised occupants are there, the Minister has every right to evict them. But in his hurry to act as a disciplinarian, he should not act against elected Members of Parliament. We are not beggars. I will not go to him and ask him to let me keep this house. I know other people who have occupied their houses even though they are not entitled, and have not been evicted.

I would like to ask the Minister himself. Before he became a Minister, what type of house did he occupy, and for how many years? I know he has been occupying the house for ten years. Was he entitled to occupy that house at that time? How can we change the rules? How can we insult an elected Member of Parliament? Why should we be subjected to eviction notice by an Estate Officer or by a Joint Secretary? Let the Minister act against unauthorized occupants. I do not think that being a Member of Parliament I am an unauthorized occupant. To issue me a notice saying that I am not entitled is neither fair nor proper under this Public Premises Act.

I have not raised my case to plead with Shri Venkaiah Naidu to let me retain the house occupied by me. It is to state that this is the way in which the elected Members of Parliament who are in Opposition are being insulted by the minions in the Urban Development Ministry.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: My friend Shri Saugat Roy has raked up a personal issue which was not expected to be mentioned in the House. Still I have no problem in clarifying the position. As far as the issue of Estate Department not acting during the earlier regime is concerned, I am not responsible for that.

The second issue is why the Department concerned or the officer has acted now. Shri Vinod Rai, former CAG has written a letter to the apex court and the apex court has asked my Ministry to file an affidavit with regard to the status of people who are eligible and who are not eligible and occupying the accommodation beyond their tenure, and what are the steps taken by the Government to evict them. The Government of the day told the Bench that no action is being taken. As soon as I assumed the charge of the Ministry, I reviewed the position and then told the Department to convey it to the hon. Members of Parliament. I have to clarify this because the matter is concerning the prestige of the House and the hon. Members also. The Rule is like this. If you are a minister, you are entitled to a particular category of accommodation. If you are a Member and not a Minister, you are entitled to a particular category. If you are not a Member, then you are not entitled to anything. That is one category where I have to take that extreme step of referring it to the concerned persons and then they have to evict certain former hon. Members of Parliament and former Ministers. I never felt happy about it; I also felt bad because I hold some of those people in high esteem, but at the same time, I cannot go by my personal likings and personal equations. This is one.

The second is with regard to the Members who got re-elected, but who are no more Ministers – they are in a different category. For them, the rule position is that if you are a Member of the Lok Sabha, you have to approach the Lok Sabha House Committee, on which I have no jurisdiction. Secondly, if you are a Member of the Rajya Sabha, you have to approach the Rajya Sabha House Committee, on which I have no jurisdiction. Thirdly and subsequently, I have noticed, as Prof. Roy wrote a letter to me, that the Members of Parliament who are no more

Ministers, occupying Type-VII and Type-VIII, have to shift because some of the Ministers are staying in hotels and Government Guest Houses. Some of the Members are also staying there.

There was also a mention in the petition, saying that the Government is spending so many thousands of rupees per day on Ashoka Hotel. There is again a misconception in the minds of the people that the Ashoka Hotel belongs to the Government and so, staying there is free. No. everyday, so much money is charged to the Government and the Government will be paying it.

That being the case, on the one side, unauthorized and ineligible people are over-staying and on the other, you are paying for the Members of Parliament. That was the issue. We have to take action.

Fortunately, a majority of the former Members cooperated. Maybe, we have given them 2-3 months – a reasonable time.

With regard to the cases which Prof. Roy mentioned about me, I was Minister. I resigned from the Ministry and then, I became the Party President. The President, according to the rules, of a Party, at that time, the Ruling Party, is entitled to a particular type of bungalow. Accordingly it was allotted to me.

Immediately, as soon as I ceased to be a Minister, I wrote to the concerned. They said that no other accommodation was available; so, I may stay, till they find an alternative. This is one. Secondly, I was the President of the Party, the Ruling Party at that time. The Ruling Party Presidents were allotted bungalows, not only they, but also others – there is a particular category saying that up to certain strength of the Party, this is the entitlement, etc. That is the position.

I do not know, why he brought it up now. I feel that he might have been felt hurt because a notice has been issued to him.

The moment it came to my notice that notices were issued to some of the Members who are no more Ministers and are staying in a particular type of bungalow, I have given instructions and I have sent a note asking them to go through the procedure – the ex-Ministers who are no more Members, act fast. Ex-

Ministers who have been re-elected or continued to be Members of Rajya Sabha, their cases have to be dealt with on a separate footing. I said that in such cases, they should be advised to approach the respective House Committees. If he is a Member of the Rajya Sabha, he has to approach the Rajya Sabha House Committee. If he is a Member of the Lok Sabha, he has to approach the Lok Sabha House Committee. Then, I asked them to communicate the same to the Chairmen of the Rajya Sabha Committee and the Lok Sabha Committee so that they can give accommodation to these persons, on priority, according to their entitlement. That was the instruction given. I came to know of this procedure.

Certain procedures and certain actions do not come to notice of the Minister on a regular basis. There are rules, regulations and precedents, which have been made earlier and followed also. Keeping that in view, that has happened. Subsequently, some of the former Ministers who are Members also met me and told me. I assured them that their cases will be dealt with on a separate footing. I have given necessary instructions, in a note.

I do not want to go into the details of who is staying in which bungalow and whether he is eligible to that or not. If somebody wants all these details, it is okay; but otherwise, I do not want to give the details and embarrass people. After all, we are all Members of this House; whether we are in the Government or in the Opposition, everybody is entitled to a particular accommodation.

But on accommodation, the rules says that the first priority goes to the Cabinet Ministers, then the Ministers of State, then the members of Judiciary, then Army officers, then Secretaries, then senior Members, then Members who are former Chief Ministers and senior Members now, though may not be in the Government. Like this, there is a protocol which was decided earlier by the earlier Government. We have only followed that.

That being the case, there is no rancour or animosity or personal vendetta against any Member whatsoever. I do not have any reason to have any such view about any Member of this House. But I have to do the painful duty of

getting them evicted because there was negative reporting in the media about people who are no more Members but still they were staying in the Government accommodation. Then, we had to take recourse to this Act also. Accommodation for Members of Parliament is also public premises. It is a sad commentary if somebody has to go to court and then I have to get an advice or whatever, saying that the Government is not acting. That position should not be allowed to come in future.

Then some people took the plea that either you allow me to stay for some more time or you convert this into a memorial. The Supreme Court had said that no Government building could be converted into a memorial. Some time back, the Cabinet also decided that no Government bungalows to be converted into memorials. That is why, I could not do it. Otherwise, I have the highest regard for Choudhary Charan Singh. I have the highest regards for even Chandra Shekharji. But the question is that you have to follow the rules. Otherwise, I have to be answerable to the courts and not the people who are asking for this. That being the case, there is no discrimination against anybody. This has to be kept in mind. I am sorry to have given an elaborate explanation on this. I did this because one of my colleagues in Parliament has raised this issue. Let there be no misunderstanding about this.

After allotting accommodation to all those Ministers who have been inducted, if there are still vacancies, I will ask them to consider converting the present bungalows occupied by the former Ministers of State into general pool or the concerned pools of Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha, whatever is possible.

SHRI P.K. BIJU (ALATHUR): Sir, I fully support the Bill on behalf of CPI(M). This Bill was placed in this House in May 2012 and was sent to the Standing Committee. I would like to raise one point for the consideration of the Minister. The Standing Committee recommended that the Government should make a provision for summary trial before the Estate Officer with respect to unauthorised occupation. The report of the Standing Committee says that the Committee had been given to understand that to prevent misuse of power to evict genuine tenants from the public premises, the detailed guidelines have been issued by Resolution number so and so, Policy-I dated 30th May, 2012. The Committee are satisfied with the safeguards provided in the guidelines and are convinced that the provision of the Bill will not allow the Estate Officers to exercise their powers arbitrarily against the genuine tenants whose term has not come to an end.

Sir, the hon. Minister has already admitted what is going on in regard to allotment of accommodation to Members of Parliament and the Ministers. I would like to reiterate the same thing that we should genuinely check in time the safeguard of such a provision. We should ensure that this power is not arbitrarily used by the Estate Officer against the tenants who are genuine.

In this Bill, the Government has included the recommendations of the Standing Committee as also 18 suggestions given by the hon. Supreme Court. I am very happy to see that. We are making such laws but these laws are enforced only on common people. These laws have not affected high class people in our country. This is a bad habit of our country.

I would like to raise one important issue regarding urbanisation in our country. We are giving 90 per cent of our budgetary allocation for urban areas of this country. But what is happening is that our rural poor are being evicted from metro and urbanised cities. They are living on the sides of streets and suburban areas. So, we should not enforce this Bill arbitrarily because that will affect the common people who are living on the sides of streets.

The Hon. Minister is well aware about the Turkmenistan street incident of 1975. Arbitrary use of legal provisions will create problems in our country. The time given to Members or tenants to withdraw from a place should not be 15 days. Sufficient time should be given. Even the Court gives sufficient time to dispose of a case. That aspect should be taken care of and the provisions of the Bill should not be used arbitrarily.

Sir, the Bill has changed the definition of 'public premises'. It says, 'any premises belonging to or leased to any company in which the Central Government and State Government hold at least 51 per cent of share, including subsidiaries of such companies and whose business is Metro railway'. I think, this definition could also be misused in our country. We are entering into the era of PPP. We are well aware about what happened in the case of Delhi Airport. They were handling 24,000 cr value of land and they spent only Rs. 40,00,000 for that and it has been mentioned in the report of the C&AG. Such a thing is going on in our country. Our waste land, our Government land is going into the hands of the corporate houses. They not only take lands on lease but they are encroaching upon some lands even. I would like to know if the Ministry has any data about how many acres of land has been taken away by private players or the corporate houses and are being held by them. Has the Ministry taken any step to find out as to how many acres of Government land are in the hands of private players? Necessary action should be taken to bring those lands back and those lands should be distributed amongst the landless people in our country. Millions of people in our country are landless.

I hope the suggestions will be whole-heartedly accepted by the Government. I support this Bill.

Thank you.

डॉ. किरीट सोमैया (मुम्बई उत्तर पूर्व): माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं सबसे पहले माननीय मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देता हूं कि यह जो दिल्ली मेट्रो के साथ में अमेंडमेंट आया है, उसमें सभी शहरों की मेट्रो रेलवे इन्क्लुडिंग मुंबई मेट्रो रेलवे में भी यह अमेंडमेंट लागू होगा। That means, various metro rail projects that are coming up throughout the country will have the power and authority to use the PPA where there are hurdles. You are aware छोटा मकान बीच में आ जाता है, उसको रिमृव करने के लिए दो-दो, पांच-पांच, दस-दस साल प्रोजेक्ट डिले हो जाते हैं। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी का इसी संदर्भ में, इसी अमेंडमेंट में एक बात की तरफ ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहुंगा। एक बहुत अच्छा प्रोविजन किया है, लेकिन हमें भविष्य में एक बात का ध्यान रखना पड़ेगा। some metro rail projects have come up under PPP where the Government equity is hardly 20 to 24 per cent. In those cases we will have to use this power in a cautious manner. I have had experience of one project in Mumbai metro rail. That is why I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister इस प्रकार से पावर देते समय हमें थोड़ा ध्यान रखना पड़ेगा। मैं एक दूसरी बात के प्रति उनका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं कि माननीय मंत्री जी ने जो सुप्रीम कोर्ट के सजेशंस हैं, जो एक जजमेंट है। The Supreme Court has passed around 20 observations. इस बिल में उसमें से 18 आब्जर्वेशंस एडॉप्ट किए गए हैं। It means that the previous Government had brought the Bill and the earlier Standing Committee has passed the resolution. But can I request the hon. Minister on one point? कि इस बिल के निमित्त से, मैं उनका सुप्रीम कोर्ट के पांच ऐसे दूसरे जजमेंट्स के प्रति ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा।

Here, in this order, the Government or the Parliament is accepting it in a way in toto but simultaneously I have got five other judgements where the Supreme Court has made some observations that somewhere in this Bill, there is a provision mentioning about unauthorised occupants. The Supreme Court has gone in detail and has defined it in the case of Banatwalla and Co. Vs LIC of India, Dr. Suhas Pophale Vs Oriental Insurance Company Limited, Sharad Bhagwat and others Vs Bank of Maharashtra, Damayanti Verma Vs LIC of India and P.P.

Chaudhary Vs LIC of India. In all these cases, the Supreme Court has in a way rejected the order issued by various companies under PPA.

I want to bring to the notice of the Government one point. When hon. Venkaiah Naidu was a Minister during the period of Shri Vajpayee, a guideline was issued in 2002 on how power may be used under PPA to get the premises vacated by unauthorised occupants. मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से प्रार्थना करना चाहूँगा, आप तब मंत्री थे, तभी एन.डी.ए. गवर्नमेंट ने वर्ष 2002 का सर्कुलर निकाला। उस सर्कुलर को आज 12 साल हो गए, जो वेरियस पब्लिक अंडस्टेकिंग्स हैं, वे उसे एक्सेप्ट नहीं करती हैं। They are misusing their power. The Supreme Court has gone on record on the way the officers in the PSUs वे अपने पद का दुरूपयोग करते हैं। जो लीगल टेनेंट्स हैं, जो सालों से रहते हैं, नेशनलाइजेशन के पहले से वहाँ रहते हैं, उनको भी प्रिमाइसिस वैकेट करने के लिए पी.पी.ए. का दुरूपयोग होता है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से प्रार्थना करूँगा कि आज का अमेंडमेंट तो बहुत अच्छा है, हम सब उसे सपोर्ट करते हैं। लेकिन अब भविष्य में यह वर्ष 2002 का एन.डी.ए. गवर्नमेंट का जो सर्कुलर है, उसको the Supreme Court has appealed for small tenants हमारे कल्याण दादा ज्यादा अच्छी तरह से he will be able to explain. The small tenants had to fight it upto the Supreme Court. सुप्रीम कोर्ट में वह फिर जीत जाता है। एलआईसी हो, बैंक आफ महाराष्ट्र हो, बैंक आफ बड़ौदा हो, देना बैंक हो, उनको कोई विंता नहीं है।

I will give you the example of National Textile Corporation. The NTC took over a mill in late 1970s or early 1980s. वहां पर टेनेंट्स वर्ष 1939 से रहते हैं। Now, in 1990s or in the 21st century, they issued a notice that under PPA, they require the premises. उनसे सात दिन में वैकेट करने के लिए कहते हैं।

I can give you numerous examples. In another case, the tenant Vs Oriental Insurance Company, सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कहा कि जो रियली अनऑथराइण्ड टैनेंट है, उनसे खाली कराने के लिए आपको पार्लियामेंट ऑथराइण्ड कर रही है। You cannot ask him to vacate it for commercial purposes. मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूं कि 8 जून, 2002 की जो आपकी गाइडलाइन है, उसको थोड़ी सैंक्टिटी दी जाए। उसके लिए आप भविष्य में कभी अमेंडमेंट लाएं। सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने जो आपको आर्डर ईश्यू किया, 20 में से 18 गाइडलाइंस आप एक्सेप्ट कर रहे हैं और एक्ट

में इंक्ल्यूड कर रहे हैं। एक्ट में इंक्ल्यूड करने से यहां के संबंध में आपने मेंबर, फार्मर मेंबर, जुडिशियरी, गवर्नमेंट सर्वेंट के लिए यह जो जजमेंट है, it is for Government servant. आपने वह इनक्लूड कर लिया। We are the servant of the people of the country. सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कॉमन मैन के लिए पांच अलग-अलग जजमेंट पिछले 13-14 सालों में, मुझे पता है कि मैं नितिन गडकरी जी के पास कुछ लोगों को लेकर गया था। मुम्बई हो, दिल्ली को, कोलकाता हो, इस प्रकार के पब्लिक प्रिमाइसेस एक्ट के अंतर्गत गवर्नमेंट बॉडीज़ अपने पद का काफी दुरुपयोग कर रही हैं।

मैं अंत में एक ही बात कहकर अपनी बात समाप्त करूंगा। There is another Reserve Bank Circular, Finance Ministry Circular. They have categorically stated that PSUs should not be illegally misused. आप इस गाइडलाइन को स्टैटुटरी फोर्स दे दें जिससे आम व्यक्ति, आम टेनैंट controlled by the State Rent Control Act, उन्हें समर्थन मिलेगा, प्रोटैक्शन मिलेगा। मैं इस एक्ट का समर्थन करता हूं।

श्री दीपेन्द्र सिंह हुड्डा (रोहतक): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, पब्लिक प्रिमाइसेस अमैंडमैंट बिल, 2014 के महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर आपने मुझे अपने विचार व्यक्त करने के समय दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपका धन्यवाद करता हूं। मैं आज इस अमैंडमैंट के समर्थन में बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूं। जैसे अभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने बताया, उसके बाद हमारी साथी सुष्मिता जी ने उसका विस्तृत ब्यौरा दिया। इस अमैंडमैंट को लाने की शुरुआत 8 जुलाई, 2010 में यूपीए सरकार द्वारा कैबिनेट के उस फैसले से हुई जिसमें दिल्ली मैट्रो रेल कार्पोरेशन, बाकी मैट्रो रेल और एनडीएमसी की प्रिमाइसेस को पीपीए के अंतर्गत लाने का प्रस्ताव किया गया। क्यों किया, क्योंकि स्पीडी एविक्शन में, हम जिस तरह मैट्रो को देखना चाहते हैं, मैट्रो का विस्तार तेजी से हो और डेली कम्युटर्स को सहूलियत मिले। उस काम में बहुत से पैंडिंग केसेज की वजह से देरी आ रही थी। डीएमआरसी में अभी भी तकरीबन 96 पैंडिंग केसेज हैं। पीपीए एक्ट में आने के बाद स्टेट ऑफिसर खुद मैट्रो की अथॉरिटीज़ लगाएं, समय पर अनऑथराइज़्ड औक्युपैंट्स का डीएमआरसी की प्रॉपर्टी से एविक्शन हो और मैट्रो का तेजी से विस्तार हो।

मैं इस बिल पर चर्चा सुन रहा था। मुझे थोड़ा सा आश्चर्य जरूर हुआ कि ज्यादातर बातें सांसदों और मंत्रियों के बंगलों के रिलेटेड थीं। इस बिल के माध्यम से पीपीए में अमेंडमैंट करके सुप्रीम कोर्ट के आदेश को मानते हुए उसे भी इसके थू ऐड्रैस करने का प्रयास किया गया है, वह या उसे लेकर हुई या विभिन्न केसेज जो लड़े गए, उनका विस्तृत ब्यौरा दिया गया। मैं इस संदर्भ में खास तौर पर मीनाक्षी लेखी जी की बात का जिक्र करना चाहूंगा। मुझे थोड़ी सी चिन्ता जरूर हुई क्योंकि वे भी दिल्ली से सांसद हैं। कई बार जब हम चर्चा करते हैं तो हमें सोचना चाहिए कि अमेंडमैंट को लाने का मूल उद्देश्य क्या है। इसका उद्देश्य सांसदों और मंत्रियों के बंगलों पर चर्चा करना और सुप्रीम कोर्ट में बाकी जो केसेज हैं, उन पर चर्चा करना भी हो सकता है, लेकिन मुख्य उद्देश्य है कि दिल्ली और बाकी मैट्रो में जो लाखों कम्युटर्स हैं, उनके लिए पब्लिक ट्रांसपोर्ट का विस्तार तेजी से किया जाए। जब हम यहां चर्चा करते हैं तो हमें समझना चाहिए कि यह सुप्रीम कोर्ट के चैम्बर्स नहीं हैं, यह लोक सभा है। यहां लोगों के लिए आवाज उठनी चाहिए कि इस बिल को लाने की आवश्यकता क्यों पड़ी। मैं इसका समर्थन करता हूं, लेकिन इसके साथ ही मंत्री जी को कुछ सुझाव जरूर देना चाहूंगा। सबसे पहले इसमें कोई दो राय नहीं है कि दिल्ली मैट्रो ने जो शानदार सफलता पिछले 10-15 वर्षों में हासिल की है, उसके लिए हम आपके माध्यम से दिल्ली सरकार को बहुत-बहुत शुभकामनाएं देते हैं, बधाई देते हैं। वर्ष 2016 तक अनुमान किया जा रहा है कि दिल्ली मेट्रो दुनिया की पांचवीं सबसे बड़ी मेट्रो बनने जा रही है। तकरीबन 310 किलोमीटर की मेट्रो के

अंदर 227 मेट्रो स्टेशन बनेंगे। दिल्ली में हर रोज करीब चालीस लाख लोग दिल्ली मेट्रो के जरिए अपनी आर्थिक गतिविधियों से जुड़ने का काम करेंगे। मैंने संसद में बार-बार इस पर प्रश्न उठाया है, हमारी जो प्लानिंग होती है उसको हम दूरदर्शिता के साथ प्लान नहीं करते, आज का बिल भी उसका उदाहरण है। दिल्ली मेट्रो के अंदर इतने सारे केसेज आए हैं, उसका समाधान कैसे हो, इसके लिए यह बिल लाया गया है। पहले हमारी सरकार ने कैबिनेट के प्रस्ताव के माध्यम से और अब आज वैंकेया जी इस अमेंडमेंट को लेकर आए हैं। हमें दूरदर्शिता से सोचना पड़ेगा, दूनिया में जितनी भी बड़ी-बड़ी सिटीज के अंदर मेट्रो हैं, उसके लिए कंसेप्ट है कि inter-operability and inter-connectivity of Railways and Metro. चाहे हम टोक्यो की तरफ देखें, पेरिस की तरफ देखें, जर्मनी की तरफ देखें, एस्बान और युबान के अंदर उनकी कनेक्टिविटी है। अमेरिका में न्यूयार्क के अंदर सब-वे है, बाहर इंटर- ट्रांजिट है। क्यों हमारे देश में रेलवे और मेट्रो को आपस में कनेक्ट करने की बात नहीं चल रही है। सब-अरबन कम्यूटर्स को आपस में जोड़ने के बारे में मंत्री जी विचार करें, क्योंकि एनसीआर प्लानिंग बोर्ड भी मंत्री जी के मंत्रालय के अंतर्गत आता है। एनसीआर प्लानिंग बोर्ड में एक प्रस्ताव आया है और दिल्ली के आसपास चार रैपिड ट्रांजिट सिस्टम हाई स्पीड कॉरिडोर बनाने की बात चल रही है एक रोहतक की तरफ, एक पानीपत की तरफ, एक गूड़गांव की तरफ और एक फरीदाबाद की तरफ बनाने का प्रस्ताव है। क्या वे मेट्रो से भी इसको कनेक्ट होंगे? एनसीआर प्लानिंग बोर्ड रेलवे मेट्रो हाई स्पीड कॉरीडोर बनाने जा रहा है, क्या वे आपस में एक-दूसरे से मिलेंगे? इस बारे में भी विचार करना चाहिए। The reason why I say this is because the NCR Planning Board is in the unique position to talk to all the State Governments and the Ministry involved; to devise the plan to ensure that interconnectivity actually occurs for the benefit of the commuters of Delhi. पीपीपी एक्ट के अंदर 51 प्रतिशत की लिमिटेशन है, इसके अंदर पेड शेयर कैपिटल में सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट और प्रदेश सरकारों की हिस्सेदारी होगी। उन कंपनियों को इसके अंदर शामिल किया है।

किरीट सोमैया जी ने एक बात उठाई कि बहुत सी ऐसी मेट्रो आ रही हैं जिनमें 51 प्रतिशत से भी कम हिस्सेदारी प्रदेश सरकारों की है। गुड़गांव मेट्रो इसका उदाहरण है। हुडा ने रैपिड मेट्रो गुड़गांव विकसित की है, वह तकरीबन 100 प्रतिशत प्राइवेट फाइनेंसड है, सरकार ने केवल उसका टेंडर किया था। गौड़ा साहब जब रेल मंत्री थे, उन्होंने कहा था कि इस सरकार की दिशा रेलवे के लिए पीपीपी प्रोजेक्ट को आगे बढ़ाने की होगी। क्या रेलवे पीपीपी की तरफ बढ़ रहा है? मेट्रो जब पीपीपी की तरफ बढ़ेगी, इस प्रकार के जितने भी प्राइवेट फार्मस होंगे, पेड-अप-कैपिटल 51 प्रतिशत से कम हो सकती है। गुड़गांव मेट्रो में शून्य

प्रतिशत सरकार की हिस्सेदारी है। मगर वह सरकार का प्रोजेक्ट है, क्या उनको भी इसके अंदर लाने के बारे में हम सोच सकते हैं। हमारी साथी सुष्मिता ने रिहैबिलिटेशन की बात उठाई, उससे मैं भी सहमत हूं,।

15.54 hrs (Shri K.H. Muniyappa in the Chair)

मुख्य तौर पर दो तरह के अनअथॉराइज्ड अकुपेंट्स हैं। एक होमलेस और दूसरा शॉपकीपर, जिनको मेट्रो ने कंट्रैक्ट दिए थे, लेकिन उनका पीरियड पूरा हो गया है। रिहैबिलिटेशन के लिए करीब दस हजार लोगों का आकलन किया गया है, सरकार उनके लिए क्या प्रावधान कर रही है या करने जा रही है? मंत्री जी को अपने जवाब में इसकी जानकारी देनी चाहिए। कैबिनेट ने वर्ष 2010 में फैसला किया था, तब दिल्ली मेट्रो केवल दिल्ली में थी, अब दिल्ली मेट्रो हरियाणा में भी पहुंची है, फरीदाबाद, गुड़गांव और बहादुरगढ़ के अंदर तक मेट्रो बनाई जा रही है। हमारी पुरजोर मांग है कि गुड़गांव से बढ़ाकर सांपला तक पहुंचाई जाए। फरीदाबाद से लेकर पलवल तक मेट्रो ले जाने की हमारी मांग है। इस प्रकार से सोनीपत तक, जो उत्तर को आपने छोड़ दिया, मेट्रो पहुंचाना बहुत आवश्यक है। इसलिए सोनीपत तक भी हमारी मांग रही है।

मेरा एक प्रश्न है कि आज एनडीएमसी की प्रीमाइसिज़ को इस मेट्रो में पीपीए के सारे प्रावधानों के तहत लाया जा रहा है। As a matter of abundant caution, we are desirous of bringing amendment to the NDMC Council. What happens to the Corporations and Committees of Haryana. हिरयाणा की कार्पोरेशन कमेटी और पंचायत की प्रीमाइसिज़ में भी मेट्रो जानी चाहिए, क्योंकि जब सांपला तक मेट्रो पहुंचेगी तो मै समझता हूं कि बहुत सी ग्राम पंचायतें भी इसमें आयेंगी। उस बारे में भी क्या पीपीए उसी प्रकार से लागू होगा? मैं सोचता हूं कि आपको आगे आने वाले समय की प्लानिंग करते हुए इस बारे में भी सोचना चाहिए।

अंत में, मैं एक बार फिर अपने मुख्य बिन्दू को कहना चाहूंगा कि आज जब हम लोक सभा में, लोगों की सभा में कानून बनाने के लिए खड़े होते हैं, तो क्यों इस कानून के अमेंडमैंट को लाया जा रहा है, इस बात को सोचना चाहिए? उस बात को सोचते हुए मेरा मुख्य सुझाव है कि रेलवे, एनसीआर प्लानिंग बोर्ड और मेट्रो, जो रैपिड ट्रांसिट सिस्टम बना रहा है, इन तीनों को आपस में काम करना चाहिए। इन तीनों को आपस में काम करना चाहिए। इन तीनों को आपस में काम कराने के लिए रेलवे, मेट्रो और हाई स्पीड कोरीडोर, जो दिल्ली के आसपास बनने जा रहा है, वे तीनों एक साथ मिलकर काम करें, क्योंकि जब हाई स्पीड कारीडोर आ रहा है तो उनके लिए अलग से अमेंडमैंट लाने की आवश्यकता न पड़े।

मैं समझता हूं कि अगर कोई मंत्रालय इसे कर सकता है तो वह आपका मंत्रालय ही कर सकता है, एनसीआर प्लानिंग बोर्ड कर सकता है। उसे ये पावर्स मिलनी चाहिए कि वह दूरदर्शिता से कानून बनाये।

इस अमेंडमैंट का हम समर्थन करते हैं, क्योंकि यह केसेज को निपटाने में आपकी बहुत मदद करेगा। मगर हम दूरदर्शिता से इस प्रकार से कानून बनायें कि 40 लाख और आने वाले समय में दिल्ली के कम्युटर्स और भी बढ़ने वाले हैं, उन्हें हम लीगल फ्रेमवर्क दे सकें।

सभापति महोदय, दिल्ली मेट्रो तेजी से आगे बढ़े, ऐसी शुभकामना देते हुए हम इस अमेंडमैंट का समर्थन करते हैं।

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY (DHENKANAL): Sir, I rise to discuss the Bill which proposes to amend the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971, which is now named as the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Amendment Bill, 2014. This basically redefines public premises to include companies in which the Central or State Governments hold 51 per cent share. This also gives powers and capabilities to the Estate Officer of the Delhi Metros. What is surprising is that during the 15th Lok Sabha, the Standing Committee on Urban Development had gone into this amendment in detail. This was actually done by the previous Lok Sabha, the 15th Lok Sabha. There are some important observations and recommendations of that Committee.

When the Government thought it wise to name institutes of technology, which are registered under the Institute of Technology Act, 1961, any Board of Trustees constituted under the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963, the Bhakra Management, the Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966, when all these detailed bodies have been named, what I failed to understand is, why have they narrowed their vision so much that they have just addressed the issue of Delhi Metro? Metros are coming up in Bangalore and other States. They already have the first Metro in Kolkata. So when we are passing a law in Parliament, I think, the idea should be that it should be all encompassing.

I would like to raise two points. Firstly, any company, whether a Central Government undertaking or a State Government undertaking, where the State or the Central Government have more than 51 per cent shares, not just Metro Railways, should be brought under this Act. This amendment should cover them also.

16.00 hrs

Secondly, the time that has been suggested, if you refer to the 20th Report of the Standing Committee, in paragraph 2.4 on page 7, it says:

"The Committee are given to understand that after the proposed amendment, the DMRC will be able to get their premises vacated through the designated Estate Officers."

It also states:

"The cases of unauthorized occupation are decided by the Estate Officer as per provisions in the Act within a period of 3 to 4 months. The Committee, while agreeing to the proposed amendments, are of the view that this time limit of three to four months should be adhered to or otherwise the very purpose of amendment would be defeated."

The time limit of three or four months is also very vague. It should be either three months or four months. In law you cannot be so vague.

Then, there is an appellate authority who is the District Judge. Normally, we know that cases relating to land should go to the Civil Judge. But when you are mentioning a specific judge, it could be misunderstood as the criminal stream. So, this needs to be clarified. Overall, if one goes through the recommendations of the Standing Committee, the Standing Committee has given very many points which make the law very precise. But, unfortunately, in the final amendment that has come to the House today, these points do not seem to have been taken into account. The Standing Committee's recommendations have, more or less, been neglected. I would suggest that the Government should go through the recommendations, should rethink on this issue, withdraw this amendment, bring forward another amendment wherein not only Delhi Metro, but other Metros from all over the country, companies, institutes etc. can be included and wherever the Government has 51 per cent shares whether Central or State Governments, all such institutions can be included.

So, if there are forcible occupants, then it is justified that the Government should step in. This amendment should be utilized and it should be all encompassing. This seems to be an atrophied amendment. Therefore, I would suggest that the Government should have a re-look at it. Thank you.

SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR (KARIMNAGAR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion on the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Amendment Bill, 2014. The principal Act was passed in the year 1971 by this House. It extends to the whole of India, particularly with regard to the properties of the Government of India. We are well aware that different State Governments have their own Acts with regard to public premises. All the States have their own Acts. Now we are amending the principal Act in view of the judgement given by the Supreme Court as stated by the hon. Minister. The Standing Committee has also made some suggestions on this Bill.

As all the Members have mentioned just now, I do agree with them that this Bill should have been brought in a comprehensive manner. Now we are amending some of the clauses of the main Act, which was passed in 1971, keeping in view the 20 suggestions which were made by the hon. Supreme Court. Seeing the objects and reasons, as mentioned by the hon. Minister, they have accepted around 18 suggestions. Two suggestions were not accepted with a view that those suggestions may further delay it; I do not know what those two suggestions were. But, however, as our Members have expressed, we are keeping in view only Delhi Metro. There are some other Metros coming across the nation. Probably in the next decade, not only the metropolitan cities, but also the cities having more than a million population are already planning for it. So, I would suggest that we can bring another Bill and comprehensively we can give some more views also.

Recently in Karnataka, they discussed about the religious and charitable properties. Evicting the illegal occupants or some other occupants who are authorized to some extent has become a big problem. In my State of Telangana, we do have an Act, that is Hyderabad Endowments Act which was passed much earlier than the formation of Andhra Pradesh State also. So we do have some problems with the religious properties, not only Hindu religious properties, even the Wakf properties in Karnataka. They discussed how to evict the illegal occupants.

So I would suggest that the hon. Minister may take a broad view in this matter. We do know that this is a State Subject with regard to 'Land' but, however, the Government of India can take some steps so that in the new era, we can have a comprehensive Act taking the suggestions of the different State Governments and we can pass it. But, as there is an urgency, and in view of the Supreme Court's suggestions, we support this Bill. Thank you, Sir.

श्री अक्षय यादव (फ़िरोज़ाबाद): सभापित महोदय, आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया, उसके लिए मैं आपको बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ। जिस विधेयक पर अभी चर्चा चल रही है, मैं उससे सहमत हूँ। इस विधेयक से मेट्रो के प्रोजैक्ट को पूरा करने में आसानी होगी। उत्तर प्रदेश में दिल्ली मेट्रो नोएडा तक पहुंच चुकी है। नोएडा से ग्रेटर नोएडा को भी जोड़ा जाना है। लखनऊ में भी मेट्रो के प्रोजैक्ट को शुरू किया गया है।

इसके अलावा सांसदों के बंगले के संबंध में, मैं आपसे दो बातें कहना चाहता हूँ। जो कानून बनाया जा रहा है, उसे जितना छोटी पार्टियों के ऊपर लागू किया जाता है, उतना ही बड़ी पार्टियों पर भी लागू किया जाए, तो ज्यादा अच्छा होगा। पूर्व में पुरानी सरकार थी, उस समय इस सदन के एक सदस्य थे, वे उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्यमंत्री बन गये थे। रात के समय दरवाज़े पर नोटिस लगा दिया गया था कि सुबह बारह बजे तक आपको अपना बंगला खाली करना है। बारह बजे तक आनन-फानन में बंगला खाली किया गया। उनके परिवार से एक और सांसद थे, जिनको मौका दिया जा सकता था, पर नहीं दिया गया। अभी हाल ही में पिछली लोक सभा के एक सदस्य को नोटिस दिया गया था कि वे अपना बंगला खाली करें। वे कोर्ट में गये और समय मांगा। उसी दौरान वे दूसरे सदन के सांसद बनकर वापस आ गये। किरीट सोमैया जी ने भी अभी कहा है कि अगर कोई सदस्य है और फिर सदस्य बनकर वापस आते हैं, उनको मौका देना चाहिए, पर ऐसा नहीं है। वह सदस्य पहले सीनियर कैटेगरी के बंगले में रह रहे थे, उनको इस बार भी मौका हम दे सकते थे। आप जो कानून लाए हैं, उससे मैं सहमत हूं, लेकिन आपसे गुजारिश भी करना चाहता हूं कि जो छोटी पार्टियां हैं, उनको आप प्रोटेक्शन देते रहें। धन्यवाद।

श्री राजेश रंजन (मधेपुरा): सभापित महोदय, इस देश में पहले जो जमीन का धंधा करता था, उसे जमीन का ... * कहा जाता था और अब जमीन का धंधा करने वाला वह कहता है कि मैं रियल इस्टेट का धंधा करता हूं। दिल्ली में अगर पूछेंगे तो हर तीन आदिमयों पर एक आदिमी यही बताएगा कि मैं रियल इस्टेट का काम करता हूं। ... * के नाम को इंग्लिश में चेंज कर दिया गया और वह ... * भी राजनीतिज्ञों और पदाधिकारियों के साथ मिल गया। सब कह रहे हैं कि आपका समर्थन करते हैं तो मैं भी करता हूं और जब वैंकैय्या नायडू साहब बिल लाए हों तो अवश्य करना पड़ेगा। वह मेरे बड़े भाई हैं। इसमें कोई दो राय नहीं है। हमारा बहुत अंतरंग संबंध रहा है, राजनीतिक रूप से और वैचारिक रूप से भी नजदीक रहे हैं।...(व्यवधान) देखिए, समय और पात्र के अनुसार विचार नहीं बदलता है।...(व्यवधान) मैं आपका ध्यान इसी दिल्ली में मंदिर और मस्जिद की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूं। देश में तो है ही, दिल्ली में भी ऐसी कई जगहें हैं, यह रिपोर्ट कहती है, सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने जो मांगा है, वह रिपोर्ट कहती है। उसमें स्पष्ट कहा गया है कि 43 ऐसी जगहों पर मंदिर-मस्जिद का निर्माण है, जिनको नहीं तोज़ा जा सकता, पुलिस ऐसा हलफनामा दाखिल करती है। बनने के समय पुलिस की मिलीभगत से उसे बनाने दिया जाता है और बाद में यह कह दिया जाता है कि दंगा हो जाएगा या ऐसी घटना घटेगी, इसलिए हम इसमें हस्तक्षेप नहीं कर सकते हैं। क्या माफियाओं की मिलीभगत से यह अवैध काम नहीं होता है?

दूसरी चीज, दिल्ली में जो करोड़ों-अरबों रुपये के जो फार्म हाउसेस बने हुए हैं। कई बार सुप्रीम कोर्ट के कहने के बाद बने हुए हैं। कौन हैं ये पूंजीपित लोग? किसके फार्म हाउसेस हैं? आप इसकी पूरी जांच क्यों नहीं कराते हैं कि उन्होंने किन-किन नियमों को तोड़ा है? आज आपकी सरकार झुग्गी-झोपड़ी को बचाने के नाम पर यह बिल लाई है। दिल्ली में शीला दीक्षित सरकार ने जो किया, उसके बारे में हमारे मित्र ने बधाई दी है, लेकिन श्रीधरन ने मेट्रो के लिए जो किया, उसके लिए भी बधाई देनी चाहिए, उसे भूलना नहीं चाहिए। निश्चित रूप से शीला दीक्षित सरकार और यूपीए सरकार की पॉलिसी सही थी, लेकिन एक व्यक्ति, जिसने दिल्ली की मेट्रो को विश्व में पांचवां स्थान दिलाया, उसका नाम श्रीधरन है, उसे नहीं भूला जा सकता है और उसकी भी चर्चा होनी चाहिए।

मंत्री महोदय, हर चीज में भाषण देना उचित नहीं है, इसलिए नहीं देंगे। महरौली थाना अंतर्गत अवैध निर्माण की 366 शिकायतें दर्ज हुई हैं, उनमें से 59 पर प्राथमिकी दर्ज हुई है, लेकिन अभी तक कोई कार्रवाई नहीं हुई है। वर्ष 2010 में ललिता पार्क में अवैध इमारत में बिहार और सहरसा के 72

^{*} Not recorded.

लोग मारे गए थे। उसके बाद कितने अवैध निर्माण दिल्ली में हुए हैं, इसकी भी जांच हो जाए। तब पता चलेगा। आप पैरिस-न्यूयार्क सब कुछ बनाइए, लेकिन जो गरीब है, कमजोर है, जरूरतमंद इंसान हैं, जो ठेला चलाता है, जो रिक्शा चलाता है, उनके लिए रहने की व्यवस्था नहीं है। जो फल बेचकर अपनी जिंदगी गुजारता है, जो सब्जी बेचकर अपनी जिंदगी गुजारता है। आप उसकी झुग्गी-झोपड़ियों को तो बर्बाद करने चल देते हैं। लेकिन जिसने अवैध कब्ज़ा किया हुआ है, जो अवैध बिल्डिंग बनाकर गरीबों का शोषण करता है, बाहर के लोग दिल्ली में या दूसरे बड़े शहरों में आजीविका के लिए आते हैं, हमारे मित्र हुड्डा जी ने सही कहा है कि पैरिस या टोक्यों में जिस तरह का रेल और मेट्रों का सामंजस्य है, उसे यहां कैसे करेंगे? यह भी सही है कि दिल्ली में 900 हैक्टेयर जमीन अवैध कब्जे में है, जो सिर्फ रेलवे की है। आपके पास सब कुछ है, हम आपको डेटा निकाल कर दें, यह उचित नहीं है, क्योंकि सरकार के पास पूरी जानकारी है। मेरा सुझाव इतना है कि कानून पहले से मौजूद है और उस कानून को ज्यादा सशक्त बनाया जा सकता है या नया कानून भी लाया जा सकता है। मंत्री जी मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूं कि इन कारनामों में पुलिस, माफिया, राजनीतिक व्यक्ति और पदाधिकारी का नैक्सस है। इसे रोकने के लिए आप सख्त से सख्त क्या कार्रवाई करेंगे तािक आने वाले समय में अवैध निर्माण न हो? माफियाओं तथा राजनीतिज्ञों का घर न भरे, इसके लिए आप क्या कदम उठाएंगे?

दूसरा आपको याद होगा कि सीलिंग एक्ट के समय में हाय-तौबा मची थी। आपको याद होगा कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट के पूर्व चीफ जस्टिस पर आरोप लगा था। उस समय बहुत हाय-तौबा मची थी कि उन्होंने अपने दामाद और परिवार के लिए आउट आफ रूल जा कर, केवल एक बार नहीं बल्कि कई बार और हाई कोर्ट और सुप्रीम कोर्ट में इस तरह के आदेश जारी हुए हैं, जो कारपोरेट घरानों या पूंजीपतियों को फायदा पहुंचाने के लिए थे। मैं आग्रह करना चाहूंगा कि इस तरह का कोई भी कार्पोरेट या पूंजीपति घराना, कोई भी राजनीतिज्ञ या कोई भी पदाधिकारी हो, अपने रिश्तेदारों को मुनाफा या फायदा पहुंचाने के लिए वह कोई ऐसा फैसला या आदेश पारित न करे, इसके लिए सरकार निश्चित रूप से कांसियस रहे, जागरुक रहे तािक आने वाले समय में हमारी ज़मीन पर अवैध तरीक से निर्माण न किया जा सके। अवैध निर्माण के द्वारा हम दिल्ली की झुग्गी-झोपड़ी, रिक्शा चालक, टेम्पो चालक, ठेला और फल तथा सब्जी बेचने वाले को सबसे पहले हटाते हैं, मैं आग्रह करुंगा कि पहले उनकी आजीविका के लिए, उनके रहने के लिए समुचित व्यवस्था करें तभी उनकी झुग्गी-झोपड़ी के अवैध निर्माण को हटाने या तोड़ने का प्रयास करें।

में इससे ज्यादा इस बिल के बारे में कोई और बात नहीं कहना चाहूंगा, क्योंकि यह बिल पूरी तरह से माफियागिरी, नैक्सस और सबसे मूल चीज यह है कि भावनात्मक रूप से मंदिर या मस्जिद का निर्माण अवैध कब्जा करके करते हैं, इस पर भी ध्यान देना बहुत जरूरी है। मैं पुनः इस बिल का समर्थन करते हुए अपनी बात को समाप्त करता हूं। धन्यवाद।

श्री कौशलेन्द्र कुमार (नालंदा): माननीय सभापित महोदय, आपने मुझे सरकारी स्थान (अप्राधिकृत अधिभोगियों की बेदखली) संशोधन विधेयक, 2014 पर अपने विचार सदन में रखने का मौका दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपका आभारी हूं।

महोदय, यह बिल पहले भी सरकार के पास वर्ष 2010 में आया था और स्थायी समिति को संशोधन के लिए भेजा गया था। उसके बाद फिर से वर्ष 2011 में इस बिल को लाया गया था। उस समय हमारी पार्टी के नेता माननीय शरद यादव जी उस समिति के अध्यक्ष थे। इस बिल को चर्चा करने के बाद तैयार किया गया था, किंतु उस समय सरकार इस पर अमल नहीं कर पायी थी। आज यह गंभीर समस्या बन गई है कि सार्वजनिक सम्पत्ति पर लोग कब्जा कर लेते हैं और फिर कानूनी प्रावधानों में उलझा कर इस पर पूर्णतः कब्जा जमाए रहते हैं। कोई भी सार्वजनिक सम्पत्ति इस देश में नागरिकों को सुविधा प्रदान करने और उसके द्वारा सार्वजनिक रूप से फायदा दिलाने के लिए उसका केवल उपयोग सरकार करती है। किंतु कुछ व्यक्ति सम्पत्ति को हथियाने में लगे रहते हैं। वैसे तो यह कानून 1971 में आया था और बिल में कहा गया था कि दिल्ली मैट्रो रेल और महापालिकाओं की सम्पत्ति पर इस कानून के तहत कार्रवाई नहीं हो सकती। इसलिए संशोधन करना आवश्यक है। साथ ही उन सार्वजनिक कंपनियों को भी इस बिल के दायरे में लाना है जहां सरकार की भागीदारी 51 प्रतिशत हो।

मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि अगर नगरों में देखा जाए तो ज्यादा से ज्यादा सरकारी सम्पत्तियों पर अनिधकृत कब्जा है, जैसे रेलवे की जमीन है, फॉरेस्ट की जमीन है या रक्षा विभाग की जमीन है। रोड पर कब्जा हो रहा है, सिर्फ कानून बनाने से काम नहीं चलेगा क्योंकि यह कानून 1971 से है। फिर सरकारी जमीन या सम्पत्ति पर कब्जा क्यों नहीं हटा, बल्कि कब्जा और बढ़ता जा रहा है। दिन प्रतिदिन झगड़े होते हैं, गोलिया चलती हैं और लोग आपस में मर-कट जाते हैं। सरकार अनिधकृत कब्जे को बेदखल करने की कार्यवाही रोक देती है और कब्जा बरकरार रहता है। अत: सरकार जो कानून बना रही है, उसका अच्छी तरह से पालन हो, अनिधकृत सम्पत्ति से सरकार कब्जे हटाए और उन सम्पत्ति का उपयोग आम जनता की भलाई के लिए करे। यही बात कहकर मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं। धन्यवाद।

SHRI S.P. MUDDAHANUME GOWDA (TUMKUR): Thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to speak on this very important Bill.

I am in total agreement with the hon. Members, who spoke from our party.

I am also in agreement with the spirit of the amendment of the Bill, which the hon.

Minister has brought.

I know that the judgment of the hon. Supreme Court is the main source to bring this amendment. We can understand the problems being faced at different levels to bring this amendment so as to evict the persons, who are unauthorisedly in occupation of houses. In *ST Bandi versus Divisional Traffic Officer, KSRTC, Supreme Court Case*, the person who was in unauthorised occupation, was asked to be evicted on 12.06.1997. Ultimately, the matter was taken up before the Appellate Court. From there, it went to the High Court. Then, from the single court, it went to the Division Bench. Thereafter, the matter was taken up before the Supreme Court. Ultimately, the hon. Supreme Court, on 13.07.2004, passed an order of eviction.

So, this shows the necessity and urgency of bringing this amendment. I fully agree with it.

Sir, I would like to quote an observation made by the hon. Judge of the Supreme Court while disposing of this special writ petition, which says: "The unauthorised occupants must appreciate that their act of overstaying in the premises directly infringes the rights of another." Therefore, I agree and really appreciate the spirit of this amendment.

There are two-three important points, which I would like to bring to the notice of this august House. The Estate Officer is supposed to pass the order of eviction. Who is this Estate Officer? What are his qualifications? You have not fixed any qualifications for this Estate Officer. Virtually, he is passing an order of eviction. It is a *quazi judicial* proceeding. As per the concerned Section, he is only a Gazetted Officer mentioned by the Government of India. Is he qualified to

pass an order in a *quazi judicial* proceeding? The order, which he passes, will be taken for an appeal before the District Court; and it will be tested by the scrutiny of the High Courts and ultimately, by the Supreme Court.

That is why my suggestion to the hon. Government is that they must try to draw an officer from the Judiciary. An opportunity of hearing should be given. The principles of natural justice must be looked into. He must give the opportunities and hear the parties. He must pass a speaking order. That is why an officer from the Judiciary must be drawn and appointed as an Estate Officer under this Section to pass an order.

Secondly, you have mentioned about Appellate Officer in the amendment. It cannot be stated as Appellate Officer. The order passed by the Estate Officer should be taken to the District Judge. The court of the District Judge disposes of the appeal. So, the word 'Appellate Officer' is not in good spirit and not in good taste. In legal language, you cannot use the word 'officer' for a District Judge. That is why, I propose, instead of Appellate Officer, it should be mentioned as appellate court. That is one thing. Sir, I will conclude within a minute.

Thirdly, in the amendment Bill, we have discussed much about the bungalows or houses being occupied by the Members of Parliament but it is not so. Even the properties, which belong to the Delhi Metro Railway Corporation, and the properties, which belong to the companies, where the Government owns shares of more than 51 per cent, should also be looked into. In fact, it is the primary duty of the Government of India or any other Government to first find out which are all the properties which fall under this Act.

Why I am telling you about this is that there is a difference between unauthorised occupants and illegal occupants. You are issuing notice to the person who is an unauthorised occupant. But what about the person who is an illegal occupant? He is not supposed to be there. He is not allowed to stay there. So, there is a difference. You must draw a line between unauthorised occupant and illegal occupant. That is why, the Government must bring some more comprehensive

legislation to deal with persons who are staying there without any authorisation and persons who are illegally staying there.

Finally, to conclude, you have not fixed the time. Of course, in the appellate court you have fixed time for disposal of the appeal, which is one month. I agree with that and I appreciate that. But the matter will not be closed there. From the appellate court, the matter can be taken up before the High Court under writ petition under article 226 of the Constitution. There, you know, it is a single judge and against the judgement of a single judge, the matter can be taken in writ appeal. From there a Special Leave Petition can also be filed. You must try to evolve some strategy and bring some legislation to curtail this power also because if a person is allowed to take the matter for years together, then the very purpose of this amendment will be defeated.

The judgement delivered by the hon. Supreme Court in Bandi's case, I think, is an eye opener. Taking the whole content of this case into consideration, I would request the Government of India to see that some more stringent amendments are introduced so that the person, who is an unauthorised occupant, should be evicted immediately. Thank you, Sir.

डॉ. अरुण कुमार (जहानाबाद): माननीय सभापित महोदय, पब्लिक प्रिमाइसेज ऑक्युपेन्सी एविक्शन से संबंधित 1971 में जो बिल लाया गया था, उसमें जो संशोधन किया जा रहा है, मैं इसके समर्थन में खड़ा हुआ हूं। लेकिन दो-तीन सुझाव मैं सरकार को आपके माध्यम से देना चाहता हूं। मैट्रो, एनडीएमसी और सांसद बंगलों के विभिन्न तरह के सवालों को तथा उसमें आ रही बाधाओं को दूर करने के लिए इसे सरलीकृत किया गया है और इस पर स्टैंडिंग कमेटी ने भी विस्तार से चर्चा की है। आज सदन में भी इस पर काफी विस्तार से चर्चा हुई। विशेष कुछ कहने की जरूरत नहीं है, लेकिन दो-तीन सवालों की तरफ हम सरकार का ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहेंगे।

महोदय, सरकारी परिसम्पत्ति चाहे राज्य की हो, चाहे केन्द्र की हो, इन सम्पत्तियों पर उस विभाग के स्थानीय पदाधिकारियों की मिलीभगत से जो कब्जा दिलाया जाता है, उसमें गरीब परिवार के लोग होते हैं। इसमें गरीब परिवार के लोग होते हैं। वे लोअर मिडिल क्लास के लोग होते हैं। हम देखते हैं कि रेलवे की जमीन पर आज अवैध कब्ज़ा है, उसमें स्थानीय स्तर पर सरकारी पदाधिकारियों और रेलवे के पदाधिकारियों की भी मिलीभगत होती है। फिर कानून के तहत उसका एविक्शन होता है तो निश्चित तौर से संपत्ति की एक बड़ी हानि होती है। हम समझते हैं कि जब यह कानून बनाया जा रहा है तो उस संपत्ति पर कोई चाहे मंदिर के माध्यम से, मस्ज़िद के माध्यम से या व्यक्तिगत तौर पर जो कब्जे किए जाते हैं, उन पर लगाम लगायी जानी चाहिए। इस तरह से राष्ट्र को भी क्षति होती है और व्यक्तिगत क्षति भी होती है। यह जो नैक्सस होता है, दखल दिलाने का, इसमें स्थानीय पदाधिकारियों को भी अकाउंटेबल बनाया जाना चाहिए कि वे लोकल पुलिस और उस विभाग के पदाधिकारियों की मिली-भगत से इस सिस्टम को चलाने के लिए आकर्षित न करे। जब अकाउंटेबल बनाया जाएगा तो निश्चित तौर से जो नैक्सस है, उस पर रोक लगेगी। दूसरी चीज यह है कि यह सरकारी संपत्ति जो रेलवे की है या अन्य विभिन्न संगठनों की है, मैट्रो रेलवे की है, यह किसानों की संपत्ति थी। यह जमीन किसान से काफी कम दाम पर विकास के नाम पर ले ली जाती है और किसान की उसमें हिस्सेदारी नहीं होती है। मैं एक सुझाव देना चाहूंगा कि इसमें सरकार की हिस्सेदारी 51 प्रतिशत से कम नहीं होनी चाहिए। पीपीपी मोड में डालने के बाद वर्चस्व यदि प्राईवेट एजेंसी का होगा, तो वह कॉमन पीपल का इंट्रेस्ट नहीं रखेगा। यह सरकार वैलफेयर सरकार है, पीपल वैलफेयर के लिए है। इसलिए निश्चित तौर से सरकार की बड़ी हिस्सेदारी वहां होनी चाहिए ताकि प्राइवेट पार्टियों की मनमानी इसमें नहीं हो। इसी के साथ मैं बिल का समर्थन करते हुए अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ।

श्री दुष्यंत चौटाला (हिसार): सभापित महोदय, मैं आपका धन्यवाद करता हूँ कि आपने मुझे Public Premises (Eviction of unauthorized occupants) Amendment Bill 2014 जैसे अहम बिल पर बोलने का मौका दिया है। मुझ से पहले अनंत कुमार जी ने बोला है कि आज यह एक अहम विषय है कि सरकारी जमीन पर अधिकतम तौर पर जिस तरह गरीब का कब्जा है, कमेरे का कब्जा है, इस बिल के तहत हम इस्टेट अफसरों को अधिकार दे रहे हैं कि वे कब्जा छुड़ा कर, उसकी जगह सरकारी कार्य को सुचारू रूप से चलाएं। आज अगर दिल्ली की बात करें तो मैट्रो जैसा इंपॉर्टेंट प्रोजेक्ट बहुत जरूरी है क्योंकि इससे एक नहीं अनेकों लोगों को फायदा होता है।

<u>16.32 hrs</u> (Hon. Deputy Speaker *in the Chair*)

यहां बंगलों की बात करें तो दिल्ली के अंदर ऐसे बहुत से बंगलें हैं, जो अलग-अलग ट्रस्टों को एलॉट कर दिए गए। बहुत से ऐसे लोग हैं, जो रेंट देने के बहाने से अनेकों साल से उन बंगलों पर बैठे हैं। मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ क्योंकि यह एक जरूरी चीज़ है। एक धारणा बनी हुई है कि जो चीज सरकारी है, वह हमारी है। कहीं न कहीं उस धारणा को तोड़ कर जो चीज़ सरकारी है, उसको सरकार के हाथों में देना पड़ेगा। सरकार के हाथों में दे कर, जो सरकार का प्रोग्रेस वर्क है, उसको आगे ले जाना पड़ेगा।

में माननीय मंत्री जी से अपील करूंगा कि इसके अंदर जहां मैट्रो की बात कर दी जाती है, सरकारी बंगलों की बात कर दी जाती है, इस बिल के अनुसार हमें कहीं न कहीं फॉरेस्ट लैण्ड को भी लाना चाहिए। दिल्ली का अधिकतम फॉरेस्ट लैंड कब्जे के अंदर है, इल्लिगल ऑक्युपेंट्स वहां भी बैठे हैं। कहीं न कहीं रेलवेज़ की बिल्डिंग्स को भी इसमें लाना चाहिए। जो इंडियन आर्मी के सेंटर्स हैं, एयरफोर्स के सेंटर्स हैं, वहां कब्जा है, उनको भी लाना चाहिए। कई ऐसे एरियाज हैं, जो गवर्नमेंट एक्वायर्ड हैं, सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट के, एडीएमसी के या डीडीए आदि किसी के अंडर हैं, मगर उनको आज तक एम्टी आउट नहीं किया गया। उनका पैसा भी ले लिया गया है, उनको भी इनके अंदर इंक्ल्यूड करना चाहिए। कहीं न कहीं जहां हम एस्टेट अफसर को अधिकार दे रहे हैं, उन अधिकारों के अंदर हमें यह अथॉरिटी भी देना चाहिए कि जब हमने नोटिस सर्व कर दिया, नोटिस तो एक के बाद एक दे दिया जाता है, नोटिस के साथ एविक्शन करवाने तक की अथारिटी उनके हाथों में देनी चाहिए। मैं एक ही चीज बोलना चाहूंगा कि नरेन्द्र मोदी जी कहीं न कहीं चौधरी देवीलाल की विचारधारा के ऊपर चलने का कदम उठा रहे हैं। चौधरी देवीलाल ने कहा था कि हर हाथ को काम, हर सिर पर छत, हर पेट को रोटी, बाकी सब बात खोटी। मैं यह मानता हूं कि

जहां हम किसी गरीब को उस जगह से हटाते हैं, पैरलली अर्बन डेवलपमेंट मिनिस्ट्री को इसके तहत देखकर उनके सिर पर छत देनी चाहिए। मैं तो इतना कहते हुए इस बिल का समर्थन करते हुए अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ।

*SHRI N. KRISTAPPA (HINDUPUR): Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this Bill. Sir, the cases of encroaching Government lands and properties are on the rise. If a poor man desires to construct a house for his own use, it is a welcome move. But we see persons who are not poor and are encroaching lands of temples, ponds, forests and other Government lands. Those who should have protected these lands failed to do so. I am pained to say that appropriate actions could not be taken to protect Government lands.

Sir, it is time to take serious action to protect Government properties. In the last 10 years Government committed several mistakes. I am pained to say that, in the name of SEZs and industries, thousands of acres of land was acquired and instead of setting up industries they were misused for real estate purposes. There are several allegations on misuse of land. For example, in my constituency around 8000 acres was allocated to a company to set up industries. But not even 80 acres out of 8000 acres could be used for setting up industries. The Government should take action on such defaulters and lands should be given back to the farmers.

In the last 10 years, these lands neither could be used by farmers nor were used to set up industries. This huge pocket of 8000 acres of land was lying unused in the last ten years. Neither crops could be grown on these lands nor could Government objectives be fulfilled. These lands are in the hands of real estate developers. Will we welcome such situations prevail in our country? I request the Government to take action against such defaulters. With this I conclude. Thank you.

^{*} English translation of the speech originally delivered in Telugu.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Hon. Deputy-speaker, Sir, I would like to thank all the Members belonging to different parties and from different regions for having extended their support, without any exception, to this Bill. More than 16 hon. Members, cutting across party lines, have spoken on this Bill. They have given their valuable suggestions and observations. One important thing is that all of them said that they wanted to support this Bill. Some people have suggested that the Government should bring a comprehensive Bill. Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I totally agree with them.

Even when this Bill was brought before me, I was of the opinion that why we are doing it in piece-meal and why do we not think of bringing in a comprehensive legislation. However, our country is so huge that there are issues developing from time to time and that there are certain issues which require urgent attention. As Shri Deepender Singh Hooda has said, basically, the purpose of this Bill is about public transport, removing the hurdles with regard to the expansion of public transport in the National Capital, and also to make consequential changes because there are four Municipal Corporations now; and then the Companies Act was amended subsequently. This Bill has been brought primarily to take care of those aspects. I totally agree that not only in this aspect but also on different public issues, there is a need for a comprehensive review of the situation and then bring appropriate legislations which will cover all the aspects present, past and future also because our country is a dynamic country. Things are changing; new opportunities are coming; new challenges also are coming; and new litigations are also coming. Unfortunately, in this country, there are people who always try to litigate on issues and put the Government in difficulties. The Government means that the Government is a custodian of public properties. When I say public premises, that is people's property only. This is not the Government of India. This is the Government for the entire country.

Secondly, with regard to certain aspects, hon. Members have mentioned about different metros. The Government of India is basically concerned about the National Capital because it is the duty.

The land is the State subject. That also has to be kept in mind. Wherever there are metros and if the Government of India and State Government have more than 51 per cent, then they come under the purview of this Bill. Otherwise, they have to go for a separate Bill in their respective States. I will definitely examine. Somebody was suggesting about forest land, about railways, about the different public sector undertakings, and about national highways and all. Can we have a legislation covering all these aspects? For that, we need consultations with the States. I do not want to be seen as if taking away the powers of the State Governments and then the Parliament unilaterally passing the legislation which is binding on all the States without understanding the practical problems and without having needed feedback from the States. So, we will definitely take that approach in future.

With regard to the issues raised about the powers of Estate Officer, the powers of Estate Officer are given so that there is speedy disposal and speedy action at the first instance itself. Then, on the appeal, it always goes to a District Judge. There should not be any worry. On that also, some people made the comment which is very interesting. You cannot have a total summary because the principles of natural justice have to be followed. There is the District Court, then there will be the High Court. There will be first Single Judge and then there will be a Division Bench. From there, it will go to the Supreme Court. Then also, there will be a Special Writ Petition. All these provisions are there. In a democracy, we have to go through various forums and wherever there is an opportunity, the legal process has to be totally exhausted before going to the final thing.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I understand the spirit of the hon. Members for their valuable suggestion. It is getting struck at various levels for a very long

period. Even I feel shy to discuss about the issue of our Members of Parliament. I wish that issue has not come for discussion in this House because we should not be seen as if we are arguing for ourselves and we are taking up our own case in the Parliament. Then, there will be adverse publicity on that. Even in that also, unfortunately, the Government bungalow belongs to the Government itself. If you are no more an MP, then you are not eligible to possess the bungalow. There also, some lower level courts have given stay. I have the details with me. I was surprised. I told my Department as to how a court can intervene in this. The court has no issue at all because it is the Government's property. It is meant for MPs. The moment you become an ex-MP, then you have to evict. It is very simple. For that, we have to follow principles of natural justice. At various stages, there comes the seven days' notice, and then again the seven days' notice and then, the fifteen days' notice and then, one months' notice. In toto, a period of sixty days time was given. According to me, a period of sixty days meets the principles of natural justice. There was an observation that the Estate Officer should also give another notice. If you give another notice and then another opportunity, that means there will be a further delay. The public money is involved in these projects. For example, we were discussing about the metro projects. Metro is the flavour of the season. It has enhanced the prestige of the National Capital as said by Rajiv Ranjan that Shri Sreedharan is the father of Indian metros. We should really salute the hard work he has done and the hard work he is putting even now also. Even now, he is helping the different Governments. He is guiding the Kochi Metro and he is also guiding the new Capital of Andhra Pradesh. For other metros, he is giving his advice and we are also going by his valuable advice.

The cost overrun and the time overrun that it consumes go on. It started with Rs.80 crore. Then it went up to Rs.100 crore, to Rs.120 crore and now it is going to be Rs.200 crore. If we go underground, the cost would go up further. Added to this, if there is further delay because of litigations and all, it will add to the cost. Adding to the cost means that -- it is not a burden on one Minister or one

Government – it is a burden on the people. We have to again collect it back from the people by way of taxes, directly or indirectly is a different matter. So, keeping that in mind, the very essence of this Bill is public interest and the public transport. In view of the recent experience of speedy expansion of Delhi Metros by 310 kilometres, covering different areas, there is a demand now from different parts of Haryana. We have to extend it to different directions. Shri Deependerji was also mentioning about it. My friend Shri Satyapal Singh was telling that it must go to Meerut. There are requests from other regions also. If we go on adding individual private transport, we will be having a horrible situation. We already have a horrible situation. In the National Capital of Delhi, the population keeps increasing. I do not have the latest figure of today's population. Every day we find friends from Haryana, friends from UP, friends from Bihar, friends from Odisha and friends from the region of South coming to the National Capital in order to secure livelihood, in order to have better educational opportunities and so on. We cannot find fault with them because it is a National Capital. But do we have adequate resources? The land is the same. So, what I am trying to impress upon is that there are approximately 80 to 85 lakh vehicles in Delhi. Can a Capital city with its present dimension bear that many numbers of vehicles? There is frequent congestion, and with little dislocation, there will be traffic jam. Even yesterday night, we were all caught in a traffic jam for a marriage function even in the Lutyens Delhi where the roads are comparatively wider and all. If we go to old Delhi and other places, the situation is very horrible. The entry points to Delhi from Haryana, from Uttar Pradesh, from Rajasthan have to be further widened. One idea is to go for public transport. As of now, the public transport is, among the available things, the metro. We can also think about BRTS, we can think about Mass Rapid Rail Transport Service. All these aspects are there. But people prefer comfortable metro journey. Keeping that in mind, this Bill has been brought in.

Some people have reminded me about Turkman Gate. We remember Turkman Gate. There is no question of any repetition of Turkman Gate here. The

spirit of the Supreme Court Judgment and also observations in different cases as highlighted by Dr. Kirit Somaiya, by way of the 8th June, 2002 Circular, I will definitely keep that in mind and then try to visit that.

This PPE Act will not be applicable to metro projects of States because there is no central share and they cannot be covered in this. The different State Governments have similar Public Premises Eviction Act. If they want to strengthen it further, they are free to do it to take care of the public sectors in States. With regard to private companies, they cannot resort to use of this PPE Act.

Coming to the issue of encroachment in Delhi and also the unauthorised constructions, a lot of Members have expressed their concerns. Though it is not directly related to the present legislation, yet it is a big menace. I would like to consult and talk to my colleagues in Parliament also because urban governance is comparatively not in a desirable state. We need to strengthen it particularly with regard to unauthorised construction. As some of the Members were suggesting, when poor people put huts and encroach upon, then we try to remove them immediately. But the same thing is not happening with regard to people who violate the law and go for high rise buildings. Subsequently, if somebody moves a Public Interest Litigation or some smart officer comes and demolishes everything, the newspapers also highlight that.

As a Minister or as an ordinary citizen I have this doubt in mind. You have a building inspector for every municipal ward, if I am not wrong, there are area supervisors, and there are other people who are looking after this. What is it they are doing when these unauthorised constructions are going on? This is a basic issue across the country, not one municipality, this government or that government. No Municipal Chairman and no Municipal Mayor wants to be unpopular. People forget whatever good work is done, but people who are affected will remember it and try to harm you tomorrow. This has been the habit in the

system unfortunately. People's memory is otherwise short but the memory of the affected people is long.

I remember as a young Member of Assembly in my State, Ahokji is here, I raised the issue of jungle clearance on which there was a big scam. There were canals and they made out a case that the tree growth in the canals, which they called jungle, had to be cleared, and spent crores of rupees on that. Later we realised that there were no trees in the canals at all, and trees cannot obstruct a canal also. It became a big emotive issue in my State.

I was a youngster in those days like some of these youngsters now who are very aggressive sometimes. Though they are progressive in their views, they are aggressive in their expression and all, and it is quite natural. At that age of 28 or 29 years I took this issue up very aggressively. Though it was a Congress Government at that time, the Minister was an honest Minister. I think it was G.V. Sudhakara Rao. They ordered an enquiry. My case was referred to ACB and 70 Engineers were suspended.

My wife told me that whenever she went to any marriage people would be murmering and cursing. 'Hamara naukri chala gaya, hamara family ka aisa ho gaya', my wife told me that this was what was being talked about. I said, 'Do not worry. It is a compliment, not a criticism. Our Nellore is a small town. So, whenever you go around socially you meet people.

What I want to say is, at the end of the day the court had removed some people from the service etc. In the next election, people had forgotten the good work and people who were affected by that decision came and effectively campaigned against me using all their resources. That is the problem today.

As an Urban Development Minister the dilemma before me is that there are a lot of unauthorised things. Poor people cannot do it effectively, they will be taken to task. But influential people are misusing their money and their other powers and then going in for unauthorised constructions. This is an area where I seek the cooperation of all the Members of Parliament. I want to even call a

meeting of the Mayors across the country, discuss various reforms including this particular aspect also, and then see to it that action is taken against unauthorised constructions.

People who are responsible should be made accountable. Who is accountable? You cannot expect a Minister to go around the street and see every day what is happening in Darya Ganj or somewhere else. There are officers for this purpose in every town and every city. It is their duty. I do agree with our hon. Members on this and in future course of time during my period I will try to address this issue to the extent possible.

With regard to the issues raised by some of the Members about the fear that the Act may be misused and all, in this country whenever there is a scope for misuse there are other avenues available to hon. Members to redress it. So, they can approach those avenues and then they will get appropriate relief also.

My friend, Nimmala Kristappa, spoke in Telugu. *Aayana Telugulo matladedu. Chala santosham. Aayanaki nenu abhinandanalu teluputunnanu.* Whatever language it may be, the issues are the same. Friends from other parties said the Government should have a long-term vision, perspective and then try to bring amendments. I shall definitely keep that in mind and see to it that such things are taken care of.

With regard to rehabilitation for the homeless people and the small shopkeepers whenever they are displaced, they will also be taken care of. There are provisions for that also.

With regard to the recommendations of the Standing Committee the hon. Members were mentioning, almost all the spirit of the Standing Committee has been incorporated in the Bill. As far as the hon. Supreme Court is concerned, as I told you, out of the 20 observations or recommendations - whatever you call them - made, 18 are taken on board.

Thirdly, some people, I think our friends from Congress Party, mentioned that it is a Congress Bill. Yes, it was a Congress Government Bill. ...

(*Interruptions*). Yes, it is a Congress Government Bill. Whichever Government brings something good, we should never oppose it for the sake of opposition. I have myself admitted that this Bill was brought in 2010; it was referred to the Standing Committee in 2011; the report of the Committee came in 2012; and then the Bill could not be taken forward. This Government is taking it forward. I have no hesitation in saying that you brought the Bill and we have got the political will. That is why I have brought it today to make it a reality.

This should be the spirit. We should work together. After all, legislations are not meant for this party or that party, but for the entire country. So keep that in mind. Various other aspects which are suggested, I have also told you. The steps for cancellation are like this. First, notice to be issued within 7 days; time for appearing -7 days; time for passing order -15 days; time for vacation – another 15 days; extension for vacation- another 15 days; total time- 60 days. Then the matter is referred to Estate Officer only after cancellation order is issued. He cannot *suo motu* do anything. He can act only after cancellation orders are issued by appropriate authorities.

With regard to special cases as mentioned about hospitals or other public utilities and services, enough care will be taken. All these aspects will be considered before issuing cancellation order. On that count, I give an assurance that there is no question of going on public services without giving them adequate opportunity. At the same time, before I request the House to approve this Bill, I appeal to one and all that we should have the public interest in our minds. That should be uppermost in our minds rather than individual vested interests for whom now and then *pairavi* is done. How often the general public will be able to reach and how often other interested parties will be able to reach, that we are all aware of. I need not explain it further. Keeping that in mind, the Government will be guided. I will discuss with officials about whatever suggestions are there. Wherever necessary, precautions and safety measures have to be taken. They will be brought in during the course of making the rules.

With this, I once again would like to thank the entire House for the universal support for this Bill and then request the hon. Deputy Speaker to further move forward and get the Bill passed.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Amendment Bill, 2014 be taken into consideration".

The motion was adopted.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 6 stand part of the Bill." *The motion was adopted.*

Clauses 2 to 6 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill be passed."

SHRI ANTO ANTONY (PATHANAMTHITTA): Hon. Deputy Speaker, I have to raise two points. First, a lot of public sector companies taken buildings and land on lease for facilitating the operations of the Companies. Even the decades after the lease period has been over, the Government is not ready to vacate the land. The ethical question which is raised here is, what is the moral right of the Government to evacuate the people from public premises? It violates citizens' right over the property.

Secondly, there may be worship centres in the public premises. In such cases, evacuation or demolition should be undertaken in consultation with the local people.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: This is an issue which requires a meaningful debate, discussion and then conclusion at the end of it. There is umpteen number of cases across the country where public places are occupied and converted into places of worship. The only thing is that in this country we have different religions and different kinds of religious people. You cannot act upon them. At the same time, if they are obstructing public life, if they are obstructing the road or traffic by having a temple, mosque, dargah or church in the middle or nearby the road, how far is it justified?

17.00 hrs

But it requires political will. It cannot be done by one political party or one person. This is a larger issue across the country. I agree with him that when we are finally going to take action, we must try to consult the people and the community and then only, move further. Otherwise, we will not be able to do it. In doing such things also, you must do it simultaneously. Otherwise, in this country, if you touch some place of worship of 'x' community, the other one will say that we are targeting such and such community and you are against this, that and the other. We have to keep that in mind.

There are cities in the country where some effective officers have taken steps by convening meetings of leaders of different communities; after prolonged discussions, they have come to a conclusion that all obstructions in public places should be removed, with all respect. They also said that wherever possible, they could be given alternative sites. Unless we are able to achieve some such

consensus, it cannot be done. This cannot be done by the Government of India. It has to be done at various levels. Unless that is achieved, we cannot do it; but I keep the suggestion of the hon. Member in mind. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No. I cannot allow now. That stage has gone.

The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the House shall take up Supplementary List of Business – Bills for introduction.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Sir, I am on a point of order with regard to the introduction of Bills. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Under what rule? Please quote the rule.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: My point of order is under Rule 376 read with Rule 72 (2) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

With regard to introduction of a Bill, it is the right of the Member under Rule 72 (2). It says:

"Notice to oppose introduction of a Bill shall be addressed to the Secretary-General before 10 a.m."

So, it is the right and privilege of each and every Member of this House to file objections before the House so that they can raise the objections at the time of introduction of the Bill.

In this case, my point of order is with regard to the introduction of the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill. No notice has been given; it is not in the List of Business. As far as my information goes, it has not been discussed in the BAC. How can the Government impose such a Bill in the House, without having information and without giving prior notice? My right to file my objection to the introduction of the Bill is not there. I have no right to file objection to the constitutional validity as well as the legal competence of the Bill to be introduced. That is my point of order under Rule 72 (2) read with Rule 376. ... (*Interruptions*) SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): This practice is being continued by the Government. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He is on his legs; let him complete his submission.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Last Thursday, the BAC met and its report has already been placed before the House. After that, the Government is pushing another Bill, without discussion in the BAC, especially the Motor Vehicles Bill, as was pointed out by Shri Premachandran. This has not been the practice as per Parliamentary procedure. So, I am requesting for a ruling from your side, to restrict the Government from by-passing the recommendations of the BAC, and pushing these Bills. ... (*Interruptions*)

DR. A. SAMPATH (ATTINGAL): Sir, while appreciating the eagerness of the hon. Minister, this House has a prerogative. That prerogative is being infringed when such a Bill is being introduced in a hurry. It has become a practice to hijack the whole proceedings of the House by not referring the Bills to the Standing Committees concerned. We are having 24 Standing Committees and most of the Chairmen are from the Ruling Party. We are all members of the Standing Committee and we have a job to do in the Standing Committees. Our duty has been infringed. So, I support what Shri Premachandran has said in the House. ... (*Interruptions*)

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): I want to point out that we have mentioned it earlier in the House that the Members should be given proper notice before a Bill is either introduced or taken up for consideration.

Now when we saw the Revised List of Business before coming to the House, there was no mention of the Motor Vehicles Bill. What was listed was the Bill on public premises and Discussion Under Rule 193. We went through the motions in the House.

Now as Mr. Premachandran rightly pointed out, when a Bill is to be introduced, Member has a right under 72(i) to oppose the introduction. The Member even has a right to seek division on the opposition. Now by introducing the Bill at this stage, there is no scope for giving notice before 10 o'clock. It is time barred. There is no scope for any debate on that issue.

So, I would request you to ask the Minister to defer the Bill and place it tomorrow after including in the List of Business.

श्री भगवंत मान (संगरूर): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इस बात का समर्थन करता हूं। इससे पहले भी ऐसा हुआ है। हमें प्रिपेयर होने का समय नहीं मिलता। बिल जल्दबाजी में आते हैं, पहले एचआरडी मंत्री जी बिल लेकर आए थे।...(व्यवधान) मैं बिल का स्वागत करता हूं, बिल का विरोध नहीं कर रहा हूं। मैंने मेज थपथपाई है।...(व्यवधान) बिल बहुत अच्छा है, लेकिन हमें बोलने के लिए, प्रिपेयर होने के लिए, कम से कम आप हमारे राइट्स की रक्षा कीजिए।...(व्यवधान)

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF HOUSING AND **POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER URBAN** OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I accept the spirit of the argument given by the hon. Members but we should not go to the extent of saying that we are trying to hijack the business of the House. The entire country is watching who is hijacking. My respectable submission is that it is not a regular Bill concerning Motor Vehicle Act. It is only regarding e-rickshaws which is a facility which is in the larger interest of the people... (Interruptions) मान जी, बाकी लोगों को भी थोड़ा मानिए। प्लीज़, आप बैटिए।...(व्यवधान) मेरा इतना ही कहना है कि the House in its collective wisdom can allow the Minister. The Speaker in her discretion can allow the Minister ... (Interruptions). If we are doing some crime, then one can understand. But we are doing something for the good of the people. You can discuss it at length. We need not discuss it today. You allow its introduction today and have a discussion later.

श्री जय प्रकाश नारायण यादव (बाँका): संसद में माननीय सदस्यों ने सवाल उठाया है। पिछले सत्र में भी हमने इस सवाल को उठाया था कि माननीय सदस्यों को पहले जानकारी नहीं दी जाती कि कौन सा बिल आने वाला है। यह डिसकस नहीं होता। यह परम्परा के रूप में बन गया है। संसदीय लोकतंत्र में यह अच्छी बात नहीं है। ... (व्यवधान)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): Sir, last time also I raised it and Shri Venkaiah Naidu is also present here. He had brought a Supplementary List of Business. At that time also, we objected to it. Within a span of 15 days,

this is the fourth time that such a thing is happening. So, this is not good. On the one side, you say that we should go as per law and according to the rules. But you yourself are breaking the rules or conventions or precedents or whatever procedure the House is following. This should not be done.

Therefore, you defer it and let us take it up in the Business Advisory Committee. We will come back to it. Nothing important is going to happen in two-three days.

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री तथा पोत परिवन मंत्री (श्री नितिन गडकरी): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह बिल केवल ई-रिक्शा और ई-कार्ट से संबंधित है। It is because of the decision of the Court, करीब दो लाख लोग बेरोजगार हैं, वे काम नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। इसलिए मैंने स्पीकर महोदया को रिक्वैस्ट की थी। अगर यह क्लीयर हो जाएगा तो...(व्यवधान)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Supplementary List was circulated in the House well in advance at around 3 p.m. The hon. Speaker has permitted the issue of Supplementary List of Business on a request made by the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. In the past also Supplementary List of Business has been issued. In such a case notices opposed to it are allowed to be tabled by Members now itself. There is no problem. Members can give notice. As regards the time to be allotted, it will be discussed in the BAC. As far as this introduction of the Bill is concerned, this may be allowed.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL : Sir, is this the practice? ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The hon. Speaker allowed and that is why I am allowing it.

... (Interruptions)

17.10 hrs

NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI LAWS (SPECIAL PROVISIONS SECOND (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2014*

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second Act, 2011.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second Act, 2011."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2 dated 15.12.2014

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17.11hrs

MOTOR VEHICLES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2014*

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS AND MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI NITIN GADKARI): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988."

The motion was adopted.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have already given the ruling. SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): Has it become a practice? Within a span of 15 days the Government has brought four Supplementary List of Business... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NITIN GADKARI: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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^{*} Published in Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2 dated 15.12.2014

17.12 hrs

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Reported dilution of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme ...Contd.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up further discussion on the reported dilution of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.

... (Interruptions)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Elumalai.

SHRI V. ELUMALAI (ARANI): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this discussion.

MNREGA is supposed to give people their fundamental right to live with dignity.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Members, order please in the House.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI V. ELUMALAI: I would like to urge upon the Government that the number of workplaces should be increased to 200 with a minimum of assured 100 days. The wages should be increased to Rs. 300. The effective level of awareness is very crucial in ensuring the implementation of this scheme. The Government should make every effort in this direction to make it successful so that the rural poor are given their fundamental right to work.

Thank you.

SHRI ABHISHEK BANERJEE (DIAMOND HARBOUR): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise here today to deliver my maiden speech on an issue which is very close to my heart. I salute the martyrs and the brave soldiers of this country who have sacrificed their lives for India, our motherland. I thank the *Ma, Mati, Manush* of West Bengal for electing me to this august House. I would also like to thank the hon. Chief Minister of West Bengal, Ms. Mamata Banerjee for giving a young person like me the opportunity to represent the people of Diamond Harbour constituency. I offer my respect, regards, *Saalam* and *pronam* to all my respected colleagues in this august House and seek their cooperation, blessings and support.

Sir, today, I will speak on MGNREGA. What does this mean? NREGA stands for National Rural Employment Guarantee Act and the MG here refers to the great Mahatma Gandhi. The Scheme ensures 100 days work to the rural population of India and rural household of this country and is dedicated to the Father of the Nation.

"The soul of India lives in its villages.", declared Mahatma Gandhi at the beginning of the 20th century. According to the 2011 census, 69 per cent of Indians lives in more than six lakhs forty thousand different villages. Gandhi Ji dedicated his whole life to the service of the people. Even at the stroke of the midnight hour when India gained Independence on 14th August, 1947, when India awoke to freedom, Gandhiji was at Noakhali fasting against communal violence.

Mahatma Gandhi stood for communal harmony. Mahatma Gandhi stood for non-violence. Mahatma Gandhi stood for rural development. Mahatma Gandhi stood for peace. Mahatma Gandhi stood for secularism. Mahatma Gandhi stood for truth. Mahatma Gandhi stood for simplicity. Mahatma Gandhi stood for woman empowerment. Mahatma Gandhi stood for equality and unity. That was the era of Mahatma Gandhi.

Sadly, times have changed now and we as individuals live in a time of a ruthless and divisive MG. We live in the times of an MG that makes promises

and does not keep them, an MG that spends billions of dollars on advertising campaigns, an MG that goes on eight foreign trips in six months, an MG that puts its wardrobe before welfare, an MG that supports crony capitalism. This MG is the Modi Government. This Government has used the rims of the great Mahatma Gandhi's spectacles as the logo of one of their campaigns but sadly and unfortunately, this Government has failed to live up to the values and ideals championed by our Father of the Nation.

Sir, MGNREGA was initially implemented in 200 of the most backward districts and subsequently, 476 other districts were included. I ask the Government to make a statement on the floor of the House that they will withdraw the circular that seeks to reduce the number of districts under MGNREGA from 676 to 200 which has a partial difference.

Dilution of this Scheme is going to hit States like Karnataka, West Bengal, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh badly. These States have a huge rural population and vast areas of Rajasthan are also going to be affected. Why is the Government restricting this Scheme to only 2500 blocks? I would like to know it as a Member of this House. What will happen to the livelihood of the people in other blocks?

Let me give you some facts and figures keeping Bengal's achievement in mind. In 2012-13, West Bengal was the top performing State with a total man days of 20 crores which is 109 per cent higher than the national average and in 2013-14, the State again exceeded the target even though the allocation was subsequently decreased.

Sir, Bengal stands first in 100 days work scheme; Bengal stands first in skill development; Bengal stands first in power sector; Bengal stands first in MSME sector; Bengal stands first in woman empowerment and our Kanyashree scheme started by the hon. Chief Minister has been recognised globally; Bengal stands first in culture. Our tableaux got the first prize at the Republic Day parade last year.

All these were achieved in spite of the State Government paying more than Rs. 1 lakh crore to the Centre as debt repayment and interest burden. This was an inheritance from 34 years of Left Front Government's rule which has left the entire State debt ridden and debt trapped.

This was achieved in spite of the fact that the State has not received more than Rs. 3,000 crore as part of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. This was achieved despite the fact that the State still being owed more than Rs. 1,000 crore as part of 100 days work under MGNREGA Scheme.

In this context, let me also say that the funds allocated by the Centre to the respective States should reach the States at the right time without an iota of hesitation. My understanding is that the funds that are allotted by the Centre reach some States on time, and they also get an array of other financial aids and services on time, but other States suffer. This affects the livelihoods of the poorest of the poor miserably.

Despite this obnoxious discrimination and financial deprivation by the Centre, West Bengal is moving on the course and surge of development. Now, crores of people will lose their livelihoods because of the Centre's decision to dilute the MNREGA Scheme.

According to the Ministry of Rural Development, over 10 crore households have applied for the work under the MNREGA Scheme. However, work has been given only to approximately eight crore households, leaving more than three crore households jobless and without work. During the last eight years, Rs. 1,80,000 crore was paid as wages to the workers according to the Ministry of Rural Development. What is the figure for the last six months? I would like to know that from this new Government. Why are the allotted funds being slashed deliberately? I would like to know this from the Central Government, the NDA Government. How much money has been paid by the new Government to the workers as part of the wages?

We should remove the word 'guarantee' from this Scheme because after this Government came to power, not a single day's wage was paid to the workers. Promises are made, but not delivered. The Budget provision for MNREGA was Rs. 33,000 crore in the year 2013-14. This year it is Rs. 34,000 crore. If we take into account the inflation, the allocation is much lower compared to last year. Is the Government serious about this Scheme? Do they want to work for the poor and the downtrodden of the country, of a united India? Or are they here to serve the interests of only a chosen few and crony capitalists?

My colleague, Shri Sankar Prasad Datta, initiated this discussion. He mentioned that West Bengal has received 75 per cent of the funds. I would urge him and his party Members to get their facts right before they speak. In the year 2013-14, West Bengal received Rs. 2,214 crore and this year West Bengal has just got Rs. 1,072 crore which is not even fifty per cent. Still we are number one.

That day Shri Hukmdeo Narayan Yadav spoke. हुक्मदेव नारायण जी ने कहा कि यह देवता का रूप थोड़े न है, देवी का रूप थोड़े न है जो बदला नहीं जा सकता है। मैं उनका सम्मान करता हूं, आदर करता हूं, कद्र करता हूं लेकिन मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूं कि हम सबने रामायण पढ़ी है। हम सब धर्मों की इज्ज़त करते हैं। रामायण में रावण ऋषि-मुनि, संत के रूप में सीता जी के पास भीख मांगने गए थे, वह सीता जी की सेवा नहीं करने गए थे बल्कि उनका अपहरण करके लंका लेकर गए थे। उसी तरह यह सरकार इसका रूप बदलकर आम आदमी का भला नहीं कर रही है बल्कि पेट पर लात मार रही है।

On the one hand the Government is slashing the allocation for the MNREGA Scheme, which benefits the poor and the downtrodden of this country. On the other hand, what we see? The State Bank of India is giving away the tax payers' money to the crony capitalist in the form of loans. I would not like to name him. I would just like to state that the State Bank of India has sanctioned a loan of Rs. 6,000 crore for a coal mine in Australia to a company, which five multi-national banks have refused to approve. This proves what times we are living in.

Sir, I want to raise another important issue – the proposed change in the labour to material ratio. The Government is proposing a reduction of material to labour ratio from 60:40 to 51:49. This change will dilute the employment objective of the scheme without increasing the productivity. This move will have detrimental effects and must be reconsidered. Instead, Sir, what we suggest is that the Government should provide technical assistance and seek expert help in implementing this Scheme at the Gram Panchayat levels as every Government, according to the people of India, according to our democracy, should be Government of the people, Government for the people and Government by the people.

Sir, I would like to end by referring to a tribal-dominated district where the MGNREGA Scheme has failed to take off. It is the Aravalli district in Gujarat form where the Prime Minister of the country hails. I have just a direct question to this Government like I asked before: Are they here to work for the welfare of the poor, welfare of the farmers, welfare of the downtrodden, welfare of the countrymen of India or are they here to serve the interests of a chosen few?

Sir, six months after the misleading and false promises of *Achchey Din*, after 28 eminent economists wrote to the Prime Minister of the country expressing their concern over the proposed permutation and dilution, all I can say is that it is falling on the ears of a narcissistic tyrannical Government which is heartless, actionless and visionless. I stand here at this temple of democracy which is the highest forum of democracy in this country, which is the Temple, Church, Masjid of the democracy in country India, in the winter of 2014 at this august House of the People with a new meaning of the acronym NREGA. Indisputably, NREGA now stand for Nasty Ruthless Endeavour Going Anti-People. Thank you.

SHRI KALIKESH N. SINGH DEO (BOLANGIR): Sir, I thank you for calling me to speak on this subject.

We have received reports of the dilution of the MGNREGS. There are rumours that a circular has gone to the States which seeks to limit the Scheme up to 200 districts and change the labour-material ratio. I have seen some news reports about the statements made by the Minister where he claims to have denied this. What the Minister's position will obviously be apparent when he answers the Discussion under Rule 193. However, I speak of the mood of the BJP that I have seen.

Our young friend just now spoke about Shri Hukmdeo Narayan Yadav's comments as also the comments of some other hon. Members who are aligned with the NDA. The comments tend to lean towards criticizing the NREGS saying that there is corruption which exists in the NREGS. Shri Hukmdeo Narayan Yadav also said the rise in the minimum wages to agriculture labour is thereby impacting agriculture adversely. All of these, while holding true, cannot be a reason to dilute the Scheme for the simple reason that if there is corruption in the Scheme, should we be removing corruption or should we be stopping the Scheme?

There was corruption in 2G and 3G. Were telephones banned? Or, was corruption removed? There was corruption in coal. Were coal mines banned? Or was the process improved? Similarly, if there is a rise in agricultural wage, is that a good thing or a bad thing? The hon. Prime Minister himself made a statement about *Jan Dhan yojana* saying so many people have been included in the financial sector. Now, they say that if there is an increase in agricultural wages, it is bad somewhere. If agriculture is suffering, it is not because of increase in agricultural wages.

It is suffering because of consecutive poor and faulty policies of the Government of India. The problem with agriculture is very different. We all know that they are all small holdings; they do not have access to finance; they do not get access to markets; they get no access to real time information. Solve those problems. Do not deny the poor agricultural labour, who does not have any other option of putting food on his plate, by diluting MGNREGA.

One of the good things the previous Government did was to have a rights-based approach. Previously, Governments have been functioning on a *mai-baap sarkar*. If you want something from the Government, you have to either touch the feet of the MP, or the MLA, or the Collector. It is a politics of patronage. The good previous UPA Government did was to enact many guarantee schemes – food guarantee, employment guarantee. It is a rights-based approach. The people have the right to demand 100 days work and the Government has to provide it or give them money. That brings to account the performance of this Government or any Government for that matter. If the Government does not perform, they become financially liable, and maybe even at some point of time politically liable. So, if you are going to limit them to 200 districts, it does not make sense because where there are lesser poor people, the demand will be less but yet those poor people have a right. This rights-based approach should not be taken away.

I have seen replication of *mai-baap sarkar* coming in after the new Government has taken over. I certainly hope that there are some people amongst the Ministers, amongst the Cabinet who recognise that India has evolved to becoming a developing nation, and part of the development should be to provide the people of the country, the citizens of this nation, certain rights, rather than have the policy of patronage.

There are many advantages which have come out of this scheme. It has increased social and economic security, specially that of women because women directly work and get the money in their bank accounts; it does not go into the bank accounts of their husbands or male members of the family. Hukmdeo *ji* was

saying that it affects agriculture adversely. He should know, the Minister should state that about 80 per cent of the work is done for agricultural purposes, that it is regeneration of natural resources, soil, providing small farm ponds. The MoRD had commissioned a study to evaluate the performance and impact of MGNREGA in Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Jharkhand and Andhra Pradesh. This particular study revealed that there has been an increase in the household income and agriculture wages, there has been reduction in distress migration, which is very pertinent to my constituency, the KBK area.

Sir, 70 per cent of the work takes place in non-agriculture season. Only 30 per cent takes place in agriculture season. So, in realty, what it has done is to give the poor farmers, the poor labourers, an option of getting another 100 days of work. Yes, it has raised the wages in rural areas, which in my belief is a good thing. The hon. Urban Development Minister was just stating that there was a lot of pressure of urbanisation in Delhi and other States. If we remove the MGNREGA, will the pressure increase or reduce? Would more people come to Delhi seeking jobs? Should we not be providing them jobs back in their own villages as we were?

The hon. Finance Minister in a statement a few days ago in his reply to the Budget discussion made some very detailed comments on MGNREGA. Obviously, he has also felt the criticism of proposal for dilution of MGNREGA. He says that he has released somewhere around Rs.25,000 crore. At the Budget, it was around Rs.34,000 crore. My friend very correctly put it, that with seven or eight per cent inflation; the Budget becomes Rs.32,000 or Rs.32,500 crore. It is in fact a reduction. I can understand the Finance Minister's problem. He wants to control fiscal deficit which is a good thing. But reducing the MGNREGA is not the answer. MGNREGA represents a mere 0.3 per cent of the entire GDP.

I have information that a study being undertaken reveals that more than nine per cent is given as direct and indirect subsidies or non-merit subsidies. That means, it goes to the rich which gets wasted and it goes to the people who do not deserve it.

You should cut those out. Why should you cut a genuine scheme which provides employment to the people in rural areas?

The Finance Minister stated that he has given Rs. 25,000 crore. My information is that till 30th September, 2014, the first six months period of the financial year, only Rs. 13,000 crore was released to States. However, I do not wish to say that he is wrong. Maybe he has released some more money to some States beyond that. Last year, Rs. 24,000 crore was released by the previous Government in the same period. Now Rs. 13,000 crore was released by this Government. Let us assume that even after that he sends some money.

I would like to quote to you from the information I have received from the Government of Odisha which has asked for Rs. 1,834.36 crore as the total budget for MGNREGS in Odisha. However, they have, so far, received just Rs. 1,035.30 crore. The problem is, when money comes sparingly, in spread-out allocations, the work cannot happen in spite of allocations. It is a demand based scheme. There is a lot of paraphernalia around it, you have to get labourers to apply for the scheme, you have to make a list of them and there is a proper process which is followed to remove leakages in the system. This is a continuous process. For the first two months they will give some money and they stop it for the next four months. The work has happened and the labourers are screaming for money there. The work comes to a halt. In Odisha, right now we have no money, I repeat, no money in SEGF and EFMS accounts since 15th October, 2014. A mere Rs. 81 crore was received in the last week of November.

The Government may not be revising the budget to cut down the expenditure in MGNREGS. But, in fact, you are squeezing the entire scheme by not releasing timely money. It is one and the same thing. While on paper you are saying that you are giving Rs. 34,000 crore, but by not giving money correctly, by not giving money in time, you are, in fact, reducing the actual expenditure on MGNREGS because you know that you need 100 days for labourers to work and you need time to prepare the entire list of projects. That will not be able to happen

because money is not released in time by the Central Government. At the end, the Government of India will say that they were ready to give money. However, if money is not released in time, most of the States will not be able to spend money. There are many issues with MGNREGS. Some of my friends might say that they are political issues. They might say that Odisha is not getting money because the BJD is in opposition to the Central Government. But I have, with me, letters written by the Government of Bihar which was once their ally. I have a letter written by the Government of Chhattisgarh which has a BJP Chief Minister and even he says he is not getting sufficient money. I do not understand why the Government wants to cut down expenditure on MGNREGS. ... (Interruptions) शायद आपके पास पैसा न हो, शायद आपके पास इच्छा न हो।

The demand is there. However, we find that there is a lack of political will by the NDA Government in fulfilling the demands of the poor and the downtrodden of rural India. They work very well in promoting the relationship with other countries, ensuring that big ticket investments come in, infrastructure comes in and big business grows. But the fact of the matter is, there are poor people in this country and for them MGNREGS is like God. हुक्मदेव जी बोल रहे थे कि यह भगवान है या क्या है, लेकिन जिसको दो वक्त की रोटी नहीं मिलती है, उसके लिए तो यह स्कीम भगवान ही है। उनके भगवान को आप उनसे छीनने जा रहे हैं। मैं आपके माध्यम से गुज़ारिश करूंगा कि मंत्री जी not only explicitly states that he would carry on with the scheme but also that he would not change the material and component ratio, the labour ratio and that he would tell us today that he would give timely and time-bound payment and sufficient payment to meet the demands of various States in India. Thank you.

SHRI JAYADEV GALLA (GUNTUR): Hon. Deputy Speaker, when the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act was passed, I was also very happy, very excited that such an Act was becoming a law. But having seen the experience over the last several years, definitely it requires to be looked into again and some modifications definitely are required at this stage to ensure that it achieves all of the objectives that it was set out to achieve.

Definitely, there are some positives. Many of our Members have talked about how it provides strength to the labour class to improve their wages. It gives additional income to rural families. It also reduces migration. But there are some specific negatives that I want to also talk about which I feel need to be taken into account when looking at this Act on how to improve the delivery of this Act.

The first thing which has been talked about quite a bit is that it does not seem to be creating any durable assets. The material and labour ratio is such that the amount of material that can go to any project is quite limited. I think, one of the reasons for that has been — what I have read at least — to avoid corruption they did not want to put too much of material procurement into the material-labour ratio. But I think corruption is a different issue and unemployment is a different issue. Creating durable assets definitely is something we need to be looking at.

In addition to that, I think, more flexibility to the local bodies, local Governments to be able to select the type of works that they take up is also crucial. It is a one-size-fits-all scheme. Right from North to South, East to West, we are expected to have the same issues, the same problems. That is not the case. I think some flexibility should be there to decide on what type of projects needs to be done as well as an improved system to control material.

Secondly, it is definitely depleting the labour force both from agriculture as well as from organized industry. I think, we have statistics to show that. In 2005, 26 crore people were employed in agriculture workforce. By 2010, it has come down to 24.5 crore; and by 2014 it has come down to 23.6 crore. So, there is definitely a reduction in the number of people in the agriculture work force.

While this is not necessarily a negative trend, definitely with the number of people that India has in the agriculture workforce, it does have to be a declining number. It has to be moving people from agriculture workforce into both industrial service sector and self-employment. But, at the same time, I think, we should see how the agriculture sector is going to survive. This reduction in workforce is something that needs to be looked at and planned, may be not by this Department but certainly by the Agriculture Department on how we are going to ensure faster pace of mechanization in the agriculture sector or any other steps that need to be taken. As agriculture becomes more expensive and less available, agriculture should not be made unviable, it has to be made viable. We need food for this country, as also does the world. So, how do we keep the agriculture sector viable while still providing this type of employment guarantee is something that needs to be looked at.

In industry also, I had given the example on another occasion about my own company. We had actually done walk-in interviews in Tirupati. For 2000 workman jobs, we received only 200 people walking in for those jobs. But for 200 engineering jobs, we received 2000 applications and 2000 people coming in. I believe, definitely the MGNREGA scheme also had an impact on that where people did not prefer to move into organized workforce in spite of giving minimum wages and all other facilities that are meant to be given to the workforce. They preferred not to go into that area because they had other options.

The third thing I would like to point out is this. If we look at the scheme, it is supposed to be an employment guarantee Act. But it is actually propagating unemployment and under-employment, if you ask me. You had 5.18 crore households participating in this scheme last year. Rs. 1.8 lakh crore has been spent since the beginning of this scheme. In any given year, between four crore and eight crore households are benefiting from this scheme. But, all the people who participate, are they being made employable? I do not think so.

If you look at the requirement for skilled workforce, by 2022 we need 3.3 crore people in the building and construction industry. We need 3.5 crore people in the auto and components industry. We need 10.3 crore people in the infrastructure industry. We need 1.3 crore people in healthcare and 1.8 crore people in transport and logistics. Just these industries alone amount to 20 crore skilled workforce that is required by 2020, which is not that far away. But this 4 to 8 crore households that are getting this benefit every year, how many of them are being trained to take up these jobs or have the opportunity of being skilled? I think that is a very low number if any at all. We need to see as to how we do actually start spending this money to skill people, not just employing them but making them employable in future. It is not just for Government work that may or may not be of any use to society but into the private sector, into the public sector or into various other sectors where they have skills and they will be employed to build value and wealth for the nation.

I think, the focus should be shifted. Rather than giving money for unemployment, which is what this Scheme is currently doing, it should be a bridge on how to move people from being unemployable to employable. The money should be diverted into skill development to ensure that this happen. A friend of mine talked about rights but I would also like to remind this House that along with rights every citizen also has responsibilities and being employable is definitely one of those responsibilities.

Thank you.

SHRI MEKAPATI RAJA MOHAN REDDY (NELLORE): Thank you, hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to speak on this important flagship programme, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act.

The MGNREGA, 2005 was notified on 7th September, 2005 and is operative in all districts of the country since 2008-09. The mandate of this Act is to provide 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Now, the MGNREGA covers the entire country with the exception of districts that have hundred per cent urban population.

This flagship Programme was started with a good intention to prevent migration of unskilled labourers going elsewhere in search of their livelihood. It started giving good results.

I can say very confidently that in Andhra Pradesh, when the late Dr. Y. S. Rajashekar Reddy was alive, the poverty percentage in Andhra Pradesh had been reduced. The poverty percentage has been reduced from 29.5 per cent in 2004 to 9.5 per cent in 2014 because of MGNREGA and other welfare schemes started by the late Dr. Rajashekar Reddy such as providing rice at Rs. 2 a kilogram, fee reimbursement, housing, free power, etc. That is why, it is a good programme. This programme should not be diluted.

There is a demand from many State Governments to cover agriculture and allied works under this programme. I would like to request the Government of India to consider this demand of these States and include agriculture and allied works under this programme.

I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government to a very urgent and necessary suggestion to be incorporated in the permissible works. Many States like Andhra Pradesh, Odisha are prone to heavy floods, cyclones and drought conditions every now and then. Such natural calamities cause heavy

losses to life, property, standing crops, roads, bridges and other infrastructure. I would appeal to the Government to bring re-building works, especially, in villages under the MGNREGA and the Government of India should bear hundred per cent cost in this regard. During the last eight years, around Rs. 1,80,000 crore have been paid as wages to the workers. The Budget provision under the MGNREGA in the current financial year 2014-15 is Rs. 34,000 crore.

As per reports, 54 per cent MGNREGA workers are women and close to 40 per cent are SCs and STs. Also, 90 per cent of the beneficiaries are either casual labourers or small and marginal farmers.

Actually, many developmental works and some permanent assets also have been created in Andhra Pradesh.

Considerable dry lands of the poor people have been brought under cultivation.

Horticulture plantations were implemented in CJF lands of SC, ST families, working in their own lands and planting horticulture plants by getting wage payments under MGNREGA, and thereby creating assets. As a result, the agricultural labourers have become farmers.

Almost in all upland areas, migration has been curtailed to a considerable level. The bargaining capacity of wage seeker has increased to the optimum level by providing maximum equal wage and thereby getting sustainable livelihood. The field channel and feeder channel works taken up under MGNREGA are providing support to the farmers with an enhanced yield of crops. The ground water table is enhanced by taking up of water harvesting structures such as percolation tanks, mini percolation tanks, check dams, irrigation tanks, dugout ponds, de-silting of percolation tanks, etc. Rural connectivity is a major development in every nook and corner of the village with the work taken up under MGNREGA such as earthen roads and gravel roads. The works under MGNREGA relating to levelling of low lying areas prevent the water stagnation and thereby providing healthy atmosphere to the rural people. By constructing

IHHL, the sanitation and hygienic conditions of the rural poor have been increased. Digging of dumping yards under MGNREGA is also a major achievement to improve the sanitation measures in the rural areas.

In view of the above, MGNREGA Scheme is very much essential for providing job securities and thus food security to the rural poor. MGNREGA provides minimum livelihood to the poorest of the poor and also to curtail migration in rural areas.

There is an apprehension among the rural people that this Programme may be diluted. I would urge upon the Government to clear this doubt. The Government should continue this Programme and monitor well to create permanent assets in the villages. There are also reports that MGNREGA funds are being diverted to other purposes and also misused by unsocial elements in connivance with the implementing agencies by misusing the genuine cardholders. The Government should ensure to check all such irregularities for smooth functioning of this Scheme.

Thank you very much.

श्री प्रहलाद सिंह पटेल (दमोह): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, जो चर्चा सदन में शुरू हुई है, अच्छा होता कि इस चर्चा में यह तय होता कि मनरेगा होना चाहिए या नहीं होना चाहिए तो शायद ज्यादा स्वतंत्र, निष्पक्ष और सार्थक बहस होती। मैं अखबारों की कटिंग देख रहा था कि नवंबर में दो बार खुद भारत सरकार के मंत्री ने कहा है कि मनरेगा पर ऐसा कोई संकट नहीं है तो यह बहस किस दिशा में जा रही है, इस पर मुझे आश्चर्य होता है। 5 सितंबर, 2005, मैं जानबूझकर यह आंकड़ा बोल रहा हूँ, इस दिन मनरेगा की घोषणा हुई थी। 2 फरवरी 2006 में दो सौ जिलों से यह योजना प्रारंभ हुई। 1 अप्रैल 2007 को फिर से इसमें 113 जिलों को जोड़ा गया। 15 मई 2007 को फिर 17 जिलों में विस्तार हुआ। 1 अप्रैल 2008 में सभी जिले और 646 ब्लॉक्स में यह योजना शुरू हो गई। आठ वर्षों में भारत सरकार ने 1 लाख 63 हजार 675 करोड़ रूपया टोटल खर्च किया है। 1657 करोड़ इसमें श्रम दिवस बने। पांच करोड़ परिवार इसमें शामिल हुए। एससी, एसटी मज़दूरों की जो हिस्सेदारी है वह 48 प्रतिशत है। जो महिलाओं की हिस्सेदारी है, उस पर भी किसी को कोई आश्चर्य नहीं है। मैं मध्य प्रदेश से आता हूँ। नियम था कि 33 फीसदी महिलाओं को काम मिलना चाहिए, मध्य प्रदेश में 43 फीसदी को मिला, जो कि 10 प्रतिशत ज्यादा है। जहां तक एससी मज़दूरों का सवाल है, 14 प्रतिशत राष्ट्रीय औसत है, मध्य प्रदेश में 28 प्रतिशत को काम मिला है। ऐसे ही जॉब कार्ड के बारे में भी हो सकता है। आंकड़ों को बताया जा सकता है, इसमें कोई दो मत नहीं है। लेकिन जरूरी यह है कि वास्तव में मनरेगा को चलना चाहिए या नहीं चलना चाहिए। सरकार पर आरोप लग रहा है, लेकिन सरकार ने तो अपनी बात कह दी है। इस देश में 13 करोड़ 19 लाख जॉब कार्ड हैं। लेकिन कुल मिला कर जो आंकड़ा सरकार का है, जो रिपोर्ट आई है, उसमें 6 करोड़ 58 लाख कुल जॉब कार्ड ही सक्रिय रहे हैं, यानि यह संख्या आधे से भी कम है। मुझे लगता है कि जिनके पास भी यह पैसा गया है, जिन राज्य सरकारों के पास पैसा गया है, क्या उसका मूल्याँकन नहीं होना चाहिए?

देश में जितनी भी रिपोर्ट्स आई हैं, उनमें यह आँकड़ा बड़ा साफ है कि मनरेगा का पैसा तो गया, लेकिन उससे रोजगार सृजित हुए या नहीं सृजित हुए। जो पैमाने रखे गए, अगर हमें सौ दिन का एक मजदूर को जॉब देना है, क्या वास्तव में किसी भी राज्य सरकार ने उस आंकड़े को प्राप्त किया है? यह सबसे अहम सवाल है। मुझे लगता है कि जो अधिसूचना भारत सरकार ने 21.07.2014 को जारी की है, उस अधिसूचना को मुद्दा बनाकर जिस प्रकार की बहस देश के सामने छेड़ने की कोशिश है, मुझे लगता है कि यह पूरी तरह से राजनीतिक बहस है। इसलिए मैंने शुरूआत इसी बात से की थी कि यह ज्यादा अच्छी बहस होती कि देश की इतनी बड़ी राशि मनरेगा के नाम पर सामने आयी। उसके क्या परिणाम निकले, क्या

हमने लक्ष्य की प्राप्ति की है, तो मुझे लगता है कि यह ज्यादा सार्थक और निष्पक्ष बहस होती। लेकिन आरोप के आधार पर कहना, क्योंकि अगर भारत सरकार के मंत्री ने बयान दिया तो फिर उसके बाद बहस नहीं होनी चाहिए थी। लेकिन जो सबसे बड़ा कंपोनेंट था कि साठ प्रतिशत मजदूरों को मजदूरी जाएगी और चालीस प्रतिशत दूसरी जगह पर काम होगा, आँकड़ा कहता है, रिपोर्ट कहती है कि 77 फीसदी ऐसे अप्रशिक्षित मजदूरों को यह पैसा बाँट दिया गया, जिससे न तो कोई रोजगार सृजित हुआ, न कोई असेट तैयार हुआ, तो आखिर इस पैसे का दुरूपयोग ही तो हुआ है। अगर बाकी रिपोर्टों में हम इसमें देखें कि वास्तव में प्रति व्यक्ति औसत मजदूरी क्या है तो मेघालय में सबसे कम 153 रूपए मिलते हैं और हरियाणा में सर्वाधिक 236 रूपए मजदूरी है। लेकिन औसत मजदूरी की जो रिपोर्ट भारत सरकार की है, यह इस सरकार की रिपोर्ट नहीं है, यह पिछली रिपोर्ट है, उसमें 132 रूपए प्रति व्यक्ति से ज्यादा औसत मजदूरी नहीं है। इसके कारण बड़े साफ हैं, मैं ग्रामीण क्षेत्र से आता हूँ। क्या वास्तव में मजदूर काम करता है, क्या उसको मजदूरी महीने, दो महीने, तीन महीने में मिल जाती है? उसे समय पर मजदूरी नहीं मिलती है। यह सच्चाई है कि क्रियान्वयन का जो पक्ष है, वह राज्य सरकार का पक्ष है। अगर आप वहाँ विफल हैं, तो वकालत करते समय अपनी राज्य सरकार के तथ्य को रखिए। पश्चिम बंगाल के बंधु अभी यहाँ उपस्थित नहीं हैं। आँकड़े कहने में तो आपको बहुत सुविधा होगी, लेकिन जो जमीनी सच्चाई है, वह बिल्कुल भिन्न है। इस नाते जो औसत आँकड़ा है, वह मेघालय से भी कम है। जो सबसे कम, जो न्यूनतम मजदूरी है, उसे कम मजदूरी मनरेगा का मजदूर लेता है, यह रिपोर्ट ऐसा कह रही है।

मैं एक और बात कहना चाहता हूँ कि जब आप वर्ष 2013-14 की बात करते हैं, जो अधिसूचना सरकार लेकर आयी है। उन्होंने कहा कि जल-संरक्षण है, एस.सी., एस.टी. पर है, बाकी सिंचाई का पक्ष है, ग्रामीण सड़कें हैं, भूमि विकास के लिए काम करने की बात है। अगर सरकार यह कह रही हैं कि इस पैसे का उपयोग कृषि क्षेत्र में होना चाहिए तो इसमें बुराई क्या है? एक और आँकड़ा है, जो बहुत गंभीर आँकड़ा है, जिसका जिक्र हमारे मित्र कर रहे थे कि जो वैकल्पिक रोजगार है, इसके बाद जो मिलना चाहिए था, आठ साल में लाखों-करोड़ रूपए खर्च करने के बाद भी वैकल्पिक रोजगार मध्य प्रदेश में 2 प्रतिशत है, आन्ध्र प्रदेश में 6 प्रतिशत है, राजस्थान में 14 प्रतिशत है। इसका मतलब है कि इतनी लम्बी मजदूरी के बावजूद भी, इतने सारे अवसर प्रदान करने के बाद भी आप कुशल मजदूर पैदा नहीं कर सके। वे वैकल्पिक रूप से दूसरी मजदूरी की तरफ प्रवृत्त नहीं हुए। क्या इस आंकड़े को नजरंदाज किया जाना चाहिए?

क्रियान्वयन की जो किमयाँ हैं, जो भारत सरकार ने अपनी रिपोर्ट में रखी हैं, जो जानकारी और जनभागीदारी की बात इस योजना के पीछे थी, जो गाँधी जी का विचार है, जो दीनदयाल जी का विचार है, जो लोहिया जी का विचार है, सरकार धन दे, लेकिन उसमें जनभागीदारी कितनी है। जितनी भी रिपोर्ट्स

आयी हैं, चाहे वह राज्य की रिपोर्ट हो, चाहे केन्द्र की रिपोर्ट हो, वह रिपोर्ट आपके रहते आई है। उसमें साफ है कि एक तो जानकारी का बेहद अभाव है और जनभागीदारी की भीषण कमी है।

दूसरी बात, इसमें कार्यकर्ता, जो काम करने वाले लोग हैं, मजदूरों के अलावा जिनको यह काम कराना है, उन किमयों की इतनी कमी थी, जिसके मूल्याँकन को कभी किया नहीं जा सकता। तीसरी बात थी कि परिसंपत्तियों का निर्माण होगा, उसकी गुणवत्ता, उसका टिकाऊपन, उसकी उपयोगिता, उसके बारे में कहीं पर भी कुछ नहीं है। मैं जो आँकड़ा देखा रहा था, उसमें अधूरे काम दस लाख से ज्यादा हैं। कुल सोलह लाख उसमें पूरे हुए हैं और दस लाख अभी हुए नहीं हैं, वे ऑनगोइंग के नाम पर हैं। जो काम चल रहे हैं, उनकी संख्या मैं नहीं बता रहा हूँ। मुझे लगता है कि यह जो परिस्थिति है, इसके जिम्मेदार कौन हैं? मजदूरी के विलम्ब के बारे में मैंने पहले भी कहा था। यह विलम्ब अगर हुआ है तो आज भी सात-सात महीन से गाँव में मजदूरों को मजदूरी नहीं मिली है। अब आप कहेंगे कि क्या यह भारत सरकार का गुनाह है, पैसा तो पहले से आपके पास है, आपके पास एक्सेस मनी रही है, लेकिन अगर भुगतान नहीं हुआ है तो यह किस तन्त्र की कमी है? यह रिपोर्ट ने भी कहा है। जहाँ तक गलत आयोजना और निधियों की बात है, इसी बात पर सारे सदन को बहस करनी चाहिए कि जो राशि है, उसकी निधियों का हम किस प्रकार से मूल्यांकन करें, कोई प्लान हमारे पास है या नहीं है, इसकी चर्चा होनी चाहिए।

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Just a minute please. The discussion will continue tomorrow.

The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 16th December, 2014 at 11 a.m.

18.00 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, December 16, 2014/Agrahayana 25, 1936 (Saka).

