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(Seventeenth Lok Sabha)



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C O N T E N T S

**Seventeenth Series, Vol. XXI, Tenth Session, 2022/1944 (Saka)
No. 1, Wednesday, December 07, 2022/ Agrahayana 16, 1944 (Saka)**

<u>S U B J E C T</u>	<u>P A G E S</u>
ALPHABETICAL LIST OF MEMBERS OF SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA	8-31
OFFICERS OF LOK SABHA	32
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS	33-42
OBITUARY REFERENCES	44-46
ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	
Starred Question Nos. 1 to 20	47-119
Unstarred Question Nos. 1 to 230	120-695

FELICITATION BY THE SPEAKER

Congratulations to the Union Government and all
 countrymen on India's assuming G-20 Presidency 696-697

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE 698-706**STANDING COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY**

318th Report 707

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS 708, 798-806

- (i) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 360th Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment, Forests and Climate Change on Demands for Grants (2022- 2023) pertaining to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Ministry of Science and Technology
- Dr. Jitendra Singh** 708

- (ii) Latest Developments in India's Foreign Policy
- Shrimati Meenakashi Lekhi** 798-806

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

Tobacco Board 709

SUBMISSION BY MEMBER

Re: Alleged Auction of 4 Coal Blocks in Telangana 737-739

**MULTI-STATE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022**

744-756

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

757-784

- (i) Regarding allocation of funds under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)

Shri Gaurav Gogoi

757-758

- (ii) Need to include and develop places of religious importance in Rajgarh Parliamentary Constituency under the PRASAD Scheme

Shri Rodmal Nagar

758

- (iii) Regarding release of pending dues to West Bengal under MGNREGA

Prof. Sougata Ray

759

- (iv) Need to rename "High Court of Bombay" as 'Maharashtra High Court'

Shri Gopal Shetty

760

- (v) Regarding release of insurance claim on crop cutting basis under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana to farmers in Hanumangarh district of the Churu Parliamentary Constituency, Rajasthan

Shri Rahul Kaswan

761

- (vi) Need to run a MEMU passenger train between Sitapur and Lucknow

Shri Rajesh Verma

762

- (vii) Need to sanction construction of a National Highway from Satna to Prayagraj linking backward areas of two states

Shri Ganesh Singh

763

- (viii) Regarding expediting constructions in the Malda Airport
Shri Khagen Murmu 764
- (ix) Regarding setting up an additional Kirshi Vigyan Kendra in Bhind district, Madhya Pradesh
Shrimati Sandhya Ray 765
- (x) Regarding development of infrastructure for differently-abled people at Kumbhalgarh and Ranthambore Fort
Sushri Diya Kumari 766
- (xi) Regarding release of installment under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana in Western Odisha
Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari Singh Deo 767
- (xii) Need to provide adequate compensation to banana cultivators in Jalgaon district, Maharashtra who suffered loss
Shrimati Raksha Nikhil Khadse 768
- (xiii) Need to regulate unauthorized loan applications on Cyber platforms
Shri Sumedhanand Saraswati 769
- (xiv) Need to rejuvenate Mula Mutha river in Maharashtra under 'Namami Chandrabhaga' Project
Shri Ranjeetsinha Hindurao Naik Nimbalkar 770
- (xv) Regarding allocation of adequate land for Air Cargo Complex at Udaipur Airport
Shri Arjunlal Meena 771

(xvi)	Regarding direct rail connectivity between Hisar and Chandigarh	Shri Brijendra Singh	772
(xvii)	Regarding Draft proposal of IRDAI for LIC	Shri Rajmohan Unnithan	773
(xviii)	Regarding establishment of a research institute for temple arts in Thrissur	Shri T. N. Prathapan	774
(xix)	Regarding speeding up of the completion of NH 79 road connecting Salem and Ulundurpettai	Dr. Pon Gautham Sigamani	775
(xx)	Regarding implementation of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act	Shri Raghu Rama Krishna Raju	776
(xxi)	Need to take measures for welfare of fishermen and their families in the country	Shri Vinayak Bhaurao Raut	777
(xxii)	Need to declare Anugraha Narayan Road-Siris-Charan-Manjhiaon stretch of road as National Highway	Shri Mahabali Singh	778
(xxiii)	Regarding establishment of a Medical college in Dhenkanal district, Odisha	Shri Mahesh Sahoo	779

(xxiv)	Regarding fertilizer shortage in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar	
	Shri Shyam Singh Yadav	780
(xxv)	Need to change Export Policy	
	Shri Manne Srinivas Reddy	781
(xxvi)	Need to take concrete steps to avert frequently occurring accidents on Navale Bridge, Narhe, Pune	
	Shrimati Supriya Sadanand Sule	782
(xxvii)	Regarding completion of Kozhikode Airport in Kerala	
	Dr. M. P. Abdussamad Samadani	783
(xxviii)	Need to include treatment of autism and cerebral palsy in the CGHS list	
	Shri Subrat Pathak	784
	ANTI-MARITIME PIRACY BILL, 2019	808-866
	Motion to Consider	808, 815-816
	Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar	808-821
	Shri Manish Tewari	810-816
	Shri P. P. Chaudhary	821-830
	Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab	830-834
	Dr. T. Sumathy (A) Thamizhachi Thangapandian	834-839
	Shri N. Reddeppa	839-841
	Shri Vinayak Bhaurao Raut	841-843
	Shri Kalyan Banerjee	843-847

Dr. Alok Kumar Suman	847-849
Kunwar Danish Ali	849-852
Shrimati Supriya Sadanand Sule	853-857
Shri E. T. Mohammed Basheer	857-859
Shri N.K. Premachandran	859-863
Shri Kodikunnil Suresh	863-866

* <u>ANNEXURE – I</u>	818-825
Member-wise Index to Starred Questions	818
Member-wise Index to Unstarred Questions	819-825
* <u>ANNEXURE – II</u>	826-827
Ministry-wise Index to Starred Questions	826
Ministry-wise Index to Unstarred Questions	827

* Available in Master copy of Debate, placed in Library.

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Raja, Shri A. (Nilgiris)
Rajenimbalkar, Shri Om Pavan (Osmanabad)

Rajoria, Dr. Manoj (Karauli–Dholpur)
Rajput, Shri Mukesh (Farrukhabad)
Raju, Shri Raghu Rama Krishna (Narsapuram)
Ram, Shri Vishnu Dayal (Palamu)
Ramalingam, Shri S. (Mayiladuthurai)
Ramesh, Shri T. R. V. S. (Cuddalore)
Rana, Shrimati Navneet Ravi (Amravati)
Rangaiah, Dr. Talari (Anantapur)
Ranjan, Dr. R. K. (Inner Manipur)
Rao , Shri Nama Nageswara (Khammam)
Rao, Shri Soyam Bapu (Adilabad)
Rathod , Shri Dipsinh Shankarsinh (Sabarkantha)
Rathod, Shri Ratansinh Magansinh (Panchmahal)
Rathore, Col. (Retd) Rajyavardhan (Jaipur Rural)
Rathva, Shrimati Gitaben V.(Chhota Udaipur)
Raut, Shri Vinayak Bhaurao (Ratnagiri–Sindhudurg)
Ravikumar, Dr. D. (Viluppuram)
Ravindhranath, Shri P. (Theni)
Rawat, Shri Ashok Kumar (Misrikh)
Rawat, Shri Tirath Singh (Garhwal)
Rawat, Shri Upendra Singh (Barabanki)
Ray, Prof. Sougata (Dum Dum)
Ray, Shrimati Sandhya (Bhind)

Reddeppa, Shri N. (Chittoor)

Reddy , Shri Manne Srinivas (Mahbubnagar)

Reddy, Dr. G. Ranjith (Chevella)

Reddy, Shri Adala Prabhakara (Nellore)

Reddy, Shri Anumula Revanth (Malkajgiri)

Reddy, Shri G. Kishan (Secunderabad)

Reddy, Shri Komati Reddy Venkat (Bhongir)

Reddy, Shri Kotha Prabhakar (Medak)

Reddy, Shri Magunta Sreenivasulu (Ongole)

Reddy, Shri P.V. Midhun (Rajampet)

Reddy, Shri Pocha Brahmananda (Nandyal)

Reddy, Shri Uttam Kumar (Nalgonda)

Reddy, Shri Y. S. Avinash (Kadapa)

Rehman, Shri Haji Fazlur (Saharanpur)

Revanna, Shri Prajwal (Hassan)

Rijiju, Shri Kiren (Arunachal West)

Roy (Banerjee), Shrimati Satabdi (Birbhum)

Roy, Dr. Jayanta Kumar (Jalpaiguri)

Roy, Dr. Rajdeep (Silchar)

Roy, Shrimati Mala (Kolkata Dakshin)

Rudy , Shri Rajiv Pratap (Saran)

Sadique, Shri Mohammad (Faridkot)

Sagar, Shri Arun Kumar (Shahjahanpur)

Sahoo, Shri Mahesh (Dhenkanal)

Sahu , Shri Chunnilal (Mahasamund)

Sahu, Shri Chandra Sekhar (Berhampur)

Sai, Shrimati Gomati (Raigarh)

Saikia, Shri Dilip (Mangaldoi)

Saini, Shri Nayab Singh (Kurukshetra)

Samadani, Dr. M. P. Abdussamad (Malappuram)

Samanta, Prof. Achyutananda (Kandhamal)

Sangma, Kumari Agatha K. (Tura)

Sao, Shri Arun (Bilaspur)

Sarangi, Shri Pratap Chandra (Balasore)

Sarangi, Shrimati Aparajita (Bhubaneswar)

Sarania, Shri Naba Kumar (Kokrajhar)

Saraswati, Shri Sumedhanand (Sikar)

Sardinha , Shri Francisco (South Goa)

Sarkar, Dr. Subhas (Bankura)

Sarkar, Shri Jagannath (Ranaghat)

Saruta, Shrimati Renuka Singh (Surguja)

Satyanarayana, Shri M. V. V. (Visakhapatnam)

Satyavathi, Dr. Beesetti Venkata (Anakapalle)

Sawant, Shri Arvind (Mumbai South)

Selvam, Shri G. (Kancheepuram)

Selvaraj, Shri M. (Nagapattinam)

Senthilkumar S., Dr. DNV (Dharmapuri)
Seth, Shri Sanjay (Ranchi)
Sethi, Shrimati Sarmistha (Jajpur)
Shah, Shri Amit (Gandhinagar)
Shah, Shrimati Mala Rajya Laxmi (Tehri Garhwal)
Shanmuga Sundaram, Shri K. (Pollachi)
Sharma, Dr. Arvind Kumar (Rohtak)
Sharma, Dr. Mahesh (Gautam Buddha Nagar)
Sharma, Shri Anurag (Jhansi)
Sharma, Shri Jugal Kishore (Jammu)
Sharma, Shri Kuldeep Rai (Andaman & Nicobar Islands)
Sharma, Shri Vishnu Datt (Khajuraho)
Shejwalkar, Shri Vivek Narayan (Gwalior)
Shekhawat, Shri Gajendra Singh (Jodhpur)
Shetty, Shri Gopal (Mumbai North)
Shewale, Shri Rahul Ramesh (Mumbai South-Central)
Shinde, Dr. Shrikant Eknath (Kalyan)
Shrangare, Shri Sudhakar Tukaram (Latur)
Shyal, Dr. Bharatiben D. (Bhavnagar)
Siddeshwar, Shri G.M. (Davanagere)
Sigamani, Dr. Pon Gautham (Kallakurichi)
Sigriwal, Shri Janardan Singh (Maharajganj)
Simha, Shri Prathap (Mysore)

Singari, Dr. Sanjeev Kumar (Kurnool)
Singh 'Lalan', Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Munghyr)
Singh (Raju Bhaiya), Shri Rajveer (Etah)
Singh Deo, Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari (Bolangir)
Singh, Dr. Amar (Fatehgarh Sahib)
Singh, Dr. Jitendra (Udhampur)
Singh, Dr. Satya Pal (Baghpat)
Singh, Gen. (Retd.) Dr. V. K. (Ghaziabad)
Singh, Rao Inderjit (Gurgaon)
Singh, Shri Arjun (Barrackpur)
Singh, Shri Atul Kumar *alias* Atul Rai (Ghosi)
Singh, Shri Bhola (Bulandshahr)
Singh, Shri Brijbhushan Sharan (Kaiserganj)
Singh, Shri Brijendra (Hisar)
Singh, Shri Chandan (Nawada)
Singh, Shri Dharambir (Bhiwani-Mahendragarh)
Singh, Shri Dushyant (Jhalawar-Baran)
Singh, Shri Ganesh (Satna)
Singh, Shri Giriraj (Begusarai)
Singh, Shri Kirti Vardhan (Gonda)
Singh, Shri Lallu (Faizabad)
Singh, Shri Mahabali (Karakat)
Singh, Shri Pashupati Nath (Dhanbad)

Singh, Shri Pradeep Kumar (Araria)
Singh, Shri R. K. (Arrah)
Singh, Shri Radha Mohan (Purvi Champaran)
Singh, Shri Raj Nath (Lucknow)
Singh, Shri Rajbahadur (Sagar)
Singh, Shri Rakesh (Jabalpur)
Singh, Shri Ravneet (Ludhiana)
Singh, Shri Sunil Kumar (Chatra)
Singh, Shri Sushil Kumar (Aurangabad)
Singh, Shri Uday Pratap (Hoshangabad)
Singh, Shri Virendra (Ballia)
Singh, Shrimati Himadri (Shahdol)
Singh, Shrimati Kavita (Siwan)
Singh, Shrimati Pratibha (Mandi)
Sinha, Shri Jayant (Hazaribagh)
Sinha, Shri Shatrughan (Asansol)
Solanki, Dr. (Prof.) Kirit Premjibhai (Ahmedabad West)
Solanky, Shri Mahendra Singh (Dewas)
Soni, Shri Sunil Kumar (Raipur)
Sonkar, Shri Vinod Kumar (Kaushambi)
Soren, Shri Sunil (Dumka)
Sreekandan, Shri V. K. (Palakkad)
Srinivas, Shri Kesineni (Vijayawada)

Subba, Shri Indra Hang (Sikkim)
Subbarayan, Shri K. (Tiruppur)
Sudhakaran , Shri K. (Kannur)
Sule, Shrimati Supriya Sadanand (Baramati)
Suman, Dr. Alok Kumar (Gopalganj)
Suresh, Shri D.K. (Bangalore Rural)
Suresh, Shri Kodikunnil (Mavelikkara)
Suresh, Shri Nandigam (Bapatla)
Surya, Shri Tejasvi (Bangalore South)
Swamiji, Dr. Jai Sidheshwar Shivacharya (Solapur)
Swamy, Shri A. Narayana (Chitradurga)
Tadas, Shri Ramdas (Wardha)
Tamta, Shri Ajay (Almora)
Tatkare, Shri Sunil Dattatray (Raigad)
Teli, Shri Rameshwar (Dibrugarh)
Teni, Shri Ajay Misra (Kheri)
Tewari, Shri Manish (Anandpur Sahib)
Thakur, Shri Gopal Jee (Darbhanga)
Thakur, Sadhvi Pragya Singh (Bhopal)
Thakur, Shri Anurag Singh (Hamirpur)
Thakur, Shri Shantanu (Bangaon)
Thangapandian, Dr. T. Sumathy (A)Thamizhachi (Chennai South)
Tharoor, Dr. Shashi (Thiruvananthapuram)

Thirumaavalavan, Dr. Thol (Chidambaram)
Thirunavukkarasar, Shri Su. (Tiruchirappalli)
Tiwari, Shri Manoj (North East Delhi)
Tomar, Shri Narendra Singh (Morena)
Tripathi, Dr. Ramapati Ram (Deoria)
Tripura, Shri Rebati (Tripura East)
Tudu, Er. Bishweswar (Mayurbhanj)
Tumane, Shri Krupal Balaji (Ramtek)
Udasi, Shri S. C. (Haveri)
Uikey, Shri Durga Das (Betul)
Ulaka, Shri Saptagiri Sankar (Koraput)
Unnithan, Shri Rajmohan (Kasaragod)
Vaithilingam, Shri Ve. (Puducherry)
Vallabhaneni, Shri Balashowry (Machilipatnam)
Vardhan, Dr. Harsh (Chandni Chowk)
Vasava , Shri Mansukhbhai Dhanjibhai (Bharuch)
Vasava, Shri Parbhubhai Nagarbhai (Bardoli)
Veeraswamy, Dr. Kalanidhi (Chennai North)
Velusamy, Shri P. (Dindigul)
Venkatesan, Shri S. (Madurai)
Verma, Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh (Jalaun)
Verma, Shri Parvesh Sahib Singh (West Delhi)
Verma, Shri Rajesh (Sitapur)

Verma, Shri Ramshiromani (Shrawasti)

Verma, Shrimati Rekha Arun (Dhaurahra)

Vichare, Shri Rajan Baburao (Thane)

Vijaykumar *alias* Vijay Vasanth , Shri (Kanyakumari)

Vikhe Patil, Dr. Sujay (Ahmednagar)

Vishnu Prasad, Dr. M. K. (Arani)

Yadav, Shri Ashok Kumar (Madhubani)

Yadav, Shri Dinesh Chandra (Madhepura)

Yadav 'Nirahua', Shri Dinesh Lal (Azamgarh)

Yadav, Shri Giridhari (Banka)

Yadav, Shri Krishnapalsingh (Guna)

Yadav, Shri Ram Kripal (Patliputra)

Yadav, Shri Shyam Singh (Jaunpur)

Yepthomi, Shri Tokheho (Nagaland)

OFFICERS OF LOK SABHA

THE SPEAKER

Shri Om Birla

PANEL OF CHAIRPERSONS

Shrimati Rama Devi

Dr. (Prof.) Kirit Premjibhai Solanki

Shri Rajendra Agrawal

Shri Kodikunnil Suresh

Shri A. Raja

Shri P.V. Midhun Reddy

Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab

Shri N.K. Premachandran

Dr. Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar

SECRETARY GENERAL

Shri Utpal Kumar Singh

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**CABINET MINISTERS**

Shri Narendra Modi	The Prime Minister and also in-charge of: (i) Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; (ii) Department of Atomic Energy; (iii) Department of Space and All important Policy issues and all other portfolios not allocated to any Minister.
Shri Raj Nath Singh	The Minister of Defence
Shri Amit Shah	The Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Cooperation
Shri Nitin Jairam Gadkari	The Minister of Road Transport and Highways
Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman	The Minister of Finance and Minister of Corporate Affairs
Shri Narendra Singh Tomar	The Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar	The Minister of External Affairs
Shri Arjun Munda	The Minister of Tribal Affairs
Shrimati Smriti Zubin Irani	The Minister of Women and Child Development and Minister of Minority Affairs

Shri Piyush Goyal	The Minister of Commerce and Industry; Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Minister of Textiles
Shri Dharmendra Pradhan	The Minister of Education and Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
Shri Pralhad Joshi	The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs; Minister of Coal and Minister of Mines
Shri Narayan Rane	The Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
Shri Sarbananda Sonowal	The Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways and Minister of AYUSH
Dr. Virendra Kumar	The Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment
Shri Giriraj Singh	The Minister of Rural Development and Minister of Panchayati Raj
Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia	The Minister of Civil Aviation and Minister of Steel
Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw	The Minister of Railways; Minister of Communications and Minister of Electronics and Information Technology

Shri Pashupati Kumar Paras	The Minister of Food Processing Industries
Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat	The Minister of Jal Shakti
Shri Kiren Rijiju	The Minister of Law and Justice
Shri R. K. Singh	The Minister of Power and Minister of New and Renewable Energy
Shri Hardeep Singh Puri	The Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs
Shri Mansukh Mandaviya	The Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers
Shri Bhupender Yadav	The Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Minister of Labour and Employment
Dr. Mahendra Nath Pandey	The Minister of Heavy Industries
Shri Parshottam Rupala	The Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
Shri G. Kishan Reddy	The Minister of Culture; Minister of Tourism and Minister of Development of North Eastern Region
Shri Anurag Singh Thakur	The Minister of Information and Broadcasting and Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports

MINISTERS OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

Rao Inderjit Singh

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation; Minister of State of the Ministry of Planning and Minister of State in the Ministry of Corporate Affairs

Dr. Jitendra Singh

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Science and Technology; Minister of State of the Ministry of Earth Sciences; Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office; Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Minister of State in the Department of Atomic Energy and Minister of State in the Department of Space

MINISTERS OF STATE

Shri Shripad Yesso Naik	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways and Minister of State in the Ministry of Tourism
Shri Faggansingh Kulaste	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Steel and Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development
Shri Prahalad Singh Patel	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Jal Shakti and Minister of State in the Ministry of Food Processing Industries
Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Minister of State in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Ministry of Culture
Gen. (Retd.) Dr. V.K. Singh	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways and Minister of State in the Ministry of Civil Aviation
Shri Krishan Pal	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power and Minister of State in the Ministry of Heavy Industries

Shri Danve Raosaheb Dadarao	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways; Minister of State in the Ministry of Coal and Minister of State in the Ministry of Mines
Shri Ramdas Athawale	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development
Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
Shri Nityanand Rai	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs
Shri Pankaj Chaudhary	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance
Shrimati Anupriya Patel	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Prof. S.P.Singh Baghel	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Law and Justice
Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Minister of State in the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

Kumari Shobha Karandlaje	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
Shrimati Darshna Vikaram Jardosh	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Textiles and Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways
Shri V. Muraleedharan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs
Shrimati Meenakashi Lekhi	The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs and Minister of State in the Ministry of Culture
Shri Som Parkash	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Shrimati Renuka Singh Saruta	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs
Shri Rameshwar Teli	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Minister of State in the Ministry of Labour and Employment
Shri Kailash Choudhary	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
Shrimati Annpurna Devi	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education

Shri A. Narayanaswamy	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Shri Kaushal Kishore	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Adv. Ajay Bhatt	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence and Minister of State in the Ministry of Tourism
Shri B.L. Verma	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region and Minister of State in the Ministry of Cooperation
Shri Ajay Misra Teni	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs
Shri Devusinh Chauhan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Communications
Shri Bhagwanth Khuba	The Minister of State in the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
Shri Kapil Moreshwar Patil	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Panchayati Raj
Kumari Pratima Bhounik	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Dr. Subhas Sarkar	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education
Dr. Bhagwat Karad	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance
Dr. R.K. Ranjan Singh	The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs and Minister of State in the Ministry of Education
Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Er. Bishweswar Tudu	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Minister of State in the Ministry of Jal Shakti
Shri Shantanu Thakur	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
Dr.(Prof.) Mahendra Munjapara	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Women and Child Development and Minister of State in the Ministry of AYUSH
Shri John Barla	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Minority Affairs
Dr. L. Murugan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying and Minister of State in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

Shri Nisith Pramanik

The Minister of State in the Ministry
of Home Affairs and Minister of State
in the Ministry of Youth Affairs and
Sports

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Vol. XXI First day of the Tenth Session of the Seventeenth Lok Sabha No. 1

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, December 07, 2022/ Agrahayana 16, 1944 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[HON. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

NATIONAL ANTHEM

National Anthem was played.

11.01hrs

OBITURY REFERENCES

माननीय अध्यक्ष : माननीय सदस्यगण, अत्यंत दुःख के साथ मैं सभा को हमारे साथी श्री मुलायम सिंह यादव जी और आठ पूर्व साथियों के निधन के बारे में सूचित करना चाहता हूँ।

श्री मुलायम सिंह यादव उत्तर प्रदेश के मैनपुरी संसदीय निर्वाचन क्षेत्र से वर्तमान लोक सभा के सदस्य थे। श्री मुलायम सिंह यादव एक लोकप्रिय जन नेता एवं समाजवादी आंदोलन के अग्रणी प्रणेता थे। वे सात कार्यकालों के लिए संसद सदस्य रहे। वे उत्तर प्रदेश के मैनपुरी संसदीय निर्वाचन क्षेत्र से 11वीं, 14वीं और 15वीं लोक सभा, उत्तर प्रदेश के संभल संसदीय निर्वाचन क्षेत्र से 12वीं और 13वीं लोक सभा तथा उत्तर प्रदेश के आजमगढ़ संसदीय निर्वाचन क्षेत्र से 16वीं लोक सभा के सदस्य रहे।

लोक सभा के क्षेत्र में अपनी विशिष्ट पहचान रखने वाले श्री मुलायम सिंह जी तीन कार्यकालों तक उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्यमंत्री रहे। श्री मुलायम सिंह यादव ने केन्द्र में रक्षा मंत्री का दायित्व भी संभाला। वे कई संसदीय समितियों के सभापति एवं सदस्य रहे। श्री यादव उत्तर प्रदेश विधान परिषद एवं विधान सभा के सदस्य भी रहे तथा उन्होंने उत्तर प्रदेश विधान मंडल में प्रतिपक्ष के नेता पद पर भी कार्य किया। उनके सरल एवं स्वच्छ व्यक्तित्व के कारण उनकी लोकप्रियता सभी दलों में थी। एक अनुभवी राजनेता के रूप में इस सदन को सदैव उनका मार्गदर्शन प्राप्त होता रहा है। उनके निधन से देश ने एक लोकप्रिय, अनुभवी एवं कार्यकुशल राजनेता को खो दिया है। श्री मुलायम सिंह यादव का निधन 82 वर्ष की आयु में 10 अक्टूबर, 2022 को गुरुग्राम में हुआ।

श्री झड्डू सुंदर लाल तत्कालीन अविभाजित मध्य प्रदेश के बस्तर संसदीय निर्वाचन क्षेत्र से 14वीं लोक सभा के सदस्य थे। श्री झड्डू सुंदर लाल जी का निधन 82 वर्ष की आयु में 1 अगस्त, 2022 को कोण्डागांव, छत्तीसगढ़ में हुआ।

श्री देबी घोषाल पश्चिम बंगाल के बैरकपुर संसदीय निर्वाचन क्षेत्र से आठवीं लोक सभा के सदस्य थे। श्री देबी घोषाल का निधन 87 वर्ष की आयु में 5 अगस्त, 2022 को कोलकाता में हुआ।

श्री रूपचंद पाल पश्चिम विभिन्न संसदीय समितियों के सदस्य के रूप में भी कार्य किया। बंगाल के हुगली संसदीय निर्वाचन क्षेत्र से 7वीं, 9वीं, 10वीं, 11वीं 12वीं, 13वीं तथा 14वीं लोक सभा के सदस्य थे। श्री पाल प्राक्कलन समिति तथा सरकारी उपक्रम संबंधी समिति के सभापति रहे। उन्होंने विभिन्न संसदीय समितियों के सदस्य के रूप में भी कार्य किया।

श्री रूपचंद पाल का निधन 85 वर्ष की आयु में 16 अगस्त, 2022 को कोलकाता में हुआ।

श्री गोविन्द चन्द्र नस्कर पश्चिम बंगाल के बनगांव संसदीय निर्वाचन क्षेत्र से पन्द्रहवीं लोक सभा के सदस्य थे।

श्री नस्कर अनुसूचित जातियों तथा अनुसूचित जनजातियों के कल्याण संबंधी समिति के सभापति रहे। उन्होंने ग्रामीण विकास संबंधी समिति के सदस्य के रूप में भी कार्य किया।

श्री नस्कर ने चार कार्यकालों तक पश्चिम बंगाल विधान सभा के सदस्य के रूप में कार्य किया था और उन्होंने पश्चिम बंगाल सरकार में स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन; शिक्षा और सुंदर वन विकास मंत्री के रूप में भी कार्य किया।

श्री गोविन्द चन्द्र नस्कर का निधन 81 वर्ष की आयु में दिनांक 2 सितम्बर, 2022 को कोलकाता में हुआ।

श्री थान सिंह जाटव राजस्थान के तत्कालीन बयाना संसदीय निर्वाचन क्षेत्र से नौवीं लोक सभा के सदस्य थे।

श्री थान सिंह विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी संबंधी समिति के सदस्य थे।

श्री थान सिंह जाटव का निधन 88 वर्ष की आयु में 5 सितम्बर, 2022 को जयपुर में हुआ।

श्री माणिकराव एच. गावीत महाराष्ट्र के नंदुरबार संसदीय निर्वाचन क्षेत्र से सातवीं, आठवीं, नौवीं, दसवीं, ग्यारहवीं, बारहवीं, तेरहवीं, चौदहवीं तथा पंद्रहवीं लोक सभा के सदस्य थे।

श्री गावीत ने 15वीं लोक सभा में प्रोटेम स्पीकर के रूप में कार्य किया था और वे आचार समिति के सभापति भी रहे। वे कई संसदीय समितियों के सदस्य भी रहे।

श्री गावीत ने गृह मंत्रालय तथा सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय में केंद्रीय राज्य मंत्री के रूप में कार्य किया।

श्री गावीत ने महाराष्ट्र विधान सभा के सदस्य के रूप में भी अपनी सेवाएं दीं।

श्री माणिकराव एच. गावीत का निधन 87 वर्ष की आयु में 17 सितम्बर, 2022 को नासिक में हुआ।

श्रीमती जयंती पटनायक ओडिशा के कटक संसदीय निर्वाचन क्षेत्र से सातवीं और आठवीं लोक सभा तथा ओडिशा के बरहामपुर संसदीय निर्वाचन क्षेत्र से 12वीं लोक सभा की सदस्य थीं।

श्रीमती पटनायक प्राक्कलन समिति, मानव संसाधन विकास संबंधी समिति तथा शहरी और ग्रामीण विकास संबंधी समिति की सदस्य रहीं। वे 1996 से 1998 तक राज्य सभा की सदस्य भी रहीं।

श्रीमती जयंती पटनायक का निधन 90 वर्ष की आयु में 28 सितम्बर, 2022 को भुवनेश्वर में हुआ।

श्री जी. कृष्णा आंध्र प्रदेश के एलुरु संसदीय निर्वाचन क्षेत्र से नौवीं लोक सभा के सदस्य थे। वे एक लोकप्रिय अदाकार भी थे। “सुपरस्टार” के नाम से लोकप्रिय श्री जी. कृष्णा ने 5 दशकों में 350 से अधिक फिल्मों में अभिनय किया।

भारतीय सिनेमा में उनके योगदान के लिए उन्हें वर्ष 2009 में पद्म भूषण से सम्मानित किया गया।

श्री जी. कृष्णा का निधन 79 वर्ष की आयु में 15 नवम्बर, 2022 को हैदराबाद में हुआ।

हम श्री मुलायम सिंह यादव तथा अपने अन्य पूर्व साथियों के निधन पर गहरा शोक व्यक्त करते हैं और यह सभा शोक संतप्त परिवारों के प्रति अपनी गहन संवेदना व्यक्त करती है।

अब यह सभा दिवंगत आत्माओं के सम्मान में कुछ देर मौन रहेगी।

ओम् शांति शांति शांति।

11.08 hrs

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

***WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

(Starred Question Nos. 1 to 20
Unstarred Question Nos. 1 to 230)
(Page No. 47 to 695)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : सभा की कार्यवाही 12 बजे तक के लिए स्थगित की जाती है।

11.09 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Twelve of the Clock.

* Available in Master copy of Debate, placed in Library.

12.00 hrs

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

(Hon. Speaker in the Chair)

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : जब कुछ व्यवस्थाएं दें तो शांत रहें, उसके बाद सदन आपका है।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : सदन सबका है।

... (व्यवधान)

12.01 hrs**FELICITATION BY THE SPEAKER****CONGRATULATIONS TO THE UNION GOVERNMENT AND ALL
COUNTRYMEN ON INDIA'S ASSUMING G-20 PRESIDENCY**

माननीय अध्यक्ष : माननीय सदस्यगण, भारत ने दिनांक 1 दिसम्बर, 2022 से G-20 देशों के समूह के अध्यक्ष पद का भार ग्रहण किया है। आजादी के अमृत महोत्सव काल में यह महत्वपूर्ण वैश्विक दायित्व मिलना हमारे देश के लिए गर्व का विषय है। इस महान उपलब्धि के लिए मैं सदन की ओर से भारत सरकार एवं समस्त देशवासियों को बधाई देता हूँ।

मुझे विश्वास है कि वर्ष 2023 में आयोजित होने वाले G-20 राष्ट्राध्यक्षों के शिखर सम्मेलन के साथ-साथ G-20 देशों की संसदों के पीठासीन अधिकारियों के P-20 सम्मेलन निश्चित रूप से आजादी के बाद के हमारे राजनयिक इतिहास का एक महत्वपूर्ण अध्याय होगा।

वर्तमान परिप्रेक्ष्य में यह उचित ही है कि हमने इस सम्मेलन का विषय 'वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्' की हमारी पारम्परिक आस्था के अनुरूप 'एक पृथ्वी, एक परिवार, एक भविष्य' रखा है।

G-20 शिखर सम्मेलन से सम्बद्ध लगभग 200 कार्यक्रम पूरे देश में विभिन्न स्तरों पर आयोजित किए जाएंगे, जिनके माध्यम से हम अपनी समृद्ध बहुरंगी सांस्कृतिक विरासत और जीवंत लोकतंत्र की शक्ति को विश्व के समक्ष प्रस्तुत करेंगे।

मुझे विश्वास है कि G-20 और P-20 शिखर सम्मेलन आपके पूर्ण सहयोग से सफलतापूर्वक आयोजित होगा और भारत सम्पूर्ण विश्व में नेतृत्व की भूमिका निभाएगा।

मैं सदन से आग्रह करूंगा कि इस अवसर पर समस्त देशवासियों के साथ हमारे देश के सभी जनप्रतिनिधि चाहे वे लोक सभा, विधान सभा, पंचायतों के हों, सभी संस्थाएं इसे उत्सव के रूप में मनाएं और हमारा जो प्राचीनतम लोकतंत्र है, उसे देश और विश्व के सामने दिखाने का एक अच्छा अवसर है।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : माननीय सदस्यगण, मुझे कुछ विषयों पर स्थगन प्रस्ताव की सूचनाएं प्राप्त हुई हैं। मैंने स्थगन प्रस्ताव की किसी सूचना के लिए अनुमति प्रदान नहीं की है।

... (व्यवधान)

श्री अधीर रंजन चौधरी (बहरामपुर): अध्यक्ष जी, यह सरकार सदन के विपक्ष का अधिकार छीन रही है।... (व्यवधान)

12.04 hrs**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

माननीय अध्यक्ष : अब पत्र सभा पटल पर रखे जाएंगे।

आईटम नम्बर-3, डॉ. जितेन्द्र सिंह।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : अच्छी परम्परा यह है कि सभा पटल पर रखे जाने वाले पत्रों के बाद बोलिए।

इसके बाद सभी सदस्यों के माइक शुरू होंगे।

... (व्यवधान)

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री; पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री; प्रधानमंत्री कार्यालय में राज्य मंत्री; कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत और पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; परमाणु ऊर्जा विभाग में राज्य मंत्री तथा अंतरिक्ष विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (डॉ. जितेन्द्र सिंह): अध्यक्ष जी, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

- (1) (एक) सेंट्रल सिविल सर्विसेज कल्चरल एण्ड स्पोर्ट्स बोर्ड, नई दिल्ली के वर्ष 2020-2021 के वार्षिक प्रतिवेदन की एक प्रति (हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी संस्करण) तथा लेखापरीक्षित लेखे।
- (दो) सेंट्रल सिविल सर्विसेज कल्चरल एण्ड स्पोर्ट्स बोर्ड, नई दिल्ली के वर्ष 2020-2021 के कार्यकरण की सरकार द्वारा समीक्षा के बारे में विवरण (हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी संस्करण)।
- (2) उपर्युक्त (1) में उल्लिखित पत्रों को सभा पटल पर रखने में हुए विलंब के कारण दर्शाने वाला विवरण (हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी संस्करण)।

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7597/17/22]

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आईटम नम्बर-4, श्री दानवे रावसाहेब ।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप वरिष्ठ सदस्य हैं, सभा पटल पर रखे जाने वाले पत्रों के समय बोलते नहीं हैं । आप बैठ जाएं ।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप वरिष्ठ सदस्य हैं और छठी बार सदन के सदस्य बने हैं । आप बैठ जाएं ।

... (व्यवधान)

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; कोयला मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री दानवे रावसाहेब दादाराव): अध्यक्ष जी, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

- (1) खान और खनिज (विकास और विनियमन) अधिनियम, 1957 की धारा 28 की उप-धारा (1) के अंतर्गत खनिज छूट (संशोधन) नियम, 2022 जो 7 सितम्बर, 2022 के भारत के राजपत्र में अधिसूचना सं. सा.का.नि. 684(अ) में प्रकाशित हुए थे, की एक प्रति (हिंदी तथा अंग्रेजी संस्करण) ।
- (2) खान और खनिज (विकास और विनियमन) अधिनियम, 1957 की धारा 28 की उप-धारा (1) के अंतर्गत अधिसूचना सं. सा.का.नि. 860 (अ) जो 16 दिसम्बर, 2021 के भारत के राजपत्र में प्रकाशित हुई थी और जिसके द्वारा निदेशित किया गया है कि इस अधिसूचना के प्रकाशन की तारीख से उक्त अधिनियम की धारा 11 की उप-धारा (4) और (5) के परंतुकों और धारा 10ख उप-धारा (3) और (4) के परंतुकों के अंतर्गत केंद्र सरकार की शक्तियां डॉ. वीणा कुमारी डर्मल, संयुक्त सचिव द्वारा भी प्रयोक्तव्य होंगी और उन्हें "अभिहित अधिकारी" के रूप में जाना जाएगा, की एक प्रति (हिंदी तथा अंग्रेजी संस्करण) ।

- (3) उपर्युक्त (2) में उल्लिखित पत्रों को सभा पटल पर रखने में हुए विलंब के कारण दर्शाने वाला विवरण (हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी संस्करण)।

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7598/17/22]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI ANUPRIYA PATEL): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy each of the Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Government e-Marketplace, New Delhi, for the years 2017-2018 to 2019-2020, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy each of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Government e-Marketplace, New Delhi, for the years 2017-2018 to 2019-2020.
- (2) Three statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7599/17/22]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Materials for Electronics Technology, Pune, for the year 2020-2021, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Materials for Electronics Technology, Pune, for the year 2020-2021.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7600/17/22]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research, Mumbai, for the year 2020-2021, along with Audited Accounts.
 - (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research, Mumbai, for the year 2020-2021.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7601/17/22]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Software Technology Parks of India, New Delhi, for the year 2020-2021, along with Audited Accounts.
 - (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Software Technology Parks of India, New Delhi, for the year 2020-2021.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7602/17/22]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing, Pune, for the year 2020-2021, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing, Pune, for the year 2020-2021.
- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7603/17/22]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRIMATI DARSHANA VIKRAM JARDOSH): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Silk Board, Bangalore, for the year 2020-2021.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Silk Board, Bangalore, for the year 2020-2021, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Silk Board, Bangalore, for the year 2020-2021.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7604/17/22]

- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section 1(b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:-

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Birds Jute and Exports Ltd, Kolkata, for the year 2020-2021.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Birds Jute and Exports Ltd, Kolkata, for the year 2020-2021, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7605/17/22]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Handicrafts & Handlooms Export Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2020-2021.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Handicrafts & Handlooms Export Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2020-2021, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (4) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7606/17/22]

- (5) A copy of the Jute Bags (Quality Control) Order, 2022 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O.2601 (E) in Gazette of India

dated 6th June, 2022 issued under sub-section (1) and (2) of Section 16 read with section 17 and sub-section 3 of Section 25 of the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7607/17/22]

- (6) A copy of the Notification No. S.O.2619(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated 7th June, 2022 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O.5421(E) dated 27th December, 2021 under Section 3(1) of the Jute Packaging Material (Compulsory Use in Packaging Commodities) Act, 1987.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7608/17/22]

- (7) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 13B of the Central Silk Board Act, 1948:-

- (i) The Central Silk Board (Administrative, Accounts and General Cadre Posts), Group 'A' Posts, Recruitment Rules, 2021 published in Notification No. G.S.R.254(E) in Gazette of India dated 4th April, 2022.
- (ii) The Ministry of Textiles, Central Silk Board, Director (Group 'A' Post) Recruitment Rules, 2022 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 312(E) in Gazette of India dated 25th April, 2022.
- (iii) S.O. 2322(E) published in Gazette of India dated 20th May, 2022 notifying nomination of the officers, mentioned therein, to serve as member of Central Silk Board for a period of three years from the

date of publication of the notification, subject to provisions of the Act.

- (iv) S.O. 1676(E) published in Gazette of India dated 6th April, 2022 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 611(E) dated 11th February, 2022.
- (v) S.O. 1675(E) published in Gazette of India dated 6th April, 2022 notifying the nomination of the officers, mentioned therein, to serve as member of Central Silk Board for a period of three years from the date of publication of the notification, subject to provisions of the Act.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7609/17/22]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SOM PRAKASH): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council for Cement and Building Materials, Ballabgarh, for the year 2021-2022.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Council for Cement and Building Materials, Ballabgarh, for the year 2021-2022.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7610/17/22]

- (2) A copy of the following notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of Section 35 of the Footwear Design and Development Institute Act, 2017:-

- (i) The Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Footwear Design and Development Institute, Executive Director Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2022 published in Notification No. S.O.1699 (E) in Gazette of India dated 7th April, 2022.
- (ii) The Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Footwear Design and Development Institute, Managing Director Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2022 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 594(E) in Gazette of India dated 22nd July, 2022.
- (iii) The Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Footwear Design and Development Institute, Secretary Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2022 published in Notification No. S.O.1700 (E) in Gazette of India dated 7th April, 2022.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7611/17/22]

12.06hrs**STANDING COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY**318th Report

श्री बिद्युत बरन महतो (जमशेदपुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं सूक्ष्म, लघु और मध्यम उद्यम मंत्रालय से संबंधित उद्योग संबंधी स्थायी समिति की 'अनुदानों की मांगों (2022-23) के बारे में 315वें प्रतिवेदन में अंतर्विष्ट सिफारिशों/टिप्पणियों पर सरकार द्वारा की-गई-कार्रवाई' संबंधी 318वां प्रतिवेदन (हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी संस्करण) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

12.06½hrs

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

(i) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 360th Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment, Forests and Climate Change on Demands for Grants (2022- 2023) pertaining to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Ministry of Science and Technology*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL , PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): Sir, I beg to lay a statement regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 360th Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment, Forests and Climate Change on Demands for Grants (2022-2023) pertaining to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Ministry of Science and Technology.

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. LT 7596/17/22

12.07 hrs

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

Tobacco Board

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI ANUPRIYA PATEL): Sir, I beg to move the following: -

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

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रश्न यह है:

“कि तंबाकू बोर्ड नियम, 1976 के नियम 4 के साथ पठित तंबाकू बोर्ड अधिनियम, 1975 की धारा 4 की उप-धारा (4) के खंड (ख) के अनुसरण में, इस सभा के सदस्य, ऐसी रीति से जैसा कि अध्यक्ष निदेश दें, उक्त अधिनियम के अन्य उपबंधों तथा उसके अधीन बनाये गए नियमों के अध्याधीन तंबाकू बोर्ड के सदस्यों के रूप में कार्य करने के लिए अपने में से दो सदस्य निर्वाचित करें।”

प्रस्ताव स्वीकृत हुआ।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आइटम नंबर 13,

श्री बी एल वर्मा जी

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : अब शून्य काल ।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : अगर आप सब एक-एक करके उठेंगे, तो मैं सबको बोलने का मौका दूंगा । अगर एक साथ उठेंगे, तो मैं कैसे बोलने का मौका दूंगा? आप एक-एक करके बोलें । सभी लोग एक साथ उठेंगे, तो मैं कैसे बोलने का मौका दूंगा? आप दोनों सीनियर सदस्य हैं । आप दोनों में से पहले कौन बोलना चाहता है, यह आप दोनों पहले तय कर लीजिए । आप दोनों अगर नहीं बैठेंगे, तो मैं दोनों को बोलने नहीं दूंगा, बल्कि तीसरे को बोलने का मौका दूंगा ।

... (व्यवधान)

श्री अधीर रंजन चौधरी (बहरामपुर): सर, आइटम नंबर-13 का जिक्र करने के लिए कोई है ही नहीं।

... (व्यवधान).. सर, यहां मिनिस्टर नहीं हैं । बिल को कौन इंट्रोड्यूस करेगा? ... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : क्या यह आपका विषय है? यह विषय अब खत्म हो गया । आप अब बैठ जाइए ।

श्री बालू जी, अब आप बोलिए ।

... (व्यवधान)

SHRI T. R. BAALU (SRIPERUMBUDUR): Sir, my objection is regarding item No. 13. ... (*Interruptions*) I am objecting to the introduction of the Bill. ... (*Interruptions*).

माननीय अध्यक्ष : जब को-ऑपरेटिव मूवमेंट का विषय आएगा, तब आप अपना विषय रखिएगा । मैं तब आपको अलाऊ करूंगा । Baalu Ji, you are a senior leader. हां, अब आप बोलिए ।

... (व्यवधान)

श्री अधीर रंजन चौधरी: सर, विपक्ष के लिए सदन में कनवेंशन्स होते हैं, प्रेसिडेंट्स होते हैं और सुविधा के बन्दोबस्त होते हैं । आपने इतने सालों से चली आ रही परम्परा को खत्म करते हुए विपक्ष

से सारी स्टैंडिंग कमेटीज छीन ली हैं। ... (व्यवधान) उसके बाद यहां 'एक भारत, एक दिशा, एक परिवार' की बात हमें सुनाई जा रही है। ... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप बोलिए। मैं जानता हूं कि मुझे क्या जवाब देना है।

श्री अधीर रंजन चौधरी: सर, हमसे आईटी कमेटी की चेयरमैनशिप ले ली गयी। सुदीप बाबू से स्टैंडिंग कमेटी की चेयरमैनशिप छीन ली गयी। ... (व्यवधान)

महोदय, ऐसा क्यों हो रहा है?... (व्यवधान) सर, यह परम्परा है।... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : अब आप मेरी बात सुनिए। क्या आप मेरी बात सुनेंगे?

... (व्यवधान)

श्री अधीर रंजन चौधरी: सर, आप कहेंगे कि हम ऐसा कर सकते हैं।... (व्यवधान) आप कर सकते हैं।... (व्यवधान) सर, आप बहुत कुछ कर सकते हैं।... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आपने अपना विषय रख दिया है। आप अपना विषय रख चुके हैं।

... (व्यवधान)

श्री अधीर रंजन चौधरी: सर, यह हमारी परम्परा है।... (व्यवधान) परम्परा के दौरान विपक्ष को जो सुविधा मिलनी चाहिए, जो अधिकार मिलना चाहिए।... (व्यवधान) सर, आप उस परम्परा को खत्म कर रहे हैं।... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : चलिए, बैठिए।

माननीय संसदीय कार्य मंत्री जी, क्या आप इस विषय पर कुछ कहना चाहते हैं?

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : अब आप मेरी बात सुनिए।

माननीय सदस्य, आप वरिष्ठ सदस्य हैं। आप कांग्रेस पार्टी के फ्लोर लीडर भी हैं। क्या सदन के विषय पर अध्यक्ष पर कभी कोई आक्षेप किया जाता है?

श्री अधीर रंजन चौधरी: नहीं सर।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : क्या यह परम्परा है?

... (व्यवधान)

श्री अधीर रंजन चौधरी: सर, मैंने ऐसा नहीं किया है।... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आपने परम्पराओं का उल्लंघन किया है।

श्री अधीर रंजन चौधरी : सर नहीं, हमने ऐसा नहीं किया है। सर, मैंने माँग की है।... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आपने परम्परा का उल्लंघन किया है।

... (व्यवधान)

श्री अधीर रंजन चौधरी : सर, हमने सरकार के लिए कहा है।... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप इसे परम्परा का उल्लंघन करना मानते हैं या नहीं मानते हैं।

... (व्यवधान)

श्री अधीर रंजन चौधरी: सर, मैंने सरकार के लिए कहा है।

SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM (THANJAVUR): Sir, with folded hands I would like to mention that I was affected personally. ... (*Interruptions*) I was in the Estimates Committee. ... (*Interruptions*) It was taken away. ... (*Interruptions*) Please do not divert the issue. ... (*Interruptions*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप मेरे एक सवाल का जवाब दीजिए। सदन इस चीज को तय कर देगा। आपने सदन की कमेटियों के बारे में विषय उठाया है। कृपया, आप बैठ जाइए। यह अधिकार अध्यक्ष का है, तो आपने अध्यक्ष के आसन को चुनौती दी या नहीं दी।

श्री अधीर रंजन चौधरी : नहीं सर। सर, बिल्कुल चुनौती नहीं दी है। सर, माइक तो ऑन कराइए। मैं आपकी बात का जवाब दे देता हूँ।... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : मैंने आपको मौका दिया है।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आपको भी मैंने मौका दिया है।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : मैं आपको भी बोलने का मौका दूँगा।

सुदीप जी, आप बोलिए।

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (KOLKATA UTTAR): Sir, we are not accusing the Chair or blaming you in any way. I was called by the Parliamentary Affairs Minister himself and the MoS to state that they are not going to give Trinamool Congress any Chairmanship. Ours is the second largest Party of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Members combined. I asked if this is your decision, and they stated that : “Yes, we are communicating it to you”.

Sir, we do not want to include your name in any manner in this situation. But Trinamool Congress has not been given any Chairmanship in spite of being the second largest Party, but we are not begging for any Chairmanship from this Party. ... (*Interruptions*)

PROF. SOUGATA RAY (DUM DUM): Sir, we are totally against this. ... (*Interruptions*)

श्री विनायक भाउराव राऊत (रत्नागिरी-सिंधुदुर्ग): महोदय, धन्यवाद।

महोदय, मैं अपने विचार मराठी में रखना चाहता हूँ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप थोड़ी देर बाद बोलिएगा। आप पहले लिखकर दो कि मराठी में बोलना है, उसके बाद आपको मौका देंगे।

श्री भर्तृहरि महताब जी।

... (व्यवधान)

श्री विनायक भाउराव राऊत: महोदय, मैं हिन्दी में बोलना चाहता हूँ।... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्लीज बैठिए। आपको मौका देंगे। आप पहले लिखकर दे दीजिए। आपको मौका देंगे।

श्री विनायक भाउराव राऊत: महोदय, मैं हिन्दी में बोलना चाहता हूँ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप इस तरह खड़े होंगे तो आपको मौका नहीं मिलेगा।

श्री भर्तृहरि महताब जी, आप बोलिए। मैं आपको भर्तृहरि महताब जी के बाद बोलने का मौका दूँगा।

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Sir, as per Section 21.5 of the Revamped Operational Guideline of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), perils like hailstorm, inundation, landslide, cloud-burst, natural fire due to lightning, etc. have been included under risk scenario of localised calamity. However, at Section 21.5.10, loss to crops like paddy, sugarcane, jute, and mesta due to inundation are not included as they are considered hydrophilic crops.

This provision is not rational as longer duration of inundation, especially at critical growth stages definitely affect the yield of the crop. It is because of such exclusion that the paddy growing farmers -- who account for more than 95 per cent of the insured farmers -- are deprived of the benefits of the PMFBY.

As the matter has been discussed during the 6th National Level Monitoring Committee meeting, I urge upon the Government to make appropriate changes in the operational guidelines of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री धर्मवीर सिंह जी।

राऊत जी, आप बैठ जाइये। मैं आपको बोलने का मौका दूँगा। प्लीज बैठ जाइये। मैंने आपको बोल दिया है और सदन में व्यवस्था दी है। मैं आपको बोलने का मौका दूँगा।

श्री धर्मवीर सिंह जी।

श्री धर्मवीर सिंह (भिवानी-महेन्द्रगढ़): अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे लोक सभा क्षेत्र के अंदर सबसे ज्यादा माइनिंग है। यह भिवानी, दादरी और नारनौल के अंदर है। मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूं कि लाखों की संख्या में माइनिंग में मजदूर काम करते हैं। लेकिन हर रोज बीमारियां बड़ी तेजी से बढ़ रही हैं, दुर्घटनाएं भी बहुत होती हैं। भिवानी, दादरी और नारनौल में ईएसआईसी हॉस्पिटल जरूर बनाए जाएं।

श्री गणेश सिंह (सतना): अध्यक्ष महोदय, रेल मंत्रालय विन्ध्य एवं बुन्देलखण्ड के पिछड़ेपन को दूर करने के लिये ललितपुर सिंगरौली रेल मार्ग का निर्माण कर रहा है। यद्यपि यह योजना बहुत विलम्ब से चल रही है। किसानों की जमीन का अभी तक पूरी तरह से मुआवजा भी नहीं मिला है।

ललितपुर सिंगरौली निर्माणाधीन रेल मार्ग में मेरे लोकसभा क्षेत्र सतना का रीवा से तुर्की, सतना, नागौद, देवेन्द्रनगर, पन्ना तक का मार्ग आता है। जिन किसानों की जमीन अधिग्रहीत की गई है, उनके आश्रित को नौकरी देने के जो आदेश इस पूरे प्रोजेक्ट के लिये रेलवे बोर्ड ने वर्ष 2010 में किये थे, उसी के तहत सतना-पन्ना में 1207, सतना-रीवा डबलिंग में 469 आवेदन प्राप्त हुये, जिसमें सतना-पन्ना में 276 आवेदकों को नौकरी दी गई है। जबकि इसी प्रोजेक्ट का हिस्सा रीवा- सतना डबलिंग में एक को भी अभी तक नौकरी नहीं दी गई, जबकि रीवा सीधी सिंगरौली के बीच 2082 लोगों के आवेदन पत्रों में से 1153 लोगों को नौकरी दी जा चुकी है।

शेष आवेदनों पर विचार बंद कर दिया गया है। मेरे लोक सभा क्षेत्र के अंतर्गत लगाये गये एक अतारांकित प्रश्न क्रं. 171 का उत्तर दिनांक 11 नवम्बर, 2019 को दिया था, जिसमें किसानों की भूमि अधिग्रहण की गई थी और उनके आश्रितों को नौकरी देने के निर्णय को वापस ले लिया गया।

वर्ष 2010 में रेल मंत्रालय ने एक निर्णय लिया था कि इस परियोजना में जिन किसानों की जमीन अधिग्रहीत की जायेगी, उनके आश्रितों को नौकरी दी जायेगी। उसी के तहत कुछ लोगों को नौकरी भी दी गई है, लेकिन शेष प्रभावित किसानों के बच्चे भटक रहे हैं, उनको नौकरी अभी तक नहीं दी जा रही है। एक ही परियोजना में कुछ को लाभ दिया गया और कुछ को नहीं दिया गया है, यह न्यायोचित नहीं है।

मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से मांग करता हूँ कि मेरे लोकसभा क्षेत्र सतना के अन्तर्गत आने वाले जिन किसानों की या हितग्राहियों की जमीन ली गई है, उनके बच्चों को नौकरी दी जाए। धन्यवाद।

डॉ. ढालसिंह बिसेन (बालाघाट): अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय दूरसंचार मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। वर्तमान में भारत देश डिजिटल इंडिया की अवधारणा पर आगे बढ़ रहा है। वर्तमान में ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में बी.एस.एन.एल, आइडिया, जियो आदि कंपनियों के मोबाइल टावर लगे हैं, जिनमें कवरेज की काफी समस्या है। विशेषकर बी.एस.एन.एल की स्थिति बहुत खराब है। आये दिन मोबाइल टावर काम करना बंद कर देते हैं। संसदीय क्षेत्र सिवनी के बालाघाट जिले में एवं सिवनी में ग्रामों एवं सुदूर क्षेत्रों में नेटवर्क की बहुत समस्या है। मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र के अंतर्गत बालाघाट जिला नक्सल प्रभावित जिला है। मोबाइल नेटवर्क न होने के कारण ग्रामीण जनों को काफी समस्याओं का सामना करना पड़ता है। लंबे समय से टावर बंद रहते हैं। साल भर से इनकी कोई देख-रेख नहीं हो रही है एवं इन्हें सुधारा नहीं जाता है। मेरे द्वारा सक्षम अधिकारियों को बार-बार अवगत कराने के बाद भी इस पर संज्ञान न लिया जाना उचित नहीं है। जहां टावर रहते हैं, वहां भी कवरेज और डाटा गति की कमी होने से अत्यधिक समस्या बनी रहती है। नेटवर्क बंद रहने और डाटा गति कम रहने से बैंकों के काम, छात्रों की पढ़ाई, नौकरी-पेशा व्यक्तियों, पंचायतों के कार्य, सोसायटियों में राशन वितरण आदि कार्य, जो डिजिटल तो हो चुके हैं, इस कारण प्रभावित होते हैं। भारत सरकार की डिजिटल इंडिया की अवधारणा को नुकसान पहुंचाया जा रहा है। एक ओर जहां हम 5जी के दौर में आ गये हैं और वहीं ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में बी.एस.एन.एल. पुरानी 2जी और 3 जी गति में है। नगरीय क्षेत्रों का भी यही हाल है। इसके पूर्व भी मेरे द्वारा सदन का ध्यान इस ओर आकृष्ट कराया गया था।

मैं पुनः सदन के माध्यम से आग्रह करना चाहता हूँ कि ग्रामीण एवं नगरीय क्षेत्रों में बी.एस.एन.एल की व्यवस्थाएं सुधारे जाने तथा ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में बंद सभी टावरों को तत्काल प्रारंभ करने का कष्ट करें। साथ ही अधिकारियों और कर्मचारियों की संख्या काफी कम है, उनकी भी पूर्ति करने का कष्ट करें।

DR. D. RAVIKUMAR (VILUPPURAM): Respected Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring to your kind attention a very important issue. Despite caste-based discrimination being outlawed in every sphere of life, burial grounds and crematoriums continue to be segregated along the lines of caste. Multiple judgments of the Madras High Court have addressed this issue and directed that caste-based burial grounds and crematoriums be abolished. As early as 2008, Justice Chandru had ruled against caste-based burial grounds, and as recently as 2021 and 2022, the same has been reiterated in the cases of B. Kalaiselvi and Others *versus* the District Collector, Kallakurichi, and P. Muthusamy and Others *versus* B. Vennila and Others respectively.

Yet this practice continues to abound in most parts of the country. In light of the current situation, I request for a nationwide policy for common burial grounds and crematorium be created and implemented. Article 14 of the Indian Constitution protects the right to equality. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Mr. Baalu, you are a Member of the ruling party. It is a State subject.

DR. D. RAVIKUMAR: I request the Union Government to formulate a policy. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: You are a Member of ruling party.

... (*Interruptions*)

DR. D. RAVIKUMAR: Yes, Sir. This situation is prevailing all over the country. ... (*Interruptions*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आपने सब्जेक्ट तमिलनाडु का लिखा है। आपको सब्जेक्ट पूरे देश का लिखना चाहिए था।

... (व्यवधान)

DR. D. RAVIKUMAR: In 2014, the Karnataka Government has brought in a policy.

HON. SPEAKER: It is 2022. It is not 2014.

SHRI T. N. PRATHAPAN (THRISSUR): Hon. Speaker, the widening of developmental projects of NH-66 in Kerala has been progressing. I have some important concerns of people from the locations where the project development is taking place to convey to the hon. Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Shri Nitin Gadkari ji.

This is a genuine concern of the people of Chavakkad regarding a proposed underpass facility in Mullathara junction in Manathala, Chavakkad, in Guruvayur assembly constituency. The proposed vehicle underpass project of only 25 meters width between Mullathara and Manathalait is not practical in a place like Manathala which is highly populated. Considering the importance of pilgrimage centres like Manathala Juma Masjid which is one of the oldest Masjids in the country, the famous Guruvayur Srikrishna Temple and Palayur Church which is the oldest in India, this region shall be provided a more convenient project plan. A flyover with pillars and a wider underpass shall be provided in Mullathara junction.

Otherwise, the students around this area, merchants, and the tourists who come to the Chavakkad beach, which is a tourist hub of Thrissur, will have to suffer without a proper passage between Mullathara and Manathala.

I would like to make three requests to the hon. Minister. An underpass shall be provided in Mandalamkunnu junction facing the exiting PWD road there. At Edamuttam junction in Valappad Grampanchayat also, we need an underpass for connectivity with the service roads. There shall be a crossing as well as service roads in front of the Edakkazhiyoor Juma Masjid. I will submit a detailed report regarding this. I request the hon. Minister to kindly consider these demands.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : माननीय सदस्य, एक मिनट रुकिए ।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : माननीय सदस्य, यह मेरी उदारता है कि मैं आपको देख कर, पढ़ कर बोलने की इजाजत दे रहा हूँ, नहीं तो इसकी भी परमिशन मुझ से लेनी पड़ती है ।

... (व्यवधान)

SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN (KASARAGOD): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the coastal Panchayats of Kasaragod Lok Sabha constituency - namely Valiyaparamba and Padanna of Kasargod district, and Ramanthali, Madayi, and Mattul panchayats of Kannur district - currently fall under the Coastal Regulation Zone. Due to the Coastal Management Act, many poor families are unable to build dwelling houses on their own land in the coastal zone. Around a thousand constructed houses and institutions have not been assigned building numbers by the authorities concerned.

As per the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification of 2019, the Central Government has set the No-Development Zones from baseline of the islands causing distress to thousands of coastal residents of Valiyaparamba and Padanna in Kasaragod district, and Ramanthali and Madayi Mattul village Panchayats of the Kannur district who are caught in the entanglement of the CRZ law. In the year 2021, the Central Government converted 175 panchayats into urban panchayats; and recently in the month of September 2022, the Government has issued an order to convert further 66 panchayats into urban panchayats.

However, it is unfortunate that the above-mentioned panchayats in my constituency are not included in any of the exempted lists.

Hence, I request the hon. Minister of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change to take necessary steps to exempt the above-mentioned panchayats of the Kasaragod Constituency from the Coastal Regulation Zone.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आज सदन का पहला दिन है। मैं सभी माननीय सदस्यों से यह आग्रह करना चाहता हूँ, निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि सदन चले, मर्यादा से चले। हम इनकी अच्छी परम्पराओं का पालन करें। मैं सभी माननीय सदस्यों को पर्याप्त समय, पर्याप्त अवसर देता हूँ। आपने वर्षों से जो इसकी परम्पराएँ, मर्यादा बनाई हैं, उनका पालन करें। सदन चलना चाहिए। सदन में सबको बोलने का अवसर मिलता है। मैं यह नहीं सोचता कि कभी किसी ने यह शिकायत की हो कि उन्हें बोलने का अवसर नहीं मिलता। लेकिन, उस परम्परा को कायम रखिए।

मैं अमर सिंह जी से आग्रह करता हूँ कि जब कोई मेम्बर बोल रहा हो, तब बीच में मार्शल को मत बुलाइए, क्योंकि बोलने वाले मेम्बर के बीच में कोई नहीं जाना चाहिए। सदन में यह अच्छी परम्परा बनाई गई है। इन सब परम्पराओं का हम लोग पालन करें।

दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा लोकतंत्र है तो उस लोकतंत्र की इतनी मर्यादा रहे, मेरा सब से ऐसा व्यक्तिगत आग्रह है।

SHRI HIBI EDEN (ERNAKULAM): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am raising a major concern regarding the fishermen community of Kerala in Vizhinjam where the International Vizhinjam Seaport Limited was floated in 2015. For the last 140 days, the fishermen community of Vizhinjam has been on a huge agitation mainly because their life and livelihood have been destroyed by the construction of the seaport which is being done by a private group called Adani. The seaport construction is going on, and on the northern side there has been a huge sea erosion. Three hundred families have been living in a cement godown for the last four years. This particular fishermen community has contributed its land ages before for the development of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre. The Church, the Bishop House, the cemetery, everything was demolished for the development of that huge organisation of national importance.

The allegation the State Government is making is that the fishermen community is against the development of the port, which is not right. They have been in touch and they have given all the support for the development of the port. But the fishermen community's life and livelihood are being disturbed. A Central package should be announced for their rehabilitation. Rs.5,500 was the only amount which was sanctioned for giving rent.

The agitation is over yesterday, but their demands which are genuine are not yet met by the State Government. I would like the Central Government also to declare a package because this is a very important port.

Sir, a scientific committee has to be appointed where the interests of the local fishermen, the sea erosion, etc., should be studied. The State Government was saying that they would use Adani CSR funds for the rent which is not acceptable. This is a very genuine demand. The Central Government should look into it.

श्री सत्यदेव पचौरी (कानपुर): माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय गृह मंत्री जी का ध्यान इस देश में बढ़ती हुई जनसंख्या की ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, जिस तेजी से देश की जनसंख्या बढ़ रही है, उसी तेजी से देश के संसाधन सिकुड़ रहे हैं। हमारे यहाँ खेती की जमीन सीमित है, आवास की जमीन सीमित है, जल के संसाधन सीमित है। इससे बरोजगारी बढ़ेगी और रहने की समस्या भी बढ़ेगी।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं माननीय गृह मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ कि जनसंख्या नियंत्रण के लिए परामर्श करके कानून बनाया जाए। पूर्व में भी इस बात की माँग रही है।

SHRIMATI CHINTA ANURADHA (AMALAPURAM): Thank you, Speaker, Sir. Today, I would like to bring to your kind attention an important issue relating to women. Many women experience menstrual disorder and may even suffer from illness related to menstruation including endometriosis and ovarian cysts which can disrupt their everyday tasks and cause significant workplace stress, which has been a common ailment in today's life due to many factors. In such a scenario, paid leaves in the form of menstrual leaves ensure that women have direct pathways to rest when they need it most, be more productive at work and as a result find it easier to remain in the labour market. They also encourage more equality by accommodating female workers' biological demands, much as maternity leave does. Therefore, through you, I request the Minister of Health

and Family Welfare to enforce a two-day menstrual leave per month in the public and private sectors which can be taken by employees at their discretion. Acknowledging menstruation as a real need outside of sick leave that warrants being directly addressed in the workplace is long overdue. Doing so will ensure an equitable approach that is bound to open up more job opportunities for women, leading to greater gender diversity in our workforce.

Thank you, Sir.

* **SHRI MAHESH SAHOO (DHENKANAL):** Hon'ble Speaker sir, I want to raise a very important issue regarding National Highways No 55. Sir the road is in very bad shape from Manguli square to Sambalpur. After several rounds of discussion nothing has changed. The maintenance and repair of the road has not been taken up and 21 persons have lost their lives. The concerned minister has been repeatedly requested to look into the matter. The repair and construction work was supposed to end by 2022, then 2023 and then 2024. We need a definite date as to when will it be completed. People of the area have been agitating and sitting on peaceful dharna to protest. If the matter is not addressed soon, situation will be critical. Sir through you, I am once again requesting the central Govt to take up the matter urgently.

श्री राजेश वर्मा (सीतापुर): माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, आपने मुझे शून्य काल में अपने संसदीय क्षेत्र के एक महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न पर बोलने का मौका दिया, उसके लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

* English translation of the Speech originally delivered in Odia.

माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार का ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ। मेरा संसदीय क्षेत्र सीतापुर उत्तर प्रदेश में आता है। वहाँ के लिए हमने माननीय रेल मंत्री जी से एक रेलवे उपरगामी सेतु की माँग की थी। हमारे सीतापुर-गोला मार्ग के 51ए क्रॉसिंग पर एक उपरगामी सेतु की आवश्यकता है। अभी वहाँ पर समपार फाटक है। वहाँ पूरे दिन जाम लगा रहता है। 24 घंटे में 42 से 45 गाड़ियों का आवागमन होता है। हमारे शहर के मध्य में रेल लाइन पड़ती है।

महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ कि इस पर गंभीरता से विचार करें। मैं आपके संज्ञान में यह भी लाना चाहूँगा कि मैंने व्यक्तिगत रूप से मिलकर माननीय मंत्री जी को पत्र भी दिया था। उन्होंने मुझे पॉजिटिव रेस्पॉन्स भी दिया है। चूंकि सदन में माननीय मंत्री जी बैठे हैं, इसलिए मैं उनका ध्यान फिर से आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ। इस भयंकर समस्या का निदान करने के लिए आप निश्चित रूप से कार्रवाई करें। आप इस उपरगामी सेतु के निर्माण के लिए अपना निर्देश प्रदान करें। धन्यवाद।

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): Speaker, Sir, in this country, lakhs of Employees' Provident Fund pensioners are agitating regarding enhancement of EPFO pension. They went to the hon. High Court, Kerala. After that, they went to the hon. Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court has recently given a verdict but the EPFO has not implemented the verdict given by the Supreme Court. They are diverting the issue again and again and thus are denying the legitimate pensionary benefits to lakhs of employees.

I would say that even though the Supreme Court's verdict is partially in favour of the employees, they have no other option because the Supreme Court's verdict is final.

I would like to urge the Government, through you, Sir, that at least the verdict of the Supreme Court should be implemented immediately. The poor employees were fighting a legal battle in the Court for years and years. Finally, the Supreme Court has come out with the verdict but the EPFO is still diverting the issue and is trying to find out a way to not implement the Supreme Court's verdict. I would like to request the Ministry of Labour to immediately intervene in the matter so that justice is done to the employees who have opted for the pension scheme provided by the EPFO.

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SADANAND SULE (BARAMATI): Sir, we all associate with the matter raised by the hon. Member.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Sir, I have also given a notice in this regard.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप एसोशिएट कर दीजिए ।

... (व्यवधान)

श्री भागीरथ चौधरी (अजमेर): अध्यक्ष महोदय, आज आपने मुझे शून्य काल के दौरान अविलम्बनीय लोक महत्व के मामले में बोलने का अवसर दिया, उसके लिए आपका बहुत-बहुत आभार, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद ।

महोदय, किशनगढ़, अजमेर एयरपोर्ट से फ्लाइट्स का संचालन अक्टूबर, 2018 से प्रारम्भ हुआ था । उड़ान योजना के तहत किशनगढ़ एयरपोर्ट से देश के 6 शहरों, जिसमें स्पाइस जेट एयरलाइन द्वारा दिल्ली, अहमदाबाद, हैदराबाद एवं मुंबई तथा स्टार एयरलाइन द्वारा इंदौर एवं सूरत की फ्लाइट्स का संचालन किया जा रहा था । स्पाइस जेट एयरलाइन ने उक्त सभी शहरों के लिए अपनी उड़ानों को तकनीकी कारणों का हवाला देते हुए गत् 31 अगस्त, 2022 से बंद कर दिया । इससे प्रदेश का सबसे तेजी से उभरता हुआ नया एयरपोर्ट आज बंद होने की कगार पर है ।

महोदय, पिछले वर्ष सर्दियों में किशनगढ़ एयरपोर्ट से जहां रोजाना 5 से 6 फ्लाइट्स चल रही थीं, लेकिन अब रोज एक फ्लाइट के संचालन को लेकर भी असमंजस है। वहीं दूसरी ओर, भारतीय विमानन प्राधिकरण द्वारा जारी विंटर समय-सारणी में भी किशनगढ़ एयरपोर्ट से नवीन हवाई संचालन नहीं दिये जाने से स्थिति विकट हो गई है। अब केवल मात्र किशनगढ़ एयरपोर्ट से स्टार एयरलाइन की उक्त 2 उड़ानों का संचालन सप्ताह में औसतन 2-2 दिन ही हो रहा है।

मान्यवर, स्पाइसजेट एयरलाइन को बंद हुये रूट्स पर अच्छा यात्रीभार मिल रहा था। उक्त तीनों उड़ानों के बंद होने का प्रमुख कारण वायबिलिटी गैप फंड (वीजीएफ) का भुगतान नहीं होना बताया गया है। सरकार वीजीएफ उसी स्थिति में देती है, जब यात्रियों के कम होने से नुकसान हो रहा हो। जब तक वायबिलिटी गैप फंड का प्रावधान सरकार ने कर रखा था, तब तक निजी विमानन कंपनीज़ ने इसका भरपूर लाभ उठाया। मगर, जैसे ही सरकार ने वीजीएफ में कटौती प्रारम्भ की तो पर्याप्त यात्रीभार होने के बावजूद निजी कंपनी स्पाइसजेट ने उक्त 4 शहरों के लिए उड़ान बंद कर दी।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से उड़्डयन मंत्री जी से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि दिल्ली, मुंबई, हैदराबाद और अहमदाबाद हवाई उड़ानों को तुरंत चालू करायें।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : कई माननीय सदस्य सदन में लगातार बातचीत कर रहे हैं। अगर वे दोबारा बात करेंगे तो नाम लेकर इंगित करूंगा।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : मैंने अभी नाम नहीं लिया है।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री जसबीर सिंह गिल।

*** SHRI JASBIR SINGH GILL (KHADOOR SAHIB):** I thank you, Hon'ble Speaker Sir for giving me permission to speak on an important issue.

* English translation of the Speech originally delivered in Punjabi.

During the black days of militancy in Punjab, our youth had gone astray. Militancy stopped but it left a lot of agony for our youth. Several Sikh youths joined militancy due to emotional and religious reasons. They were caught by police and punished by the courts. They were sentenced by courts. Now, they have completed their sentences and prison-terms. They are not common criminals. They can be called emotional criminals who did the crimes due to political and religious reasons. They did not believe in our political system.

These youths have finished their prison-terms. Paramjit Singh, Jagtar Singh, Lakhvinder Singh, Shamsheer Singh, Gurpreet Singh, Gurdeep Singh, Devinder Pal Singh etc. have finished their prison-terms but are still languishing in foreign jails.

So, I urge upon the Central Government to consider them political criminals and not as common criminals. Their behavior in prison was very good. So, they should be given right of freedom. Their human rights should be given to them and they should be released immediately.

श्री अर्जुन लाल मीणा (उदयपुर): माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा संसदीय क्षेत्र उदयपुर, राजस्थान एक आदिवासी बहुल क्षेत्र है। इस क्षेत्र में कई ऐसे मार्ग हैं जो अभी तक दो लेन के ही बने हुए हैं, जिससे दुर्घटनाओं की काफी संभावना बनी रहती है। इसी के अनुरूप मैं सरकार से मांग करता हूँ कि स्टेट हाईवे संख्या - 36 जो उदयपुर-सलुम्बर-बांसवाड़ा तक दो लेन में बनाया गया है, इस मार्ग को राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग घोषित कर चार लेन में बदल कर उदयपुर-सलुम्बर-बांसवाड़ा-रतलाम, मध्य प्रदेश तक करवाने का काम कराएं, जिससे इस मार्ग पर होने वाली दुर्घटनाओं में कमी आएगी और आम जनता को एक राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग का लाभ मिलेगा। धन्यवाद।

SHRI MOHAMMED FAIZAL P.P. (LAKSHADWEEP): Hon. Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for allowing me to raise a very important issue.

The issue is with regard to the need of a Legislative Assembly. It has been a long-cherished dream and desire of the people of Lakshadweep. This desire has become an inevitable part within these years. The reason behind the same is that the people of Lakshadweep and their elected representatives have no say in any of the decisions which are crucial for their existence. For instance, there are issues with regard to New Panchayat Regulation, Mass Land Acquisition, repealing of the Land Tenancy Regulation - 2019, stopping of 15 Years' Perspective Plan for the Shipping Sector, stoppage of speciality doctor services, welfare schemes for the farmers and fishermen, and employment. For the past so many months, people have been protesting on roads. Now, a continuous relay strike is going on in the capital city for just a single demand.

On the one hand, we are celebrating the 75th Year of our Independence, and on the other hand, the people of Lakshadweep do not have that freedom. My simple submission is that there is a need to have a legislative system where people's aspirations are discussed, and a consultative mechanism is developed so as to ensure democratic right of the people.

I would like to urge the Home Ministry that -- when we celebrate the 75th Year of our Independence -- let the people of Lakshadweep also enjoy the freedom of self-governance.

Thank you so much, Sir.

SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU (BEHRAMPUR): Thank you, hon. Speaker, Sir.

Sir, area expansion for fruit crop and floriculture has been a major component of Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (National Horticulture Mission). Under the said Mission, twenty-four districts of my State are covered. In my State, the maximum cost of cultivation per hectare for high density mango is Rs. 42,000. For papaya, the maximum cost of cultivation per hectare is Rs. 60,000. For banana, the maximum cost of cultivation per hectare is about Rs. 10,263. For bulbous flower, the maximum cost of cultivation per hectare is Rs. 1,50,000. For cut flower, the maximum cost of cultivation per hectare is Rs. 1,00,000, and the maximum cost of cultivation per hectare for spices crop is from Rs. 30,000 to Rs. 50,000. Out of the same, about forty to fifty per cent subsidy is provided to farmers to take up the programme. Sir, you can imagine how will the small farmers of my State get the benefits of the said programme with high cultivation cost.

Hon. Speaker, Sir, through you, I, therefore, request the hon. Minister and the Government to increase an assistance under the Area Expansion Programme so that more farmers -- not only of my State but also of the country as a whole -- get benefits of Mission to double their incomes.

Thank you very much, Sir.

श्रीमती सुप्रिया सदानंद सुले (बारामती): अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा आज का जीरो ऑवर किसान फसल बीमा योजना पर है। लेकिन मैं आपसे विनती करना चाहती हूँ, मैंने आपसे टाइम भी लिया था कि महाराष्ट्र में प्राइम मिनिस्टर फसल बीमा योजना में दिक्कत है। महाराष्ट्र में दस दिन से एक नया

प्रश्न खड़ा हो गया है। हमारे बगल के राज्य कर्नाटक के सीएम अनाप-शनाप बोले जा रहे हैं। ... (व्यवधान) कल तो हद कर दी, कर्नाटक बार्डर पर महाराष्ट्र के लोग जाना चाहते थे और उनको पीटा गया है। आज तक भी कुछ नहीं आया है। ... (व्यवधान)

दस दिन से महाराष्ट्र के खिलाफ षड्यंत्र हो रहा है। ... (व्यवधान) महाराष्ट्र को तोड़ने की बात है। ... (व्यवधान) कर्नाटक के मुख्यमंत्री और दोनों राज्य बीजेपी के हैं। ... (व्यवधान) महाराष्ट्र में भी बीजेपी का राज है और कर्नाटक में भी बीजेपी का है। ... (व्यवधान) पूरे टाइम कर्नाटक के मुख्यमंत्री महाराष्ट्र के खिलाफ बोलते हैं। ... (व्यवधान) कल लोगों को पीटा गया है। ... (व्यवधान) महाराष्ट्र की जनता को पीटा है। ... (व्यवधान) यह नहीं चलेगा। ... (व्यवधान) यह देश एक है। ... (व्यवधान) मैं अमित शाह जी से विनती करती हूँ कि वह कुछ बोलें। ... (व्यवधान)

SHRI S.C. UDASI (HAVERI): Hon. Speaker, Sir, the subject is *sub judice* because it is in the court. It is in the Supreme Court. Please do not allow any Member from Maharashtra to speak on this issue. ... (*Interruptions*)

Sir, these Maharashtra politicians, especially from the Opposition are habitual ... * when it comes to lingo culture syndrome. इनको इनसिक्स्योरिटी है। इनका मिसरूल होता है, when they are in power and when they are in Opposition..... ... (*Interruptions*)

श्रीमती सुप्रिया सदानंद सुले : सर, यह असत्य बोल रहे हैं। ... (व्यवधान) कर्नाटक के सीएम भारतीय जनता पार्टी के हैं। ... (व्यवधान)

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair

*** SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT (RATNAGIRI-SINDHUDURG):** Hon'ble Speaker Sir, I want to raise a burning issue in this August house today. Hon'ble Supriya Sule ji has raised this serious issue. This case of Maharashtra – Karnataka border issue has been pending with Hon'ble supreme court for the last so many years. The people residing in Belgaon, Karwar, Nipani, are being targeted by the Government of Karnataka. They are suppressing the rights of Marathi speaking people there.

Not only this, they have also booked the leaders of different political parties of Maharashtra and put them behind the bars. Karnataka is the first state which has banned the entry of political leaders from other states. It has never been happened before. Government of Karnataka and Karnataka police are doing injustice to the people of Maharashtra. I strongly condemn this kind of act of suppression. This issue is directly related to the pride and the honour of Maharashtra. They are giving brutal treatment to the Marathi speaking people of border areas.

Hence, I would like to request the Union Government to look into this seriously and intervene immediately.

Thank you. Jai Maharashtra.

* English translation of the Speech originally delivered in Marathi.

माननीय अध्यक्ष: आप सदन के बाहर जाकर बात कर लेना। आप रोज मिलते हैं, बात कर लेना।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: आप एक बार बात कर लेना।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: चलिए, अब आगे बढ़िए।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: यह सेंसिटिव विषय है। हर विषय संसद में नहीं उठाया जाता है।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: आपने अपनी बात कह दी, उन्होंने अपनी बात कह दी।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: आप क्या कहना चाहते हैं? बोलिए।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: श्री राहुल शेवाले।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: किसी का बयान दर्ज नहीं हो रहा है। कुछ रिकॉर्ड में नहीं जा रहा है।

...(व्यवधान)*

माननीय अध्यक्ष: यह सेंसिटिव विषय है। दो राज्यों का विषय है। इसमें केंद्र क्या करेगा? यह संसद है।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: श्री राहुल शेवाले।

श्री सी.पी. जोशी।

... (व्यवधान)

* Not recorded

श्री सी.पी. जोशी (चित्तौड़गढ़): माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, आपका बहुत धन्यवाद कि आपने मुझे महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर बोलने का अवसर दिया। ... (व्यवधान) माननीय मोदी जी की सरकार बनने के बाद चित्तौड़गढ़ संसदीय क्षेत्र को अनेक सौगातें मिली हैं जो पिछले 60 वर्षों में नहीं मिल पाईं। चित्तौड़गढ़ में माननीय मोदी जी ने सरकार बनने के बाद एक अस्पताल दिया, जैसे उदयपुर में 100 बैड का दिया है।

मेरी सरकार से मांग है कि चित्तौड़गढ़ में 100 बैड का ईएसआई अस्पताल बने ताकि उस क्षेत्र के लोगों को राहत मिल सके। ... (व्यवधान) यहां बहुत बड़ी इंडस्ट्री है। यहां बड़ी मात्रा में उद्योग-धंधे हैं, कर्मचारी हैं। ऐसे में चित्तौड़गढ़ में 100 बैड का अस्पताल बनना चाहिए। प्रतापगढ़ में सरकार ने कर्मचारियों के लिए ऑफिस तो खोल दिया है। मेरी एक और मांग सरकार से है कि वहां छः बैड की डिस्पेंसरी खुल जाए ताकि केंद्रीय कर्मचारियों को लाभ मिल सके। रावतभाटा में आरएपीपी का बहुत बड़ा न्यूक्लियर पावर प्लांट है। अगर वहां भी एक अस्पताल लेबर विभाग का बन जाएगा तो निश्चित रूप से हजारों लाखों सैनिक भाइयों को लाभ मिलेगा।... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: प्लीज़, आप बैठ जाएं।

... (व्यवधान)

श्रीमती सुप्रिया सदानंद सुले : माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, हम वॉक आउट करते हैं।... (व्यवधान)

12.49 hrs

At this stage, Shrimati Supriya Sadanand Sule, Shri Vinayak Bhaurao Raut and some other hon. Members left the House.

माननीय अध्यक्ष: गौरव गोगोई जी।

... (व्यवधान)

श्री गौरव गोगोई (कलियाबोर): माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, पूर्व में परंपरा रही है कि उत्तर-पूर्वांचल के जितने भी प्रोजेक्ट्स हैं, उनमें केंद्रीय सरकार 90 या 80 प्रतिशत फंडिंग देती है और उत्तर पूर्वांचल राज्य 10 या 20 प्रतिशत फंडिंग देते हैं। जब मैंने रेलवे विभाग से दरखास्त की कि हमारे लोकसभा

क्षेत्र में सुंगाजान और टेगानी में लैवल क्रॉसिंग चाहिए तो रेलवे विभाग से उत्तर आता है कि आरओबी या आरयूबी की पूरी 100 प्रतिशत फंडिंग राज्य सरकार से आती है।

मेरी दरखास्त है कि रेलवे विभाग पुरानी परंपरा के तहत आरओबी और आरयूबी, जो उत्तर पूर्वांचल के राज्यों में हैं, विशेष रूप से मेरे लोकसभा क्षेत्र सुंगाजान और टेगानी में हैं, उनमें 80:20 या 90:10 प्रतिशत फंडिंग का व्यवहार करें। धन्यवाद।

श्री गिरीश चन्द्र (नगीना): अध्यक्ष महोदय, आपने मुझे शून्य काल में बोलने का अवसर दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपका बहुत आभारी हूँ। मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार के संज्ञान में यह लाना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे संसदीय क्षेत्र नगीना में एक बसी किरतपुर रेलवे स्टेशन है। कोटद्वार से चलने वाली ट्रेन सिद्धबली जनशताब्दी, जिसका नम्बर 12037/12038 है, यह बसी किरतपुर रेलवे स्टेशन से होकर पुरानी दिल्ली जाती है। इस क्षेत्र की जनता लगभग साढ़े सात वर्षों से इस गाड़ी के बसी किरतपुर स्टेशन पर स्टॉपेज के लिए साप्ताहिक धरना प्रदर्शन करती आ रही है, किन्तु अभी तक सरकार की तरफ से कोई सकारात्मक पहल नहीं की गई है।

मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी को विश्वास दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि इस गाड़ी का स्टॉपेज अस्थायी रूप से इस स्टेशन पर कर देने से यदि रेल राजस्व में बढ़ोत्तरी नहीं हुई तो आप इस स्टॉपेज को रद्द कर सकते हैं। यह आस-पास के रेलवे स्टेशनों से ज्यादा महत्वपूर्ण स्टेशन है।

मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से चाहूंगा और यह मेरी मांग भी है कि जनता की सुगमता के लिए इस ट्रेन का बसी किरतपुर रेलवे स्टेशन पर स्टॉपेज कराया जाए। धन्यवाद।

श्री राम मोहन नायडू किंजरापु (श्रीकाकुलम): अध्यक्ष महोदय, आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद कि आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया। माननीय रेल मंत्री जी भी यहां उपस्थित हैं। यह उन्हीं का मुद्दा है।

मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय रेल मंत्री जी के संज्ञान में यह लाना चाहता हूँ कि आंध्र प्रदेश में जो साउथ कोस्ट रेलवे जोन का मुद्दा है, वह अभी तक शुरू नहीं हुआ है। तीन साल पहले और चुनाव से पहले, जब पीयूष गोयल जी रेल मंत्री थे, उस समय उन्होंने वादा किया था, लेकिन अभी

तक वह शुरू नहीं हुआ है। वर्ष 2020-21 में उसके लिए बजट का आवंटन भी हुआ था, लेकिन उसके ऊपर एक पैसा भी खर्च नहीं हुआ। पिछले महीने माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी विशाखापट्टनम खुद आए थे। उस समय लोगों में इतनी ज्यादा आशा थी कि माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी जरूर उसके बारे में कुछ बोलेंगे या शिलान्यास करेंगे, लेकिन कुछ नहीं हुआ।

इसलिए, मैं एक बार फिर इस विषय को माननीय रेल मंत्री जी के संज्ञान में लाना चाहता हूँ कि जितना जल्द हो सके आंध्र प्रदेश के लिए साउथ कोस्ट रेलवे जोन को शुरू किया जाए।

PROF. ACHYUTANANDA SAMANTA (KANDHAMAL): Hon. Speaker, Sir, through you, I, on behalf of my Party, Biju Janata Dal, would like to urge the Central Government, particularly, the Minister of Finance to withdraw the GST on Kendu leaves in the greater interest of the lakhs of Kendu leaf pluckers and associated staff. Kendu leaf is a minor forest produce and is the financial backbone of around eight lakhs of Kendu leaf pluckers, binders and seasonal workers of Odisha, who mostly belong to the tribal community and also are among the poorest of the poor in the society.

The tribal people call it their right as defined under Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act of 2006. They have the right to procure and sell these leaves. An eighteen per cent GST on Kendu leaf is affecting the trade and livelihood of Kendu leaf pluckers. This tax needs to be withdrawn in the greater interest of the people of Odisha, particularly in the interest of the tribal people. This, in turn, affects the livelihood of Kendu leaf pluckers, binders, seasonal workers and also impacts the implementation of social security and welfare schemes meant for them. Our hon. Chief Minister of Odisha also has expressed his

concern and written a letter on this issue to the Central Government and also the hon. Finance Minister. Thank you.

श्री जगदम्बिका पाल (डुमरियागंज): माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपका बहुत आभारी हूँ। यह अत्यंत लोक महत्व का विषय है। उत्तर प्रदेश में अक्टूबर महीने में इस बार अप्रत्याशित बाढ़ आई थी। उसके कारण 21 जनपद के लगभग 2235 गाँव बाढ़ से प्रभावित हुए हैं। हमारे सिद्धार्थ नगर के 580 गाँव प्रभावित हुए हैं। मानसून सीजन में जुलाई, अगस्त और सितम्बर के बाद कभी बारिश नहीं हुई थी। यह पहली बार अप्रत्याशित बारिश अक्टूबर महीने में हुई और कुछ नेपाल की नदियों का पानी भी आया। उसके कारण सड़कें टूट गईं और लगातार 8730 हेक्टेयर में पूरी फसल खराब हो गई। आज किसानों के सामने रबी की यह स्थिति है।

मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से यह मांग करता हूँ कि वहां एक केंद्रीय अध्ययन दल भेजा जाए, ताकि वहां के किसानों की जो फसल की क्षति हुई है, उसका आकलन करके उनको मुआवजा दिया जा सके। जो अप्रत्याशित नुकसान हुआ है, वह केवल फसल का नहीं हुआ है बल्कि घरों का भी हुआ है और बड़ी संख्या में लोगों की मृत्यु भी हुई है। उसके कारण रेलवे लाइन पर पानी आ गया था और कई बांध भी टूट गए थे। हमारा जनपद कई दिनों से प्रदेश से एक तरह से अलग हो गया था और टापू हो गया था। यह एक अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण सवाल है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप निर्देश दें कि वहां केंद्र की तरफ से एक अध्ययन दल जाए। धन्यवाद।

12.54 hrs

SUBMISSION BY MEMBER

Re: Alleged Auction of 4 Coal Blocks in Telangana

SHRI UTTAM KUMAR REDDY (NALGONDA): Hon. Speaker, Sir, through you, I wish to bring a matter of urgent public importance to the notice of Government of India. The people of Telangana are strongly objecting to the auction of four coal blocks, namely, Kalyankhani block, Koyagudem block, Sathupalli block and Shraavanapalli block.

These coal blocks are co-located with an existing public sector undertaking, Singareni Collieries, which is a 100-year-old public sector coal mining company. It is a profit-making public sector mining company. It has made continuous profits for twenty years. In a very irrational and bizarre decision, that the Government of India has announced auction of the coal blocks adjacent to the Singareni mines/coal blocks.

The Singareni Collieries Company Limited currently supplies coal to the thermal power stations in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. Instead of allocating these coal blocks to the Singareni Collieries Company Limited, the Ministry of Coal is putting them up for auction which is an irrational and objectionable decision. We demand that the auction of these four coal blocks be cancelled and be allocated to the public sector undertaking, Singareni Collieries Company Limited.

Sir, I would also bring to the notice of the Government that the hon. Prime Minister, during his visit to Telangana last month, had promised that they would

not be privatised but still, the Government of India is going ahead with the privatisation of coal blocks in Telangana. ... (*Interruptions*)

Sir, Shri Pralhad Joshi has come now. In the last Session, he has replied that it was a Government decision. There is no logic to it.... (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF COAL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): Sir, whatever the hon. Member from Telangana has alleged is virtually and factually wrong. The auction process is going on for the last two to two-and-a-half years and it is the most transparent system which we have adopted.

So far, nobody has alleged anything against the transparent system of auction. This is also beneficial to the State. If the State Government wants, they can participate in it and there are many States which are not ruled by the Bhartiya Janata Party (*Interruptions*)

SHRI UTTAM KUMAR REDDY: The hon. Prime Minister has announced in a public meeting in Telangana that there would be no privatisation of coal mines..... (*Interruptions*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : मंत्री जी, आप बोलिए।

... (व्यवधान)

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Sir, first of all, I would like to tell about the auction process.... (*Interruptions*) Whatever is happening is happening through a transparent auction method.

As far as privatisation is concerned, 51 per cent is with Telangana Government and 49 per cent is with us. How can we privatise it then? ...

(Interruptions)

SHRI UTTAM KUMAR REDDY (NALGONDA): It is the coal blocks of the company which is a public sector company. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: It is not the question of allocating the coal blocks. Everybody has to participate in the auction. This is the system which we have adopted now.... *(Interruptions)* I would also like to tell you that in many other States also, like Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand, auction is going on. Those Governments are cooperating with us. There is no problem with them.... *(Interruptions)* The entire revenue acquired through auction goes to the State Government. The people who are in the coal scam are talking all these things. ... *(Interruptions)*

माननीय अध्यक्ष : माननीय सदस्य की समस्या है कि राज्य को 51 प्रतिशत क्यों दे रहे हैं।

... (व्यवधान)

श्री प्रहलाद जोशी : महोदय, जिन लोगों ने करोड़ों-करोड़ रुपये के कोल स्कैम्स किए थे, वे लोग यह ट्रांसपैरेंट सिस्टम नहीं चाहते हैं।...(व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री लावू श्रीकृष्णा देवरायालू जी।

... (व्यवधान)

**LIST OF MEMBERS WHO HAVE ASSOCIATED THEMSELVES WITH THE
ISSUES RAISED UNDER MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

सदस्य, जिनके द्वारा अविलम्बनीय लोक महत्व के विषय उठाये गये।	सदस्य, जिन्होंने उठाए गए विषयों के साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध किया।
Shri Hibi Eden	Shri B. Manickam Tagore Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka Shri Kodikunnil Suresh Shri N.K. Premachandran Shri Malook Nagar Dr. Shashi Tharoor
Shri Ganesh Singh	Shri Malook Nagar Shri Uday Pratap Singh Shri Sudheer Gupta Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma
Dr. Dhal Singh Bisen	Shri Sudheer Gupta Shri Uday Pratap Singh Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma Shri P.P. Chaudhary
Dr. D. Ravikumar	Shri Malook Nagar Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma Dr. DNV Senthilkumar S.
Shri T. N. Prathapan	Shri Malook Nagar Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma
Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab	Shri Malook Nagar Shri S. C. Udasi Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma Dr. DNV Senthilkumar S.
Shri Jagdambika Pal	Shri Malook Nagar Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma Shri P.P. Chaudhary

Shri Girish Chandra	Shri Malook Nagar Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma
Shri C. P. Joshi	Shri Dushyant Singh Shri Subhash Baheria Dr. Manoj Rajoria Shri Arjunlal Meena Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma Shri P.P. Chaudhary Shri Malook Nagar
Shri Rajesh Verma	Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma Shri Malook Nagar
Shri Kodikunnil Sure	Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka Shrimati Supriya Sadanand Sule Dr. DNV Senthilkumar S. Shri N.K. Premachandran
Shri Bhagirath Choudhary	Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma Shri Girish Chandra Shri Malook Nagar Shri P.P. Chaudhary Shri Dushyant Singh Dr. Manoj Rajoriya Shri Ramcharan Bohra Shri Subhash Baheria Shri C. P. Joshi
Shri Jasbir Singh Gill	Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma
Shri Arjunlal Meena	Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma Shri P.P. Chaudhary Shri Sudheer Gupta Dr. Manoj Rajoria Shri Ramcharan Bohra Shri Dushyant Singh Shri C. P. Josh

Shri Mohammed Faizal P.P.	Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma Shri Malook Nagar Shri Shriniwas Dadasaheb Patil Shri Sunil Dattatray Tatkare Dr. DNV Senthilkumar S. Dr. Amol Ramsing Kolhe Shri K. Muraleedharan Shrimati Supriya Sadanand Sule
Shri Chandra Sekhar Sahu	Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma Shri S. C. Udasi
Shrimati Supriya Sadanand Sule	Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma
Shri Gaurav Gogoi	Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma
Shri Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu	Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma
Shri Dharambir Singh	Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma
Shri Rajmohan Unnithan	Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma
Shri Satyadev Pachauri	Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma
Shrimati Chinta Anuradha	Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma Dr. DNV Senthilkumar S. Shri P.P. Chaudhary Shri Malook Nagar
Shri Mahesh Sahoo	Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka Shri Malook Nagar
Shri Satyadev Pachauri	Shri Uday Pratap Singh
Prof. Achyutananda Samanta	Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma Shri Malook Nagar
Shri Uttam Kumar Reddy,	Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma

माननीय अध्यक्ष : सभा की कार्यवाही दो बजे तक के लिए स्थगित की जाती है। लंच का समय हो गया है।

12.59 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen of the Clock.

14.02 hrs

The Lok Sabha reassembled at Two Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

(Hon. Speaker in the Chair)

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : विद्वानों के बीच में आना पड़ता है न।

आइटम नम्बर 13 - श्री बी. एल. वर्मा जी।

14.03 hrs

MULTI-STATE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022*

उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र विकास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा सहकारिता मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री बी. एल. वर्मा): अध्यक्ष महोदय, 6 जुलाई, 2021 को नए सहकारिता मंत्रालय के गठन के बाद माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी के सहकारिता समृद्धि के विजन को अकल्पनीय तरीके से पूरा करते हुए, हमारे माननीय केन्द्रीय मंत्री श्री अमित शाह जी की ओर से मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि बहुराज्य सहकारी सोसाइटी अधिनियम, 2002 का और संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए।

माननीय अध्यक्ष: प्रस्ताव प्रस्तुत हुआ :

“कि बहुराज्य सहकारी सोसाइटी अधिनियम, 2002 का और संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए।”

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Hon. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the introduction of the Multi-State Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2022 under Rule 72(2) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha and as per the provisions of the Constitution of India.

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माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप जो नियम 72(2) पढ़ते हैं, उस पर कभी डिबेट हो जानी चाहिए। विषय यह है कि संसद को इस कानून को पास करने की विधायी क्षमता है या नहीं है। माननीय सदस्य, शायद आपसे ज्ञानी यहां पर कोई नहीं है। जब से मल्टी स्टेट कोऑपरेटिव एक्ट बना है, तब से मैं कोऑपरेटिव में रहा हूँ। यह सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट का एक्ट है और राज्य का कोऑपरेटिव एक्ट है। यही है न? एन. के. प्रेमचन्द्रन जी, बोलिए।

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Sir, I fully agree with you. On technical points and on the basis of the Constitutional provisions, I am opposing the introduction of the Multi-State Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2022.

Sir, the first point which I would like to make is this. You may kindly go through the definition of Article 243ZH(c) and (d) of the Constitution of India.

Sub-clause (c) of the provision clearly defines, what is a cooperative society, which means to say 'a society registered or deemed to be registered under any law relating to Cooperative Societies for the time being enforced in the State.'

About the Multi-State Cooperative Societies, as the hon. Speaker has just now mentioned, it is as per the law passed by the Parliament; and it belongs to the Union of India. My technical point is that this Bill is against the very spirit of this definition incorporated in Part 9B of the Constitution. That is a newly added amended provision in the Cooperative Societies Act. A Chapter is also there in which there is no particular or specific provision by which a Cooperative Society which is incorporated under the State Law can be merged into a Multi-State Cooperative Society. That is my technical objection. Sir, Chapter 9B, a newly added Chapter in the Constitution, is there with a specific provision to distinguish

between a Cooperative Society of the State and a Multi-State Cooperative Society being governed by the Government of India or the Union of India. There is a clear distinction by which a Cooperative Society is governed by the State Legislature or Legislative Assembly and a Multi-State Cooperative Society is run by the Union of India. Here, my basic point is that it is against the federal principles of the Constitution because the federal structure has to be protected. But in this case, it is not so. Sir, as you rightly pointed out, if you go through Clause 6 of the Bill, it is very interesting to note that here, indirectly the Central Government is encroaching upon the rights of a State Cooperative Society. I would explain it. Clause C, Section 7 of the Act is to be amended in which a new provision is being added. It says that 'Any Cooperative Society, may, by a Resolution, passed by a majority of not less than 2/3rds of the Members present and voting at a General Meeting of the Society, decide to merge into an existing Multi-State Cooperative Society...' This is the provision which we are disputing.

It means, a State Cooperative Society can, at any time, be merged into a Multi-State Cooperative Society. But the State Cooperative Society is to be governed by a law of the State Legislature but here it is indirectly coming into the domain of the Union of India, which is against the basic spirit of the Constitution by which Part 9B of the Constitution is being incorporated as an amended Chapter. That is the technical objection, which I am raising here.

Along with this, another provision is also there. In provision 243ZI, it is very clearly mentioned, what is the incorporation of a society. The State Law also is well mentioned in Provision 243ZI which is 'Incorporation of the

Cooperative subject to provisions...' It says that 'the Legislature of a State may, by law, make provisions with respect to the incorporation, regulation and winding up of a Cooperative Society.' That is also being governed by a State Law made by the Legislative Assembly.

So, when a specific provision regarding the State Cooperative Society, and a Multi-State Cooperative Society is distinctly there, why indirectly, the Union of India/the Government of India is coming with a legislation with an intent to make all the State Cooperative Societies be merged with the Multi-State Cooperative Societies? So, this is taking away the rights of the State Governments by the Central Government, which is against the federal character and the federal polity of the Constitution.

Sir, the basic features of the Constitution cannot be amended. That is why I am saying that it is outside the scope of the legislative competence of the House. Hence, I am opposing the introduction of this Bill.

Thank you very much, Sir, for proving me this much of time.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : माननीय मंत्री जी, श्री एन. के. प्रेमचन्द्रन जी ने यह विषय उठाया है कि राज्य की किसी भी सोसाइटी को क्या मल्टी स्टेट कोऑपरेटिव सोसाइटी में बदल सकते हैं, क्या आप यह अधिकार इसमें ले रहे हैं? जब आप जवाब देंगे, तब इस पॉइंट को क्लियर करें।

Now, Shri C. Thomas – Not present;

Dr. D. Ravikumar -- Not present;

Shri Manish Tewari-ji.

SHRI MANISH TEWARI (ANANDPUR SAHIB): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I rise to oppose the introduction of the Multi-State Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2022, as this Bill violates the object of the 97th Constitutional Amendment, Article 243ZI inserted by the 97th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2011, and Article 43B of the Constitution.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I will point out five specific clauses of the Bill which are beyond the legislative competence of this House and, therefore, we are opposing the introduction of this Bill.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप विद्वान हैं। अभी तो हमें केवल इतना ही डिसकस करना है कि संसद को इसकी विधायी क्षमता है या नहीं है। जब पूरा विषय डिसकस हो तो खण्डवाइज बोल लीजिएगा।

श्री मनीष तिवारी : स्पीकर सर, मैं उसी प्रावधान की ओर आपका ध्यान दिलवा रहा हूँ, जो प्रावधान सीधा-सीधा इस सदन के लेजिस्लेटिव कॉम्पिटेंस के बाहर है। मैं उससे बाहर जाने की कोशिश नहीं कर रहा हूँ।

The first is that clause 6 of the Bill inserts sub-Section 10 into Section 17, creating an ambiguity by allowing any cooperative society to merge into an existing multi-State cooperative society. This is beyond the legislative competence of the Union as State Cooperative Societies are within the exclusive jurisdiction of the States.

The second is that clause 13 substitutes Section 35 to now prohibit the redemption of shares of multi-State cooperative societies without the approval of the Government. This strikes at the very heart of the principle of autonomous functioning of cooperative societies which the 97th Amendment sought to introduce by virtue of Article 45(b) of the Constitution.

The third is that clause 17 completely usurps the object of the parent Act as well as the 97th Amendment by substituting Section 45 with the Central Election Authority to be appointed by the Central Government.

The fourth is that a fund is sought to be created by virtue of clause 24 of the Bill. By inserting Section 63(a), 63(b), and 63(c) into the parent Act and again by putting an additional burden on cooperatives, it infringes upon the cardinal principle of autonomous functioning as provided in Article 43(b) of the Constitution.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, Sir, and I thank you for your indulgence, clause 45 provides for an overriding of the Board and appointing an administrator in its place who may not even be a member of the society. This clause also substantially contravenes the 97th Amendment to the Constitution.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would very, very humbly like to urge the Treasury Benches that this Bill should be withdrawn. It should be reconsidered because it violates the federal spirit of the Constitution. It, actually, attacks the federal spirit of the Constitution with a sledgehammer.

Thank you very much Mr. Speaker, Sir.

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY (BAHARAMPUR): Sir, I rise to oppose the introduction of this Bill under the nomenclature of the Multi-State Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2022 under Rule 72(2). Sir, already, the explicit reasons for opposing the legislative document have been deliberated by our colleagues. I would like to draw your attention that cooperative society is a State subject under the Seventh Schedule *via* Entry 32 of the State List in the

Indian Constitution. It has already been inserted. So, it is, basically, a State subject. You are absolutely raising a pertinent argument which also needs to be dealt with but here in this issue there is a clear indication that the Central Government has been encroaching upon the territory of the State Government. That is why, furore and uproarious protestation has been cropping up across the nation. It is because this Government has always been pleading for cooperative federalism, so, this should have been reflected in the preparation of this legislation. I do not know whether all the stakeholders, I mean, the State Governments have been consulted before the preparation of this legislation or not. According to this Bill, in the Cooperative Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Fund, which is to be constituted, the profit-making multi-State cooperative has to pay Rs. 1 crore or one per cent of its profit. Strangely, the Government is not paying a single paisa. This is an illogical way that one profit-making cooperative society shall pay for the revival of another loss-making cooperative society. This does not happen in the Companies Act also.

Sir, that is why we are opposing the Bill. The Central Government has empowered itself with the vast powers under the present Bill. This may lead to concentration of power with the Central Government which may impact the autonomy and functioning of the multi-sectoral cooperative societies, and may also create a potential for misuse. For example, under the present Bill, the cooperative ombudsman will be appointed directly by the Centre, without any apparent monitoring system, to prevent corruption. An ombudsman is supposed to be unbiased. ... (*Interruptions*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : जब पूरे बिल पर डिबेट होगी, तब चर्चा करेंगे। अभी आप सीमित विचार रखिए।

...(व्यवधान)

श्री अधीर रंजन चौधरी: सर, मेरी बात पूरी होने वाली है।...(व्यवधान) An ombudsman is supposed to be unbiased and keep a check on the Government by preventing them from abusing power. However, when an ombudsman is appointed directly by the Government itself, it creates scope for undue influence over the decision of the ombudsman.

That is why, my only submission before you and the Government is this. Given the ramifications and encroachment upon the States' power, this Bill should be referred to the Standing Committee so that it could be further scrutinized, and all the controversies could be wiped off before presentation of the Bill afresh. This is my only submission before you.

ADV. A.M. ARIFF (ALAPPUZHA): Sir, I rise to oppose the introduction of the Multi-State Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2022. As per one of the lists of the Constitution and also as per the judgment of the Supreme Court, the Central Government cannot make any law with regard to the cooperative societies without the consultation of the States. The amendment in the Bill is a proposal for complete centralization of authority. Also, this is a frontal attack on the federal principle of our Constitution. Therefore, necessary consultation is needed with the State Governments.

I also support the arguments made by the Members against the introduction of this Bill. The Bill may be referred to the Standing Committee. Thank you.

PROF. SOUGATA RAY (DUM DUM): Sir, under Rule 72 (1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I beg to oppose the introduction of the Multi-State Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2022.

Sir, originally, in 2002, when the Bill first came to light, it was intended to facilitate the voluntary formation and democratic functioning of cooperatives as people's institutes. But it seems that with this Amendment Bill, the Central Government is planning to take away the powers of the State Governments with regard to cooperatives. It has four proposals. One is, setting up of cooperative election authority. Earlier, cooperative elections were looked after by the State Governments. It takes that authority away. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: No.

... (*Interruptions*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : मैं को-ऑपरेटिव में रहा हूँ, इसलिए मैं भी को-ऑपरेटिव के सिस्टम को जानता हूँ।

... (व्यवधान)

प्रो. सौगत राय : हां, मैं जानता हूँ कि आप बहुत एक्सपर्ट हैं। कोटा में जो को-ऑपरेटिव बना, उसमें आप मैम्बर थे और सेक्रेट्री भी थे। मुझे पता है। आपके बारे में हम लोग सब कुछ जानकारी लेकर ही बोलते हैं।...(व्यवधान) Sir, they are proposing to create a cooperative revival fund. Thirdly, as Adhirji mentioned, they are planning to set up a cooperative ombudsman. Fourthly, they are increasing monetary penalties on Multi-State Cooperative Societies.

सर, मैं एक चीज आपके संज्ञान में लाना चाहता हूँ कि वर्ष 2011 में काँस्टीट्यूशन का 97वां अमेंडमेंट हुआ। जिसमें को-ऑपरेटिव सोसायटी आ गयी। The cooperative societies

became part of the Constitution. सर, उसमें कहा गया है कि incorporation of cooperative societies कौन करेगा, यह स्टेट करेगा। यह क्लीयरली मेंशनड है।... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : जब डिटेल्ड डिस्कशन होगा तब हम यह चर्चा कर लेंगे।

प्रो. सौगत राय : सर, मैं एक मिनट में अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ। Article 243ZR talks about its application to Multi-State Cooperative Societies. यह कॉन्स्टिट्यूशन अमेंडमेंट में लाया गया। बिल में यह कहा गया, बिल में objects and reasons में कहा गया, “In view of insertion of the said part, it has become imperative to amend the Act.”

It is not clear to me how the Act is related to the Constitution amendment. The amendment came in 2011. This Government has been in power for eight years. They have not amended it. Suddenly, Mr. Amit Shah comes forward with the amendment to this Bill. This Bill impinges on the rights of the States. It impinges on the right of people to form co-operatives on their own will, and basically, it will act in bringing more control over multi-State co-operative societies by the Central Government.

I am totally opposed to this. It is undemocratic. It is anti-Constitutional, and it violates the spirit of the co-operatives and cooperation in the country.

Sir, please send it to the Standing Committee. You can do it. You have the power. If you write one line, then everything will go to the Standing Committee. आप यह कर दीजिए। ... (व्यवधान)

SHRI T. R. BAALU (SRIPERUMBUDUR): Sir, I am not a lawyer like other Members. I am talking from the point of view of the common man. I oppose the Multi-State Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2022. This is stoutly being opposed by me because of one reason. Actually, it gives an impression as

though the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Members and the Secretary are just selected by the Central Government only. There is no democratic policy or principle being adopted. ... (*Interruptions*) Yes, that is why, the objection is from our side. There is no point of view from the democratically elected public. It is intended for the betterment of opportunities that have been extended to the public.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF COAL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): You are talking on the merit.

SHRI T. R. BAALU: No, this is nothing. I will conclude. Do not worry. I am not going to include any other thing.

Actually, the common man has got the opportunity of taking the help by way of using the co-operative movement. He has to say what has to be served by the Government in rendering the usual way of small, small helps by way of this co-operative movement. This co-operative movement has to be reckoned by democratic means only but there is no democracy. Actually, the Government is making everybody the Heads of the institutions, and they are appointed by the Government only. This is not fair. That is the main objection from us. So, it has to be referred to the Standing Committee. Thank you.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : माननीय मंत्री जी – आप बोलिए ।

... (व्यवधान)

श्री बी. एल. वर्मा : माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, अभी माननीय सदस्यों द्वारा कुछ प्रश्न आए हैं । ... (व्यवधान) सबसे बड़ा प्रश्न है कि संसद की क्षमता इस विधेयक को लाने की है या नहीं? ... (व्यवधान) इस पर मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि अभी माननीय सदस्य ने स्टेट का प्रश्न किया था कि स्टेट

पर हमला हो रहा है। मान्यवर, यह विधेयक इस प्रकार का नहीं है। एक राज्य में जो सहकारिता की सोसाइटीज काम करती हैं, वे राज्य की होती हैं और एक राज्य से ज्यादा में जो काम करती हैं, वे मल्टी-स्टेट होती हैं। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि खंड-6 में राज्य सहकारी समितियों के बहुराज्य सहकारी समिति में विलय का प्रावधान पहले से है, परंतु यह राज्यों के सहकारी सोसाइटी में नियमों के अधीन ही है। वर्ष 2002 के अधिनियम में भी राज्य सोसाइटियों के बहुराज्य सोसाइटी में परिवर्तन करने का प्रावधान पहले से ही आपके यहां है।

दूसरा प्रश्न आया था कि संविधान के 97वें संशोधन को उच्च न्यायालय में निरस्त कर दिया गया था, पर सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने जुलाई, 2021 में यह निर्णय दिया कि यह संशोधन बहुराज्य सहकारी समितियों पर लागू होगा। इसलिए, इस संशोधन विधेयक की आवश्यकता पड़ी।

अध्यक्ष जी, हमारे यहां चुनाव प्राधिकरण का जो सवाल आया है, वह प्रावधान में संविधान के 97वें संशोधन के अनुसार है और शेयर्स के मोचन का प्रावधान अंकित मूल्य पर प्रस्तावित है जो कि सहकारिता के सिद्धांतों के अनुसार है। इन सहकारी समितियों का उद्देश्य केवल एक राज्य तक सीमित है और सूची-2 राज्य की प्रविष्टि 32 में आती है एवं राज्यों की सहकारी समितियों के पंजीयकों द्वारा पंजीकृत की जाती है। ये विधेयक बहुराज्य सहकारी समितियों के लिए है, जिनका उद्देश्य एक से अधिक राज्यों में है जो संघ सूची की प्रविष्टि 44 के अंतर्गत आती है और केंद्रीय पंजीयक द्वारा इसे पंजीकृत किया जाता है। यह विधेयक पूर्णतया संसद की विधायी क्षमता में है। यह विधेयक संविधान की सातवीं अनुसूची की सूची-1 संघ सूची की प्रविष्टि 44 के अंतर्गत प्रस्तावित है। बहुराज्य सहकारी सोसाइटी अधिनियम, 2002 का उससे पहले बहुराज्य सहकारी सोसाइटी अधिनियम, 1984 में भी इस प्रविष्टि के अंतर्गत संसद में पारित किए गए हैं।

अतः यह विधेयक संसद की विधायी क्षमता में है। बाकी प्रश्नों के बारे में विधेयक पर खंडवार चर्चा जब होगी, तब उसके उत्तर दिए जाएंगे। अतः मैं बहुराज्य सहकारी सोसाइटी संशोधन विधेयक, 2022 के पुरःस्थापन का अनुरोध करता हूँ।... (व्यवधान)

श्री एन. के. प्रेमचन्द्रन (कोल्लम): महोदय, आप इसे स्टैंडिंग कमेटी को भेज दीजिए।... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप सभी से बात करके इस विषय पर चर्चा करेंगे। आप निश्चित रहें।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : पहले आप से इस विषय पर चर्चा और विचार करेंगे।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रश्न यह है:

“कि बहुराज्य सहकारी सोसाइटी अधिनियम, 2002 का और संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति प्रदान की जाए।”

प्रस्ताव स्वीकृत हुआ

श्री बी. एल. वर्मा: अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित* करता हूँ।

* Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

14.26hrs**MATTERS UNDER RULE 377****माननीय अध्यक्ष :** आईटम नम्बर-14.

आज आप सभी को नियम 377 के अधीन मामलों पर बोलने का मौका मिलेगा।

श्री गौरव गोगोई।

(i) Regarding allocation of funds under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI (KALIABOR): The prime reason for India's poor performance in combating air pollution is the insufficient capacity building of municipal corporations and district subdivision administrations under the National Clean Air Program (NCAP). Reportedly, most of the cities mandated to submit their respective city action plans have simply replicated each other's initiatives. Some local Governments have either underspent or diverted majority of funds towards projects not closely related to NCAP. Comprehensive monitoring mechanisms must be developed by the Union Government to prevent such activities of the local Governments. From the financial year 2022-23, presenting evidence for the increased number of good days and reduction in PM10 annual average concentration is mandatory to receive the 15th Finance Commission recommended grants. This requirement neglects the need for the essentials, such as building a robust monitoring framework. Only 69 out of 132 NCAP cities have real-time monitoring stations.

14.27 hrs**(Shri Rajendra Agrawal *in the Chair*)**

In 2020-21, the NCAP was clubbed with other items under "Control of Pollution" and the budget was marginally reduced. Many 'most polluted' cities are provided with reduced NCAP funds or no funds at all. Thus, the States must be provided freedom in NCAP funds allocation, since the top-down approach is not apt to reduce air pollution.

(ii) Need to include and develop places of religious importance in Rajgarh Parliamentary Constituency under the PRASAD Scheme

श्री रोड़मल नागर (राजगढ़): माननीय सभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से केंद्र सरकार का ध्यान मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र राजगढ़, मध्य प्रदेश में महत्वपूर्ण धार्मिक स्थल मां बिजासन धाम (भेसवा माता) सारंगपुर, सांका श्यामजी मंदिर नरसिंहगढ़, माँ बगलामुखी मंदिर नलखेड़ा, घुरेल पशुपतिनाथ मंदिर ब्यावरा, जालपा माता मंदिर राजगढ़, छोटे महादेव एवं बाबा बैजनाथ बड़ा महादेव मंदिर राजगढ़, कोटरा की गुफाओं, 16 खंभ एवं प्राचीन हनुमान मंदिर (तीज बड़ली) नरसिंहगढ़ की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। ये स्थल केवल राजगढ़ क्षेत्र ही नहीं अपितु देश भर के श्रद्धालुओं की लोक आस्था का केन्द्र है। प्रतिवर्ष यहां लाखों की संख्या में देश के विभिन्न स्थानों से श्रद्धालु अपनी मनोकामना पूर्ति हेतु आते हैं। श्रद्धालुओं हेतु आध्यात्मिक एवं पर्यटन की दृष्टि से मूलभूत एवं अधोसंरचनात्मक सुविधाओं की महती आवश्यकता है। अतः मैं केंद्रीय पर्यटन मंत्री जी से आग्रह करता हूँ कि लोक आस्था के इन महत्वपूर्ण आध्यात्मिक केन्द्रों को और अधिक गतिमान बनाने हेतु प्रसाद योजना "तीर्थ यात्रा कायाकल्प आध्यात्मिक समाधान राष्ट्रीय मिशन" में शामिल करने की कृपा करें।

(iii) Regarding release of pending dues to West Bengal under MGNREGA

PROF. SOUGATA RAY (DUM DUM): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Union Government, through this august House, towards the pendency of huge amount on account of job guarantee scheme, MGNREGA, to the State of West Bengal. ... *(Interruptions)* These funds have been lying pending despite the submission of proper accounts along with utilisation certificates by the State Government for the amount received earlier under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). Our hon. Chief Minister has also sent two letters dated May 12 and June 9 to the hon. Prime Minister on the Issue. ... *(Interruptions)* Under the Act, payment cannot be denied for more than 15 days to MGNREGA workers, but their wages ... *(Interruptions)* are being stalled. It is very unfortunate that neither any fund nor any response has been received from the Ministry to the State's representations yet. This is beyond the ethics of the said Scheme, and the livelihood of the rural people in the State is suffering extremely. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please read only what has been given.

PROF. SOUGATA RAY: Considering the above circumstances, we would fervently request the Government to take necessary action to release all pending dues of the MGNREGA ... *(Interruptions)* to the State Government to save the weaker sections. ... *(Interruptions)* I urge upon the Central Government to release the pending dues with immediate effect to the State of West Bengal. Thank you.

(iv) Need to rename 'High Court of Bombay' as 'Maharashtra High Court'

श्री गोपाल शेटी (मुंबई उत्तर): महोदय, महाराष्ट्र सरकार ने वर्ष 1960 में एक आदेश जारी किया था, जिसमें स्पष्ट रूप से कहा गया था कि 'बॉम्बे उच्च न्यायालय' अब से 'महाराष्ट्र उच्च न्यायालय' के रूप में जाना जाएगा, लेकिन इस आदेश को लागू नहीं किया गया। वर्ष 1995 में बॉम्बे का नाम बदलकर मुंबई कर दिया गया, लेकिन बॉम्बे हाई कोर्ट का नाम वही रहा। चूंकि, बॉम्बे नामक शहर अब मौजूद ही नहीं है, लेकिन हाई कोर्ट, बॉम्बे के नाम पर ही है, जो उचित नहीं है।

'महाराष्ट्र' राज्य का उच्चारण एक महाराष्ट्रियन के जीवन में विशेष महत्व को दर्शाता है। अतः इसके उपयोग को उच्च न्यायालय के नाम में भी अभिव्यक्ति मिलनी चाहिए। महाराष्ट्र के लोगों की विशिष्ट संस्कृति, विरासत और परंपराओं के संरक्षण के लिए महाराष्ट्र अनुकूलन कानून (राज्य और समवर्ती विषय) आदेश 1960 के एक खंड के कार्यान्वयन के लिए 'बॉम्बे हाई कोर्ट' का नाम बदलकर 'महाराष्ट्र हाई कोर्ट' किया जाना नितांत आवश्यक है।

इस संदर्भ में यह भी दृष्टव्य है कि 'बॉम्बे हाई कोर्ट' का नाम महाराष्ट्र हाई कोर्ट किए जाने वाली एक जनहित याचिका में माननीय उच्चतम न्यायालय ने अपने आदेश में 03-11-2022 में कहा है कि इस मामले में संसदीय प्रक्रिया है। अतः इसमें न्यायालयों द्वारा हस्तक्षेप नहीं किया जा सकता है और तथापि यदि ऐसा परिवर्तन किया जाना है, तो इसे संसदीय या विधायी निकाय के माध्यम से किया जाना चाहिए। अतः भारतीय संविधान (भाग-6 राज्य) के अध्याय 5 – राज्यों के उच्च न्यायालय के अनुच्छेद-214 'प्रत्येक राज्य के लिए एक उच्च न्यायालय होगा' के स्थान पर 'प्रत्येक राज्य के लिए राज्य के नाम से एक उच्च न्यायालय होगा' अंतः स्थापित किए जाने हेतु संशोधन किया जाए और साथ ही अन्य राज्यों के संबंधित अधिकारियों को भी निर्देश दिए जाएं कि वे अपने उच्च न्यायालयों के नाम उन राज्यों के नाम के अनुसार बदलें, जहां वे स्थित हैं।

(v) Regarding release of insurance claim on crop cutting basis under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana to farmers in Hanumangarh district of the Churu Parliamentary Constituency, Rajasthan

श्री राहुल कस्वां (चुरु): महोदय, मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र के हनुमानगढ़ जिले की नोहर, रावतसर व भादरा तहसील के किसानों का प्रधानमंत्री फसल बीमा योजना के तहत फसल बीमा एग्रीकल्चर इंश्योरेंस कंपनी द्वारा किया जा रहा है। क्षेत्र के किसानों को कंपनी द्वारा खरीफ फसल वर्ष 2021, रबी वर्ष 2021-22 का बीमा क्लेम आज तक जारी नहीं किया गया है।

35 प्रतिशत से अधिक क्रोप कटिंग ए.आई.सी. (एग्रीकल्चर इंश्योरेंस कम्पनी) के कर्मचारियों, राजस्व विभाग एवं कृषि विभाग के अधिकारियों की उपस्थिति में सभी के समक्ष किया गया था, क्रोप कटिंग की रिपोर्ट भी भेज दी गई है, बावजूद इसके बीमा कंपनी द्वारा STAC में क्रॉप कटिंग के आंकड़ों पर आपत्ति लगाते हुए बीमा क्लेम का भुगतान करने से मना किया जा रहा है, व सेटेलाइट डाटा की माँग की जा रही है। जबकि किसानों के द्वारा लगातार माँग की जा रही हैं कि खरीफ फसल वर्ष 2021, रबी वर्ष 2021 एवं 2022 का बीमा क्लेम क्रोप कटिंग के आधार पर जारी किया जाये। आपत्ति की सुनवाई के दौरान राजस्थान सरकार ने आनुपातिक आधार पर क्लेम जारी करने का आश्वासन दिया, लेकिन आज तक क्लेम नहीं दिया गया है।

मेरा सदन के माध्यम से कृषि मंत्री जी से अनुरोध है कि मेरे लोक सभा क्षेत्र के हनुमानगढ़ जिले के तहत आने वाले नोहर, भादरा व रावतसर तहसील के किसानों को खरीफ फसल वर्ष 2021, रबी वर्ष 2021 एवं 2022 का बीमा क्लेम क्रोप कटिंग के आधार पर मय ब्याज शीघ्रताशीघ्र जारी किया जाये।

(vi) Need to run a MEMU passenger train between Sitapur and Lucknow

श्री राजेश वर्मा (सीतापुर): आदरणीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपका ध्यान अपने संसदीय क्षेत्र जनपद सीतापुर (उत्तर प्रदेश) की तरफ आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ। मेरा जनपद सीतापुर एक बहुत बड़ा शहर है और प्रदेश की राजधानी लखनऊ से मात्र 80 किमी की दूरी पर स्थित है। हजारों दैनिक यात्री, मजदूरी करने वाले लोग एवं व्यापारी प्रतिदिन प्रातः सीतापुर से लखनऊ और संध्या में लखनऊ से सीतापुर आते-जाते हैं, परन्तु प्रातः एवं संध्या में कोई भी पैसेंजर ट्रेन नहीं है।

अतः अध्यक्ष महोदय आपके माध्यम से मैं माननीय रेल मंत्री जी से माँग करता हूँ कि जनहित में सीतापुर- लखनऊ यात्रियों की सुविधा को दृष्टिगत रखते हुए मेमो ट्रेन के अप-डाउन के संचालन हेतु निर्देश प्रदान करने का कष्ट करें।

माननीय सभापति: श्री सुब्रत पाठक

... (व्यवधान)

श्री गणेश सिंह।

(vii) Need to sanction construction of a National Highway from Satna to Prayagraj linking backward areas of two states

श्री गणेश सिंह (सतना): महोदय, आजाद भारत के इतिहास में वर्ष 2014 से लेकर आज तक भारतीय राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग प्राधिकरण ने ऐतिहासिक कार्य करके जो कीर्तिमान स्थापित किया है, वह अत्यंत सराहनीय है। मेरा लोकसभा क्षेत्र सतना उत्तर प्रदेश की सीमा से लगा हुआ है, किन्तु वहाँ सीधा कोई भी राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग नहीं है। भारतमाला योजना में मैंने सतना से सेमरिया, सिरमौर, जवा, शंकरगढ़, प्रयागराज हेतु एक राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग की माँग की थी, जिसकी सैद्धांतिक सहमति भी हो चुकी थी।

माननीय मंत्री जी का आश्वासन पत्र भी मुझे मिला था, किन्तु आज तक दो राज्यों को जोड़ने वाली सड़क जो कि सर्वाधिक पिछड़े हुये क्षेत्र से गुजरने वाली है, उसकी स्वीकृति नहीं हो पाई। मैं मांग करता हूँ कि तत्काल उक्त सड़क की स्वीकृति देने की कृपा करें।

(viii) Regarding expediting construction of Malda Airport.

SHRI KHAGEN MURMU (MALDAH UTAR): I would like to draw the kind attention of the hon. Minister of Civil Aviation towards the pressing need of an airport in Malda.

The nearest airports to Malda are Siliguri and Kolkata which are 250 KM. and 350 KM. away respectively. These long distances have hampered economic activities along with loss of thousands of lives during medical emergencies. Since the 18th century, great quality jute, export-grade mangoes, mulberry, and excellent quality silk have been the main sources of revenue for Malda.

The requirement of an Airport would not only facilitate the regional and international trade of these products but also pave the path to realize the “One District One Product” initiative and would create an effective value chain to meet the actual demand for these products. In this regard, I would request the hon. Minister of Civil Aviation to expedite the construction of Malda Airport which has been under construction since 2017.

**(ix) Regarding setting up an additional Krishi Vigyan Kendra in
Bhind District, Madhya Pradesh**

श्रीमती संध्या राय (भिंड): आदरणीय सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से कृषि मन्त्री जी का ध्यान अपने भिंड जिले के किसानों की समस्या की तरफ आकर्षित करना चाहती हूँ। किसानों के लिए अतिरिक्त कृषि विज्ञान केन्द्र खोलने की आवश्यकता है। राजमाता विजयाराजे कृषि विश्वविद्यालय, ग्वालियर के अन्तर्गत भिंड जिले में कृषि विज्ञान केन्द्र खोला जा सकता है।

महोदय, इससे मेरे क्षेत्र व आस-पास के किसान अत्यन्त लाभ उठा सकेंगे एवं इससे सभी किसानों की समस्याओं का निराकरण किया जा सकेगा। आदरणीय प्रधानमंत्री जी के नेतृत्व में चल रही विभिन्न योजनाओं के माध्यम से मुख्यधारा में किसानों को लाया जा सकेगा व उनको सरकार की प्राथमिकता के अनुसार समृद्ध किया जा सकेगा।

(x) Regarding development of infrastructure for differently-abled people at Kumbhalgarh and Ranthambore Forts

SUSHRI DIYA KUMARI (RAJSAMAND): Sir, I would like to bring to your kind notice that the Archaeological Survey of India in 2015 identified sites of religious and historical importance attracting very high tourist footfall under the 'Adarsh Smarak Yojana' to implement differently abled-friendly measures. These include solar wheelchairs and battery-driven carts, braile signage, tactile floors or pathways, special toilets and railings, etc., that can facilitate the entry of differently-abled people at the archaeological sites. This noble initiative is a part of the Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan), conceptualised by the hon. Prime Minister to enable persons with disabilities to gain universal access to all archaeological sites. However, such development works in key historical marvels like the Kumbhalgarh Fort and the Ranthambore Fort are yet to take off.

I would request the ASI to expedite the process of making these destinations more inclusive.

**(xi) Regarding release of installment under Pradhan Mantri Fasal
Bima Yojana in Western Odisha**

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO (BOLANGIR): Sir, the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) was launched to provide comprehensive insurance coverage against crop loss on account of non-preventable natural risks to help in stabilizing the income of farmers. As Odisha is a disaster-prone State, the PMFBY is a major risk mitigation program for the farmers of the State. The premium subsidy sharing pattern is 50: 50 between the Central and the State Governments. The State's share of the premium on behalf of farmers has been delayed by the State Government. Odisha government is holding up installment of PMFBY even though the Centre has already released the funds. It is the State Government which should float bids for the implementation of the scheme. The responsibility of State Government is to make surveys of crop loss and grant compensation accordingly. This huge delay in getting the insurance amount has adversely affected the farmers, especially when the farmers are trying to get rid of the financial hardship. I request the hon. Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare to impress upon the State Government of Odisha to release the installment under the PMFBY to facilitate disbursement of crop insurance claims to the farmers of Western Odisha.

**(xii) Need to provide adequate compensation to banana cultivators in
Jalgaon district, Maharashtra who suffered loss**

श्रीमती रक्षा निखिल खाडसे (रावेर): सभापति महोदय, महाराष्ट्र राज्य में जलगांव जिले में केले की फसल अधिकतर मात्रा में होती है और इस वर्ष में करीब-करीब एक लाख हेक्टर से ज्यादा सिंचाई क्षेत्र में केले की फसल की जा रही है। जलवायु परिवर्तन से उत्पन्न हुए प्राकृतिक आपदाओं तथा प्रतिकूल मौसम से केले की फसल पर अनेक रोग का प्रभाव बढ़ता है जिसमें ज्यादातर Siga Toka (करपा), CMV (कुकुम्बर मोजेक वायरस) और चिलिंग इन्जुरी (चरका) जैसे रोग से केले की पूरी फसल खराब हो जाती है तथा आस-पास के केले की फसल भी प्रभावित होने की व इस रोग का फैलाव उस क्षेत्र में तेज गति से होने की संभावना बढ़ती है। फसल बीमा योजना के अंतर्गत यह रोग से प्रभावित केले की फसल को होने वाले नुकसान के लिए कोई प्रावधान बीमा कंपनी ने नहीं किया है। पिछले लगातार दो वर्ष में केले की खेती करने वाले बहुत किसानों को इससे भारी मात्रा में नुकसान पहुँचा है जिससे इन किसानों को अपने क्षेत्र में फिर से खेती करना व अपने परिवार की देखभाल करना भी मुश्किल हुआ है। मैं इस सदन के माध्यम से सरकार से एवं कृषि मंत्री जी से केले की फसल पर प्राकृतिक आपदाओं तथा प्रतिकूल मौसम के वजह से प्रभावित होने से तथा उपरोक्त रोगों के प्रभाव से होने वाले नुकसान को फसल बीमा योजना में शामिल करने की और केले की फसल उत्पादक किसानों को इंश्योरेंस कंपनी से ज्यादा से ज्यादा राशि नुकसान भरपाई के तौर पर उपलब्ध करने की मांग भी इस सदन के माध्यम से माननीय कृषि मंत्री जी से करती हूँ।

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Tejasvi Surya -- not present.

Shri Sumedhanand Saraswati

(xiii) Need to regulate unauthorised loan applications on Cyber platforms

श्री सुमेधानन्द सरस्वती (सीकर): सभापति महोदय, देश में कोई भी व्यक्ति जब किसी वित्तीय संस्थान में ऋण हेतु आवेदन करता है तो वित्तीय संस्थान द्वारा उक्त व्यक्ति की क्रेडिट हिस्ट्री चेक करने के लिए क्रेडिट स्कोर निकाला जाता है। वर्तमान में, भारत में 4 क्रेडिट रेटिंग एजेंसी कार्य कर रही हैं। आरबीआई के नियमानुसार इनमें से सिबिल रिकॉर्ड अनिवार्य है जिसके विवरण के आधार पर ही वित्तीय संस्थान द्वारा आमजन को ऋण उपलब्ध करवाया जाता है। वर्तमान में विभिन्न अनाधिकृत क्रेडिट ऐप व प्राइवेट फाइनेंस कंपनियां कार्य कर रही हैं जो ऑनलाइन ही लोन स्वीकृत कर देती हैं। इनमें आमजन के दस्तावेजों का गलत इस्तेमाल करके भी लोन लेने जैसे साइबर फ्रॉड की संख्या में बढ़ोतरी हो रही है। साथ ही कई बार आमजन का लोन आवेदन इस वजह से भी रिजेक्ट हो जाता है क्योंकि उनके रिकॉर्ड में ऐसा विवरण आता है जो कि उनसे सम्बंधित नहीं होता है। यह विवरण क्रेडिट रेटिंग एजेंसी की लापरवाही से दर्ज हो जाता है। मेरा आपके माध्यम से निवेदन है कि ऐसे लोन देने वाली अनाधिकृत ऐप पर कार्रवाई की जाए ताकि साइबर फ्रॉड बंद हो। साथ ही क्रेडिट रेटिंग संस्थाओं को भी आमजन के रिकॉर्ड में सही विवरण ही दर्ज रखने हेतु बाध्य किया जाए।

(xiv) Need to rejuvenate Mula Mutha river in Maharashtra under 'Namami Chandrabhaga Project

श्री रंजीतसिन्हा हिंदूराव नाईक निम्बालकर (माधा): सभापति महोदय, पुणे की मुला-मूठा नदी महाराष्ट्र और देश की सबसे प्रदूषित नदियों में से एक है। लापरवाही और अनदेखी का शिकार बनी यह नदी प्रदूषण से जूझ रही है। बता दें कि बिना ट्रीटमेंट के नदी में सीवेज और इंडस्ट्रियल वेस्ट फेंक दिया जाता है। इससे नदी में ऐंटीबायोटिक रेजिस्टेंट बैक्टीरिया बढ़ता जा रहा है। यह नदी आगे जाकर भीमा नदी में मिलती है जिससे भीमा नदी भी बहुत प्रदूषित हो गयी है। भीमा नदी का पानी उज्जणी डैम में जमा होता है। प्रदूषित पानी के कारण डैम में प्रदूषित तेल और अन्य पदार्थों की लगभग 1 इंच मोटी परत जमी हुई है जो कि बहुत ही जानलेवा साबित हो रही है। उज्जणी डैम का पानी आगे चंद्रभागा नदी में जाकर मिलता है जो कि पंढरपुर स्थित भगवान विठ्ठलजी और माता रुक्मणी जी के विश्व विख्यात मंदिर से होकर गुजरती है। ... (व्यवधान)

माननीय सभापति: माननीय सदस्य, जो आपने लिख कर दिया है, कृपया उसी को पढ़िए। वही रिकॉर्ड में जाएगा।

श्री रंजीतसिन्हा हिंदूराव नाईक निम्बालकर : जी सर, विठ्ठल दर्शन के लिए आने वाले लाखों भक्त पहले चंद्रभागा का पवित्र स्नान करते हैं और उनका तीर्थ (प्रदूषित चंद्रभागा का जल) अपने मुख में लेते हैं और फिर विठ्ठल के दर्शन के लिए जाते हैं। आगे इस नदी का जल हमारे लोकसभा क्षेत्र माधा एवं सोलापुर जिले के अन्य भागों के लोग पीने एवं सिंचाई के लिए इस्तेमाल करते हैं। महोदय, नमामि चंद्रभागा परियोजना के तहत इस नदी का कायाकल्प करने हेतु उचित कदम उठाने की कृपा करें।

(xv) Regarding allocation of adequate land for Air Cargo Complex at Udaipur Airport.

श्री अर्जुन लाल मीणा (उदयपुर): महोदय, मैं राजस्थान के उदयपुर संसदीय क्षेत्र से आता हूँ, मेरा संसदीय क्षेत्र आदिवासी बाहुल्य क्षेत्र है और भारत सरकार के शेड्यूल-V में आता है। वर्तमान में उदयपुर संभाग से निर्यात/आयात कारोबार की काफी संभावनाएं हैं। इस संभाग की प्रमुख निर्यात योग्य वस्तुएं कपड़ा, खनिज, पत्थर, संगमरमर के हस्तशिल्प, रत्न आभूषण, खिलौने इत्यादि हैं। वर्तमान में निर्यात योग्य उत्पाद जयपुर, दिल्ली और अहमदाबाद हवाई अड्डे से भिजवाए जा रहे हैं, जिससे संचालन लागत बढ़ती है। अतः मैं भारत सरकार से मांग करता हूँ कि निर्यात/आयात व्यापार को आसान बनाने के लिए एयर कार्गो कॉम्पलेक्स खोलने और उदयपुर हवाई अड्डे पर कार्गो सेवाएं शुरू करने के लिए उदयपुर हवाई अड्डे परिसर में एयर कार्गो कॉम्पलेक्स के लिए पर्याप्त जमीन (स्थान) आवंटित कराने का श्रम करावे। धन्यवाद।

माननीय सभापति: श्री देवजी पटेल।

...(व्यवधान)

श्री बृजेन्द्र सिंह।

(xvi) Regarding direct rail connectivity between Hisar and Chandigarh

SHRI BRIJENDRA SINGH (HISAR): Sir, Hisar is one of the counter magnet areas chosen by the National Capital Region Planning Board for its regional growth potential. It will also be housing an integrated manufacturing cluster soon. Despite the growing developmental activity, there is no direct railway connection from Hisar to Chandigarh, which happens to be the capital of Haryana and Punjab. This is a matter of concern not only for the people of Hisar but also for the people of all of north-west Haryana, parts of Rajasthan, and Punjab, for which Hisar is important for its health, educational institutions, and sporting facilities. Currently, the shortest railway route from Hisar to Chandigarh takes almost six and a half to seven hours to cover a distance of just about 245 km. This is double the time that it would take if there were a direct railway line that could possibly be laid between Barwala and Narvana or any other feasible route. Therefore, through you, Sir, I urge the Government to consider this request and ease the access between Hisar and Chandigarh.

(xvii) Regarding draft proposal of IRDAI for LIC

SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN (KASARAGOD): Speaker Sir, the Life Insurance Corporation has been functioning for the past 66 years in India successfully. Today, the LIC has more than 75 per cent of the market share. It employs more than 12.5 lakh people throughout the country. Unfortunately, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has come up with a draft proposal that will adversely affect the future of the LIC. The detrimental clause of the proposal aims to hit hard on the commission of the LIC agents by linking it with management expenses and reducing the maximum commission of the agents from 25 per cent to 20 per cent. Sir, it doesn't stop here. By giving rebates on policy premiums purchased directly from the insurer, it is striking down the role of agents, who are the key players in this sector. Sir, the LIC is spread over the length and breadth of the country, including the deepest rural pockets where no company and their agents exist. If the IRDAI's proposal comes into implementation, it would gravely harm the whole LIC sector and will demotivate the agents, who will eventually be driven out of the sector. This can create a situation of mass unemployment in the country. Hence, I request the Ministry of Finance to look into the matter and withdraw the unjust proposal of the IRDAI.

(xviii) Regarding establishment of a research institute for Temple Arts in Thrissur.

SHRI T. N. PRATHAPAN (THRISSUR): Sir, Thrissur is known as the cultural capital of Kerala for its rich culture and engagements with arts and literature. Thrissur also has a good legacy of many temple arts. A central research institute for temple arts can preserve the legacy of temple arts and promote them internationally. Due to the lack of effective attention, many of the temple arts are losing their richness and tradition. There are various different temple arts in the country. This research institute can bring them together and it will facilitate a platform for flourishing their traditions. Thrissur currently has a good potential for a network of temple pilgrim centres. It has academies of several performing arts. This atmosphere may strengthen a research academy of temple arts in Thrissur. Such an institute can start courses for temple arts, encourage research on them, and facilitate a museum for equipment used for temple arts. Therefore, I request the Government to establish a research institute for temple arts in Thrissur.

(xix) Regarding speeding up of the completion of NH 79 road connecting Salem and Ulundurpettai.

DR. PON GAUTHAM SIGAMANI (KALLAKURICHI): Sir, Ulundurpet-Salem National Highway at Kallakurichi parliamentary constituency is an accident-prone zone. Accidents take place daily and in the last eleven years, from 2011 to 2022, around 1,036 deaths have been reported because the four-lane National Highway from Ulundurpettai to Salem is incomplete. This Project started in July 2008 at an estimated cost of Rs 941 crore but it is not yet completed. It was said to be completed in 2013. The fact is that the work is still incomplete. The roads in Athoor, Vazhapadi, Udaiyarpatti, Chinnasalem, Kallakurichi, Thiyagadurgam, Elavanasur and Ulundurpettai are left as two-lane roads instead of four-lane roads. Four-lane roads shrink to two-lane roads on overbridges having dangerous curves which cause tragic accidents. The National Highway connecting Salem and Chennai via Ulundurpettai and Villupuram is very vital as it has many educational institutions and facilitates large number of small and medium scale industries in districts of Salem, Namakkal, Cuddalore and Villupuram. The speedy completion of National Highway, which is incomplete for more than ten years, will help in bringing new industries here. Hence, I request that the government should speed up work on NH-79 connecting Salem and Ulundurpettai lying incomplete for several years now and prevent the loss of unfortunate lives in such accidents.

(xx) Regarding implementation of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act.

SHRI RAGHU RAMA KRISHNA RAJU (NARSAPURAM): Hon. Chairperson, the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act was enacted in 2003 with the aim to establish financial discipline, improve the administration of public finances, strengthen fiscal prudence and reduce the revenue deficit thereby to maintain a sustainable economic growth in the country. During the last two decades, it has been subjected to many amendments by the State Governments to borrow more funds to meet the expenditure of their States which resulted into a larger revenue deficit contrary to the objective of FRBM Act. Some State Governments are resorting to using it as a tool to increase their borrowings by showing fictitious Corporations that have no income of their own where the repayments were being paid by the Government. Due to such irresponsible and indiscipline borrowings of the State Governments, the main objective of the FRBM Act is being defeated and revenue deficit of the States is increasing instead of reduction. In view of the above, through this august House, I request the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister of Finance to embark on taking immediate corrective steps before it goes out of hands and save the economy of the States.

(xxi) Need to take measures for welfare of fishermen and their families in the country.

श्री विनायक भाउराव राऊत (रत्नागिरी-सिंधुदुर्ग): सभापति महोदय, देश में मछुआरों की हालत किसी से छुपी हुई नहीं है। आज के समय में मछुआरों को मछली पकड़ने के अतिरिक्त कोई व्यवसाय नहीं होने के कारण वह अपने परिवार का ठीक से भरण-पोषण नहीं कर पा रहे हैं और अपने बच्चों को अच्छी शिक्षा नहीं दे पा रहे हैं। मछुवारों की आर्थिक हालत ठीक न होने के कारण बचपन से ही अपने बच्चों को मछली पकड़ने के व्यवसाय में लगा देते हैं। आज भी देश के मछुआरों के पास पक्के मकान नहीं हैं। इसकी वजह से उनको कोलीवाड़ा में रहना पड़ता है तथा यह कोलीवाड़ा समुंदर के किनारे ही बने होते हैं। समुंदर के किनारे होने के कारण ये लोग Costal Regulation Zone में आते हैं। इनका परिवार बदतर हालत में जीने को मजबूर है। मछुआरे अपनी नौकाओं को वर्षा के समय बारिश से बचाने के लिए प्लास्टिक इत्यादि चीजों का इस्तेमाल करते हैं। उचित साधन नहीं होने के कारण इनकी नौकाएं जल्दी खराब हो जाती हैं। इनके पास कोल्ड स्टोरेज नहीं होने के कारण इनकी पकड़ी मछली जल्दी खराब हो जाती है। इनकी परेशानी यहीं खत्म नहीं होती तथा मछुआरे मछली पकड़ने ज्यादातर खाड़ी इलाकों में जाते हैं, जिसमें कीचड़ होने के कारण मछली नहीं पकड़ पाते हैं। इस वजह से इनके व्यवसाय में कमी आ रही है। अतः अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री महोदय जी से मांग करता हूँ कि मछुआरों के भरण-पोषण के लिए समय-समय पर सरकारी अनुदान दिया जाय। केरोसीन तथा पेट्रोल पर भी सब्सिडी दी जाए एवं कोल्ड स्टोरेज की उचित व्यवस्था की जाए। उन खाड़ी इलाकों की उचित सफाई की जाये, जहाँ पर मछुआरे मछली पकड़ने जाते हैं। सरकार मछुआरों के व्यवसाय को बढ़ाने और इनके बच्चों को उचित शिक्षा देने के लिए कोई उचित योजना बनायें, जिससे इनकी परेशानी जल्द से जल्द खत्म हो सके।

15.00hrs**(xxii) Need to declare Anugraha Narayan Road-Siris-Charan-Manjhiaon stretch of road as National Highway**

श्री महाबली सिंह (काराकाट): सभापति महोदय, आपके माध्यम से मैं सरकार का ध्यान अनुग्रह नारायण रोड सिरिस- चरण अंकोरहा मंझिआँव पथ जो नबीनगर-बारुण मुख्य सड़क को जोड़ती है उसे राष्ट्रीय राज्य मार्ग (नेशनल हाईवे) में शामिल कराने के संबंध में आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ।

महोदय, मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र काराकाट के अंतर्गत नबीनगर विधानसभा क्षेत्र का अनुग्रह नारायण रोड रेलवे स्टेशन जिला मुख्यालय का मुख्य स्टेशन है। नबीनगर विधानसभा क्षेत्र के लोगों को सड़क के अभाव में डेहरी-ऑन-सोन रेलवे स्टेशन रोहतास में जाकर ट्रेन का सफर करना पड़ता है।

जबकि अनुग्रह नारायण रोड से मुशी बिगहा, जीवा बिगहा, सिरिस के रास्ते चरण, रेगानियाँ मंझौली, सोनोरा, अंकोरहा, एन पी जी सी एल एवं बी आर बी सी एल, एन टी पी सी को जोड़ने वाली मंझिआँव नबीनगर बारुण राष्ट्रीय राज्य मार्ग (नेशनल हाईवे) में जोड़ने वाली सड़क जिसकी दूरी लगभग 25 किलोमीटर है, को (नेशनल हाईवे) में शामिल कराने से इस क्षेत्र के लाखों लोग लाभान्वित होंगे।

खासकर के एन टी पी सी के दो-दो मेगा पावर परियोजना के अधिकारी/कर्मचारी को अनुग्रह नारायण रेलवे स्टेशन जाने में काफी सुविधा होगी एवं नबीनगर विधानसभा क्षेत्र के लोग अनुग्रह नारायण रोड रेलवे स्टेशन एवं जिला मुख्यालय जाने में कम समय में पहुंच सकेंगे।

अतः सदन के माध्यम से मैं सरकार से मांग एवं निवेदन करता हूँ कि अनुग्रह नारायण रोड, सिरिस, चरण, अंकोरहा के रास्ते नबीनगर बारुण मुख्य सड़क जो मंझिआँव में मिलती है जिसकी दूरी लगभग 25 किलोमीटर है, उसको राष्ट्रीय राज्य मार्ग (नेशनल हाईवे) में शामिल कराने का कार्य करें।

(xxiii) Regarding establishment of a medical college in Dhenkanal District, Odisha

SHRI MAHESH SAHOO (DHENKANAL): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Union Government had announced more than one hundred aspirational districts across the Country.

This special status has been given for the overall development of the districts. Dhenkanal district in Odisha which belongs to my Lok Sabha Constituency is one of them.

During the first term of the present government, hon. Prime Minister announced that in pursuit of the Government to provide better healthcare. It had been decided that each aspirational district across the country will get one medical college.

After the announcement by the Prime Minister, in September 2018, the then Minister of State for Health had also announced that a medical college would be established in Dhenkanal within a short time. Several years have passed by but there is no progress.

The aspiration of the people of the district is high on the medical college. Quality and affordable healthcare is what we need the most today.

Therefore, I urge upon the hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare to specify the reason for the delay in establishing the medical college and demand establishment of the hospital at the earliest. The people of Dhenkanal are waiting to see their aspiration fulfilled.

माननीय सभापति : माननीय सदस्य, कृपया आपने जो लिख कर दिया है, वही पढ़िए, वही रिकार्ड में जाता है। आप वही पढ़िए, इसका यही नियम है।

श्री श्याम सिंह यादव (जौनपुर): मैंने इसे इंगलिश में लिख दिया है, अगर आप परमिशन दें तो इसको मैं हिन्दी कर देता हूँ। आप इसकी परमिशन दे दीजिए।

(xxiv) Regarding fertilizer shortage in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar

SHRI SHYAM SINGH YADAV (JAUNPUR): Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government towards the crippling crisis of DAP, NKP and urea which are essential for ongoing Rabi crop season particularly in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

Farmers are standing in long queues waiting for hours and even days at Government run fertiliser centres. Farmers are procuring fertilisers at elevated prices in the black market. The shortage is artificial because Government run fertiliser centres run short of the fertiliser supply, while they are available in the open market in plenty. This is leading to delayed sowing and is likely to hit the Rabi crop output. There exists a nexus of traders and Government officials for fertiliser shortage.

Many farmers are in huge debt and several farmers have committed suicide as they could not get fertilisers in time.

I would like to know the specific details as to how the Government has acted against black marketing of fertilisers and has taken action against dealers and officials.

The number of licenses cancelled, raids conducted and the plan of the Government to meet the urea requirement during the Rabi season and specific plan to ensure that such situation does not arise in future.

(xxv) Need to change Export Policy

SHRI MANNE SRINIVAS REDDY (MAHBUBNAGAR): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I would like to bring to your kind notice the need to prepare export policy for 3 years instead of 5 years to suit the changing demands of PM Gati Shakti policy by setting up multi-purpose logistic infrastructure parks.

Various products of handloom, textile, dairy, electronics, marine, etc., have high demand in foreign countries, but only 10 per cent districts are exporting products 20 districts are exporting products worth 500 crore US dollar, 82 districts are not playing any role in exports. Telangana accounts for about 30 per cent of India's pharmaceutical production, 40 per cent of total bulk drugs production and 50 per cent of the bulk drug exports from India and is attracting over Rs. 10,000 crore investments.

During 2019-20, exports from Telangana were valued at \$7.4 billion, growing at an annual average growth rate (AAGR) of 8.1 per cent between 2015-16 and 2019-20 period, significantly higher than the national AAGR of 4.7 per cent.

During 2020-21, up to September 2020, Telangana's exports were valued at \$4.1 billion, registering an increase of 14 per cent compared to 2019-20.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: But what do you want? You did not make any request.

SHRI MANNE SRINIVAS REDDY: Sir, my request is to increase the exports and earn valuable foreign currency.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Shrimati Supriya Sule.

... (*Interruptions*)

माननीय सभापति: कृपया बातचीत करते समय आवाज मंद ही रखें, जो माननीय सदस्य बात कर रहे हैं, जरा धीमी आवाज में बात करें, अच्छा होगा कि न करें। अगर बहुत आवश्यक है तो धीमी आवाज में बात करें। मैं नाम नहीं ले सकता हूँ, अभी नाम नहीं लूंगा, प्लीज।

(xxvi) Need to take concrete steps to avert frequently occurring accidents on Navale Bridge, Narhe, Pune.

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SADANAND SULE (BARAMATI): I want to raise the matter regarding frequently happening horrendous accidents on Navale Bridge in Pune's Narhe, which in 2021 alone took 17 lives and seriously injured 24 persons. On November 21st, the series of accidents continued because a truck allegedly lost control and hit 30-40 vehicles, causing a large pile up of damaged vehicles on the road. The Bridge has become a black spot for accidents due to the combination of steep inclines and turns and downward slopes which should be reduced as a first measure to check accidents. I have time and again raised the issue to make a service road at accident spot but it has not been done yet. Also, in order to ensure that people follow traffic rules, sufficient presence of police along the highway is needed. Although, National Highway Authority of India (NHAI), Police and Municipal Corporation have taken some steps in the past, they have not yielded satisfactory results, implying that a thorough research has to be done by Government to understand the chronology of the accidents and technical aspects to it. Hereby, I request the Minister of Road Transport and Highways to look into the matter and take concrete steps to save innocent lives.

(xxvii) Regarding completion of Kozhikode Airport in Kerala.

DR. M. P. ABDUSSAMAD SAMADANI (MALAPPURAM): I hereby draw the kind attention of the Government towards the crisis that has taken place in the completion of the official formalities of the development project of Kozhikode Airport in Kerala. The crisis, which is related with the financial aspect of the project, can be solved by effective and positive co-ordination between the Central and State Government departments. I, therefore, request the Hon. Minister of Civil Aviation to initiate such a move and do the needful for starting the delayed development work at the earliest. Meanwhile, there are reports that the concerned authorities may be deciding to reduce the length of the airport runway, considering the non-completion of the essential official formalities by the concerned. I also request the Government to cancel the idea which was already given up by the Hon. Minister on the request of Members of Parliament representing the area. The curtailment of the runway will be very harmfully affecting the well-being, welfare, the day-to-day functioning and future development of this airport on which a large number of passengers, including Pravasis, from Kerala would be dependent.

**(xxviii) Need to include treatment of autism and cerebral palsy
In the CGHS list.**

श्री सुब्रत पाठक (कन्नौज): माननीय सभापति जी, आपके माध्यम से मैं सरकार का ध्यान देश में ऑटिज्म (AUTISM) और सेरेब्रल पाल्सी (CEREBRAL PALSY) के मरीजों की संख्या में हो रही वृद्धि की तरफ आकर्षित कराना चाहता हूँ। एक आंकड़े के अनुसार हमारे देश भारत में दस वर्ष से कम उम्र के हर 100 बच्चों में से एक बच्चा ऑटिज्म का शिकार है। स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय को इस दिशा में कारगर प्रयास किए जाने की आवश्यकता है।

यहां यह उल्लेख करना महत्वपूर्ण है कि अब तक ऑटिज्म और सेरेब्रल पाल्सी को सीजीएचएस की सूचीबद्ध बीमारियों के पैनल में शामिल नहीं किया गया है, जिससे सरकारी क्षेत्र के कर्मियों को अपने ऊपर ही निर्भर रहकर इलाज कराना पड़ता है और लोगों को इलाज कराने में बड़ी मुश्किलों का सामना करना पड़ता है।

इस इलाज में मरीजों के थेरेपी का बहुत बड़ा योगदान होता है। अतः इससे संबंधित थेरेपी को भी सीजीएचएस के अंतर्गत लाने का प्रावधान किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। इसके अलावा हमारे देश के कुछ संस्थानों में ऑटिज्म पीड़ित बच्चों का स्टेम सेल थेरेपी (Stem Cell Therapy) के माध्यम से आधुनिकतम तरीके से इलाज हो रहा है, लेकिन इस इलाज में अधिक खर्च होता है जिसे वहन करना सभी माता-पिता और अभिभावक के लिए आसान नहीं होता है। इसलिए इस बीमारी को अविलंब सीजीएचएस की सूचीबद्ध बीमारियों के पैनल में शामिल किए जाने की आवश्यकता है ताकि लाभार्थियों को ऑटिज्म पीड़ित अपने बच्चों का इलाज कराने की अनुमति मिल सके।

इसके अलावा आपके माध्यम से मेरा यह भी अनुरोध है कि ऑटिज्म और सेरेब्रल पाल्सी को सीजीएचएस के साथ-साथ अनिवार्य रूप से निजी चिकित्सा बीमा योजना में भी शामिल किया जाए जिससे देश के लाखों लोगों को इसका लाभ मिल सके।

माननीय सभापति : श्री तेजस्वी सूर्या – उपस्थित नहीं ।

श्री देवजी पटेल – उपस्थित नहीं ।

माननीय सभापति: अभी माननीय विदेश मंत्री जी का राज्य सभा में वक्तव्य चल रहा है । उसमें उनको कुछ समय लग सकता है । तब तक हमारे कुछ माननीय सदस्य, जो शून्य प्रहर में बोलने से वंचित रह गए थे, हम उनको बोलने का कुछ अवसर देते हैं ।

श्री एन. के. प्रेमचन्द्रन जी ।

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak. I would like to raise a very serious matter of urgent concern in which the involvement of the Ministry of Labour and Employment is required with respect to the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995.

Hon. Chairperson, it may kindly be seen that on 4th November, 2022, the hon. Supreme Court delivered a judgment in respect of Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 regarding the higher pension on the basis of actual salary. The matter was heard by various hon. High Courts of India, including Kerala High Court, Rajasthan High Court, and Delhi High Court, and they delivered their judgments. Against the judgments of these hon. High Courts, the Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India and the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation have preferred a special leave to appeal. That appeal has been rejected and dismissed by the hon. Supreme Court. Subsequently, a review petition was filed. The review petition was further allowed and a detailed judgment was delivered. The judgment is affecting millions of workers in the country, including those who are in service and also those who are out of

service, who have already opted for pension. As far as the judgment is concerned, series of ramifications are there.

So, my point is this. As per the judgment of 2022 -- with respect to the Employees' Pension Scheme -- those who have not opted for higher pension on the basis of the actual salary are entitled to opt for the pension within four months from the date of the judgment. The date of judgment was 04.11.2022. But it is quite unfortunate to note that the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation has not taken any steps to implement the judgment and order of the hon. Supreme Court. That is adversely affecting the poor workers.

The second point is this. Those who have already retired – prior to 01.09.2014 – are not entitled to opt for higher pension. But at the same time, the R.C. Gupta Judgment is approved and ratified in the judgment. So, there is an ambiguity as far as the Employees' Pension Scheme is concerned.

Therefore, my point is that the Government of India should come out with a clear statement with regard to the implementation of the judgment of the hon. Supreme Court and also with regard to those who have already retired before 01.09.2014. I would urge upon the Ministry of Labour and Employment to come out with a statement for the implementation of the judgment at the earliest so as to protect the interests of the workers. Thank you very much.

डॉ. निशिकांत दुबे (गोड्डा): सभापति महोदय, आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद। मैं जिस इलाके से आता हूँ, वहाँ तीन ऐसी घटनाएँ हुई हैं, जो देश को जानने लायक हैं। पूरा का पूरा जो आदिवासी समाज है, वह शेड्यूल-5 का जिला है। जो संथाल परगना का पूरा इलाका है, उसमें अभी तीन ऐसे

हत्याकांड हुए, जिनमें घर में घुसकर लड़की को जला दिया गया। हम 'बेटी बचाओ, बेटी पढ़ाओ' की बात करते हैं।

चाहे वह दुमका में हो, चाहे काठीकुंड में हो, चाहे मेरी लोक सभा क्षेत्र जरमुंडी में हो। अभी पीरपैंती में भी हुआ है, जो मेरे खुद का विधान सभा क्षेत्र है, जहां का मैं वोटर हूं। इन चारों जगहों पर जो चीजें दिखाई दे रही हैं, मैं लगातार इस संसद में बोलता रहा हूं कि यह सिर्फ वोट बैंक का सवाल नहीं है। सवाल ये है कि जो मुर्शिदाबाद, मालदा, कटिहार, किशनगंज, भागलपुर, गोड्डा, दुमका, देवघर, जामताड़ा और पाकुड़ है, इन सभी जगहों की डेमोग्राफी बदल गई है। यदि आप पूरे देश की जनसंख्या बढ़ोतरी को देखेंगे, यदि मेरे इलाके और जो बिहार और बंगाल का पार्ट है, जो संथाल परगना झारखंड का पार्ट है, वहां अचानक मुसलमानों की पापुलेशन बहुत बढ़ गई है। वहां उन मुसलमानों की पापुलेशन बढ़ी है, जो कि बांग्लादेशी घुसपैठिए हैं।

यदि आप बांग्लादेशी घुसपैठियों को धर्म के आधार पर देखते हैं, तो एक बड़ा सवाल पैदा होता है कि आपकी बहू सुरक्षित है या नहीं, बेटी सुरक्षित है या नहीं। मैं आपको जिन चार घटनाओं के बारे में बता रहा हूं, जिनमें दिन-दहाड़े हत्या कर दी गई है, लेकिन जो एक बड़ा ट्रेन्ड डेवलेप हुआ है और पूरे देश को इस सवाल को जानना चाहिए कि आदिवासी लड़कियों के साथ मुसलमान शादी कर रहे हैं। शादी करने के बाद जो उनके बच्चे पैदा हो रहे हैं, वे मुसलमान होते हैं। जब झारखंड अलग हुआ था, हमारे यहां पाकुड़ नामक एक जिला है, तो उस वक्त वहां की मुस्लिम पापुलेशन 30 से 32 प्रतिशत थी, लेकिन आज वह 66 प्रतिशत पर पहुंच गई है।

सभापति महोदय, जब मैं वर्ष 2009 में गोड्डा में पहली बार चुनाव लड़ने के लिए गया था, तो उस वक्त केवल और केवल 2,00,000 मुसलमान थे, लेकिन आज 4,00,000 मुसलमान हो गए हैं। क्या वे यहां के मुसलमानों का रोजगार नहीं छीन रहे हैं? क्या एसआई और पीएफआई की जो एक्टिविटी है, वह इस देश को नहीं तोड़ रही है? पूरी दुनिया में जो भी साइबर क्राइम हो रहा है, वह सब मेरे इलाके में हो रहा है। यदि आप देखेंगे, तो नेटफ्लिक्स पर जामताड़ा नाम की एक वेब सीरीज भी आई है। वह सब कुछ बांग्लादेशी मुसलमान और घुसपैठिए कर रहे हैं।

महोदय, मेरा आपके माध्यम से सरकार से आग्रह है कि अब समय आ गया है कि नेशनल पापुलेशन रजिस्टर बनाया जाए, जो बांग्लादेशी घुसपैठिए हैं, उनको बाहर करिए। जो आदिवासी महिलाएं प्रताड़ित हो रही हैं, जो शादी करके उनका धर्मांतरण कर रहे हैं, जिसके ऊपर सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने भी एक बहुत बड़ा क्वैश्न किया है, आप उसको रोकने का प्रयास करिए।

श्री मनीष तिवारी (आनंदपुर साहिब) : सभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे बोलने का अवसर प्रदान किया, उसके लिए आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

महोदय, मैं आपका ध्यान एक बहुत ही संवेदनशील और दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण मामले की ओर आकर्षित कराना चाहता हूँ। गत 30 अगस्त, 2022 से हमारे नौसेना के जो 8 सेवानिवृत्त अधिकारी हैं, उनको दोहा (कतर) में सॉलिट्री कन्फाइनमेंट में रखा गया है। उनके खिलाफ क्या आरोप हैं, वे न उनको बताए गए हैं और न ही उनके परिवारों को बताए गए हैं। उनको 90 दिनों तक सॉलिट्री कन्फाइनमेंट में रखने के बाद जब 1 दिसंबर, 2022 को एक अदालत के सामने पेश किया गया, तो उनकी सॉलिट्री कन्फाइनमेंट की अवधि फिर 30 दिन के लिए बढ़ा दी गई है। सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ। अभी यहां पर विदेश मंत्री जी अपने बिल को सभा के पटल पर रखने के लिए आएंगे, क्योंकि यह बहुत ही गंभीर मामला है। हमने 4 दिसंबर, 2022 को नेवी डे मनाया है। ऐसी परिस्थिति में एक पड़ोसी देश में हमारी नौसेना के 8 सेवानिवृत्त अधिकारी अगर 120 दिनों से ज्यादा सॉलिट्री कन्फाइनमेंट में हों, न ही उनको बताया गया और न ही उनके परिवारों को बताया गया और शायद भारतीय दूतावास को भी नहीं बताया गया कि उनके खिलाफ क्या आरोप है, यह बहुत ही दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण बात है। महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि कतर की सरकार के समक्ष इस मामले को तुरंत उठाया जाए। ये जो 8 सेवानिवृत्त अधिकारी हैं, इनको रिहा कराकर हिन्दुस्तान वापस लाया जाए।

डॉ. संजय जायसवाल (पश्चिम चम्पारण) : सभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे बोलने का अवसर प्रदान किया, उसके लिए आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

महोदय, बिहार में संविधान की धज्जियां उड़ रही हैं। बिहार में जितने भी स्कूल्स हैं, वहां साफ नियम है कि जो सरकारी स्कूल्स हैं, वे रविवार को बंद होंगे और जो उर्दू स्कूल्स हैं, वे शुक्रवार को बंद होंगे। मैं इसमें कभी कुछ नहीं कहना चाहता हूं, लेकिन पूरे सीमांचल क्षेत्र में चाहे वह किशनगंज हो, पूर्णिया हो, अररिया हो, सभी जगहों पर शुक्रवार को छुट्टी दी जा रही है। भारत सरकार मध्याह्न भोजन शुक्रवार को देती है, वह नहीं बंट पाता है। वहां पूरे पैसे का घोटाला हो रहा है और संविधान से ऊपर कोई व्यक्ति कैसे हो सकता है?

मेरे क्षेत्र मझरिया में एक उर्दू स्कूल है। वहां पर एक भी अल्पसंख्यक बच्चा नहीं पढ़ता है फिर भी वहां पर जबर्दस्ती शुक्रवार को छुट्टी कराई जाती है, यह कहते हुए कि यह उर्दू स्कूल है। वहीं सीमांचल के क्षेत्र में एक पूरी साजिश के तहत बांग्लादेशी घुसपैठियों के कारण शुक्रवार को स्कूल में छुट्टी कराई जा रही है। वहां पर मध्याह्न भोजन का घोटाला हो रहा है और बिहार सरकार पूरी तरह से चुप है। अभी पीरपैंती में भी श्रीमती नीलम देवी जी की जघन्य हत्या हुई है और वहां के पुलिस अधीक्षक कहते हैं कि “नहीं, यह मामला पैसे उधार लेने का है।” वे पूरे अल्पसंख्यक समाज को अपमानित कर रहे हैं। एक महिला की इतनी बुरी तरह से हत्या की जाती है और आप इसे पैसे उधार लेने से जोड़ रहे हैं तो यह बहुत ही शर्मनाक बात है।

SHRI E.T. MOHAMMED BASHEER (PONNANI): Hon. Chairperson Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. I wish to draw the kind attention of this House and the Government towards an injustice done to some lakhs of students who were dependent on their pre-matric scholarship for continuance of their education.

This pre-matric scholarship Scheme has now been withdrawn. The Government of India has not cited any specific reason for withdrawal of this Scheme. The Scheme was run by the Ministry of Social Justice and also by the Ministry of Tribal Welfare. So, it can be well-imagined how important this

Scheme was. Lakhs of students were dependent on this scholarship for their education. This act of the Government is not just cruelty, but something more than that. Everything was going on nicely. Applications were invited; they were scrutinised and they were waiting for the order. Unfortunately, one fine morning, the Government of India decided to withdraw the pre-matric scholarship for students from standard I to standard VIII. They all belong to poor families and were completely dependent on this scholarship. This scholarship was a very important motivation for these students. It was a great relief for them.

I would like to ask the Government what they will gain by withdrawing this scholarship given to the poor students. What benefit will accrue to the Government by withdrawing this facility? It will only add to the hardship of these poor students. It is a humanitarian issue. I would like to humbly request the Government not to proceed with this decision and to restore this and also clear the backlog dues as payable to these students. These are my humble submissions.

Thank you.

श्री मलूक नागर (बिजनौर): सभापति महोदय, आज देश के लिए बहुत अच्छा दिन है। पिछड़ों में से जो उपराष्ट्रपति बने हैं, आज उन्होंने राज्य सभा में नेतृत्व किया है। यह बहुत सौभाग्य की बात है। यह भी सौभाग्य की बात है कि पिछले दिनों एसटी वर्ग से राष्ट्रपति बनाई गई हैं। उसी क्रम में जम्मू कश्मीर में पिछड़ों से संबंधित जाट, गुर्जर, यादव, पाल, सैनी, कश्यप, सुनार, लोहार, कुम्हार जैसी तमाम पिछड़ी जातियां आती हैं और दलित 22 परसेंट के करीब हैं। जम्मू कश्मीर में आजादी से लेकर अभी तक उनका शोषण होता रहा है। पिछड़ों का भी होता रहा है और दलितों का भी होता रहा है। धारा 370 हटने के बाद खासकर वहां पर एसटी वर्ग के गुर्जर-मुसलमान या गुर्जर-बकरवाल

आते हैं, उनके लिए सरकार ने बहुत अच्छा सोचा और उनको 10 परसेंट रिजर्वेशन दिया, जिसे पहले की सरकारों ने कभी नहीं दिया। उन्होंने उनका शोषण किया, उनसे वोट लिया और उनसे रिश्तेदारियां कीं, लेकिन उनके लिए कुछ नहीं किया। पिछले दिनों कांग्रेस, नेशनल कॉन्फ्रेंस और पीडीपी ने उनको गुमराह करने के लिए चाल चली है कि “तुम्हे जो 10 परसेंट आरक्षण मिला है, उसमें दूसरी जातियों को लेकर आ रहे हैं।” मैं आपके माध्यम से कहना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार उनके बारे में सहानुभूतिपूर्वक सोचे और उनका जो 10 परसेंट आरक्षण है, वह कम न किया जाए। अगर कुछ जातियां ली जाएं तो समानुपातिक प्रोडेटा बेसिस पर उनको अलग से आरक्षण दिया जाए।

श्री बिद्युत बरन महतो (जमशेदपुर): सभापति महोदय, धन्यवाद। मैं अपने लोक सभा क्षेत्र के अत्यधिक महत्वपूर्ण विषय को आपके समक्ष रखना चाहता हूँ। मैंने कई बार इसे सदन में रखने का भी काम किया है। मेरे लोक सभा क्षेत्र का अतिमहत्वपूर्ण धालभूमगढ़ एयरपोर्ट है, वह ‘उड़ान’ स्कीम में है और हम लगातार प्रयास कर रहे हैं कि उसका काम शुरू किया जाए।

पिछली सरकार में एविएशन मिनिस्ट्री के स्टेट मिनिस्टर रहे माननीय श्री जयंत सिन्हा जी यहां बैठे हुए हैं। वर्ष 2019 के जनवरी महीने में उसका भूमिपूजन भी किया गया था, लेकिन आज तक उसकी शुरुआत नहीं हुई है। स्टेट गवर्नमेंट की अनदेखी के चलते आज तक इसकी शुरुआत नहीं हुई है। जमशेदपुर एयरपोर्ट इसलिए जरूरी है, क्योंकि वहां टाटा जैसा घराना और आठ-दस बड़े उद्योग हैं। वहीं आदित्यपुर इंडस्ट्री बेल्ट में लगभग हजारों उद्योग हैं, जहां से लोग विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में अपने बिजनेस के परपज़ से जाते हैं। वहां यूरेनियम, कॉपर और आयरन ओर की माइन्स भी हैं। मेरा आपके माध्यम से यही कहना है कि यह सिर्फ झारखण्ड के सीमावर्ती इलाके ही नहीं, बल्कि जो ओडिशा का बालासोर एक औद्योगिक क्षेत्र है, आदित्यपुर औद्योगिक क्षेत्र है, पश्चिम बंगाल का खड़गपुर भी एक औद्योगिक क्षेत्र है, जो वहां से मात्र 72 किलोमीटर, 59 किलोमीटर और 46 किलोमीटर में हैं।

मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय एविएशन मिनिस्टर जी आग्रह करना चाहता हूँ कि राज्य सरकार से अविलम्ब बात करके, उनकी मंशा साफ करते हुए यह काम करें, क्योंकि झारखण्ड में जो

अति आवश्यक है, उसे नजरअंदाज करके, अभी देवघर में निशिकांत दुबे जी ने नया एयरपोर्ट खुलवाया है, वे अब दुमका की बात कर रहे हैं। दुमका महज 32 किलोमीटर है और जमशेदपुर अति महत्वपूर्ण है, वे उसकी तरफ नहीं जाते हैं।

मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी और एविएशन मिनिस्ट्री से निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि टाटा जैसे उद्योग घराने जमशेदपुर में हैं। इंडस्ट्री बेल्ट के साथ-साथ वह माइन्स इलाका है। चाकुलिया में भी एयरपोर्ट है, वहां पूरी एक उद्योग नगरी है। इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से अनुरोध करना चाहता हूं कि धालभूमगढ़ का यह एयरपोर्ट, जो 'उडान' स्कीम में भी है, उसे जल्द से जल्द शुरू किया जाए। धन्यवाद।

श्री रवनीत सिंह (लुधियाना): चेयरमैन साहब, आप बहुत अच्छी तरह से जानते हैं कि पंजाब में हमारे बहुत ही मशहूर नामवर सिंगर सिद्धू मूसेवाला को एक बड़ी गैंगवार में बहुत बुरी तरह पंजाब में मार दिया गया और कुछ ही दिन पहले राजस्थान में एक बहुत बड़ा शूटआउट हुआ है। आज पंजाब एक गैंगलैण्ड बनकर रह गया है। वहां पर रोजाना कत्ल हो रहे हैं और पंजाब में पहले जो टेररिज्म वाला माहौल था, उसे दोबारा लाया जा रहा है। मेरी आपसी गुजारिश है, क्योंकि सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट की होम मिनिस्ट्री भी उसमें लगी हुई है और उनको मारने वाले लोग कनाडा, अमेरिका और पाकिस्तान में बैठे हैं। उसके ऊपर लुक आउट नोटिस भी जारी किया हुआ है। पंजाब पुलिस बहुत अच्छी है, लेकिन वहां की सरकार बिल्कुल फेल हो चुकी है। इसलिए सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट को इसे अपने हाथ में लेना चाहिए, क्योंकि वे लोग बाहर के देशों से काम कर रहे हैं। उनके मां-बाप रोज तड़प रहे हैं, इतने बड़े नामवर सिंगर और उनके जैसे अनेक नौजवान मारे जा रहे हैं, उनको न्याय मिले। उनके मां-बाप कहीं यह तो सोच सकें कि हमारा बेटा चला गया और जिसने उसे मारा उसको सजा तो मिली।

इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट से गुजारिश करता हूं कि पंजाब में कत्ले-आम बंद हो और दोबारा जो टेररिज्म वाले हालात बने हैं, उन लोगों को ढूंढकर यहां सजा दिलवाई जाए, जिससे सिद्धू मूसेवाला जैसे परिवालों को आराम मिल सके और उनके मां-बाप को न्याय मिल सके।
... (व्यवधान)

श्रीमती नवनित रवि राणा (अमरावती): सभापति महोदय, धन्यवाद ।

प्रधानमंत्री फसल बीमा योजना – यह जो योजना केन्द्र सरकार किसानों के लिए लाई है, इसके बारे में जब हम किसानों से डायरेक्टली बात करते हैं तो मेजॉरिटी प्राब्लम्स ही उसमें सामने आती हैं। एक तो जहां नुकसान हुआ है, उसकी फोटो क्लिक करके 72 ऑवर्स में पहले कंपनियों को भेजिए। जहां इंटरनेट चलता है, हमें कनेक्शन मिलता है, वहां से तो फोटो भेज दिए जाते हैं, लेकिन आप एक जगह बोलते हैं कि घर को इसलिए कैंसिल किया जाता है, क्योंकि उनके पास एंड्रॉयड फोन है। किसान अगर एंड्रॉयड फोन या स्मार्ट फोन चलाता है और उसके बाद भी अगर कनेक्शन नहीं मिलता है तो 72 घण्टे में जाकर वह अपनी फसल की फोटो नहीं भेज पाता है, कंपनियों तक नहीं पहुंच पाता है। ... (व्यवधान)

सर, यह बहुत इम्पोर्टेंट विषय है, क्योंकि यह किसानों का मुद्दा है। जहां हमारी सरकार उन्हें बहुत मदद करना चाहती है, इसलिए इस योजना का लाभ डायरेक्टली उनको पहुंचाना चाहिए। लेकिन इसमें इतनी त्रुटियां हैं कि उन्हें सॉल्व करना जरूरी है। डायरेक्टली उसका बेनिफिट कंपनियों को हो रहा है, किसानों को नहीं हो रहा है। अगर किसान 50 हजार रुपये, एक लाख रुपये या डेढ़ लाख रुपये भरते हैं तो उसके रिटर्न में उनको शून्य पैसे मिल रहे हैं।

इसके लिए इस पर डिस्कशन करके, इसकी त्रुटियों को दूर करना बहुत जरूरी है। माननीय कृषि मंत्री जी यहां बैठे हैं। मैं विनती करूंगी कि जहां पर हम सभी को फायदा पहुंचाने की बात कर रहे हैं, किसानों को इस योजना में लाभ नहीं हो रहा है, बल्कि उनका सीधा नुकसान हो रहा है। पैसे देने के बाद कंपनियों को डबल मुनाफा होता है और हमारे किसानों को ज़ीरो लाभ होता है। मैं आपसे विनती करूंगी कि इसके ऊपर ध्यान दिया जाए और किसानों की परेशानियों को सॉल्व किया जाए।

श्री हसनैन मसूदी (अनन्तनाग) : जनाब, एक बड़ा अर्जेंट मसला उठाने का मौका देने के लिए बहुत-बहुत शुक्रिया। आजकल कश्मीर में सब-जीरो टेम्परेचर है। वहां सिर्फ से नीचे पारा चला गया है। वहां आज जो बिजली की फराहमी है, वह सबसे कम है। यह इस साल अनप्रेसिडेंटेड है और

अनरेगुलेटेड पावर कट्स हैं। जो शट डाउन हैं, इनको स्ट्रीमलाइन कीजिए। यह तबक्को की जा रही थी कि पावर स्ट्रीमलाइन की जाए और उसकी जो सप्लाई है, वह ज्यादा बेहतर बनाई जाए। लेकिन, उसके मुकाबले इस साल हालत और भी बदतर हो गई है। मेरी यह गुजारिश होगी कि वहां पर 2500 मेगावाट की रोजाना बिजली की जरूरत है, लेकिन उसके मुकाबले में सिर्फ 1600 मेगावाट के करीब सप्लाई की जाती है। वहां जो भी पावर कट्स और शट डाउन हैं, लोकली स्ट्रीमलाइन किए जाएं और रेगुलेट किए जाएं। दूसरी बात यह है कि यहां से बिजली की जो फराहमी है, वह इन्क्रीज की जाए, ताकि ऑप्टिमम लेवल तक 2500 मेगावाट या जो भी रिक्वायरमेंट हो, वहां उतनी बिजली फराहम की जाए। वहां लोग सब-जीरो टेम्प्रेचर में हैं। इस वक्त टेम्प्रेचर फ्रीजिंग से नीचे चला गया है। उसमें उनको असुविधा न हो।

श्रीमती जसकौर मीना (दौसा) : सभापति जी, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद। मैं एक ऐसे अति महत्वपूर्ण और वर्तमान में चल रहे किसानों के प्रति अन्याय को दिखाना चाहती हूं। भारत जोड़ो यात्रा के अंतर्गत राजस्थान के तीन जिलों, जहां 23 लाख पौधे अमरूद का फल देते हैं। यहां उनकी तीन हजार गाड़िया आती हैं। नेशनल हाइवे बंद कर दिए और स्टेट हाइवे बंद कर दिए हैं। ऐसी परिस्थिति में किसान अपने फलों को रास्ते में ही पटक रहे हैं और किसान बर्बादी की कगार पर हैं।

मेरा आपसे अनुरोध है कि नेशनल हाइवे तथा हाइवे बंद नहीं होने चाहिए और न ही राजस्थान की सरकार ने वहां कोई प्रोसेसिंग यूनिट स्टार्ट किया है, ताकि वे अपने पके हुए फल को वहां दे सकें। मैं आपके माध्यम से यह कहूंगी कि भारत जोड़ो यात्रा, जोड़ो यात्रा नहीं भारत के किसानों को तोड़ने की यात्रा चालू हो रही है। इसमें राजस्थान की सरकार का पूरा-पूरा हाथ है। वहां पर रंगा रंग कार्यक्रम करते हैं, लेकिन उधर किसान बर्बाद हो रहे हैं।

SHRI BENNY BEHANAN (CHALAKUDY): Thank you, hon. Chairman Sir. My submission is regarding Sabarimala railway line project. Angamaly-Erumeli railway line will provide connectivity to the national pilgrim centre, Sabarimala with many other pilgrim centres including Kalady, the birth place of Adi

Shankaracharya, Bharanaganam, the shrine church of St. Alphonsa and Erumeli the centre of religious fraternity.

This railway line will connect 14 commercial and industrial centres of Kerala. It will have a great impact on the pilgrim tourism potential of the State and the overall development of Ernakulum, Idukki, Kottayam and Pathanamthitta districts of Kerala.

Hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi Ji directed them to include this railway line project with PRAGATI platform on 26th October, 2016. However, due to various reasons, the project did not make any progress and it led to the freezing of the project by the Railways in September, 2019.

Sir, the Government of Kerala has expressed its willingness to the Railway Board to share 50 per cent of the cost of Angamaly-Erumeli Railway project. Considering the importance of the project and overall development of the State, boosting the pilgrim tourism industry, commerce, urbanization, public transport etc. and the fact that the Government of Kerala has agreed to bear 50 per cent of the cost of the project, I urge upon the government to include Angamali-Erumeli railway line with the Prime Minister Gati Shakti project and approve the revised estimates with the facility of Vande Bharat train service.

श्री विनायक भाऊराव राऊत (रत्नागिरी-सिंधुदुर्ग) : सभापति महोदय,... *...(व्यवधान)

माननीय सभापति : विनायक राऊत जी, आप आज जीरो आवर में बोल चुके हैं?

...(व्यवधान)

श्री विनायक भाऊराव राऊत : सभापति जी, वह रिकॉर्ड में नहीं आया था।

* Not recorded as ordered by the Chair.

माननीय सभापति : आप बोल चुके हैं, दोबारा नहीं बोलिए।

...(व्यवधान)

माननीय सभापति : अगर आप एक बार बोल चुके हैं, तो यह आपको भी ध्यान रखना चाहिए था।

This cannot be allowed.

... (*Interruptions*)

माननीय सभापति : अभी जो कहा गया है, वह रिकॉर्ड में नहीं जाएगा।

...(व्यवधान)

* **SHRI K. NAVASKANI (RAMANATHAPURAM):** Hon. Chairperson. I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to raise an important matter during Zero Hour.

The online gambling is taking place throughout the country, which should be banned. The online gambling has taken away several precious lives in Tamil Nadu. The Tamil Nadu State Assembly has already passed a Bill in this regard and sent it for assent of the hon. Governor. But he has not given his assent to this Bill so far. Not only this Bill, the hon. Governor, who is a representative of the Union Government, has not given his assent to 22 more Bills already passed by the Tamil Nadu State Legislative Assembly.

This is not fair on his part for not giving assent to such Bills especially concerning online gambling. This act of the Governor is against the interests of eight crore people of Tamil Nadu.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to completely ban online gambling throughout the country.

Thank you.

* English translation of the Speech originally delivered in Tamil.

**LIST OF MEMBERS WHO HAVE ASSOCIATED THEMSELVES WITH THE
ISSUES RAISED UNDER MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

सदस्य, जिनके द्वारा अविलम्बनीय लोक महत्व के विषय उठाये गये।	सदस्य, जिन्होंने उठाए गए विषयों के साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध किया।
Shri K. Navaskani	DR. DNV Senthilkumar S
Shri Bidyut Baran Mahato	Shri Jagdambika Pal
Dr. Nishikant Dubey	Shri Jagdambika Pal Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal
Shri Manish Tewari	Shri Jagdambika Pal
Shri E. T. Mohammed Basheer	DR. DNV Senthilkumar S
Shri N.K. Premachandran	DR. DNV Senthilkumar S
Shrimati Navneet Ravi Rana	Shri Malook Nagar
Shri Benny Behanan	Shri Malook Nagar

15.41 hrs

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS---Contd.

(ii) Latest Developments in India's Foreign Policy

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Now, Item No. 10 : Shrimati Meenkashi to make a statement.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI): Sir, on behalf of my senior colleague, Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, I rise to apprise this august House of the key foreign policy engagements and initiatives taken by India since the Monsoon Session which ended on 8th August 2022.

During this period, India's diplomacy continued apace. The hon. President, the hon. Vice President and the hon. Prime Minister interacted with a number of their foreign counterparts in India and abroad. We also participated in events linked to the G-20, the SCO and the ASEAN while hosting a number of foreign dignitaries in India. This included Secretary-General, Antonio Gutierrez of the United Nations.

I myself visited a number of nations as did our Minister of External Affairs and other Ministers of State; and we had received many of our counterpart colleagues here in India. Together, these activities reflected India's growing interests, expanding footprint and more intensive partnerships. Through these efforts at multiple levels, we were able to advance our national objectives in a world that is increasingly beset with uncertainties, disruptions and rivalries.

The hon. President met Her Majesty Queen Máxima of Netherlands who visited India from 29th August, 2022 to 31 August, 2022 in her capacity as the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Advocate. The hon. Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina, also called on the hon. President during her State visit to India.

The hon. President's first overseas visit was to the United Kingdom to attend the funeral of the late Queen Elizabeth-II.

The hon. Vice-President represented India at the India-ASEAN Commemorative Summit at Cambodia which elevated the India-ASEAN relationship to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

He also attended the 17th East Asia Summit which is an important forum to promote free, open, inclusive and rules-based Indo-Pacific. Apart from bilateral engagements in Phnom Penh, he visited UNESCO world heritage temples at Ta Prohm and Angkor Wat where conservation and restoration work has taken place with India's support.

Furthermore, on the invitation of His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, Amir of Qatar, the hon. Vice-President attended the opening ceremony of FIFA World Cup 2022. This reflected India's long-standing friendship and relationship with Qatar, which is home to over 8.5 lakh Indian nationals.

The hon. Prime Minister participated at the Samarkand Summit of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Council of Heads of States where India assumed the Chairmanship of SCO. As Chair of SCO, India's priorities are to advance the theme of 'SECURE' articulated by the Prime Minister initially at

the SCO Summit in Qingdao in 2018. 'SECURE' stands for 'Security, Economic Cooperation, Connectivity, Unity, Respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, and Environment.'

At Samarkand, the hon. Prime Minister voiced global sentiment when he declared that this was not an era of war. His statement was in the context of the Ukraine conflict where our advocacy of dialogue and diplomacy has been consistent and persistent.

It has a larger resonance as well. We have also extended support on specific concerns, such as supply of food grains and fertilizers, as indeed on security of nuclear installations. Our position has been broadly appreciated by the international community and finds reflection in the G20 Bali Declaration.

I am very happy to inform the House that Kashi has been designated as the first SCO Cultural and Tourist Capital for 2022-23. This would facilitate showcasing of our age-old knowledge inheritance and our rich social and cultural heritage. The Prime Minister also attended the state funeral of late Prime Minister Shinzo Abe of Japan, who was the particular friend of India. In his meeting with his counterpart, PM Fumio Kishida, Prime Minister noted the invaluable contributions made by Shinzo Abe to strengthening India-Japan relations, as well as conceptualising the vision of a free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific region.

Both PMs renewed their commitment towards enhancing India-Japan strategic and global partnership and to work towards promoting regional and international cooperation.

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, His Excellency, António Guterres paid an official visit to India from 18th to 20th October and joined Prime Minister in Kevadia to jointly launch the Lifestyle for Environment initiative. Heads of States and Governments from France, UK, Estonia, Georgia, Maldives, Nepal, Madagascar, Mauritius, Argentina and Guinea contributed with their messages of support for the Life initiative.

Allow me to turn now to the subject of G20. As the House is aware, the Prime Minister attended the Bali G20 Summit recently and we thereafter assumed its Presidency. The G20 is the premier forum for global economic cooperation, representing around 85 per cent of the global GDP, over 75 per cent of the worldwide trade, and about two-thirds of the world population. Prime Minister had noted that India's Presidency of the G20 during the year of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav is a matter of pride for every Indian. The G20 meetings have already commenced in India and our endeavour is to organize about 200 of these meetings in 32 different sectors in multiple locations across India. The G20 Summit to be held next year would be one of the highest-profile international gatherings to be hosted by India.

During the G20 Bali Summit held under Indonesia's Presidency, India extended fullest support to ensure its success. Our contribution to finding a common ground among members in a polarised environment was widely appreciated. Prime Minister also held discussions with counterpart leaders on key issues of global concern. They focussed mainly on reviving global growth, ensuring food and energy security, promoting technology, preserving

environment, and addressing public health and digital transformation. As is customary, many of these opportunities also provided an occasion to take stock of our bilateral relationships. Since we were assuming the responsibility, this was also the time to seek the support and cooperation of all G20 members for the success of India's Presidency. Hon. Members are aware that the G20 is taking place in the larger context of a geopolitical crisis, food and energy insecurity, slow progress on Sustainable Development Goals, mounting debt burden and challenges to climate action, and climate justice.

Our endeavour is to build consensus within the G20, champion causes especially of the Global South, and shape the setting of the agenda. This will also be an occasion for us to highlight the 3Ds of India: Development, Democracy and Diversity.

In our global engagements, we have discerned strong interest in India's digital delivery, public health response, green growth and development as well as the empowerment of all sections of society. There is also an enhanced interest in our democratic traditions which go way back in our pluralistic and consultative culture. We envisage the G20 Presidency as an occasion to showcase India to the world. This will be done through cultural activities, regional festivals, technology programmes, sustainability initiatives, Millets promotion, One District One Product, community engagement and civil society activities. Our Presidency will witness a Jan Bhagidari, where all of India would not only participate but celebrate this occasion. As the House is aware, Government has briefed leaders of political parties in this regard. We see this as

a truly national endeavour and seek the cooperation of everybody to make it a success.

I would also like to highlight that India will provide stronger voice to the issues of interest to the Global South. This is very much a part of our DNA. It was in evidence most recently during the Vaccine Maitri. Our emphasis will be on sharing the India story, caring for all and taking collective action. It will focus on emphasizing our achievements and priorities such as digital India, clean energy, sustainable lifestyles, women-led development, and multilateral reforms. Prime Minister's initiative on 'LiFE' – Lifestyle for the Environment Movement and India's Millet initiative which has resulted in UN declaration of the year 2023 as International Year of Millets would also be prominent in India's approach towards addressing the Sustainable Development Goals.

Today, we are building stronger bridges with both developing countries and advanced economies. Apart from our G20 Presidency, we are members of a growing number of groups and mechanisms. Some of them are relatively established like the BRICS and Commonwealth. Others have been more recent like the Quad and SCO. And still, others are emerging like the I2U2 and Indo-Pacific. Economic Framework.

We are also increasingly engaging the world in group formats, reflecting the growing interest on their part in cooperating with India. This could be with the ASEAN, Africa or the Pacific Islands, or indeed the Nordic nations, Caricom, CELAC or Central Asia. Our growing collaboration with the European Union is of particular importance.

I would also like to share with the House that the Ministers of MEA have been equally active during this period. The EAM has hosted the Foreign Ministers of Maldives, France, Singapore, Botswana, United Kingdom, Ghana, Gabon, Belarus, Syria, UAE and Germany in this period. I would also like to highlight the India-Singapore Ministerial Roundtable and the collective interaction with 12 African Ministers dealing with education and skills that took place in New Delhi. It would give the hon. Members a sense of the breadth of our engagement and the growing global interest in India.

This was also in evidence during the outgoing visits of the EAM to Thailand, Brazil, Paraguay, Argentina, UAE, Japan, Saudi Arabia, Uzbekistan, USA, Australia, New Zealand, Egypt and Russia. It was our privilege to represent India at the UN General Assembly high level segment this year. We took the occasion to engage with the G4, the L69, Quad, IBSA, BRICS, CELAC, and Caricom and hold multiple trilaterals and bilaterals.

Our Ministers of State have been equally vigorous in promoting the interests of India abroad. Shri Muraleedharan went to Brazil, Senegal, USA, Oman, Djibouti, Kenya, Eritrea and Nigeria. I represented India at the CICA Summit at Kazakhstan and visited Georgia, Norway, Iceland and Malta. Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh was our representative at the IORA Ministerial and visited Indonesia.

The House should also be aware that as Chair of the Counter Terrorism Committee (CTC) of UNSC, India hosted its Special Meeting in October. All the 15 members participated and paid homage to victims of 26/11 Mumbai terrorist

attack at the Memorial Wall in Taj Mahal Palace Hotel. This was the first time that the UNSC held a meeting in India. Their 'Delhi Declaration' emphasized the need to display zero tolerance towards terrorism and combat it in all its forms and manifestations.

I am happy to inform the House, that after a gap created by COVID, India will be hosting the 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas at Indore from 8-10 January 2023. This year's theme acknowledges the contributions of Indian diaspora as "Diaspora: Reliable Partners for India's Progress in Amrit Kaal". The 32 million Indian diaspora is a great source of support for our country. India's 4C commitment of 'Care, Connect, Celebrate and Contribute' would be on display during the celebrations. H.E. President Mohamed Irfaan Ali of Guyana will be the Chief Guest at Pravasi Bharatiya Divas-2023. Where Republic Day 2023 is concerned, we have invited H.E. President Abdel Fateh Al-Sisi of Egypt as the Chief Guest. He has graciously accepted the invitation. Hon'ble Members would also be glad to know that 12th World Hindi Conference will be jointly organized by India and Fiji from 15-17 February 2023 at Fiji. This will be the first occasion of hosting this event in the Pacific region.

Foreign policy today is no longer just an exercise of a Ministry or even of the Government. It has a direct impact on the daily lives of all Indians. This may be in ensuring that our products have market access or that our talent gets into the global work place. But it is equally an effort to ensure that technology, best practices and capital flow into India. Our endeavour in a difficult global situation is that the welfare of the Indian people is ensured, however challenging the

circumstances may be. This may be in exceptional situations like Operation Ganga in Ukraine or the ability to access key necessities like energy and fertilizers on affordable terms. Or indeed in concluding Migration and Mobility Partnerships as we have just done with Germany. Indian foreign policy is there to serve the Indian people; we will do whatever it takes to discharge that responsibility. It could be in ensuring international support for our policies or in acceptance of our interests and objectives. These may be difficult times but it is also an occasion to display our leadership and make a strong contribution to global peace, stability, growth and security.

Hon'ble Members know this well and understandably approach the Ministry with their particular concerns and issues. It has been our earnest effort to respond as effectively and sincerely to their communications. We are extremely conscious that foreign policy must respond to the requirements and demands of our society.

We demonstrate that as much through the activities of our Embassies abroad as we do at home, through improved passport and emigration services. I have every confidence that this august House does appreciate both our promotion of national interests abroad as well as our responsiveness to the daily requirements of our people. I conclude with the expectation that the House will continue to extend its fullest support to our efforts and encourage our success in the G20 Presidency. Thank you, Chairman, Sir.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7595/17/22]

... (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: No queries please. You know it. You please sit down.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY (BAHARAMPUR): I have only one suggestion to make and nothing else. ... (*Interruptions*)

संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संस्कृति मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अर्जुन राम मेघवाल): लोक सभा में नियम नहीं है। ... (व्यवधान)

श्री अधीर रंजन चौधरी (बहरामपुर): सदन के अंदर प्रॉपर चर्चा होनी चाहिए। ... (व्यवधान)

माननीय सभापति : आप उसका नोटिस दीजिए। माननीय मंत्री जी के वक्तव्य पर कोई कमेंट नहीं होता। अधीर साहब, कृपया बैठ जाइए।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय सभापति : आप नोटिस दीजिए, ताकि उस पर चर्चा हो।

... (व्यवधान)

15.59 hrs

ANTI-MARITIME PIRACY BILL, 2019

माननीय सभापति: आइटम नंबर 15, समुद्री जलदस्युता रोधी विधेयक-2019, माननीय मंत्री जी ।

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I beg to move:

“That the Bill to make special provisions for repression of piracy on high seas and to provide for punishment for the offence of piracy and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto be taken into consideration.”

Sir, I will also move in this august House official amendments to the Anti-Maritime Piracy Bill, 2019.

The Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 9th December, 2019 and the hon. Speaker had referred it to the Standing Committee on External Affairs, 2019-2020 for examination and report.

16.00hrs

I thank the Committee for examining the Bill in detail, and making very useful recommendations and observations. To suitably incorporate these recommendations, the Ministry of External Affairs held several rounds of ministerial consultations with Ministries and Departments concerned. The amendments have been drafted and finalized in consultation with and in concurrence of the Ministry of Law and Justice.

Sir, I am happy to note that out of the 18 recommendations of the Committee, 14 have been incorporated suitably. Three recommendations, No.1,

3 and 18, were in the nature of observations which have been noted. One recommendation, No.2, is to define clearcut roles of various departments to be reflected in the rules for an effective coordination mechanism.

This recommendation also calls for SOPs for deportation and extradition of pirates by the Ministry of Home Affairs so that these could be implemented early, and that has been noted and addressed suitably.

Regarding the issues raised by the Committee, the provision of trial *in absentia* has been dropped. Keeping in mind the observations of the Committee regarding the Supreme Court of India's ruling on awarding mandatory death punishment, the provision regarding death punishment has been amended in the Bill to also include imprisonment for life.

Hon. Speaker, Sir, India does not have a specific law or legal provision in the IPC or the CrPC on piracy. This Bill along with the amendments would provide an effective legal instrument to combat piracy not only in territorial waters and the EEZ but also on the high seas.

India's security and economic well-being is inextricably linked to the sea, and maritime security is a prerequisite with more than 90 per cent of our trade with the world taking place through sea routes and more than 80 per cent of our hydrocarbon requirements being seaborne. The security of our sea lanes of communications is critical to our national well-being.

India is also one of the largest providers of seafarers in the world. We are a signatory to the UNCLOS, 1982 which was ratified in 1995. The passing of the

Bill fulfils the expectations of this Convention for cooperation and repression of piracy in the high seas.

It may be noted that the hon. Prime Minister had chaired a UN Security Council session in 2021 focussed exclusively on maritime security. He had then outlined five principles for such cooperations. As such, the passing of the Bill today is a logical follow up of our maritime initiative, and will also enhance our maritime security including those of our trade routes, and the welfare of our seafarers in international waters. It, therefore, merits for consideration and passing of the Bill.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Motion moved:

“that the Bill to make special provisions for repression of piracy on high seas and to provide for punishment for the offence of piracy and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto be taken into consideration.”

SHRI MANISH TEWARI (ANANDPUR SAHIB): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairperson, Sir. I rise to speak on the Anti-Maritime Piracy Bill, 2019. If I understand correctly, among the official amendments which are sought to be moved by the Government, you plan to amend the title of the Bill to perhaps read ‘the Maritime Anti-Piracy Bill, 2019’, which, of course, would make it sounds better.

As the Minister was explaining, the Bill was introduced in this House on the 9th of December, 2019, was referred to the Standing Committee on 23rd of December, 2019, the Standing Committee reported back on 11th of February,

2021, and official amendments were proposed by the Government on the 22nd of July, 2022. This Bill, Mr. Chairperson, provides us an opportunity not only to discuss the legal architecture or the need for a legal architecture around piracy, but more importantly also India's strategic interests in the Northern Arabian Sea and the Western Indian Ocean through which a majority of India's trade passes

I would be at right to say that ungoverned spaces actually create the conditions for pirates to operate.

16.05 hours

(Shri A. Raja *in the Chair*)

Unfortunately, since 2008-2009, Somalia and Yemen have been in a rather disturbed state of affairs. Therefore, the Gulf of Aden, the North Arabian Sea, the coasts of Somalia and Yemen have been piracy-prone now for almost a decade and a half, if not more. For India, as the Minister was correctly pointing out that the sea lanes of commerce, especially the ones which transit through these Seas and also the ones which then transit from the Hormuz to the Malacca, really constitute the lifeblood of our global trade.

It was in the year 2009 when the problem of piracy was really at its zenith that a combined task force was set up. Task Forces 151, 152 and 153 were established and were given a mission mandate in order to combat the problem of piracy. Thirty-four nations and six countries got together to control almost 8.3 million square kilometres of international waters and I must say that this mission has been successful in mitigating the impact of piracy to a great extent.

India, of course, at that point in time, chose not to associate itself with the Task Forces 151, 152 and 153, which were operating out of the combined

maritime headquarters in Bahrain, primarily because of the presence of Pakistan on these Task Forces, but I am given to understand, and would be very interested to know from the hon. Minister, and I believe India has changed its mind and now, we have decided to associate ourselves with these Task Forces. So, it would be interesting to understand from the hon. Minister why this change of heart and change of mind has really come about. However, Mr. Chairperson, Sir, something which is of extreme significance to our national security is the growing Chinese presence in these waters. China has operationalised its port in Djibouti. In fact, a recent report, which was given by the Department of Defence to the US Congress on China's military power, very specifically flagged the question of China's naval presence and especially that the base in Djibouti would be able to host the Chinese aircraft carriers and other Chinese PLA and Navy assets in this particular region in a rather elevated or enhanced manner. Therefore, under those circumstances, more than piracy, it is actually the Chinese naval presence in the Northern Arabian Sea and the Western Indian Ocean which is going to become our foremost challenge. Therefore, I would like to ask one thing. Interestingly, the hon. Defence Minister is also here and I had raised this in the Consultative Committee, when we met in Mumbai just a week before, that perhaps India needs to reconsider its forward-basing policy also because you cannot have a secure Northern Arabian Sea and Western Indian Ocean if you do not have bases to be able to forward-deploy. China has very successfully leveraged its debt diplomacy in order to expand its basing presence around the Rim of Africa. So, they are exploring bases in Madagascar in

addition to various other countries. I would like to ask the hon. Minister one thing. India had been in talks with Mauritius. I think, we were doing something on the Agalega Islands. We were also doing something with Seychelles on the Assumption Islands. Therefore, it would be interesting if the Minister could throw light on what really India would do. In the light of the changed geopolitical circumstances not only in the Northern Arabian Sea and the Western Indian Ocean but globally also, is India willing to really reconsider its policy of having bases abroad and under those circumstances, if it is willing to reconsider that policy, then how really is the situation with regard to what we had in the works with Mauritius and Seychelles?

Coming to the specific aspects of this Bill, between 2016 and 2020, given that there have been 900 incidents of piracy globally, जो 10 प्रतिशत लोग हैं, क्रूमेन और ऑफिसर्स, जो इस मर्चेट एक्टिविटी में भाग लेते हैं, वे भारतीय मूल के हैं। पिछले 5-7 वर्षों में 500 से ज्यादा भारतीयों को पाइरेट्स द्वारा बंदी बनाया गया है। इस संदर्भ में, यह जो कानून सरकार ले कर आई है, इसकी ज़रूरत तो थी और है, पर इसके कुछ अंश हैं जिनके ऊपर मैं सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। अगर मैंने माननीय मंत्री जी को सही सुना तो उन्होंने यह कहा कि स्थायी समिति ने कुछ अंशों के ऊपर जो सिफारिशें की थीं, उनको उन्होंने संज्ञान में ले कर, उसमें तब्दीली करने की कोशिश की है। But I would still like to point out certain ambiguities which continue to exist in the law and which need to be further refined, which need to be fleshed out or sharpened because they are going to become an impediment with regard to international cooperation which is a *sine qua non* of our entire anti-piracy effort.

Now, Mr. Chairperson, Sir, if you were to direct your attention specifically to Clause 3, it says that whosoever commits any act of piracy shall be punished with imprisonment for life or with death if such person in committing the act of piracy causes death or an attempt thereof. There is an inherent contradiction and an inherent ambiguity in this clause. Let me point out why I am saying so. The Indian jurisprudence and the Supreme Court have been extremely conservative when it comes to handing out death penalty. They have repeatedly reiterated and stressed that only in the rarest of rare cases death penalty should be given. I can understand the Government's intent to try and deal with piracy with a firm hand but even Indian law does not permit a death sentence or does not contemplate a death sentence wherein an attempt has been made which might result in causing death.

Under the Indian Penal Code, attempt to murder – which is Section 307 of the Indian Penal Code – is not punishable by death. Is the Government trying to create new jurisprudence through this law which then can be extrapolated to other criminal laws whereby you are proposing that even the offence of attempting to commit murder is punishable by death? The statistics on people getting acquitted insofar as Section 307 of the Indian Penal Code is concerned is very, very high. I would seriously urge you to look into this. I think either it is a drafting error or it is an inadvertent slip but this needs to be corrected.

Even in terms of soliciting international cooperation on the question of piracy, if you have a law which punishes an attempt which has been made in the course of a piracy on somebody's life as punishable with death, that is not going

to really bring the kind of cooperation which you would perhaps look for while operationalising this law.

I will now come to clause 4 in the Bill. I will just read it out:

“Whosoever attempts to commit the offence of piracy or aids or abets or counsels or procures for the commission of such an offence, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to 14 years and shall also be liable to fine.”

Mr. Chairperson, you are a lawyer yourself. We have another eminent lawyer sitting right there who is the Minister of State for External Affairs. I can understand the word ‘aid’; I can understand the word ‘abet’, but the word ‘counsels’, how can you ‘counsel’ an act of piracy? I have not been able to wrap my head around the word ‘counsel’. If somebody ‘aids’ in an act of piracy, he ‘abets’ in an act of piracy, he procures equipment which then is used in operationalizing that act of piracy, whether it is a boat or it is a weapon or it is an ammunition etc.; it is understandable. But for the words ‘counsels an act of piracy’, I think there needs to be an explanation from the Government. The hon. Minister wants to say something.

DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR: I just want to clarify that possibly the Member is reading from the earlier version of the Bill because in the official amendment which we have moved, the word ‘counsel’ is replaced by ‘conspire’. So, I just want to point it out.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR: I think there is possibly some misunderstanding.

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: I think possibility the revised version with the amendments has not been circulated because when our office last checked, this was the only version of the Bill, Mr. Chairperson, which was at least available to the Members. You may have moved the amendments separately.

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): It has not been circulated to the Members. It is not to our knowledge. How are we able to discuss it?

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Minister, please check whether it has been circulated or not.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY (PALI): This Bill was moved for consideration and passing during the last session. At that time, it could not reach, but it was circulated. All the official amendments have been circulated. If I have received it, then you must have also received it.

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Mr. Chairperson, with due respect to Shri P.P. Chaudhary Ji, there seems to be some special treatment for the Treasury Benches. But as far as Opposition Benches are concerned, when I checked today in the morning, the official amendments were at least not available to us.

DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR: Sir, my understanding is that it was circulated on 6th of December. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: However, it is corrected now.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Minister, the only thing is that..

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Prem, one minute please.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Your point is that notwithstanding the correction made in this House, whether the due process has been followed or not. I think that is the question.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: No. He is the Chairman of the Standing Committee, but unfortunately, he is misleading the House. All the notices of amendments which were given during the last Session will lapse on the day when the House is adjourned *sine die*.

So, those amendments will not have any effect. The amendments have to be given in this Session after issuance of the summons by the President of India. That is our point. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The hon. Minister is categorical that it has been circulated on 6th of December.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Do you want to reiterate it?

DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR: Sir, the official amendments were circulated on 6th of December. What had happened was what the Standing Committee recommended was taken into consideration by the Government. Most of it was drafted into the official amendments, included in the official

amendments. The official amendments, as approved by the Government, were circulated on the 6th of December. So, I think there should not be any doubt on it that the official amendments have been circulated.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Is it available on the portal, hon. Minister?

DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR: Yes. But I would be very happy to give a copy of it. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Then hon. Members, it is available in the public domain. Once it is posted on the portal, it is in public domain.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: On 6th December, it is available on portal. How will the hon. Members who are coming on 6th or 7th December be able to go through the amendments? The Bill is being taken up for discussion on 7th December. How will we be able to go through the amendments and have a discussion? It is very unfortunate. The hard copy of the amendments should have been circulated among the Members.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The point is noted. We will direct the Minister.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I think that we have come to the conclusion that it has been circulated. The time is the crux. Such a delay should not happen in the future please.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: That is all. You can continue with the debate.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: No, Mr. Chairperson, I do not think that delay is the crux. What Mr. Premachandran was trying to say and I would like to reiterate is the fact that if the Amendments are circulated on 06 December, 2022 and the discussion is taking place on 07 December, 2022, then it is not a proforma circulation, which is important that we have put it on the portal and we have done our job. I think that it is also a question of propriety that if we are discussing a Bill on the very next day, then you should at least circulate the official Amendments to the Members because not everybody goes on to the portal every day to check what the Government has put on the portal and what has not been put on the portal.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The point is well taken.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Minister, please make a note of it.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Going back to what I was saying, if the Minister has clarified that the word 'counsels' has been replaced by the word 'conspired', then that makes it a full provision.

Let me come to my next point, Mr. Chairperson. Now, the proviso to Clause 9 says :

"Provided that where such offence is committed on board a foreign flag ship, such court shall not have jurisdiction to try such offence unless the law enforcement agency or the public authority of the port or place, where the ship is located, has been requested to

intervene by the concerned State whose flag the ship is entitled to fly or by the owner of the ship or its master or any other person on board the ship:"

Now, this has very profound implications. For example, if there is a ship on high seas on which an attempt of piracy has been made and there are Indian crewmen or officers on board that ship and there are unfortunate casualties, and it is the Indian Coast Guard or the Indian Navy, which respond to it and takes them into custody, then is the Government trying to say that just because the ship is flying a foreign flag irrespective of the fact that Indian nationals may have been involved or may have been hurt in the process, the Government or the designated court will not have the authority to try that particular offense? I think that there is a clarity required because if there are Indian nationals and we are actually enacting a law or putting in place a legal architecture with regard to piracy, then it should extend to every ship, which possibly has Indian crewmen or officers on board. My next point, which is important according to me is on the question of presumption. This law shifts the burden of proof and actually turns the principle of jurisprudence on its head that you are innocent until proven guilty. Now, this is not the only law, which does it. Even the Prevention of Corruption Act shifts the burden of proof. However, my concern is that when you are talking about piracy, you are *inter-se* also implicitly talking about cooperation with other countries. Now, if you have a law where the presumption of guilt or the burden of proof has actually been shifted on the accused and the accused has to be extradited from a third country, then that third country is not going to

extradite an accused who has already proven to be guilty till the time he does not prove himself to be innocent. This is actually going to become detrimental to your larger international cooperation in order to combat piracy rather than being an enabler. I would request the Minister to really reconsider this particular Clause in the light of its practical implications when it comes to implementing it.

Finally, I would just like to conclude by saying that this particular Bill, when you look at it in its entirety, is a Bill, which India requires, but yes, there are certain specific issues, which I have flagged.

There are a couple of more points. We are running out of time. It requires reconsideration by the Government because as I earlier said, they are going to become a problem when the operationalization of this takes place.

Thank you very much.

SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY (PALI): Sir, I rise to support the Anti-Maritime Piracy Bill. In fact, this Bill was much needed after the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Thereafter, India ratified the Convention in 1995. Almost 166 countries are member states. Before I start, I would like to refer to the speech of the hon. Prime Minister at the High Level Open Debate on Enhancing Maritime Security: A Case for International Cooperation'. I quote:

"The ocean is our joint heritage. Our sea routes are the lifeline of international trade. And, the biggest thing is that these oceans are very important for the future of our planet. But today, our shared maritime heritage is facing many challenges. Sea routes are being misused for piracy and terrorism. There are maritime disputes between many

countries. And climate change and natural disasters are also maritime domain related issues. In this broad context, we must create a framework of mutual understanding and cooperation for the preservation and use of our common maritime heritage. No country can create such a framework alone. It can only be realized through a common effort. It is with this thought that we have brought this important issue before the Security Council. I am confident that today's High Level discussion will guide the world on the issue of maritime security."

Keeping in mind these aspects, I extend my thanks to the hon. Minister for bringing this Bill. It is a critical piece of legislation because the Indian Ocean Region accounts for nearly half of all global sea trade, with over one lakh ships per year passing through it. For a long time, we have witnessed robberies or hijackings for ransom. Not only one particular part of the globe, but also the sea—the Gulf of Guinea, the Gulf of Malacca, the Red Sea of Somalia—all these are shipping routes. After 2008, the Gulf of Aden, the Gulf of Suez, and Mauritius were also subjected to many pirate attacks. From 2009 to 2019, almost 11,773 acts of piracy and robbery were committed.

There is no separate legislation in our country because of jurisdictional problems and so many other problems. In the IPC, and the CrPC, piracy has not been treated as a crime.

A case came up in the jurisdiction of the Indian courts, the Alondra Rainbow case of 1999, where the trial court prosecution was successful but the High Court struck down and overruled on the ground of jurisdiction that piracy is

not a crime under the Indian Penal Code and the Indian courts do not have any jurisdiction with respect to any offence committed on the high seas.

Now, the question is – why is this Bill? What is the Government's motivation for introducing this bill? It is for repression of piracy and to arrest, investigate, prosecute, and inflict the punishment. The IPC and the Criminal Procedure Code make no provision for punishment and prosecution. Moreover, the word 'piracy' is not defined under the IPC. Therefore, it had not been treated as an offence.

Indian courts do not have any jurisdiction with respect to piracy committed on the high seas. There is a jurisdictional problem. Apart from this, it is also an obligation of the United Nations because the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea was adopted in 1982 and India ratified it in 1995.

Since then, there has been no law in this area and this area remained unoccupied. For repression of the piracy, this law is needed.

If we go by chronological order, earlier, the Bill was introduced before this House in 2012. It was sent to the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee gave its report with recommendations. It was again redrafted in 2018 after consulting the Ministry of Law & Justice, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Defence, Navy and Coast Guard. The legislation has also taken into consideration the laws which are prevalent in countries like Australia, New Zealand and Sri Lanka. We have also taken the guidance from the International Maritime Organisation. If we see the overall objective of the Bill, it is for the repression of piracy on the high sea and

empowering the competent authority to arrest, investigate, prosecute and inflict the punishment on the guilty. It is also an obligation on us of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The piracy was not criminalised earlier. Now, criminalising piracy is also one of the objectives of this Bill. Apart from this, international support for anti-piracy operations conducted by the Indian Navy will also help them.

Coming to the applicability of the Bill, around the coastline, within territorial water, we have exclusive jurisdiction. We can deal with piracy in territorial water under the Indian Penal Code and CrPC but beyond the territorial water, in Exclusive Economic Zone, we can only utilise the water for the purpose of research etc. We do not have any jurisdiction beyond territorial water and we cannot invoke the provision of Indian Penal Code and CrPC for prosecution and punishment. That is why this law is needed. So far as the territorial jurisdiction is concerned, it goes up to 12 nautical miles which is equivalent to 22 kms. Exclusive Economic Zone covers 200 nautical miles that is equivalent to 370 kms. For 370 kms, we did not have jurisdiction which is also in the high sea. We have the sovereignty so far as territorial water is concerned. We do not have any sovereignty and we do not have any jurisdiction with respect to the Exclusive Economic Zone and high sea.

If we see the Bill, the definition of 'Piracy' is as defined under the United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea is adopted. There are four mandatory conditions if we bifurcate the whole definition on whether a particular act is a crime or not. First, the crime should be committed for (a) private ends; (b) by any

person or by crew or any passenger of private ship; (c) the place can only be the high sea; and (c) against another ship or any person or property on board such ship. Now, the question arises that if the crime is committed on the Government ship, which is a non-commercial ship, and warship, it is not included. A commercial ship may be a Government ship. To my mind, since this is not clear on this issue, on the basis of interpretation, we can say that even if it is a Government ship, if it is involved in commercial operation and if piracy is committed, it also comes under the jurisdiction. Mr. Manish Tewari was referring about committing of piracy under clause 3. So, the punishment of piracy is there. So far as clause 3 is concerned: "Whoever commits any act of piracy shall be punished, since official amendment is there, with imprisonment, for life or with fine or with both, and whoever causes the death or an attempt thereof will be punished with death or life imprisonment". So, I think this as an official amendment is one reason that the mandatory death penalty cannot be inflicted. In one of the cases, the Supreme Court has taken the view that the mandatory death penalty is unconstitutional.

The reason is that it is violative of Articles 14 and 21 of the Constitution of India that no person shall be deprived of life and liberty except in accordance with law.

But law must be reasonable. So, no discretionary power has been given to the court to inflict death penalty. The court should decide if that penalty in the given circumstances is needed or not. Therefore, the discretionary power cannot be taken away from the court in a straightjacket formula. If such type of a crime

is committed, then the court must be given discretionary power. I think it is a welcome move by the Government to bring in this official amendment and give that discretion to the courts. Earlier, as per Section 303 of the IPC, where a convict serving prison sentence commits a murder, the penalty can only be death sentence. That provision has been struck down by the court saying that some discretion, some cushioning should be there. In the given circumstances, it is for the court to decide whether the death penalty is needed or not. That is the reason of official amendment.

Apart from this, under the Arms Act, the provision of death penalty for usage of prohibited arms resulting in death is also struck down. Some cases are pending before the Supreme Court with respect to mandatory death penalty under the SC/ST Act of 1989, and Anti Hijacking Act of 2016. These cases are pending, and the Government has brought in an official amendment wherein the word 'or' is used and that discretion has been given to the court.

If we go country-wise, some countries like Singapore, Thailand and Malaysia have made provision for mandatory death penalty if death is caused during the piracy. In America, the punishment is for 20 years. Some more countries where there is no death penalty for piracy are Kenya, Australia, Italy and Sri Lanka.

Here are my suggestions to the hon. Minister as regards some of the provisions. So far as Clause 3 is concerned, after 'whoever commits any act of piracy', an official amendment may be brought in to add the words, 'aids or abets or conspires or procures'. The present formulation refers to the act of

piracy but not to the act of aiding, abetting, conspiring or procuring. The act and conspiracy, both should be added. In Clause 3, only the commission is added, not the conspiracy. So, this is missing.

Clause 4 says, 'Whoever attempts to commit the offence of piracy or aids, or abets, or counsels or procures for the commission.' Instead of the word counsels, the word conspires should be used.

And the same formulation should be used in Clause 3 also immediately after 'any act of piracy'. Clause 3 and Clause 4 must have this similarity. Proper formulation is used in Clause 4 but in Clause 3, the conspiracy part is missing.

I now come to the punishment part. Clause 4 says, 'Whoever attempts to commit the offence of piracy or aids or abets or counsels or procures for the commission of such offence shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine'. I fear that if any offence is there, then the use of the word 'or' gives too much discretion to the court that they can just impose only fine and not a sentence.

Now, I come to Clause 5 regarding punishment of 14 years or fine or both for organising, directing others to participate in an act of piracy. I am reading Clause 5. It says: "Whoever participates or organises or directs other person to participate in an act of piracy shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and shall also be liable to fine." Now, it has been reduced to 10 years and the word 'and' has been substituted by the word 'or'. So, the court can also impose the fine in all cases wherever the word 'or' is

used. So, we can use the words 'fine or both' immediately after 10 years' punishment.

Finally, I would also like to refer to Clause 7 regarding arrest of persons and seizure of ship. This new Clause has been added. Clause 7 says that the authorised personnel may, either generally or on suspicion that a ship is engaged in piracy on the high sea, board such ship and arrest the person or seize the pirate ship and property on board. I am referring to the official amendment. In the official amendment, the words used are 'either generally or on suspicion'. It is because in the main Act we have not treated suspicion as an offence. So, if suspicion is not an offence, when we define the word 'piracy', then basically we cannot treat it as an offence. That is why, it can also create a problem. Here, the words used are 'arrest the person or seize the pirate ship'. So, we are giving the power to the authority. Either he can arrest the person or seize the pirate ship. If he can only seize the pirate ship and he cannot arrest the person, so this power is given to enable him to do so. We are empowering the authority to either arrest the person or seize the pirate ship. So, arresting the person is not mandatory.

He can only seize the pirate ship and property on the board and finish his job. It is because he can say very well that he is acting in accordance with the provision of the law. Again, basically the word 'suspicion' is not there. It has not been treated as an offence. So, once we are not treating it as an offence under the definition of 'piracy', then it may create some problem. About the authorised persons, there is no problem.

About presumption, because Manish Tewari *ji* has referred about presumption, in some of the laws, on the basis of presumption, a person can be prosecuted. But, no doubt, it differs from country to country. But once the offence is extraditable, then it can be on the basis of reciprocity.

We can bring the accused here and prosecute. But regarding the presumption of committing the crime, unless the contrary is proved, we have given sufficient safeguards under the Bill. But these are mandatory safeguards. Once we recover the arms and ammunitions, then presumption can be drawn. In the absence of recovery of arms and ammunitions, no presumption can be drawn. Therefore, sufficient safeguards have been provided under the Bill that arms and ammunitions have to be recovered or those are used or intended to be used; the evidence of force and threat is there; the evidence of intended threat is there. So, in the Bill, sufficient safeguards have been taken with respect to presumption. There is no doubt that presumption is presumption of the guilt. So, some of the enactments we have in this Bill are like that of the Prevention of Corruption Act. That is a valid enactment. When we are dealing with high sea, in case we do not draw the presumption, then it is very difficult to prosecute that person; it is very difficult to collect evidence. But in the Bill, mandatory conditions have been provided and sufficient safeguards have been given.

A very fine balance has been maintained that unless and until there is recovery, simply on the basis of this provision we cannot presume commission of an offence. Only presumption is there. But to draw the presumption, recovery of arms and ammunitions should be there.

The presumption can be drawn only if those should either be used or intended to be used, or there is a force or threat. Therefore, there are sufficient safeguards in the Bill.

With regard to the extraditable crime; Bill provides that it is deemed to be any other State. If there is reciprocity with other nations, then we can extradite without any problem. We should keep in mind that every State must have its own legislation. Bilateral treaty is there, and, hence there is no problem in dealing with extraditable crime. Basically, we have treated this crime under the Act as an extraditable crime, and on the basis of reciprocity, we can bring him back. With this, I support the Bill and request that it may be passed. Thank you.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Sir, speaking after two legal luminaries, it is always difficult on my part to put up my case because though I have been elected to frame law, I have not studied Law. Nor have I got any Degree from the Law College or University.

The second point which I would like to mention after hearing two colleagues of mine is, piracy has not been there in the IPC. You yourself know it very well. The Indian Penal Code is just another version of Irish Penal Code. CrPC, of course, was framed in 1948, and then subsequently a number of amendments were brought in. The greatest pirates of this world were the Britishers. Why would they frame a law to apprehend pirates? That is the basic reason, and we have woken up after such a long time, that we felt the need to have a Piracy Law. The Prime Minister has raised an issue about it in the United Nations.

Coming to the Bill, I am really astonished to hear my predecessor, Shri P.P. Chaudhary. Perhaps he was also heading the Standing Committee which went through this Bill. Now, a number of amendments have been accepted by the Government. Still, certain amendments have not been accepted. Anyway, he must have gone through in detail unlike Shri Manish Tewari, who is very much aware about it. There are certain apprehensions and also certain suggestions which I would like to make in a very brief manner.

The Indian Penal Code provisions pertaining to armed robbery have been involved in the past to prosecute pirates apprehended by the Navy and the Coast Guard. But in the absence of a specific law on the offence of maritime piracy in India, problems were being faced to ensure effective prosecutions of pirates. This is the basic reason for which this law has been framed. I would say that under this Bill, if a person while committing an act of piracy causes or attempts to cause death, he will be punished with death or imprisonment. An amendment to that effect has come.

The Supreme Court has in *Dalbir Singh Vs the State of Punjab* in 2006, and *Mithu Vs. the State of Punjab* in 1983, ruled that mandatory death penalty for an offence violates Articles 14 and 21 of the Constitution.

The Court has held that a provision that imposes a mandatory death penalty is arbitrary and unfair. The Supreme Court has in *Bachan Singh Vs. the State of Punjab* also narrowed the application of death penalty to the rarest of rare.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please wind up.

डॉ. निशिकांत दुबे (गोड्डा) : महोदय, अभी तो स्टार्ट किया है।...(व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: He has got only three minutes left. I am just ringing the alarm bell.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Hon. Chairperson, Sir, this Bill defines piracy and here, certain actions may fall on different offences having differing penalties. There are three or four in that line. I would just mention it briefly -- 'Any illegal act of violence or detention or any act of depredation committed against a ship, aircraft, person or property; inciting or intentionally facilitating such illegal act; or voluntarily participating in the operation of a pirate ship.' 'Any person who commits an act of piracy will be punished with imprisonment for life; or death penalty, if the act of piracy causes or attempts to cause death.' However, another clause in the Bill provides for imprisonment for up to fourteen years along with a fine if a person aids or assists or participates or organises or directs another person to participate in an act of piracy. The offences in both the clauses seem to be similar. It is unclear which penalties will apply under which circumstances. For instance, person 'A' directs person 'B' to damage a ship on the high seas. There could be two ways in which person 'A' is charged -- for committing an act of piracy by inciting such an act and thus be charged with life imprisonment or death; or for directing another person to participate in an act of piracy and thus be punished with imprisonment for up to fourteen years along with a fine. The next point which I would like to mention is with regard to geographical applicability of the Bill. The hon. Minister has very rightly mentioned about Exclusive Economic Zone. But India has limited rights in the

Exclusive Economic Zone such as, the rights to explore, exploit and manage natural resources. Currently, certain acts of piracy such as, acts of violence against a ship and seizure of a ship occurring in the EEZ, are covered under the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against Safety of Maritime Navigation and Fixed Platforms on Continental Shelf Act (SUA Act), 2002.

However, the SUA Act, 2002 does not cover all acts of piracy as defined under UNCLOS. For example, an act of theft that does not endanger the safety of a ship in the EEZ will not be covered under the SUA Act, 2002. But this would qualify as an act of piracy under UNCLOS and this Bill.

Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I would not go into the other aspects. The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) is the first comprehensive enforceable international environmental law covering all forms of marine pollution, including, land-based, atmospheric, ship-borne, and pollution originating from activities on the sea bed. The UNCLOS of 1982 entered into force on 16th November, 1994. Although, many nations have signed and notified UNCLOS, but their numbers have not been sufficient to bring it into force. Despite the fact that UNCLOS runs into 320 Articles and IX Annexes, there are still important issues that require further work. For example, controversies exist over overlapping jurisdiction of territorial waters, that is, twelve nautical miles and Exclusive Economic Zone, that is, two hundred nautical miles. Therefore, my suggestion is that the Government must review the provision of death penalty for pirates, involved in killing or in attempt to murder cases, in the proposed piracy Bill as the extradition of the accused may be difficult, which my

friend Shri Manish Tewari has just now mentioned. The law must provide for legal immunity for acts done in good faith. My previous speaker just now mentioned about, 'if arms are seized'. But for what purpose arms were carried on a ship? The ship may be carrying arms for the safety so that the security personnel -- duly authorised by the Government to deal with the problem -- get protection. The international cooperation on the issue of maritime piracy at various international platforms should also be brought.

All necessary steps should be taken by the Ministry concerned.

Sir, the Bill, of course, is a landmark move to combat the issue of piracy at sea. However, the proposed law must be reviewed based on international laws. As I have stated earlier, I had moved an amendment in the last session about the provision of death penalty, but I would say it must be reconsidered to ensure better acceptance of the proposed law.

With these words, I conclude.

DR. T. SUMATHY (A) THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN (CHENNAI SOUTH): Thank you very much Chairperson, Sir, for having given me this opportunity to speak on the Anti-Maritime Piracy Bill, 2019.

At the outset, I would like to associate myself with the hon. Member of Parliament Dr. Manish Tewari to change the nomenclature as Maritime Anti-Piracy Bill.

"My story starts at sea, a perilous voyage to an unknown land. A shipwreck. The wild waters roar and heave. The brave vessel is dashed all to pieces. And all the helpless souls within her drowned."

Thus, Shakespeare describes the natural calamities and dangers of a sea voyage. But apart from these, the pirates of the sea are the most dangerous threat who seize, destroy any ship at high seas and sometimes even at the harbours. Also, they are involved in many other illegal activities like smuggling and slave trades. So, the sea piracy mafia needs to be dealt with an iron fist and so, I really appreciate our Government's initiative to bell the cat legally through this Bill.

Sir, according to the International Maritime Bureau of the ICC, piracy attacks on ships were increased by 20 per cent between 2019-2020. India, as the largest stakeholder in maritime trade, having a crew and officers, constitute nearly 10 per cent of the global seafaring community. And, that is high time to have this Bill passed and we have a Union Minister for the External Affairs here right now Dr. S. Jaishankar who has laboured much to bring this Bill to see the light of the day. I appreciate whole-heartedly his efforts and hope this will bring sea changes in the Indian maritime history.

Sir, the Union Government is bringing the law as part of the commitment made by India while signing the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) in 1982 and the UNCLOS was ratified by India in 1995.

I welcome this Bill but would like to draw the attention of this august House, through you, to some major incidents.

Sir, the introduction of this Bill comes some days after 18 Indians aboard of the crude oil ship carrier who were kidnapped off the Coast of Nigeria. Some time ago also, the House would not have forgotten, an incident had been

reported about, our fellow Keralite fisherman being killed by the authorities in an Italian Naval Ship. Since there were lacunae in the legal system, much had been deliberated and spoken about and even when we were waiting for the offenders to be punished, they were just let go which was a very sad thing.

I would like to bring those incidents to the attention of this august House because that is how, this Bill seems to be very important. So, to have a separate domestic legislation on piracy as well as taking care of the fellow fishermen from all the States of India is very important. That is the point I would like to make here. So far, we have to rely on the Indian Penal Code relating to the offence of war time piracy in India and penal codes are only applicable upto to territorial waters.

Also, the international naval presence in the Gulf of Eden made the pirate to have a paradigm shift to East and Southwards. So, everybody's eyes are now upto the Southern part. I appreciate the initiative to pass this Bill after so much mulling over and discussions from 2019 onwards as have been pointed out by my esteemed colleagues. However, during the 15th Lok Sabha, a redrafted Bill was presented and it was lapsed.

15.00hrs

Sir, why I am pointing out the detailed effort is that while so much efforts have been taken by the Union Government and are showing keen interest and evident interest to safeguard Indians, our trade and other sea-faring activities, sheer neglect has been shown to Tamilian fishermen throughout. Are we not the children of our Bharat Mata, as they proudly say? Whenever there is an attack

on a TAMILIAN fisherman by the Sri Lankan Navy, the newspaper headlines will scream --- TAMILIAN fishermen have been attacked. Whereas, when fishermen in the coast of Gujarat are attacked ... (*Interruptions*) I will not budge ... (*Interruptions*) then the headlines will read – Indian fishermen are attacked. Why is this step-motherly treatment to us? Our hon. Chief minister, *Thalapathi* M. K. Stalin has, umpteen number of times, raised this issue and our floor leader of the Lok Sabha, respected Shri T R Baalu also has raised this issue in Parliament, but recently how many such incidents have been listed?

Six hundred fishermen have been killed in the recent times and thousands of their fishing vessels have been seized in the last 30 years, but the Government has not taken any stringent action – other than negotiations, table conferences and diplomatic talks -- through a proper legal framework.

Sir, another important point that I would like to bring to your notice is about Katchatheevu. Katchatheevu was ceded to Sri Lanka under the 1976 Agreement and also without the approval of the two Houses of Parliament. Diplomatic efforts were of no avail so far as the issues of fishermen and others were concerned. India should step into action to reclaim and bring it under our sovereignty. If necessary, the International Court of Justice may also be approached.

I welcome this important piece of legislation whereby the Union Government will be empowered to notify designated courts for the trials of piracy and also increase the scope of maritime navigation beyond the territorial waters to cover EEZ. I would like to request the hon. Minister to kindly set up one or

more Sessions Court in the southern part of India, especially in Tamil Nadu. That is our request. As has been pointed out by my respected colleagues here, death penalty, as a punishment, is not at all advisable and as has been very rightly pointed out by the hon. Minister himself also, we hope that it would be abolished. It is because we have had the history of Justice V R Krishna Iyer, a pioneer of judicial activism, who strongly advocated against capital punishment. Our hon. Chief minister also is against it; all of us are against it. Our own Mahatma Gandhi said, 'I cannot, in all conscience, agree to anyone being brought to gallows'. Even countries like USA and Italy have refrained from awarding capital punishment. Sir, apart from this, I have a few suggestions. The Standing Committee has stated that the role of the State Government has to be clearly defined in order to emphasise and an promote effective coordination mechanism. I would request the Government to kindly take that aspect into account. There is no mention of international cooperation for the repression of piracy in this Bill. This point should also be addressed. Our hon. Prime Minister has proudly announced, as head of the G-20 Summit – One Earth, one family, one future. I would like to request the hon. Minister to consider the interest of the fishermen of Tamil Nadu also because local issues are very important and need to be addressed. We are very happy and welcome this piece of legislation. But still the Government has to take into account the plight of our fishermen.

With all these suggestions and requests, I would like to once again request the hon. Minister to take into account the above points before passing the Bill. Thank you.

SHRI N. REDDEPPA (CHITTOOR): I would like to thank the honourable Chair for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Anti-Maritime Piracy Bill, 2019.

Sir, at the outset, I would like to bring out the importance of the Indian Ocean. The sea lanes in the Indian Ocean are considered the most strategically important in the world. More than 80 per cent of the world's sea-borne trade in oil transits through Indian Ocean choke points, with 40 per cent passing through the Strait of Hormuz, 35 per cent through the Strait of Malacca and 8 per cent through the Bab-El-Mandeb Strait. Further, roughly 55 per cent of known oil reserves and 40 per cent of gas reserves are in the Indian Ocean. The increased significance of Indian Ocean Region in the world geopolitics is one of the reasons behind the Pivot to Asia Policy which former US President Barack Obama had initiated. The route between Asia, Europe and East Coast of Africa is used by over 2000 ships each month.

Sir, piracy in the Indian Ocean is not a recent phenomenon. According to the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre, the total number of attacks in the Indian Ocean region that could be attributed to Somali pirates peaked in 2011 when 237 incidents were recorded and it soared to 557 during the five-year period between 2010 and 2014. This number fell dramatically to just fourteen in the six-year period between 2015 and 2020, a drop that is widely regarded as a result of joint efforts to reduce crimes at sea.

I would like to point out a few positives of the proposed Bill. Regarding the applicability of this Bill till the Exclusive Economic Zone, the Indian Penal Code is not valid for foreigners in international waters. Previously, pirates were

prosecuted under the Indian Penal Code, 1860. However, India's sovereignty is delimited by the outer boundary of its territorial waters, that is 12 nautical miles from the coast. Acts of piracy committed by a foreigner outside India's territorial waters cannot be an offence under the IPC and those accused in piracy cases have been acquitted due to lack of jurisdiction. However, the said legislation, if once implemented, will extend the scope of our jurisdiction to our Exclusive Economic Zone, that is, beyond 200 nautical miles from India's coastline.

The Bill is a necessity for economic development. India's economic development is crucially dependent on the sea because of the criticality of sea-borne trade in an increasingly inter-linked world as well as the potential of vast economic resources of the Ocean. India's maritime interest involves the safeguarding of our coastline and island territories, as also our interests in our EEZ and maintaining open and secure Sea Lines of Communication.

The third point is on human risk. Last year, 18 Indians aboard a crude oil carrier were kidnapped off the coast of Nigeria. Therefore, the risk attached to the lives of innocent Indians sailing in this region due to piracy incidents needs to be curbed at the earliest.

Finally, Sir, India can become a Vishwa Guru with the implementation of this Bill. The high seas are not under anyone's control. Most pirates captured till now are kept in a jail administered by the UN in Kenya.

Since right now no other country in the world has such laws in place, the implementation of such a law will make India lead the other nations in the

collective fight against maritime piracy. Hence, for all these reasons, I express our Party's support for the Bill. Thank you.

श्री विनायक भाऊराव राऊत (रत्नागिरी-सिंधुदुर्ग): सभापति जी, समुद्री व्यापार और व्यवसाय के लिए समुद्री डकैती एक बहुत बड़ी समस्या थी। उसका सही इलाज निकालने के लिए और स्थायी समाधान निकालने के लिए इस बिल के माध्यम से सही कानून बनाने का प्रयास माननीय मंत्री जी ने किया है, इसके लिए मैं उन्हें धन्यवाद देता हूँ। इस विषय पर बोलने के लिए आपने मुझे समय दिया, इसके लिए भी आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

समुद्री डकैती उच्च समुद्रों पर व्यापार और वाणिज्य के लिए प्रमुख खतरों में से एक है। हिंद महासागर विश्व के तेल उत्पादन और वैश्विक समुद्री व्यापार में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है लेकिन समुद्री लुटेरों, तस्करो और आतंकवादियों के कारण हिंद महासागर अत्यधिक असुरक्षित और अस्थिर है। यह पाया गया है कि समुद्री लुटेरों के हमलों में दक्षिण पूर्व एशियाई देश सबसे अधिक प्रभावित क्षेत्र हैं। यह अदन की खाड़ी में बढ़ी हुई नौसैनिक उपस्थिति के परिणामस्वरूप है, जिसने समुद्री डकैती के संचालन को पूर्व और दक्षिण की ओर स्थानांतरित कर दिया है और भारत के पश्चिम तट से उनकी निकटता बढ़ा दी है।

महोदय, 3 दिसम्बर, 2019 को एक कच्चे तेल वाहक पर सवार 18 भारतीयों को नाइजीरिया के तट से अगवा कर लिया गया और कई दिनों की बातचीत के बाद उन्हें रिहा कर दिया गया। नाइजीरिया के तट के पास समुद्री डकैतों के अगवा करने की कई घटनाएं पहले भी हो चुकी थीं। दशकों से भारत को समुद्री डकैती के अपराध से संबंधित किसी विशिष्ट कानून के अभाव में ऐसी कई घटनाओं का सामना करना पड़ा और इसलिए 1995 में United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea में महत्वपूर्ण संशोधन किया गया और यह बिल उसी प्रतिबद्धता का परिणाम है।

एंटी मैरीटाइम पाइरेसी बिल, 2019 जो समुद्री डकैती से संबंधित अपराधों के लिए व्यक्तियों के खिलाफ मुकदमा चलाने और हमारे जहाजों और चालक दल के सदस्यों की सुरक्षा सहित भारत के समुद्री व्यापार की सुरक्षा को बढ़ावा देने के लिए अंतर्राज्यीय समुद्री डकैती विरोधी कानून को

लागू करेगा। पहले समुद्री लुटेरों पर भारतीय दंड संहिता, 1860 के तहत सशस्त्र डकैती से निपटने के लिए प्रावधानों और विशिष्ट अदालतों के नौवहन अधिकार क्षेत्र के तहत मुकदमा चलाया जाता था इसलिए भारत के जल क्षेत्र के बाहर किसी विदेशी द्वारा की गई चोरी का कार्य आईपीसी के तहत अपराध नहीं था। इससे निपटने के लिए यह बिल सरकार को भारत के विशेष आर्थिक क्षेत्र की सीमा से सटे समुद्र के सभी हिस्सों के लिए प्रावधान करने का अधिकार देगा। यह बिल केंद्र सरकार को संबंधित उच्च न्यायालय के मुख्य न्यायाधीश के परामर्श से प्रस्तावित कानून के तहत समुद्री डकैती के अपराधों के त्वरित परीक्षण के लिए कुछ अदालतों को नामित न्यायालयों के रूप में निर्दिष्ट करने में सक्षम करेगा। इसके साथ मैं मंत्री जी से एक विनती और करना चाहूंगा कि एक वैस्ट कोस्ट है और एक ईस्ट कोस्ट है, ऐसे क्षेत्र में भी न्यायालयों के बनाने की आवश्यकता है, क्योंकि हमारे फिशरमैन को भी समुद्री डकैती की वजह से कई समस्याओं का सामना करना पड़ता है।

इस बिल में अधिकार क्षेत्र की सीमा गिरफ्तारी, जब्ती, सजा और दंड मानवाधिकार पहलू के बारे में मुकद्दमे के लिए नामित अदालतों और प्रत्यर्पण के प्रावधानों आदि के बारे में भी कई बातें स्पष्ट की गयी हैं। इनमें समय-समय पर संशोधन करने की आवश्यकता भी रहेगी। मुझे पूरी उम्मीद है कि नया प्रस्तावित कानून निश्चित रूप से अधिकारियों को पकड़े गए समुद्री लुटेरों पर मुकदमा चलाने में सक्षम बनाएगा, चाहे उनकी राष्ट्रीयता कुछ भी हो। यह सदन इसे अधिनियम बनाने में मदद करेगा। समुद्री डकैती को समर्पित अंतर्राज्यीय कानून के कार्यान्वयन से भारतीय नौसेना या तट-रक्षक बल को राष्ट्रीयता के आधार पर पकड़े गए समुद्री लुटेरों पर मुकदमा चलाने में जरूर मदद मिलेगी और इससे भारत को समुद्री डकैती से निपटने के लिए अंतर्राष्ट्रीय प्रयासों का हिस्सा बनाने में मदद मिलेगी।

महोदय इसके साथ ही साथ, मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह भी विनती करना चाहता हूं कि अपने देश के अन्य राज्यों में अंतर्देशीय फिशरमैन हैं। इस पर भी कई जगहों पर समुद्र वॉर चलती है। जैसे कि साउथ के कई राज्यों के फिशरमैन महाराष्ट्र में आते हैं, गुजरात के महाराष्ट्र में आते हैं और महाराष्ट्र के अन्य राज्यों में जाते हैं। फिशिंग करते-करते कभी-कभी वे श्रीलंका भी चले जाते हैं। ऐसे

फिशरमेन की मदद करने के लिए तथा उनके मध्य झगड़ा न होने के लिए आप सही रूप में कानून बनाकर उनका भी मार्गदर्शन करेंगे, ऐसी मैं आशा व्यक्त करता हूँ और इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ। धन्यवाद।

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE (SREERAMPUR): Hon. Chairman, Sir, first of all, I convey my thanks to you for giving me a chance to speak on this Anti-Maritime Piracy Bill, 2019. The Anti-Maritime Piracy Bill, 2019 proposes the Indian authorities to take action against piracy in the high seas. The Bill brings into law the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea which applies to the sea beyond the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), i.e., beyond 200 nautical miles from India's coastline. India signed the United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea on 10th December, 1982, and ratified it on 29th June, 1995.

Piracy is an ancient phenomenon, and its history dates to hundreds of years. It was only in the 20th Century that the codification of piracy related customary laws and practices began.

Sir, the marine environment, after the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm, and the conclusion of significant specific conventions (The London Dumping Convention of 1972, and the MARPOL Convention of 1973) became a broadly accepted objective.

According to the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, piracy is defined as “any illegal act of violence or detention or any act of depredation committed for private ends by the crew or the passengers of a private ship.”

Sir, in accordance with the UNCLOS, the Bill defines piracy as 'any illegal act of violence, detention, or destruction committed against a ship, aircraft, person or property for private purposes by the crew or the passengers of a private ship or aircraft.' Sir, different characteristics of piracy are there and I am not going into the details. I would just make a few important points. The International Maritime Organisation is addressing maritime piracy for some time.

Sir, the Jeddah Amendment to the Djibouti Code of Conduct, 2017 (DCoC) expanded to include human trafficking and other illegal maritime activities in the Western Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden area. So many activities are taking place there. Due to paucity of time, I am not going into the details. During the period 2009 to 2019, over 500 Indians were captured by pirates around the world at various points of time.

The United Nations Security Council, in a number of resolutions adopted since 2008, urged the UN Member states to cooperate in investigation and prosecution of all persons responsible for acts of piracy and further called upon states to criminalise piracy under their domestic law and to favourably consider the prosecution of suspected and imprisoned pirates.

Now, the question is whether we can draw a line or can fence on a solid land which is impossible to make a barrier or line on a liquid or on sea. Hence, the system of straight baselines may not be applied by a State in such a manner to cut off the territorial sea of another State from the high seas or an exclusive economic zone.

Sir, I would like to give an information through my speech. The creeks along the coasts of Gujarat and West Bengal's Sundarbans are the most preferred routes for infiltration and smuggling. The security in EEZ is also very important for which the State Police has no role to play. It is, therefore, important that imperative and corrective measures are implemented to address the inadequacies to realise the potential of maritime sector. The CAG in its Report has said that manpower shortage proved to be the major hindrance in functioning of marine police stations to guard a long coastline. The surveillance must be strengthened on international border, on high-seas and on the maritime border. There is also a special training to be imparted to coastal police before they get posted in coastal police stations. The problem is this. The coastal police training is very inadequate in our country. This is really inadequate in every State having the coastal line. I would like to request the hon. Minister to give stress on that and see that this maritime police should be well trained. Unless they are well-trained, they cannot detect or capture the problem. There is an arena which I have found. According to me, we are still very weak in that. Sir, as far as punishment for piracy is concerned, a detailed procedure has been stated. I am not going to touch it further. The Supreme Court of India has also held that awarding a mandatory death penalty for an offence violates Articles 14 and 21 of the Indian Constitution. Hence, it is arbitrary and unfair in nature. Even Section 303 of the Indian Penal Code and Section 27, Sub-Section 3 of the Arms Act, 1959, which provided mandatory death penalty for offenders, have been struck down by the Supreme Court.

Kindly take note of this and consider this part. Since the interpretation has been changed, I am suggesting that it should be “life imprisonment till death” instead of “mandatory imposition of death penalty”. Kindly consider that part. In England, the penalty for the offence of the piracy was the death penalty but that has been abolished and now the penalty is ‘life imprisonment’. That has been done. Our Supreme Court is also saying that mandatory death penalty is offending Articles 14 and 21 of the Constitution. It is mainly offending Article 21 of the Constitution. Therefore, kindly substitute this word with ‘imprisonment for life’ if such a person is committing piracy which causes death or endangers one’s life or destructs a ship or an aircraft or any other means of public transport.

As far as my reading is concerned, I have gone through this Bill. I am a Member of the Home Affairs Consultative Committee also. I got the scope to speak also at different occasions. I will request you to put an emphasis on two or three arenas. We are supporting or accepting the clause of death penalty and it is because of the adoption of various conventions that I have already mentioned in my speech. The first thing is this. What I have observed is that the coastal police is limited even in States.

There, in every State, training is essentially required. Do not compare them with the police of the other areas. So, this has to be given emphasis. You should introduce that centrally. The training has to be essentially given.

Secondly, I come to border areas where the State arena is over. Immediately, after 8NM, the national-level police or any other police concerned

has to take the responsibility of that arena. That is nobody's arena. The activities like smuggling and all that are done in that arena. So, kindly take care of this issue. I have already mentioned about the issue of death penalty. Of course, this Bill was required to be introduced much earlier. With these words, I support this Bill. Thank you.

डॉ. आलोक कुमार सुमन (गोपालगंज): सभापति महोदय, मैं आपका आभार व्यक्त करता हूँ कि आपने मुझे The Anti Maritime Piracy Bill, 2019 पर बोलने का मौका दिया।

महोदय, जैसा कि हम सब जानते हैं कि भारत के पास समुद्री डाकुओं की पायरेसी रोकने के लिए कोई कानून नहीं है। इंडियन पीनल कोड, 1860 के तहत सम्प्रभु भारत के क्षेत्रीय जल यानी समुद्री तट से 12 नौटिकल मील तक ही जो समुद्री डाकू कोस्ट गार्ड के द्वारा पकड़े जाते हैं, उनको प्रोसीक्यूट किया जाता है। यह विधेयक लाया गया है कि इंडिया के एक्सक्लूसिव इकोनॉमिक जोन की सीमाओं से सटे या उसके परे सभी हिस्सों यानी हाई सी पर समुद्री डाकुओं द्वारा जो घटना हो और जो पकड़े जाएं, उनको दंडित किया जा सके।

Sir, this legislation is an outcome to the commitment made by India by signing the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) in the year 1982. भारत ने इस कंवेन्शन को वर्ष 1995 में रैटिफाई किया। इस विधेयक के पास होने से भारत के समुद्री व्यापार से जुड़े सभी सेफ्टी एंड सिक्योरिटी की जो बात कही गई है, इसे पूरा करना आसान नहीं दिखता है। वर्ष 2009 से 2014 तक की आईएमओ की रिपोर्ट के आधार पर 1173 पायरेसी और आम्र्ड रोबरी बेस्ड अफ्रीका और अपने तटवर्ती क्षेत्रों से रिपोर्ट किया गया है। इस अवधि में 500 भारतीयों को समुद्री डाकुओं द्वारा पकड़ा गया, जिनका अभी तक कुछ पता नहीं है।

महोदय, अगर हम विश्व स्तर पर बात करें और वर्ष 2010 से 2021 के आंकड़े देखें तो वर्ष 2010 में 445 जहाजों पर समुद्री डाकुओं द्वारा अटैक हुआ, वहीं वर्ष 2020 में 195 और वर्ष 2021 में 132 समुद्री जहाजों पर हमला हुआ।

महोदय, युनाइटेड नेशंस ऑफिस ऑन ड्रग्स एंड क्राइम 2018 की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार 6 व्यापारिक समुद्री जहाजों की हाईजैकिंग विश्व स्तर पर हुई, 13 जहाजों पर अटैक के कारण आग लगी, 130 लोगों को बंदी बनाया गया और 78 अधिकारियों को, जो जहाजों पर नौकरी करते थे, उन्हें अगवा किया गया। इन समस्याओं को देखते हुए इस विधेयक में जो प्रावधान किए गए हैं, उनसे निश्चित ही समुद्री रास्ते से होने वाले व्यापार को सुरक्षा मिलेगी। लेकिन यह संदेह है कि यह बिल जान, माल और इकोनॉमिक नुकसान को बचा सकेगी, क्योंकि इसे फाइनल करने के लिए केवल कुछ ही देशों, यानी चार ही देशों के लेजिस्लेशन को कंसल्ट किया गया है, जबकि समुद्र से सटे हुए देशों से अधिक कंसल्टेशन होना चाहिए था।

महोदय, पायरेसी का जो विषय है, उसमें कई मंत्रालयों का इनवॉल्वमेंट है, जैसे मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ एक्सटरनल अफेयर्स, मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ होम अफेयर्स, डिफेंस, शिपिंग, लॉ एंड जस्टिस है। इसलिए इस विषय में आवश्यक है कि सभी मंत्रालयों या एजेंसीज या डिपार्टमेंट्स का रोल क्लियरली डिफाइनड होना चाहिए, जो कि इस बिल में नहीं दिखता है और इफेक्टिव कोऑर्डिनेशन के लिए आवश्यक है।

महोदय, मेरा इस बिल में यह सुझाव है कि कोलैबोरेटिव इंटरनेशनल काउंटर पायरेसी पर युनाइटेड नेशंस सिक्योरिटी काउंसिल, इंटरनेशनल मेरीटाइम ऑर्गेनाइजेशन एंड कान्टैक्ट ग्रुप ऑन पायरेसी ऑफ द कोस्ट ऑफ सोमालिया के साथ हो तथा इसका प्रावधान भी इस बिल में शामिल किया जाए।

साथ ही साथ मेरा यह भी कहना है कि National Command Control Communication Intelligence Network, Interlinking 51 IN and ICG Stations, Joint Operation Centres, National AIS chain and coastal radar को इस बिल के माध्यम से मजबूत किया जाए, ताकि समुद्री व्यापार और रास्ते को सेफ्टी और सिक्योरिटी मिले।

महोदय, इस बिल के अध्ययन से यह भी महसूस हो रहा है कि इंडियन ओरिजन के जो लोग सस्पेक्टिड और हाई सी में एक्ट ऑफ पाइरेसी में इनवॉल्व हैं, उनके एक्सट्राडीशन के लिए इंटरनेशनल कोऑपरेशन के प्रावधान में सुधार की आवश्यकता है।

महोदय, ऐसा पाया गया है कि जो एक्ज्यूज्ड डेथ पेनल्टी के लिए हैं, उसको एक्सट्राडीशन करने में काफी परेशानी होती है एवं शर्त के साथ एक्सट्राडीशन होता है कि डेथ पेनल्टी नहीं दी जाएगी। ऐसा कमिटमेंट सरकार के द्वारा किया जाता है। अतः मेरा इस बिल में यह कहना है और यह सुझाव है कि डेथ पेनल्टी की जगह उम्र कैद, 12 साल या 16 साल की सजा हो और ये सब सुधार करते हुए इस बिल को पारित किया जाए।

धन्यवाद।

कुंवर दानिश अली (अमरोहा): सभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे एंटी मेरीटाइम पाएरेसी बिल, 2019 पर बोलने का मौका दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपका धन्यवाद करता हूँ।

सर, यह बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण बिल है। वर्ष 2012 में यह बिल ... (व्यवधान) सर, डिपार्टमेंट का कोई मिनिस्टर यहां पर मौजूद नहीं है। ... (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The Minister is in the Speaker's office.

KUNWAR DANISH ALI: Who is noting down? All the Ministers are talking to each other. They are talking to their colleagues.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: You speak. He will come.

... (Interruptions)

कुंवर दानिश अली : सर, इनकी यही सीरियसनेस है। ... (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Yes, I know that.

... (Interruptions)

कुंवर दानिश अली: बहरहाल देर आए, दुरुस्त आए। वर्ष 2012 में यह बिल इंट्रोड्यूस हुआ था। वर्ष 2014 से 2019 का समय निकल गया। यह बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण बिल है। इसकी सीरियसनेस को

इस तरीके से खत्म न किया जाए । ... (व्यवधान) सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सिर्फ इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ । ... (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please address the Chair. You come to the subject.

... (*Interruptions*)

कुंवर दानिश अली: सभापति महोदय, ट्रेजरी बेंचिस का यह हाल है कि अपनी गलती मानने को तैयार नहीं हैं और शोर मचा रहे हैं । ... (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Let him continue.

... (*Interruptions*)

कुंवर दानिश अली : मुझे तो अपनी बात करने दीजिए । ... (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I have already told you that the Minister is in the Speaker's office.

KUNWAR DANISH ALI: I have already agreed to that. ... (*Interruptions*)

DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY: This is forming part of this House. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please address the Chair.

... (*Interruptions*)

कुंवर दानिश अली: सभापति महोदय, मैं तो आप ही को एड्रेस कर रहा हूँ । अब ये बार-बार डिस्टर्ब कर रहे हैं । ... (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: There should be no exchange of words.

... (*Interruptions*)

कुंवर दानिश अली: मैं तो यह कह रहा हूँ कि यह इतना अच्छा लेजिसलेशन है, बहुत ज़रूरी लेजिसलेशन है । मैं सरकार को कॉम्प्लीमेंट कर रहा हूँ कि देर आए, दुरुस्त आए, यह बहुत ज़रूरी है, बहुत ज़रूरी था । मैं इस बात को मानता हूँ कि पहले ज़माने में धरती पर जंग हुआ करती थी । फिर हवाई जंग हुई । अब असली खतरा पानी के अंदर है । आने वाले वक्त में अगर कोई युद्ध होगा तो

वह पानी पर ही होगा और पानी के अंदर अगर सिक्योरिटी के लिए हमारी सरकार सीरियस नहीं होगी तो यह बहुत दुख की बात है। इसलिए मैं तो कॉम्पलीमेंट कर रहा हूँ कि सरकार इस बिल को लाई है, अच्छा बिल है।

सभापति महोदय, मैं सिर्फ इतना ही कहना चाहूंगा कि वर्ष 1982 में यूएन में हमारा जो कमिटमेंट था और फिर सन् 1995 में रेक्टिफाई किया गया, उसके तहत यह बिल लाया गया है।

The United Nations Convention on Law of Sea was adopted by India in 1982 and ratified in 1995.

सभापति महोदय, मुझ से पहले कुछ कलीग्स ने यहां प्रश्न उठाए हैं, मैं उन पर भी आना चाहूंगा कि अभी तक जो हमारा 'सी' के अंदर, समुद्र के अंदर इकनॉमिक ज़ोन होता था, उस पर हमारा अख्तियारत था। लेकिन समुद्री डकैत जो होते हैं, जिनको हम पाइरेट्स करते हैं, ये किसी से छुपा नहीं है कि सैकड़ों बेगुनाहों को, भारतीय बेगुनाहों को उन्होंने किडनैप किया, कई की हत्याएं भी हुईं।

कई की हत्याएं भी हुईं, लेकिन कानून न होने की वजह से उन पर कोई बड़ी कार्रवाई न हो सकी। कानून लाया जा रहा है, यह अच्छी बात है। लेकिन, बिल ऐसा होना चाहिए, कानून ऐसा लाया जाना चाहिए क्योंकि इसके इंटरनेशनल रिपरकसन्स भी होंगे। मैं, व्यक्तिगत रूप से मानता हूँ और इस सदन में कई सांसदों ने यह बात रखी कि इसमें जो डेथ पेनल्टी की बात है, तो ऑनरेबल सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने भी कहा है कि death penalty should be given in rarest of the rare cases. लेकिन, यहां हम अगर मर्डर के अटेम्प्ट को भी डेथ पेनल्टी वाला क्राइम तय कर रहे हैं तो वह वाकई चिंतनीय है। मैं यह चाहूंगा कि जो लॉ बने, क्योंकि इंटरनेशनल लेवल पर भी इसकी स्कूटनी होगी तो हम यह चाहेंगे कि उसमें डेथ पेनल्टी न होकर लाइफ इम्प्रीजनमेंट होनी चाहिए। लाइफ इम्प्रीजनमेंट पूरी लाइफ के लिए होनी चाहिए। इसमें यह क्लॉज़ भी हो कि इसमें सरकार को कोई रिमीशन देने की इख्तियारात न रहे, जैसे इटली के दो नागरिक, जो फिशरमेन की डेथ में पकड़े गए, उन्हें छोड़ दिया गया या जैसे गुजरात के अन्दर अभी बिलकिस बानो के केस में सरकार ने लाइफ इम्प्रीजनमेंट

को, 14 साल की सज़ा को, रिमीशन किया। इस बिल के अन्दर ऐसा क्लॉज़ डाला जाए कि जिन्हें सज़ा दी जाए, उन्हें लाइफ़ इम्प्रीजनमेंट किया जाए, उसमें डेथ पेनल्टी न हो, लेकिन सरकार के पास रिमीशन का कोई इख्तियारात नहीं रहना चाहिए।... (व्यवधान)

इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं अपनी बात खत्म करता हूँ। बहुत-बहुत शुक्रिया।

DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY: Sir, I have a point of order.(Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: What is it?

....(Interruptions)

डॉ. निशिकांत दुबे: सर, इसमें प्वायंट-ऑफ-ऑर्डर है, रूल-352।

सर, जो मामला सब-ज्यूडिस है, वह डिस्कस नहीं हो सकता। बिलकिस बानो का जो मामला है, वह सब-ज्यूडिस है। इन्होंने जो बात की, उसको एक्सपंज कर दीजिए, आपसे यही रिक्वेस्ट है।

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The Chair will look into it.

....(Interruptions)

डॉ. निशिकांत दुबे: सर, यह मामला सब-ज्यूडिस है।... (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: You have made your submission. The Chair will look into it. Don't worry.

....(Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shrimati Supriya Sule.

Nothing will go on record except what Supriya Sule speaks.

....(Interruptions) ... *

* Not recorded

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SADANAND SULE (BARAMATI): Sir, thank you very much. I stand here in support of this very important Bill that we are all discussing today. I appreciate all the points and clarifications the hon. Minister has given. So, there is really very little left in the scope of the Bill.

At the outset, I would like to thank the External Affairs Ministry which is always very indulgent. Whenever there is a crisis of anybody either from my State or my constituency, every time I reach out to them via a tweet, they have been most helpful. So, I would like to put it on record and thank the hon. Minister and entire External Affairs Ministry for all the good work that they do.

But there are a few suggestions.(*Interruptions*) देखिए, हम अच्छे को अच्छा बोल रहे हैं।... (व्यवधान)

There are a few suggestions and clarifications that I would like to seek from the hon. Minister. Most of the points are already covered, and I would not repeat them. But look at the Russia-Ukraine war. During this war, there has been an incident. A boat which was full of food was attacked. We all know it and many people before me had talked about it. The next wars are not going to be physically attacking each other, these are going to be cyber attacks. In this Bill there is nothing that has really come clearly about cyber attacks or address the cyber attacks in the future. This Bill is not only about today or yesterday. The legislation has to be very futuristic – 25 years, 30 years. Of course, we can change it, and we evolve while the journey goes on. But in today's day and age, the only disappointment for me is that there is no mention of any cyber attack or how we are going to handle a situation like that. I am saying it because still

nobody knows who has taken that boat with food, how it is gone, where it is gone. Millions of people are hungry because of this gap or disruption that has come.

The other point that I would like to talk about is extradition. Also, a lot of people did talk about extradition. That means, if we arrest somebody or we want to arrest somebody who is in some other country, how we are going to bring him back in a timebound manner. I did not want to make it political but I would just like to give a small example. I would like to put it on record. I am just drawing parallels for laws that we have made, and I would like to give two examples.

I would like to give two examples. It is like the Nirav Modi case. Have you been able to extradite and bring him back? The answer is 'not yet'. This is not a political point, but if you have not been able to bring somebody back, who has created such a big fraud – this is what we hear from the Government for so many years - how are you going to implement this law? That is my first question. That is the parallel I am drawing. Now, I would like to draw the second parallel. My colleague and friend, Mr. P.P. Chaudhary as well as Mr. Manish Tewari talked about it. They were drawing a parallel of this law, when they talked about clause 11 and they talked about presumption. Both of them took the example of PMLA. I am just broadening the scope; this is not a political point. I am just trying to draw a parallel; I am not making an allegation. In PMLA, again, it goes the same way is what I understand from what Shri P.P. Chaudhary and Mr. Manish Tewari have spoken. They are lawyers; I am not a lawyer. So, I do not understand law as well as these two lawyers understand or interpret it. I am just

a novice at all this. My question to the hon. Minister is that under PMLA, as both the hon. Members rightly drew parity, you have to prove that you are innocent. Now, I will give you a small example of Shri Sanjay Raut, who happens to be a part of an incident, was arrested; he was left after 103 days; and the judge, in the order of the court which came out, said – I am just using it as a parallel and not making an allegation – that there was no case against him and how he was arrested. So, my limited question is that people from the Treasury Benches as well as from the Opposition have drawn the same parity that PMLA has ambiguity and it has presumptions. I think, we should be careful while making laws. I am so glad that Mr. Dubey is in the House right now because he talked about this ambiguity when this PMLA Bill was being discussed. I still remember it. I am not going into the merits of whether this Government is using it against the Opposition or not. That is not what I am here for and that is not what I want to debate or discuss here. My limited point is that when we make laws, which are so important, and if we feel – there is a consensus in the House and everybody is supporting this law – that there is an ambiguity and there is presumption, should we still – I think, ‘mistake’ may be a wrong word - follow or repeat, if we have doubts about what we did in PMLA, those ambiguities and presumptions, because no law should get misused? That is my limited point. I just want a clarification.

A plenty has been said about the death penalty, clause 3 and the Chinese Naval presence, but I know that these are very sensitive issues and I do respect that the hon. External Affairs Minister may not be able to speak freely about

these relationships. This also is not the agenda and place for it. But I would like to request him on this occasion that there is always in the society, if you read the newspapers, some pot boiling somewhere. So, it would be better if the External Affairs Ministry would have a broader discussion on our relationships. Shrimati Meenakashi Lekhiji was reading out all the accolades of this Government and so many wonderful things that they have done and that they have hosted so many people and they have been hosted by so many people. We are all very proud of it as Indians, but we would like to have a broader discussion on China-India relationship. I think, this Bill is welcome, but we cannot leave China in our relationship with all our neighbours when we discuss this kind of a Bill.

I have drawn two parallels. You missed my one point. So, I will just repeat it quickly. It is about cyber attacks. In the entire fight between Russia and Ukraine, there were food ships which were taken. Now, how do you bring accountability? Who would you really punish in such a situation? This is not covered here.

There are just two short points. One is cyber attack clarification. Mr. Chaudhary and Mr. Manish Tewari drew the parallel of PMLA. I would request you to please clarify these points.

Thank you for bringing this Bill. Thank you very much.

SHRI E.T. MOHAMMED BASHEER (PONNANI): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I support this Bill. I feel that this is in the best interest of the nation.

17.44 hrs

(Hon. Speaker *in the Chair*)

Coming to the Bill, with regard to definitions, there is clarity and there is no ambiguity. In that way, it is drafted nicely.

Sir, the Standing Committee on External Affairs which scrutinized this Bill has said and I quote.

“The Committee, therefore, desire that to cover all the means of transport on water and sea, the word ‘vessel’ should be added along with ship and aircraft. Moreover, along with crew and passengers, the presence of any other person on ship/aircraft and private ship is also possible. The Committee, therefore, would like that the words ‘any person’ should also be incorporated suitably and ‘ship’ and ‘aircraft’ should also be defined in two separately sub clauses in the light of definition of these objects in other relevant acts to cover all types of possibilities.”

I hope that Government will seriously consider this observation of the Committee on External Affairs. This Act stipulates volume of punishment. India needs to have a separate domestic legislation on this. There is necessity of designated courts to address this issue. All these things need to be done. This widens the scope of law making. The Bill has been drafted in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea adopted by India in 1982 and ratified in 1995. The Committee also mentioned that it now hope that the proposed new legislation will definitely enable the authorities to prosecute the apprehended pirates irrespective of their nationalities. A number of UN resolutions have been passed to facilitate the nations to enact legislation on

piracy by adopting the definition of UNCLOS. This point may also be kindly taken into consideration.

I need not say much about the need of legislation. It is very, very vital because these kinds of crimes in the sea are increasing day-by-day whether it is in the way of robbery or any kind of ill motive.

These kinds of things are increasing. A dangerous situation has arisen not only in India but in other countries also. Our Committee has also observed that after 2008, the major spurt in piracy attack was witnessed in the Gulf of Aden by pirates of Somalia. The Committee also observed that the threat of piracy has mushroomed enormously. That also is a very important thing to be noted.

Towards the end, I would like to make three-four suggestions. Further probe should be done in order to do the things in a proper way. What are the costs of piracy and how do these compare to the expenses required for mitigation? What is the best way of countering armed maritime violence in regions of chronic lawlessness and anarchy? Is the current international legal framework for countering piracy sufficient? If not, what is the Government doing in this regard? What is the extent of Government responsibility for countering piracy and what role should the private sector play in this? These are some of the things which I would like to know.

It is a very good legislation. It has been brought out with a very good intention. I support this Bill wholeheartedly. Thank you very much, Sir.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री एन. के. प्रेमचन्द्रन जी पांच मिनट बोलेंगे और फिर श्री कोडिकुन्नील सुरेश जी पांच मिनट बोलेंगे ।

श्री एन.के. प्रेमचन्द्रन जी ।

... (व्यवधान)

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for affording me this opportunity to speak on the Anti-Maritime Piracy Bill, 2019. I fully support the Bill.

First of all, I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister for comprehensively piloting the Bill in a very structured and diplomatic manner for which I would place on record our appreciation. It is really a model to all other Ministers also the way in which it was presented. Also, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the hon. External Affairs Minister for accepting my amendment. My amendment No. 6 is accepted in your official amendment. I am thankful to the hon. Minister for accepting my amendment and moving it as an official amendment. ... (*Interruptions*) I will be moving the other five amendments. They will be accepted in future.

It is quite unfortunate to note that India which is such a large country is having no separate and distinct domestic legislation in dealing with the piracy issues.

The menace of piracy is increasing like anything and we are adversely being affected for the reason that we are not having a domestic legislation to combat piracy in the seas.

Sir, in our country, especially the Indian Navy and Coast Guard are facing big difficulties in combating the maritime piracy for the reason that we do not have a comprehensive legislation. I would like to draw the attention of the hon.

Minister towards the Italian marines case, that is Enrica Lexie case, which was widely agitated in the International Court of Justice. Even the Supreme Court has also dealt with it in detail. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards this case in which the judicial proceedings are still going on. Two fishermen belonging to my constituency in Kollam were brutally killed by the Italian marines who had gone for deep sea fishing from the Neendakara Fishing Harbour. A big controversy had arisen regarding the jurisdiction as to where the case has to be instituted. Such a big controversy was there, and justice was given to the relatives of the victims after a long time unfortunately.

So, my suggestion to the hon. Minister and the Government is that we should have a comprehensive legislation so as to determine the jurisdiction in the case of international waters according to the norms and guidelines of the international conventions. The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) is very specific. The signatory countries or the signatory States may be allowed ample freedom to have legislation of their own, but it should be within the stipulated norms of the international conventions. If that be the case, my first suggestion is that the Government of India should have a comprehensive legislation in respect of the crimes happening in seas.

Coming to the Bill, I fully endorse the views of Manish Tewari Ji. It is a scrupulous scrutiny of the provisions of this Bill by Manish Tewari Ji, especially regarding Clause 3, Clause 4, and Clause 6. Regarding Clause 3, it is absolutely a correct fact that the death penalty is being disapproved by the hon. Supreme Court. It is in the rarest of the rare category. Now, by way of the official

amendment, you are providing a discretionary right to the Supreme Court or to the concerned court. It is absolutely okay and we fully welcome the official amendments, but at the same time, we have to be more clear regarding the jurisdiction of the cases and the way by which the case is to be investigated.

Sir, in Clause 6, you are defining a police officer. It says "Notwithstanding anything contained in the Code, the Central Government may, for the purpose of this Act, by notification, confer the powers of arrest, investigation and prosecution of any person exercisable by a police officer under the Code." So, I would like to move an amendment. The police officer has to be designated. What will be the rank of the police officer? That has to be mentioned specifically. Otherwise, it will also be creating problems in future because it will be agitated in the courts of law.

Regarding Clause 8, "for the purpose of providing speedy trial of offences under this Act, the Central Government, after consulting the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court by notification can specify..." my suggestion is that after getting concurrence from the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court, that has to be taken care of. That is an amendment which I have already given notice of. It is a welcome step because I am also a part and parcel of the Standing Committee on External Affairs.

We had a threadbare discussion on this Bill and we had a very scrupulous scrutiny of the Bill. Most of the suggestions of the Standing Committee have been accepted by the Government for which we are also thankful to the Government.

The provision, “..the Designated Court shall have the jurisdiction to try a proclaimed offender in absentia”, has been removed. We have to be very careful about Claus 11 of the Bill that is about ‘burden of proof’. It is a well-accepted principle of Indian jurisprudence that until and unless you are convicted, the presumption of law is that the person is innocent. The ‘burden of proof’ is on the convict. I do not know the legality of this Clause in the courts when it will be agitated in the courts of law. It will be a clear case of confusion. That has to be clarified by the hon. Minister. These are the provisions on which I would like to seek clarification from the hon. Minister.

I would also like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to one of the major issues. It has occurred recently. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to it as this is also done in the name of piracy. Thirty Indian citizens have been arrested and they have been captured by a request of Nigeria. They have requested for arresting 30 Indians who were in a vessel, out of which a Third Officer who belongs to my Constituency, namely Vikraman Nair is also facing trial in Nigerian courts. I would like to urge upon the Government and the Minister to please look into the matter, and probable and maximum diplomatic assistance has to be provided to them. Nowadays, we are getting a series of complaints from them. They are not even allowed to call their relatives in the country. So, kindly have a diplomatic intervention in the matter in order to rescue all these Indian prisoners or persons who are facing trial in Nigeria.

With these words, once again, I support this Bill. Thank you very much, Sir.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): Thank you, Speaker Sir, for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion on this important Bill, namely the Anti-Maritime Piracy Bill, 2019. The Bill brings the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea into a domestic law and enables Indian authorities to take action against piracy on the high sea areas. What essentially one gets to understand is that through the Bill the Government of India becomes a party to the UN-led International Convention on the Law of the Sea and gets more teeth for our deterrence on piracy. However, there are certain areas of concern regarding the ambiguity present in the Bill. Before moving to those issues, let me remind you of a current incident wherein 16 Indian seafarers of a merchant vessel named Heroic Idun who are now under the custody of the Nigerian Navy and are taken to the land for interrogation, which is far from any judicial dignity.

Just now, hon. Member Shri N. K. Premachandran also mentioned about one Vikraman's case. So, this is very much becoming a matter of embarrassment for their family as well as the Members of Parliament from Kerala. The parents of Vikraman and others contacted us regarding this issue. We also contacted the External Affairs Ministry as well as our Embassy in Nigeria, but we could not get a proper reply from them. So, I would like to bring to your kind attention that this problem is not solved yet, and their family members are very much in a state of shock. I would like to request you to sort out this problem at the earliest. Further, many of the poor workers who are working in these vessels are being unnecessarily arrested by the African countries, especially Ghana, Nigeria, etc. They are arresting the persons in

these vessels or taking them into custody without any reason. This is the situation being faced from time to time by the Indian workers who are working in various vessels. So, I would request the Government to initiate further discussions to secure their release and help them come back safely in India as fast as possible as any discussion on maritime piracy -- where India is a party to -- must consider the pain and desolation of illegal detention of Indian seafarers in other nations, and securing them must be a policy priority. Let me come to the other issues pertaining to the Bill. As regards the jurisdiction issue, the Bill will apply to the sea beyond the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), that is beyond 200 nautical miles from India's coastline.

However, it is unclear if it will apply to the EEZ that extends between 12 and 200 nautical miles from the coast of India, which means that area of jurisdiction being unclear will result in loopholes for pirates and other criminals. The Government must take it up and provide clarification. The Bill states that for committing acts of piracy the convicts shall be punished with imprisonment for life or death.

18.00hrs

It is unclear in the Bill how the overlap of the 14-year term and the life term will be determined since committing an act of piracy will necessarily include participation as well.

माननीय अध्यक्ष: सभा की कार्यवाही श्री कोडिकुन्नील सुरेश जी के बोलने तक बढ़ाई जाती है। बस दो मिनट में खत्म हो जाएगा।

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: On the issue with the death penalty, the Supreme Court of India has advocated for the use of extreme punishment in the "rarest of rare" cases. According to the top court, the death penalty violates Articles 14 and 21 of the Constitution. How to frame the scope of piracy within the scope of domestic jurisdiction, as well as how to address areas of overlap between what constitutes a rare case and how the brutality of piracy is defined, require clarification. The Bill further states that the designated court will not have jurisdiction over offences committed on a foreign ship unless an intervention is requested by the country of origin of the ship, the ship-owner, or any other person on the ship. But a question remains, as to what if the crime committed on a foreign ship is intended to harm India's interests? These questions need to be answered, and the rights of Indian fishermen who are illegally detained and brutally assaulted by the Sri Lankan navy are a case in point. How would the law treat the actions by a foreign government's naval force, whether as an act of crime or an act of their national maritime security policy, and under the new law, whose application extends beyond 200 nautical miles, and how would the legalities concerning the new law be endorsed? With these words, I conclude my observations.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : हम इस विधेयक पर आगे भी डिबेट करेंगे और उस समय माननीय मंत्री जी का जवाब मिलेगा।

सभा की कार्यवाही कल गुरुवार, 8 दिसम्बर, 2022 को प्रातः ग्यारह बजे तक के लिए स्थगित की जाती है।

18.02 hrs

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on
Thursday, December 08, 2022/ Agrahayana 17, 1944 (Saka).*

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