

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Fourteenth Session
(Fifteenth Lok Sabha)



सत्यमेव जयते

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, September 5, 2013/Bhadrapada 14,
1935 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MADAM SPEAKER in the Chair]

REFERENCE BY THE SPEAKER

Teacher's Day

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, as you are aware, 5th September is celebrated as Teachers' Day to commemorate the birthday of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, former President of India, who was a renowned educationist and a great scholar and philosopher.

In any society, teachers shoulder the onerous responsibility of shaping the character of its future generations. They not only impart knowledge but also mould the thought process of the youngsters transforming them into responsible citizens. They nurture young minds, igniting in them the desire to realize their full potential.

Let us, on this occasion, acknowledge with gratitude the invaluable contribution of all the teachers of our country to the society.

11.01 hrs

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Now the House will take up Papers to be laid on the Table.

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

- (1) A copy of the National Cadet Corps (Amendment) Rules, 2013 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.R.O. 13 in weekly

Gazette of India dated 9th March, 2013 under sub-section (3) of Section 13 of the National Cadet Corps Act, 1948.

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

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 9713/15/13)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Railway Protection Force (Amendment) Rules, 2013 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R.556(E) in Gazette of India dated 19th August, 2013 under sub-section (3) of Section 21 of the Railway Protection Force Act, 1957.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 9714/15/13)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. E. M. S. NATCHIAPPAN): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of Notification No. S.O.2071(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated 8th July, 2013 appointing the 8th day of July, 2013 as the date on which all the provisions of the Trade Marks (Amendment) Rules, 2013 shall come into force under sub-sections (1) and (2) of Section 157 of the Trade Marks Act, 1999 and the Trade Marks (Amendment) Act, 2010.

(Placed in Library, See No. 9715/15/13)

- (2) A copy of Notification No. S.O.2072(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated 8th July, 2013 appointing the 8th day of July, 2013 as the date on which all the provisions of the Trade Marks (Amendment) Act, 2010 shall come into force issued under sub-section (2) of Section 1 of the Trade Marks (Amendment) Act, 2010.

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

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 9716/15/13)

11.02 hrs

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

AND

BILL AS AMENDED BY RAJYA SABHA*

[English]

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

I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill, 2013, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 29th August, 2013, has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 4th September, 2013, with the following amendments:—

CLAUSE 6

1. That at page 8, *after* line 27, the following proviso be *inserted* namely:—

“Provided that, in respect of irrigation projects where the process of Environmental Impact Assessment is required under the provisions of any other law for the time being in force, the provisions of this Act relating to Social Impact Assessment shall not apply”.

CLAUSE 25

2. That at page 15, *for* lines 20 and 21, the following be *substituted*.

“then, all provisions of this Act relating to the determination of compensation shall apply; or”.

3. That at page 15, lines 32 and 33, *for* the words “compensation in respect of a majority of land holdings has not been accepted”, the words “compensation in respect of a majority of land holdings has not been deposited in the account of the beneficiaries” be *substituted*.

THE SECOND SCHEDULE

4. That at page 40, line 7, *for* the words “each affected family”, the words “as far as possible and in lieu of compensation to be paid for land acquired, each affected family” be *substituted*.

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

Madam Speaker, I lay on the Table the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill, 2013, as returned by Rajya Sabha with amendments.

11.03 hrs.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

- (i) **Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 28th Report (2011-12) of the Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers on ‘Production, Demand and Availability of Fertilizers and its Distribution’, pertaining to the Department of Fertilizers, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): Madam, I am laying the statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the twenty eighth report (2011-2012) of the Standing Committee on Chemicals & Fertilizers in terms of Direction 73-A of the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha Bulletin Pt.II dated September 01, 2004.

The Department of Fertilizers (DOF) comes under the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers. The main objective of the Department is to ensure adequate and timely availability

*Laid on the Table.

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 9717/5/13.

of fertilizers for maximizing agricultural production in the country and to promote and assist indigenous industries in the fertilizer sector and to plan and arrange import and distribution of fertilizers.

The main activities of DOF include planning, promotion and development of the fertilizer industry, programming and monitoring of production, pricing, import and supply of fertilizers and management of financial resources for subsidizing indigenous and imported fertilizers to make fertilizers available at reasonable price to the farmers. The Department disburses subsidy payments to manufactures/importers of fertilizers under the concession scheme.

In addition, the activities of DOF also include the administrative control of the following Public Sector Undertakings and cooperatives in the fertilizers sector:—

- (i) National Fertilizers Limited (NFL)
- (ii) Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd. (RCF)
- (iii) Madras Fertilizers Limited (MFL)
- (iv) Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd. (FACT)
- (v) Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizers Co. Ltd. (BVFCL)
- (vi) Projects & Development India Ltd. (PDIL)
- (vii) FCI Aravali Gypsum Minerals India Ltd. (FAGMIL)
- (viii) Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI)
- (ix) Hindustan Fertilizers Corporation Ltd. (HFCL)
- (x) Krishak Bharti Co-operative Ltd. (KRIBHCO)

All the 8 plants of FCIL and HFCL are currently closed. The Government has decided to revive these units of these two PSUs.

The office of the Executive Director, Fertilizers Industry Coordination Committee (FICC) also works under the DOF. This office administers the Retention Price Scheme for Nitrogenous Fertilizers and various incentive schemes to augment the indigenous production of nitrogenous fertilizers.

The Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers discussed with the representatives of Department of Fertilizers on the subjects of production, demand and availability of fertilizers and its distribution and presented

the 28th report to the Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha on 24th/28th August, 2012 respectively. The report contained 14 recommendations which are summarized below:—

- (i) The Committee felt that the momentum in acceleration of production of food grains has to be maintained so as to feed the growing population of the country.
- (ii) The Committee recommended that since the report on the review of the fertilizer policy has been submitted by the Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Soumitra Chaudhary, Member of Planning Commission and it is now under the consideration of Department of Fertilizers, the finalization of New Investment Policy should be done as soon as possible to facilitate more investments in the fertilizer sector.
- (iii) The Committee was of the view that the Department, should make all out efforts to revamp and revive the closed fertilizer units and recommended that Government should provide managerial and technical support, feedback and adequate infrastructure specially ensuring the availability of gas.
- (iv) The Committee recommended that the Department of Fertilizers should make efforts to fix the price of gas reasonably for fertilizer sector and ensure the availability of gas in order to attract fresh investments in the fertilizer sector.
- (v) The Committee desired that in order to reduce the dependence on import of SSP, the Government should make arrangement for procurement of raw materials and intermediates in time and recommended that periodic and timely revision on concessional part of SSP under NBS should be done so as to make SSP units more viable and fully productive.
- (vi) The Committee recommended that Department of Fertilizers should take up the issue of increased use of bio-fertilizers with Ministry of Agriculture so as to provide incentive to farmers and other manufacturers producing biofertilizers which would encourage the use of bio-fertilizers.

- (vii) The Committee recommended that an integrated plan should be drawn to identify the hurdles in the way of increased consumption of fertilizers and it also desired that the Department should perform the role of facilitator in this task.
- (viii) The Committee recommended that Department of Fertilizers should closely monitor the implementation of the NBS policy for its success and fruitful results and also recommended that the Department should take steps for implementation of this policy which is likely to increase quality and fertility of the soil and agriculture productivity as well as attaining self-sufficiency of fertilizer in the country. The Committee further recommended that the dream of direct subsidy to farmers should be fulfilled in a time bound manner and expect that the scheme will be implemented by the targeted timeframe.
- (ix) The Committee recommended that the Government should encourage initiatives by the Indian companies to establish joint venture projects with other countries having rich resources of raw material and explore the possibilities of new joint ventures which would help in making available assured sources of supply of raw materials to fertilizers.
- (x) The Committee recommended that the Department should ensure timely availability of fertilizer to the farmers and the farmers should not suffer for want of fertilizer. It also recommended that adequate steps should be taken for procuring facilities for the dealers for lifting of fertilizer from the companies to the retail outlets and then to farmers. It also observed that farmers were, paying exorbitant prices especially in the North Eastern States for fertilizer even if the fertilizer are available in surplus. The Committee desired that the Department should look into the matter and take necessary steps in this regard.
- (xi) The Committee recommended involvement of Cooperative Societies in the process of data collection in respect of demand of fertilizer before the sowing season so that farmers do not feel any scarcity of fertilizer during sowing/application period. It was further of the view that some device should be explored in consultation with State Governments to check black marketing of fertilizer. It was also of the view that fertilizer companies should have some control in checking malpractices by canceling of dealerships of individuals involved in black marketing and hoarding of fertilizer so as to deter individuals to indulge in such activities.
- (xii) The Committee recommended setting up of more fertilizers testing laboratories in the country to ensure quality control of fertilizer in use and State Governments should be asked for financial and technical assistance in this regard.
- (xiii) The Committee recommended the Department to take adequate steps to address the problem of unfair pricing at the international level and to take other friendly countries into confidence to negotiate price of raw material for fertilizer in the international market at reasonable prices.
- (xiv) The Committee was of the view that the Department should ensure that the movement of fertilizer from ports to in land be carried out without undue hassles and hindrances and it desired that the Government should devise a foolproof mechanism for proper and equitable distribution of fertilizer in all parts of the country especially in remote and hilly and in accessible areas.

All the recommendations, of the Standing Committee contained on the 28th report of 2011-2012, have been received and considered in the Department of Fertilizers. The Action Taken replies to these recommendations have been sent to the Committee.

11.03½ hrs

(ii) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 15th Report of the Standing Committee on Defence on 'Demands for Grants (2012-13), pertaining to the Ministry of Defence*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH): Hon. Speaker Madam, I am laying this statement on the Status of Implementation of recommendations contained in the 15th Report of Standing Committee on Defence (15th Lok Sabha) in pursuance of the direction 73A of the hon. Speaker *vide* Lok Sabha Bulletin—Part II dated September 01, 2004.

The 15th Report of the Standing Committee on Defence (15th Lok Sabha) relates to 'Demands for Grants (2012-13)'. The 15th Report was presented to Lok Sabha on 30.4.2012.

Action Taken Statements on the recommendations/ observations contained in the 15th Report were sent to the Standing Committee on Defence on 15.11.2012.

The present status of implementation of the various recommendations made by the Committee in their 15th report is indicated in the Annexure to my Statement, which is laid on the Table of the House. I would not like to take the valuable time of the House to read out all the contents of the Annexure. I would request that this may be considered as read.

11.04 hrs

MOTION RE: FIFTY-SECOND REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): I beg to move the following:—

“That this House do agree with the Fifty-second Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on 4th September, 2013.”

MADAM SPEAKER: The question is:—

“That this House do agree with the Fifty-second Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on 4th September, 2013.”

The motion was adopted.

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: The House will now take up 'Zero Hour'.

Dr. Ratna De to speak.

DR. RATNA DE (Hooghly): Madam, today is an important day for each one of us. Today is Teachers' Day, 5th September, the birth day of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, former President of India. On this day we all recall and appreciate the efforts put in by teachers in different walks of our life. This is also a day to honour the teachers for their special contributions in our life. It is their hard work, as educators, which helped us to come this far and achieve whatever we had achieved so far. We may call them as gurus, masters, sirs and madams.

As someone once put it, when life wanted to bless you, it gave you a teacher. I think, this conveys it all. Teachers grow on us. Initially we may not take them seriously. Over a period of time, we start understanding the efforts and contribution of teachers. Teachers are national builders. Teachers are character builders. Their role is divine in nature. Their devotion is unparallel. Teachers are like candle, which consumes itself to show us the path.

This is an occasion to salute teaches. Our growing up years have always been guided invariably by teachers. Teachers help us to touch the sky. Their hard work and dedication are the tools which had helped us to not only dream but also to fulfil those dreams.

Hence, I would like to quote Don Rather: “The dream begins with a teacher who believes in you, who tugs and

* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 9718/15/13.

pushes and leads you to the next plateau, sometimes poking you with a sharp stick called truth.”

Teachers kindle our imagination and help us to dream. Today is the day to remember all those teachers who have contributed to our growth, well being and good life.

I, for one, remember still the guidance I got from my teachers right from school days. I consider teachers as important people, after one's parents, to chalk out our destinations. This is amply brought out by Henry Brooks Adams, who once said that a teacher affects eternity, he can never tell where his influence stops.

By being in touch with teachers, you are only going to be enriched with their wisdom. In turn, teachers would be overwhelmed by the touching presence of occasional talk over phone or e-mail.

Let us all strive to renew our relationship with our teachers on this important day called, Teachers Day. Most of us vividly recall the fulfilling stint as students in the midst of our teachers. Mere remembrance overwhelms us and makes us ecstatic.

Many careers have been made with the help of teachers. Today is an auspicious and solemn occasion to come out and say thanks to our teachers who have painstakingly helped us to strike harder to achieve success. The teacher's profession being the noblest profession helped each one of us to scale new heights in life. The lessons teachers taught us have stood the test of time and they are here with us forever. Teachers made all the difference in our lives. We owe everything to them. We cannot repay them enough in our lifetime. God bless them.

MADAM SPEAKER: S/Shri Shivkumar Udasi, Kirit Premjibhai Solanki and P.L. Punia are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Dr. Ratna De.

Now, Shri Jitendra Singh Bundela – Not present.

SHRI ANTO ANTONY (Pathanamathitta): Thank you, Madam Speaker, for giving me this opportunity. This is to request the Government to intervene into the plight of around 40,000 nurses in Kerala who are facing revenue recovery due to their difficulties in repayment of education loans. It is learnt that the banks have already started procedures of recovery of loan amounts.

The Government has been implementing interest subvention scheme for the education loans granted since 2009. However, education loans granted prior to 2009 are not covered under the interest subvention scheme. This makes problem more serious. Therefore, I request the Government to extent the coverage of interest subvention scheme to educational loans granted prior to 2009.

Another matter of concern is the high rate of interest for education loans. At present, banks impose 11 to 19 per cent interest for education loans. The rate is higher than the interest for housing and vehicle loans. Therefore, the Government should issue necessary directive to ensure reasonable interest for education loans.

Nursing students are taking education loans for their better future. Most of them hail from a poor economic background. Therefore, they consider education loans as the only option in realizing their dreams. However, a nurse working in private hospitals in the country get an average salary of Rs. 5000 per month. At the same time, nurses have to repay an amount two times more than their monthly salary. Therefore, I request the Government to give necessary direction to State Governments to ensure reasonable salaries and service benefits to nurses.

At present, in many hospitals the working hours of nurses span to 12 hours at a stretch in a single day. This heavy workload causes serious impact on nurses. I request the Government to issue a directive in this regard. The Government should provide a milieu that may enable students to repay the education loans. Therefore, I request the Government to avail of the benefits of credit guarantee scheme to all the students taking education loans and also introduce repayment assistance schemes such as interest relief, debt reduction in repayment, revision of terms and permanent disability benefit.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Thrissur): If the Government does not act as requested by Shri Anto Antony, the very purpose of this scheme would be defeated. I request the Government to give a directive in this regard.

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri M.B. Rajesh is allowed to associate himself with the issue raised by Shri Anto Antony.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI (Rajahmundry): Madam, I would like to bring to the notice of this august House what is happening in Andhra Pradesh – Coastal

Andhra and Rayalaseema. For the last more than 30 days the entire human life is paralysed, no office is functioning, no shop is opening, no school is opening. The whole situation is paralysed.

I go 41 years back when in 1972 there was a similar agitation in the same area. I, as an 18 year old student, was detained for more than a month in the Central Jail for having participated in an agitation asking for a separate State. Now the situation is different; it is asking for Andhra Pradesh to continue as it is. I wish to bring to your notice what has happened in these 40 years. In 1972 the Supreme Court had said that *Mulki* rules were valid. Immediately, Seemandhra, Rayalaseema and Andhra area people said that they do not want to live in their own capital as second-rate citizens because *Mulki* was for the natives and the capital was for the entire State. We asked for a separate State. We did not raise any demand on capital or anything else. We just said, please give us another State, we will go away.

But, after the biggest agitation of 108 days, Madam Indira Gandhi raised it in this very same House in her capacity as the Prime Minister and I wish to bring to your notice what she said. I quote:—

“Sir, Parliament represents the will of the whole nation.” ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: What are you doing? Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: All of you are requested to take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: She further said:

“Its duty is not merely to go into the rights and wrongs of a situation, but also to view problems from the national point of view.”

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: You finish it now.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: She also said.
...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, Shri T.R. Baalu.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: It is over now. I have moved on to Shri T.R. Baalu.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: All of you are requested to take your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing else will go on record.

*(Interruptions)...**

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Sriperumbudur): On behalf of DMK Party and my leader Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi who is also the President of TESO, I would like to bring to the kind notice of this august House, miseries experienced by the Sri Lankan Tamils. Madam, a civil war persisted between Sri Lankan administrators and their own citizens which lasted for 27 years. For the past four years our fellow Tamils have been trying to pick up the pieces of their lives shattered by the bloody and brutal war. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seats ...
(Interruptions) [ENGLISH] Now we moved on to Shri T.R. Baalu.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats.
[Translation] You please sit down. You finish.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU: The armed struggle existed for about 27 years and ended in 2009, but the miseries of the people are not ending. ...*(Interruptions)*

* Not recorded.

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, Shri T.R. Baalu is speaking. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Madam, about 90,000 women lost their *mangalsutra*, lost their husbands. They have been widowed. More than 1,20,000 people fled out of the country out of fear of war. More than 2,00,000 men, women and children are not available in the habitations of Tamil people. We do not know where they have gone. They are all missing. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Madam, Tamil women have been kidnapped. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing else will go on record.

(Interruptions)...*

MADAM SPEAKER: It is not going on record. There is no point in speaking.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU: The women are being kidnapped, raped and butchered in the Sri Lankan forest. ...(Interruptions)

The facts and figures of the sad episodes have been picturised and videographed. Many NGOs like Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, Channel 4 went there and reported the miseries. A Committee constituted by the UN Secretary-General also went to Sri Lanka and it came back with a long report. ...(Interruptions)

Finally, Ms. Navi Pillay, a Commissioner in UNHRC, went to Sri Lanka. She traveled the length and breadth of Sri Lanka to understand the problem in Sri Lanka and had done spot study. The media reports said:-

"On Tuesday, Ms. Pillay who visited Mullai-vaaykkal in Mullaitheevu sympathized with the victims struggling to resettle amidst the prevailing Sri Lankan military occupation and the ongoing structural genocide. Noticing fear in the people speaking out in the

presence of the surrounding Sri Lankan military personnel clad in civil, she told them that they may whisper in her ear."

MADAM SPEAKER: Sit down. What is this going on? Sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU: This is the state of affairs in Sri Lanka. They could not even mention their problems before the UN Human Rights Commission. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Aruna Kumar, please sit down. This is not the way to behave. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: This is not the way to behave. Take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU : About the military presence there, Ms. Navi Pillay has said and I quote what she said at the conclusion of her visit to the island:-

"the military presence in the North-East seemed "much greater than is needed for strictly military or reconstruction purposes".....

Moreover, regarding the attacks on religious minorities, she expressed her view on the final day of the visit and I quote:

"I expressed concern at the recent surge in incitement of hatred and violence against religious minorities, including attacks on churches and mosques, and the lack of swift action against the perpetrators. I was surprised that the Government seemed to downplay this issue, and I hope it will send the strongest possible signal of zero tolerance for such acts and ensure that those responsible (who are easily identifiable on video footage) are punished."

This is what Ms. Navi Pillay told.

Madam, before I conclude, I will take one or two minutes more. The judiciary is also under attack. ... (Interruptions) The judges of Supreme Court of Sri Lanka have been dismissed unceremoniously. For that reason, the

*Not recorded.

Commonwealth Lawyers Association, the Commonwealth Legal Education Association, the Commonwealth Magistrates and Judges Association have spoken heavily against it. ... *(Interruptions)* They have adopted a resolution to suspend Sri Lanka from the Commonwealth. The Law Society of England and Wales had also supported the voice of suspension of Sri Lanka from the Commonwealth. ...*(Interruptions)* Madam, Mr. Lucy Scott, the President of the Association said:—

“We cannot sit back and watch as the independence of Sri Lankan Judiciary continues to be eroded.”

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Alright. Please conclude now.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Madam, I will take one or two minutes more. I had given notice for a discussion under Rule 193. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Alright. You speak, but please finish fast.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Madam, the Commonwealth had suspended Nigeria in 1995 for the act of dictatorship and rigged judicial process. Pakistan was suspended in November, 2007 for the act of General Musharraf, who had imposed emergency there. Zimbabwe was suspended for the crimes committed by Robert Mugabe, that is, electoral rigging. Fiji was suspended in 2006 for Commodore Bainimarama failed to hold the elections on time.

In this context, I will also claim that Sri Lanka should be suspended from the Commonwealth for which the Government of India has to prevail upon all the 54 countries to see that it is suspended. Moreover, our Prime Minister should not attend the Commonwealth Countries' Conference. That is what our demand is. Thank you. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Aruna Kumar, please sit down. This is not the way to behave. Please sit down. Just take your seat, please.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (Karur): Madam Speaker, the submission of the Government of India before the Supreme Court of India on last Friday regarding the Kachchatheevu issue shocked the entire State of Tamil Nadu. The people of the State, especially the fishermen community, are totally agitated against the submission made by the Government of India. There is a great resentment and anguish among the fishing community in the State.

The hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Amma filed a Writ Petition in the Supreme Court in 2008 urging the apex Court to declare the treaties signed between India and Sri Lanka on 26th June, 1974 as *null and void*. In May, 2013, the hon. Chief Minister passed a unanimous Resolution in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly seeking the retrieval of this Islet.

The Kachchatheevu Islet has been an integral part of India since 1605. During the regime of the Nayaks in Madurai, the Ramanathapuram Principality was established, which consisted of this Islet also, among others. Since then, the Islet was considered as an integral part of the Ramanathapuram Zamindari ruled by the Sethupathis. There are enough documents in the Ramanathapuram Registrar's Office to prove beyond doubt that Kachchatheevu Islet was a part of the Ramanathapuram Zamindari. There are also documents to show that the then Governor of erstwhile Ceylon, in 1845, admitted that the Islet was a part of the Sethupathi Dynasty. All these facts go to show that Kachchatheevu was a part of the Indian Territory. So, historically, geographically and culturally, Kachchatheevu is a part of India.

However, in 1974, through an Agreement, they have given certain lights to the fishermen community. In 1976, when the boundaries were redrawn, at that time, Ceylon took advantage and treated that Islet as part of their own. They are not allowing our fishermen to go Kachchatheevu, stay there and have the right to fish in that area. This is a great injustice which the Sri Lankan Government has done to us.

You know very well that the Supreme Court, as early as in 1960, in *Berubari Case*, ruled that if any Indian territory is to be handed over to any other country, it should be ratified in the Parliament by way of a Constitutional Amendment under Article 368. But it has not been

done and, therefore, handing over of Kachchatheevu is unconstitutional.

That being so, the Government of India, without understanding the true picture and without respecting the sentiments and feelings of the people of Tamil Nadu, made a submission before the Supreme Court that Kachchatheevu was not a part of the Indian territory. Factually, this is not correct. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.K.S. ELANGO VAN (Chennai North): Sir, this is a very serious matter. The Government of India should immediately withdraw the affidavit which it has filed before the Supreme Court of India. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: Let me complete my submission. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Madam, the Centre must react on this issue. We have taken up this matter several times in the past. They have committed heinous crimes against Sri Lankan Tamils and it is a matter of grave concern to all of us. The Centre must immediately withdraw the affidavit filed in the Supreme Court. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Do you want to speak on this issue? Okay.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: Madam, the Centre should correct the affidavit filed before the Supreme Court regarding Kachchatheevu Issue. Kachchatheevu is a part of the Indian Territory and they will remain a part of the Indian Territory. The Centre must protect us because it has been illegally given Kachchatheevu to Sri Lanka, against the wishes of the Indian Parliament. The Indian Parliament must approve that.

Therefore, I would request the Central Government to correct the affidavit filed before the Supreme Court to say that Kachchatheevu is a part of the Indian Territory. That is the only solution.

We all know how Sri Lanka is treating our Tamil Nadu fishermen. The fishermen community is suffering a lot, and many letters were written by Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to the Prime Minister also in this regard. You know about the pitiable condition of the Sri Lankan

Tamils. Many Members have expressed their views on how they are treating us.

Therefore, the Central Government must take severe action and also get back Kachchatheevu, for which a unanimous Resolution was passed by the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly in 2013. I would request, once again, the Centre to see that Kachchatheevu is restored back to us, as it is a part of the Indian Territory. That is the only solution.

Otherwise, as you know, China is also creating a lot of problems for us. Even our Defence Minister has said recently that territory of China and India is not certainly safe. Then, how can you say that all are settled? Whatever territory we are having, China cannot claim that. In the same way, Kachchatheevu is also part of our Indian territory. ...*(Interruptions)*. Let the Minister react.

MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you so much...
...*(Interruptions)*

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: Madam, it is a serious matter. Let the Government react. We have to protect our territory. That is our Defence. How can we secede the territory to the Sri Lanka? Therefore, I request the Government to react on that. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri P. Lingam, Shri Shivkumar Udasi, Shri Ramesh Vishwanath Katti and Shri A. Ganeshamurthi are permitted to associate with the matters raised by Dr. Thambidurai.

Thank you. Now, Shrimati Harsimrat Kaur Badal.

SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL (Bhatinda): Madam, can Ajnala ji speak on my behalf?

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Ajnala ji, you please speak.

*DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA (Khadoor Sahib): Hon'ble Madam Speaker, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on the important subject of farmers. The farmers have recently suffered losses and the issue at stake is how to compensate them. The farmers are the backbone of our country. Over 65% people are dependent

* English translation of the Speech originally delivered in Punjabi

on farming. However, injustice has been meted out to farmers ever since we attained independence. Especially Sir, the Congress party has always harmed the interests of the farmers. Out of 65 years, the Congress party has ruled the country for about 50 years. Hence, they cannot absolve themselves of this responsibility.

Sir, several commissions have recommended that the farmers must be given remunerative Minimum Support Price (MSP) so that they can recover the input cost of farming. However, the Central Government has failed to act on this issue. The MSP being given is a pittance. Only Rs. 3600/- is being provided by the Government as compensation. However, the input cost of a farmer is Rs. 42,000/- per acre. It is a cruel joke being played on the farmers. The Central Government led by the Congress party does not know anything about the ground-reality.

MADAM SPEAKER: What makes you stand?

.....(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: What makes you four people stand? Please sit down.

.....(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Let him speak. Does he need your help for speaking?

.....(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Gulshan ji, you please also sit down.

.....(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Ajnala ji, you please conclude.

.....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RATTAN SINGH AJNALA : Fertile and cultivable land of the farmers of Punjab is there even beyond the barbed wire fence on the Indo-Pak border. When the UPA Government came to power at the centre in 2004, they made life difficult for these farmers. I am thankful to the Punjab Government.....

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: What makes you all stand, please take your seats.

.....(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI ANNU TANDON (Unnao): Madam, the birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvpalli Radha Krishnan ji is celebrated as Teacher's Day in our country. We must respect our teachers. Madam Speaker, I thank you very much for the opportunity you provided me to speak today.... (Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: All of you please take your seats. Please listen to the views expressed on teachers day. Please take your seats.

.....(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: All of you are requested to take your seats.

SHRIMATI ANNU TANDON: Today, I salute all the Teacher's in the country through you..... (Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: All of you, are requested to take your seats.

..... (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI ANNU TANDON: Today, we are faced with a very important issue that relates to the pay (and allowances) of the teachers working in aided private schools in Uttar Pradesh. As per Education Act, 2009 imparting primary and junior level education to children above 14 years in the country is the responsibility of Central and State Governments. Right to education is the Fundamental Right of every child which cannot be fulfilled without teachers. That is why, I am raising the issue of teachers while an effort is being made to discharge this duty without teachers. I would like to cite an example of my district. On 1st December, 2006 the then Government of U.P. had decided to take over around 1000 Junior High Schools under Grant Schedule. About 14 schools from my Parliamentary Constituency had also been included in that schedule. This decision was welcomed, no doubt, however even after six years of that decision today around 5000 Teachers of UP are not getting pay scales applicable to the Junior High school teachers while a number of

teachers have already retired in the intervening period, some of them have died leaving behind their families in distress. In my district Unnao only 11 teachers are getting their pay while some 85 teachers are such who are not getting their pay even after six years of the decision. I think that the situation in other parts of the States will not be better. Some of the teachers among those are such who have been serving in their institutions in the capacity of trained teachers for the last 15 to 20 years, and they feel that their future is in dark.

Madam, I would demand from the Central and the State Governments through you that at least today this issue is accorded due importance and necessary action is taken immediately to see that the teachers working in aided private schools are disbursed their arrears of pay and allowances and are made to join the mainstream with a view to ensure bright future for the children.

Madam, thank you very much for the opportunity you provided me to speak.

SHRI P. L. PUNIA (Barabanki): Madam, I associate myself with issue raised by Shrimati Annu Tandon during the Zero Hour.

DR. SANJAY JAISWAL (West Champaran): Thank you very much Madam Speaker. I would like to draw the attention of the House through you towards the arbitrary orders issued by Medical Council of India and Hon'ble Minister of Health and Family Welfare. You yourself, Leader of Opposition Shrimati Sushma Swaraj ji, Dr. Girija Vyas and all others have debated the issue of harassment of women in this House a Number of times. They have made it compulsory through an order passed by them that requires girls of the age of 22 or 23 to go to the villages compulsorily and work there if they wish to become Doctor and do P.G. In a country where ladies are not safe in cities like Delhi and Mumbai, there they legislate that girls who wish to pursue MS-MD students will have to go to village without an exception, is not justified. If at all any legislation of such nature is to be passed, then the initiative should come from us, the Members of Parliament and let us send our daughters to the villages of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh which may give a message to the whole world how safe are the girls in our country ...*(Interruptions)* You won't find any lady Member of

Parliament here who may claim that she feels insecure here for this thing....*(Interruptions)* This is violation of the Fundamental Rights envisaged in the Constitution. If somebody is under Government employment, then of course he can be given in writing in advance that he may be asked to serve in rural area. But without employing anybody how can you force somebody to go to the village and serve there for a year, It is absolutely wrong. Then another thing I would like to say to the Hon'ble Minister is that if at all, he wants to enacts such a law he should make it for the lady students of 2nd year of MS and MD courses. Because after having done the Post-graduation, the student or the lady student will be mature enough to go to village and work there.....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ (Machhlishahr): Incidents of rape occur in cities, not in villages.... *(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: You please sit down.

DR. SANJAY JAISWAL: You can't force a girl or a boy to go compulsorily to village and work there for one year. It is violation of Fundamental Rights envisaged under the Constitution. I would request, through you, that this arbitrary order may be withdrawn. You offer them Government employment and then ask to go anywhere, it does not matter. But, sending any girl to a village is totally wrong..... *(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: You please take your seats.

DR. SANJAY JAISWAL: Madam Speaker, I am thank falt to you for giving me an opportunity to raise this issue.

MADAM SPEAKER: Dr. Kirit Premjibhai Solanki, Shri Shivkumar Udasi, associate themselves with the matter raised by Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal during the zero hour.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Madam Speaker, we have around six lakh Coal field labourers in our country. Some of them are permanent and some of them are contract labours. All these labourers are going on strike on 23, 24 and 25 December. Five trade Unions of the coal industry like CITV, HMS, BMS, AITUC and INTUV have given notice for strike. Their demand relates to repealing the decision taken by the Government of India to get Rs. 40,000 crore every year by disinvestment

in Government undertakings. Our Finance Minister is also sitting here. Ten per cent shares of Coal India were sold disinvested three years back. One per cent of share was purchased by a company of Britain. When the NCWA (9) went forward and entered into an agreement for wages with these labourers then they received threat from the British Company claiming that she is the owner of one per cent share of Coal India, so they were not supposed to enter into any wage agreement without their consent. Today, again the Government has decided to sell 10 per cent shares of Coal India.

MADAM SPEAKER: Kindly conclude.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: You must know that Coal India is a major Government undertaking of the country. Shrimati Indira Gandhi had nationalized coal industry in 1973, but since 1990, the Government has been trying to privatize the nationalized Industry. They had enacted legislation in this regard. However the Government did not succeed in its efforts. Now, they have thought of another way through which Coal India is to be disinvested slowly and privatised. All Trade Unions of this country have opposed this move and entire labour community also is opposing it. The other decision is also dangerous. The Ministry of Coal of the Government of India had constituted a Committee for restructuring coal India. The decision to constitute independent company by separating the six subsidiary companies of Coal India is intended to privatise them. There are some 2 lakh contract labours who work in Coal India.

MADAM SPEAKER: Basu Debji, Kindly conclude.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: There was an agreement for those labourers' wages which was to be implemented with effect from First January. It was not implemented in other subsidiaries. The labourers are forced to work there at Rs. 100 to Rs. 150 wages even today.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: All the Coal labourers in the country are going on strike for three day as a protest against it. We demand that the decision taken by the CCEA yesterday may be repealed.... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Prof. Saidul Haque. Nothing else will go on record.

.... *(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER : Shri M.B. Rajesh, Shri Sohan Potai, Shri Manshukhbhai, D. Vasava, Shri Ram Singh Rathwa, Shri Hansraj Ahir and Shri Ravindra Kumar Panday associate themselves with the matter raised by Shri Basudeb Acharia in the House.

[English]

SK. SAIDUL HAQUE (Bardhaman-Durgapur): Madam, the idea of celebrating Teachers Day took ground independently in many countries during the 20th century. In many countries including India, Teachers Day is intended to be a special day for the appreciation of teachers and includes celebrations to honour them for their special contribution to the nation and to the society.

Teachers are the backbone of the society. The Kothari Commission rightly told that the future of India is being saved in the class room.

But the alarming situation that we are seeing now is that the teachers are being subjected to assaults of two kinds – one is physical assault and another is mental and professional attack. We are alarmingly seeing that teachers all over the country and especially in West Bengal are being attacked by a section who are mainly outsiders, but attack them in the name of students. Another kind of attack that we face not only in West Bengal, but all over the country is due to the promulgation of the Right to Education Act, where it had been made mandatory that training should be there; lakhs of teachers are in a state of agony and anxiety regarding their professions. What we also see is that in the National Child Labour Project, NCLP, there are a number of child labour schools all over the country, including my State, West Bengal; but the teachers are not getting salary, which are mainly run by the Centre. That is why, on this auspicious day, when we are remembering our great philosopher, the second President of this country, and the great academician, Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, on

* Not recorded.

his birth day, I urge upon the Government to see that the teachers are not subjected to any kind of physical assault or physical attack or mental and professional attacks. Due honour should be given to all the teachers all over the country.

MADAM SPEAKER: SHRI M.B. Rajesh is allowed to associate with the matter raised by Sk. Saidul Haque.

Shri Jagdambika Pal – Not present.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVANA PATIL GAWALI (Yavatmal-Washim): Madam Speaker, many many thanks for the opportunity you provided me to speak. I would like to draw the attention of the Government, through you, to Shakuntla Railway Service started by British Government in 1916 in my Parliamentary Constituency, Yavatmal-Washim, which is being closed now. As a result of this people are facing a lot of difficulty. The National objective of the country has to be focused on conversion of narrow gauge into Broad-gauge. I have been demanding right from 1999-2000 that this narrow gauge section may be converted into broad-gauge. A survey was conducted in the year 2005 in this regard. However, it has not been sanctioned till date. Shakuntla Railway Service is being used by the poor. However, assigning rains as the reason, the administration has closed it. This rail traverse about 5 districts of Vidarbha region and all the MPs coming from that region demand that particular rail service should be revived while action should be taken to convert it into broad-gauge. I feel that British Government had a vision, and guided by that vision, it started that rail service to promote trade. However, I fail to understand why the Government ruling today do not understand this. Therefore, I demand that the Shakuntla Railway Service which has been closed, should be revived immediately and should be converted into broad gauge. Farmers in that area have committed suicide and as far as development is concerned that area stand neglected. Therefore, I request for the development of my area Vidarbha and the Government is requested to take a decision immediately in this matter.

SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ (Garhwal): Madam Speaker, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the contract workers working in BSNL in Uttarakhand. Lineman,

Computer operators, Engine operators, Cable jointer, have been engaged on contract basis through contractors for maintenance and repair work in Uttarakhand which a severe Calamity. Their number is about 1200. These workers are being paid merely Rs. 3500 as pay by the contractors which is very low. The contract workers who work under adverse geographical conditions need to be granted increased pay and hill allowances. It is necessary with a view to make their families sustain feeding them well.

Madam, I would like to request the Government, through you, that the BSNL worker engaged on contractual basis should be granted immediate increase in wages to enable them to feed their families.

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur): Madam Speaker, I have been repeatedly attracting the attention of the Government and the House for the last 14-15 years towards a fatal disease. Today, 17 States and 170 districts of the country and 30-35 districts of UP are badly affected by this disease. In BRD Medical College of Gorakhpur alone some 200 children have died of encephalitis so far. Some 34 districts of UP are affected by it. In this House itself, you had admitted my Calling Attention Motion on this subject in 2011 replying to which hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare had given an assurance in the House to the effect that a national programme would be chalked out and action to eradicate encephalitis and other diseases generated by vector would be initiated in the entire country by the Government. It makes me sad to say that the main two factors responsible for the spread of this disease as enumerated by the Virology Center of BRD Medical College are mosquito bite and polluted water which has become the cause of constant deaths there. Though Gorakhpur is lucky in the matter as they diagnose the disease and then try to treat it. However, in other districts the children are left to their fate and die, saying they are clueless about the disease. The country whose children are thus left in the lurch and are embracing untimely death, you can well anticipate its future. This unfortunate situation is before us today. I would like to remind the Government, through you, that the Hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare had given an assurance in the House on 29 December, 2011, that number one, Vyadhi Medical College, Gorakhpur would be developed on the lines of AIIMS. Second, free treatment will be provided for encephalitis and vector

generated diseases in the entire country and subsequently necessary vaccination will be done. The Eastern UP has not got the vaccination this time. It has not been done so far, as a result of which more than two hundred children have already died while on an average 10 to 15 children are being admitted to the Hospital everyday while seven to eight of them die every day. Third, he had also assured of spraying and providing potable water in the affected areas. However, no effective action has been taken in this regard. Deaths are also occurring due to shortage of medicines. In UP, Bihar, West Bengal and other States, about 17 States are such where the disease does exist to some extent. I would urge the Government, through you, to enforce a national programme urgently with a view to eradicate encephalitis in toto. Spray should be done in the month of December-January in the entire country and along with it, arrangements should be made for vaccination. But please do not claim to be clueless about the disease thus leaving out the innocent children of the country to be devoured by the disease. Instead, effective steps should be taken by the Government for its treatment. Thanks for providing me an opportunity to speak... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): Madam, Dengue has spread to MPs residences and some of MPs have caught dengue. When the situation in Delhi is such, you can very well imagine the situation in UP. UP continuously has to face such a situation... *(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Shailendra Kumar, Dr. Ram Shankar and Shri Kamlesh Paswan associate themselves with the matter raised by Shri Yogi Adityanath.

SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR (Karimnagar): Madam, it happens to be Teacher's Day today. On this occasion, I congratulate all the teachers and would also like to raise an important issue through you.

Madam, there are seven thousand Anganwadi projects, which employ lacs of ladies. No minimum wages have been fixed for them. In order to get them minimum wages, I request the Government, through you, in view of their plight. Children and women working under Anganwadi are not getting minimum wages. These women perform other duties also for Government. In view of this, I would like to urge the Government, through you, that it is no big thing. The women working under Anganwadi move

from village to village. In my area, they get Rs. 3000/-. Today happens to be the Teacher's Day and they are also Anganwadi Teachers, as such they should be paid minimum wages. This is what I demand.

SHRI IJYARAJ SINGH (Kota): Madam Speaker, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Ponnam Prabhakar.

SHRI RAVNEET SINGH (Anandpur Sahib): Madam, I associate myself with the issue raised by Shri Ponnam Prabhakar.

[English]

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY (Guwahati): Madam, I want to bring to the notice of the House a terrible fact which has come to light. On 3rd September, 2013 when 10 illegal migrants from Bangladesh contested their case in the Guwahati High Court, it came to the light that all relevant documents submitted by these 10 illegal migrants are forged. These forged documents were supplied none other than by the officials of the Government of Assam. These documents include ration card, voter list and land documents.

I would like to submit that this is not new in Assam. The supply of forged documents to Bangladeshi nationals who enter Assam illegally is a routine affair. They enter Assam illegally everyday and they get these forged documents from the Government officials themselves. But this is the first time that the Guwahati High Court has caught these culprits and this was brought to the notice of the country.

So I demand that the responsibility be fixed why the Government of Assam only for the sake of votes inspire such things which jeopardize the internal and external security of the country. Madam, you may recall that from 1979 to 1984, the All Asom Students Union with the people of Assam started a vigorous movement against Bangladeshi nationals. During the agitation more than 1000 people were killed in the police firing. The IMDT Act was there which has been repealed. In spite of all these things, there is no stoppage in entering the Bangladeshis into Assam due to the callousness and self-interest of the Government of Assam, which is a Congress Government.

I would appeal that it should be stopped. Already population imbalance is there and we would not be able to save Assam and our country.

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Shivkumar Udasi, Shri Ramesh Vishwanath Katti and Shri Nishikant Dubey associated themselves with the matter raised by Shrimati Bijoya Chakravarty.

SHRI N. PEETHAMBARA KURUP (Kollam): Madam, at present, there are 35 lakh retired employees who are getting pension under Employees Provident Fund Pension Scheme 1995. Since they are getting a paltry sum as pension, their economic condition and living standard are very pathetic and poor.

Among these 27 per cent of them are getting Rs. 12 to Rs. 500 only per month. Fifty six per cent of the EPF pensioners are getting Rs. 500 to Rs. 1000 only per month. With this meagre amount of pension, it is very difficult to meet their both ends. Some of them had gone to the court in 2003. The court directed the Government that keeping in view the human consideration and social security, adequate pension should be given to the EPF pensioners. But the Government has not implemented this order. This year, in 2013, the Prime Minister, through the Minister of Labour, has announced that minimum amount of Rs. 1000 as dearness allowance will be given to the EPF pensioners. But even with this pensioners' problem has not been addressed properly.

Therefore, I would request the Central Government that pensioners should be given adequate pension and dearness allowance under the EPF pension scheme.

MADAM SPEAKER: Dr. Ratna De, Shrimati Shatabdi Roy, Shri Harsh Vardhan, Adv. A. Sampath, Shri M.B. Rajesh, Shri P. Lingam and Shri Shailendra Kumar associated themselves with the matter raised by Shri N. Peethambara Kurup.

*SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL (Dakshina Kannada): Hon. Speaker Madam, thank you. Coastal belt, Malnadu region and about six districts of Karnataka namely Chikkamagaluru, Udupi, Davanagere Shiomogga, Karwara and Chitradurga have received good rainfall in the last 30 years. Farmers in these parts of Karnataka are dependent

heavily on Arecanut cultivation. Unfortunately their livelihood is affected due to fruit rot disease, which is damaging the arecanut crop. Arecanut growers are suffering huge loss due to the depleting yield and poor quality of arecanut. The Government of Karnataka has already submitted its preliminary report to the centre on the loss suffered by arecanut farmers due to fruit rot disease. According to the report arecanut crop in 1 lakh 38 thousand hectares was damaged. The estimated loss as per the study report was Rs. 1,389 crore. Arecanut farmers of Karnataka are contributing 60 per cent to the total arecanut production of the country. But this year about 80 per cent of the arecanut crop is damaged due to the fruit rot disease. Even through farmers used pesticides and insecticides it was not helping them to control the disease as the region received record rainfall from May 2013 to August 2013. Many a times farmers could not use insecticides and pesticides. The fruit rot disease not only affected arecanut but also caused damage to the arecanut trees. Apart from fruit rot disease arecanut is also affected by Yellow leaf disease. Hence I urge upon the Union Government to send a team of agriculture experts to study the problem and conduct research to save arecanut crops and its farmers from the fruit rot disease.

The centre should also introduce a special package to provide compensation to affected arecanut growers. The Centre should waive off the loan raised by arecanut growers on the line of State Government of Karnataka. The State Government had already waived off the loan given to arecanut growers. I also urge the Union Government that arecanut growers should be provided compensation of Rs. 50,000 per hectare. With these words I conclude my speech.

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Shivarama Gouda, Devji M. Patel, Suresh Angadi, Pralhad Joshi, P.C. Gaddigoudar, Shivkumar Udasi, Ramesh Vishwanath Katti are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI (Sheohar): Madam Speaker, thanks for the opportunity you provided me to speak. I would like to attract the attention of the Government towards the glaring problems of Bihar under the Rajeev Gandhi Electrification Scheme implemented by the Central Government. It is a matter of concern that we

* English translation of the Speech originally delivered in Kannada.

are nowhere near the objective with which the Rajeev Gandhi Electrification Scheme was launched. Particularly, the situation in Bihar is still worse. Even after 66 years of independence, half of the villages in Bihar State do not have electricity. There are many villages in Bihar, where even electric erected poles are not erected, what to say of electricity. About 22000 villages are such where people have to pass their night in the dark even today. Demand for electricity has doubled in Bihar State after the year 2005. At present, the demand stands between 2500 mega watt and 3000 megawatt. However, the supply is restricted to less than 2000 mega watt. People in rural areas of Bihar are bearing the brunt of shortage of electricity. In Dadra and Nagar Haveli one person consumes 11864 units on an average while in Bihar the average per person comes to 122 units. The condition of electric equipment in Bihar is in a shambles. The transformers that get burnt take months together for repairs.

In reply to my question in Lok Sabha, I was told that Bihar was the only State in the entire country which had the highest number of burnt Transformers, which stands at 6032, out of which 300 transformers are there in my Parliamentary Constituency, Sheohar. They need to be replaced by high capacity transformers in public interest. However, the Electric companies are not able to do so because of the policies of Central and State Governments in this regard. Therefore, I would request the Government, through this House, that action should be taken to replace and repair these transformers including those in my Constituency in Bihar as early as possible.

MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal is also associated with the matter raised by Shrimati Rama Deve.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: The rest of the 'Zero Hour' matters will be taken up at the end of the day.

...(Interruptions)

11.59 hrs

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

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

(i) Need to prevent intrusion of wild animals including elephants in human habitation causing loss of lives and damage to crops in Dindigul Parliamentary Constituency, Tamil Nadu

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (Dindigul): Wild animals especially elephants living in Western Ghats of Tamil Nadu particularly in the Oddanchatram and Palani assembly segments in Dindigul Parliamentary Constituency very often come to plains from hills in search of food and water and kill agriculturalists and cause damage to standing crops. Government should take steps to prevent those animals from coming down to plains by constructing small water tanks at appropriate places. Fencing at important points, where necessary, should be erected to ward off wild animals including elephants for protection of crops and plantations.

(ii) Need to look into the functioning of Delhi Cantonment Board

SHRI RAJAI AH SIRICILLA (Warangal): Delhi Cantonment Board is engaging private housekeeping agencies and other private agencies for deployment of contractual staff to cater to the various jobs in Delhi Cantonment and Army area since 2009. But the procedure adopted for this purpose is not fair and needs overhaul.

The contractual staff of Delhi Cantonment Board appointed by the private contractors/agencies are not getting EPF and ESI facility since 2009. This is unfair and it needs correction to ensure the welfare of the persons engaged in Delhi Cantonment Board.

* Treated as laid on the Table.

It is necessary to record all the names, qualification, designation and address of each contractual staff in Delhi Cantonment and Army Area because they are working in most sensitive area and hence should come under surveillance. But it seems the officials in Delhi Cantonment Board are not adhering to this policy thereby putting the security of our country to threat.

There are also many complaints against the officials of Delhi Cantonment Board which need to be enquired into immediately by constituting a committee to prepare a report on the functioning of Delhi Cantonment Board.

Hence, I request the Hon'ble Minister for Defence to look into the functioning of Delhi Cantonment Board to set the things right.

(iii) Need to interlink Cauvery river with Palar river

SHRI P. VISWANATHAN (Kancheepuram): There is a necessity of linking Cauvery river with Palar river. From 1924 to 2006 the water level exceeded the danger Wmark 38 times in Mettur Dam and the discharged river water found its way to the Sea. The water of Cauvery river can be stored in the new dam constructed near Okanekkal. There is a possibility of generating 720 MW electricity from the water stored in this dam. Further the water can be diverted to Palar near Avarankuppam through a canal. First of all the Cauvery water can be pumped to a distance of 10 km to Ponnagaram to a height of 800 feet in a small lake. After that, a canal can be constructed via Palakode, Krishnagiri, Natrampalli to Avarankuppam. From Avarankuppam, the Cauvery water can be diverted to Palar.

Due to the linking of Cauvery and Palar rivers, the people of Vellore, Thiruvannamalai, Kancheepuram, Thiruvallur will get sufficient drinking water and also water for cultivation of their land. If implemented, more than 1.5 crore people will get pure drinking water and water for cultivation also.

I request the Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources to look into the matter and explore the possibility of implementing the project which will benefit the people of northern districts of Tamil Nadu.

(iv) Need to include coastal erosion and damage caused by lightning in the list of natural disasters

SHRI ANTO ANTONY (Pathanamathitta): I request the Government to include coastal erosion and lightning in the list of disasters. Due to the geographical reasons both lightning and coastal erosions have adverse impact on Kerala. Every year on an average 71 people die and 112 are seriously injured by lightning in Kerala. The lightning also results in loss of huge property as it destroys crops in the State. Recent studies also show that 63 per cent of Kerala's coastline, which is a stretch of 590 km is being eroded day-by-day. Since the coastal areas are densely populated, the rehabilitation of the victims who lost their house, land and properties due to coastal erosion is a question before the Government and general public. It is estimated that lightning and coastal erosion cost several crores of rupees every year. However, there has not yet been any attempt to assess the loss and compensate the victims. Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala has already submitted a detailed proposal which explains the impact of lightning and coastal erosion on Kerala in detail and seeks to include these fatal incidents in the list of natural disasters and also requests for Special Financial Assistance for implementing insurance scheme in this regard. I also request the Government to urgently take a favourable action in this regard.

(v) Need to start the construction of Railway Overbridges on level crossings on Barabanki-Deva Road in Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI P.L. PUNIA (Barabanki): Sanction has already been granted for construction of Railway over bridges on two level crossings on Barabanki-Deva Road in the Rail Budget for 2013-14. I am in touch with the Chairman, Railway Board and officials concerned of the Ministry of Railways. This project has since been included in items of work to be undertaken during the year 2013-14. Almost all the formalities have been completed with regard to commencing this work. However, the delay in the implementation is agitating the local people. Local newspapers have also started reporting about the slow progress of implementation.

Therefore, I would request the Minister of Railways that construction of over bridges declared for Barabanki may be implemented at the earliest possible be and the foundation stone be laid.

[English]

(vi) Need to release the second instalment of funds for water projects under Jawahar Lal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission for Pune city in Maharashtra

SHRI SURESH KALMADI (Pune): The Central Government has recently approved two water projects for the Pune City amounting to Rs. 498 crores under JNNURM. Once implemented, the projects will help in improving water supply in the eastern part of the city, including Vadgaonsheri, Kalas, Dhanori, Kondhwa, Katraj and Dhayari area in Pune. One project is for bringing 200 MLD of water from Bhama Ashkhed Dam to Pune and another for establishing water treatment plant at Wadgaon Budruk. Under the JNNURM, the Centre will bear 50 per cent of total cost of these projects. This is a major achievement for Pune as it will help in overcoming the water problems of the Pune City.

I request the Ministry of Urban Development to accelerate the process of releasing the second instalment of the sanctioned cost of these projects.

(vii) Need to close the chemical industries in Nagda in Ujjain district, Madhya Pradesh posing serious threat to lives of the people

[Translation]

SHRI PREMCHAND GUDDU (Ujjain): Laxes and Grasim are two industries in my Parliamentary Constituency which are not according to environmental norms. Grasim uses the zinc technology. As zinc technology pollutes the environment to a great extent, as such even Ministry of Environment does not permit zinc technology. Laxes industry uses chlorine gas which causes explosion while coming in contact with air.

Citizens had written letters to the administration before the Bhopal gas tragedy. However, administration took no notice of that and the result is before the country. I fear that both these two industries may pose the threat

of a recurrence of same tragedy. I had made a complaint about this to the then Minister Shri Jai Ram Ramesh, upon which the Hon. Minister viewing the gravity of the matter had sent a team from the Central and State Pollution Control Boards. Both the boards admitted that there has been a neglect and a lot of irregularities are there on the environmental aspects. Both the boards had given time till December, 2011 to do way with deficiencies. However, the situation remains the same even today. Now, Pollution Board is also silent while the industries in question continue to play havoc with the human life.

There was leakage of chlorine gas thrice during the last one year. It affected hundreds of people who were admitted to the Hospitals. I have their list with me. The polluted water of Grasim Industry is flown into the Chambal river, as a result of which the ground water of some 14 villages in the neighborhood stands polluted to the extent that no technology can make it fit for drinking even by cattle, what to say of drinking it by human being. The local people are falling prey to cancer. 19 patients of cancer have been found in Mehatwas area. I would like to inform the Hon. Minister that both the Pollution Boards have already seen themselves of the deficiencies in these Industries, people living there are worried, Ministry is doing nothing despite my writing a letter to them and the Pollution Control Board is inactive. This situation force me to urge you to get both the industries closed immediately to save the lives of the people there.

(viii) Need to expedite and facilitate hassle-free payment of Post Office Recurring Deposits on maturity to customers in Gwalior district, Madhya Pradesh

SHRIMATI YASHODHARA RAJE SCINDIA (Gwalior): About more than 20 thousand RD Accounts of Account holders in Post Offices of Gwalior district have matured during last three months. They are to be paid an amount exceeding Rs. 20 crores. The account holders whose accounts have matured are being asked to get a new account opened to receive the payment. The account holders who failed to open such accounts are being handed over cheques which are not being accepted by the Banks.

Efforts made to get requisite information revealed that the cheque books received in the Post Offices are such

which are having cheques bearing repeated numbers due to which they are not being honoured by the Banks. Now the cheques will be given to Account holders whose accounts have since matured after the new series cheques received from Nasik. However, it is expected to take longer time.

I request the Government to ensure payment of the amount deposited by account holders on priority basis.

[English]

(ix) Need to sanction funds to repair the damaged roads in Chikkodi Parliamentary Constituency, Karnataka

SHRI RAMESH VISHWANATH KATTI (Chikkodi): The Government of Karnataka has submitted proposal to the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways for the sanction of 6 road works, amounting to Rs. 2925.00 lakhs *vide* letter No. PWD/120/CRF/2012, Dtd. 18.7.2012 under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Economic Importance during 2012-13. Out of 6 roads, the works on 3 roads *viz.*, 1) 17 km road from NH-4 to Bogate Aloor, Hadalaga and Gadinglaj on Goa-Karnataka-Maharashtra ISC road - Rs. 489 lakhs, 2) 20.41 Km road from NH4 to Shettihalli-Ichalakaranji road on Karnataka Maharashtra ISC road-Rs. 486.00 lakhs and 3) 14.50 Km road from Darur to Nadi-Ingalagoan-Theerth in Athani taluka, Belgaum Dist. (existing single lane)- Rs. 700 lakhs are coming under my Chikkodi Parliamentary Constituency. The said roads are badly damaged hence the people face a lot of inconvenience in commuting.

To ascertain the position of these proposals, I had asked a Starred Question, which was converted into an Un-starred Question, No. 1915, Dtd: 19.8.2013, wherein, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways had given written answer that all the 8 proposals received from Karnataka have been approved by the Ministry and no proposal is pending with the Ministry. But the Government of Karnataka has reported on 31.8.2013 that the above mentioned proposals are pending with the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India.

I, therefore, request the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways to provide me the correct answer and also to kindly accord necessary sanction of funds for repairing of the said roads.

(x) Need to create a separate State of Poorvanchal

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur): Though India has been declared a Republic nation, yet in view of the national security and to do away with the imbalance in regional development, different States have been reorganised. During the tenure of the NDA Government, 12 years back three new States, namely, Uttarakhand Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh were constituted. Even today, demand is being made for creation of new States in different regions. Recently, the Central Cabinet has given its consent for creation of Telangana State. Taking into account the creation of new States, National Security and regional economic development, the demand for reorganisation of U.P. State has cropped up. The Eastern part of the country is having the highest density of population which is around 6-7 crores. However, it lacks a Central University, Central Medical Institute., Indian Institute of Technology or an Indian Institute of Management. It has no industry sugar undue they known as the woney only cash crop is waning constantly. Being connected with the borders of Nepal and Bihar, it has become a very sensitive area. In view of the national security and regional economic development this area needs to be reorganised into a new State.

Kindly see to it that U.P. is reorganised to make the Poorvi Anchal, a new State by the name of Poorvanchal.

(xi) Need to take all necessary steps to bolster the Rupee as well as the economy of the country

SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI (Ahmadnagar): The steep decline in the value of rupee in comparison to dollar has raised so many doubts. When the dollar reached Rs. 55 level, at that time it was expected that Government or Reserve Bank will take some steps to bring the situation under control but nothing happened. Now, the devaluation of rupee continues. The falling value of rupee has increased the imbalance of trade while the trade deficit has also increased to a result thereof. Cost of imports has increased which directly affected the prices which are going up. Three fourth of country's consumption of oil is met by imports of crude oil. The cost escalation will be met by the oil companies by increasing the price

of diesel petrol/LPG (Kitchen Gas). It will make the freight charges go up which will affect almost all the commodities and will reflect itself in the form of price rise. We do not see any possibility of bringing down the interest rates in the next monetary review. In this situation of crisis it is heard that they are discussing to undertake confidence winning exercise to win the confidence of foreign investors to invest in many areas. It will increase the burden on common man. While undertaking exercise to win the confidence of the Foreign Institutional Investors and a condition should be stipulated for them to the effect that they cannot withdraw their money before completion of three years. The foreign exchange crisis may escalate further if this is not done. We demand that suitable steps may be taken in the interest of common man.

(xii) Need to take necessary measures for electrification of hamlets and villages under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana in Banda Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh

SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL (Banda): The Hon'ble Minister for Energy of the Government of India made an announcement in this House that all the villages/hamlets with a population of 300 would be electrified under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana, but I am sorry to say that announcement made in this House has yet not been fulfilled even when the Government of Uttar Pradesh had submitted a completed detailed report of all the villages/hamlets of Banda and Chitrakoot districts of my Lok Sabha Parliamentary Constituency to the Government of India in the year 2010-11 itself *i.e.* two years back. But the Central Government has not yet given their financial clearance. I also made promises to the people of my constituency regarding the electrification of unserved villages of my area but for want of financial clearance, the aforesaid announcement made by the Government in this House has yet not been implemented.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to take immediate action with regard to the aforesaid announcement made in this House.

(xiii) Need to accord approval for electrification of hamlets (majras) under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana in Uttar Pradesh and

ensure supply of electricity to villages covered under the scheme particularly in Deoria Parliamentary Constituency

SHRI GORAKH PRASAD JAISWAL (Deoria): The Central Government had launched Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana in 2005. Under the said scheme, the Government of Uttar Pradesh had asked for funds for the electrification of all the hamlets. At that time the central Government had said that sanction for electrification of all hamlets would be given after the completion of work of electrification of all the villages in all the States. However, it is a matter of regret that in several States, sanction is being given for the electrification of hamlets but in case of Uttar Pradesh, such a sanction has not been given to this date in spite of the fact that the largest number of people belonging to the Scheduled Castes Category live in Uttar Pradesh. The Government of Uttar Pradesh had sent a proposal in 2009 for the electrification of 1,37,060 hamlets but the Central Government did not give its clearance for any other district of Uttar Pradesh, but for Raebareli and Sultanpur Parliamentary Constituency. For all these reasons, electricity has not reached several thousand villages of the Scheduled Castes as the transformers have been installed but connections from those transformers have not been given. There are several villages in my Parliamentary Constituency Deoria (Uttar Pradesh) where Dalits do not have access to electricity and these people remain deprived of the basic amenities and the education of their children is being affected. At several places, poles have been erected but these have not been provided with wires.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to make efforts for proper and timely implementation of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana.

(xiv) Need to establish a Santhali University in Jhargram Parliamentary Constituency, West Bengal

[English]

SHRI PULIN BIHARI BASKE (Jhargram): Jhargram Parliamentary Constituency is one of the most backward areas in our country. More than 60 per cent of total population this constituency belong to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Community. Government of West

Bengal is going to declare Jhargram as a separate district. If Jhargram is made as a separate district, then the entire Jhargram district will be covered by the Jhargram Parliamentary Constituency. Government of West Bengal has already appointed Superintendent of Police and Chief Medical Officer of Health for this proposed district. Most of the primary and secondary schools have appointed Santhali language teachers to promote Santhali (Alchiki) language. Santhali language in Alchiki script has been introduced in each of the primary schools. Santhali language has also been introduced in some colleges in this constituency. But there is no Santhali University to facilitate Santhalis for their higher education. So, I urge upon the Union Government to establish a Santhali University in Jhargram Parliamentary Constituency of West Bengal.

(xv) Need to instruct FCI to lift surplus rice from Odisha and increase storage capacity of food grains in the State

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (Cuttack): Odisha is a decentralized procurement State. The main problem is storage of food grains in the State. Total capacity of storage is 13 lakh MT out of which FCI has 5,92,000 MT and Odisha State Civil Supplies Corporation (OSCSC) Ltd. Has 7,08,000 MT under this control. Due to shortage of storage capacity, it is not possible to receive entire Custom Milled Rice (CMR) within the stipulated time.

Government of India and FCI have been requested to lift surplus rice so as to create space for millers to deliver CMR. The FCI has received 6.47 lakh MT of CMR as on 17.07.2013 which is over 70% over the receipt in last KMS. FCI needs to receive at least 15 lakh MT of CMR in the current Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) as the procurement will be around 37 lakh MT in terms of rice.

The FCI has lifted about 2.77 lakh MT of rice during the period from April to June, 2013 and 1.6 lakh MT in first quarter of 2013. But it needs to lift about 15 lakh MT of rice to outside the State in the current KMS as the requirement under PDS and other welfare schemes of the State is about 1.50 lakh MT every month in order to manage the stock. In August, 2013 FCI had to lift 1.20 lakh MT of rice and induct 35000 MT of wheat into the State.

Therefore, I would urge upon the Government to

instruct FCI to lift the surplus rice from Odisha and increase storage capacity of food grains in the state at the earliest.

(xvi) Need to take all necessary measures for the welfare of senior citizens in the country

[Translation]

SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR (Maval): There are about 10 crore Senior Citizens in this country and their number is continuously increasing. 66 per cent of these 10 crore Senior Citizens are poor and 90 per cent of them are not safe socially and health wise. 35 per cent of Senior Citizens face domestic harassment while 17 per cent are forced to live a lonely life. With their advancing age these people require more life support like, medicines in particular as they fall in the trap of several deadly diseases, like diabetes, heart dises, cancer, etc. and for their treatment they do not have enough funds with them due to which they become a victim of serious diseases, and have to lose their lives.

I, therefore urge upon the Central Government to provide following facilities for the Welfare of Senior Citizens:

1. Senior Citizens maintenance and Welfare Act, 2007 may be enforced with immediate effect in the country.
2. A new definition of the senior citizens may be evolved and every year, a separate budget provision be made for the senior citizens.
3. Under the retirement scheme of senior citizens, the Central Government and the State Government should make an increase of Rs. 1000 each so that senior citizens could get Rs. 2000 more every month by way of pension.
4. An increase of Rs. 2000 per month should be made under the EPF pension scheme for senior citizens.
5. For all the senior citizens in the entire country, provision should be made for Arogya Bima Yojana.
6. To deal with the problems of senior citizens and in view of several important issues, a separate Ministry for senior citizens at the Central and the State level should be created.

(xvii) Need to expedite implementation of Traditional Forest Dwellers and Tribals Act, 2005 in West Bengal

[English]

DR. TARUN MANDAL (Jaynagar): The forest dwellers, fishermen, tribals and other marginal people of my Constituency, Jaynagar, South 24 Parganas district of West Bengal do fishing in the sea and riverine belt of Sunderbans, collect dry woods and honey from the jungle for livelihood since long time. They are not endowed with their rights and licences as envisaged in Traditional Forest Dwellers and Tribals Act, 2005.

They are being harassed, fined, tortured, their livelihood tools and materials seized. They are frequently arrested and jailed by the Forest Guards, Tiger Reserve Forest Forces, Border Security Forces and Coastal Zone Guards thereby practically depriving them of their right to life. The past and the present Governments of West Bengal State have failed to implement the Act till today for the backward and underdeveloped regions of the State.

I would urge upon the Union Government and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to look into the matter and to take up the matter with the concerned authorities of the State

administration and to ensure early implementation of above Act in West Bengal.

12.01 hrs

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS (GENERAL), 2013-14

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, we take up Item No. 8 – Discussion and Voting on the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2013-14.

Motion moved:

“That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2014, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1, 19, 33, 34, 51, 60, 67, 71, 82, 85, 91, 93, 102 and 105.”

Demands for Supplementary Grants (General) for 2013-2014 submitted to Vote of Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the Vote of the House	
		Revenue (Rs.)	Capital (Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Department of Agriculture and Cooperation	425,00,00,000	-
19.	Ministry of Culture	102,00,00,000	-
33.	Department of Economic Affairs	1000,00,00,000	3022,80,00,000
34.	Department of Financial Services	600,00,00,000	1000,00,00,000
51.	Department of Heavy Industry	-	328,46,00,000
60.	Department of Higher Education	200,00,00,000	-
67.	Ministry of Mines	2,00,00,000	98,14,00,000
71.	Ministry of Panchayati Raj	200,00,00,000	-
82.	Department of Road Transport and Highways	1,00,000	-

1	2	3	4
85.	Department of Science and Technology	200,00,00,000	-
91.	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation	1,00,000	-
93.	Ministry of Textiles	96,00,00,000	-
102.	Public Works	-	25,00,00,000
105.	Ministry of Women and Child Development	200,00,00,000	-
Total		3025,02,00,000	4474,40,00,000

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Ananth Kumar to Speak.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (Bangalore South): I would thank you, Madam, for providing me an opportunity to speak on the Supplementary Demands for Grants. I also thank my leader Shri Advani ji and Shrimati Sushma Swaraj ji for giving me an opportunity to initiate the debate on this very important issue.

The country is in a dire situation. The country's economy is in a shambles. I feel the entire august House also agrees with me to any of the parameters of the economy. The situation is very very critical. The inflation is rising at a level of 10 per cent. I want to deal with that separately. The fiscal deficit is an all-time record high at 5 per cent. The Current Account Deficit is also at 5 per cent. It is very unfortunate that the growth rate has come down to 4.4 per cent – even in respect of the two important drivers of the growth – agriculture and industry. In respect of Agriculture, it is 2.7 per cent. I come from Bangaluru which is an industrial city. Most of the industrial sheds across the country, even in my city, are shut down. Industrial growth is only 0.87 per cent.... (Interruptions)

Our hon. Finance Minister is here. If you ask him why this has happened, what has happened to our macro and micro economic indicators, why the economy is in such a situation, he is a very intelligent person and always he does not take the responsibility and he shifts the responsibility. He has always done so. He shifts the responsibility of today's economic mess to the State Governments. Of course, the Congress Governments have definitely contributed to this economic mess. He will also say that there is no unanimity on economic policies in this august House, in the Parliament of India.

He says that because of the Opposition, we are in such a situation, because of Bharatiya Janata Party we are in such a situation. He will also continue that because of the Samajwadi Party, Bahujan Samajwadi Party, the UPA partners, we are in such a situation. He will blame the Parliament in general also. He will blame the global factors. Very unfortunately, recently, he has blamed his own predecessor for the economic situation.

Madam, in the same House, while speaking, our hon. Finance Minister said and I quote:

“Sir, in the last 12 months, there have been many ups and downs. When I took over on the 1st of August, I knew that I was returning to a very difficult pitch. The fiscal deficit limits have been breached. In fact, the Budget Estimates were awry. The Current Account Deficit has swelled.”

Madam, I do not want to elaborate further on this. While speaking in the other House, our hon. Finance Minister Shri Chidambaram ji said and I quote:

“There are not just external factors, there are also domestic factors. We recognise that there are domestic factors. One of the domestic factors is that we allowed the fiscal deficit to be breached, we allowed current account deficit to swell because of certain decision that we took during 2009 and 2011.”

Madam, when it comes to collective responsibility, especially on coal scam, we were demanding, Sushma ji was demanding, Yashwant ji was demanding that the hon. Prime Minister should come before the House and before the country and explain what happened in the coal

scam, what happened to the missing or stolen files, what happened to the admonishment of the hon. Supreme Court regarding the missing files, CBI's affidavits. Then, the Government told us, in your august presence, that the Coal Minister will reply because it is a matter of collective responsibility. When it comes to coal, it is collective responsibility but when it comes to the economic situation of the country, Chidambaram ji says, it is because of his predecessor. It is very unfortunate. I hope that the entire country owes an explanation from him.

I would like to remind the hon. Finance Minister that in 2008-09 Supplementary; he presented two Supplementaries in 2008 and 2009, he came for Rs. 1.50 lakh crore and Rs. 42,000 crore, totally, the fiscal deficit which was budgeted at Rs. 1.33 lakh crore got increased to Rs. 3.37 lakh crore. That was the major reason. The so-called Stimulus Package given by Chidambaram ji ruined the national economy. That was the beginning of the fall of Indian economy.

Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and Dr. Manmohan Singh formed the Government with an assurance saying that - Congress Ka Hath, Aam Aadmi Ke Sath I want to ask the hon. Finance Minister, through you, Madam, that after nine years of misrule and mismanagement of the national economy, Indian economy, what has happened to the common man, what has happened to *aam aadmi*?

One of the close associates of the family has the audacity to call 'aam aadmi' as 'mango people'. I condemn it.

What about the price rise? What about the industrial slow down? What about the rising unemployment? What about the rupee devaluation? Today's rate is Rs. 65. For the benefit of this House, for the benefit of the hon. Finance Minister, I want to give a comparison. In the last few days, while Sushma ji told me to initiate this debate, I was going through a lot of statistics. I am in great anguish, with heavy heart, I am putting forth these statistics before this august House. In 2004-05, in the Economic Survey, they themselves have agreed that they inherited a strong, stable and robust economy. I want to give some figures. In 2003-04, the GDP growth rate was 8.6 per cent and today it has slumped down in this quarter to 4.4 per cent. Agricultural growth under Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji's Government in 2003-04 was 9.04 per cent and unfortunately today it is nearly

1.79 per cent. Industrial growth during our time – the then Finance Minister Shri Jaswant Singh is also sitting here – was 7.3 per cent and now it is minus 0.87 per cent.

What is the inflation record of this Government? We have always stabilised the price rise. In those six years of Atalji's Government from 1998 to 2004, I do not remember or any of you also do not remember of having a single debate on price rise and inflation in both the Houses of Parliament. There was no inflation. We had checked inflation and checked price rise. But today, inflation is touching the roof, it is skyrocketing, onion is selling at Rs. 80 per kg. tomato is selling at Rs. 80 per kg, sugar has become sour at Rs. 40 per kg and what is the advice given by the Government? The advice by the Government is, [TRANSLATION] 'Stop taking rice, onion and tomato. Shut down the petrol pump if the prices of petrol and diesel go up ...(*Interruptions*). I feel that in order to save this country, the congress should be defeated in the coming elections.

[English]

Madam, what are the other important factors, other than these economic factors, that are contributing to the downfall of our economy? The other important factors are incompetence and corruption. The Indian story that has started with Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji, today under UPA's misrule and mismanagement, has collapsed. The Indian economic march has collapsed because of two factors, namely incompetence and corruption. If we see corruption, there are many scams, one after another. [TRANSLATION] CWG, Coal, 2G scam during the tenure of the Prime Minister and over and above Damad ji ...(*Interruptions*) Madam, all that also going to come light.

[English]

Madam, we maintained all the economic parameters during the NDA period. I want to go into more technical details regarding the Current Account Deficit. Our hon. Finance Minister is an *arth shastri*. It is unfortunate that now-adays people call him *anarth shastri*, that is a different thing. But the per centage to GDP was 2.3 per cent which has touched five per cent. The external debt, during our period, was 112 billion US dollars, which is 390 billion US dollars now.

I want to ask a straight question to the hon. Finance Minister. How is he going to rectify the present financial crisis? If rupee is getting devalued day by day, and if there is mayhem in the Sensex Market, who is going to get hurt? It is ultimately the common man. He is going to go to bed hungry. [TRANSLATION] He is not going to get two square meals. [ENGLISH] He is not going to have any proper housing, health care, education, etc. This Congress led UPA Government has betrayed the common man.

There are challenges. During our time also we had challenges. To begin with, we had Pokhran; Pokhran made India nuclear sovereign in a nuclear way. After Pokhran we had super-cyclone of Odisha, earthquake of Gujarat, we had the Kargil War, we had floods and droughts, we had sanctions and when we had those sanctions, we approached our patriotic NRIs across the world. They came forward. They gave us 4.5 billion US dollars and we could easily tackle the sanctions.

Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee showed the vision, showed the commitment, showed the leadership. Today I want to ask Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, Dr. Manmohan Singh and Mr. Chidambaram where is the leadership, where is the commitment, where is the vision, where is the concern and the sentiment of the Indian citizens as well as our NRIs, our domestic investors as well as foreign direct investors, and various FII's. That sentiment has been destroyed. They have lost the confidence in the leadership. The credibility of the leadership has been in jeopardy. When there is no credibility, when there is no confidence, when there is no sentiment, then the people are not going to invest in Indian story and the leadership is unable to instill back that confidence.

What about employment? According to NSSO records, during our time, from 1998 to 2004, we could create 60 million employments, that is, six crore jobs. But what has happened afterwards in the last five years, there is a generation of only 2.5 million employments. That means we gave stability with employment, we gave economic stability with check on the prices, we gave growth with stability. But from the employment generation of six crore jobs they created a jobless growth. Now, there are no jobs, no growth. There is minus growth situation. Now the situation is, there is minus growth.

I want to discuss the issues of agriculture also. The agriculture, across the country, is losing its profitability. The

farmers are committing suicide. Every day, more than 468 farmers are committing suicide. Last year, it has been an alltime high with 46,000 farmers committing suicide. There are reports from Haryana that the farmers of Haryana are selling their organs for the sake of loan repayment, their subsistence. Haryana is a State being ruled by the Congress Party.

[Translation]

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA (Ratlam): You are not talking of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh etc. What is happening there?

SHRI ANANT KUMAR: When you get a chance, you may surely speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

Madam, the Government of India has awarded Madhya Pradesh, led by Shivraj Singh Chauhan, Krishi Karman Puraskar for the best performance in agriculture. All over the country, it is 3.7 per cent of growth rate for agriculture but in Madhya Pradesh it is 19 per cent growth rate for agriculture....*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go in record.

*(Interruptions) ...**

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Madam, in Madhya Pradesh, earlier the irrigation potential was only 7 lakh hectares. Now the irrigation potentiality has expanded to 25 lakh hectares. My dear colleague Bhuria ji should know this that during Digvijay Singh ji it was '*bantadhaar*'; Shivraj Singh is the '*karndhaar*' of vikaas.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): What are you talking. There is full corruption. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Please go to your seat and speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (Vidisha): Has he became the member fo S.P.? ...*(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Madam, when we spoke about Madhya Pradesh, Shri Kamalnath ji felt ashamed and switched over to Samajwadi Party because he did not want to face. Kamalnath ji knows very well as to what was the condition of the State Government at the time of Digvijay of Congress ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: What are you doing? You talk of yourself. [ENGLISH] Why are you indulging in all this? You go on; you proceed. Why are you doing this?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : What has happened to the price rise, the inflation? ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please calm down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : I am going to speak, Madam. I would request you that please tell the hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister to go to his seat and occupy his seat.

According to the press release of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation – I can also send it across to the hon. Finance Minister; he can get one also – what is the Consumer Price Index for various essential commodities? From May, 2013 to July, 2013, within three months everything, from cereals to pulses, to oils, to milk, to vegetables, has become costlier by 30 to 40 per cent. There is a 40 per cent rise in essential commodities within three months and if that is the case of essential commodities, then, what about the petroleum products. When we demitted Office in 2004, the petrol was at Rs. 33.71, now it is at Rs. 74 or nearly Rs. 75, that means an increase of about Rs. 40. The diesel prices which are very crucial especially, for the farmers across the country to use generators, irrigation pump sets, has gone high from Rs. 21 to Rs. 51.97. In case of LPG, it was Rs. 241 in 2004, now it is Rs. 410.

I want to draw the attention of this august House about the price of petrol in our neighbouring countries. The price of petrol in Pakistan is Rs. 60; in Bangladesh it is Rs.

70; and in Nepal it is Rs. 74 but in India it is Rs. 75. The Finance Minister should explain and assure to this House and the country today that he will not only roll-back the hike in price of diesel and petrol but he will also remove the so called night curfew declared by Veerappa Moily from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m. He should also assure that he will do something with the taxation of the petroleum products. They are mopping Rs. 1,50,000 crores of the Central taxes on petroleum. If the Chief Minister of Goa can come forward and remove the VAT and make petrol less costlier than diesel in the State of Goa, I think, the Central Government should come forward and announce some relief package for petroleum products.

Madam, I also want to come to the direct issues that are in the Supplementary Budget. The Government, through the Supplementary Demands for Grants, has sought approval of Rs. 2 crores for Ministry of Culture for restoration of Kedarnath temple. I want to appeal to Chidambaram ji – yesterday my Leader Shrimati Sushma ji has also appealed while speaking on the situation in Uttarakhand – that Rs. 2 crores is not at all sufficient for the restoration of the Kedarnath temple. If you want to restore the facilities for the pilgrims, devotees across the country we require Rs. 20 crores for Kedarnath temple. Not only that the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand has stated that Uttarakhand needs Rs. 8,000 crores. The Hon. Prime Minister, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and Chidambaram ji visited Uttarakhand after that Himalayan tsunami and said that there will be no limits for the rehabilitation of Uttarakhand. But now the statistics show that though the Government has announced a special package of Rs. 1,000 crores through NDRF, till date Chidambaram ji you have released only Rs. 250 crores. When are you going to release the remaining Rs. 750 crores?

Yesterday, Sushma ji also raised this point. For Border Roads Organisation you released Rs. 300 crores, in which, Rs. 270 crores have gone for old dues. If Rs. 270 crores has gone for the old dues then, where will be the amount left for building roads, culvers, bridges for the devastated Uttarakhand?

Madam, in this august House, seven months back we also discussed about atrocities on women, especially what happened in December, the mass rape of a brave heart in July. Then the hon. Finance Minister announced in his

Budgetary Speech that he is going to set up a Nirbhaya Fund to the women of India. Unfortunately, Nirbhaya-one has happened, Nirbhaya-two has happened and Nirbhaya-three has happened, everyday Nirbhayas are happening. But according to my information there has been a tussle going on between the various Ministries – the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of WCD and the Ministry of Social Empowerment – as to who should handle this fund of Rs. 1,000 crores.

Madam, the Task Force headed by Shrimati Krishna Tirath, Minister of WCD, till date has not come out with any plan on the scope of utilisation of these Nirbhaya funds. Is this the sympathy you have for the women of the country? Therefore, I urge, Madam, through you that the hon. Finance Minister should tell this House as to who will be controlling this Nirbhaya Fund and how it will be distributed.

Madam, I also welcome the allocation of Rs. 217 crores made for revival of HMT. But the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs had actually approved a revival package of Rs. 183 crores which included Rs. 450 crores of cash infusion and a non-cash assistance of Rs. Rs. 630 crores. So, Rs. 217 crores package is inadequate. You know that HMT is a premier organisation which needs more assistance from the Union Government.

Madam, before I conclude, I am making a proposal from the large middle class. Out of the total number of assesses of the income tax, 98.3 per cent that is about 3, 38, 40,792 assesses are below the slab of Rs. 5 lakh and the tax collected and the per centage of the total income tax collected from them is only 10 per cent.

Today, in these days of price rise, inflation, economic slowdown, joblessness and industrial slowdown, I urge upon the Finance Minister to lower the income-tax rate from 10 per cent to five per cent. If 50 per cent of the income tax rate in this slab is reduced, the outgo is only Rs.4,000 crore but at the same time, it is going to provide huge succour and support to more than three and a half crores of households in the entire country.

Madam, before concluding I would like to say only one thing. We thought that India, with Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee's leadership and because of his good performance for six years, the same legacy would be carried forward and India's economic story would blossom. But in the last nine

years, the whole economy has been ruined, our foundations are in shambles and we are in an irrecoverable situation. When various international agencies from Fitch to whatnot, Goldman Sachs, everybody comments on Indian rupee, on our credibility, market sentiments and our investment portfolio, my heart grieves. As a patriotic citizen, I want the Indian economy to be stable, robust and prosperous. Madam, that dream has been ruined. That dream has been ruined because of two things – incompetence and corruption. There is no leadership; there is no clarity; there is no conviction and concern.

Madam, we are celebrating the 150th birthday of Swami Vivekananda. Today is the Teachers' Day. Swami Vivekananda said: "A bad teacher complains; a good teacher teaches; and a great teacher inspires." We can convert it like this. A bad leader complains like Dr. Manmohan Singh complains, like Madam Sonia Gandhi complains, like Shri Chidambaram complains; a good leader leads; and a great leader inspires like Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who inspired the whole generation.

Madam, if they are not capable of leading and if they are not capable of governing, the country's clarion call to the Congress and the UPA is: "You govern or get out."

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI (Nizamabad): Thank you, Madam Speaker, for allowing me to speak on the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2013-14.

Madam Speaker, it is very astonishing to hear the able colleague from the Opposition Benches. He conveniently forgotten, during their governance, the false promises; India shining; the feel-good factor, which made them to feel very good in keeping them in Opposition for the two consecutive terms, and I am sure that Shri Ananth Kumar, rather speaking on economics, made a political speech keeping in mind of the upcoming four State Assembly elections which will ensure them – wherever they are now in power now – send them back into Opposition.

Madam Speaker, during the UPA I and UPA II, in spite of the global meltdown and in spite of the major economies falter, it is the leadership of our hon. Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh ji, and very effective Finance Minister ...(*Interruptions*) I will come to that. I will remind you about your corruption and what you have done on it.

The world leaders are looking at our hon. Prime Minister for suggestions and to improve their own countries' economy. So, it is the leadership of Dr. Manmohan Singhji; it is the leadership of my leader, the UPA Chairperson, Shrimati Sonia Gandhiji, which resulted the highest GDP growth in India in spite of economic meltdown in the whole world.

In spite of sound economy that India has today, it has become a fashion for the Opposition parties today to spread rumours and create panic among the people that everything is wrong or India is going back into the depression kind of an economy.

Madam Speaker, I would like to remind specially, the main Opposition party that we have a leadership. We do not take orders from Nagpur. Now, they are confused whether to take orders from Nagpur or Ahmedabad! Their Rambo State's economy is more of a myth than a reality.

Madam, they talk about corruption. But Shri Ananth Kumarji has forgotten as to what happened in the recently concluded elections in Karnataka. They removed their Chief Minister because of corruption. Their Party President was in jail after being convicted for corruption. But here, we have a leadership. What we promised, we are delivering it. In 2005, the UPA Government gave the Right to Information Act, which brought transparency in the governance. In 2006, the UPA Government gave the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, which gave a right to the common man in this country that every household will get an employment. It has resulted in controlling the hunger deaths and farmers' deaths in the country.

Madam, I would like to remind the Opposition party, particularly, my distinguished colleague, who spoke eloquently on the farmers' death. I was living in the US, practicing my law for 14 years. When I returned to the country, I found that during the NDA rule and TDP rule in my State, over 3,000 farmers including the cotton farmers and other farmers committed suicide in Andhra Pradesh alone. Across the country also, thousands of farmers had committed suicide.

Then, the BJP Minister said: [TRANSLATION] The farmers are committing suicide. They did not digest. [ENGLISH] He said: 'Indigestion is causing the farmers

to commit suicide'. Is it not a shame on the then NDA Government that rather than coming to the rescue of the poor farmers, they ridiculed them, who had committed suicide because of hunger and there was no help provided to them from the then NDA Government.

Today, he was talking about atrocities on women. Let me remind him that the highest number of atrocities and rape cases have happened in Madhya Pradesh and not in other States.

They are talking about corruption and scandals. [TRANSLATION] Perhaps they have forgotten. His so called adopted son is still in jail. How did he indulge in mining loot? The hon'ble leader of Opposition considered him their Guru, [ENGLISH] where are the leaders from Karnataka, the Reddy brothers, now?... (*Interruptions*) You have forgotten them.

[Translation]

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY (Godda): Where is Mr. Reddy? ... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI : We can proudly say that there has been zero tolerance of corruption in the UPA-I and UPA-II. [TRANSLATION] Who committed coffin scam? After his conviction by the court, your President is in jail. In Uttarakhand, you have changed the Chief Ministers due to corruption. What happened to you in Karnataka? [ENGLISH] But today, you are giving a lecture on the corruption! Well, the people of this great country know that it is the UPA Government, which gave them the Right to Information Act, which brought transparency into the system. Our leadership never tolerated any corruption of whichever leader, whatever position they are. Even if they belong to our own Party, our leadership never hesitated to put them behind the bars or taken action on such leadership unlike the leaders of Opposition which is claiming to be taking action.

[Translantion]

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: What are you doing in case of Himachal?

SHRI MADHU GAUD YASKHI: You have been defeated in Himachal. Where are you in power?

...(Interruptions) At present, your leaderships is in confusion whether to get orders from Ahmedabad or Nagpur. Ours is only one leader.

[English]

The world's great economist has assured again and again this country through this august House that [TRANSLATION] 'I am here'. [ENGLISH] It is ironical to see, Madam Speaker, that the leaders of Opposition oppose the FDI. Now, they are questioning why the investments are not coming. It is the irresponsible behaviour of the Opposition Party which rather diminished the enthusiasm among the investors coming to the country rather than any ineffective measures of our Government. Right from stimulus package, it is the corrective measures taken resulted in strengthening of the Indian economy. It is not only in India. The hon. Finance Minister is here. If that is a falter, why is the US adopting the same thing now? The US economy is robust now because of the stimulus package announced by their Government. So, rather than the Opposition recognising this, rather than being a responsible Opposition in praising what the Government has done, they resorted to rumour mongering, spreading false rumours and creating a panic among the people. I can assure them that that will make them to sit again in the Opposition in 2014 for which they dream. Their dream will never come true.

Madam Speaker, in the first Supplementary Demands there are about 14 grants. The other major landmark right, which the UPA Government has given to the citizens of this country, is right to food, the Food Security Act. My leader, Shrimati Sonia Ji, on 26th August in this august House, by bringing the Food Security Act, initiated to build a better India by ensuring that every child grows up free from malnutrition, better prepared to develop to his or her fullest ability and to contribute to the future prosperity of our country. With this Act, over 80 crores of our people have access to food, which will result in stopping the hunger death in the country and making our children healthy and that will result in prosperous India.

Madam Speaker, in the Supplementary Demands, there is an initial grant of Rs. 2 crore for Kedarnath Temple. We have never seen in the history the devastation of the flash floods which took place. Kedarnath, undoubtedly, is the most sacred place of Hindus. I am sure our Government

and the hon. Finance Minister through this Rs. 2 crore initial grant, which is mentioned here, will definitely take corrective measures. But as the Prime Minister announced Rs.1000 crore, I am sure money should not be a hindrance to develop the Kedarnath Temple. Whether Rs.2 core or Rs.20 crore or Rs.200 crore, I am sure our Government will definitely take corrective measures to bring back the glory, the sacredness to the temple of Kedarnath. Madam Speaker, in the Budget Estimates of 2013-14, Rs.5000 crore have been kept for planning and new programmes, as the hon. Finance Minister has rightly mentioned, by creating a thousand crore of fund for Nirbhaya Fund and for skill development to enhance the employment and productivity of youth. My young leader, Shri Rahul Gandhi has mentioned many times that until the country's 300 million people become part of the growth engine of this country and as long as we ignore those 300 million people, whatever the growth may be at 8 or 9 per cent, it means nothing.

Madam Speaker, the skill development is one of the most important tasks to make them employable. From my own district of Nizamabad, the backward area of Telangana region, the youths go to Dubai and other countries to work for a meagre amount of Rs.5000 or Rs.6000 per month. But, by allocating a thousand crore of rupees for skill development for these youths in the localised areas, the Government has had a commendable job. I had an opportunity to have been in the Skill Development Council with many of my colleagues. It is a very innovative programming for generating employment. Mr Ramadurai from TCS, which is one of the biggest employment giver companies, has headed the National Skill Development Programme. I am sure that with the allocation of thousand crore of rupees for skill development and training will result in employment generation, particularly in the rural areas, and urban poor will also be benefited by enhancing their skills. I hope that each youth will be able to improve his skill and get about Rs.10,000 as stipend.

Madam Speaker, in a country where 50 per cent of the population is of women, to allocate over thousand crore of rupees for women banks is an innovative and challenging programme. I think already a few women banks have been started. In Andhra Pradesh State, where women Self Help Groups are very effective and many of them are actively

participating for the development of women banks, I am sure and confident that these women banks will prove great help to the rural economy.

Madam, without taking too much of time, I would like to say that the UPA Government does what it says. It is unlike the BJP, which makes false promises as India Shining, etc. While supporting the Supplementary Grants, I urge upon the Leader of the Opposition to speak about concrete measures rather than making a political speech, which boosts nothing. The UPA Government, led by the hon. Prime Minister under the able leadership and guidance of Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, has given rights to the underprivileged people of this nation. [TRANSLATION] Efforts are being made to improve their standard of living by giving them their rights.

[English]

With these words, I thank you very much for allowing me to speak.

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, there shall be no lunch today.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): Hon'ble Madam Speaker, I would like to express my gratitude to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for the year 2013-14. (Interruptions) Now in this very session, we have had a detailed discussion on the country's economy and devaluation of rupee. The Hon'ble Members from all the parties expressed their deep concern on it. I am very happy that presently our Prime Minister has gone to Russia to attend the G-20 summit. All our colleagues on this side were saying that our Prime Minister has a very good and eminent economist. I think that the countries of G-20 will certainly learn something from him and he will certainly tell them as to how he would improve the declining rupee or deal with the increasing value of American dollar.

12.55 hrs.

(DR. M. THAMBIDURAI *in the Chair*)

We hope that he will tell something there and will get some ideas to strengthen his country's economy. Secondly,

it has also been mentioned in this very House that the fiscal deficit of the country's GOP is at the level of 4.4 per cent and the Government is trying their best to bring it up to the level of 4.8 per cent. For that, we express our good wishes. But, would the Government tell in detail about the efforts they are making in this regard to improve the GDP growth rate, the fiscal deficit and budgetary level? They may issue directions to effect a 10 per cent cut in their Non-Plan expenditure. Perhaps the Ministry of Finance is making preparations for it. But, if you see the other side of economy, we find that the unemployment has increased and the employment opportunities have come down in this country. The Government is also trying to have a check on the provisions of jobs you are making. After that step, jobs would not be given to the people. With the entry of several multinationals, all our youths who have received degrees in Engineering and different fields of computer education are working on packages in the private companies. How would the Government increase the employment opportunities as you have announced about the possibility of putting a ban on the creation of jobs to improve the country's economy? The Minister of Finance, you trust the investors as you always say that there is no need to get disappointed. Just now, one of our colleagues Shri Madhu ji who thinks knows more, was saying that we need not get disappointed as he would be able to streamline the country's economy. I have all the good wishes for it. May the country's economy improve and strengthen. If the Hon'ble Finance Minister wants, he may seek Madhu ji's advice. It may improve the situation.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, We have discussed in this House the declining value of rupees against the American Dollar and I think that it was at the level of Rs. 68.8 and I do not know as to what is the latest position, but we are not moving in the direction of improvement. It is not speeding up on the other hand, the Government says that they will increase their revenue. Would you tell us about the ways of increasing your revenue receipt?..... (Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Manipuri): What is the present value of a rupee?

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: If we actually see, the value of rupee is one and half paise. Netaji saying that he is yet calculating the complete data. I remember that

at the time of country's independence, the value of rupee and dollar was equal this country, and it was called to be a highly prosperous country. We have not been able to get anything even after the exploitation of all our cultural and natural resources. We continue to exploit them and we are not in a position to manufacture anything from that for export purpose. Today, what has become of that prosperous nation of ours is not a hidden fact. If you are able to maintain this nation's credit, automatically the dollars will pour in and country's economy will be strengthened. We have seen that all the coalition Governments, particularly the UPA-I and UPA-II Governments, have only swindled the country's treasures and have tried to gain popularity through disbursement of subsidies. In the election year, the Government has made the announcements like the creation of Telangana, Introduction of Food Security Bill and Land Acquisition Bill. With these three four issues, you will go in for elections with a high publicity of these issues. But, you have never thought of it as to what would be the far-reaching consequences of it. Just now, one of our colleagues was talking of MNREGA. What is its status? It has not given any good results anywhere but has led to bad consequences and increasing unemployment.

13.00 hrs

There has been a widespread migration of Agricultural labourers. You may see any of the big or metro cities. You will find a large number of labourers with a demand of employment opportunities at the roundabouts. Today, the things have come to such a pass, that people's migration towards cities has increased. Labourers, our skilled workers are being bargained. On the other hand, Government Coffers are in a shambles. Budget allocations will end up in the disbursement of only salaries and allowances. Under the Supplementary Demands for Grants, the Government has raised only demands which is good because other departments must be in a good position. However, I would like to speak of only one Ministry *i.e.* Ministry for Water Resources. As compared to the last year's budget for this Ministry, the Government has reduced its budget by 40 per cent. Today, the dredging of the river is not being undertaken and so efforts are being made to link rivers. So the Government is going on with continuous cutting of budgets of all the departments. Today, the economic condition and devaluation of rupee

is bringing back the position of 1991. Our leader was saying not to go in for the mortgage of gold. The things have come to such a pass. The Government may go to the people and ask them for gold and ornaments in the name of country's adverse economic situation. The very generous and courteous people of this country will give away all their precious possessions *i.e.* Money, Jewellery and Money, etc. to save their country to bring down the fiscal deficit, to increase the growth rate of GDP even when they have to forgo their two square meals, with only one chapatti for them only once a day. Therefore, the Government shall have to make efforts to check the increasing prices, to control the eroding share markets and declining rupee value and foreign exchange reserves and also to bridge the export gap. Only then we will be able to meet our fiscal and trade deficit. There is a want of adequate increase in employment opportunities. This situation will ultimately prove to be a headache not only for the Government but also for the general public. Regarding the rising prices, one of our friends was saying just now that it is at its climax. The position of daily wage earners is very bad. It is for this reason that crime is increasing, naxalism is on the rise and the people are taking the path of terrorism. Today, the position of middle class people is very bad either their standard of living is improving nor. They are able to maintain it. Moreover, they are being reduced to the position of labourers and they are coming down to the level of daily wage earners. The prices of essential commodities are increasing every day. Just now, an Hon. Member was telling about the onion. The Hon'ble Finance Minister, we should make efforts to take care of the problem of shortage. In case of any shortage, our people would remain hungry, but you immediately go in for the export for which you have to spend money. You are not making efforts to increase your export. You are not even thinking of it. Now, you have got the Food Security Bill passed by this House and its results are not yet visible because it has not been enforced in the entire country. Several States have given up saying about the transport of food grains and system of public distribution and storage and wherefrom the funds would be mobilized for all that? The States will be able to enforce it only when the Centre provides funds to the States. Even in the Land Acquisition Bill that you have brought in, there are a lot of conditions and even if a road is to be constructed for

development and in case anyone gets a stay from the court, the proposed road won't be constructed. Such a situation is likely to come up. You have rightly said that you would acquire the land of the farmers with their consent. It is merely a lip service that at the village level, the farmers would be paid four times of the price of their land. But, today, see the condition of our farmers in the village. Their miserable condition will come to the fore....*(Interruptions)* Neta ji is saying about the largest State of the country *i.e.* Uttar Pradesh where you will be able to enforce the Food Security Bill only when the Centre provides them a fund of Rs. 900 crore. That is that position today. Here, the development of Uttar Pradesh means the development of the whole country and we should understand that without its development, we cannot develop this country. Elections are near and the country's politics runs from Uttar Pradesh only then we are able to place the views of the people in this House and talk of the country's development.

With the enforcement of Food Security Act, hoarding and black-marketing may increase in the country. Yesterday, I saw that this House conducted its business upto 10-11 at night and all the Members expressed their views on the flood situation which is affecting the entire region, right from UP to Bihar and the farmer's crop stands destroyed and Kuchha houses of the poor have collapsed. There has been a colossal loss of life and property. Here, you may tell that it is the responsibility of the States and they do not give any relief in the name of calamities. Here, I would like to ask you to send a team from the Centre to assess the extent of loss of life and property in the entire region from Uttar Pradesh to Bihar. Today, we have also given a notice for Half an Hour discussion and its topic has appeared in today's list of Business and when it comes up for discussion, we will tell as to how and what amount of compensation should be given to the farmers because everybody is worried about the loss caused by the floods and they will discuss it.

The farmers will be properly compensated for the loss they have suffered only when the Centre provides funds to the States. The country will develop with the prosperity of farmers, otherwise we will continue to slide down.

With these words, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants presented by the Government for

these 14 heads and hope that the Government shall consider my submissions.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the country is facing a formidable situation and everybody knows about it. Anant Kumar ji has dwell in detail. Allies of the Congress and Shailendra Kumar also spoke on it. Nobody can check the expanding markets as it has been expanding since thousands of years and we cannot hide our face from it. It is our need so we had opened our markets in 1991 and had joined it. That was our choice. But, today's market situation is so horrible that industrial growth or the agricultural growth is not going beyond 2.7 per cent. Therefore, our Current Account Deficit shall stay at 5 per cent which means the deficit will continue.

Today, all the market activities have come to a stands till and the market is stagnating. Prices have been increasing and industrial production and money value has declined. In such a situation, even the general public is not spending in the market, but investing in Gold. Even the big corporate houses of the country, who have money, are taking advantage of the market and spending on gold or land. Such a disorderly situation of the market was never seen before. All the Government ventures have come to a halt. Today, the entire country is discussing the declining rupee value to find a way out. Even on the price front, the condition is very miserable. In today's situation, we can purchase only a few things for a very large amount of money. We have plunged this country in such a situation. We are not doing anything to come out of it. The Government asks us not to worry, but we have been trying to brighten our future and we cannot leave the things midway. I would like to say that the markets are not giving returns. That is all right. But, won't you take care of the ground on which this country is standing? Mr. Chidambaram, who is an expert of the economic matters, may tell us. Had he achieved the 4 per cent level of agricultural growth, what heights he would have taken the country? Just now we were talking of rain water which brings about destruction every year. Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh are inundated and the standing crops in those States have been ruined... *(Interruptions)*

AN HON'BLE MEMBER: They are not paying their attention to it. At least a survey should be conducted.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: No, no, it is not the point of attention for them. What they would do? ...*(Interruptions)* What the survey is going to do? The Government does not have adequate means of controlling flood waters and their finances have exhausted. A strange situation is there. They are saying that they have resolved to bring down the deficit to 4.8 per cent. Their resolution is quite ambitious. Please do not fall into the vicious trap of MSP. I have an apprehension that in order to compensate the Food Security Bill, the Government may bring some of its burden on the heads of the farmers. You may temper with the MSP, I have this apprehension. In order to meet the deficit alone, the Government may pave the way for country's devastation. The Government has fed the corporate houses. Had the Government spent that amount on the growth of country's agriculture, it would have been better. I think that for this they do not need a big technique. The greatest thing for the Government is to connect the fields with water resources because whenever they have done it, the things have changed with the opening of schools, hospitals and roads and resultant brightness on the human faces. There were three crore ponds in the country, but now what is there? The Hon'ble Prime Minister has said that the water table is going down and that is a matter of serious concern. How would you live without water and air? There abundance of these things, but the Government did not chalk out any concrete plan for that. They have brought a proposal for provision of funds but the provision that has been made for agriculture is like a drop in the ocean. How would you build this country? The power inherent in this country has not been promoted.

In this country, there was a large number of artisans and even the country's export was the top most with the largest share of artisans in it. I have run the Ministry and I know that for the carpet which is prepared in India, some people said that Child Labour prepares it. So our export has come to a halt. They learn such things in foreign countries.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: There is a Bhadohi made carpet at the residence of the American President.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: You are correct that in the fields of crafts, ours was the largest market in the world. We have curtailed that strength of ours but China did not do that. China is selling its products at cheaper rates because

it did not curtail the supply of anything to its old craftsmen. China and India were at par in trade but where has China reached today? It means that there is somewhere some drawback in our policies. Do not we have some lacunae in our vision? Now when the prices of a vegetable, say potato or onion, rise a lot of hue and cry is raised. On the other hand, at the increase of car's prices, motorcycles' price, there is no noise. People have been driving different types of SUVs, but why a noise is not being made about it. When the prices of TV are increased, nobody speaks against it but the people in India want farmers' products at cheaper rates. In this state of affairs what the farmer will do? He is also a buyer. How can he sell his products at cheaper rates when everywhere in this world all the products are being sold at higher prices? Even you have not managed it, it ruins the farmers' crops. In UP, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh, standing crops stretching over lakhs of hectares have been ruined. In several areas, there is flood while in some other areas, there is drought. Government's position is like that of an old bullock who has no strength to stand on his legs though different strategies are being tried to support it. Plenty of minerals in this country are being looted. Even the 2G case, which is our space power, is pending in the court. Adani, who was having assets worth 4 crore, has installed his plants and still he is importing coal. What can be more unfortunate when we are forced to import coal in this country. Here we can have the treasure of underground gas. Recently a machine has been procured in Kolkata for power generation from coal. You have 81 types of minerals. Use that wealth. You have water and land, why did not you enrich that wealth? You are not doing anything in respect of coal scam, 2G scam which is pending in the court. Are the courts running the Government of this country? When the Government takes any step, the court intervenes ...*(Interruptions)* Black money has gone beyond their control. They do not speak about it in Europe in foreign countries. They are behaving like a Dalit Mohalla which sleeps over the challenges from other corners. If the people of America and Europe throw challenges, they simply admit and bow down their heads. Such is the condition today. How can a country which keeps 80 per cent of its people *i.e.* farmers and labourers poor be strong? Today, the farmers are compelled to commit suicide. In our country, five lakh farmers have committed suicide. The people have been starving. It is happening not only today

but it had happened even in the earlier regimes. During my tenure as the Minister of Agriculture, I had taken remedial measures and checked starvation deaths. When the people were starving everywhere, I thought of some measures. I did not let them die. I would like to tell you and ask you to frame such policies which may benefit the people.

Regarding the gold, which we were talking about, I would like to ask you to find some way out because the people cannot make use of gold in these adversities. It has been said here that ours was a very prosperous country, but it has a 900 year record of facing defeat from other countries. So, what purpose the treasures of gold will serve? Even if there was abundance of gold in this country, what did they do with that? Each of the invaders came here defeated us and took away our valuables. Is our gold for others loot? It is strange. Please, do something about this gold. Have you increased any tax? During Morarji Bhais regime, gold control had been enforced. You should also do something in this regard. What would gold do for us? Only our fields and our labourers will serve our purpose. Padmanabham Temple in Kerala is people's wealth. The Government lacks strength. They should take over it. I am talking of all the temples like Mahalaxmi Temple. Take over all of them and develop them as tourist sports and provide jobs to lakhs of Labourers for that. Why do not you make a law regarding the assets of such temple?... *(Interruptions)* I am not saying to interfere everywhere. What is the fear? All that wealth is of our people. Why have they hidden it? *(Interruptions)* Do not use that money for any other purpose!

All the places of Hindu pilgrimage are in a very bad shape and the persons visiting these places face a lot of difficulty. So, I ask you to bring out their wealth by enacting some law which may be opposed by some people but we will give our full support. The Government should not invest even a small part of that wealth anywhere else ...*(Interruptions)* Just reform the Hindu Temples only ...*(Interruptions)* Asaram's treasure is not going to do anything ...*(Interruptions)* I want to submit that you cannot stop this market. All right but you are saying that the Government is taking steps to bring in foreign capital ...*(Interruptions)* If somebody is willing to come, Let him come but all those who are being invited, have been running away because the credit of the country has gone down. How will you set it right to regain your credit in the

world market. We shall have to take steps for it. Obama had come here to explore the market. There were 3 crore wells and lacks of ponds in this country. I am not asking the Government to go in for big dams, but there are check dams and small dams for proper management of water and revive those ponds to raise the water table and to bring water to the fields. Set all the visible things right, because wherever you have brought water, see the condition of that area and get a survey conducted to know the truth. My old district of Kosi, which was earlier a barren land has now started producing food grains at the level of Punjab. No doubt, it has its own demanding effects but it brings in greenery everywhere in the vicinity.

Then corruption is rampant even in the villages. Therefore, the Government should take certain steps to create a widespread fear among the thieves. I would like to request the Government to take these four five steps to get the big guns declare. Their income and let the small fish remain out of this drive. There should be a complete ban on the investment in Gold by the big income group. Besides this, open the coal scam cases and tell the courts that there will be re-auction of coal fields. The Court will certainly agree but if they do not agree, the Government should come to the peoples representative body to rectify its mistakes which won't spoil anything. With these measures, the Government should strengthen themselves and create an atmosphere of fear to check the deep rooted burglary which has spread upto the villages. Being this the state of affairs, country's money is being looted and nothing is being done. Therefore, I would assure you that all the foodgrains procured under the Food Security would be sold out. I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak and here I would like to conclude my speech.

DR. BALIRAM (Lalganj): Mr. Chairman Sir, you gave me opportunity to participate in a discussion on the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2013-14 and all the learned colleagues have expressed their views on it. Just now three-four days back, there was a discussion in this very House on the economic situation in the country and all the speakers had said in one voice that the country's economic situation had worsened. To take care of that deteriorating economic situation, the Government suggested some measures to make it clear as to how the economic situation would

improve ultimately. For that, the Government talked of the FDI to strengthen the country's economy and ward off the poverty and starvation from this country. But, I would like to submit that the foreign investment coming through FDI won't begin to give its instant results as the industries won't be coming up overnight. That will take time and it will be known only later on during these 2-3 years. The declining value of rupee against Dollar which has come down from 40 to 68, will further speedily decline. It is a matter of concern.

On the other hand, the Government has not taken the problems like price rise, unemployment and hunger seriously. There is a need to address the problem of unemployment. The Government has enacted the Food Security Bill in order to ensure availability of food to the poor. But, I am afraid, even this law cannot ensure availability of enough food to them. The Food Security Bill does not give guarantee for providing required quantum of food to all the poor people. The Government has not sought any permanent solution to this problem. Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar had found a solution to this problem in the year 1942. Our country was not independent at that time. Our country was under the British Rule, but he placed this point before the Britishers. The Separate Settlement Act was enacted and it was mentioned in it that there was no dearth of land in the country. The waste land and fallow land in the country is more than double the land which is under cultivation and that land is under Government custody. 80 major land areas were there. He had not mentioned about the acquisition of land of any landlord. He had not said about taking the land of any landlord. He suggested that if the land which was not being cultivated or which was barren, was distributed among the poor, they with their hard toil would convert it into a fertile land and thereby could earn livelihood for their families and could give them food. But, the Separate Settlement Act was thrown into the dustbin by the Government of that time after independence and not implemented. Had the intentions of the Government been right, the hunger from the country would have been eradicated. If land had been allotted to the landless people, the government would not have to bring the Food Security Bill. I would, therefore, like to say that even today such land is available in the country but the approach of the Government is not correct. Whom are you giving

the land? You are allotting thousands of acres of land to industrialists. Poor and landless people of Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Odisha, etc. have to migrate to Punjab or Haryana and sometimes to Uttar Pradesh to earn their livelihood. But the land at those places is being given to industrialists at throw away prices. If that land had been distributed amongst the local poor, perhaps they would not have moved out leaving behind their houses and villages.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say to the Hon'ble Finance Minister through you that he has made a provision for some departments. But when he was Home Minister, he had said that one third of the population of the country belongs to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and without their development the development of the country was not possible. But, in this Budget, he has not made any provision for the development of these categories. The investment in the financial year 2011-12 had gone down by 38 per cent and the steps taken by the Government to boost the FDI have not fetched any result. The foreign investors are also cautious due to downtrend in the economy of India. Today, they are not ready to invest in India whereas the Government is talking about FDI. I would like to say that the Government should take it seriously as the fiscal deficit is increasing continuously. Be it the Land Acquisition Bill, the Food Security Bill or the Budget, everything is populist. Surely, this is an Election Budget. At the time of 2009 elections, they had said about waiving of loans of the farmers and the farmers took it seriously that their loans would be waived. But, later the Reserve Bank said that the Government had not paid the money to it and would recover it. Now, the elections are in 2014 and this Government has brought the Food Security Bill to provide food grains to the poor at affordable prices. I am afraid, lest the Government should recover this foodgrain. If your intention is so, then it is a wrong step. I would like to say in short to the Government to take initiatives in the interest of the poor and the unemployed of the country and also for strengthening the economy of the country so that the country becomes strong.

Shri Sharad Yadavji was just saying that there are 81 kinds of minerals in our country and the natural resources are abundant in the country. If they are properly exploited, the country can become strong. The economy can be strong. With these words, I conclude.

[English]

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (Dum Dum): Sir, I rise to speak on the first batch of Supplementary Demands presented by the Finance Minister. Before I proceed further, I want to read Rule 216 from the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha. It says:

“The debate on the supplementary grants shall be confined to the items constituting the same and no discussion may be raised on the original grants nor policy underlying them save in so far as it may be necessary to explain or illustrate the particular items under discussion.”

From Ananth Kumarji onwards, I have heard several speeches. Nobody has referred to the supplementary grants on which permission of the House is sought.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is already over. You could have raised it when he was speaking. There is no point in raising it now.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: Sir, I did not want to disturb anybody. Sir, I just want to point out that ...* following the rules nor are we following the rules.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You do not cast aspersion on the Chair. Chair knows how to run the House.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: Sir, ...* Sir, you had been the Deputy-Speaker and you know that. The Chair could say that you keep to the supplementary demands.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You do not cast aspersion on the Chair. The Chair knows how to run the House. You could have raised it when the Member was speaking.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY : Sir, why should I disturb a Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no point in raising it now. You proceed now.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY : Sir, since the Chair has shown leniency in the matter of applying the rule, I shall take advantage of the same and submit my points.

My first point is with regard to West Bengal. The present Government in West Bengal, which came to power

in 2011, inherited a total outstanding debt of Rs. 2,03,000 crore left by the previous Government. The previous Government had brought in the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act very late. The Central Government and the State Government borrow and borrow and borrow. Now, the new Government is bearing the burden of Rs. 2,03,000 crore of debt, for which it has to pay almost Rs. 20,000 crore in interest and principal. All of us from the TMC has been raising the demand to give us the moratorium on interest payment for three years. We made this demand to the previous Minister of Finance and we are making this demand again to the present Minister of Finance. For political reasons you tweak the law or the norms to give Bihar a special grant. We have no quarrel with that. So, tweak the law or the norms again to give West Bengal this moratorium, which we have been seeking for a long time. So, this is my first point, that is giving economic justice to West Bengal. The Minister of Finance is not here. But I am sure he would be listening to this debate somewhere. So, I hope he would respond to my demand.

The second point that I want to make is that this is not a very big Supplementary Demand. The total Demand is only to the tune of Rs. 7,497 crore. The actual outgo to the exchequer is only Rs. 127 crore. The rest will be matched by savings of Ministries and Departments or by enhanced receipts recovery. So, actually the Supplementary Demand is only for an outgo of Rs. 127 crore. This is not a very big amount. So, nobody can object. After all, the Government has to run.

The main thing to notice is that the Minister of Finance has taken maximum amount of this money for his own Ministry. That is to fulfil the promises he made in the Budget. He should have kept the provisions in the Budget. He did not. So, he is now seeking for Supplementary Demand.

For setting up Nirbhaya Fund and for National Skill Development Corporation, he is asking for Rs. 2,000 crore; and for payment to the IMF, for provision of loans to the IMF, he is asking for Rs. 1,830 crore. We will soon have to go to the IMF for loans. We are giving the IMF this Rs. 1,830 crore from our Supplementary Demand!

Secondly, he is spending Rs. 100 crore for equity in micro finance institutions, for setting up a Credit Guarantee

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

Fund Rs. 500 crore, and for establishing a women's bank Rs. 1,100 crore. The Minister of Finance did not make provisions in the Budget for the schemes that he had announced. So, now he is coming and asking for Budgetary support. But he has a right to do that because he has saved most of this money.

Having said that this is a minor Supplementary Demand, let me say a few points on the economy. The Minister of Finance, along with the Supplementary Demand, presented a Medium Term Expenditure Framework Statement, to be laid before the Parliament as required under the FRBM Act. There, he has mentioned that the Budget 2013-14 was made on the assumption that there will be GDP growth in the range of 6.1 to 6.7 per cent. Now, what is the position? It is being estimated that this year the growth will be as low as 4.2 per cent. So, the basic premise of the Minister of Finance in his Budget, as shown in his own Report, is broken. There is no growth as expected. This means that there will be less employment, there will be less development, etc. We have mentioned several times in the House, and Sir, even you have raised that the economic situation is very serious. Every day, I look at the news to know as to what is the situation today. I just read that the Sensex is up by 488 points; the rupee gains 138 paise to Rs.65.69 against the dollar in the early trade. There has been improvement. Why? It is so because yesterday a new Reserve Bank Governor has been appointed. He has said that he would give emphasis on reviving growth rather than controlling inflation. He has said that henceforth the Reserve Bank's permission would not be needed to open new branches. He has said that he would try to improve the rupee. Now, our new RBI Governor is a favourite with the Americans. He was a Professor in the Chicago University's School of Business.

Now, there are two things that I want to mention. Our new RBI Governor was a distinguished Professor, a very distinguished academic. But this same Chicago University has the reputation of advising the American Government wrongly which led to the 2008 crisis in America. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (Cuttack): It is not Dr. Raghuram Rajan.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: Yes, Dr. Raghuram Rajan. He was a distinguished Professor. He was one of those who advised the American Government which led to the crisis in 2008. This is a matter of record. Again I want to mention one thing.

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): Sir, I wish to elucidate the hon. Member. He is a very senior Member. He will be making comments on the personality and background of the RBI Governor. To put the record straight, Dr. Raghuram Rajan was one of those few economists in the world who had slightly anticipated the crisis which happened through the bankruptcy of Lehman Brothers. Therefore, I think such a senior Member as you should refrain from making adverse comments.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY : Sir, I have great respect for Shri Jaipal Reddy. I had worked under him in the Ministry. He keeps news of what happens. But I am again referring to a fact. I did not refer to the new RBI Governor by name. I said that he was a distinguished Professor at the School of Business in the Chicago University. The same Chicago University Group advised the American Government and that led to the crisis in America in 2008. I did not say Dr. Raghuram Rajan advised. I am within my right to say that.

Sir, again, let us see what else news is there.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not about news but you tell what are your views.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prof. Saugata Roy, please continue.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: I am coming to the point. Yesterday, the RBI Governor has announced measures to strengthen monetary policies and to open new bank branches. I am again saying that the economy is in a shambles. The economy is in a mess. The promised fiscal deficit of 4.8 per cent will not be kept and the promised Current Account Deficit of 4.9 per cent will not be kept. The rupee is in a free fall. People are predicting it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: Sir, let me speak a little more. I seek your indulgence. I have not completed my

speech. Due to the free fall, the rupee is expected to reach Rs.72 per dollar in a few days. Where will the people go?

Now, I would just mention a few points and then wind up. Please give me two more minutes. The Government is sending confusing signals on the economy. On the one hand, they are saying: "We have opened up all sectors to FDI. FDI inflow will reduce the Current Account Deficit." They are further saying this. Shri Chidambaram said in this House on that day: "We are removing all controls." The answer to present economic mess is not less reforms but more reforms. Yesterday, he has passed a Bill for pension reforms. Tomorrow, he is slated to pass a Bill on SEBI reforms. So, on the one hand, you are showing that you want total freedom for corporate, for foreign corporates to come into India. Now, what are the corporates saying about the Government? Just the reverse - the same Government speaking in two voices. You must listen to this. It is very interesting. They want to attract the corporates but corporates, including Shri Ratan Tata, including Shri Rahul Bajaj are saying that Food Subsidy Bill would add to the fiscal deficit. Which line are you following? On the one hand, you are giving all licenses to corporates and bringing in FDI.

After the Food Security Bill, we are very interested in knowing about what ratings we receive in America. What have Moody said? Moody in the financial rating companies has given a statement saying that this Food Security Bill will add to the fiscal deficit. So, what are you trying to achieve? More growth, less inflation or election-oriented, subsidy-oriented projects. That is not happening. Growth has become stunted.

As early as August 30, 2013, Food Bill will worsen economic woes, says Moody. Measures will raise Government's spending on food subsidies to 1.2 per cent of GDP per year from the estimated 0.8 per cent currently. To which side the Government is moving? What do they want to achieve? What does CII President say? He said, such a large outlay at this point of time would definitely have a negative impact on the fiscal deficit. So, the whole corporate India is against your step and you are trying to make them happy. What do you mean by "happy", Sir?

Last year, how did Mr. Chidambaram contain the fiscal deficit? He cut Plan expenditure by Rs.93,000

crore. You will agree that in a developing country, in a poor country, basically to develop the economy, you will have to increase Plan expenditure, which will mean more roads, more schools, more colleges, more infrastructural projects. But we are cutting Plan expenditure and saying that our fiscal deficit should be controlled. As a result, the whole country is in a genuine crisis. I do not know when this crisis will blow over but I may say that I am receiving only confusing signals from the Government. Why prices rise? Onion price goes through the roof. Gas price is raised. Diesel price is raised. The price of cooking gas will be raised by Rs.50. the price of aviation turbine fuel will be raised. What are we aiming at? The Government must state clearly.

Mr. Chidambaram has not fulfilled the promises and the economy is at its lowest pace. In four years, in the first quarter of this year, it was at 4.4 per cent. This is the situation, Sir. Country is in an economic mess and it has not come out of it. This Supplementary Budget is a chicken feed - Rs.14 lakh crore is your expenditure - and it is only for Rs.7,400 crore. But it will have no impact on the economy of the poor.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to participate in the discussion on the Appropriation Bill relating to the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2013-14, presented in this House by the hon. Finance Minister Shri P. Chidambaram.

Sir, being an Appropriation Bill, there is no other alternative but to give consent to the Bill because the Government has already made the expenditure and so the Parliament has to give sanction as a procedure. The Finance Minister seeks the permission of this House for the ratification of the expenditure in various departments. At the same time, it is really good to see that every expenditure and income is accounted for by the Parliament. This is really very good as far as our system is concerned. But this is also an occasion provided to Members of Parliament to assess the functioning of the Government which is really related to the policy measures and their implementation.

The House has recently discussed the very serious economic situation prevailing in the country. In fact, the Prime Minister himself has admitted that the situation is

serious and he said that we can overcome the situation. I do not like to disagree with the Prime Minister. But at the same time, what measures the Government would take to overcome the situation is the most important thing.

Sir, Indian economy is witnessing a mix of illness, that is, slow down of economic growth, widening of the current account deficit, depreciation of currency, high inflation, growing fiscal deficit, lack of employment opportunities etc. After 2008, this is the first time that the growth rate has declined to 4.4 per cent. In 2012-13, it was 5.4 per cent. This slow down is due to the poor performance of various sectors. Out of 8 sectors, 7 sectors witnessed contraction in growth or lower rate of expansion. Out of these 8 sectors, only the community and social service sector has shown a significant growth. Insurance and business services showed lower growth rate compared to last year. Construction and mining have shown a very severe decline compared to last year. In the field of electricity, gas and water supply, the growth rate is lower at 3.7 per cent compared to 6.2 per cent last year. Even the service sector is showing a fast declining trend. All these factors have contributed the lower growth rate that our country has witnessed since 2008. How can the Government overcome this situation?

Since 1991, India has been promoting and strengthening neo-liberal economic policy for better growth rate and to reduce the current account deficit in our country. In 1991, the current account deficit was 2.5 per cent of GDP, but now it has risen to 4.8 per cent. Then, what is the benefit of this neo-liberal policy that the Government has been following? The Government has now opened our economy to foreign direct investment, foreign institutional investment and removed all caps. Now, a new legislation has come before this House through which the Government wants to invite more foreign investment.

Sir, taking into account all human indices, our position is not at all satisfactory compared to other South Asian countries. With regard to malnutrition and underweight children, our position is the least among these countries. In the fields of education and health, we are far below to many of the South Asian countries.

13.59 hrs

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

Sir, a democratic Government should give welfare to the people of the country, especially to the poorer sections. According to the UN Report, 53 per cent of the assets of our country is controlled by 10 per cent of the super rich and 10 per cent of the poor people have only 0.2 per cent of the assets of our country. It is very clear that the contribution and outcome of the neo-liberal economic policy is pro-rich and for the super rich section of our society. Another report states that in 2004, the number of billionaires in our country was 9 and in 2012-13, it has risen to 62. But at the same time, 73 per cent of the people of our country still live on a meagre amount of Rs. 20 per day. An hon. Member from the Treasury Benches said that India is shining. But I would like to say that the shining is there only in the corporate sector, not among the poor people.

It is shocking to see that according to the Planning Commission, earlier a person who gets Rs. 26 in rural area and Rs. 32 in urban area was considered in the APL category, now, they have raised the limit to Rs. 45 in the rural area and Rs. 55 in the urban area. Can we get an ordinary meal with this meagre income?

14.00 hrs

How can they say that? How can the Planning Commission make such an assessment?

The purchasing power of the people is declining. On major reason is lack of adequate jobs. The Government promotes FDI, foreign institutional capital and all other foreign investment, but whether we could create jobs by these new investments. We can see that from the figures. The Economic Times says: "Steel industries downsized by ten per cent, telecom and shipping declined by 17 per cent, paper sector declined by 23 per cent, corporate management anticipate a loss of one crore jobs; it is because the new investments by FDI or of FIIs stick on the profits and not to provide jobs to our people or to remove the miseries of our people. Sir, the job loss has become one alarming feature of our country.

The House has witnessed strong protests with regard to the ever seen price in all items. The prices of food items have gone up, price of onion has reached Rs. 8 on Delhi,

price of carrot is Rs.30 and all vegetable items come at Rs. 80. The prices of all essential commodities have gone up. It is because they have taken the decision to raise the prices of petrol and diesel.

Sir, the Government says that price rise is really an international phenomenon; it is not only our issue. Sir, if you see, the price of petrol in Pakistan is 26, in Bangladesh is 22, Cuba is 19, Italy is 14, Nepal is 34, Myanmar is 30, Afghanistan is 36, Sri Lanka is 34 and in India it is Rs.32. How does it come to this? The basic cost of petrol per litre comes to only about Rs.16.5; the Central Tax is Rs. 11.80; Excise Duty is Rs.9.75, VAT is four per cent; Sales Tax is eight per cent and the balance is Rs.32. How this balance comes is not explained. So, the decision taken by the Government is the main reason for the price rise.

The real wages of the people are coming down. Their purchasing capacity is decreasing and the domestic market is declining drastically. In such a situation what should the Government do? I would like to quote Shri Shanmukham Chettyar, the first Finance Minister of India. In his Speech in 1947-48, he said: "When a depression is on the Government, it should launch bold schemes of public expenditure. The Government has to go for increasing public investment." But here, our Prime Minister as well as the Finance Minister go for FDI and foreign investment and not for public investment. The policies and tactics that they have taken to overcome such crises would lead to another crisis.

The Government says that we have no sufficient resources for public investment. We had discussed that tax forgone in the last Budget. The tax forgone in the last Budget was Rs.5,76,000 crore; it was more than the deficit that focussed on the Budget in 2013-14. The revenue forgone was Rs. 5,29,432 crore. It was also higher than the fiscal deficit. It is surprising to note that it comes to about 60 per cent of our GDP. As per the calculation made by a known journalist, Sainath, since 2005-06, taxes and duties for the corporate world and also to the rich sections come at the rate of Rs.70 lakh a minute on average.

Sir, when the Government spends such a huge amount for the corporates and when they say that there is no money for public investment, then this is another sad face of our economy.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Sir, I am concluding.

Sir, when we depend upon various types of foreign capital, there is no doubt that they are not interested in our development or in the elimination of poverty in this country, but what they need is really to get more and more profit. The character of international capital, especially, the trans-national capital, does not stick on any country. It will go from one country to another country. It will fly from one country to another country where they may get more profit. That is the nature of the international capital. But this Government is sticking and listening only for this international capital that would really lead to more difficulties. The value of the rupee has fallen to such an extent that was ever seen it in our country. Now the value has come to about 66 rupees a dollar.

Sir, I would like to conclude. Here the Government says that it is not only the duty of the Government, it is also the duty of the Opposition also to strengthen the basic structure of the economy. I fully agree but we can really assess what the Government has done, what the Opposition has done. I think, in the history of the Parliament in India, no time has come when there is such a huge bundle of corruption charges against the Government. Is it the contribution of the Opposition? You see the 2G Spectrum scam. It was followed by Commonwealth Games scam; it was followed by the Adarsh Flat scam; it was followed by the helicopter scam; it was followed again by Railway and Coal scams. You see the declining of your status. It is not due to the straight goal from the Opposition but the self-goals that you have received from your own party. How many self-goals you are receiving?
...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN : Yes, Sir, I am concluding.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are not concluding; you are going on.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Sir, I would like to quote the famous phrase of the Great William Shakespeare. He said: "To be or not to be is the question, to be served with cakes and not to be served with kicks." Unfortunately you

are in the line of the not to be. You are not ready giving the cakes but taking the kicks. So, if you are not ready to change the policy, a greater and a stronger kick is waiting for you. So, it is better for you to change the policy.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (Cuttack): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I stand here to participate in the discussion on the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2013-14. This Supplementary Demands for Grants is for an extra expenditure of Rs. 7500 crore which has been moved by the Finance Minister. This includes Rs. 1000 crore for a women's bank and as much for a Nirbhaya Fund for safety of women.

The Finance Minister is saying that the additional cash outgo would be only Rs. 127 crore over the Budget estimates on a net basis, as most of these new demands would be met from equal 'savings' on other heads. But is it really savings? As much as Rs. 830 crore has been sought for India's contribution to the International Monetary Fund. Also, Rs. 500 crore would be provided to SIDBI to set up a credit guarantee fund. Another Rs. 100 crore has been proposed for India Micro Finance Equity Fund of SIDBI to provide equity and quasi-equity to micro finance institutions. The National Skill Development Corporation is to get Rs. 1000 crore for extending training to youth. This is one of the best things which are there in this Supplementary Budget. But, let us come to the basics.

Before I start deliberations on this issue, what I would like to understand from the Government is this. If the Finance Minister can throw some light on this issue because yesterday Dr. Raghuram Rajan has taken over the charge of Governorship of Reserve Bank of India. He was heading a Committee along with Parthasarathi Shome and some others to determine, to define poverty and backwardness. That was a commitment from the Finance Minister in his Budget speech where he had said, we are going to revisit these two issues. I was given to understand that already that report from that Committee has been submitted to the Finance Ministry or the Finance Minister. Why not the Government come out with what is there in that report so that all of us can understand? Or, is it still under consideration? It is because, a report of such high nature, of such a high body, which has come

before the Finance Ministry, should also be placed on the public domain so that others also can put some views on that issue.

Coming to the basics of the financial position and our economic situation in the country, I would say the Indian economy grew at its slowest pace in four years at 4.4 per cent in the first quarter that is April and June of the current fiscal compare to 4.8 per cent during the preceding quarter that is January and March which has belied hopes of economy being bottomed out. Seen from another yardstick of gross domestic product of market prices, India actually grew at 2.4 per cent slower than the revised growth rate for the US economy which is at 2.5 per cent in April, June period.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while agriculture grew at 2.7 per cent in the first quarter, mining and manufacturing contracted at 2.8 and 1.2 per cent respectively. Yet, the Prime Minister hopes that the country would grow at 5.5 per cent in this fiscal and relying on will power, I think, Jaipal ji can give some inputs in that that he is relying on will power, to pull back the economy to 8 per cent growth rate.

The Finance Minister has set out 10 commandments to stem the decline but it is a case of too little, too late. But the wounds on the economy are not superficial. Reports that the Government has cleared investment worth more than Rs. 1,80,000 crore, have not impressed the industry. What is the roadmap you have to contain the current account deficit? The Planning Commission's Deputy Chairman says, 'a cut in Plan expenditure to restrict its fiscal deficit to 4.8 per cent of the GDP'. The Government needs to keep its expenditure under check to limit its fiscal deficit. There is no doubt about it. Unlike last year the scope for a cut in Plan expenditure is limited because the allocation has been increased by only 11.7 per cent over the last year's Budget estimate. So, where do you have that leverage and that flexibility where you can bring down or you can cut down your expenses? Are you going to issue instructions for a 10 per cent cut in non-Plan expenditure and a ban on direct recruitment or ban on creation of new Government posts this year?

All you can do is not fill some existing vacancies and cut administrative costs. Because of the depreciation of rupee against dollar, it is sure to increase the fuel subsidy

as well as fertilizer subsidy. This additional outgo will have to be met from savings under other heads. Petroleum Minister has come out with some innovative ideas. Many have commented on it. Why do you not cut your fuel expenses? That will set an example for respective States Government also. If you fix the target that this should be the cut in fuel expenses, that will go a long way.

This first supplementary demand is not having anything for these sectors but the second to be tabled in the Winter Session of Parliament, if it comes under this Government's leadership, would be forced to provide for additional requirements. One is reminded that a cut of Rs. 92,000 crore in Plan expenditure last year had helped the Government to limit fiscal deficit. Last year the Government had implemented austerity measures. There was 10 per cent cut in non-Plan expenditure. Earlier in 2008-09, austerity measures were taken. There is a need to do it now. But a major step is required if thrust is on investment enhancing as against vote enhancing legislation.

I would like to draw your attention towards another issue. During the last ten years, the Direct Tax Collection has risen seven times. It was Rs. 83,000 crores in fiscal year 2003 and has risen to Rs. 5.6 lakh crores in fiscal year 2012-13. But do not go by these figures only. What is important today is that while overall tax collections have been stagnant at 10.3 per cent of GDP in fiscal year 2013, the tax to GDP ratio is smaller to that of fiscal year 2010.

The taxman's aggression has increased. Search and seizures have increased but they have yielded little result. Therefore, Tax Administration Reforms Commission is trying to minimize the taxman's aggression and there is a need to hike his ability to collect taxes. There should be less searches and scrutiny, and more IT-generated queries.

The tax data shows that while just 14.6 lakh persons declared an income of more than Rs.10 lakh, 52.5 lakh persons invested more than Rs.2 lakh in mutual funds, and after the notices were sent, as a result of this, the response was very good. You do not have to intrude into their premises. You do not have to make searches and seizures. This information itself will help you to collect more revenue, more taxes. We need a more responsive system. Today, tax litigation is rising. This should not happen. Make the Department less intrusive and more effective.

Many a time it is being said that investors are losing faith in Indian stocks. Is it because of a falling rupee only? I would say that there is a rising debt level at some of India's biggest companies. The banks which lent big loans need to worry. Why does not the Government probe into the rising volume of loan defaulters and look into the possible culpability of senior officials of mainly public sector banks?

NPAs of public sector banks have risen by 95 per cent between 2010 and 2012, and the bulk of NPAs are from the top 30 defaulters for most public sector banks. If you allow me to say, Sir, according to a Report of Credit Suisse, it says: "the Adanis, Vedanta, GMR, GVK and even Jaypee among others together account around 13 per cent of all banking system loans. On the other side, a World Bank Report says that 87 per cent of marginal and 70 per cent of the small farmers are not getting any loan. Whom are the banks serving?"

It is time now to take tough decisions and encourage firm to invest. Every fall is an opportunity to rise. The rupee depreciation could trigger some kind of a revival in domestic manufacturing sector, in goods which can be exported. The domestic value chain could now take off but this has one caveat – the leadership has to cuddle the businessmen to invest. This Government is led by a Party which has made doles the centrepiece of its politics and now do not have the guts to take tough decisions. It is a test of real leadership.

Sir, it is being quoted outside, Sir, "Manmohan for classes and Sonia for masses". This will not work. Subsidy is an attraction no doubt but in the absence of credible promise of a better future, why would anyone be lured? The Government is looking tired for the last six months or so. It is better it retires.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this House and like to get an answer from the Government. Recently we entered into a bilateral trade agreement with European Union relating to a number of other issues.

The European Union is insisting that India should allow the free trade of beverages and also milk products. There is 60 per cent duty on imported milk products. If we allow this, then the milk products will flood our market. India is, today, the largest milk producing country in the

world. Once the Government allows it, our rural economy will get collapsed and shattered. This is only one example.

We have entered Bilateral Trade Agreement with more than 34 countries. Our import is increasing. But our export is not going up. How can we sustain our economy?

It seems that this Government has forgone long-term fixes in favour of populist palliatives.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude, now.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Sir, within two minutes, I am concluding.

Most of the radical solutions the UPA has advocated, ranging from the Employment Guarantee Programme to farm loan waivers, were aimed at providing temporary relief rather than addressing structural problems of the Indian agriculture. Public investment in agriculture accounts for only one-fifth of public spending today with subsidies accounting for the rest.

This Government inherited stable finances and benefited from a global boom. But it failed to develop substantial rural strategy over the past decade.

Lastly, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this House towards a CAG Report on Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA). The CAG has questioned whether the entire amount booked for the job scheme should be classified as "grant for creation of capital assets" when a large number of works did not result in capital formation or minor improvement in the existing assets. Then, how are you putting this in "grants for creation of capital assets"? We need an answer from the Government. Empty words will not yield result.

With these few words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL (Amravati): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today we are discussing the Supplementary Demands for Grants. Thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this topic. The Government brings General Budget, Supplementary Budget, Supplementary Demand and Appropriation Bill. There all are in the interest of the people of the country. We are people's representatives. We are elected by the people and are for the people and

we have to work for the people. So, we all discuss and in the end, we approve all the things. The present condition in the country is not good. So, I feel it necessary to bring some points to the fore.

Our Hon'ble Finance Minister has made a provision of expenditure of more than Rs. 7499 crore for 14 additional demands and the savings or recovery against it is of Rs. 7372 core. It should not be termed as financial loss. The estimated expenditure is of Rs. 127.14 crore. Keeping in view the present situation of the country, some points are essential to place here. The industrial production has fallen by 1.1 per cent as against the previous year and according to the World Bank Report, we rank 132nd among 185 countries in terms of trade deficit. This indicates our decline.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today we will discuss and pass the Supplementary Demands. We are concerned that our Finance Minister has kept the target of fiscal deficit at 4.8. Although, it should not increase beyond that but I am afraid it will go beyond this because the Government has enacted the Food Security Bill keeping in mind the elections, which will entail a direct burden of Rs. 1.25 lakh crore per annum on the economy on the country. Although, we are in the middle of financial year, still there is likely to be a burden of Rs. 25 thousand crore on the exchequer. Our target is 4.8 but it is likely rise further. We had estimated a loss of Rs. 80,000 crore in the oil import in the current year but due to devaluation of rupee to approximately Rs. 70 a dollar, the loss on oil import bill is likely to be Rs. 1.40 lakh crore. Again, this has a bearing on the exchequer to the tune of Rs. 70,000 crore. On one hand, the Food Security Bill entails a burden of Rs. 25 thousand crore while on the other hand, the burden due to import will be of rupees 80 thousand crore. As I have said in the beginning, when additional demands are put, we, opposition as well as the Government side have to pass them in the interest of Government functioning I want to draw the attention of the House to what our former Governor of Reserve Bank of India had said. He has not said it now but two days ago. He said that the Government was responsible for the present financial situation because it failed to take right decisions at the right time. He may be the former Governor, but we will have to accept this fact. He told this fact one day before relinquishing his office. The new Governor of the Reserve Bank has assumed his office as a challenge,

but will the Reserve Bank alone be able to do much? It is not possible. If we put burden on the exchequer in the name of populist schemes to win elections, then it is not possible. We have recently passed the Land Acquisition Bill. We are ready to accept the right things but cannot accept the unacceptable. If a private industrialist wants to establish an industry, the Government agrees to it, which is in the interest of public. When the Government agrees, he wants land for it, he will have to pay four times more than the market price of the land. No industrialist will pay four times the market price of the land. ...*(interruptions)*. I mean to say that only the elections will be kept in mind to run the country. I am afraid if our Finance Minister has decided to take unreasonable decisions and thought that they will not be returning to power. While speaking on economic situation, respected Yashwant Sinhaji has also said so. Let you not damage the country's economy further. You will be out of Government very soon, the public will decide it. People struggle to manage their household as the prices of every commodity are rising every day and the poor people have to face it. We have to be concerned for the people's problems. We are sitting here as a guardian, as a Government, for the welfare of the countrymen. On the contrary, we are giving pains to the people. The problem of unemployment is very serious. The educated youths of the country, who are the future of the country, have no job in their hands and so they have no earnings. Will it make our future? We have made many laws like the Right to Education Act but we have never assessed the results especially in the poor and tribal areas. The situation is that the children are till illiterate. Such an area falls in my constituency too. The object of the Food Security Bill is to remove malnutrition. Have we achieved this object? Can mere passing the Right to Education Bill provide education to every child? Many such questions rise. For how long we will have to watch such a drama?

Sir, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak. I conclude my speech.

[English]

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (Karur): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I rise to speak on the Supplementary Demands for Grants presented by the hon. Minister of Finance. With this grant, the hon. Finance Minister has

sought from the Parliament for the sanction of an amount of approximately Rs.7,499 crore in respect of some Departments or Ministries of the Government of India like Agriculture, Finance, HRD, Mines, Road Transport and Highways, Science & Technology and Textiles.

Sir, when we are discussing about this allocation, which has been sought for these sectors, we have to think over at the real economic situation prevailing in our country. First of all, there is 20 per cent fall in the value of Rupee since May 2013. Within a short period of two-three months, there has been a fall of 20 per cent in the Rupee value. Added to this, inflation also is very high. Within this period, if you take July itself, nearly 9.6 per cent of India's retail inflation has gone up. Regarding the growth rate, there has been 4.4 per cent real GDP growth in India during April-June 2013.

Today a new RBI Governor has taken over the position. Even he is going to face problems with the present governance. There are four pillars of our economy – agriculture, industry, human resource development and good administration. These are four essential things for the good economy of a country. But, we failed in all these four sectors. If you take agriculture sector, whatever allocation the Government of India is making is not sufficient. Farmers are suffering. We are not getting sufficient rains and even if rains come in plenty, floods affect the farmers. Therefore, when farmers are facing the problem, the Government should come forward to their rescue. But, the Government is not taking it seriously.

If you take the industrial sector, as has been mentioned many times in the House, this Government is concentrating on corporates by giving them more importance. When we were discussing the issue of depreciation in the value of rupee, the Finance Minister assured the House and said that he was going to take ten steps to take control of the economy and create confidence so as to develop the economy and attract investors. At that time he also said that nearly Rs.1.83 lakh crore of investment was allowed in industrial sector. 27 industries got this benefit. That means, the corporate group which is more capital intensive are coming up. These industries do not worry about the development of our country. They are fighting to become more and more rich in the world.

The companies which start at a very low level suddenly become very rich in the world. They become international companies.

For example, in Tamil Nadu we are suffering a lot with the Sterelite Company which is creating a lot of pollution in the area Tuticorin affecting the people there. The Tamil Nadu Government has taken steps to stop the industry's production because it affects the people of the area. The Chief Minister has taken a strong step in this regard. But, somehow the Sterelite Company found out some loopholes in the law and managed to get the permission to start production. The Sterelite Company is controlled by the Vedanta Group. How did the Vedanta Group become rich? You can see how they benefit by getting support of the Government.

At the time of the presentation of the Budget, the Government fixes certain taxes. Our hon. Prime Minister said that since the export of iron ore is going down, the revenue also is going down. When you want to preserve the natural resources of the country, the Finance Minister comes and put some taxes to see that ore cannot be exported. Afterwards, the Minister has said that since many representations are coming and MPs are also coming to him, he wants to withdraw certain taxes. It may be true. These companies take advantage of this kind of steps taken by the Government. When the taxes are heavy, companies like the Vedanta Group get delinked. The Vedanta Group got the SESAGOA company from Japan's Mitusi. At that time they got the permission and took over certain companies. When the taxes were reduced, they minted money and became an international company. If you take for example any of these leading companies, they are exploiting the situation in our country to become rich and richer. That is their aim.

They are not developing our country. If the Government pays more attention to the rural industries and agro-based industries, then only there will be real development. What are the steps that the UPA Government has taken to develop agro-based industries and to give more importance to agriculture sector? They have not done anything on that count.

The same is the case with small scale and medium industries. They should also be encouraged. They have

to develop small scale industries. Then only there will be employment generation. If we go on exporting our minerals to other countries, our rich natural resources will be taken away. Take the example of what China is doing. They are competing at international level and exploiting India also. Even though they have rich mineral resources including iron-ore, they took lot of iron-ore from India. They are producing goods and sending them to our market. Not only iron-ore, the same is the case with steel also. Even if you take ordinary furniture items manufactured by carpenters, they are made in China and available here. You go to any restaurant and see any item, you will find that it is manufactured in China. All the furniture items, including the beds in the hotels, and furniture items in offices are the ones manufactured in China. Even in the households, there are such items which are imported from China. In such circumstances, what about our local industry? Our industry is getting affected. What steps is the Government taking in this regard?

The Government goes on telling that only because of the import of gold, our balance of payment position is deteriorating. I am telling that the Government has failed to improve our industries. They have not given confidence to and encouraged our Indian industries, like agro-based industries, micro industries, small scale industries and medium industries. They have not given them any incentive. If they develop these industries only, our economy will definitely grow. Otherwise, China and other countries will exploit us and our balance of payment position will go further down by way of importing from these countries. Therefore, I am telling that we have to preserve our natural resources. We are having coal and iron-ore. The God has given so much of mineral wealth to India. Therefore, we have to concentrate on it and produce value-added products and not on exporting raw material outside the nation. If we do that, then only our economy will grow. Otherwise, the balance of payment position will deteriorate.

In order to improve the balance of payment position, they are saying that they want to bring in FDI. In which sectors do they want to bring in FDI? Once you bring FDI, whatever they earn, they will take it away to other countries. As a result, the balance of payment position will deteriorate. Therefore, if FDI is invited in any infrastructure development project, it is all right, but if they are going to invite it in

retail trade, our merchants and traders would definitely be affected. Therefore, the policy of the Government to attract FDI in retail sector will have an adverse affect. In this regard, our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has also expressed her concerns many times. Therefore, our Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu took the decision that she would not allow FDI in retail sector because it is going to definitely affect our economy.

Then, we have to give more importance to the development of rural areas. In this regard, we have to give importance to impart education so as to develop human resource. The human resource development is very important.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: Without developing that, we cannot develop our country. The allocation they are giving for the HRD Ministry, is not sufficient. For example, in Tamil Nadu, our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has allocated Rs. 14,000 crore for education.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude. You have already taken ten minutes.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: Sir, please give me some time.

The Central Government has announced so many flagship schemes. So, you have to give more powers to the State Governments. The State Governments are really implementing many programmes. You have to see that they have to raise the funds. We are in a federal set-up and unless you give importance to the State Governments in playing their role in the economic development of the country, the Centre cannot develop the economy of the nation. Therefore, it is very important that you follow the federal structure of the country and see that you give more power to the State Governments. If you take Tamil Nadu, for example, the hon. Chief Minister not only allocated Rs. 14,000 crore for the educational institutions, but also she is giving free laptops, computers to the students. Giving such technological gadgets to the students of this generation is very, very important. For rural areas, she is giving free financial help to the people for purchasing cattle/cows and goats. When they purchase such things, the rural economy will develop. Therefore, we have to

concentrate on the rural economy. That is the fundamental thing she is doing.

Coming to old age pension, we are talking about the safety and security of old people, which is more important. For that purpose, a sum of Rs. 1,000 per month is being given to the common eligible man, the poor man, for their survival. She is doing that. The Centre must initiate that kind of a programme.

Coming to agriculture, for the affected persons, the Central Government is giving Rs. 5,000 or Rs. 7,000 hect. per acre as compensation. But the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister has given Rs. 15,000 per acre, when drought conditions prevailed. That kind of incentive must be given.

In a similar way, the Central Government must come forward to see that money is given to the rural areas for their development because only then we can see the real development in the rural areas. Also, we have to give good education to the people because it is a real wealth that we can give to them. This is the way you have to develop the whole thing.

Our Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has written letters to the Prime Minister asking for a special package for the development of our State. Sir, you belong to Jharkhand and Bihar. The Centre has given special status to Bihar. Why can they not give the same status to Tamil Nadu? The Finance Minister hails from Tamil Nadu. He knows the economic situation there. He also represented the regional parties many times. He also became the Finance Minister when he was representing a regional party, that is, TMC. So, he must acknowledge those regional aspirations and see that more money is allocated to Tamil Nadu. He must give special package to Tamil Nadu for development and that is our demand. *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only the speech of Prabhu Nath Singh will go on record.

*...(Interruptions)**

SHRI PRABHU NATH SINGH (Maharajganj): Mr. Deputy Speaker, the House is discussing the Supplementary Demands for grants and the House will approve it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are speaking in a low voice. You speak loudly and quickly. Your voice is loud.

SHRI PRABHU NATH SINGH: Sir, when you are in the Chair, I become slow. The economy of the country is in a crisis and the fiscal deficit is on the increase. The country is moving towards a crisis due to devaluation of rupee. The Finance Minister is present here in the House. I will not talk about figures as I am not an economist. I want to place a few practical points before you.

Sir, the Central Government takes approval of Lok Sabha for money. The funds are released and are utilized for the benefit of the country. I have seen two Governments as a Member of the House. One was led by Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji and the other by Dr. Manmohan Singh of UPA-I. I got very less time to see the third Government. I remained out of the House in between. But, if we compare both the Government, it will not be an exaggeration to say that the Government led by Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji was not only control over the economy but also retained the reputation of the country in the world ...*(interruptions)* There is nothing to be happy. I am not praising you. I am not in favour of or against any side. I am absolutely a neutral person. ...*(interruptions)*. If we compare, the two regimes, the one led by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee enjoyed the trust of public despite lacking a full majority. And if we compare UPA-1 Government with UPA- 2, the UPA-1 Government did much better than the UPA-2 Government in the country.

I cannot say that the Government is not concerned about the prevailing economic situation in the country. The Government must be concerned. The Finance Minister must be making efforts. But the investors are very much jittery. They want to withdraw their capital. Although the Finance Minister has assured the investors that they need not worry much in the present scenario but the question remains as to what extent the investors believe the words of the Finance Minister. The country and all its people will see it in the coming days.

We announce some of the projects and Schemes in haste. I feel the old schemes should be reviewed to assess the profit or loss of the money being spent for the development of the country and for providing employment to the people and for the present food security which we are going to provide. The Congress Government got

applause over the MNREGA and everyone in the country appreciated it. Shri Jai Ram Ramesh is not here just now. We were listening him on TV outside the House. He was giving a statement in Lok Sabha. About Bihar State he said that out of the fund allotted to Bihar, twenty per cent has spent. Twenty per cent figure is on paper shown as spent, but he has not made an assessment of the reality of the amount spent at ground level. The fund that is allocated by the Government is not reviewed nor monitored. The amount that is sent by the State Government is shown in your account. As for the money which you cannot spend in villages in actual, you can cut those schemes because the schemes are not made to get appreciations. The schemes are implemented to make the villagers prosperous. Now what happens in MNREGA? MNREGA is operated on papers. We know that there are many such labourers from Bihar who work in private sector in Delhi and they have a pass book in their names. They go there to get money on the defined day. They distribute it fifty-fifty. It is shown as spent on papers. The Government claims it as an achievement and not only this, the Government on those papers says that they are providing employment to the people of the country. I feel that there is no better way other than this to kill the people of the country. You say that we are providing the Right to Education. When was there no right to education? Who said that Children will not get education? When was there the restriction on education and for whom?

You have given the Right to Education, but did you think about the amount spent an education, its advantages and disadvantages to the country? It is said that the Government is executing 'Sarv Siksha Abhiyan'. For Sarv Siksha Abhiyan, the Minister with open heart allocates crores of rupees to the States and the teachers are now being appointed under Sarv Siksha Abhiyan. But the pay scales of the teachers thus appointed have not yet been decided. The Centre has left it to the States to appoint as many teachers as they like. Today, the situation in the State is that with the funds of Sarv Siksha Abhiyan the standard of education has gone down. Teaching is not done in schools and the buildings are big. When teachers in Bihar protested, not only the male teachers, but women teachers were also beaten by the police. Supreme Court also took cognizance of it. If you launch any scheme and if you are

unable to implement the same in a proper manner, then you should make deduction in the allocation of funds by making a review of these schemes. You allocate funds under Indira Awas Yojana for rural development. Your objective is to get a house constructed for the poor and weaker sections. What is the position of construction of houses?

I do not know about the situation of the entire country but aware about the situation in Bihar. It is because I was born in Bihar. Mr. Finance Minister it must be seen that the aim and Objectives with which you allocate funds are met. Your scheme may have been completed or not in the villages, but with the corruption in distribution of funds the villages are a bit developed as there is no industry in a State like Bihar. And the situation of establishing any industry in a State like Bihar is not being seen in future. So the Government funds which are allocated is mutually distributed among some officers or the middlemen, etc. of the villages. If the Government provides money to States for this purpose, then it is good. You should formulate more schemes. If you had demanded more grants, we would have passed the same. At least in the villages, Scorpio is running with the stolen funds. So, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would request you that the Finance Minister with his intention and thinking.....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please be brief.

SHRI PRABHU NATH SINGH: I had said in the beginning that I am not an economist. I am talking practical. If you ask me to conclude here, I conclude. Thank you very much.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have asked you to be brief and not to sit down.

SHRI PRABHU NATH SINGH : So far as the Food Security Bill is concerned I will say that it will have bad impact on the future of farmers. On the one hand, the devaluation of rupee is happening and the crude oil which we import is becoming costly with the increase in the value of dollar. Every day, you are increasing the prices of petroleum products, diesel and petrol. It is in the newspapers that after adjournment of the House the prices of diesel will again rise by rupees four or five. Talks about increasing the prices of Kerosene and LPG are also going on. On the one hand, we say that we have become

self-sufficient, we have no problem of foods, but on the other hand, the production of commodities of the farmers, whether it is diesel, fertilizers, seeds or the labourers, all are going to become costly. For implementing food security the States have no godowns for it. The food grains which they get under 'Annapurna', the State Government could not lift it during the year and you are going to implement this new scheme. I want to know about the arrangements made for its maintenance, transportation and if the arrangement for it has been made, then when these commodities will go to the market, where the field products of the farmer, it will be sold. Who will be its buyers. When there will be no buyer, he will reduce his production and when the production is reduced, how much commodities you will import to implement this scheme. I think after the implementation of this scheme within one year, the farmers will be your opponents. So, I will suggest to review this scheme and do not ever ignore the interest of the farmers. If you ignore the farmers, the public of the country will never forgive you. Presently, the country has 65 per cent farmers who are in the occupation of agriculture and with this profession, they are earning their livelihood and the workers are also dependant on agriculture. So, do not ignore the farmers.

With these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is the Supplementary Demands for Grants. This is not a full Budget. There is no scope for total discussion about the economic scenario of our country. Moreover, this subject has been discussed in this august House when our leader Shri Gurudas Dasgupta initiated the discussion. Several colleagues and several hon. Members of different parties expressed their views. Even then, today the same things are being repeated. So, I will put my views in a different way. I would just request you, hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, to allow me sufficient time so that I can complete my views and cover all the points

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have only seven minutes.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Just to begin, I would quote hon. Finance Minister's last Budget speech. Hon.

Finance Minister can recall what he said in the last part of his Budget and I quote:

"What we will become depends on us and on the choices that we make. Swami Vivekananda, whose 150th birth anniversary we celebrate this year, told the people: "All the strength and succour you want is within yourself. Therefore, make your own future."

15.00 hrs

While saying this on the one hand, the hon. Finance Minister is finding the future in FDI, finding the future in disinvestment, finding the future in multinational corporations like Monsanto, WallMart, etc. What is the use of quoting Swami Vivekananda when these are tricks? As far as Swami Vivekananda is concerned, tricks do not produce any good result. I think it should at least be followed by the hon. Finance Minister.

15.01 hrs

(SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ *in the Chair*)

Sir, I do not understand why loud criticism has been made from the main opposition benches. I have listened attentively the speech of Shri Ananth Kumar. Why are they making such a criticism? The Government is following the path of reforms, the path of new economic liberalism. In this context I would quote from a statement Prime Minister made in this House. He said, "The easy reforms of the past have been done. We have the more difficult reforms to do such as reduction of subsidies, insurance and pension reforms, and so on and so forth."

The BJP lent its support to this reforms programme. Therefore, what several Members mentioned here is correct. This country has been turned into an economic mess but that is not solely due to the contribution of the ruling party. It is the combined contribution of both the forces whether they are in the Government or in the main opposition party. Though BJP is politically adversarial to the ruling party, in economic aspects they are helping the Government. Both the forces are helping each other to bring in new economic liberalism. Both the parties are welcoming the multinational corporations and the so-called reforms in our country.

What is the outcome? As has been mentioned by several speakers, the outcome is that the GDP came

down to four per cent, manufacturing sector growth came down to 1.2 per cent, agricultural growth, which was 2.9 per cent last year, came to 2.7 per cent. What is the situation of price rise? So far as retail prices goes, price rise has touched two digits, it is more than ten per cent. The number of farmers' suicides is more than three lakh. Hon. Sharad Yadavji said it is five lakh. The actual figure is not available even with the Government but it is certainly more than three lakh.

What about retrenchment? It is not countable. The Government does not have the actual figure. I think more than 50 lakh workers have lost their jobs. Therefore, the growth that we are talking about is a jobless growth. All these things are going on and I am mentioning all this here within the limited scope of these Supplementary Demands for Grants. The Minister seeks approval of this House for about Rs.7,499.42 crore for fourteen items. But what is the priority? The Government is missing the priority. If you look at the agricultural sector, not a single rupee has been provided for capital expenditure. What is it provided for? It has been provided for revenue expenditure. What about the situation of agricultural sector in the country? Most of the Members who spoke have mentioned here and several Members from even the Treasury Benches mentioned as to what is happening in the agricultural sector. Not only the farmers are committing suicides, the farmers are also not getting remunerative price, which is called the MSP. It is neither remunerative nor supportive.

The petrol and diesel prices are being hiked; what would be the fate of the farmers? Not a word is said about providing subsidies in petrol products and diesel products; not a word is said about providing subsidies in fertilizer sector. This is the attitude of this Government. I think the Government thinks, particularly the Prime Minister thinks, that this is a phase in which he is walking his last mile towards sunset. The Opposition parties think that they are in the wings and they will come to power next time. But what man proposes, God disposes!

Whatever one may think from the Congress Party or whatever one may think from the Opposition Party, people are thinking differently. What is happening in the country? There is no reflection. The farmers are in the streets in thousands and thousands, and crores and crores of

working class people are in the streets. They have great expectations, but nothing has been reflected in the Budget.

What is the main accusation? My main charge against this Government is that so far as this limited scope is concerned, they are missing the priority. The priority is missing. They have one expectation about the GDP growth, but the actual situation is something different. The Government should be at least honest to the words, when they talk about *aam aadmi*; please be honest to the *aam aadmi*; please be honest to the toiling people; please be honest to the working class; please be honest to the farmers.

Many hon. Members yesterday mentioned about the demands of the farmers. They were talking about pension. We were talking about pension for others. Why do we not think about providing pension to the farmers? Why should we not give a minimum of Rs.3000 pension to all the farmers?

With these words, I conclude my speech.

SHRI R. THAMARASELVAN (Dharmapuri): Mr. Chairman, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Supplementary Demands for Grants, a subject which is concerning the health of the nation, that is, economy.

At the outset, I am very much pained to say that the value of the rupee has come down to a level which never happened in the history of our country. The hon. Finance Minister has given so many reasons for the same and has also told the nation the steps that are being taken to improve the value of the rupee.

I must tell one thing to this august House – this is not a time to fish in the troubled waters; it is also not the time to criticize the incumbent Finance Minister and praising the predecessor. It is the time to work jointly to overcome the crises.

The other day, the hon. Prime Minister had correctly said that India needs to reduce its dependence on petroleum products, increase our exports and reduce import of goods. What we are witnessing is that the import bill on the petroleum products has been increasing year after year, unbearable to the economy of our nation. It is also a

worrying factor that our import has increased from a smaller measure to greater measure. Earlier, import was allowed only on essential goods. But what we are experiencing nowadays is that even for construction of house, from nail to curtains, things are being imported. At whose cost?

Liberalization cannot be at the cost of our nation and its poor people. We must make a restriction on this, if we have to overcome from the present crisis. It is also a worrying factor that our manufacturing capacity has come down to a low level. Why? It is because now the Indian entrepreneurs feel that trading through imports attracts much higher margin than earning from manufacturing. So, we must increase our production of petroleum products and our country should become self-sufficient in petroleum products. We must encourage our entrepreneurs to produce goods for global markets, the way the other developing countries are doing, countries smaller to ours like Korea, Thailand, etc. We must give encouragement and support to the entrepreneurs.

While we are debating on a subject concerning the allocation of funds, I would like to make a humble submission to the hon. Finance Minister to allocate funds for setting up a DRDO research centre in my constituency, Dharmapuri. This project has already been sanctioned by the Central Government and initial process like acquisition of land etc. is also going on. The hon. Finance Minister is well aware that our district is the most backward district of Tamil Nadu. If this project is implemented, it will pay for overall development of the district and can generate employment for rural people. Therefore, I once again urge the hon. Finance Minister to look into it favourably. With these words, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI PUTUL KUMARI (Banka): Sir, the discussion on Supplementary Demand for Grants is going on and you have given me a chance to speak for which I extend my thanks to you. It is required for the smooth functioning of the Government and the approval is given by the Parliament which is necessary for the development. So while giving my consent to all these demands, I want to place some of my points through you. Presently the country is passing through a serious economic crisis.

We all know about the declining value of rupee and it is static at Rs. 65 in comparison to Dollar. As soon as the share market opens, the Sensex and Nifty starts with the fall. Sometimes, it is 20 per cent and sometimes 120 per cent and sometimes the market starts with a fall of 80 per cents.

Sir, how this crisis has cropped up today. It is not a matter of one day, the present economic crises has emerged due to the economic mismanagement for several years. At the time of General Budget, it was being discussed in this House that our industrialists are now thinking it proper to invest in foreign countries, rather than in India, because they are being given protection there and their interests are being protected. Earlier, such policies were formulated in which the interests of the industrialists were protected, but now somewhere the lapse has occurred in it due to which it is not that much profitable for them. As a result, they are not interested in making investment here.

Sir, another thing is that prices of crude oil are continuously increasing. It is happening due to the pressure of international lobby or some other lobby. I want to know about it. It is said that the exploration of oil does not take place. The natural gases are not explored. As a result, we have to import it and the prices are paid in dollars. That dollar is sent to us by the children, youths and our people living in those countries. They send it from their hard earnings and the Government of India proudly says that they have huge forces. That is the earning of Indians and our NRIs, which they we are paying. In the coming days within a year we will be under loan burden of more than 390 billion dollars. How will we repay that loans? I want to draw the attention of Govt. of India to it. As the Food Security Bill has also been presented, it will pult extra burden. How the Government will deal with it? I want to draw your attention to the loan of 390 billion dollars which has to be paid by the next year.

Sir, I want the draw attention towards, the continuous decline in the industrial production. There is a vast gap between import and export, and it is widening day by day. I would like to draw attention of the House to it. Now, we export less and import more. The agreement which we entered into with the European Union, are somehow ignoring the interests of Indians.

I want to inform the Finance Minister through you that some businessmen have told me that on the import of gold 30 per cent import duty is being levied. The gold is imported with 30 per cent import duty. But when same gold through machines is converted into jewellery the duty on it is zero per cent. This has been told to me by the businessmen. So, now the gold in India is being brought in the form of ornaments and the biggest market of it is India. Our Finance Minister is here. I want to know from him whether it is true that the there is zero per cent duty on jewellery. How much damage. it is doing to India. I want to draw his attention to this point. Besides, we are entering into agreements under the pressure of European Union. We are entering into agreement with Automobile Industry, under which two years used cars are dumped into the Indian market zero per cent duty. Their dairy products are dumped here - It means that India will become a dumping yard and our own products will gradually come to an end. Madam Speaker, It is a great irony. India is like a big bazar to the world. The world see it as a dumping yard. Their surplus product will be dumped here and our industries and other business, our agriculture will vanish. It is their well planned method.

I want to tell you one thing. About 9-10 years ago, we used to consume mustered oil as edible oil. You stared import of Palm oil. Two types of Palm oil were imported. One was as a edible oil which was costly and the other was cheap which was used in the manufacturing of soaps. There was no system of checks and balances during the last 9 years and as a result of it, the oil meant for manufacturing of soaps was available as edible oil. You may recollect that a disease like Dropsy was reported, which caused foot swelling, and other types of diseases also spread which were due to adulteration in edible oils. I want to draw attention to the point that we should produce mustered oil in the country in such a manner that the consumable items are produced here it self. For it, protection to agriculture and promotion to irrigation projects should be given.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to draw attention of both the Ministers to a single point. The issue they knew. I am taking advantage of the time through the Supplementary Demands.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, presently the poor are being talked about. It is also being said how the value of rupee is declining. I would like to say only one thing that the value of rupee is falling. It is required to be considered from all the perspectives but is not being done so.

I would like to speak about the Deposit Insurance Credit Guarantee Corporation which came into existence in 1960. Earlier, there was only Deposit Insurance Scheme under the RBI. Credit Guarantee Scheme was a separate scheme. Both were related to small savings. Those who keep their money in banks, we give them some protection and cover them with insurance. Credit Guarantee Scheme was also formulated with a view to give guarantee to small creditors. The Deposit Insurance Credit Guarantee Corporation has been established by merging both. I want to tell only three points in this regard, which the Minister is already aware of Today, I will only talk about banks. In insurance money, which is their savings on their entire deposit, some premium is charged. It was 5 paisa on Rs. 100 and later it was increased to 8 paisa and then 10 paisa. You went on increasing the premium and the premium which they charge is used for insurance cover. How they provide the insurance cover? When any bank goes into liquidation, then the limit which was 5000, raised to 10000 and from 1993, it has been raised to Rupees one lakh. If the bank goes into liquidation, insurance cover of Rupees one will be refunded to the depositors, What is the value of Rs. one lakh of 1993, today? In 1993, you used to provide Rupees one lakh which is at present equal to Rupees ten lakhs but you have not extended the limit. The limit of Rupees one lakh should have been raised to rupees five lakhs or rupees ten lakhs. I am making efforts since 2008. Now, they have assured me to make it rupees two lakhs. But, Rupees two lakhs in the present time is also less. I want to say one more thing that we provide insurance cover to banks but provide them the same like a money lender. The cover is provided by the Reserve Bank to big banks and if there is something wrong, two banks are merged with each other like United Western Bank with IDBI and thus you saved the depositors. However, you do not provide security cover in the cooperative sector.

My second point is very important. When the Cooperative Bank goes into liquidation, it gives one lakh each to the customers against their insurance claim, whereas

common man keep two, three lakh rupees deposited in the bank. The DICGC says that if you recover loans from the customers, the liquidator recover the loan, then returns our money first and thereafter make payment to the depositors from the rest of money. You pay rupees one lakh, but the depositor had deposited rupee five lakh for his old age or for the purpose of marriage of his daughter. They cannot even touch that money, because GKGC corporation, which is under Reserve Bank, become the money lender to receive its money. My request to the Finance Minister is to think over it and if loan is recovered from the Cooperative Bank after liquidation then the depositor should have first right over the loan. The depositors should be paid their money. Actually, GKDC should not demand the money. Bank should find out the ways how to return money to DKGC, either from its our assets or from the loans released. There is no fault of small depositors. So many people are suffering as money is in the banks and they are not getting it for treatment in hospitals. RBI should be given direction to stop this money lender type behavior. You can direct the RBI that Deposit Insurance Credit Guarantee Corporation should not deal like a money lender. First, give the right to the depositor and the limit of rupees one lakh should be increased to five lakh.

[English]

SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU (Tirunelveli): Mr. Chairman, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak in the discussion and voting on the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2013-14. I am really very happy to participate in this discussion. I support this one.

Our UPA Government has done a lot for the development of this nation. I have to mention one thing here. The senior leaders of the Opposition Party, the BJP, are present here. Most of the leaders are blaming the UPA Government for the sake of politics. But our Government has done and introduced various developmental schemes for the development of this nation. From the period of UPA I onwards to the present UPA II Government, the Government has contributed enormously for the Indian economy.

Here, I would like to quote one Thirukural. It says:

“Urupasiyum ovapiniyum seru paghaiyum seraa dhiyalvadu naadu.”

The meaning of this Thirukural is, the country is strong when there is no starvation, when there is no health hazard, and when there is no external aggression. Starvation should be eradicated. That is why we brought the historical Food Security Bill.

Our UPA Government has brought forward the Food Security Bill. More than 80 crore poor people are going to get the benefit of food materials. It has not been given the name of "Right to Food." It has been given the name of "Food Security Bill." You have to see what an important and historical Bill it is! Our Government has allocated funds for food security. We have to give food to the poor people. Nobody should starve in the country. So, we have brought forward this Bill. In order to eradicate poverty and starvation, we have brought forward this Bill.

Next, the UPA Government has established the Health Mission. Because of the Health Mission, the poor people have become healthier in the country by getting proper medical facilities.

Next is external aggression. Continuously for the last ten years, our UPA Government is ruling this country. We are protecting the people from external aggression. Terrorism was threatening our country in many occasions. Our UPA Government, a strong and a firm Government is protecting this country from the external aggression and also from terrorism. This is the meaning of Thirukkural. We are following it in letter and spirit.

Now, I want to give some replies to our senior leaders from Opposition benches. Shri Yashwant Sinha is the Chairman of the Committee on Finance. He has already told in this august House that the Government should go. Why should we go? People are ready to vote for us in the next elections also. We are providing employment opportunities. Shri Gurudas Dasgupta has told that the UPA Government is not taking drastic steps to create employment opportunity. Previously, he was a real Communist. Now he become capitalist communist. He says that no employment has been created by this Government. I am telling that people are getting employment under MNREGS. In the agricultural area, women, the SC, ST people are getting employment through this scheme. I am hailing from a village area. I am telling you that most of the village people are now getting employment opportunities through MNREGS. Almost crores

and crores of people are getting employment. About 4.8 crore households are getting employment opportunities because of the MNREGS. It is giving food for the people. The purchasing power of the people is very important. The purchasing power is enhanced because of the work in the rural areas. It is possible for them to purchase food and also enable to educate their children.

Now, I am submitting only one last point. All are talking about the Current Account Deficit. We are importing crude oil. What was the price of crude oil per barrel in 1998? It was only \$ 19 per barrel. Now, what is the price of crude oil in the international market? It has reached \$ 150 per barrel. Shri Yashwant Sinhaji knows very well as to what is the price of crude oil now. We are importing all these things. That is the reason for the Current Account Deficit. Even then, our able Finance Minister in this House, during the discussion on the economic situation in the country, told that from \$ 78 billion which is the Current Account Deficit, it has increased to \$ 88 billion and he is assuring openly in this House that Government is going to contain it to \$ 70 billion within two months. So, he is giving the assurance. Our Government is giving the assurance. It is not only a question of assurance but the Government is addressing the corruption issue also. Our colleague Shri Madhu Goud touched. What about Karnataka? I am not going to go deep into it. I am quoting only one thing from the Bible: Do not see the dust in other's eyes. You have to see the log in your own eyes. Our UPA Government took severe action, even though he belongs to UPA, if there are any charges against him.

Our Government, our Finance Minister and our Prime Minister are striving for the development of the nation through prudent activities; prudent actions are being taken to control our economy to make it strong. I would suggest to the opposition not to create panic among the people for the political reason. With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Those Hon. Members, who want to lay their speeches on the Table, they can do so. Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singhji can ask a question after the reply of the Minister.

SHRI SANJAV SINGH CHAUHAN (Bijnor): Mr. Chairman, I am thankful to you for giving me time to

speaking through you Sir, would like to urge the Government that we have to change the basic doctrines on the basis of which the Planning Commission and Finance Ministry prepares the Budget. Perhaps I am saying extra-ordinary thing that poverty is being propagated at a large scale in the country. Payment without production policies are being framed resulting in less production more expenditure and these are negatively affecting the country's economic condition.

I would like to give an example. When Russian revolution took place and czar system was abolished, Lenin took over the power in Russia. Then he gave priority to electrification all the villages within four years. With electrification, industries and all things developed in that country and Russia ruled over the world at one time. The people of Russia made the world acknowledge their calibre. Today, our economic policies are concentrated on the payment without production and poverty, whereas it should be focused on how to make the country industrious. We should provide them such opportunities so that they could put more labour and come into the mainstream of the country and contribute in the economic development of India. That is all I want to say.

DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA (Khadoor Sahib): Mr. Chairman, I have also given my name on the same subject.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have called your name, but you were not present in the House at that time.

[English]

Hon. Members, who want to lay their speeches on the Table, they can do so.

*SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: The Government is bringing continuously supplementary demands due to deviation in Budget Estimates presented by the Government for passing. The Government is proving a failure in every sphere. It has proved to be the most scandalous Government. The Government has been adopting the policies to benefit some people in the name of public interest, coal block allotment is the biggest example. After coming to light of huge corruption of one lakh 80 thousand crores of rupees resulting in loss of revenue, the Government is shielding the persons involved. Even

*Speech was laid on the Table.

after the Hon. Supreme Court took *suo motu* cognizance of missing coal block related files the Government is trying to cover up and support corruption.

The Government has claimed to save the people from starvation by bringing Food Security Bill, which is far from the facts. Only 5kg foodgrain per person is being made available through this Bill, which is inadequate. Thus, it is not taking notice of other necessary aspects of his livelihood. Today, the farmer is producing foodgrains with hard work and increased the production of foodgrain due to his hard work. But, no arrangements have been made for remunerative prices as per his input cost. By providing foodgrains at rupees 2 or 3 only in the name of Food Security will possibly be instrumental in reducing the prices of agricultural produces of the farmers. Today the foodgrain being distributed under Public Distribution System is reaching the black market. Then, the foodgrain under Food Security will also reach black-market and reduce the prices of agricultural produces of the farmers. The Government should pay attention towards this fact also. Today, 40 per cent foodgrains get wasted or rotten due to shortage of storage. The Food Corporation of India has not been provided necessary workforce for proper storage and distribution of foodgrains in the country. I fail to understand as to why Food Security Bill is being brought in a haste. The Government should make arrangements for remunerative support price to the farmer and for proper storage and distribution of foodgrains, and then bring this Food Security Bill. But, it is an election stunt.

Earlier, I pointed out the necessity of changing the minimum support price policy being declared by the Government in view of geological diversity and different systems of irrigation in the country. Today, the farmers of the country also have to confront the price rise. The Government is offering bailout packages for the industries. But, no steps are being taken to improve the pitiable condition of the farmers. The agricultural price commissions of the States had been recommending to the Agricultural Price Commission of the Central Government for increasing the minimum support prices as per local situation and necessity of that State. But the Government is avoiding it and fixing equal support prices for the whole country, resulting in adverse effect on the agriculture and farmers of

the country. According to an information, there were 12.73 crore farmers in 2001, which reduced to 11 crore 87 lakh in 2011. Thus, the reduction is 80 lakh 60 thousand. Similarly, there were 10 crore 68 lakh agriculture labourers in 2011, which increased to 14 crore 43 lakh. Due to continuous negligence of agriculture by the Government, 195 districts of 16 States are suffering from draught conditions and the agriculture had gone into a bad State. Once the agriculture was the base of Indian economy and now it remains only 14.9 per cent of the GDP. Not only the agriculture but every sphere of the country is continuously being affected due to failure of this Government. Today, export is costing more due to devaluation of rupee. We have to purchase petrol, diesel at higher prices. Our Budget is disturbed due to increase in the prices of foodgrains, vegetables and LPG. Our housewives are facing difficulties. The Government controls the prices of the produce of the farmers, but are not making any efforts to control the increasing prices of industries, services, medicines and other services.

The unemployment is increasing continuously due to non-creation of employment in the country. Huge public discontentment would be there in the most youth populated country of the world due to failure of the Government in providing employment. The Government should run programmes for providing employment to the youth of rural and urban areas. It should immediately provide necessary resources, training and financial assistance as well. But, the Government are so helpless that no one can expect any progress in any sector.

This year, there has been heavy rain and floods in the Eastern Vidarbha area. The crops have been devastated due to land erosion as a result of heavy rain and floods. The farmers are in the clutches of banks and moneylenders due to loans and they are hopeless due to devastation of crops. They are not getting any help from the State Government. The Central Government should announce a special package for them to provide financial assistance. This heavy rain and floods has been instrumental in the hue and cry in urban areas. Many houses have collapsed and got damaged. The Government should announce necessary financial assistance for reconstruction of houses in the Chanderpur Municipal Corporation area, Vanji-Ghatji, Arni Municipal Corporation areas under Jawahar Lal Nehru National Revival Mission. Similarly, Government should

take immediate steps for construction of houses in a large number in rural areas under Indira Awas Yojana.

[English]

*SHRI SAMEER BHUJBAL (Nashik): At the outset, I would like to express my concern over the economic situation of the country. The economy of the country is in doldrums and it is a very dangerous trend. It appears that all control over the economic drivers have been lost. There is steep rise in the prices of essential commodities and foods articles. It has become very difficult for a common man to survive in present scenario. Rupee is losing its strength and credibility very fast. Today it stands at 68 against dollar. It has lost 21 per cent in the last three months. The cost of Gold is touching 35000 Rupees. The Sensex is also coming down very fast. There are no jobs in the market. As per the NSSO survey, there are 2.3 million unemployed youth and the number is increasing every day. With the devaluation of rupee, export is badly affected. Are we drifting toward an economic emergency?

A recently published article in 'Financial Express' gives startling facts about negative growth in the mining and manufacturing activities in the country which is one of the main cause for present economic situation and devaluation of rupee. Mining in the year 2009-10 was growing at a very good rate of 8 per cent. Now there is negative growth in mining. It is minus 2.3 per cent in 2011-12. In the last 2 years the growth in mining sector is negative.

India's iron ore production was 218 million tonnes in 2009-10, it is now around 100 million tones. Steel plants are surviving on imported iron ore. In 2009-10, we exported 117.37 million tonnes of iron ore. Today we import more than five million tonnes of iron ore. This is the situation when we have a huge reserve of iron ore in the country. For the sake of comparison our current steel production is 80 million tonnes compared to China's 780 million tones.

Same is the position with coal. We have tremendous reserves of coal. But the power generation plants in the country are surviving on imported coal. In the recent past, our coal import has doubled. Coal India limited which has monopoly on the coal reserves of the country does not have coal for running or new plants in the country which

*Speech was laid on the Table.

is affecting the economy of the country. Its production is static at around 600 million tonnes.

India has the third largest bauxite reserves in the world. But soon we will likely be a bauxite importer to feed our plants that produce a bare 1.5 million tonnes of aluminum while China, with no bauxite, produces 20 million tonnes.

Today it has become difficult to get even sand, stones and soil for bricks. It is affecting our construction activities besides construction of roads.

As a result of this downward trend in the mining and manufacturing activities, lakhs of people have lost jobs. With the stoppage of mining of iron ore in Goa its economy has been affected and investment of crores of rupees is lying idle. In tribal belt of Odisha stopping of bauxite mining have resulted in lakhs of tribal people losing the work.

Though some of the problems in mining sector are due to judicial pronouncements, the Government cannot be a mute spectator or helpless in such a situation. It can exercise its authority or the authority of Parliament in this regard to remedy the situation.

Two days back only the Finance Minister has announced 10 point plan to boot growth. Why has he come so late in the day? What was he waiting for? And who stopped him from taking effective measures? Moreover some of the points appear to be rhetoric in nature as they were announced earlier also with the same enthusiasm but with no result. A case in point is the growth in manufacturing sector it has been announced a number of times earlier also.

I would also like to express my concern on the declining trend in the GDP growth of the country. In the last fiscal year 2012-13 it was only 5.2%. This is one of the slowest GDP growths in the last decade. In the industrial sector, which is sizing more than $\frac{1}{4}$ of the total GDP, the performance was significantly at par with the growth of merely 1% of in 2012-13 as against 4.6% in the first half of 2011-12. The under performing manufacturing sector, particularly the capital goods industry, causes a real challenge for the country. Therefore, it is a matter of concern as slower growth affects the overall economy of the country.

Coming to the issue of rise in the prices of commodities of daily use including food and vegetables, it is known to everybody that the prices in the market are skyrocketing and the Government is not able to control the prices. The prices of vegetable and foodgrains have crossed all the barriers and it has become very difficult for a poor man to survive and feed his family in such an environment. The situation of rise in the prices is there for some time. It is the duty of the Government to take some concrete measures to control the price rise. The kind of definition given by the Government to the people living below poverty line is further adding the misery of the poor people who are fighting for survival. Same is the case of rise in the prices of petroleum products particularly petrol. The budget of the common man in respect of transportation is increasing very now and then. Further, the Government has also decided to increase the price of diesel in a phased manner. This decision of the Government is going to hit the common man and the farmers very severely because every increase in the price of diesel is bound to increase the prices of commodities – food, vegetable etc. It will also increase the transportation cost in the public conveyance.

As regards the availability of power in the country, it is painful to not that even after 67 years of Independence; many areas in the country do not have electricity including Maharashtra. There is a shortage of electricity in the country except two-three States which are power surplus. Under the 11th Plan, the target to total electricity generation was revised twice and it was drastically reduced. Now, the 12th Plan is in progress. I hope the target of electricity generation will not meet the same fate as in the 11th Plan. One of the basic reasons for shortage of electricity is the shortage of coal production in the country. As already pointed out by me, we do not have enough coal to supply to various coal based power plants and as a result of this, many of the power plants are running much below their production capacity. The coal production never matched the supply which is needed to feed the power plants. There is enough coal reserve in the country but still many of the power plants including some of the power plants of the Central PSUs survive on imported coal. It is, therefore, felt that coal production the country has to be enhanced in a big way for which the Government has to take some concrete steps.

The health care system in the country is at a very pathetic stage. There is very minimal Government intervention in providing health care to the people. It has been reported that out of total money spent by a person for availing medical facilities, including medicines, 70% of this expenditure is coming from the pocket of the person which is very high. If we compare this out of pocket expenditure with our neighbouring countries, which are also developing countries, it is too high. There has been a constant demand and assertion from the Government that the expenditure on health care shall be at least 3% of the GDP. However, I am constrained to observe that the total expenditure on DGP as on date is not more than 1.1% of the GDP. Connected with this is an issue of spurious drugs. It is a big racket which is surviving because of the laxity of the Government agencies. On one hand, the people are spending a lot of money from their pocket to buy costly medicines. On the other hand, they are getting spurious drugs. This is a double loss to the person. There should be a heavy crack down on the persons engaged in selling fake drugs.

In education sector, it has been promised for years together that the expenditure on education would be 6% of GDP but till today it is hardly 3% of the GDP and as a result, the education sector is suffering particularly the higher education. As per the statement of the HRD Minister, we require hundreds of universities to educate the youth of our country which is a force to be reckoned with. It is true that it may not be possible for the Government to open such a large number of universities and private sector participation has to be invited to share the cost but the Government must move in this direction with a constant pace so that our youth can be provided higher education.

I will also like to raise the issue of the devastation caused by the natural calamity in Uttarakhand. In our zeal to development, we are playing with the Mother Nature and destroying the ecological balance at many places. This is not only true for Uttarakhand but for many other places which are sitting on a time bomb which can explode any time. There is a lesson to be learnt from the Uttarakhand that in future strict norms of environmental clearances have to be adopted to save the environment and the ecological balance in our biological diversified country. Along with the environmental concern, there is also a need for strong preparedness to face any natural disaster.

Water management is another area which needs to be looked at very seriously. In many States, water table has gone very deep and it is costing a lot to extract water very such a depth. At the same time, there are many area which are flooded every year and the water goes waste in rivers and sea without any conservation. If we do not look towards the conservation and harvestation of water, there is going to be a severe water crisis in the country which will not only affect our agriculture but the whole of the economy.

***SHRIMATI POONAM VELJIBHAI JAT (Kachchh):** I want to kindly ask for your attention on the sorry state of our country in the world scenario as when I went for a meeting of FICCI to Germany in 2009. There was a talk from German Government that there was red tapism in the Country and there was a policy paralysis in the country which was not good for the future of the country. But even after 3 years I see the same problems we are facing and there is no change in the attitude of the Government and the sorry state of the rupee when our future could have been very bright. But because of not taking adequate steps our imports are increasing and exports are decreasing. So, I feel there is a need of a big policy change and a positive attitude towards imports and exports and agriculture in the country which will bring a new change in the world for thinking of India as a new horizon in the world scenario.

[Translation]

***DR. VINAV KUMAR PANDEY (Shrawasti):** While Supporting the supplementary demands, I would like to attract the attention of the goes to my Parliamentary Constituency, where BPL list has not been completed yet. SC, OBCs and Tharu tribes along with general category have not been fully included in the BPL list. I have written several letters to the district administration and the Government, but the information in this regard is still awaited. Whereas the same has been the subject of the Vigilance Committee also.

Funds are not being provided by the Government of India, as recommendation letter of State Government and ORR have not been received by the REC for electrification of Balrampur and Shrawasti under Rajiv Gandhi Rural Electrification Scheme which has been my Parliamentary Constituency.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

The people are bound to drink arsenic water in the absent a of rural drinking water pipeline in Balrampur and Shrawasti districts under Rural Safe Drinking Water Scheme.

Villages adjoining 15 kilometers border should be electrified drains, CC road be constructed and solar lights should be installed under the Border Area Development Scheme.

Every year, at least 5 villages in a block should be developed time bound with basic infrastructure like link roads/drinking water/electrification/solar energy and employment creation in each financial year under MSDP and BRGF.

Selection of weaker people at Panchayat level by camping for old age/handicapped/widow pension scheme.

I hope that all my suggestions will be fruitful and timely directions in public interest would be issued.

*SHRI P. L. PUNIA (Barabanki): I congratulate the Finance Minister for putting the demands for additional fund for essential items. Provisions have been made for the terrible destruction in Uttarakhand and reconstruction of Kedarnath Temple. Funds have been provided for Women Banks and Empowerment of Panchayats. Additional funds have been allocated for handloom and women welfare.

Hon. Finance Minister has proposed supplementary demands in view of the economy and I support the same.

[English]

*SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL (Jalgaon): First I want to place my view regarding this Government. This UPA Government has failed in every segment. It may be governance. It may be financial aspects, economic aspects, social sector. The Indian people suffered a lot during the governance of UPA since last 10 years. The inflation is very high, the value of Rupee is declining day-by-day. The credibility of this Government is going down rapidly with the value of rupee in market. This Government is spending a lot of money on unnecessary works. There is no enough control of Government over the market. The prices of onion are soaring day by day, but the Government has not framed any policy for a common man. The cost of

*Speech was laid on the Table.

foodgrains are touching the sky but the Government is not giving any consideration. Millions of tones of food grain is wasted every year, which is sold to the liquor factory owner. This shows that this Government is giving priority to the manufacturing of liquor rather than giving the foodgrains to poor people to end their hunger.

The Government have failed to protect our foodgrain produced by farmers due to its non action for creating the storage facilities. Secondly the Government has not collected the service tax, income tax and other revenues from the big giants. This Government has not collected the huge amount of tax revenue. The Government should declare the amount of loan given by banks to various industrialist, businessmen, which is not yet recovered. This Government has no right to spend the public money in this way. I want to mention the case of National Stock Exchange Limited (NSEL) which is currently discussed in this Hon. House. The Hon. Minister must assure why there is no coordination amongst the ministries or the implementing authorities to ensure smooth working of such stock markets and healthy environment for investment in the case of NSEL?

Someone from the Government needs to coordinate all the ministries' to ensure cohesion to save the public money. Surprisingly this is not done by this Government. Had this been done, the recent scam of National Stock Exchange (referred as NSEL hereafter) would have come up.

In case of NSEL, this Government has totally failed to protect the investor's interest. The Government allows the NSEL to go ahead with the fraud even after knowing the case. In 2012 the Hon. Minister informed about the fraud and illegalities made by NSEL to this hon. House. However no action was taken by the ministry against NSEL. The case was not handed over to CBI or any other investigation agency. The Government should inform regarding what action is taken on NSEL issues. Whether the Government is interested to fix the responsibility in the case of NSEL? Whether the Government has recovered the tax and the legitimate revenue from the NSEL as per the Income Tax Act and other revenue acts? If NSEL has not paid their tax liabilities to the Government, then this Hon. House has a right to seek the information on who are the ministers, who

were remained present during several functions of NSEL? This is a clear case of government sponsored fraud. Will the Hon. Minister reply to this hon. House on these issues.

This Government has not provided enough funds for the Prime Minister Gram Sadak Yojana. The centrally sponsored schemes for SC/ST did not get sufficient finance in the budget. There is no enough funding for the welfare of the farmers in this country. The fact remains that this government has no means of finance for the poor and the common man. The Government has miserably failed to protect the interest of common man. In spite of giving huge finance to the industry sector, there is no employment generation, the economy of the country is depleting day by day. The tax collected from common man is spent on giving subsidies to the big giants in the industry, however there is no outcome from these financial resources. The Government is responsible for loss of finance which cannot be now recovered. The Government should place all the information on the Table of this House regarding revenue lost during last ten years due to inaction of this Government.

The Government misled this august House regarding the privatization of the airports. The Government has put the amazing figure before this House regarding the aviation sector. However, today what is the condition of the airports which are privatized? The hon. Minister should inform the House regarding benefit of the privatization of the airports. How many flights are added after the airports are handed to private parties? Whether there is any time saving for takeoff and landing of the flights? Everything is same before and after the privatization. Then what was the need for handing over our well-maintained airports of private airports to private parties? There is huge loss of public money and property in the case of privatization. Nonetheless the people are paying more for the maintenance of the huge airports which are not needed for the present needs. Even after 15-20 years, the number of air passengers in our country will not rise significantly. Then there is a doubt raised in public mind that this Government has created the imaginary figures to ease the privatization of airports. Are our Government servants are so useless that they cannot maintain the airports? This should be stopped somewhere. This Government has no right to dispose of the public wealth by cheating the nation and by way of misleading this Hon. Parliament. This Government has made a mockery of

the poverty by giving the miraculous figures on the survival of the common man. The Ministers from this Government are doing astonishing speeches on poverty and nobody is asking answers from them. The fact remains that this Government has lost its credibility. This Government is surrounded by multi million rupees scams and frauds.

I would like to mention here that the Government should take an immediate measure to improve the economy. However, this time the Government should not do the experiment of providing the direct huge money to big industrialist or businessmen, but to provide the direct financial assistance common man, poor people, farmers so that they can strengthen the economy of this country.

[Translation]

*SHRI MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHAN (Sabarkantha): The Government has released figures pertaining to economic growth last Friday wherein it has been estimated that the economy has recorded a growth rate of 4.4 per cent during the April-June quarter of current financial year. It is the minimum rate of growth of development in any quarter after the fourth quarter in the 2008-09 financial year during the global recession. It has been said in the international business report 2013 of the World Bank that there are difficulties at every step in India for carrying out business activities. India has been ranked at 132 position among 185 countries in the report related to Adverse Business scale. Indian rupee recorded maximum devaluation during the year from 20 August, 2012 to 20 August, 2013 which was highest among Asian currencies. The value of one Dollar has increased to 65 rupees. The Government has failed to do its duty in controlling the inflation. To encourage and instill faith in the economic sector is the main challenge before the Government in view of the increasing fiscal deficit. There is a need to make endeavours by the whole Nation to create financial discipline. My submission to the Government is to stop all unnecessary expenditures of Government. Government extravagance is responsible to some extent for the economic crisis. It is an irony that inspite of many economist at the helm of the Government in the country, we are facing economic crises and the common man of the country is suffering continuously under miserable condition. We had been discussing in this

*Speech was laid on the Table.

House to bailout the country from economic crisis, but no meaningful conclusion has been reached upon.

My humble submission to the Government is to adopt indigenous measures to bring the economy on a correct path and ensure work for everyone and provide water to each field because the developmental milestone of India passes through the fields and villages of the country.

*SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN (Churu): The value of the rupee is decreasing. This is a matter of concern for the whole nation. The common man does not have faith in this Government. The Government has introduced the Food Security Bill. We are not starving, but the Government has not done a single work to increase the production of foodgrains. The Indira Gandhi Canal Project of Rajasthan is still lying incomplete in spite of so many years. The work has not been completed yet. Even today the land in my Parliamentary Constituency is not producing any foodgrains for want of water. There have been repeated famine. If this project is completed, then not only the farmers will be prosperous, but it will also provide relief to the country in food security. Today, Punjab is not releasing 060 MAF share of water to Rajasthan. The 0.47 MAF share of water from Sindhumukh canal and Amar Singh branch is also not available. How will you fulfill the commitment of food security? My demand to the Government is to fulfill the demand of Rajasthan for water. The Government has introduced the Crop Insurance Scheme. The farmer is not getting any relief from this scheme also. The companies are framing anti-farmer rules and they are not getting any relief.

In my Parliamentary Constituency, Churu, the banks in Rajasthan have deducted the premium of Crop Insurance Scheme. The Insurance companies are not making payment of compensation as per the premium. The farmers are sitting on dhama for many days to fulfill this demand. The unarmed farmers were lathi charged in Tara Nagar. If the farmers are not happy then how the country will be prosperous? I demand that farmers should be paid compensation as per the premium of the Crop Insurance Scheme.

*SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL: I would like to express my views on the discussion and passing of first

*Speech was laid on the Table.

Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for the year 2013-14.

Indian economy has become the victim of mismanagement. The economy is day by day deteriorating under the UPA Government. The UPA Government is eager to come in power with lethargic approach at the cost of national bankruptcy. In this circumstances, falling rupee is clear indication.

In spite of all claims of controlling the shaking economy, the conditions on the economic front are not only alarming but terrible also.

Continuous falling of rupee in comparison to dollar and unabated price rise have created a sense of embarrassment to the common man or the citizens of the country. Continuous falling of rupee has played a major role in price rise. Every section of the society has been disturbed due to price rise, but no measures are being taken by the Government to control it.

Hon'ble Finance Minister should assure the country not to worry and that rupee will emerge again. If such bogus claims had improved the economy, it would have been done years ago.

The country is getting assurances only since last five years. No one had thought of such conditions in spite of an economist Prime Minister and Finance Minister. But as the condition of rupee is today, it seems that all economists have derailed the economy of the country.

The country of emerging economy and increasing youth population is surrounded by such huge problems.

Fall of rupee is not coming to a halt and it clearly indicates that the problems of economy have taken a serious turn. Today, the condition of rupee has become the identity of Indian economy. The fall of rupee is the sign of the weakness of Indian economy.

A message has been flashed in the whole world that Indian economy is facing serious problems, but our policy makers are making us feel that the public is feeling disturbed due to falling of rupee without any reason. The manner in which the rupee is falling, it clearly indicates that our policy makers have failed to understand as to how the problem of the economy can be resolved.

Hon'ble Finance Minister and Prime Minister should tell us the reasons as to why the foreign investors are not eager to invest in India. The Prime Minister says that the reason for fall of rupees or economy is the world crisis, which is not true. The world economy is growing at present.

Deterioration of our condition at present is not due to world crisis but the domestic policies only. The cost of our industries is increasing due to corruption and our export is losing in the world market. The rupee is falling due to use of capital received from foreign investment on luxury.

The value of rupee is continuously coming down in comparison to dollar. Undoubtedly the reason of this sharp fall in rupee is the UPA Government's nine year current account of 339 billion dollars. This is a major reason for fall of rupee.

The reason for this huge debt is current account deficit. 21.6 lakh crore of budget deficit was added to public debt after the year 2008. It was imperative to raise huge loan from outside to reduce the current account deficit.

Attractive tax deduction vs current account deficit: Hidden incentives are worse than the revenue deficit. The custom duty which was one lakh crores in 2007-08 has been reduced to only Rs.83 lakh *i.e.* 17 per cent loss.

The present Government has made the Indian economy handicapped because their major concern is the improvement of American economy. Rupee has heavily come down to 66.05 in comparison to American dollar and dollar has come down more than 100 in comparison to Pound. Leave aside the dollar or pound, the rupee has come down to 8 to 19 per cent in comparison to neighboring countries like Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

Dual economy is running in this country, one is India and the other one is Bharat. In our country, we can get bidi, tobacco and wine easily but milk, ghee and foodgrains are not available easily.

This economic crisis has been created due to erosion in the credibility of UPA-2 and value of rupee is coming down and the credibility of Government is also decreasing. Share market is stated to be the barometer of economic policy of the country, but the index of Bombay Stock Market

is going down which is indicative that our economy has been admitted in ICU.

Fall of rupee will not be checked by the false measures taken by RBI. If you want to strengthen the economy then there is only one basic formula and that is development.

The Prime Minister has given an assurance that we will achieve 8-5% GDP, but we are staggering at 5 only. The magic figures of planning are different from the ground reality. Poverty has not been reduced, but the poor are facing losses. Poverty was reduced by 1.75 to 2.0 per cent dramatically during the last 2 decades, but how it came to 16.5 per cent dramatically during the last two years.

Growth rate of India is at number two in the world and in such a situation, the statement of Hon'ble Finance Minister is not fully true, whereas India's present growth rate is 4.8 and China's growth rate is 7.7.

Our Prime Minister says that India's condition is not the same as it was in 1991, which shows that the present Union Government has been surrounded by the problems of economy. The economic health of any country depends on the fiscal health. The UPA Government is meshed up in many scams and surviving on oxygen. The economist Prime Minister has failed miserably in reviving the economy.

The people of the country are compelled to live under inflation, poverty and unemployment till next elections because the UPA Government is suffering from policy paralysis.

The poor and socialist people of India have been trapped between the increasing prices of onion, petrol, diesel and dollar.

It would be better that ruling as well as the opposition should also show concern about the weakening economy. It is not the time to think over narrow political interests but it is time to save the economy of the country.

I would like to give following suggestions:

1. The Union Government should sincerely try to improve the economy.

2. Government should pay attention towards bringing the economy on right track along with settling claims and making announcements.
3. UPA Government should increase import duty and restrict import of TVs from abroad.
4. Market should take decisions on the deeds of the Government, nor on announcements.
5. Government should not impose restrictions in haste.
6. Government should continue economic reforms and wait for stability in the markets.
7. At present, there is need to give boost to the actual economy viz. agriculture, industry sector, infrastructure and service sector to get-rid of the root cause of loss making economy.
8. The agriculture and animal husbandry are the basis of our traditional economy. They should not be neglected because we will get rid of poverty and unemployment through them only.
9. Milch cattle should be given to the poor in spite of subsidy which will create employment and reduce poverty.
10. NDMS- the National Disaster Management Scheme should be made more strong by allotting it more and more funds to avoid Uttarakhand like calamity and recurrence thereof.
11. The cases of crop insurance scheme in Gujarat and other States should be settled at the earliest.
12. The prices of petrol and diesel has been increased by rupees 2.35 and 50 paise respectively. The price rise of these items should be checked and Central taxes thereon should be withdrawn because it results in price rise and unemployment.
13. Income tax rates should be reduced and traders should be given relief.
14. Special provisions should be made for women and senior citizens.
15. Ban on gold import should be withdrawn.
16. The service class should be paid full salary.
17. Strict steps should be taken to arrest the tsunami in economy.
18. Basic facilities on borders should be increased in comparison to China and our army should be modernised accordingly.
19. The one and half centenary (150) of Swami Vivekanand is being celebrated, framing of skill development programmes is imperative for generation of employment for the better future of youth (65 per cent) who are the legacy of the country.
20. Road connectivity and linking of rivers schemes should be made better.
21. Himalaya Ministry-must be emphasized to formulate Himalaya Authority Scheme because ecological imbalance in the States of Himalayan foot hills have increased/creating problems.
22. Sincere efforts should be made to create a climate change Ministry at the Centre on the lines of Gujarat.
23. The escapism from agriculture due to MNREGA should be checked because villagers are migrating towards the cities and the population of cities is increasing like insects.
24. The subsidy and package policies adopted by the UPA Government for 2014 elections is dangerous for federal structure of the country.
25. The Centre is introducing Food Security Bill, Land Acquisition Bill in haste in view of election politics and it is also a challenge to the economy of the country. First, revamp the PDS system and then only something can be achieved.
26. Medium class foodgrain producing farmers have not been brought under any provision, it should also be looked into.
27. The funds allocated for agriculture and animal husbandry in general budget, which are the backbone of economy of our country, should be increased.

28. 18 lakh metric tonne coal is imported from abroad which should be banned and production should be started from our coal mines itself.
29. Post offices and branches of nationalised banks should be opened in every village under the MNREGA, Food Security and Cash Subsidy Scheme to increase facilities.
30. Jawahar Lal Nehru Urban Development Scheme-2 should be started. The capital of Gujarat, Gandhi Nagar, and the birth place of Sardar Patel must be benefitted through this scheme.
31. Nirbhaya Fund worth one thousand crore capital was allotted to the Women Bank and no progress has been noticed so far.

SHRIMATI DARSHANA JARDOSH (Surat): I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants. Devaluation of rupee is affecting the economy and the market adversely. We should think over it.

The Nirbhaya case funds should also be mobilised. Prices of gold are increasing and share market is also facing an atmosphere of disbelief. There is a need to create faith in the share market. Government should also answer the reasons for decreasing sustainable economic development rate.

*SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI (Sheohar): It is required to meet Government expenditure smoothly on Supplementary Demands for Grants, for which approval is being given by Parliament. It is required for developmental work. I, while giving my consent for these demands, would like to draw the attention of the Government towards down fall of economy of the country. Constant fall of rupee, constant fall of sensex-Nifty from 20% to 100% with the opening of market is not a good indication. It is the indication of crisis. The question is that economic crisis is not the synonym of the economic policies of a few days.

This crisis is the consequence of economic malnutrition of years together. Our capitalists prefer to make their investment outside instead of India.

1. Prices of crude oil are going up. Sincere efforts have not been made in the direction of

exploitation of crude oil and gas. Therefore, we have to pay exorbitant prices.

2. Industrial production is declining continuously. Import and export gap is widening. Import agreement with European Union has been executed blindly. The ornaments which we get are machinemade and the duty which levied on its sale becomes higher.
3. 70 per cent people in India depend on agriculture. We could not develop it in so many years. How for utilization of good land instead of developing barren land is justifiable.

These facts are literally significant here:

- (i) Does Sharad Pawar ji not know as to what wrong happened with onion?
- (ii) Does the Minister of Defence not know as to what wrong happened with submarines?
- (iii) Does the Minister of External Affairs not know as to what wrong is being done by Pakistan and China?
- (iv) Does the Minister of Home Affairs not know as to why and what wrong is happening in Bodhgaya and Hyderabad?
- (v) Does the Minister of Finance not know as to what wrong is happening with rupee?
- (vi) Does the Minister of Coal not know as to where the concerned file of coal have gone and who has stolen them?
- (vii) Does the Prime Minister not know as to why all this wrong is happening?
- (viii) But despite it, the Central Government is saying that "Ho raha hai Bharat Ka Nav-Nirman."

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): I am grateful to the 17 hon. Members who have participated in this discussion on the Supplementary Demands. As hon. Members have pointed out that this is a very modest demand. In terms of cash outflow, the Government is

*Speech was laid on the Table.

asking for only Rs.127.14 crore. I have held a view for many years that the first Supplementary Demand is really unjustified because it comes within two or three months after the Budget. So, really the first Supplementary Demand which is usually introduced in the Monsoon Session should really be introduced in the Winter Session. We are asking for Rs. 2 crore for restoration of Kedarnath Temple and I have explained why it is only Rs. 2 crore; Rs. 98.14 crore to the Geological Survey of India for the purchase of Ocean Going Research Vessel; Rs. 2 crore to the Bharat Gold Mines for a global tender; and Rs. 25 crore sought by the Supreme Court of India for major works. Sir, the remaining are only technical supplementaries. We are aware that in the Budget, we have provided a lump sum of Rs.5,000 crore to the Planning Commission in anticipation of new programmes that would be announced in the Budget Speech or subsequently by the Prime Minister or the Government.

Then, moneys could be allocated to the departments concerned from the lump-sum of Rs. 5,000 crore. The major allocations that are being made through the Technical Supplementary Demands for Grants are Rs. 75 crore for replantation and rejuvenation of Coconut Gardens in Kerala. I am disappointed that nobody from Kerala mentioned this. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Mainpuri): Hon. Minister of Finance, please save the farmers.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: For that you must go to the Minister of Agriculture first.

We have allocated Rs. 50 crore as equity to Farmer Producer Organisations, Rs. 100 crore to Credit Guarantee Fund for Farmer Producer Organisations and Rs. 200 crore for a pilot project for Nutri-Farms. So, Rs. 425 crore is directly related to agriculture. We are giving Rs. 100 crore each to the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage, Aligarh Muslim University and to the Banaras Hindu University. I think those who are interested in education, culture and heritage will welcome these grants.

We are appropriating Rs. 1000 crore to the Nirbhaya Fund, Rs. 1000 crore for the Skill Development Mission of

the National Skill Development Corporation, Rs. 100 crore as equity and quasi-equity to Microfinance Institutions, Rs. 500 crore to set up a Credit Guarantee Fund under the Factoring Act and Rs. 1000 crore to the proposed Women's Bank. Each one of them, I think, is an important idea. These ideas have been fleshed out after the Budget was presented and, therefore, we are allocating moneys from the lump-sum of Rs. 5,000 crore.

Sir, Rs. 217 crore is being given for revival of HMT Limited, Rs. 100 crore is being given for the Nagaland Pulp and Paper Company Limited and Rs. 11.46 crore is being given as a bridge loan to HMT. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj gets an additional amount of Rs. 200 crore under the Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan for the empowerment of panchayats and the Department of Science and Technology gets another Rs. 200 crore for promoting innovative ideas and developing innovative ideas of young scientists. An amount of Rs. 96 crore is being given for revival, reforms and restructuring of the Handloom Sector and Rs. 200 crore is being given to the Ministry of Women and Child Development for construction of Shelter Homes for single women, destitute and widows. So, I think, each one of these ideas is an exceptional idea.

[Translation]

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN (Ghosi): Weavers are in large numbers. What will happen with this amount?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: This is an additional amount. You must go to the Budget first Dara Singhji. The Budget has provided the allocation already. These are additional amounts.

So, we are being very careful about utilising the money. This is a year of fiscal consolidation. I have repeatedly said that 4.8 per cent, which we have estimated as the fiscal deficit is a red line, the red line will not be crossed and, therefore, we are apportioning amounts out of this amount of Rs. 5,000 crore very carefully and only for the most essential purposes.

Sir, this is, of course, a demand for a very modest Supplementary Grants. But quite rightly, since it is part of the financial proposals, the debate can legitimately

range to any subject under the Sun and quite rightly the Opposition Members have seized the opportunity to criticise the Government on a number of issues. I respectfully accept their criticisms. We will learn from the criticisms. But obviously, it will not be possible for me to reply to everyone of the ideas that have been thrown up or every criticism that has been made, let me deal with just a few of them which, I think, are necessary to be dealt with.

First on Uttarakhand; this Rs. 2 crore is only for immediately clearing the rubble and the malba around the Uttarakhand Kedarnath Temple. First that has to be cleared so that Pujas can start early. I think the date for Pujas has been set, 11th or 12th of September or so.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 11th of September.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: 11th of September, you know better. So, Rs. 2 crore is for immediate clearing up the rubble and the malba surrounding the Temple by bringing some heavy machinery. Otherwise, Uttarakhand Government has submitted a proposal for rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts; from the international bodies Rs. 3,732 crore, from Central Ministries and other CSS Schemes, Rs. 2,015 crore and additional Central Assistance from the Planning Commission for about Rs. 1,500 crore. All these are under consideration.

The decision taken so far is that we are posing to the ADB for 200 million US dollars for reconstruction and disaster response, to the World Bank for 150 million US dollars for reconstruction and disaster response. The teams have visited and we are confident that we will be able to get the money and pass it on to the Uttarakhand Government.

We have asked for additional finance of 24 million US dollars for water supply under an existing project and we are asking for a 100 million US dollars from the World Bank for reconstruction of village roads. Rs. 145 crore, as Centre's share of the States Disaster Response Fund, has already been released and Rs.250 crore, on account, from the National Disaster Response Fund has also been released.

The High-level Committee, Chaired by the Agriculture Minister on 21st of August 2013, has approved Rs. 1,187 crore from NDRF and this would be released in due course. The Planning Commission has chaired an inter-Ministerial

meeting and all the Ministries have been asked to confirm what additional support they can give through Centrally Sponsored Schemes under their respective Ministries. I am sure a sizeable amount of money will be forthcoming from various Ministries. So, I think, enough money has been provided, enough money will be provided. The Government stands by its commitment to help Uttarakhand find its feet in rehabilitation.

Sir, there was a reference to agriculture. I am not making a detailed response on that. There is a brief discussion a little later and the Agriculture Minister is coming. All that I want to point out is that agriculture growth in this country always varied from year to year. We are a monsoon dependent country. Yes, we add to irrigation facilities to try to improve the acreage under assured irrigation, but nevertheless we remain a monsoon dependent country.

Sir, look at the last ten years, agriculture and the GDP. Agricultural growth rate has varied say, 3.8 per cent, 5.1 per cent, 4.2 per cent, 5.8 per cent, 0.1 per cent, 0.8 per cent and then on a low base it springs to 7.9 per cent, comes down to 3.6 per cent. The rate of growth of agriculture will vary in this country from year to year. What is important is what is the trend line of foodgrains production. I am not looking at other agricultural items. I am only looking at food grains as an indicator on whether we are in the right path to become self-sufficient in most agricultural products.

In 2004-05, the total foodgrain production, mainly wheat and paddy, was 198.36 million tonnes. In 2012-13, this increased to 255.36 million tonnes. From roughly a little under 200 million tonnes, it has now crossed 250 million tonnes in a period of ten years. I am sure, if we continue to invest in agriculture, especially irrigation, and continue to invest in better seeds, better fertilizers and using fertilizers sparingly and wisely, agriculture production will increase in this country. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please be seated.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: In terms of MSP, which has a direct impact on farmers' incomes, in 2004-05, for wheat we gave Rs. 630 a quintal; this year we are giving Rs. 1350 per quintal. For paddy, in 2004-05, we gave

Rs. 560 per quintal; this year we are giving Rs. 1310 per quintal. I won't say more. The Minister of Agriculture will be here and I am sure questions can be asked to him.

There were some questions about the Food Security Bill. I think, an hon. Member from Uttar Pradesh said, what is Uttar Pradesh getting under the Food Security Bill. I thought the Minister for Food and Consumer Affairs did share this information. This information is in the public domain. Currently, the allocation to all the States of wheat and rice is about Rs. 500 lakh tonnes. Under the Food Security Bill, when it becomes an Act, the allocation will be Rs. 550 lakh tonnes. Take Uttar Pradesh, for example. In the last three years, based on average offtake and allocation, Uttar Pradesh was getting about 72,68,520 tonnes. Under the NFSB formula, Uttar Pradesh will get 96,15,000 tonnes. In fact the Minister has assured, no State will get less than what it has got. Every State's allocation is protected. Many States will get more. States which get less will be protected at their current level. So, I think, everybody benefits.

A question has been asked legitimately, I think hon. Member Mr. Prabhunath Singh asked: How are you going to foot the Bill? The answer is, what the Chairperson of the UPA said, how are we going to foot the bill is one kind of question; the answer to that is, we must foot the bill if we genuinely believe that hunger and malnutrition must go. For the current year, I believe, I maintain that what we have allocated is adequate. We have provided Rs. 90,000 crore for food subsidy. There is also some money in the Mid Day Meal Scheme because part of that grain will be accounted for here. In the current year, already five months and five days are over. States would have to fulfil a number of conditions, especially revamping their PDS, identifying the beneficiaries and taking a number of steps before they are ready to roll out the Food Security Act. So, for the current year, the allocation is sufficient and I am confident that we will fully foot the Bill that is required for the current year. For the next year, if the right question to ask is the question that I asked, the question that the Chairperson of UPA asked, we must do it. Therefore, we will do it. I think, in the next Budget, when that is presented, adequate money will be provided for the Food Security Bill.

Sir, there was some question about the rupee; I thought I did answer a few days ago. Yes, the value of the

rupee is indeed a matter of concern. Rupee must find its appropriate level. But, as the Prime Minister explained in his statement, some of these adjustments are must needed adjustments. If our inflation is high, if our fiscal deficit is high and if our current account deficit is high, higher than most of our trading partners, it will necessarily mean a correction in the value of the rupee. But we believe that it has overshot its true value. That the rupee is more undervalued than it should be.

In fact, look at the last say about 15 years. In 1998, the rupee was about Rs. 40 to a dollar. It went down to 43.77 in 2004. But it came back to Rs. 40 in 2008. It is not as if the rupee's value does not go up or come down. It was Rs. 40 in 1998. It went down to Rs. 44 in 2004 and came back to Rs. 40 in 2008. Again it went down to Rs. 50 in 2009 but came back to Rs. 44 in 2010. In 2011, it was Rs. 44 and, as I said on the other day, it was remarkably stable for nearly ten months. From August, 2012 to May 22, 2013, the rupee was remarkably stable. Since then the rupee has come under pressure. But as the new Governor said yesterday and I said last week, we think that it has over shot to its value. We think correction will take place. A number of measures are being taken in order to strengthen, restore and improve confidence in the Indian economy. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (Bangalore South): Sir, are you yielding? ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I am not. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister is not yielding. Please be seated.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Please explain the condition in last 15 days. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I have heard you, I am explaining that. I wish you had stayed back and listen to the other speakers also. ...(*Interruptions*) Let me finish first. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister is not yielding. Please be seated.

...(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): ...*(Interruptions)*
I would like to ask as to whether rupee had even fallen to this level in the history. ...*(Interruptions)* Has rupee ever devaluated to such an extent?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the Minister reply. The Minister is replying.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I am replying to that only.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yadav ji, please be seated.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, all emerging market currencies have come under pressure. We did explain that the Brazilian Real, the South African Rand, the Turkey Lira, the Indonesian Rupiah, all large emerging markets currencies have come under pressure following the announcement of the US Federation that they will begin the taper of the quantitative easing. Some of the corrections, as the Prime Minister said, are needed corrections. But we think that the correction is an over correction and this is mainly because of the pressure to which all large emerging market economies have come. But the negative correction that is taking place to our adverse interest is not necessarily a correction that will not reconfirm itself. That is why I am giving numbers to show, while the rupee has depreciated in the past, it had also appreciated back.

So, we are confident that this correction will be stabilized and the rupee will correct itself. I am not saying that the rupee's value should be this or that. The rupee has to find its value in the market depending upon macro factors which, as anyone knows, are the fiscal deficit, the current account deficit and inflation. If we address these fundamental macro economic factors, the rupee will correct itself.

So finally, Sir, I just want to say one thing. Yes, the economy is going through a period of stress now. The growth has declined. The first quarter's growth has been disappointing although given the trends and given the developments in the first few months of this year, we

expected that growth will decline. The point is that the States are reporting much higher growth. Last year the CSO estimated India's growth at 5 per cent. I am just saying. This is a piece of information. I am not making any value judgment. If you look at the information provided by the States, the Directorate of Economics and Statistics in the respective State Governments, I find that in 20-12-13 – while information is not available for about four States – on the basis of information available from 32 States and Union Territories, only two States reported the State GDP growth rate of less than 5 per cent.

All other States reported above five per cent, in fact, much higher than five per cent. While States are reporting much higher growth rate, the CSO is reporting a five per cent growth rate. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Ghatal): Mr. Minister, do you believe in statistics? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not interrupt him.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, why is he interrupting me? He does not listen. That is the problem. He must listen. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not interrupt. Let the Minister speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, he must listen. I started by saying ...*(Interruptions)* Shri Gurudas Dasgupta, I am not yielding in your favour. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please be seated.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I am not yielding in your favour now. ...*(Interruptions)* Why are you interrupting me? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, please be seated. Let the Minister speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, why is he interrupting? Does he have your permission to interrupt when I am not yielding in his favour? ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, I started by saying that I am not placing any value judgment on any of this information. I am simply sharing information. Therefore, I think, we need to look at the matter not with such deep pessimism as is being reflected by some. Yes, growth has declined. The UPA I delivered the highest growth in any five-year period in the history of independent India, and the average of the first four years of the UPA-II, I maintain and the figures will speak for themselves, is more than the NDA regime's five-year average of 5.9. Nevertheless we are not satisfied; nevertheless we are not happy; we are concerned about the decline in growth last year and I am especially concerned about the decline in growth in the first quarter of this year but I do not think we should give room to gloom and pessimism. These ups and downs will happen in the life of a country. We will bounce back. All I am pointing out is, based on preliminary figures given by States many States are reporting higher growth. We will have to look into these numbers. Many States are reporting higher growth. Only two States are reporting less than five per cent growth, and many States are reporting higher growth. We will look into these numbers. We will try to find out where growth is happening and where growth is not happening, which parts of India are witnessing high growth and which are not witnessing high growth, and corrective measures will be taken.

Sir, I would request that these modest Demands for Supplementary Grants be passed.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2013-14 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2014, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1, 19, 33, 34, 51, 60, 67, 71, 82, 85, 91, 93, 102 and 105."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2013-14 are passed.

15.59 hrs

APPROPRIATION (NO. 4) BILL, 2013*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up Item No. 9. Now, the hon. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2013-14.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2013-14."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I introduce** the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the House will take up Item No. 10. Hon. Minister.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I beg to move:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2013-14 be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2013-14 be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section -2, dated 05.09.2013.

**Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

16.00 hrs

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

“That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

The Schedule was added to the Bill.

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

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I beg to move:

“That the Bill be passed.”

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

“That the Bill be passed.”

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA (Hazaribagh): Sir, the Minister has raised a very important issue and that should not go without that issue being joined from this side.

That issue is this. He said that he has looked at the figures of the growth rates in the various States. He has said that ‘out of all the States in India, there are only two States where the growth rate is less than five per cent.’...
(Interruptions)

We know that the CSO is not a very creditworthy or credible organization because they have revised the industrial figures, for instance, twice within one month. There are many other examples of the CSO not giving out correct figures of production of various items. But the point that the Minister has made, will unnecessarily raise doubts in the minds of the observers of the growth rate because the Minister knows as well as most of us do, that the country's growth rate is not merely the aggregate of the States' growth. It is much more than that.

Who calculates the foreign trade, for instance? The States do not. But when you are looking at the growth rate of the whole country, you include the foreign trade. Who calculates the financial sector growth rate? The States

do not. It is the country as a whole where the financial sector growth rate is also there. There are a large number of services, for instance, which is the major part of the economy today. That also is not captured by the States' figures. That is captured by the All India figures. So, let not the impression be created that the India's growth story is merely an aggregate of the States' growth rate. It is much more than that. That impression should not go.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I did not say that.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: That impression should be clarified.

The point, which my distinguished colleague Shri Ananth Kumarji, who initiated the debate, was raising that the Finance Minister gets a lot of clapping when he compares the growth rate of the NDA period with the growth rate of the UPA period.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Why not?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Why do they not come out and say, what was the rate of inflation in our time and what was rate of inflation in their time?

You always duck that figure. If you have the courage, come out; and let us compare it.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (Dum Dum): Sir, I was not fortunate to have the Finance Minister in the House when I had a chance to speak. That is why, the Finance Minister being suave as he is, normally avoids the questions, which may be tricky.

I raised, in a very humble way, the demand of the West Bengal Government for a moratorium on the interest payment. I have been raising this question for the last one year in the House and I have not got a reply so far.

I would like a response from the Minister, however brief, to this question.

Secondly, a very small point I had raised that what actually is the direction of the Government's economic policy. Is it to increase growth? Is it to control inflation? Is it to reduce the fiscal and the current account deficit? The signal we are getting at different times from the Government is that on the one hand they want the corporates to grow, they want the FDI and FII to come in and on the other

hand they are saying that they will go for the Food Subsidy Bill which we all supported and which everybody says will lead to further deficit.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You made your point. That is fine. Now, Shri Gurudas Dasgupta.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: This deficit is not only now. Sometimes, there are statements from the Government that the fiscal stimulus given in 2008-09 is leading to larger fiscal deficit today, which is blaming the former Finance Minister who is now in an exalted position. I have not got a clear answer from the Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, you made your point.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: I do not know whether he will give the answer but I am putting this question.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, I am sorry that I have to put a very fundamental question. Every time we listen to the Finance Minister or we listen to a statement of the hon. Prime Minister, it is being said that some people are generating pessimism. Pessimism is not the word to be attributed to the Members of the Opposition. Pessimism is the word to be attributed to the concern that is being expressed in all quarters. Whether pessimism is wrong or not but artificial optimism is also equally wrong.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: It is suicidal.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: It is also wrong. Let us call a spade a spade. While I was speaking, the last line I said was that India has enough. India, as a nation, is not believing in the confidence, in the ability of the political establishment but believing in the resilience of the nation. I say that India has enough capacity to fight back. Has the hon. Minister forgotten it? It is because he generally forgets other speeches and only remembers his speeches. He can consult the notes please. Therefore, there is no question of pessimism. But the question is, let us know what the reality is. If the disease is not diagnosed and if the doctor artificially says, no, the patient is much better than earlier, then there will be no treatment for that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sum up now.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, I believe the political establishment of the country, since the election is approaching, is believing that if we say that pessimism

should not be the concern, they are hiding the truth. How can there be increased growth in a State where agriculture is declining?

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, please conclude.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Please give me half-a-minute.

Core sector is declining. Index of industrial production is declining. Even the service sector is at the lowest. In such a situation, the hon. Minister falls back upon some total bull stories. I am using the words 'total bull stories' about the so-called growth indices. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the hon. Minister.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I am grateful to the three hon. Members. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please be seated.

Now, the hon. Minister

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only the Minister will speak now. Hon. Members, please be seated.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I am grateful to the three hon. Members, who made some brief comments at the Third Reading stage. I do not dispute Shri Yashwant Sinha's statement that CSO's calculations take into account certain factors other than what the State calculations take. That is why, I said it very carefully. I chose my words very carefully. I am not placing any value judgement. All I am pointing out is that many States are reporting growth rates for the State GDP, which not only captures both - agriculture and industry - but captures services also. The rates are much higher. Therefore, I wish you look into those numbers as well as the CSO's numbers. The CSO corrects the numbers from time to time. The final number comes only after about 18 months or so, which is then the number which is used for all purposes in the future. We should look into that. I was using it to say that there is no reason to believe that all is doom and gloom and pessimism. It was that limited point that I was making by that statement.

As regards Prof. Saugata Roy's question, although it does not fall quite within the scope of the Supplementary

Demands, since he has repeated his question, let me point out that 13th Finance Commission recommended a total resource transfer of Rs. 1,17,997 crore, including devolution of taxes to the State of West Bengal, which is approximately 132 per cent higher than the recommendation of the 12th Finance Commission. Against this amount, an amount of Rs. 53,585 crore, including devolution of taxes has been released to the State during the period 2010-11 till date.

To address the developmental needs of the State, a special multi-layer assistance amounting to Rs. 8,750 crore, under BRGF, has been agreed to in 2011-12 and an amount of Rs. 2,904 was released till 31.03.2012.

Central Assistance to West Bengal provided under CSS Schemes, Central Assistance for State Plan and direct transfer to agencies has shown an increase of 34 per cent from Rs.13,843 crore in 2010-11 to Rs.18,571 crore in 2011-12. A Structural Adjustment Loan from the Asian Development Bank amounting to \$400 million has also been facilitated to ease the resource position of the State.

The State has thus been supported through sufficient Central fund. The 14th Finance Commission has since been constituted. Keeping in view the debt level of States like West Bengal and some other States, a special term of reference has been added, of which I read the relevant portion "the Commission should review the State of the finances, deficit and debt levels of the Union Government and the States, keeping in view, in particular, fiscal consolidation roadmap recommended by the 13th Finance Commission."

Paragraph 6, sub-para 3 of the notification provides that the resources of the State Governments and the demands on such resources under different Heads, including – please mark these words – the impact of debt levels on resources availability in debt stressed States for the five years commencing from 1st April, 2015 on the basis of levels of taxation and non-tax revenues likely to reach during 2014-15, shall be taken into account. Once the Report of the 14th Finance Commission is available, further steps can be taken.

Finally, Sir, there was a point made by Mr. Gurudas Dasgupta, which I have answered. Sir, it is not that I allege that anyone is spreading pessimism; all I am saying is that we should not spread gloom and pessimism. We can

debate which is the best medicine for the stress that we face today. But, I believe that medicines that UPA-I and UPA-II have in their dispensaries are far better than the medicines that my friend's Party had when they were in the State Government.

Finally I want to say that we are very fond of Shri Ananth Kumar. There is no reason why he should be agitated or aggrieved. I only missed his presence when the debate was going on. We are very fond of him. In fact, the treasury benches are extremely fond of him. In fact, he has done more for our victory in Karnataka than anyone else!

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

16.16 hrs

RE: RIGHT TO INFORMATION (AMENDMENT)
BILL, 2013

...(Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Mr. Chairman, the Government has decided to refer the Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2013 to the Standing Committee of Parliament because the order passed by the Central Information Commission dated 3.6.2013 bringing political parties within the purview of the public authority under the RTI Act needs elaborate study. If it goes to the Standing Committee, there will be inputs given by various political parties and Members. Therefore, we want the Bill to be referred to the Standing Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Since the Government wants that the Right to Information (Amendment) Bill be referred to the Standing Committee, we will take up the next item, Item No.12.

16.17 hrs

WAKF (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2010*

Amendments made by Rajya Sabha

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN): Mr. Chairman, I beg to move:

"That the following amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill to amend the Wakf Act, 1995, be taken into consideration."

Enacting Formula

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

Clause 1

2. That at page 1, line 3, *for* the figure "2010", the figure "2013" be *substituted*.

Clause 5

3. That at page 2, line 7, *after* the word "person", the words "or institution, public or private" be *inserted*.
4. That at page 2, line 9, *after* the words "terminated by" the words "mutawalli or" be *inserted*.
5. That at page 2, line 18, the word "such" be *deleted*.
6. That at page 2, line 22, *after* the word "Khanqah" the words "peerkhana and karbala" be *inserted*.
7. That at page 2, *for* lines 23 to 27, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"(v) *for* clause (r), the following clause shall be *substituted*, namely:-

(r) "waqf" means the permanent dedication by any person, of any movable or immovable property for any purpose recognised by the Muslim law as pious, religious or charitable and includes-

- (i) a waqf by user but such waqf shall not cease to be a waqf by reason only of the user having ceased irrespective of the period of such cesser;

- (ii) a Shamlat Patti, Shamlat Deh, Jumla Malkkan or by any other name entered in a revenue record;

- (iii) "grants", including mashrat-ul-khidmat for any purpose recognised by the Muslim law as pious, religious or charitable; and

- (iv) a waqf-alal-aulad to the extent to which the property is dedicated for any purpose recognised by Muslim law as pious, religious or charitable, provided when the line of succession fails, the income of the waqf shall be spent for education, development, welfare and such other purposes as recognised by Muslim law,

and "waqif" means any person making such dedication;".

Clause 6

8. That at page 2, *after* line 28, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

"(a) in sub-section (1), *for* the words 'wakfs existing in the State at the date of the commencement of this Act', the words 'auqaf in the State' shall be *substituted*;"

9. That at page 2, line 29, *for* the bracket and alphabet "(a)", the bracket and alphabet "(b)", be *substituted*

10. That at page 2, line 33, *for* the figure "2010" the figure "2013" be *substituted*

11. That at page 2, line 34, *for* the figure "2010" the figure "2013" be *substituted*

12. That at page 2, *for* lines 38 and 39, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"(c) in sub-section (6):-

- (i) in the proviso, *for* the words "twenty years", the words "ten years" shall be *substituted*;

- (ii) *after* the proviso, the following proviso shall be *inserted*, namely:-

"Provided further that the waqf properties already notified shall not be reviewed again

*The Bill was passed by Lok Sabha on the 7th May, 2010 and transmitted to Rajya Sabha for its concurrence. Rajya Sabha passed the Bill with amendments at its sitting held on 19th August, 2013 and returned it to Lok Sabha on the 27th August, 2013.

in subsequent survey except where the status of such property has been changed in accordance with the provisions of any law."

Clause 7

13. That at page 3, *for* lines 2 to 4, the following be *substituted* namely:—

"(3) The revenue authorities shall:—

- (i) include the list of auqaf referred to in sub-section (2), while updating the land records; and
- (ii) take into consideration the list of auqaf referred to in sub-section (2), while deciding mutation in the land records."

Clause 9

14. That at page 3, line 23, *after* the word "have" the word "the" be *inserted*.

Clause 11

15. That at page 4, line 9, *for* the word "or" the word "and" be *substituted*.

16. That at page 4, line 20, *for* the words "Central Council and the Council" the words "Council and it" be *substituted*.

17. That at page 4, line 27 the words "Central Waqf" be *deleted*.

18. That at page 4, line 30, *for* the words "Judge of the Supreme Court and the fee" the words "Judge of the Supreme Court or a retired Chief Justice of a High Court and the fees" be *substituted*.

19. That at page 4, line 31 *for* the word "determined", the word "specified" be *substituted*.

Clause 12

20. That at page 4, line 38, *for* the words "one year from the date of the", the words "six months from the date of" be *substituted*.

21. That at page 4, line 39, *for* the figure "2010", the figure "2013" be *substituted*.

22. That at page 4, *for* lines 42 and 43, the following be *substituted*, namely:—

"section 13, in the case of Shia waqf, the Members shall belong to the Shia Muslim and in the case of Sunni waqf, the Members shall belong to the Sunni Muslim".

Clause 13

23. That at page 5, line 4, *for* the words "members enrolled with", the words "members of" be *substituted*.

24. That at page 5, *for* lines 6 to 9, the following proviso be *substituted*, namely:—

"Provided that in case there is no Muslim member of the Bar Council of a State or a Union Territory, the State Government or the Union Territory administration, as the case may be, may nominate any senior Muslim advocate from that State or the Union Territory, and";.

25. That at page 5, *for* lines 33 and 34, the following be *substituted*, namely:—

"(d) one person each from amongst Muslims, to be nominated by the State Government from recognised scholars in Shia and Sunni Islamic Theology;".

26. That at page 5, line 37, *for* the words "Deputy Secretary", the words "Joint Secretary" be *substituted*.

27. That at page 5, line 42, *for* the words "less than three and not more than five", the words "less than five and not more than seven" be *substituted*.

28. That at page 6, line 3, *for* the bracket and figure "(7)", the bracket and figure "(5)" be *substituted*.

29. That at page 6, *after* line 3, the following be *inserted*, namely:—

"(IV) sub-section (7) shall be omitted;".

New Clause 14A

30. That at page 6, *after* line 5, the following new clause be *inserted*, namely:—

"14A. In section 16 of the principal Act, after clause (d), the following Amendment of section 16.

clause shall be *inserted*, namely:-

“(da) he has been held guilty of encroachment on any waqf property;”.

Clause 15

31. That at page 7, line 5, *for* the words “show of hands”, the words “method of secret ballot” be *substituted*.

Clause 16

32. That at page 7, line 18, *for* the word “sub-sections”, the word “sub-section” be *substituted*.
33. That at page 7, line 23, *after* the words “State Government”, the words “and in case of non availability of a Muslim officer of that rank, a Muslim officer of equivalent rank may be appointed on deputation” be *inserted*.
34. That at page 7, lines 24 and 25, be *deleted*.

New Clause 17A

35. That at page 7, after line 34, the following be inserted, namely:

17A. For section 28 of the principal Act, the following section shall be *substituted*, namely:-

<p>“28. Subject to the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder, the District Magistrate or in his absence an Additional District Magistrate or Sub Divisional Magistrate of a District in the State shall be responsible for implementation of the decisions of the Board which may be conveyed through the Chief Executive Officer and the Board may, wherever considers necessary, seek directions from the Tribunal for the implementation of its decisions.”.</p>	<p>Substitution of new section for section 28.</p> <p>Power of District Magistrate, Additional District Magistrate or Sub Divisional Magistrate to implement the directions of the Board.</p>
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Clause 18

36. That at page 7, *for* lines 37 to 40, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

“(a) in sub-section (1) as so numbered, for the words ‘subject to such conditions and restrictions as may be prescribed and subject to the payment of such fees as may be leviable under any law for the time being in force’, the words ‘subject to such conditions as may be prescribed’ shall be *substituted*.”.

Clause 20

37. That at page 8, for lines 14 to 22, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

“(l) in sub-section (2), for clause (j), the following clause shall be *substituted*, namely:-

“(j) to sanction lease of any immovable property of a waqf in accordance with the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder:

Provided that no such sanction shall be given unless a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of the Board present cast their vote in favour of such transaction:

Provided further that where no such sanction is given by the Board, the reasons for doing so shall be recorded in writing.”;

38. That at page 8, line 26, for the word “fair”, the word “market” be *substituted*.

39. That at page 8, *for* lines 29 and 30, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

“educational institution, shopping centre, market, housing or residential flats and the like” shall be *substituted*.”.

Clause 21

40. That at page 8, *for* lines 33 to 35, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

<p>“21. In section 33 of the principal Act, in sub-section (1), -</p> <p>(a) after the words “the Chief Executive Officer”, the words “or any other person authorised by him in writing” shall be <i>inserted</i>;</p>	<p>Amendment of section 33.</p>
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(b) the words "either himself or any other person authorised by him in writing in this behalf" shall be *omitted*.

Clause 24

41. That at page 9, lines 2 and 3, be *deleted*.
42. That at page 9, line 4, *for* the bracket and alphabet "(b)", the bracket and alphabet "(a)" be *substituted*.
43. That at page 9, line 6, *for* the bracket and alphabet "(c)", the bracket and alphabet "(b)" be *substituted*.

Clause 26

44. That at page 9, for lines 13 to 19, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"26. In section 47 of the principal Act, - Amendment

(I) in sub-section (1), - of section

(i) in clause (a), for the words "ten 47.

thousand rupees", the words "fifty thousand rupees" shall be *substituted*;

(ii) in clause (b), for the words "ten thousand rupees", the words "fifty thousand rupees" shall be *substituted*;

(iii) in clause (c), after the words "the State Government may," the words "under intimation to the Board", shall be *inserted*;

(II) in sub-section (3), in the first proviso, the words "more than ten thousand rupees but less than fifteen thousand rupees", the words "more than fifty thousand rupees" shall be *substituted*.

Clause 27

45. That at page 9, for lines 20 to 41, the following be substituted, namely:-

"27. In section 51 of the principal Act,- Amendment

(i) for sub-section (1), the following of section

sub-sections shall be *substituted*, 51.

namely:-".

(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the waqf deed, any lease of any immovable property which is waqf property, shall be void unless such lease is effected with the prior sanction of the Board:

Provided that no mosque, dargah, khanqah, graveyard, or imambara shall be leased except any unused graveyards in the State of Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh where such graveyard has been leased out before the date of commencement of the Wakf (Amendment) Act, 2013.

(1A) Any sale, gift, exchange, mortgage or transfer of waqf property shall be void *ab initio*:

Provided that in case the Board is satisfied that any waqf property may be developed for the purposes of the Act, it may, after recording reasons in writing, take-up the development of such property through such agency and in such manner as the Board may determine and move a resolution containing recommendation of development of such waqf property, which shall be passed by a majority of two-thirds of the total membership of the Board.

1 of 1894.

Provided further that nothing contained in this sub-section shall affect any acquisition of waqf properties for a public purpose under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 or any other law relating to acquisition of land if such acquisition is made in consultation with the Board;

42 of 1991.

Provided also that –

(a) the acquisition shall not be in contravention of the Places of Public Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991;

(b) the purpose for which the land is being acquired shall be undisputedly for a public purpose;

(c) no alternative land is available which shall be considered as more or less suitable for that purpose; and

(d) to safeguard adequately the interest and objective of the waqf, the compensation shall be at the prevailing market value or a suitable land with reasonable solatium in lieu of the acquired property;

(ii) sub-sections (2), (3), (4) and (5) shall be *omitted*."

Clause 29

46. That at page 10, line 14, for the word "save", the word "except" be *substituted*.

47. That at page 10, line 15, for the words "an officer duly authorised by the Board", the words "any officer duly authorised by the State Government" be *substituted*.

Clause 30

48. That at page 10, for lines 18 and 19, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"30. In section 54 of the principal Act,- Amendment of section

(a) in sub-section (3), for the words "he may, by an order, require the encroacher to remove", *substitute* "he may, make an application to the Tribunal for grant of order of eviction for removing"

(b) for sub-section (4), the following sub-sections shall be *substituted*, namely:-

"(4) The Tribunal, upon receipt of such application from the Chief Executive Officer, for reasons to be recorded therein, make an order of eviction directing that the waqf property shall be vacated by all persons who may be in occupation thereof or any part thereof, and

cause a copy of the order to be affixed on the outer door or some other conspicuous part of the waqf property:

Provided that the Tribunal may before making an order of eviction, give an opportunity of being heard to the person against whom the application for eviction has been made by the Chief Executive Officer.

(5) If any person refuses or fails to comply with the order of eviction within forty-five days from the date of affixture of the order under sub-section (2), the Chief Executive Officer or any other person duly authorised by him in this behalf may evict that person from, and take possession of, the waqf property."

New Clauses 30A And 30B

49. That at page 10, after line 19, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

"30A. In section 55 of the principal Act, - Amendment of section

(a) for the word, bracket and figure "sub-section (3)", the word, bracket and figure "sub-section (4) shall be *substituted*;

(b) for the words "apply to the Sub-Divisional Magistrate", the words "refer the order of the Tribunal to the Executive Magistrate" shall be *substituted*.

30B. After section 55 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely:- Insertion of new section 55A.

"55A. (1) Where any person has been evicted from any waqf property under sub-section (4) of the section 54, the Chief Executive Officer may, after giving fourteen days' notice to the person from whom possession of property left on waqf property by unauthorised occupants.

the waqf property has been taken and after publishing the notice in at least one newspaper having circulation in the locality and after proclaiming the contents of the notice by placing it on conspicuous part of the waqf property, remove or cause to be removed or dispose of by public auction any property remaining on such premises.

(2) Where any property is sold under sub-section (1), the sale proceeds shall, after deducting the expenses relating to removal, sale and such other expenses, the amount, if any, due to the State Government or a local authority or a corporate authority on account of arrears of rent, damages or costs, be paid to such person, as may appear to the Chief Executive Officer to be entitled to the same:

Provided that where the Chief Executive Officer is unable to decide as to the person to whom the balance of the amount is payable or as to the apportionment of the same, he may refer such dispute to the Tribunal and the decision of the Tribunal thereon shall be final.”

Clause 31

50. That at page 10, *for* line 21 to 36, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

(a) in sub-section (1), –

(i) for the words “A lease or sub-lease for any period exceeding three years”, the words “A lease for any period exceeding thirty years” shall be *substituted*;

(ii) the following proviso shall be inserted at the end, namely:-

Provided that a lease for any period up to thirty years may be made for commercial activities,

education or health purposes, with the approval of the State Government, for such period and purposes as may be specified in the rules made by the Central Government:

Provided further that lease of any immovable waqf property, which is an agricultural land, for a period exceeding three years shall, notwithstanding anything contained in the deed or instrument of waqf or in any other law for the time being in force, be void and of no effect:

Provided also that before making lease of any waqf property, the Board shall publish the details of lease and invite bids in at least one leading national and regional news papers.’;

(b) in sub-section (2), for the words “A lease or sub-lease for any period exceeding one year and not exceeding three years”, the words “A lease for a period of one year but not exceeding thirty years” shall be *substituted*’;

(c) in sub-section (3), –

(i) the words “or sub-lease”, at both the places where they occur, shall be *omitted*;

(ii) the following proviso shall be inserted at the end, namely:-

51. That at page 10, lines 38 and 39, *for* the words “regarding a lease or sub-lease for any period exceeding one year and exchange or mortgage”, the words “regarding a lease for any period exceeding three years” be *substituted*.

Clause 34

52. That at page 11, *for* lines 19 to 21, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

“34. In section 68 of the principal Act, -

(i) in sub-section (2), *for* the words “Magistrate of the first class” and “Magistrate”, the words “District Magistrate, Additional District Magistrate, Sub-Divisional Magistrate or their equivalent” shall be *substituted*;

- (ii) in sub-sections (3), (4), (5) and sub-section (6), for the words "the Magistrate" the words "any Magistrate" shall be *substituted*.

Clause 39

53. That at page 12, for lines 3 to 5, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"and a copy of the said auditor's report, along with orders shall be forwarded by the State Government to the Council within a period of thirty days of laying of such report before each House of the State legislature where it consists of two Houses or where such Legislatures consist of one House, before that House."

Clause 40

54. That at page 12, for lines 6 and 7, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"40. In section 83 of the principal Act, –

- (a) for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be *substituted*, namely:-

(1) The State Government shall, by notification in the Official Gazette, constitute as many Tribunals as it may think fit, for the determination of any dispute, question or other matter relating to a waqf or waqf property, eviction of a tenant or determination of rights and obligations of the lessor and the lessee of such property, under this Act and define the local limits and jurisdiction of such Tribunals;

- (b) for sub-section (4), the following sub-sections shall be *substituted*, namely:-

55. That at page 12, line 18, for the word "presented", the word "prescribed" be *substituted*.

New Clause 42A

56. That at page 12, after line 22, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

"42A. Section 87 of the principal Act shall be *omitted*.

New Clause 43A

57. That at page 12, after line 24, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

"43A. In section 91 of the principal Act, in sub-section (1), for the words "it appears to the collector before an award is made that any property", the words "and before an award is made, in case the property" shall be *substituted*.

Clause 46

58. That at page 12, line 41, the words "Central Waqf" be *deleted*.

Clause 47

59. That at page 13, for lines 3 to 8, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"104A. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act or any other law for the time being in force or any waqf deed, no person shall sell, gift, exchange, mortgage or transfer any movable or immovable property which is a waqf property to any other person. Prohibition of sale, gift, exchange, mortgage or transfer of waqf property.

(2) Any sale, gift, exchange, mortgage or transfer of property referred to in sub-section (1) shall be void *ab initio*."

New Clause 47A

60. That at page 13, after line 8, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

"47A. After section 104A of the principal Act, the following section shall be *inserted*, namely:- Insertion of new section 104B.

"104B. (1) If any waqf property has been occupied by the Government agencies it shall be returned to Restoration of waqf properties in

the Board or the mutawalli within a period of six months from the date of the order of the Tribunal.

occupation of Government agencies to waqf Boards.

(2) The Government agency may, if the property is required for a public purpose, make an application for determination of the rent, or as the case may be, the compensation, by the Tribunal at the prevailing market value."

Clause 48

61. That at page 13, line 10, the words "Central Waqf" be *deleted*.

New Clause 48A

62. That at page 13, *after* line 11, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

<p>'48A. After section 108 of the principal Act, the following section shall be <i>inserted</i>, namely:-</p> <p>"108A. The provisions of this Act shall have overriding effect not with standing anything in consistent therewith contained in any other law for the time being in force or in any instrument having effect by virtue of any law other than this Act.".</p>	<p>Insertion of new section 108A. Act to have overriding effect.</p>
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Clause 49

63. That at page 13, *after* line 26, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

"(d) clause (xi) shall be *omitted*;"

64. That at page 13, line 27, for the bracket and alphabet "(d)", the bracket and alphabet "(e)" be *substituted*.

Sir, I have the honour to commend the amendments made by Rajya Sabha on 19th August 2013 in the Wakf (Amendment) Bill, 2010 as passed by the Lok Sabha, for consideration of this august House.

The Wakf Act, 1995, came into force on 1st January 1996 except for the State of Jammu & Kashmir. During all

these years, there has been a widespread feeling that the Act has not proved effective in improving the administration of Auqaf.

The Sachar Committee considered this issue and suggested a number of amendments to the Act.

The Joint Parliamentary Committee on Waqf (JPC), constituted on 2.1.2006, in its third report recommended a wide range of amendments relating to time bound survey of waqf properties, prevention and removal of encroachments, making the Central Waqf Council more effective, provisions for development of waqf properties, etc,

The amendments proposed were considered in consultation with other stakeholders.

The Wakf (Amendment) Bill, 2010, with the amendments proposed, was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 27th April, 2010 and was passed by the Lok Sabha on 7th May, 2010. Subsequently, the Bill came up before the Rajya Sabha. The Rajya Sabha decided to refer the Bill to its Select Committee. The Select Committee submitted its report on 16th December, 2011.

Based on the consultations with the stakeholders, the Government also proposed various amendments. The Wakf (Amendment) Bill, 2011 as reported by the Select Committee, along with the amendments proposed by the Government was passed by the Rajya Sabha on 19th August, 2013. The major amendments proposed are as under:-

- (i) To replace the words "by a person professing Islam" with the words "by any person" in the definition of wakf. This will allow non-Muslims also to create wakf;
- (ii) Wakf properties already surveyed and notified are not to be reviewed again in subsequent surveys except where the status of such property has been changed in accordance with the provisions of any law;
- (iii) The revenue authorities to include the list of auqaf published in the Official Gazette while updating the land records, and take into consideration this list while deciding mutation in the land records;

- (iv) Any dispute arising out of a directive issued by the Central Wakf Council to be referred to a Board of Adjudication to be constituted by the Central Government, to be presided over by a retired judge of the Supreme Court or a retired Chief Justice of a High Court;
- (v) The Establishment of State Wakf Boards within 6 months (instead of one year) from the date of commencement of this Act;
- (vi) The level of the officer of the State Government to be nominated as Member of the Board has been raised from Deputy Secretary to Joint Secretary to the State Government;
- (vi) Disqualification for being appointed or for continuing as a member of the Waqf Board for a person who has been held guilty of encroachment on any wakf property;
- (vii) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Board will be appointed by State Governments from a panel of two names suggested by the Board. The CEO should be of the rank of a Deputy Secretary to the State Government or above and in case of non availability of a Muslim officer of that rank, a Muslim officer of equivalent rank may be appointed on deputation;
- (ix) The District Magistrate or in his absence an Additional District Magistrate or Sub Divisional Magistrate of a district in the State would implement the decisions of the Board which may be conveyed through the Chief Executive Officer and the Board may, wherever considered necessary, seek directions from the Tribunal for the implementation of its decisions;

'Sale', 'Gift', 'Mortgage', 'Exchange' and 'Transfer' of Waqf properties have been prohibited to curb alienation of Waqf properties. 'Lease' of waqf properties is being allowed. However, 'Lease' of Mosque, Dargah, Khanquah, Graveyard and Imambara has been prohibited. Further, based on the recommendations of the Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh Wakf Boards, unused graveyards, which have already been leased out before the date of commencement

of the Wakf (Amendment) Act, 2013 in these States, are being permitted to be leased now.

The Board will sanction 'lease' when two-thirds of the total membership of the Board is present and cast their vote in favour of such transaction. The lease period has been enhanced uniformly up to 30 years for commercial activities, education or health purposes with the approval by the State Government because of the long gestation periods of such projects and the long periods of return on capital employed. The maximum period of lease of agricultural land is fixed for three years. Further, lease beyond three years is to be intimated to the State Government and it would become effective only after 45 days.

The Chief Executive Officer is being empowered to remove encroachments from waqf properties by applying to the Tribunal for grant of order of eviction from waqf properties. However, the Tribunal before making an order of eviction, may give an opportunity to stakeholder of being heard.

Section 87 of the Wakf Act 1995, has been deleted which is pertaining to enforcement of right on behalf of the unregistered waqf.

The jurisdiction of the Tribunal has been extended by inclusion of disputes concerning the eviction of a tenant in occupation of a waqf property or the rights and obligations of the lessor and the lessee of such property.

A new section is proposed to be inserted regarding restoration of waqf properties occupied by the Government or the Government Agencies to the Waqf Boards. If any waqf property has been occupied by the Government agencies, it shall be returned to the Board or the mutawalli within a period of six months from the date of the order of the Tribunal. The Government may, if the property is required for a public purpose, make an application for determination of the rent or, as the case may be, the compensation which would be decided by the Tribunal at the prevailing market rate.

The provisions of this Act shall have an over-riding effect notwithstanding anything inconsistent therewith contained in any other law for the time being in force.

Sir, with these words, I would submit this Bill for the consideration of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion Moved:

"That the following amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill to amend the Wakf Act, 1995, be taken into consideration."

Enacting Formula

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

Clause 1

2. That at page 1, line 3, *for* the figure "2010", the figure "2013" be *substituted*.

Clause 5

3. That at page 2, line 7, *after* the word "person", the words "or institution, public or private" be *inserted*.
4. That at page 2, line 9, *after* the words "terminated by" the words "mutawalli or" be *inserted*.
5. That at page 2, line 18, the word "such" be *deleted*.
6. That at page 2, line 22, *after* the word "Khanqah" the words "peerkhana and karbala" be *inserted*.
7. That at page 2, *for* lines 23 to 27, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"(v) *for* clause (r), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:-

(r) "waqf" means the permanent dedication by any person, of any movable or immovable property for any purpose recognised by the Muslim law as pious, religious or charitable and includes –

- (i) a waqf by user but such waqf shall not cease to be a waqf by reason only of the user having ceased irrespective of the period of such cesser;
- (ii) a Shamlat Patti, Shamlat Deh, Jumla Malkkan or by any other name entered in a revenue record;
- (iii) "grants", including mashrat-ul-khidmat for any purpose recognised by the Muslim law as pious, religious or charitable; and

(iv) a waqf-alal-aulad to the extent to which the property is dedicated for any purpose recognised by Muslim law as pious, religious or charitable, provided when the line of succession fails, the income of the waqf shall be spent for education, development, welfare and such other purposes as recognised by Muslim law, and "waqif" means any person making such dedication;".

Clause 6

8. That at page 2, *after* line 28, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

"(a) in sub-section (1), *for* the words 'wakfs existing in the State at the date of the commencement of this Act', the words 'auqaf in the State' shall be *substituted*;"

9. That at page 2, line 29, *for* the bracket and alphabet "(a)", the bracket and alphabet "(b)", be *substituted*
10. That at page 2, line 33, *for* the figure "2010" the figure "2013" be *substituted*
11. That at page 2, line 34, *for* the figure "2010" the figure "2013" be substituted
12. That at page 2, *for* lines 38 and 39, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"(c) in sub-section (6):-

- (i) in the proviso, *for* the words "twenty years", the words "ten years" shall be *substituted*;
- (ii) *after* the proviso, the following proviso shall be *inserted*, namely:-

"Provided further that the waqf properties already notified shall not be reviewed again in subsequent survey except where the status of such property has been changed in accordance with the provisions of any law."

Clause 7

13. That at page 3, *for* lines 2 to 4, the following be *substituted* namely:-

"(3) The revenue authorities shall:-

- (i) include the list of auqaf referred to in sub-section (2), while updating the land records; and
- (ii) take into consideration the list of auqaf referred to in sub-section (2), while deciding mutation in the land records.”.

Clause 9

14. That at page 3, line 23, *after* the word "have" the word "the" be *inserted*.

Clause 11

15. That at page 4, line 9, *for* the word "or" the word "and" be *substituted*.
16. That at page 4, line 20, *for* the words "Central Council and the Council" the words "Council and it" be *substituted*.
17. That at page 4, line 27 the words "Central Waqf" be *deleted*.
18. That at page 4, line 30, *for* the words "Judge of the Supreme Court and the fee" the words "Judge of the Supreme Court or a retired Chief Justice of a High Court and the fees" be *substituted*.
19. That at page 4, line 31 *for* the word "determined", the word "specified" be *substituted*.

Clause 12

20. That at page 4, line 38, *for* the words "one year from the date of the", the words "six months from the date of" be *substituted*.
21. That at page 4, line 39, *for* the figure "2010", the figure "2013" be *substituted*.
22. That at page 4, for lines 42 and 43, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"section 13, in the case of Shia waqf, the Members shall belong to the Shia Muslim and in the case of Sunni waqf, the Members shall belong to the Sunni Muslim".

Clause 13

23. That at page 5, line 4, *for* the words "members enrolled with", the words "members of" be *substituted*.

24. That at page 5, *for* lines 6 to 9, the following proviso be *substituted*, namely:-

"Provided that in case there is no Muslim member of the Bar Council of a State or a Union Territory, the State Government or the Union Territory administration, as the case may be, may nominate any senior Muslim advocate from that State or the Union Territory, and";.

25. That at page 5, *for* lines 33 and 34, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"(d) one person each from amongst Muslims, to be nominated by the State Government from recognised scholars in Shia and Sunni Islamic Theology;".

26. That at page 5, line 37, *for* the words "Deputy Secretary", the words "Joint Secretary" be *substituted*.

27. That at page 5, line 42, *for* the words "less than three and not more than five", the words "less than five and not more than seven" be *substituted*.

28. That at page 6, line 3, *for* the bracket and figure "(7)", the bracket and figure "(5)" be *substituted*.

29. That at page 6, *after* line 3, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

"(IV) sub-section (7) shall be *omitted*";.

New Clause 14A

30. That at page 6, *after* line 5, the following new clause be *inserted*, namely:-

"14A. In section 16 of the principal Amendment Act, after clause (d), the following of section clause shall be *inserted*, namely:- 16.

"(da) he has been held guilty of encroachment on any waqf property;".

Clause 15

31. That at page 7, line 5, *for* the words "show of hands", the words "method of secret ballot" be *substituted*.

Clause 16

32. That at page 7, line 18, *for* the word "sub-sections", the word "sub-section" be *substituted*.

33. That at page 7, line 23, *after* the words "State Government", the words "and in case of non availability

of a Muslim officer of that rank, a Muslim officer of equivalent rank may be appointed on deputation" be inserted.

34. That at page 7, lines 24 and 25, be *deleted*.

New Clause 17A

35. That at page 7, *after* line 34, the following be *inserted*, namely:

17A. For section 28 of the principal Act, the following section shall be *substituted*, namely:-

Substitution of new section for section 28.

"28. Subject to the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder, the District Magistrate or in his absence an Additional District Magistrate or Sub Divisional Magistrate of a District in the State shall be responsible for implementation of the decisions of the Board which may be conveyed through the Chief Executive Officer and the Board may, wherever considers necessary, seek directions from the Tribunal for the implementation of its decisions."

Power of District Magistrate, Additional District Magistrate or Sub Divisional Magistrate to implement the directions of the Board.

Clause 18

36. That at page 7, *for* lines 37 to 40, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"(a) in sub-section (1) as so numbered, for the words 'subject to such conditions and restrictions as may be prescribed and subject to the payment of such fees as may be leviable under any law for the time being in force', the words 'subject to such conditions as may be prescribed' shall be *substituted*;"

Clause 20

37. That at page 8, *for* lines 14 to 22, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

'(l) in sub-section (2), *for* clause (j), the following clause shall be *substituted*, namely:-

"(j) to sanction lease of any immovable property of a waqf in accordance with the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder:

Provided that no such sanction shall be given unless a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of the Board present cast their vote in favour of such transaction:

Provided further that where no such sanction is given by the Board, the reasons for doing so shall be recorded in writing.";

38. That at page 8, line 26, *for* the word "fair", the word "market" be *substituted*.

39. That at page 8, *for* lines 29 and 30, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"educational institution, shopping centre, market, housing or residential flats and the like" shall be *substituted*;"

Clause 21

40. That at page 8, *for* lines 33 to 35, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"21. In section 33 of the principal Act, Amendment in sub-section (1), - of section

(a) after the words "the Chief Executive Officer", the words "or any other person authorised by him in writing" shall be *inserted*;

(b) the words "either himself or any other person authorised by him in writing in this behalf" shall be *omitted*".

Clause 24

41. That at page 9, lines 2 and 3, be *deleted*.
42. That at page 9, line 4, *for* the bracket and alphabet "(b)", the bracket and alphabet "(a)" be *substituted*.
43. That at page 9, line 6, *for* the bracket and alphabet "(c)", the bracket and alphabet "(b)" be *substituted*.

Clause 26

44. That at page 9, *for* lines 13 to 19, the following be

substituted, namely:-

- "26. In section 47 of the principal Act, - Amendment
of section
47.
- (l) in sub-section (1), -
- (i) in clause (a), for the words "ten thousand rupees", the words "fifty thousand rupees" shall be *substituted*;
- (ii) in clause (b), for the words "ten thousand rupees", the words "fifty thousand rupees" shall be *substituted*;
- (iii) in clause (c), after the words "the State Government may," the words "under intimation to the Board", shall be *inserted*;
- (ll) in sub-section (3), in the first proviso, the words "more than ten thousand rupees but less than fifteen thousand rupees", the words "more than fifty thousand rupees" shall be *substituted*.

Clause 27

45. That at page 9, for lines 20 to 41, the following be *substituted, namely:-*

- "27. In section 51 of the principal Act,- Amendment
of section
51.
- (i) for sub-section (1), the following sub-sections shall be *substituted, namely:-*".
- (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the waqf deed, any lease of any immovable property which is waqf property, shall be void unless such lease is effected with the prior sanction of the Board:
- Provided that no mosque, dargah, khanqah, graveyard, or imambara shall be leased except any unused graveyards
- in the State of Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh where such graveyard has been leased out before

the date of commencement of the Wakf (Amendment) Act, 2013.

(1A) Any sale, gift, exchange, mortgage or transfer of waqf property shall be void *ab initio*:

Provided that in case the Board is satisfied that any waqf property may be developed for the purposes of the Act, it may, after recording reasons in writing, take-up the development of such property through such agency and in such manner as the Board may determine and move a resolution containing recommendation of development of such waqf property, which shall be passed by a majority of two-thirds of the total membership of the Board.

1 of 1894.

Provided further that nothing contained in this sub-section shall affect any acquisition of waqf properties for a public purpose under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 or any other law relating to acquisition of land if such acquisition is made in consultation with the Board;

42 of 1991.

Provided also that –

- (a) the acquisition shall not be in contravention of the Places of Public Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991;
- (b) the purpose for which the land is being acquired shall be undisputedly for a public purpose;
- (c) no alternative land is available which shall be considered as more or less suitable for that purpose; and
- (d) to safeguard adequately the interest and objective of the waqf, the compensation shall be at the prevailing market value or a suitable land with reasonable solatium in lieu of the acquired property;

(ii) sub-sections (2), (3), (4) and (5) shall be *omitted*.”.

Clause 29

46. That at page 10, line 14, for the word “save”, the word “except” be *substituted*.
47. That at page 10, line 15, for the words “an officer duly authorised by the Board”, the words “any officer duly authorised by the State Government” be *substituted*.

Clause 30

48. That at page 10, for lines 18 and 19, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

“30. In section 54 of the principal Act,- Amendment
(a) in sub-section (3), for the words of section
“he may, by an order, require the 54.
encroacher to remove”, *substitute*

“he may, make an application to the Tribunal for grant of order of eviction for removing”

(b) for sub-section (4), the following sub-sections shall be *substituted*, namely:-

“(4) The Tribunal, upon receipt of such application from the Chief Executive Officer, for reasons to be recorded therein, make an order of eviction directing that the waqf property shall be vacated by all persons who may be in occupation thereof or any part thereof, and cause a copy of the order to be affixed on the outer door or some other conspicuous part of the waqf property:

Provided that the Tribunal may before making an order of eviction, give an opportunity of being heard to the person against whom the application for eviction has been made by the Chief Executive Officer.

(5) If any person refuses or fails to comply with the order of eviction within forty-five days from the date of affixture of the order under sub-section (2), the Chief Executive Officer or any other person duly authorised by him in this behalf may evict that person from, and take possession of, the waqf property.”.

New Clauses 30A And 30B

49. That at page 10, after line 19, the following be inserted, namely:-

“30A. In section 55 of the principal Amendment
Act, - of section
55.

(a) for the word, bracket and figure “sub-section (3)”, the word, bracket and figure “sub-section (4)” shall be *substituted*;

(b) for the words “apply to the Sub-Divisional Magistrate”, the words “refer the order of the Tribunal to the Executive Magistrate” shall be substituted.

30B. After section 55 of the principal Act, the following section shall be *inserted*, namely:- Insertion
of new
section
55A.

“55A. (1) Where any person has been evicted from any waqf property under sub-section (4) of the section 54, the Chief Executive Officer may, after giving fourteen days’ notice to the person from whom possession of the waqf property has been taken and after publishing the notice in at least one newspaper having circulation in the locality and after proclaiming the contents of the notice by placing it on conspicuous part of the waqf property, remove or cause to be removed or Disposal
of property
left on waqf
property by
unauthorised
occupants.

dispose of by public auction any property remaining on such premises.

(2) Where any property is sold under sub-section (1), the sale proceeds shall, after deducting the expenses relating to removal, sale and such other expenses, the amount, if any, due to the State Government or a local authority or a corporate authority on account of arrears of rent, damages or costs, be paid to such person, as may appear to the Chief Executive Officer to be entitled to the same:

Provided that where the Chief Executive Officer is unable to decide as to the person to whom the balance of the amount is payable or as to the apportionment of the same, he may refer such dispute to the Tribunal and the decision of the Tribunal thereon shall be final.”.

Clause 31

50. That at page 10, for line 21 to 36, the following be *substituted*, namely:—

‘(a) in sub-section (1), —

- (i) for the words “A lease or sub-lease for any period exceeding three years”, the words “A lease for any period exceeding thirty years” shall be *substituted*;
- (ii) the following proviso shall be inserted at the end, namely:—

Provided that a lease for any period up to thirty years may be made for commercial activities, education or health purposes, with the approval of the State Government, for such period and purposes as may be specified in the rules made by the Central Government:

Provided further that lease of any immovable waqf property, which is an agricultural land, for a period exceeding three years shall, notwithstanding anything contained in the deed or instrument of waqf or in any other law for the time being in force, be void and of no effect:

Provided also that before making lease of any waqf property, the Board shall publish the details of lease and invite bids in at least one leading national and regional news papers.’;

- (b) in sub-section (2), for the words “A lease or sub-lease for any period exceeding one year and not exceeding three years”, the words “A lease for a period of one year but not exceeding thirty years” shall be *substituted*’;
- (c) in sub-section (3), —
 - (i) the words “or sub-lease”, at both the places where they occur, shall be *omitted*;
 - (ii) the following proviso shall be *inserted* at the end, namely:—

51. That at page 10, lines 38 and 39, for the words “regarding a lease or sub-lease for any period exceeding one year and exchange or mortgage”, the words “regarding a lease for any period exceeding three years” be *substituted*.

Clause 34

52. That at page 11, for lines 19 to 21, the following be *substituted*, namely:—

“34. In section 68 of the principal Act, —

- (i) in sub-section (2), for the words “Magistrate of the first class” and “Magistrate”, the words “District Magistrate, Additional District Magistrate, Sub-Divisional Magistrate or their equivalent” shall be *substituted*;
- (ii) in sub-sections (3), (4), (5) and sub-section (6), for the words “the Magistrate” the words “any Magistrate” shall be *substituted*.

Clause 39

53. That at page 12, for lines 3 to 5, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

“and a copy of the said auditor’s report, along with orders shall be forwarded by the State Government to the Council within a period of thirty days of laying of such report before each House of the State legislature where it consists of two Houses or where such Legislatures consist of one House, before that House.”.

Clause 40

54. That at page 12, for lines 6 and 7, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

“40. In section 83 of the principal Act, –

- (a) for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be *substituted*, namely:-

(1) The State Government shall, by notification in the Official Gazette, constitute as many Tribunals as it may think fit, for the determination of any dispute, question or other matter relating to a waqf or waqf property, eviction of a tenant or determination of rights and obligations of the lessor and the lessee of such property, under this Act and define the local limits and jurisdiction of such Tribunals;

- (b) for sub-section (4), the following sub-sections shall be *substituted*, namely:-

55. That at page 12, line 18, for the word “presented”, the word “prescribed” be *substituted*.

New Clause 42A

56. That at page 12, after line 22, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

“42A. Section 87 of the principal Act shall be *omitted*. Omission of section 87.

New Clause 43A

57. That at page 12, after line 24, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

“43A. In section 91 of the principal Act, in sub-section (1), for the words “it appears to the collector before an award is made that any property”, the words “and before an award is made, in case the property” shall be *substituted*. Amendment of section 91.

Clause 46

58. That at page 12, line 41, the words “Central Waqf” be *deleted*.

Clause 47

59. That at page 13, for lines 3 to 8, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

“104A. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act or any other law for the time being in force or any waqf deed, no person shall sell, gift, exchange, mortgage or transfer any movable or immovable property which is a waqf property to any other person. Prohibition of sale, gift, exchange, mortgage or transfer of waqf property.

(2) Any sale, gift, exchange, mortgage or transfer of property referred to in sub-section (1) shall be void ab initio.”.

New Clause 47A

60. That at page 13, after line 8, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

“47A. After section 104A of the principal Act, the following section shall be *inserted*, namely:- Insertion of new section 104B.

“104B. (1) If any waqf property has been occupied by the Government agencies it shall be returned to the Board or the mutawalli within a period of six months from the date of the order of the Tribunal. Restoration of waqf properties in occupation of Government agencies to waqf Boards.

(2) The Government agency may, if the property is required for a public purpose, make an application for determination of the rent, or as the case may be, the compensation, by the Tribunal at the prevailing market value.”

Clause 48

61. That at page 13, line 10, the words “Central Waqf” be *deleted*.

New Clause 48A

62. That at page 13, *after* line 11, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

‘48A. After section 108 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely:-

“108A. The provisions of this Act shall have overriding effect notwithstanding anything inconsistent therewith contained in any other law for the time being in force or in any instrument having effect by virtue of any law other than this Act.”

Clause 49

63. That at page 13, *after* line 26, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

“(d) clause (xi) shall be *omitted*.”

64. That at page 13, line 27, for the bracket and alphabet “(d)”, the bracket and alphabet “(e)” be *substituted*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Sk. Saidul Haque is to move his amendments. Are you moving your amendments?

SK. SAIDUL HAQUE (Bardhman-Durgapur): Sir, I would like to first speak on my amendments. It is not that I will not speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You just tell me whether you are moving your amendments or not. Do you want to move your amendments? Or, do you want to withdraw them?

SK. SAIDUL HAQUE: Sir, I want to move my amendments, but before that, I would like to say something.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That will be later on.

SK. SAIDUL HAQUE: Sir, I would like to move my amendments. I beg to move:

Sl. No.		Clause No.
1	2	3
1.	Page 2, in amendment No. 8,— <i>for</i> “auqaf in the State” <i>substitute</i> “auqaf including both registered and unregistered in the State”.	6
2.	Page 3, in amendment No. 22,— <i>for</i> “Shia Muslim and in the case of Sunni waqf, the Members shall belong to the Sunni Muslim” <i>substitute</i> “Shia Community and in the case of Sunni waqf, the Members shall belong to the Sunni Community”	12
3.	Page 3, in amendment No. 25,— <i>for</i> “Scholars in Shia and Sunni in Islamic Theology;” <i>substitute</i> “scholars in Islamic Theology;”	13
4.	Page 6, in amendment No. 45,— <i>for</i> “Provided that no mosque, dargah,” <i>substitute</i> “Provided that no mosque, dargah, edgah,”	27
5.	Page 6, in amendment No. 45,— <i>for</i> “(b) the purpose for which the land is being acquired shall be undisputedly for a public purpose;” <i>substitute</i> “(b) the purpose for which the land is being acquired shall be undisputedly for a public purpose, which shall be determined by the Wakf Board in consultation with the concerned State Government;”.	27
6.	Page 8, in amendment No. 50,— <i>for</i> “Provided that a lease for any period up to thirty years may be made for	31

1	2	3
	commercial activities, education or health purposes, with the approval of the State Government, for such period and purposes as may be specified in the rules made by the Central Government:"	
	<i>substitute</i> "Provided that a lease for any period upto fifteen years may be made for commercial activities and a lease for any period upto thirty years may be made for education or health purposes:."	

MR. CHAIRMAN: Amendments moved:

Sl. No.		Clause No.
1	2	3
1.	Page 2, in amendment No. 8,— <i>for</i> "auqaf in the State" <i>substitute</i> "auqaf including both registered and unregistered in the State".	6
2.	Page 3, in amendment No. 22,— <i>for</i> "Shia Muslim and in the case of Sunni waqf, the Members shall belong to the Sunni Muslim" <i>substitute</i> "Shia Community and in the case of Sunni waqf, the Members shall belong to the Sunni Community"	12
3.	Page 3, in amendment No. 25,— <i>for</i> "Scholars in Shia and Sunni in Islamic Theology;" <i>substitute</i> "scholars in Islamic Theology;"	13
4.	Page 6, in amendment No. 45,— <i>for</i> "Provided that no mosque, dargah," <i>substitute</i> "Provided that no mosque, dargah, edgah,"	27
5.	Page 6, in amendment No. 45,— <i>for</i> "(b) the purpose for which the land is being acquired shall be undisputedly for a public purpose;"	27

1	2	3
	<i>substitute</i> "(b) the purpose for which the land is being acquired shall be undisputedly for a public purpose, which shall be determined by the Wakf Board in consultation with the concerned State Government;".	
6.	Page 8, in amendment No. 50,— <i>for</i> "Provided that a lease for any period up to thirty years may be made for commercial activities, education or health purposes, with the approval of the State Government, for such period and purposes as may be specified in the rules made by the Central Government:" <i>substitute</i> "Provided that a lease for any period upto fifteen years may be made for commercial activities and a lease for any period upto thirty years may be made for education or health purposes:."	31

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this important Bill. Lok Sabha has already passed Wakf Amendment Bill and when this Wakf Amendment Bill was brought here, it was the last day of that session and Salman Khurshid Saheb was the then Minister of Minority Affairs. On that day also, we had said that it had so many lacunae and those should be rectified. But you know that when the question of minority comes, the question of their rights comes, then on behalf of Bhartiya Janta Party, we support that. Hence, so far as the Wakf Amendment Bill is concerned, we had supported it at that time also and I had spoken on behalf of the Party at that time too. Today, the Wakf Amendment Bill which has been brought by the Government is very essential. We were putting pressure on the Government for a long time. There are 5 lakh Wakf properties in this country. If we assess the cost thereof it comes to Rs. 5 lakh crore approximately. First, in this country, the Wakf includes mosque, Dargah, graveyard, Musafirkhana, Madar sa, shop, land property, field, garden, well. The owners of this property think that they do Wakf for the poor, widows and weaker sections

of the society. Mr. Chairman, Sir, the people who donate, do wakf, do it in the same manner as the people donate their land for cow shelters. At that time, their aim is to give to the society by snatching the right of their children. But, the people who are engaging in the Wakf doings have no idea that the Governments are there, the management is there. They give their property to Wakf but later on the people make encroachment on it. With this reason, the property of Wakf has been encroached at a large scale. I am aggrieved with this. After independence when Wakf Act was made in the year 1954, at that time it was being discussed that it was not a very powerful law. Thereafter, reform was made in the Wakf Act and in the year 1995 Wakf Act was made once again. The mistake which was committed in 1995, that mistake is going to be repeated even today.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am also a Member of Central Wakf Council. This subject of Wakf is understandable to me because my Party made me a Member of Delhi Wakf Board when I was much younger and at that time Advaniji was National President and our Government was formed in Delhi and being the Member of Delhi Wakf Board from 1993 to 1998 I had worked there. Whatever work I did with regard to the matter of Wakf, it would perhaps have been done very honestly in Delhi Wakf Board for the cause of widows, destitutes and the poor and with the blessings of those people, I become Member of Parliament also, became Minister of the Government of India and today, I am raising my voice standing here as a Member of Parliament.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, regarding this property of Wakf, at times it is made to realise that when this country got independence Wakf Board was already in existence, the properties of Wakf were already there in this country. Large number of persons, many of them had no children and many had children also, felt that their property should be utilized for the poor. No source can be bigger than it. Now, that source was utilised, Wakf was done, but today on the property of Wakf the talk of minority and majority initiate at times in this country. At times, I do realize that whichever Governments came to power when this country was divided after independence, it was divided in the name of religion. Today also, efforts are on to divide this country in the name of religion. But, the country was divided once in the

name of religion. At that time, the Muslims who remained here, accepted it as their motherland and they lived in this country. The Government should take care of them. But their properties were there, the properties belonging to Wakf in 1947 were there. If a Government does nothing in the name of minorities, then it is the misfortune of this country. After 60 years of independence the same Government, which was there in 1947, felt necessity to form a Ministry of Minority Affairs in this country. It had been better if this work would have been done earlier. At times, the leaders of Ruling Party take this credit that they formed the Ministry of Minority Affairs. Thanks that you have made the Ministry of Minority Affairs, you are doing a big job to remove the difficulties of minorities, you are making Ministry of Minority Affairs. You should create such a Ministry which would find out the reasons as to why and how the minorities had lagged behind to

such extent after independence. Ultimately why did you feel the necessity? Nehruji did not make Ministry of Minority Affairs, Indira ji did not make, Rajiv Gandhi did not do so, Narsimha Rao did not make, Shastri ji did not make, Janta Party...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad): Modi ji also did not make.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: When he will come only then, for the time being we cannot say ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not disturb him. [TRANSLATION] You let him speak. You speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN : Owaisi Saheb has to speak after me and I will not interfere him. This is my promise to him. A Hazi promises to an other Hazi.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Therefore, I would like to say that if he has any objection to any of my points then he has full freedom to speak about me. I

know I am tendering myself. When I will speak, then the reply to my questions will come from this side and from that side also.

Sir, Ministry of Minority Affairs has been formed. Since the Ministry of Minority Affairs came into existence, it is much discussed in the Parliament. I have got elected from Bhagalpur and I have won from Kishanganj also where maximum minorities live, from where our Maulana Assarul Haque Saheb is Member of Parliament today. I was expecting that he being a big leader of the Minority will get seated in the front by the Congress, but you see the condition of intellectuals, Maulana Saheb has been seated in the last. He is such a big leader, we were expecting that his Party would get him seated in the front like me in the way my Party gets me seated in the front. Similarly, I was expecting from his Party also and he is their man of great influence and an educated person. He has big influence on the society. It is right that I have contested two elections against him, but has come elected from Kishanganj ...*(Interruptions)* No, next time, I will contest from Bhagalpur only and if you make an alliance, then candidate is not be available to the Congress. If you have no alliance, then Congress will not find a candidate, Congress is not able to find any candidate ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Sir, last time Congress had got a candidate. Vasnik Saheb had given, but he had lost his security amount there. Hence, don't give this time, there is no gain from giving a candidate ...*(Interruptions)* I am speaking on the issue of minority. I will not divert from the subject and will speak to the point. Why the minorities are in such situation today? At last, you did one more thing, since the UPA-2 has come, UPA-1 ...*(Interruptions)*

SBRI MADAN LAL SHARMA (Jammu): You are doing Beinsafi (injustice) to a minority son ...*(interruptions)*

SBRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: It is "Nainsafi" (injustice) not "Beinsafi", you correct your Urdu ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not disturb him.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: The people of Congress have spoiled their Urdu also. He belongs to Jammu and Kashmir, but he is speaking incorrect Urdu also.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Sir, what was the necessity to form the Ministry of Minority Affairs? When this country got independence, then two streams were flowing in the country and this discussion used to take place at that time also. There were two parties at that time, one was Congress and other was Muslim League. Most of the Muslims were with the Muslim League and the people who were working in the Congress had to face various kinds of difficulties at that time also. The kinds of taunts we had to hear, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Saheb also faced this situation. I consider Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Saheb as my ideal. I have my big heart. I think that I am following his path. He had shown a path to love this country, unite this country and bring together Hindus and Muslims of this country. It is the same path that was shown by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, on which our ancestors believed, but we did not follow that path. We remained in India and I can say it with full honesty that Hindustan is our country and the Muslims cannot find a better country than Bharat and more better neighbour than a Hindu.

Sir, I can say it with great responsibility that... of this country *(Interruptions)* the Congress people are not becoming a little serious... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: I know that they are not serious on the issue of minority. I am telling you. I would like to say to my friend that the more they

interfere, their votes are going to decrease. I am telling you this ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Silence please.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Sir, after division, a faith was followed in this country. It is correct that when division happened in the name of religion, the minorities did not raise much voice at that time. They had faith, the minority people had faith in the strong leadership. At that time, there was no other party too. Faith was expressed in Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru. This country was formed having faith in Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Saheb, Sardar Patel Saheb and all of them. You should have taken care of the property of Wakf in this country. This lapse has been done by you. I don't know whether Rahman Khan Saheb will accept it or not, but if any encroachment on the property of Wakf has taken place in the regime of Vajpayee ji then Shahnawaz Hussain should be punished for it. But, it encroachments have been made on our graveyard, on our mosques, on our Madarasas, on our Wakf properties in your regime then its responsibility must be taken by Rahman Khan Saheb. I, through you, Sir, would like to make this request to him. Now, take the property of Wakf. Many a times, favour is made when we discuss the property of Wakf. When a university is opened, then people say university should be opened. You do not do much for us, you give us equal status. We don't ask you for any more that you do for our satisfaction, you give us equal status, you give us our right, you give us an opportunity in the path of progress ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Keep silence please.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GANESH SINGH (Satna): He is telling the actual picture of the country, listen to that ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Chowdhary Lal Singh ji, please maintain silence.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am talking about uniting this country ...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Chairman, Sir, my party has given me much more

ahead of the time. I have been an M.P., I have been Minister in the Government of India. An office is not a mission of my life. I have made it a mission of my life as to how Hindus and Muslims can be united. I will work for this. I work in the politics with the same thinking. Therefore, any of my words will not disintegrate the society. I am standing here to integrate the society and that is why, I would like to tell you with great responsibility that you have made a very good reform in the Act. Rahman Khan is a nice person, Congress has nice persons also and Rahman Khan is one of them ...*(Interruptions)* I have not termed any one bad person. Therefore, do not make objection ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Time is getting over.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to raise a question and after that I will take my seat immediately. Here, discussion takes place often on the Census of backwards, the discussion is made on the issue whether the people of Dalit society are getting treatment facility in AIIMS or not. Why this discussion of minority is termed late? The population of minority is 20 crore. Why such short duration discussion is happening to raise its voice? Yesterday, I told Rehman Khan Sahib, and the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that in the discussion, relating to Minority, we will put forth the sufferings of minority and just listen to it. This discussion is on Wakf and I have given just an introduction. I have not come yet to Wakf Bill. If the bell rings on introduction only, then bell will ring of the minorities of this country. I am just raising their voice. I, while supporting this Bill, would like to raise those points. I say that when Parliament can work up to 11 o'clock in the night on Food Security and on other issues, can the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs of U.P.A. Government of Congress not discuss the minority issue in a time bound manner? I am the only Speaker from my Party, whereas we have 117 MPs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This time is decided by the B.A.C. Your time was for 13 minutes and I have given you 15 minutes. Please don't divert the issue.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Chairman Sir, if I had known that I have been allotted 13 minutes then I would not have spoken at all. I do not have any need to speak. ...*(Interruptions)* Get the Bill passed without discussion. This will not do.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time is allotted as for decision fo B.A.C.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please don't disturb. Let the Hon. Member speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the party having four MPs speak for half an hour, but the party which has big numbers is not allowed to speak ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am calling you, you please speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You speak on the subject. When you are diverting from the issue, then time deginitely goes.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: I am coming to the subject*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please maintain silence. Let him speak.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: This discussion is on Wakf. How I have diverted from this discussion? I have not spoken on Christian community, not spoken on Jain. It is the discussion on Wakf and I have spoken on Muslim. Then, what I will speak? I support the Wakf Bill. This is what I had spoken in the first line.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I, through you was putting forth the pain. I will not stretch it too long. I have great respect for you, you are in the Chair. Therefore, efforts are being made to divert my attention in the middle of my speech. But, I am not going to be affected. I am about to come to on the issue.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you will be surprised that the Wakf has the property of crores of rupees in this country. This is such property ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please be silent. Let him speak Sharma ji. Pease maintain silence. Let him speak. Do not disturb.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record. [TRANSLATION] This disturbance will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this good legislation is being brought regarding Wakf property. I am also in the Central Wakf Council. I had talked to the Hon. Minister. Muslim Personal Law Board had also asked to give a draft Bill and their Maulana Wali Rehmani Saheb had met you. He had said that Eviction Act should also come. Because, if you pass this Wakf Amendment Bill and not pass the Eviction Act, then its good will be different. That is why I was expecting that if you had included that in it, then it would have been much better. At the same time, it should also be discussed as to how the encroachment can be removed from the Wakf properties. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to urge the Hon. Minister that today encroachments have been made, land property is there, and I have complete list thereof, which I have taken from the Hon. Minister, Encroachments have been made at various places, the entire such Wakf property is 308364 and number of litigations is 15301. Number of encroachment by individual is 18388. Number of encroachments by State Government and agency is 1053 properties. This, I would invariably like that House should also be serious on the issue of Wakf. I would like that at the time of giving apply the hon. Minister should announce from here that whatever land has been encroached by UPA Government and the Central Agency, would be made encroachment free. We will welcome that on behalf of Bhartiya Janta Party. That is about I expect and hope from him. The States in which Wakf property has been encroached, out of these five litigations are going on in Andhra Pradesh. In Bihar there are about 205 litigations. Encroachment has been made at 19 places. This is the report of Central Wakf Council that has come through Sunni Wakf Board. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please don't disturb, let the hon. Member speak.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are also a saint and I have listened to your voice.

You talk of "Sarva Dharma Sambhava" and we also work in politics to consider our "Mantra" as "Sarva Dharma Sambhava". Therefore, I would like to say with great responsibility that hon. Minister should bring this Eviction Act at the earliest. You have extended the time in the Tribunal. I would like to request you that if permission is given to approach this Tribunal then case will be heard in the Tribunal. If time taken is much then there will be no difference, either to go in normal Court or to the Tribunal. Secondly, you are going to bring a Secretary in this, he should be of at least Secretary or Joint Secretary level.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I through you, would like to draw the attention of the House to big properties like in West Bengal from where Saugat Ray Saheb comes. Before Britishers, in the regime of Surajudhola had faced struggle. At that time, in the time of his grandson Aliwardi Khan in 1754 AD, 2525 bigha land was owned by Wakf and for the last many years comrade people were there. At that time, lots of land was there in which Race Course Area also comes. A number of hotels are built therein. West Bengal Government was giving Rs. 159 per month as rent thereof till the year 1999.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is a big issue which I would like to bring to the notice of hon. Minister. Recently in Hyderabad, where Andhra Pradesh Government is, Wakf Board won a case. About 3500 acres of land is there in Hyderabad of Andhra Pradesh. Wakf Board has won the case there. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am sorry to say, the country has been a witness to that as to who are those lawyers standing silent to convert the victory of that Wakf Board into defeat? The Attorney General of the Government India, Ghulam E. Vahawati Saheb is defending the case against Wakf Board, fighting the case against Wakf Board. I would like to ask that Rehman Saheb who says that he will save the property of Wakf and Attorney General of this Government is standing against the case of our Wakf, then what message will go? Therefore, the Government should take care of this aspect.

Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards Bihar also. About one acre 34 decimal land in Garadanibagh of Patna is located at a prime place. At main Beli road, 19 katha land is behind Taramandal. It has unauthorized occupancy. I would like that Bihar Government should also remove those incroachments.

Mr. Chairman Sir, now I am going to conclude. I knew that I am the only Speaker from my party. The Government itself says that it feels the pain of the minorities. Then I thought I will be given more time but I did not know that I have this much of time. That is why, I am dropping so many things. Today, the entire country, entire community expected that Shahnawaz Hussain will put forth their pain but I will take the opportunity at any other time.

Sir, I through you, would like to urge that a lot of discussionin has happened in this country that mosques should be protected. Hon. Minister, do you know that there is a mosque in Lady Irwin College of Delhi that has been converted into Garbage Shed? Have you ever visited there as Minister of Minority Affairs.? Since I have been a Member of Delhi Wakf Board, I am saying to you that when Wakf Board of Congress was there then it had converted a mosque of Paharganj into the Guest House. Hon. Minister, do you intend to reconvert that guest house again into a mosque? I ask whether your Government wants to take care of Minorities with outmost sincerity? Only, Ministry of Minority Affairs has been setup. I am pained that its office is situated at CGO Complex. Will the hon. Minister tell whether the office in which he sits has been claimed by the Wakf or not? If you see in the records then the place where Ministry of Miniarity Affairs has been setup is the property of Wakf. Whatever has been built on the property of Wakf, I will not get much time to speak on that.

Sir, I would like to tell with outmost sincerity that a number of buildings and graveyards are there. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I, through you would like to ask the hon. Minister if he is aware that DDA has occupied the land for sale by putting the Board of "Green Land" graveyard? The Present Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has been the Minister of Urban Development also. Do you put pressure on your colleague that the land which has been occupied by DDA, which was land for graveyard is the land of green land? Who has the right to sell it? It is the ruling of the Supreme Court that Wakf is always Wakf land, value of Wakf can never be changed. When you get this property from DDA and return to the community, only then I will think that you have some sympathy of Minorities. Recently, the Land Acquisition Bill has been brought.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is a Couplet:-

"Hamara Jakhma Unhen Kab Shumar Karna Hai,
Karib Aakar Bahane Se War Karna Hai."

They are coming near to us also. They are setting up Ministry of Minority Affairs also, bringing Sachar Committee. Sachar Committee is x-ray only, which is of your Government. You see that in your regime the minority people have lagged behind. I would like to conclude my point with a very important thing. I don't know whether this Government has that power or not? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shahnawaz ji, now you conclude quickly.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: They are not speaking, this time no MP of minority has been selected from that side. ...*(Interruptions)* Only Shailendra ji will speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shahnawaz ji you don't look that side, address the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): Mulayam Singh ji will also speak on this. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: You have no faith in any Mullah, you have faith in Mulayam Singh ji ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: No one has been elected from the party of Laluji also. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, conclude.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shailendra ji Please take your seat let Shahnawaz ji speak.

[English]

Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: That's why they could not send a Muslim as elected in the election. This is the condition of Samajwadi's ...*(Interruptions)* See how is the Socialism. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shahnawaz ji, now you conclude.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am going to sit on my seat after saying a thing with responsibility ...*(Interruptions)* Had the discussion been on Haz and other related issues, then sufficient time shown be given.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, a discussion should be allowed on the condition of minorities, let it be continued for full day. Its population is so large and parties seek their votes also. Election is coming, all parties are describing their pain also. But when the talk of its pain comes, then time falls short. I would like to say that there are so many mosques in this country. For example, Jama Masjid of Delhi is very old. It was built by Shahjahan. Fatehpuri mosque of Delhi is there where "Namaz" (Prayer) is offered. Many of the mosques have been kept by Archaeological Survey of India under their control for maintenance but "Namaj" is not being offered there. Now, in a mosque "Namaj" should be offered and if "Namaj" is offered and you are not allowing it then this decision is of your Government. This decision was not taken by the Government of Bhartiya Janta Party. If this decision has been taken by your Government then Mr. Chairman, Sir, I through you, would like to urge that they should at least maintain it. Don't take the measure like Jerusalem when you would not allow the repair of its mosques, Aksa. You have stopped "Namaj" inside thousand of mosques in the name of Archaeological Survey of India and still you are called 'secular'. How strange you are? One does not know the way you adopt ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now you please conclude.

...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): You come to this side. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Sir, I am concluding, I have to say thank you to you. ...*(Interruptions)*. May Jairam Ramesh Sahab's words come true as, he has called me to that side. Insha Allah, when elections are held, I will deliver a speech standing that side. I will fulfill this hope ...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: We will remain here. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAJ HUSSAIN: No, no, we will get you seated here. We are liberals, we will allow you to sit this side. ...*(Interruptions)*. Better late than never but you are very late. After 63 years of Independence, at least, they brought one Bill. This Ministry was earlier headed by Antulay Saheb and then Salman Sahab and now you are heading it. So, I hope that the issues raised by us will be heard sincerely by you. There is no controversy about it. Secure the Wakf property and if you secure it properly, then there will be no need of appeasement of the minorities. They will write their destiny by their hands and with their own pen. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI MOHD. ASRARUL HAQUE (Kishanganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am presenting my views before the House in Urdu language. There is sweetness in this language. We created the environment of bitterness here for quite some time, but, by speaking in this language, I want to drop sweetness in your ears. I hope that you will understand my language and through it you will try to understand what I want to say. We all should know it. I am proud of our country. The nature of our country is love and the strength of this country is brotherhood. There is no place for hatred in this country. The flame of love has always burnt bright here and will always remain so. Therefore, we need not debate over those things. Today, I have stood up to speak on Wakf (Amendment) Bill, 2010. Therefore, I would like to put before you some views in this regard.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you from the core of my heart for giving me an opportunity to take part in the debate on Wakf (Amendment) Bill, 2010. I rise to support this Bill. I am happy that the hon. Minister of Minority Affairs, Shri K. Rahman Khan has presented this Bill. No stone has been left unturned by making more than one amendments to make the Wakf (Amendment) Bill, 2010 fully sound and which is to be passed in Rajya Sabha on 19th of August.

For this, I want to give heartiest congratulations to hon. Minister of Minority Affairs, Shri K Rahman Khan. So far as the flawless enactment of any legislation is concerned, this process always continues to face the new challenges but in the present case the doors opened through this Bill will prove effective to remove any doubts.

Today, while speaking on this Bill, we cannot help but notice that many stoppages have come in this long journey from 1953 to 2013, but the break through which we were waiting earnestly is before us today and we are happy to see that this Bill passed by Rajya Sabha provides that to increase the income of Wakf, the ways will open today to establish a corporation with an amount of 500 crore rupees and it will manage and maintain around four lakh Wakf properties in the country and it will help immensely in taking action against the persons having illegal possession of Wakf properties. This Bill has enough scope to set up such a tribunal which can make various Boards in different States result oriented and also unauthorized possession can be removed.

It is not time that efforts were not made earlier to stop misuse of Wakf properties, but the problem kept on rising with the solution being provided. So, the unauthorized possession also went on increasing. Even today, there is unauthorized possession on 80 thousand Wakf properties out of around 4 lakh registered Wakf properties. Now, it will no more remain in the illegal hands anymore. After the enactment of this Bill the Wakf property grabbers can be sent behind the bars for two years.

Keeping in view the changing times, the way the mosques, Khangahon and Imambaras have been kept out of the ambit of lease its this Bill, shows our cultural and democratic thinking and it is hoped that its implementation will not be left solely at the mercy of State Governments.

Sir, while discussing this Bill in the House, it should be taken into consideration that in the year 1996, when the Wakf Act 1995 was implemented, Shri K. Rehman Khan was the member of the Joint Parliamentary Committee.

17.00 hrs

That Committee did not keep its role limited only to giving recommendations but also played a vital role in implementing those recommendations. Hon. Wakf people

also do praiseworthy work. I am testimony to one such incident in which Wakf people used to serve such patients in the hospitals who had not one's support except God. Now, this helping scope has been widened through this Bill which is commendable..

The importance of this Bill can be assessed from this point also that through it efforts have been made to make Wakf Boards not only answerable but these have also been empowered and special importance has been given to the removal of illegal possessions.

Just yesterday, our hon. Sanjay Nirupam while speaking on pension funds, said that this monsoon session was a historic session because they had introduced three Bills in this session which were historic. I take further his statement and want to state that this monsoon session is truly historic and not three but four historic Bill have been introduced in this session. One out of these Bills is the Wakf Bill which we have introduced just now.

Hon. Sir, while supporting this Bill, I congratulate Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, UPA Chairperson, Madam Sonia Ji and Minister of Minority Affairs, hon. K. Rahman Khan Sahab and conclude my speech with this couplet—

Nakshon Ko Tum Na Janchon

Ankhon Se Jake Dekho,

Kya Cheez Jee Rahi Hai

Kya Cheez Mar Rahi Hai.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on Wakf (Amendment) Bill, 2010. I am also grateful because Rangnath Mishra and Sachar Committee have stated in their reports that their condition is even worse than the dalits. We should think of their betterment, welfare and they should be uplifted at social economic and educational level. I am also a dalit and when they have been compared with the dalits, I know their pain and that is why I have risen to speak. I would like to thank the UPA-II Government that they have set up a separate Ministry for the welfare of the minorities. Antulay Sahab, Salman Sahab, our Rahman Sahab, who are very experienced and able Ministers are present here.

(SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL *in the Chair*)

17.04 hrs

The leaders of the ruling party, opposition and other parties have always spoken of the betterment and welfare of muslim brothers. The Government has also taken cognizance of it. Now, many welfare schemes are being started. It is very necessary to implement them. So far as the Wakf (Amendment) Bill is concerned, it is a fact that there are lakhs of acres of Wakf property in the country today which includes land, buildings and some dilapidated structures. There is a proverb that the ruins indicate that the building was once robust. We have our history. In those times, people used to donate Wakf properties for welfare schemes. They used to give it for hospitals, colleges, universities, sarais or deras where people used to stay at night; graveyards, Idagahs where people used to offer prayers. But, gradually people grabbed these properties. Most of them were influential people who did it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to say today that the Government should bring a legislation that wherever influential people grab such properties-plotting has also been done at most of the places and even buildings have also been constructed-to acquire such vacant land, the Government should take it in its possession. Besides, these properties should be used for the welfare schemes, for the betterment and development of the children of the minority Muslim brothers as per the recommendations of the Sachar and Rangnath Committees.

Wakf Board has been constituted. I would like to demand that the Government should give them so much power that they can take action everywhere and against any influential person and keep the property in its possession. I remember and people also say and I have read it also that at the time of partition of the country, many people had left their property here. Family members of some of them stayed back here and some passed away. Today, they are not among us, but most of their properties have been grabbed on a large scale. I would like to state that the Government should acquire this illegally occupied land and utilize this land for hospitals, colleges, universities, Idgahs, graveyards, madarsas and for the betterment of their children in accordance with the Sachar and Rangnath Committee reports.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, graveyards, Idgahs, etc. all were Wakf properties, which people are occupying illegally. The Government of Uttar Pradesh is building boundary on these graveyards, Idgahs, Madarsas or lands lying vacant at Government expenses. That work has already been started. Some people who work against the communal harmony, who always spread hatred in the society, have taken a stay on it from the court. I would not like to mention anybody's name here, but the signal is enough. We will have to act strictly against such persons.....*(Interruptions)*. Action should be taken against them. Our Government has declared in its manifesto that it will build boundary wall around all lands lying vacant.

The second point is that there are so many huge buildings which are historic and all types of engraving is done on these buildings. Such buildings are illegally occupied and no rent is paid for them. Rent should be imposed on the occupiers of such buildings and the rented income should be given to the Wakf Boards or the welfare boards so that this money can be utilized for the betterment and welfare of the children of the Muslim brothers.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please be brief.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: I am speaking briefly. Just now Shahnawaj Sahab started asking me how the delinquent happened, but I was speaking only for his betterment. On 80 projects, which are national projects and State Government projects, our Government has ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: He was not saying it for you, but for Bihar.

...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: We will give them priority, we will participate with Muslim brothers, we will work for improvement of their life, so that their life may improve.

With these words, while strongly supporting this amendment Bill, I conclude my speech.

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ (Sambhal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, many many thanks to you. I want to start my speech with a couplet:

*"Hamari Jindagi Ki Dastaan Hal Itni Tulani,
Yah Afsana Samajhne Se Hai Kasir Fahmain Insani,
Ye Dhoka Hai Ki Bujhati Ja Rahi Hai, Sham-E-Noorani,
Abhi Baki Hai in Toote Huye Taron Main Tabani".*

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not make such comments. Your comments will not become part of the proceedings.

...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shailendra Ji, please sit down. You do not stand in between, I have taken note of it. You speak on important subjects like Wakf properties only.

DR. HAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ: Shahnawaz Sahab has just now delivered his speech. I see that he has delivered his whole speech just on politics.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You express your views.

...*(Interruptions)*.

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ: I do not want to give political speech and Shahnawaz Sahab has tried to clear the face of his party ...*(Interruptions)* Now, I want to congratulate our hon. Minister of Minority Affairs, Shri K. Rahman Khan that after a long time the Bill he has brought in this House, is commendable. I hope that he will try to implement the provisions he has provided for in this Bill, which is being enacted. The real thing is that the intention should be right. Unless the intention is right, work cannot be done in a right manner. This Wakf Amendment Bill, 2010 is a historic Bill. Rajya Sabha has passed it and it has come to this House today. We have to see as to how the poor condition of the Muslims can be improved through this Bill. Muslims are the largest minority of this country. They seem to be around 20 crores, but I say that more than 30 crore Muslims live in this country. ...*(Interruptions)* when there is a big population of Muslims here and they have their issues and as has been told just now and as has been told in the Government's Sachchar Committee survey that the condition of Muslims is even worse than down-trodden, then have we not come in a category that reservation should be given to us. Effort should be made

*Not recorded.

to improve our plight. Because, if any part of the country remains backward, the country cannot progress. Muslim participation is also necessary for the progress of the country. Muslims have not made less sacrifice than anyone to make this country free.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please speak on wakf.

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ: I am also stating that there are more than four lakh registered wakfs in the country. Out of these, 80 thousand Wakfs are occupied and the remaining are in the hands of others. The Government also has properties, they have occupied these illegally, constructed their buildings and the public also have properties, some people have sold these illegally. If we manage to protect these properties, many issues of the Muslims can be resolved. There is a matter of education of Muslims, there is a matter of services of Muslims, there is a matter of social conditions. All these matters can only be solved when the economic condition of Muslims is improved, opportunities are given to Muslim children to get education, only then the condition of the big population of Muslims can be improved, and the country can improve. The condition of the country can change, country can progress. ...*(Interruptions)* Now, come to the issue of development. For many years, the Congress Party has been in power. Everything has been in the hands of Congress party for more than forty-four years. Today, there is UPA Government.*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please be brief. Speak about the implementation of this law. You represent the minorities, it is good.

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ: Sir, honestly, Muslims have got nothing after Independence. They got only false promises and nothing else. Our other colleagues have also mentioned that the plight of Muslims is very pitiable and they need progress. Therefore, I want to state that if we manage to donate the properties properly, if we utilise it properly, if the illegal possession of properties is removed *(Interruptions)*... We can have so much income that the educational, social, economical condition of Muslims can be improved. *(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please be brief. You have spoken a lot. You have spoken many important things.

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ: Sir, the amount of 600 crore rupees fixed for protection of properties, in my view, is very less for the development and management. At least 2000 crore rupees should be sanctioned for it. Only then this work can be done and may prove fruitful. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now you please conclude. Now, Dr. Monazir Hassan.

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN (Ghosi): Mr. Chairman, please give some more time to the hon. Member. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ: Sir, other Members have spoken a lot. I should also be given some more time. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dara Singh Chauhan Sahab, the time of your party was two minutes. I gave ten minutes time. I will give one-two minutes more. Please continue.

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ: Sir, listen to my views also. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am listening you very attentively.

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ: My request is that this amount should be increase. There are 29 Aukaf Boards in the country, their condition is not sound. Until you improve their condition, the things cannot improve. Therefore, give powers in the hands of Central Wakf Council. It should take yearly report after conducting its survey and according to that report it should be established whether they are doing some work for the welfare of the community or mere plundering the resources. The persons who run the Board, do all sorts of corruption but they do not work for the country. This is being seen in all the Boards. Therefore, until these 29 Aukaf Boards are improved, there will be no proper arrangement, and things cannot be improved till then and we cannot benefit much from those Aukafs. As regards Tribunal, I wish that there should be fast track courts for it. ...*(Interruption)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You address the Chair and be brief.

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ: A large number of cases are going on in different States. No decision is being taken in those cases. We need to ensure that

these cases are decided quickly, punishment is given to the culprits and action is taken against them. Only then our properties, which are in the possession of either the Government or the private citizen or any other person, can come to us. There are lot of properties in the possession of the Government. Therefore, such wakf properties should be freed. Just now Shailendra Ji was saying that their party has done a lot of work in this regard. But I want to tell that BSP *i.e.* Mayawatiji has done a lot for Muslims. Aarbi-Farsi university was established in Lucknow, so that Muslims could get benefitted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Barq Sahab, you have expressed all your views, now you conclude your speech.

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ: Therefore, I want to say to all the parties that they should give special attention towards Muslims, only then the Muslims can be self dependant and their condition can be improved.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please sit down. I have given you much time. There were only two minutes for your party, but I gave 12 minutes. If you continue your speech then it will not go on records.

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ: Lastly there is a need to work honestly for Muslims, so that the condition of Muslims can be improved. If you do this work then their progress is certain.

DR. MONAZIR HASSAN (Begusarai): Mr. Chairman, I want to express my gratitude that you gave me an opportunity to speak on the Wakf (Amendment) Bill, 2010. Through you, I want to give my heartiest congratulations to hon'ble Minister of Minority Affairs, K. Rahman Khanji. By introducing this Bill, he has taken a courageous and important step. 65 years have passed since the country became independent. But, till today, neither the Central Government, nor the State Governments paid attention to Wakf matters, and the Wakf properties were encroached upon. No Government tried honestly to get these properties free. A lot of corruption is there and Wakf properties are encroached with the connivance of the caretaker of the Wakf and the Government officers managing the affairs. All these things have been mentioned in this Bill. We can term it a better step.

The Sachchar Committee report came. I was

Minister in Bihar Government at that time. There was NDA Government there. In spite of being a part of NDA, I congratulated the UPA Chairperson Sonia Gandhi ji and Manmohan Singh ji for the work of presenting Sachchar Committee report. Sachchar Commission presented the true picture of Muslims of India and the report is truly a historic document. It appears to me that it is the influence of this report that you have tried to introduce this Bill. You have brought these things because being a Minister and a talented person, you have also consulted various organisation of minorities, various small groups. We know it. You have tried to include those things in this Bill. Rahaman Sahab, this is your courageous step so that this Bill may not become controversial later on. Therefore, Sir, if UPA Government has tried to do a little work on Sachchar Committee report, this first courageous step is yours. But, there are many shortcomings in it. On the one side, you have made a provision to get the property for freed from illegal possession and on the other hand, there is a provision to give the property on lease for 30 years. Malls, hotels, hospitals can be constructed on it. I want to tell you one thing that sometimes we blame the Government, but whether it is regarding Wakf properties or regarding big mosques, you will see at other places that the rent of Wakf shop is five or ten rupees whereas the rent of other shops around them is 7-8 thousand rupees. Muslims have given Wakf shop on 10 rupees rent. Therefore, if a mall is constructed somewhere and you give it on lease for 30 years, somewhere hospital is constructed then who will get it freed from the possession after 30 years. No one knows which party's Government will come tomorrow. Therefore, please address this point also.

Secondly, it has been provided that the officers who have connived in illegal possession on Wakf property, will be face a fine of rupees 15000/. Sir, a fine of 15000/ rupees is nothing. You should provide in this Bill that such officers should be suspended and criminal case should be filed against him that no officer may dare to indulge in corruption of Wakf properties.

Sir, there are enough Wakf properties in Bihar and malls have been constructed in graveyards there. But in this regard, I am grateful to hon'ble Chief Minister of Bihar, Shri Nitish Kumar ji that he has secured all graveyards and will got these earmarked. This is the courageous step of

Nitish Kumar ji and we cannot step this without mentioning here. There are also many other Wakf properties which are illegally occupied and the Government there is serious about it. One more good work you have done is that Central Wakf Board, the Central Wakf Council, can give advice to State Wakf Board. You have tried to bring it under the legal ambit. They can be ordered and work can be done there according to their orders. Computerization in the whole India is required. 60 lakh acre land is of Wakf board and 4.90 lakh Wakf property is in the whole India, which is worth thousands lakh billion dollars. I am not saying crore, thousands lakh billions. We cry in both the Houses about the pitiable condition of minorities. If the Minister honestly tries to get the Wakf properties fixed and commercialise these, then we understand that there will be no need to ask for anything else by the Muslims.

Sir, Devband is the second largest educational and religious institution in the world where English and CBSE education is imparted with wakf property. They should be encouraged for it. I hope that the Government will take concrete steps to get the property freed which is under illegal possession there.

We hope that this Bill will prove fruitful for this country and the Muslims of this country.

17.32 hrs

RE: POSTPONMENT OF HALF-AN-HOUR
DISCUSSION

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): Shailendra Kumar ji has asked for half-an-hour discussion. I would like to request him that this discussion may be held tomorrow instead of today and time will be fixed.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): Mr. Chairman, the half-an-hour discussion is very important. You must have seen that since the time this House is in session, there has been a marathon discussion on floods and draught. In this regard, I had requested to give compensation to farmers for the loss of their crops. The Government has accepted it. I would like to thank

the Government for it, provided a discussion takes place tomorrow positively. It is linked with the feelings of hon'ble Members.

17.33 hrs.

WAKF (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2010

(Amendments made by Rajya Sabha) – Contd.

[English]

SK. SAIDUL HAQUE (Bardhaman-Durgapur): Thank you, Chairman, Sir, for giving a chance to speak. First of all, I would like to congratulate Shri K. Rahman Khan, Minister for Minority Affairs, for taking different initiatives for the welfare of minorities and for bringing amendment to this Bill, which is a long pending one. Last time when it was introduced in Lok Sabha on 7th May, 2010, we got just two minutes to speak at that time, so, we could not discuss it in detail. When it went to Rajya Sabha, they stopped the discussion and sent it to the Select Committee. But my suggestion is that this should have been sent again to a Joint Parliamentary Committee. It is because the Wakf (Amendment) Bill, 2010, came as a result of the Report submitted by the Joint Parliamentary Committee which was formed in 2006. In this case also the same thing should have been done. Chapter 11 of the Sachar Committee fully devoted to the deplorable conditions of Wakf properties. A specific recommendation has been made in this regard. The Select Committee has made a number of recommendations. The hon. Minister has accepted many of them. I have raised all those issues that there should be no alienation of Wakf properties by way of sale, gift and exchange. There should not be any encroachment of Wakf properties by anyone whether public or private. There should a time-bound survey of Wakf properties.

Now, here, in this amendment, I would like to say something to the hon. Minister through you, Sir. In Clause 5, it has been told that Muttawali should be the citizen of India. My suggestion is that, he should not only be the citizen of India but should be a permanent resident of India. Otherwise, remaining abroad, he may control everything.

My next point is this. The Wakf property should be surveyed in a time-bound manner. But all the registered

and unregistered properties should be surveyed in a time bound manner. In case of survey, financial assistance should be given to the State. In Clause 10 it has been said that the cost of survey should be entirely borne by the State Governments. This should not be done. The Sachar Committee and also the JPC on Wakf have told that in case of doing the survey, the States should be funded by the Central Government also. The Government of West Bengal when it was under the Left Front regime did all these things.

Now, in the case of Tribunal, my suggestion is that if any person is aggrieved by the Order of the Board, he should first go to the Tribunal and then go to the High Court. Otherwise, there will be a number of litigations and cases.

As regards the proposed amendment empowering the Central Wakf Council to issue direction to the State Wakf Boards in the matters of survey, maintenance, records, encroachments, irregularity, etc., my humble submission is that this should be done in consultation with the concerned State Government. Otherwise, the spirit of Federal Structure of the country will be hampered. The main question here should be how to stop any kind of loot of wakf properties and also how to evict encroachments done in the name of development by the vested interests.

My next suggestion to the hon. Minister is that Wakf properties should be given on lease just 15 years for commercial activities and 30 years for hospital and health purposes. Otherwise, if you give it on 30 years' lease for commercial activities, they will be given for ever, and that should not be done.

My next suggestion is that in the State Wakf Board there should be more elected members rather than nominated members in order to strengthen the democratic fabric. In the Tribunal also, there should be only judicial members and no non-judicial members sent by the State Government so that the State Government may not be in a position to influence in direct or indirect way.

My next suggestion is that in case of inclusion of MPs or MLAs in Wakf Boards as nominated members there should be a provision that they do not come under 'Office of Profit'.

My next suggestion is that the relevant provisions of Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971 should be incorporated in the Bill or alternatively the State produce legislation of their own to the same effect.
...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You just conclude your speech in one minute.

SK. SAIDUL HAQUE: Please give me two more minutes.

There should be a provision in the Bill that Wakf properties are exempted from the Rent Control Act. The same kind of suggestion has been given in the Sachar Report and also made by the Select Committee.

Lastly, I welcome the provision for review of Wakf properties acquired since 1995. It should be ascertained whether the acquired properties have been used for the public purpose or they have been changed or encroached upon, and in case they have been encroached upon, then the lands should automatically come to the Wakf Board. In case of Wakf lands occupied by the Government or government agencies or government organizations, which have done that, then that should be vacated.

My only request to the hon. Minister is that Wakf property should be used for proper development of the Muslim community and it should not be used as a dole or should not be used for a political mileage or for a cheap popularity.

The Sachar Committee gave its Report in 2007. Now, five years have passed. Let us see in what position the minority Muslims are there. I think, the hon. Minister has gone through IIM, Ahmedabad Rakesh Basant Committee Report and also the NSS Survey Report, which says that still the Muslims are suffering from lack of development deficit and they are discriminated against. So, the plight of the Muslims should be removed.

That is why, I would request the hon. Minister to implement the Ranganath Misra Committee Report and I would also request him to set up a Committee to see the condition of the Muslim minority people as five years have passed after the Sachar Committee gave its Report.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY (Kandhamal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to participate in this debate.

Sir, this is an amendment to the Act. 1965. Sir, this Bill was intended to provide better administration for upkeep and maintenance of Wakf properties. There are a lot of Wakf properties which are under the possession of many persons. So, a strong and stringent law is necessary.

Sir, the hon. Minister, Shri K. Rahman Khan ji has brought this Bill. I congratulate him for that.

In this Bill, there are so many clauses. Surveys of Wakf properties are to be done within one year. This is a welcome step.

Similarly, there is the Central Wakf Commission and there is also the State Wakf Commission. Both are to be formed within a time limit. They are given some powers also, which is a good thing.

Similarly, the leasing of the properties is made for 30 years. It is a very welcome step. In this way, the properties can be utilised commercially and for benevolence of the people in health and education.

There is another sub-section added about alienation of Wakf properties. There is a penal action for defaulting persons, who subverts it.

Similarly, the Tribunal is to be chaired by the rank of District Judge, which is a very welcome step. It is a very powerful thing.

Similarly, another Section is introduced that due compensation will be given if the Government possess the land. Also, the Government will be compelled to evict the land. It is a very good suggestion given by the hon. Minister.

Therefore, Sir, I may tell that the well-intentioned and good hearted Islam brothers have donated their huge properties to the Mosque and other worship places where they live with an intention that maintenance of holy places should be taken care of; and income of the properties should be made good use for the future generations. But their intentions are not fulfilled due to mismanagement of properties. A lot of encroachment is also done.

The Amendments made in this Bill will safeguard the properties of the Awqaf properties will be restored and will become income-generating.

Sir, in the end, I would say that the Wakf properties symbolizes philanthropy and charity, a kind of humanitarian consciousness for religious activity. This spirit has to be maintained. Let us derive benefits from this Bill and contribute for the welfare of the community.

With these words, I support the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (Aurangabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me permission to speak on the Wakf (Amendment) Bill, 2010. I am very much thankful to respected Rehman Khan Saheb because we have worked in the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Wakf Board for ten years. Hon. Rehman Khan Saheb was our Chairman. I have also been the convener of the Committee for four-five years. We had been to many States and examined the Wakf Board of those States and told the Governments of those States about the area of land of the Wakf Board encroached upon. I want to say that here are five lakh properties of Wakf Board and their value is around five lakh crore rupees. But nobody pay attention towards the Wakf Board. Who donated and why? People donated their properties for orphans, widows, helpless and poor people, who even do not have food. People donated properties to help such people. They donated their properties so that poor people could be helped from the income of those properties and that was a very good cause. But, nobody pay attention toward the Wakf properties, today it has become aimless. When Rehman Saheb and me were in the Joint Parliamentary Committee, I am thankful to respected Rehman Saheb for including the amendments in this Bill, which we had put to make this Bill meaningful. I am again thankful to him because he has worked in this field for many years.

Sir, I would say that in many States, people do not belief in the Wakf Board. Punjab Wakf Board is profitable but the rest are not profitable. In the cities like Delhi where rent is hundred rupees a month and they earn Rs. one lakh a day. They earn Rs. 30 lakh per month and pay only hundred rupees a month to the Wakf Board. Our Committee

visited a property of Wakf Board in Delhi. We saw the Factual position there. Late Lal Jan Basa was the Chairman of the Committee at that time. He unearthed a case of Hyderabad Wakf Board property wherein a builder grabbed the Wakf property of about 1200 crore rupees. Wakf Board had won the case at one level but that matter went to the Supreme Court and the advocate in the Supreme Court, our Attorney General handled the case. It is not done through Wakf Board. It is done through the builder. We are very much pained to know that. Today, the builders grab the property worth crores of rupees. That property worth crores of rupees could be utilized in a better way. We had said that day and today, you have also accepted that the land lying vacant there can be developed and some construction may be done on that land. The income from such a development can be utilized to help the rest of the poor and the aim of the Wakf can be fulfilled.

Sir, there is a very big property in Maharashtra and in the eight districts of Marathwada, there is 55 thousand acres of land. There is no controller of that land. In the Wakf Board of my area, there is neither an officer nor any staff to look after the Wakf property. No payment is made to the staff there. When Lal Jan Bashaji was the Chairman, we went to the then Hon. Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Shri Vilasrao Deshmukhji. He... Rs. fifteen crore ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, let me speak. It is very important because I had worked in the Committee, as a Shiv Sena Member, for ten years. There is no politics in that. Banatwala Saheb has also worked with me. We both used to go at each and every place. One belonged to Muslim league and the other to Shiv Sena. But there was no dispute between them. There may be a difference of opinion here, but not in the Committee. Sir, I want to say that on the 55 acres of land in Marathwada, many bungalows have cropped up and the builders have acquired many properties. We had visited a property in Mumbai. That property had been acquired by a very big industrialist. An orphanage was proposed to be constructed there. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Chandrakant ji, please do not mention the name of any person, who is not a member of this House. There is no such convention. Now, please conclude.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRAKAT KHAIRE: Sir, the land valued at Rs. 200 crore at that time. The present value of that land is in thousands of crores of rupees. If that money had gone to the Wakf Board, it would have been better utilized and poor people would have been benefited. Sir, there are still no board members. There are no representatives of Mutvalli also. Then comes the Advocate. There is no Advocate there. We had started a Tribunal in the absence of board establishment. The Advocate of Wakf Board do not come regularly even in the Tribunal. The people there ignore it. That is why the Wakf Board face defeat. Therefore, I would like to say that if the Central Government exercise some control over it, the Wakf property can be saved.

Sir, as declared by the Maharashtra Government yesterday, the State Government have given a sum of Rs. ten crore to the Madrasa teachers and others. For facilities in each Madrasa, a sum of two lakh and for teachers three thousand to eight thousand ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: This does not relate to this Bill.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Please listen to me ...*(Interruptions)* I Narrate the things further ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: For students, four to five thousand ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: 10 crore for 200 Madarsas ...*(Interruptions)* This need not be done ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are still two Bills. You have said what you wanted to say. Please conclude now.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Today, the Wakf Board property is the largest property in the country. If we try to save it, if we utilize it in a better way, we can earn a lot of money and can help many poor people. This

is not the recommendation of Sachchar Committee and the amount of Rs. 10 crore given by the Maharashtra Government, is politically aimed. It is done to attract Muslim votes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Alright, you have expressed your views.

SBRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: This also need not to be done. When we asked for 15 crore rupees for the Wakf Board, if this amount had been granted at that time, the Wakf Board would had been in a sound position.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Therefore, I want to say that the Central Government must exercise its control over it. I would like to request Rehman Saheb that such property should be taken over. As a Member we have worked under you and certainly you asked very good in that position.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Chandrakantji, you have said all that you wanted to say. Your suggestions are very good.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: The Wakf Board can become strong in this way only.

DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK (Thane): Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this important Bill. I am thankful to our Minister, Rehman Khan Saheb, I am thankful to the Government for bringing this Bill, because many people were waiting for a long time for this Bill. On behalf of this House, I thank you for bringing this Bill. Perhaps, after 1995, amendments have been brought to this Bill. When we came here in 2010 and when this Bill was sent to Rajya Sabha, the people thought that this Bill would not come back. I thank the Government that you have made some good provisions in many clauses. I want to mention only one clause, a new clause 17 (A), which you have introduced in the Bill. In this clause you have given the powers of a magistrate to the district collector. But, I think that you should give this power to the Board. Every time, we demand that this power should be given to the Board and thus make the Board powerful. If we give them more and more powers, they will be able to do more and more work. This is a very good Bill. But I do not want that some more amendments should be

brought to this Bill after some years. We want that it should be made foolproof today itself. All our Boards, as Shri Chandrakant K.haire Saheb has said, own properties worth crores and crore of rupees. I think that Government must ask for the details of the Wakf properties in the country. If the Government has the details thereof, please let us know as to how many cases are pending in the Courts and other people are making advantage of it. I request the Government, through you, to keep these things in mind while passing this Bill, as you have provided in the new clause 17 (A) to make the Board powerful. The collector would say tomorrow that there is a law and order problem, I would get it vacated after one year. I think, in this way, you would not be able to do what you want to do. For all other clauses of the Bill, I thank the Government. This Bill should be an effective law. I welcome the Government for bringing this Bill.

[English]

SHRI P. KUMAR (Tiruchirappalli): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. Sir, I would like to say that many of our Muslim brothers had donated their huge properties to the mosques and other worship places where they lived around. They had left these properties in the hope that maintenance of holy places would be taken care of within the income of these properties and they hoped that properties would be put in good use for the future generations also. Their good wishes have not been fulfilled because there are many cases of encroachment on these properties. Also, there are many cases, which are pending for years in the courts. I would urge upon the hon. Minister for Minority Affairs to find out some solution and see that encroachments are removed from these sites and the properties are handed over to the rightful authorities.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, computerization of Wakf Board will go a long way in curbing the financial irregularities apart from creating a data base of Wakf properties. I urge upon the hon. Minister to release adequate funds to the State for this purpose. Many Wakf Boards in States are all in financial crises. When the same situation prevailed in Tamil Nadu, our hon. Chief Minister Amma went to the rescue of Wakf Boards and granted funds for many years. In 2012-13, Tamil Nadu Government has released Rs. 3

crore for the State Wakf Board which had been struggling to give even the pension benefit to the retired staff of the Wakf Board.

To meet the administrative expenditure in Tamil Nadu Wakf board, hon. Chief Minister Amma has granted Rs.1 crore for this year. The Haj Pilgrims subsidy has been enhanced from Rs.20 lakh to Rs.30 lakh in Tamil Nadu. Every year our Chief Minister Amma provides a grant for renovation and rebuilding of dilapidated mosques. During the Ramzan fasting time all the mosques are provided with free rice. Ulemas are paid Rs.1000 as pension every month.

With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO (Khammam): Hon. Chairman, Sir, this Bill should have been brought much earlier. It has been brought very late. Hon. Minister, Rehman Khan Saheb has brought this Bill and I have been given an opportunity to speak on this Bill. I am thankful to you.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Andhra Pradesh owns more Wakf properties than the rest of the country. There are many Wakf Board properties in Andhra Pradesh. The reason behind the fact is that after the rule of the Nabab, many of his properties were given to the Wakf Board to help the poor Muslims. At that time, about 4 lakh 45 thousand acres of land was with the Andhra Pradesh Wakf Board and the Government failed completely to protect it. When we were the ruling party, Chandrababu Naidu ji had made every effort to support the Muslims. He constructed Shaadi Khanas (marriage places) for them, introduced direct flights for Haj Yatra from Andhra Pradesh for the first time. I have little time to speak but I want to say one thing before this August House. When the Congress Government came to power in 2007, the Manikonda Dargah, earlier known as Hazrat Hussain Sawli, owned 1654 acres of land. Its per acre value was 20 crore rupees at that time. The Congress Government took that valuable property from the Government owned agency APIDC- Andhra Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation and gave it to the Microsoft, M.R. Properties and the Wipro Company. The value of this each property is at least 32000 crore rupees.

In this way the properties of Andhra Pradesh have been occupied by others and the Government gave away the property of the Wakf Board to others.

As per the new provision made in this Bill, a new clause is introduced in clause 60 and 104. After six months of the order of the Tribunal, the Government can acquire the property from the Wakf Board, it is clearly mentioned in the Bill. But, the Government is not serious about the Tribunal. The Government totally fail in the implementation. Every time, the Muslims of Andhra Pradesh suffer the most. All these properties are being acquired ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, a good Bill is coming.

SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to say two things only. I request that the properties acquired so far ...*(Interruptions)*

18.00 hrs

MR. CHAIRMAN: They have incorporated your feelings in the Bill.

SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO: I want to mention only two things. This Bill needs to be amended and along with the responsibility of the Tribunal, the responsibility of the State Government should also be fixed. Many properties of Wakf Board in my district Khammam have also been occupied by other. After becoming a Member of Parliament, I met the Collector to get the Wakf Board property vacated. I talked to the Collector and got the property vacated. I request that the Wakf Board property acquired by the Government should be returned to the Wakf Board. A time bound survey should be conducted with regard to the existing properties and the Government should provide special funds for this purpose.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, it is already 6 o'clock. After this Bill, we have two more Bills. Therefore, if the House agrees, we may extend the time of the House till 8.00 p.m.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think, the House agrees.

18.01 hrs

(DR. M. THAMBIDURAI *in the Chair*)*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHU NATH SINGH (Maharajganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for permitting me to speak. The Wakf Board looks after the properties received in donation. The donated article may be for mosque, dargah, crematorium, Musafirkhana, housing, shop, it may be land or orchard even money in cash. People belonging to Muslim community give donations under it and while donating the said article/property, the donor states about the purpose for which the said article or property should be put to use and if the dependents of donor wants to take it back, he can't do it so. The rules are very strict. The purpose of creation of Wakf is religious. It means the land meant for 'Ibaadat' would strictly be used for Ibaadat and that meant for graveyard would be used for graveyard. But the land which is source of any income would be used for helping the poor, widows and orphan children. Under such circumstances, Wakf Board plays an active role in the upliftment of poor Muslims and its very purpose is also upliftment. In view of it, it is the responsibility of Wakf Board to ensure safety of Wakf's land that it can help in upliftment of Muslims.

All over the country, 5 lakh properties are registered with Wakf Boards. As per present market value, these properties are worth Rs. 40 - 50 lakh crore. But, unfortunately, most of these properties are under illegal occupation. My friend Munazir Hassan has left the House. He was thanking the Chief Minister of Bihar, but he did not disclose the fact that Wakf properties in Bihar are under illegal occupations and who have occupied these properties illegally? Most of them are MLAs of ruling party. In Patna City, ruling party MLA has occupied land of Wakf Board. I do not understand whether he is thanking for illegal occupation or otherwise.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Wakf Board should be strongly empowered so that it can ensure vacations of its properties occupied illegally. It should have adequate legal powers. It would be better if the UPA Government.
...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please be brief.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU NATH SINGH: If all the State Government work strongly in accordance with what was suggested in the letter written by our former Prime Minister, Late Shrimati Indira Gandhi then things will be set right. Sachar Committee has quite elaborately spoken about Wakf's properties and many suggestions have been given. I want say that if the Government is indeed well wisher of minority community the suggestions of Sachar Committee should be fully implemented. Wakf graveyards should be demarcated and fenced and other Wakf properties should be developed for earning some income so that it can help in social, economic, educational development of the said minority. There is no provision on the lines of Public Prohibition Act and therefore, it is difficult to protect Wakf properties. The Bill should contain provisions for safety of Wakf properties.

However, in this Bill, efforts have been made for strengthening Wakf Tribunal but no time limit has been fixed for adjudicating the disputes by the Tribunal. In the absence of any time limit, the case would keep pending on the lines of other courts. In view of it, a time limit should have been fixed. Under the present Bill, a condition has been imposed for obtaining the nod of the State Government for leasing Wakf property. Since a provision of Central Wakf Council exists for monitoring functioning of Wakf Boards in such cases, permission of the said council may be sought in place of the State Government.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Member, please wind up. There are many Bills that we have to take up today. We have to pass many Bills before eight o'clock. Please try to be very brief.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Sir, I would conclude within a minute.

The Bill contains Section-51 for acquisition. It would be appropriate to incorporate text of Section-51 in Section-91 so far as acquisition is concerned.

I conclude my speech with thanks.

[English]

SHRI MOHAMMED E.T. BASHEER (Ponnani): Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. Sir, at the very outset, I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister Shri K. Rahman Khan for bringing such a commendable piece of legislation before this august House.

I wish to make two or three important suggestions. Through this legislation, we have now restricted the lease period. Instead of 30, it is now three and that is well and good. But I strongly suggest that the lease agreement hereafter should be strictly in accordance with the market rate. It should be in accordance with the market rate. That is my first suggestion.

Second, there must be a provision for a full-time Secretary for the Central Wakf Board, preferably a Muslim.

Third, once we fix the responsibility for encroachment on an individual or an institution, there must be a provision in the Bill for levying compensation on such encroachers. There should be a provision for that. The status of the Secretary of the Central Wakf Board should be that of the Joint Secretary in the Government of India.

Sir, in this Bill, there is another handicap—now, the lease agreement will have to be forwarded by the State Wakf Board to the State Government. That is an encroachment of the right of the State Wakf Board. That should not be there. That also should be corrected.

As far as registration is concerned, it is really now the collective wisdom of the State Government and the Central Government; State and Central Wakf Boards; Joint Parliamentary Committee; Muslim Personal Law Board; Ulemas' Forum; and relevant part of the Sachar Committee Report. That has been made meaningful. I believe that this is creating a strong foundation for the stable and scientific administration of Wakf properties.

Sir, there were reckless encroachment of Wakf properties. The releasing of those properties from the encroachers was also a very complicated process. Transfer of the properties was going on at the will and pleasure of the encroachers. Encroachers were using Wakf properties according to their will and pleasure as an inherited property. I believe that the current provision will put an end to all

such illegal gains. Sir, not only that, leasing the wakf property for rupee one or rupee two, that also is going to be ended through this legislation. Sir, there was no statutory obligation between the State and the Central Governments. This legislation ensures such a statutory obligation between the State and the Central Governments. There was no proper survey for the Wakf properties. That also is ensured in this.

Regarding the compensation of Wakf Board, that was not scientific. Through this legislation, a judicious combination of Wakf Board is also ensured in this. About the lease, I had stated earlier. There also, we have made adequate restrictions.

Sir, now, I come to the definition for encroachment. Of course, nobody can escape from that. The dispute redressal mechanism has been specified in this. A Judicial body has been created for that. A tribunal has also been formulated. Dispute redressal mechanism by way of border adjudicators has also been specified in this Bill. The Wakf properties are under the possession of the Government. My friend was saying that there are many Wakf properties under the possession of the Government. It is illegal possession by the Government. According to the report, in Delhi alone, there are many properties like that. My friend was saying that 123 Wakf properties in Delhi alone are under the illegal possession of the Government. While saying this, I have distinct memories of days of Shrimati Indira Gandhi. In her letter, 26th March, 1976, she wrote that it must be kept in mind that Wakf are forever and, therefore, the interests of the future generation must be kept in view. The Wakf properties which are in the hands of the Government or local authorities must be returned to the Wakf or duly purchased or leased by the Government authorities. We have to remember that. The Government should show a model. Private people are doing all these things. But the Government itself is doing. The Government is a noble institution. It is a constitutional body. If the Government itself is in the role of an encroacher, we can very well understand how deplorable is that? I would like to suggest that we have to make an end for that also.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please wind up.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAMMED E.T. BASHEER: Sir, I am coming to the end.

Now, at the end, it is with regard to the optimum utilization of the Wakf properties. We know that according to the figures, there are Rs. 60,000 crore worth of Wakf properties. It may go up to Rs. 1.25 lakh crore. The annual revenue from this is expected from Rs. 10,000 crore to Rs. 20,000 crore provided if the optimum utilization of Wakf properties is done. I hope that in this Bill also, there is a provision. This Bill is giving an emphasis on optimum utilization of Wakf properties for income generating purpose. That is a most appreciable part of this legislation.

Similarly, another important and another highly appreciable part of this legislation is the proposal for formation of National Wakf Development Corporation. If that is properly planned and managed, this National Wakf Development Corporation can make wonders. I hope that the Government will seriously implement that without further delay. The role of NWDC should be that of a generous facilitator.

Similarly, there are penal provisions for the offenders under the provisions of this Act.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAMMED E.T. BASHEER: In this Bill, that also is very highly appreciable and most welcome. With these few words, I once again say that the Government has come forward with the bold decision to bring this legislation before this august House. I once again congratulate the Minister and conclude my speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri J.M. Aaron Rashid. Be brief.

[Translation]

*SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID (Theni): Hon. Chairman Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on Wakf Amendment Bill. Minorities are being ignored at all levels. UPA Government led by Smt. Sonia Gandhi had constituted a Joint Parliamentary Committee on Wakf under the Chairmanship of Shri K. Rahman Khan who is presently the Union Minister for Minority Affairs. I was

also a member of that Committee. When we went on study tours to different places we found Muslims living in pathetic condition. Tears rolled down. On the contrary BJP, the prime opposition party says that Muslims are well placed in the society. But that is not the reality. Muslims, a minority community has not so far received its due attention. After UPA led by Smt. Sonia Gandhi came to power, Government has allocated Rs.3000 crore to the welfare of Muslim Community. Because of the constitution of JPC on Wakf by Smt. Sonia Gandhi, Hon. Minister of Minority Affairs has brought certain amendments to this bill today. I extend my heartiest congratulations. I rise to support this bill. I also wish to state that if the properties belonging to Wakf Boards in India are maintained properly, there will be revenue in thousands of crores of rupees to these Boards. In Delhi, many places belonging to Wakf Board are utilized by the Government of Delhi and only a paltry sum of Rs.30 is given as rent. After utilizing an area of 3 lakh sq. ft. the Wakf Boards are paid only Rs.30. There should a fixed rent based on market rate. One-third of the rent they have to give. If you want to buy, you buy at market price, *i.e.* one-third of the market price. If this money comes, the Muslim community will be benefitted. Wakf Boards will get several lakhs of rupees.

In Tamil Nadu, BHEL plant and Bharathidasan University in Trichy are constructed in places belonging to Wakf Board. These institutions do not pay anything. They are not even paying rent properly to the Wakf Board. Judicial powers should be provided to the Wakf Board so that they can act. Parliamentary constituencies won by Muslims have been converted to reserved constituencies. After conducting a census of Muslims in the country, I urge that you should come forward to do good to the Muslim community. In Tamil Nadu, the State Government is providing pension to the Muslims, especially the Ulemas. This is a good scheme. This pension should be enhanced to Rs.2500/-. There are around 50 thousand retired Ulemas in the State of Tamil Nadu. All of them should be provided pension. I also want to share an important information that I along with Hon. Union Minister for Minority Affairs Shri K. Rahman Khan had gone to Bengaluru to review the functioning of Wakf Boards. There is a hotel named Windsor Manor in Bengaluru and their land belongs to Wakf Board. They earlier gave Rs.1 lakh as rent for occupying an area of 6 acres. Now they are giving Rs. 6

* English translation of the Speech originally delivered in Tamil.

lakh. Where is the justice? Muslims are being ignored and justice is denied. Wherever there is land of Wakf Boards, colleges should be built. In Delhi, in a post graduate college built on Wakf land there is not even a single Muslim student. I wish to bring this to your notice. Muslim community is being side-lined. You should take genuine action in this regard. I support this bill wholeheartedly. Government led by Annai Soniaji has only provided Rs.3000 crore to the welfare of Muslims and in addition I urge that retired Ulemas should be given pension.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad): Sir, my earnest request to you is to please give me seven minutes. I will complete my speech. I promise you that I have 15 points to make and I will complete them in seven minutes.

The first point is that there is no time limit prescribed in the Bill which is being discussed over here regarding adjudication of a wakf matter by a wakf tribunal. In any other tribunal, a time limit is prescribed that within a particular time limit, this matter would be decided. That is not there in this case.

The second point is, all the wakf cases that are now going on lower courts must be transferred to the tribunals which are going to be formed in the respective States.

The third point is that the Supreme Court has always said in many cases that once a wakf, always a wakf. This particular sentence is not reflected in the Bill. It should have been there that once a wakf and always a wakf.

The fourth point is regarding appointment as members to the Central Wakf Council and Wakf Boards. There is not a single mention made that the members who are going to be appointed or made or elected must have some knowledge of wakf matters. They can be town planners; they can be in business and so on. But what about the knowledge of wakf?

The fifth point is this. Can the Minister give an assurance that the rent will be increased of Wakf properties? I give an example. In Kolkata, the Governor House where the Governor is living is a wakf property. And what is the rent that is being given? It is Rs.159 per month. Can he give an assurance that with the passing of this Bill, the rent will be increased of wakf properties?

The sixth point is that the Supreme Court has, as recently as in 2010, in a judgment of Ramesh Gobindram and Sugra Humayun clearly said this. I am quoting the paragraphs 32, 33, 34 and 35.

This judgment has curtailed the powers of tribunals. They have said that even a civil court can decide a wakf matter. In this Bill, the hon. Minister has completely failed to tell us as to how he will overcome this Supreme Court judgment of Ramesh Gobindram. Something should have been introduced in the Bill so that the tribunal can adjudicate and dispute any lease, licence, tenancy, any form of alienation or transfer of certain rights.

My eighth point is that survey of Wakf properties will be done after the passage of the Bill, not the survey of what wakf properties used to be at the time of Independence. Again that is not there.

My ninth point is about encroachment of Wakf properties. Why is it that the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971 is being applied to wakf properties? Mr. Minister, you were the Chairman of the Joint Parliamentary Committee. You had recommended and now, Mr. Minister, you are failing to deliver. Have some sort of moral obligation! Being Chairman, you should have incorporated this. How is it that the Law Ministry has rejected your proposal? I fail to understand this! In the State of Tamil Nadu, in the State of Andhra Pradesh, the Hindu Endowments Board has complete eviction powers of encroachers. They have summary eviction powers. Now what you have done is that the CEO will tell the Collector. I would request that, you have Section 55 of Wakf Act, 1995, you make a provision that if a Magistrate fails to discharge the Board order, then disciplinary action should be taken by the judicial authority, again that Magistrate. That is because neither the Collector, neither the revenue people, neither the police, neither the judiciary at the lower level will want to implement the order of the Wakf Board.

I come to my ninth point. I fail to understand how Shri Jairam Ramesh can have one policy and this Minister another policy? ... (*Interruptions*) Amendment 45 to Section 51 is on acquisition of wakf land. The Bill says that compensation should be at the prevailing market value or suitable land, reasonable solatium in lieu of acquired property. How is it that Shri Jairam Ramesh says four times

in rural areas and two times in urban areas? Mr. Minister, are you not getting along with Shri Jairam Ramesh, do you have something against Shri Jairam Ramesh that you have to have a different yardstick? Why do not you correct it? How can a Government in power have two different policies on acquisition of land? If it is wakf land, it has to be at prevailing market value. What is this? This is a contradiction in your own Government. Please correct it.

I have talked about any land acquisition made under law will have to be done in consultation with the Board. I will say that it has to be 'duly constituted Board' not a Board. For example, in Maharashtra, Mukesh Ambani being the richest man in India had to occupy the land of a *yateemkhana*. Disgrace on his part that he had to occupy the land of orphans! Why did this happen? It happened because we do not have a Board over there. The CEO in connivance with him gave a green signal. That is why you must have a duly constituted Board. Not having that you cannot stop this occupation of land.

Then, what is the definition of public purpose? Please tell me. You do not even define public purpose over here! Visualize a situation that tomorrow if a right wing Government comes into power they can do anything. There are many contentious issues which are still pending. I am warning you, please correct this.

On Amendment 60, again I do not know what is the meaning of 'if the property is required for public purpose' - there is no definition - 'the Government agency may make an application for determination of rent or compensation'. Again, who will go there? Who will make it? In Delhi, my friend Shahnawaz can help us over here. If they are really interested in this, I would request the BJP leader to help us. About 123 properties are under the occupation of DDA and the Land Development Office. Please understand the irony. A hundred and twenty-three properties have been given to Wakf Board. The DDA says they are handing them over on a rent of Re.1 per acre. What is this joke? And then, the Vishva Hindu Parishad goes to court and gets a stay in 1984. What is the Wakf Board doing? What is the Union Government doing? More than 30 years have passed. Nothing has happened. You cannot vacate a stay! Can you not vacate a stay? Whatever the legal officers are doing, it is an insult on them.

Please allow me. I am making valid points. In the last year's Budget, for strengthening of State Wakf Boards, Rs.4.50 crore was allotted and only Rs. 8 lakh were given. How can you do that work? You take grant-in-aid to Wakf Board, in 2012-13, an amount of Rs.3.20 crore, but only Rs.2.88 lakh has been released. But my friend from Khammam says that Shri Chandrababu Naidu had protected the wakf properties. I want to correct it; you may inquire into it. When he was the Chief Minister, he had given wakf lands to Microsoft; he had given wakf lands to Indian School of Business; he had given wakf land to Infosys. When Congress came to power, it also did the same thing. 1700 acres of wakf land were given to all these people. The whole of Hyderabad wants to protect this 1700 acres. My request to the hon. Minister is that he may please ensure that the Attorney-General does not appear on behalf of the Central Government. How can he appear on behalf of the Central Government against the wakf property? This is totally wrong. With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ (Garhwal): Sir, I rise to speak in support of Wakf Board Bill. At the outset, I would thank Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and the Hon. Minister for having introduced such an important Bill. The UPA Government has allocated Rs. 3000 crore for the welfare of Muslim Community. The Properties of Wakf Board under Government occupations should be got vacated. There is a serious problem relating to graveyard. In Ramnagar, Pauri, Kotdwar graveyard areas are highly congested. Dead bodies are buried one over the other. It has taken the shape of a problem. I urge the Government to allocate forest land for this purpose. It is said in Tarat that God made man from the dust of the ground. Man is made of sand and ultimately he merges in the sand. Paucity of land for graveyards has caused a serious problem. Therefore, the Government should allocate forest land for this purpose.

I am thankful for permitting me to speak on such an important Bill.

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Shri Jayram Ramesh has asked me to speak in Urdu. Therefore, I shall speak in Urdu. First of all, I am thankful to Syed Shahnawaz

Hussain. He initiated debate on this Bill. Today, I am so happy that the entire House has come together to protect Wakf properties and get the properties under illegal occupations vacated. The said illegal occupation is a sin in all the religions. It is a fact that people donated lakhs of acres of land to Wakf. People donate land with different intentions purpose and it becomes the responsibility of not only the Government but also of the society to protect such properties and let these be used for the purposes for which these have been donated. In 1954, first step was taken with regard to this donation with creation of a Wakf Board. At that time, the law dealing it had several lacunae and therefore, some of the States did not accept it. In 1995, the said law was amended and a Central law was enactment. But that act also failed to bear fruits. It, too, had several lapses. In the present Bill, a number of amendments have been carried out. The purpose is to vacate the Wakf land under illegal occupation, protect it and develop it. Sachar Committee alongwith Parliamentary Standing Committee also desired that such land under illegal occupation should be got vacated, a National Wakf Development Corporation be set up for the development thereof. Reason is that neither Wakf has funds to develop it nor the people have power to develop it. In view of it, there is a proposal to create a National Wakf Development Corporation with an authorized capital of Rs. 500 crore. It shall be a PSU. 51 stakes shall be with the Government. A number of Members have expressed apprehension over misuse of the Wakf properties if these are given on lease for long period of 30 years. Builders may misuse it. Encroachment is a serious problem now-a-days. Hon. Members have given several suggestions. Now, it is very difficult to remove encroachment. People are cunning enough to avoid it legally. Earlier, it was envisaged in Sec - 52A that if any one occupies a property without authorisation or a lease agreement, it would be treated as a trespass. Earlier, what was the practice. In case of an illegal occupation, legal battle was the only option. Now, if there is any illegal encroachment on Wakf land, the Wakf Board can straight away file an FIR and it is a cognizable offence, non-bailable offence. This provision has been incorporated in the Bill. Secondly, the functioning of our Wakf Boards was not satisfactory. JPC was constituted because of improper functioning of Wakf Boards. This Bill seeks to improve the functioning of these boards. Earlier,

there was no monitoring of boards from the Governments. NWDC was merely an advisory body at national level. It was powerless.

Now, through this Bill, CWC has been empowered and now it can advise the State Governments, Wakf boards and even Central Government. Above all, its directions would be mandatory. If the Government finds certain directions objectionable then the matter shall be adjudicated with the help of a Judge of Supreme Court or Chief Justice of High Court acting as an adjudicator. Central Wakf Council has been empowered to give directions. I am sure it would enhance accountability of the council. So far as tribunal is concerned. Shri Owaisi ji has left. He raised 13 points. I would like to reply to those points, but he is not present now. I would send a written reply to him. ...*(Interruptions)* The tribunals constituted earlier were only to decide whether a Wakf property is a Wakf property or not. Their mandate was limited. We have extended the scope of the Tribunal. Now tribunals can hear all disputes, one does not need to go to the Court. We have expanded powers of the Tribunal. Tribunals have now eviction powers also. Earlier these boards were not given any financial aid but now the Government proposes to give them financial assistance also. Now, encroachment is a serious issue. Hon. Members have given many suggestions. And it is very difficult to evict encroachments as illegal occupiers are well aware of legal loopholes and they obtain stay from the court. For the first time, we have incorporated Sec 52(A) wherein it is provided that an illegal occupier *i.e.* who has no authorization or a lease agreement shall be treated as a trespasser. Now, the Government is preparing computerized data of all Wakf properties. It is true that each Wakf property is a public premise and no individual can be its owner. It is in the name of God and thus it is meant for public. We are bringing a separate Wakf property Eviction Bill just to remove legal handles. All leading provisions of Central Public Premise Act shall be incorporated in this Act also. I would reply to individual suggestions of the Hon. Members, In view of time constraints, now I will touch only 2-3 issues. A survey was conducted in 1956-57. The Act seeks survey after every 20 years. Survey is also not being conducted properly. Now, we are going to define the responsibility for conducting survey and cost factor. It is

the responsibility of the State Government to notify it. As so far Wakf Board was doing it leading to more disputes. Now, the Government will conduct survey. The States will maintain a list of all the properties of Wakf Boards.

The matter of Archeological Survey also came up. It is true that thousands of mosques are under the Central of Archeological Survey. Mosques are constructed for performing Namaz, but since the property comes under the control of Archeological Survey, people are permitted to perform Namaz at such Masjids. Shahnawaz ji also raised this matter. Some mosques are under the control of Archeological survey and rest under the control of Wakf Board. We are in contact with the department. It was decided that the mosques, wherein Ibaadat was in practice, will be opened for public, but in case of those mosques, wherein Ibaadat was not in practice, shall not be opened for public. In 1920, when it was undivided India, it was identified on the basis of documents. The Government has promised to take up the matter with Archeological Survey on the basis of the said record.

SHRI KIRTI AZAD: Any time frame has been given or not?

[English]

SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: We are in touch with the Archaeological Department.

SHRI KIRTI AZAD: Have you given them any time frame? Or are they going to give you a list?

SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: We are in correspondence with the Archaeological Department. Still we have not come to a conclusion.

SHRI KIRTI AZAD : It must be time-bound programme.

[Translation]

SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: This matter involves two Ministers and we are doing it. It involves 123 properties. I would write in details to Owaisi ji. I am very happy to say that the Joint Parliamentary Committee, wherein Shri Khare Sahib is also a Member, cooperated with us. I would seek full support of Shahnawaz ji for checking encroachments. In its Election manifesto, his party has promised.

[English]

“BJP will examine the recommendation of the Joint Parliamentary Committee of Wakf headed by Shri K. Rahman Khan, Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha and with consultation with Muslim leaders, we will take steps to remove/evict encroachments from unauthorized occupation of wakf property.”

[Translation]

It is in your manifesto. I want you to implement it in the State ruled by your party.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: We are going to form the Government at Centre, then we would implement it.

SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: We would see when it happens. Many more good suggestions have been received, I would try to implement them. I would request Shri Saidul Haq not to press for his amendments. Whatever suggestions have been received we would try to incorporate them. Therefore you do not press for your amendments.

[English]

So, with these words, I thank all the Members and request the House to agree unanimously to the amendments to the Bill made by Rajya Sabha.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

“That the following amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill to amend the Wakf Act, 1955, be taken into consideration:”

Enacting Formula

1. That at page 1, line 1, for the word “Sixty-first”, the word “Sixty-fourth” be *substituted*.

Clause 1 Short Title and Commencement

2. That at page 1, line 3, for the figure “2010”, the figure “2013” be *substituted*.

Clause 5 Amendment of Section 3

3. That at page 2, line 7, after the word “person”, the words “or institution, public or private” be *inserted*.

4. That at page 2, line 9, *after* the words "terminated by" the words "mutawalli or" be *inserted*.
5. That at page 2, line 18, the word "such" be *deleted*.
6. That at page 2, line 22, *after* the word "Khanqah" the words "peerkhana and karbala" be *inserted*.
7. That at page 2, *for* lines 23 to 27, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"(v) for clause (r), the following clause shall be *substituted*, namely:-

(r) "waqf" means the permanent dedication by any person, of any movable or immovable property for any purpose recognised by the Muslim law as pious, religious or charitable and includes –

- (i) a waqf by user but such waqf shall not cease to be a waqf by reason only of the user having ceased irrespective of the period of such cesser;
- (ii) a Shamlat Patti, Shamlat Deh, Jumla Malkkan or by any other name entered in a revenue record;
- (iii) "grants", including mashrat-ul-khidmat for any purpose recognised by the Muslim law as pious, religious or charitable; and
- (iv) a waqf-alal-aulad to the extent to which the property is dedicated for any purpose recognised by Muslim law as pious, religious or charitable, provided when the line of succession fails, the income of the waqf shall be spent for education, development, welfare and such other purposes as recognised by Muslim law,

and "waqif" means any person making such dedication;".

Clause 6 Amendment of Section 4

8. That at page 2, *after* line 28, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

"(a) in sub-section (1), *for* the words 'wakfs existing in the State at the date of the commencement of this Act', the words 'auqaf in the State' shall be *substituted*;".
9. That at page 2, line 29, *for* the bracket and alphabet "(a)", the bracket and alphabet "(b)", be *substituted*

10. That at page 2, line 33, *for* the figure "2010" the figure "2013" be *substituted*
11. That at page 2, line 34, *for* the figure "2010" the figure "2013" be *substituted*
12. That at page 2, *for* lines 38 and 39, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"(c) in sub-section (6).-

- (i) in the proviso, for the words "twenty years", the words "ten years" shall be *substituted*;
- (ii) after the proviso, the following proviso shall be *inserted*, namely:-

"Provided further that the waqf properties already notified shall not be reviewed again in subsequent survey except where the status of such property has been changed in accordance with the provisions of any law."

Clause 7 Amendment of Section 5

13. That at page 3, *for* lines 2 to 4, the following be *substituted* namely:-

"(3) The revenue authorities shall;-

- (i) include the list of auqaf referred to in sub-section (2), while updating the land records; and
- (ii) take into consideration the list of auqaf referred to in sub-section (2), while deciding mutation in the land records."

Clause 9 Amendment of Section 7

14. That at page 3, line 23, *after* the word "have" the word "the" be *inserted*.

Clause 11 Amendment Of Section 9

15. That at page 4, line 9, *for* the word "or" the word "and" be *substituted* .
16. That at page 4, line 20, *for* the words "Central Council and the Council" the words "Council and it" be *substituted*.
17. That at page 4, line 27 the words "Central Waqf" be *deleted*.

18. That at page 4, line 30, *for* the words "Judge of the Supreme Court and the fee" the words "Judge of the Supreme Court or a retired Chief Justice of a High Court and the fees" be *substituted*.
19. That at page 4, line 31 *for* the word "determined", the word "specified" be *substituted*.

Clause 12 Amendment of Section 13

20. That at page 4, line 38, *for* the words "one year from the date of the", the words "six months from the date of" be *substituted*.
21. That at page 4, line 39, *for* the figure "2010", the figure "2013" be *substituted*.
22. That at page 4, *for* lines 42 and 43, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"section 13, in the case of Shia waqf, the Members shall belong to the Shia Muslim and in the case of Sunni waqf, the Members shall belong to the Sunni Muslim".

Clause 13 Amendment of Section 14

23. That at page 5, line 4, *for* the words "members enrolled with", the words "members of" be *substituted*.
24. That at page 5, *for* lines 6 to 9, the following proviso be *substituted*, namely:-
- "Provided that in case there is no Muslim member of the Bar Council of a State or a Union Territory, the State Government or the Union Territory administration, as the case may be, may nominate any senior Muslim advocate from that State or the Union Territory, and";.
25. That at page 5, *for* lines 33 and 34, the following be *substituted*, namely:-
- "(d) one person each from amongst Muslims, to be nominated by the State Government from recognised scholars in Shia and Sunni Islamic Theology;".
26. That at page 5, line 37, *for* the words "Deputy Secretary", the words "Joint Secretary" be *substituted*.
27. That at page 5, line 42, *for* the words "less than three and not more than five", the words "less than five and not more than seven" be *substituted*.

28. That at page 6, line 3, *for* the bracket and figure "(7)", the bracket and figure "(5)" be *substituted*.
29. That at page 6, *after* line 3, the following be *inserted*, namely:-
- "(IV) sub-section (7) shall be *omitted*";.

New Clause 14A Amendment of section 16

30. That at page 6, *after* line 5, the following new clause be *inserted*, namely:-
- "14A. In section 16 of the principal Act, *after* clause (d), the following clause shall be *inserted*, namely:-
- "(da) he has been held guilty of encroachment on any waqf property;".

Clause 15 Insertion of new Section 20A

31. That at page 7, line 5, *for* the words "show of hands", the words "method of secret ballot" be *substituted*.

Clause 16 Amendment of section 23

32. That at page 7, line 18, *for* the word "sub-sections", the word "sub-section" be *substituted*.
33. That at page 7, line 23, *after* the words "State Government", the words "and in case of non availability of a Muslim officer of that rank, a Muslim officer of equivalent rank may be appointed on deputation" be *inserted*.
34. That at page 7, lines 24 and 25, be *deleted*.

New Clause 17A Substitution of new section for section 28

35. That at page 7, *after* line 34, the following be *inserted*, namely:
- 17A. For section 28 of the principal Act, the following section shall be *substituted*, namely:-
- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>"28. Subject to the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder, the District Magistrate or in his absence an Additional District Magistrate or Sub Divisional Magistrate of a District in the</p> | <p>Power of District Magistrate, Additional District Magistrate or</p> |
|--|--|

State shall be responsible for implementation of the decisions of the Board which may be conveyed through the Chief Executive Officer and the Board may, wherever considers necessary, seek directions from the Tribunal for the implementation of its decisions.”

Clause 18 Amendment of section 29

36. That at page 7, *for* lines 37 to 40, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

“(a) in sub-section (1) as so numbered, for the words ‘subject to such conditions and restrictions as may be prescribed and subject to the payment of such fees as may be leviable under any law for the time being in force’, the words ‘subject to such conditions as may be prescribed’ shall be *substituted*.”.

Clause 20 Amendment of section 32

37. That at page 8, *for* lines 14 to 22, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

“(l) in sub-section (2), *for* clause (j), the following clause shall be *substituted*, namely:-

“(j) to sanction lease of any immovable property of a waqf in accordance with the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder:

Provided that no such sanction shall be given unless a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of the Board present cast their vote in favour of such transaction:

Provided further that where no such sanction is given by the Board, the reasons for doing so shall be recorded in writing.”;

38. That at page 8, line 26, *for* the word “fair”, the word “market” be *substituted*.

39. That at page 8, *for* lines 29 and 30, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

“educational institution, shopping centre, market, housing or residential flats and the like” shall be *substituted*.”.

Clause 21 Amendment of section 33.

40. That at page 8, *for* lines 33 to 35, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

“21. In section 33 of the principal Act, in sub-section (1), -

(a) after the words “the Chief Executive Officer”, the words “or any other person authorised by him in writing” shall be *inserted*;

(b) the words “either himself or any other person authorised by him in writing in this behalf” shall be *omitted*’.

Clause 24 Amendment of section 44

41. That at page 9, lines 2 and 3, be *deleted*.
42. That at page 9, line 4, for the bracket and alphabet “(b)”, the bracket and alphabet “(a)” be *substituted*.
43. That at page 9, line 6, *for* the bracket and alphabet “(c)”, the bracket and alphabet “(b)” be *substituted*.

Clause 26 Amendment of section 47

44. That at page 9, *for* lines 13 to 19, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

“26. In section 47 of the principal Act, -

(l) in sub-section (1), -

(i) in clause (a), *for* the words “ten thousand rupees”, the words “fifty thousand rupees” shall be *substituted*;

(ii) in clause (b), *for* the words “ten thousand rupees”, the words “fifty thousand rupees” shall be *substituted*;

(iii) in clause (c), *after* the words “the State Government may,”, the words “under intimation to the Board”, shall be *inserted*;

(II) in sub-section (3), in the first proviso, the words “more than ten thousand rupees but less than fifteen thousand rupees”, the words “more than fifty thousand rupees” shall be *substituted*.

Clause 27 Amendment of section 51

45. That at page 9, for lines 20 to 41, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

“27. In section 51 of the principal Act,- Amendment
(i) for sub-section (1), the following of section
sub-sections shall be *substituted*, 51.
namely:-”.

(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the waqf deed, any lease of any immovable property which is waqf property, shall be void unless such lease is effected with the prior sanction of the Board:

Provided that no mosque, dargah, khanqah, graveyard, or imambara shall be leased except any unused graveyards in the State of Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh where such graveyard has been leased out before the date of commencement of the Wakf (Amendment) Act, 2013.

(1A) Any sale, gift, exchange, mortgage or transfer of waqf property shall be void *ab initio*:

Provided that in case the Board is 1 of 1894.
satisfied that any waqf property may be developed for the purposes of the Act, it may, after recording reasons in writing, take-up the development of such property through such agency and in such manner as the Board may determine and move a resolution containing recommendation of development of such waqf property, which shall be passed by a majority of two-thirds of the total membership of the Board.

Provided further that nothing contained 42 of 1991.
in this sub-section shall affect any acquisition of waqf properties for a public purpose under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 or any other law

relating to acquisition of land if such acquisition is made in consultation with the Board;

Provided also that –

(a) the acquisition shall not be in contravention of the Places of Public Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991;

(b) the purpose for which the land is being acquired shall be undisputedly for a public purpose;

(c) no alternative land is available which shall be considered as more or less suitable for that purpose; and

(d) to safeguard adequately the interest and objective of the waqf, the compensation shall be at the prevailing market value or a suitable land with reasonable solatium in lieu of the acquired property;

(ii) sub-sections (2), (3), (4) and (5) shall be omitted.”.

Clause 29 Insertion of New Section 52A.

46. That at page 10, line 14, for the word “save”, the word “except” be *substituted*.

47. That at page 10, line 15, for the words “an officer duly authorised by the Board”, the words “any officer duly authorised by the State Government” be *substituted*.

Clause 30 Amendment of section 54

48. That at page 10, for lines 18 and 19, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

“30. In section 54 of the principal Act,-

(a) in sub-section (3), for the words “he may, by an order, require the encroacher to remove”, *substitute* “he may, make an application to the Tribunal for grant of order of eviction for removing”

(b) for sub-section (4), the following sub-sections shall be *substituted*, namely:-

“(4) The Tribunal, upon receipt of such application from the Chief Executive Officer, for reasons to be recorded therein, make an order of eviction directing that the waqf property shall be vacated by all persons who may be in occupation thereof or any part thereof, and cause a copy of the order to be affixed on the outer door or some other conspicuous part of the waqf property:

Provided that the Tribunal may before making an order of eviction, give an opportunity of being heard to the person against whom the application for eviction has been made by the Chief Executive Officer.

(5) If any person refuses or fails to comply with the order of eviction within forty-five days from the date of affixture of the order under sub-section (2), the Chief Executive Officer or any other person duly authorised by him in this behalf may evict that person from, and take possession of, the waqf property.”.

**New Clauses 30A and 30B Amendment
of section 55.**

49. That at page 10, *after* line 19, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

“30A. In section 55 of the principal Act, -

(a) for the word, bracket and figure “sub-section (3)”, the word, bracket and figure “sub-section (4) shall be *substituted*;

(b) for the words “apply to the Sub-Divisional Magistrate”, the words “refer the order of the Tribunal to the Executive Magistrate” shall be *substituted*.

30B. After section 55 of the principal Act, the following section shall be *inserted*, namely:-

“55A. (1) Where any person has been evicted from any waqf property under sub-section (4) of the section 54, the Chief Executive Officer may, after

Insertion of
new section
55A.

Disposal
of property
left on waqf
property by

giving fourteen days’ notice to the unauthorised person from whom possession of the occupants. waqf property has been taken and after publishing the notice in at least one newspaper having circulation in the locality and after proclaiming the contents of the notice by placing it on conspicuous part of the waqf property, remove or cause to be removed or dispose of by public auction any property remaining on such premises.

(2) Where any property is sold under sub-section (1), the sale proceeds shall, after deducting the expenses relating to removal, sale and such other expenses, the amount, if any, due to the State Government or a local authority or a corporate authority on account of arrears of rent, damages or costs, be paid to such person, as may appear to the Chief Executive Officer to be entitled to the same:

Provided that where the Chief Executive Officer is unable to decide as to the person to whom the balance of the amount is payable or as to the apportionment of the same, he may refer such dispute to the Tribunal and the decision of the Tribunal thereon shall be final.”.

Clause 31 Amendment of Section 56

50. That at page 10, *for* line 21 to 36, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

‘(a) in sub-section (1), -

(i) for the words “A lease or sub-lease for any period exceeding three years”, the words “A lease for any period exceeding thirty years” shall be *substituted*;

(ii) the following proviso shall be *inserted* at the end, namely:-

Provided that a lease for any period up to thirty years may be made for commercial activities, education or health purposes, with the approval of the State Government, for such period and purposes as may be specified in the rules made by the Central Government:

Provided further that lease of any immovable waqf property, which is an agricultural land, for a period exceeding three years shall, notwithstanding anything contained in the deed or instrument of waqf or in any other law for the time being in force, be void and of no effect:

Provided also that before making lease of any waqf property, the Board shall publish the details of lease and invite bids in at least one leading national and regional news papers.;

- (b) in sub-section (2), for the words "A lease or sub-lease for any period exceeding one year and not exceeding three years", the words "A lease for a period of one year but not exceeding thirty years" shall be *substituted*;
- (c) in sub-section (3), –
- (i) the words "or sub-lease", at both the places where they occur, shall be *omitted*;
- (ii) the following proviso shall be *inserted* at the end, namely:-
51. That at page 10, lines 38 and 39, for the words "regarding a lease or sub-lease for any period exceeding one year and exchange or mortgage", the words "regarding a lease for any period exceeding three years" be *substituted*.

Clause 34 Amendment of Section 68

52. That at page 11, for lines 19 to 21, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"34. In section 68 of the principal Act,-

- (i) in sub-section (2), for the words "Magistrate of the first class" and "Magistrate", the words "District Magistrate, Additional District Magistrate, Sub-Divisional Magistrate or their equivalent"

shall be *substituted*;

- (ii) in sub-sections (3), (4), (5) and sub-section (6), for the words "the Magistrate" the words "any Magistrate" shall be *substituted*.

Clause 39 Amendment of Section 81

53. That at page 12, for lines 3 to 5, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"and a copy of the said auditor's report, along with orders shall be forwarded by the State Government to the Council within a period of thirty days of laying of such report before each House of the State legislature where it consists of two Houses or where such Legislatures consist of one House, before that House."

Clause 40 Amendment of Section 83

54. That at page 12, for lines 6 and 7, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"40. In section 83 of the principal Act, –

- (a) for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be *substituted*, namely:-

(1) The State Government shall, by notification in the Official Gazette, constitute as many Tribunals as it may think fit, for the determination of any dispute, question or other matter relating to a waqf or waqf property, eviction of a tenant or determination of rights and obligations of the lessor and the lessee of such property, under this Act and define the local limits and jurisdiction of such Tribunals;

- (b) for sub-section (4), the following sub-sections shall be *substituted*, namely:-

55. That at page 12, line 18, for the word "presented", the word "prescribed" be *substituted*.

New Clause 42A Omission of Section 87

56. That at page 12, after line 22, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

"42A. Section 87 of the principal Act shall be *omitted*.

New Clause 43A Amendment of Section 91

57. That at page 12, *after* line 24, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

"43A. In section 91 of the principal Act, in sub-section (1), for the words "it appears to the collector before an award is made that any property", the words "and before an award is made, in case the property" shall be *substituted*.

Clause 46 Amendment of Section 102

58. That at page 12, line 41, the words "Central Waqf" be *deleted*.

Clause 47 Insertion of New Section 104A

59. That at page 13, *for* lines 3 to 8, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"104A. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act or any other law for the time being in force or any waqf deed, no person shall sell, gift, exchange, mortgage or transfer any movable or immovable property which is a waqf property to any other person. (2) Any sale, gift, exchange, mortgage or transfer of property referred to in sub-section (1) shall be void ab initio."

New Clause 47A Insertion of New Section 104B

60. That at page 13, *after* line 8, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

"47A. After section 104A of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely:-

"104B. (1) If any waqf property has been occupied by the Government agencies it shall be returned to the Board or the mutawalli within a period of six months from the date of the order of the Tribunal. Restoration of waqf properties in occupation of Government agencies to waqf Boards.

(2) The Government agency may, if the property is required for a public purpose, make an

application for determination of the rent, or as the case may be, the compensation, by the Tribunal at the prevailing market value."

Clause 48 Amendment of Section 106

61. That at page 13, line 10, the words "Central Waqf" be *deleted*.

New Clause 48A Insertion of New Section 108A

62. That at page 13, *after* line 11, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

'48A. After section 108 of the principal Act, the following section shall be *inserted*, namely:-

"108A. The provisions of this Act shall have overriding effect notwithstanding anything inconsistent therewith contained in any other law for the time being in force or in any instrument having effect by virtue of any law other than this Act."

Clause 49 Amendment of Section 109

63. That at page 13, *after* line 26, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

"(d) clause (xi) shall be *omitted*;"

64. That at page 13, line 27, *for* the bracket and alphabet "(d)", the bracket and alphabet "(e)" be *substituted*.

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, before we take up the amendments into consideration, I may inform the House that the Rajya Sabha *vide* amendment Nos. 30, 35, 49, 56, 57, 60 and 62 has added new clauses 14A, 17A, 30A, 30B, 42A, 43A, 47A and 48A to the Wakf (Amendment) Bill, 2010, as passed by Lok Sabha.

In this regard, I would like to invite your attention to Direction 31, which provides "that when an amendment for the insertion of a new clause in a Bill is adopted by the House, the Speaker shall put the question that the new clause be added to the Bill."

I, therefore, propose to put amendment Nos. 30, 35, 49, 56, 57, 60 and 62 to the vote of the House separately. If the House adopts these amendments, I shall also propose the new clauses sought to be inserted by these amendments to the vote of the House.

I shall now put Amendment Nos. 1 to 7 to the vote of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

Enacting Formula

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

Clause 1

2. That at page 1, line 3, *for* the figure "2010", the figure "2013" be *substituted*.

Clause 5

3. That at page 2, line 7, *after* the word "person", the words "or institution, public or private" be *inserted*.
4. That at page 2, line 9, *after* the words "terminated by" the words "mutawalli or" be *inserted*.
5. That at page 2, line 18, the word "such" be *deleted*.
6. That at page 2, line 22, *after* the word "Khanqah" the words "peerkhana and karbala" be *inserted*.
7. That at page 2, *for* lines 23 to 27, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"(v) for clause (r), the following clause shall be *substituted*, namely:-

(r) "waqf" means the permanent dedication by any person, of any movable or immovable property for any purpose recognised by the Muslim law as pious, religious or charitable and includes –

- (i) a waqf by user but such waqf shall not cease to be a waqf by reason only of the user having ceased irrespective of the period of such cesser;
- (ii) a Shamlat Patti, Shamlat Deh, Jumla Malkkan or by any other name entered in a revenue record;
- (iii) "grants", including mashrat-ul-khidmat for any

purpose recognised by the Muslim law as pious, religious or charitable; and

- (iv) a waqf-alal-aulad to the extent to which the property is dedicated for any purpose recognised by Muslim law as pious, religious or charitable, provided when the line of succession fails, the income of the waqf shall be spent for education, development, welfare and such other purposes as recognised by Muslim law,

and "waqif" means any person making such dedication;".

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prof Haque, are you pressing your Amendment No.1 to amendment No.8?

SK. SAIDUL HAQUE: Sir, let me tell what is my amendment. Let me tell that in the amendment what I said is that for "auqaf in the State", whatever wakf properties are there, they are not only registered but a number of unregistered wakf properties are there and that should be surveyed. If it is not surveyed, there is every possibility of misuse. That is why, I requested in this amendment to amendment No.8 that both registered and unregistered property in the State should be surveyed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment No. 1 moved by Prof. Sk. Saidul Haque to amendment No.8 made by Rajya Sabha to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment No. 8 to the vote of the House.

Clause 6

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

That at page 2, *after* line 28, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

"(a) in sub-section (1), for the words 'wakfs existing in the State at the date of the commencement of this Act', the words 'auqaf in the State' shall be substituted;". (8)

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment Nos. 9 to 21 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

9. That at page 2, line 29, *for* the bracket and alphabet "(a)", the bracket and alphabet "(b)", be *substituted*
10. That at page 2, line 33, *for* the figure "2010" the figure "2013" be *substituted*
11. That at page 2, line 34, *for* the figure "2010" the figure "2013" be *substituted*
12. That at page 2, *for* lines 38 and 39, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"(c) in sub-section (6):-

- (i) in the proviso, *for* the words "twenty years", the words "ten years" shall be *substituted*;
- (ii) after the proviso, the following proviso shall be *inserted*, namely:-

"Provided further that the waqf properties already notified shall not be reviewed again in subsequent survey except where the status of such property has been changed in accordance with the provisions of any law."

Clause 7

13. That at page 3, *for* lines 2 to 4, the following be *substituted* namely:-

"(3) The revenue authorities shall;-

- (i) include the list of auqaf referred to in sub-section (2), while updating the land records; and
- (ii) take into consideration the list of auqaf referred to in sub-section (2), while deciding mutation in the land records."

Clause 9

14. That at page 3, line 23, *after* the word "have" the word "the" be *inserted*.

Clause 11

15. That at page 4, line 9, *for* the word "or" the word "and" be *substituted*.

16. That at page 4, line 20, *for* the words "Central Council and the Council" the words "Council and it" be *substituted*.

17. That at page 4, line 27 the words "Central Waqf" be *deleted*.

18. That at page 4, line 30, *for* the words "Judge of the Supreme Court and the fee" the words "Judge of the Supreme Court or a retired Chief Justice of a High Court and the fees" be *substituted*.

19. That at page 4, line 31 *for* the word "determined", the word "specified" be *substituted*.

Clause 12

20. That at page 4, line 38, *for* the words "one year from the date of the", the words "six months from the date of" be *substituted*.

21. That at page 4, line 39, *for* the figure "2010", the figure "2013" be *substituted*.

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prof. Haque, are you pressing your Amendment No.2 to Amendment No.22?

SK. SAIDUL HAQUE: Sir, what I told in the amendment is that in the amendment moved by the hon. Minister it is there that in the case of Shia property, it is Shia Muslim and in the case of Sunni Muslim property, it is Sunni Muslim. Muslim is a Muslim. If you ask me: "Are a Hindu," it is not that I am a Brahmin Hindu, Yadav Hindu and Bhakt Hindu. So, Muslim is a Muslim. ...*(Interruptions)* Let me complete it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him complete it.

SK. SAIDUL HAQUE: So, what I have told here is that in case of Shia property from Shia community, and Sunni property from Sunni community, the word 'Sunni Muslim' of 'Shia Muslim' should be deleted. Instead, in place of 'Shia Muslim, or 'Sunni Muslim, it should be Shia community and Sunni community respectively.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment No.2 moved by Sk. Saidul Haque to amendment No.22 made by Rajya Sabha to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negated.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment No. 22 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

That at page 4, for lines 42 and 43, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

“section 13, in the case of Shia waqf, the Members shall belong to the Shia Muslim and in the case of Sunni waqf, the Members shall belong to the Sunni Muslim”.
(22)

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment Nos. 23 and 24 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

Clause 13

That at page 5, line 4, for the words “members enrolled with”, the words “members of” be *substituted*. (23)

That at page 5, for lines 6 to 9, the following proviso be *substituted*, namely:--

“Provided that in case there is no Muslim member of the Bar Council of a State or a Union Territory, the State Government or the Union Territory administration, as the case may be, may nominate any senior Muslim advocate from that State or the Union Territory, and”;
(24)

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we take up Amendment No. 3 moved by Sk. Saidul Haque.

SK. SAIDUL HAQUE: Sir, this amendment should be accepted by the hon. Minister. Originally when the Bill was placed in Lok Sabha in May, 2010, it was there – scholar in Islamic theology. But in the amendment, it has been changed – scholar in Shia and Sunni in Islamic theology. This is not right sort of thing. This is a vague term. I request the hon. Minister to accept what was there in the original Bill – scholar in Islamic theology.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment No.3 moved by Sk. Saidul Haque to amendment No.25 made

by Rajya Sabha to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment No. 25 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

That at page 5, for lines 33 and 34, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

“(d) one person each from amongst Muslims, to be nominated by the State Government from recognised scholars in Shia and Sunni Islamic Theology;”. (25)

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment Nos. 26 to 29 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

That at page 5, line 37, for the words “Deputy Secretary”, the words “Joint Secretary” be *substituted*. (26)

That at page 5, line 42, for the words “less than three and not more than five”, the words “less than five and not more than seven” be *substituted*. (27)

That at page 6, line 3, for the bracket and figure “(7)”, the bracket and figure “(5)” be *substituted*. (28)

That at page 6, after line 3, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

“(IV) sub-section (7) shall be *omitted*;”. (29)

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 14A

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

Amendment That at page 6, after line 5, the of section following new clause be *inserted*, namely:-

16.

“14A. In section 16 of the principal Act, after clause (d), the following clause shall be *inserted*, namely:-

“(da) he has been held guilty of encroachment on any waqf property;”
(30)

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put new clause 14A to the vote of the House.

The question is:

“That new Clause 14A be added to the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 14A was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment Nos. 31 to 34 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

That at page 7, line 5, for the words “show of hands”, the words “method of secret ballot” be *substituted*. (31)

Clause 16

That at page 7, line 18, for the word “sub-sections”, the word “sub-section” be *substituted*. (32)

That at page 7, line 23, after the words “State Government”, the words “and in case of non availability of a Muslim officer of that rank, a Muslim officer of equivalent rank may be appointed on deputation” be *inserted*. (33)

That at page 7, lines 24 and 25, be *deleted*. (34)

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 17A

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

That at page 7, after line 34, the following be *inserted*, namely:

Substitution of new section for section 28. 17A. For section 28 of the principal Act, the following section shall be *substituted*, namely:-

Power of District Magistrate, Additional District Magistrate or in his absence an Additional

“28. Subject to the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder, the District Magistrate or in his absence an Additional

District Magistrate or Sub Divisional Magistrate to implement the directions of the Board.

District Magistrate or Sub Divisional Magistrate of a District in the State shall be responsible for implementation of the decisions of the Board which may be conveyed through the Chief Executive Officer and the Board may, wherever considers necessary, seek directions from the Tribunal for the implementation of its decisions.”. (35)

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put new clause 17A to the vote of the House.

The question is:

“That new Clause 17A be added to the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 17A was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall now put Amendment Nos. 36 to 44 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

Clause 18

That at page 7, for lines 37 to 40, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

“(a) in sub-section (1) as so numbered, for the words ‘subject to such conditions and restrictions as may be prescribed and subject to the payment of such fees as may be leviable under any law for the time being in force’, the words ‘subject to such conditions as may be prescribed’ shall be *substituted*.”. (36)

Clause 20

That at page 8, for lines 14 to 22, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

“(l) in sub-section (2), for clause (j), the following clause shall be *substituted*, namely:-

“(j) to sanction lease of any immovable property of a waqf in accordance with the provisions of this

Act and the rules made thereunder:

Provided that no such sanction shall be given unless a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of the Board present cast their vote in favour of such transaction:

Provided further that where no such sanction is given by the Board, the reasons for doing so shall be recorded in writing.”; (37)

That at page 8, line 26, for the word “fair”, the word “market” be *substituted*. (38)

That at page 8, for lines 29 and 30, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

“educational institution, shopping centre, market, housing or residential flats and the like” shall be *substituted*,” (39)

Clause 21

That at page 8, for lines 33 to 35, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

Amendment “21. In section 33 of the principal Act, in sub-section of section 33 (1), -

- (a) after the words “the Chief Executive Officer”, the words “or any other person authorized by him in writing” shall be *inserted*;
- (b) the words “either himself or any other person authorized by him in writing in this behalf” shall be *omitted*”. (40)

Clause 24

That at page 9, lines 2 and 3, be *deleted*. (41)

That at page 9, line 4, for the bracket and alphabet “(b)”, the bracket and alphabet “(a)” be *substituted*. (42)

That at page 9, line 6, for the bracket and alphabet “(c)”, the bracket and alphabet “(b)” be *substituted*. (43)

Clause 26

That at page 9, for lines 13 to 19, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

Amendment “26. In section 47 of the principal Act, - of section 47.

(I) in sub-section (1), -

- (i) in clause (a), for the words “ten thousand rupees”, the words “fifty thousand rupees” shall be *substituted*;
- (ii) in clause (b), for the words “ten thousand rupees”, the words “fifty thousand rupees” shall be *substituted*;
- (iii) in clause (c), after the words “the State Government may,”, the words “under intimation to the Board”, shall be inserted;

(II) in sub-section (3), in the first proviso, the words “more than ten thousand rupees but less than fifteen thousand rupees”, the words “more than fifty thousand rupees” shall be *substituted*. (44)

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we take up Amendment Nos. 4 and 5.

SK. SAIDUL HAQUE: Sir, what I have said in Amendment No. 4 is that edgah should also be included. I think the hon. Minister is very well aware of it. He has mentioned a number of things in his Amendment No. 45. He has mentioned that no mosque, dargah, khanqah, graveyard, or imambara shall be leased. I just want to add one thing here. I think it is necessary that edgah should also be included here. I think, perhaps, the hon. Minister has missed it. I request him to include edgah here.

SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Both the amendments can be taken care of while framing the Rules. I have already stated that I would take his suggestions while framing the Rules.

SK. SAIDUL HAQUE: Thank you.

Now, coming to Amendment No. 5, it is proposed that if the Wakf land is to be acquired, it should be used for public purposes. The hon. Minister of Rural Development Shri Jairam Ramesh mentioned the other day that he would take care that the Wakf land is not acquired, as far as possible. That is alright. My point is, if the land has to be acquired, who will determine the public purpose? Wakf Board is not efficient enough or sufficient enough to determine that this is for public purpose without consulting

the State Governments. So, I request that whenever such land is to be acquired, the State Government must be consulted. Otherwise, there will be problems. I request the hon. Minister to accept this also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment Nos. 4 and 5 moved by Sk. Saidul Haque to Amendment No. 45 made by Rajya Sabha to the vote of the House.

The amendments were put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment No. 45 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

Clause 27

Amendment That at page 9, for lines of section 20 to 41, the following be substituted, namely:-

"27. In section 51 of the principal Act,-

(i) for sub-section (1), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:-"

(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the waqf deed, any lease of any immovable property which is waqf property, shall be void unless such lease is effected with the prior sanction of the Board:

Provided that no mosque, dargah, khanqah, graveyard, or imambara shall be leased except any unused graveyards in the State of Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh where such graveyard has been leased out before the date of commencement of the Wakf (Amendment) Act, 2013.

(1A) Any sale, gift, exchange, mortgage or transfer of waqf property shall be void ab initio:

Provided that in case the Board is satisfied that any waqf property may be developed for the purposes of the Act, it may, after recording reasons in writing, take-up the development of such property through such agency and in such manner as the Board may determine and move a resolution containing recommendation of development of such waqf property, which shall be passed by a majority of two-thirds of the total membership of the Board.

Provided further that nothing contained in this sub-section shall affect any acquisition of waqf properties for a public purpose under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 or any other law relating to acquisition of land if such acquisition is made in consultation with the Board;

Provided also that –

- (a) the acquisition shall not be in contravention of the Places of Public Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991;
- (b) the purpose for which the land is being acquired shall be undisputedly for a public purpose;
- (c) no alternative land is available which shall be considered as more or less suitable for that purpose; and
- (d) to safeguard adequately the interest and objective of the waqf, the compensation shall be at the prevailing

market value or a suitable land with reasonable solatium in lieu of the acquired property;

(ii) sub-sections (2), (3), (4) and (5) shall be *omitted*.”. (45)

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment Nos. 46 to 48 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

That at page 10, line 14, for the word “save”, the word “except” be *substituted*. (46)

That at page 10, line 15, for the words “an officer duly authorised by the Board”, the words “any officer duly authorised by the State Government” be *substituted*. (47)

Clause 30

That at page 10, for lines 18 and 19, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

Amendment “30. In section 54 of the principal Act, of Section 54.

(a) in sub-section (3), for the words “he may, by an order, require the encroacher to remove”, *substitute* “he may, make an application to the Tribunal for grant of order of eviction for removing”

(b) for sub-section (4), the following sub-sections shall be *substituted*, namely:-

“(4) The Tribunal, upon receipt of such application from the Chief Executive Officer, for reasons to be recorded therein, make an order of eviction directing that the waqf property shall be vacated by all persons who may be in occupation thereof or any part thereof, and cause a copy of the order to be affixed on the outer door or some other conspicuous part of the waqf property:

Provided that the Tribunal may before making an order of eviction, give an opportunity of being heard to the person

against whom the application for eviction has been made by the Chief Executive Officer.

(5) If any person refuses or fails to comply with the ordereviction within forty-five days from the date of affixture of order under sub-section (2), the Chief Executive Officer or other person duly authorised by him in this behalf may evict person from, and take possession of, the waqf property.”. (48)

The motion was adopted.

New Clauses 30A and 30B

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

Amendment That at page 10, after line 19, the of section 55. following be *inserted*, namely:-

“30A. In section 55 of the principal Act, -

(a) for the word, bracket and figure “sub-section (3)”, the word, bracket and figure “sub-section (4) shall be *substituted*;

(b) for the words “apply to the Sub-Divisional Magistrate”, the words “refer the order of the Tribunal to the Executive Magistrate” shall be *substituted*.

Insertion of new section 55A. 30B. After section 55 of the principal Act, the following section shall be *inserted*, namely:-

Disposal of property left on waqf property by unauthorised occupants. “55A. (1) Where any person has been evicted from any waqf property under sub-section (4) of the section 54, the Chief Executive Officer may, after giving fourteen days’ notice to the person from whom possession of the waqf property has been taken and after publishing the notice in at least one newspaper having circulation in the locality and after proclaiming the contents of the notice by placing it on conspicuous part of the waqf property, remove or cause to be removed or dispose of by public

to be removed or dispose of by public

auction any property remaining on such premises.

(2) Where any property is sold under sub-section (1), the sale proceeds shall, after deducting the expenses relating to removal, sale and such other expenses, the amount, if any, due to the State Government or a local authority or a corporate authority on account of arrears of rent, damages or costs, be paid to such person, as may appear to the Chief Executive Officer to be entitled to the same:

Provided that where the Chief Executive Officer is unable to decide as to the person to whom the balance of the amount is payable or as to the apportionment of the same, he may refer such dispute to the Tribunal and the decision of the Tribunal thereon shall be final." (49)

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the new clauses 30A and 30B to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That New Clauses 30A and 30B be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

New Clauses 30A and 30B were added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we take up Amendment No. 6 moved by Sk. Saidul Haque.

SK. SAIDUL HAQUE: Sir, in the amendment made by the hon. Minister, what is stated is that the Wakf property may be given on lease for a period of 30 years for commercial activities for education or health purposes. My amendment is that it would have been better if the Wakf property is not given on lease for commercial activities.

19.00 hrs.

Even if it has to be given for commercial activities, it should be given up to 15 years period and in case of

health and education, it should be 30 years. Otherwise, if it is given for commercial purposes, those properties will be gone for ever. So, I would request the hon. Minister to accept this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment No. 6 moved by Prof. Sk. Saidul Haque to Amendment No. 50 made by Rajya Sabha to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment No. 50 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

Clause 31

That at page 10, for line 21 to 36, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

'(a) in sub-section (1), -

- (i) for the words "A lease or sub-lease for any period exceeding three years", the words "A lease for any period exceeding thirty years" shall be *substituted*;
- (ii) the following proviso shall be *inserted* at the end, namely:-

Provided that a lease for any period up to thirty years may be made for commercial activities, education or health purposes, with the approval of the State Government, for such period and purposes as may be specified in the rules made by the Central Government:

Provided further that lease of any immovable waqf property, which is an agricultural land, for a period exceeding three years shall, notwithstanding anything contained in the deed or instrument of waqf or in any other law for the time being in force, be void and of no effect:

Provided also that before making lease of any waqf property, the Board shall publish the details of lease and invite bids in at least one leading national and regional news papers.';

(b) in sub-section (2), for the words "A lease or sub-lease for any period exceeding one year and not exceeding three years", the words "A lease for a period of one year but not exceeding thirty years" shall be *substituted*;

(c) in sub-section (3), –

(i) the words "or sub-lease", at both the places where they occur, shall be *omitted*;

(ii) the following proviso shall be *inserted* at the end, namely:- (50)

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment Nos. 51 to 55 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

That at page 10, lines 38 and 39, for the words "regarding a lease or sub-lease for any period exceeding one year and exchange or mortgage", the words "regarding a lease for any period exceeding three years" be *substituted*. (51)

Clause 34

That at page 11, for lines 19 to 21, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"34. In section 68 of the principal Act, –

(i) in sub-section (2), for the words "Magistrate of the first class" and "Magistrate", the words "District Magistrate, Additional District Magistrate, Sub-Divisional Magistrate or their equivalent" shall be *substituted*;

(ii) in sub-sections (3), (4), (5) and sub-section (6), for the words "the Magistrate" the words "any Magistrate" shall be *substituted*. (52)

Clause 39

That at page 12, for lines 3 to 5, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"and a copy of the said auditor's report, along with orders shall be forwarded by the State Government to the Council within a period of thirty days of laying

of such report before each House of the State legislature where it consists of two Houses or where such Legislatures consist of one House, before that House." (53)

Clause 40

That at page 12, for lines 6 and 7, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"40. In section 83 of the principal Act, –

(a) for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be *substituted*, namely:-

(1) The State Government shall, by notification in the Official Gazette, constitute as many Tribunals as it may think fit, for the determination of any dispute, question or other matter relating to a waqf or waqf property, eviction of a tenant or determination of rights and obligations of the lessor and the lessee of such property, under this Act and define the local limits and jurisdiction of such Tribunals;

(b) for sub-section (4), the following sub-sections shall be *substituted*, namely:- (54)

That at page 12, line 18, for the word "presented", the word "prescribed" be *substituted*. (55)

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

New Clause 42A

That at page 12, after line 22, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

"42A. Section 87 of the principal Act shall be <i>omitted</i> . (56)	Omission of section 87.
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The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the new clause 42A to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That new Clause 42A be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 42A was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

New Clause 43A

That at page 12, *after* line 24, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

"43A. In section 91 of the principal Act, in Amendment sub-section (1), for the words "it appears of section to the collector before an award is made 91. that any property", the words "and before an award is made, in case the property" shall be *substituted*. (57)

The motion was adopted

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the new clause 43A to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That the new Clause 43A be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 43A was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment Nos. 58 and 59 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

Clause 46

That at page 12, line 41, the words "Central Waqf" (58) be *deleted*.

Clause 47

That at page 13, *for* lines 3 to 8, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"104A. (1) Notwithstanding anything Prohibition contained in this Act or any other of sale, gift, law for the time being in force or any exchange, waqf deed, no person shall sell, gift, mortgage or exchange, mortgage or transfer any transfer of waqf movable or immovable property which property. is a waqf property to any other person.

(2) Any sale, gift, exchange, mortgage (59) or transfer of property referred to in sub-section (1) shall be void *ab initio*."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

New Clause 47A

That at page 13, *after* line 8, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

"47A. After section 104A of the principal Insertion of Act, the following section shall be new section inserted, namely:- 104B.

"104B. (1) If any waqf property has Restoration of been occupied by the Government waqf properties agencies it shall be returned to the in occupation Board or the mutawalli within a period of Government six months from the date of the order agencies to of the Tribunal. waqf Boards.

(2) The Government agency may, if the property is required for a public purpose, make an application for determination of the rent, or as the case may be, (60) the compensation, by the Tribunal at the prevailing market value."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the new Clause 47A to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That the new Clause 47A be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 47A was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment No. 61 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

Clause 48

That at page 13, line 10, the words "Central (61) Waqf" be *deleted*.

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

New Clause 48A

That at page 13, *after* line 11, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

'48A. After section 108 of the principal Act, the following section shall be *inserted*, namely:-

"108A. The provisions of this Act shall have overriding effect notwithstanding anything inconsistent therewith contained in any other law for the time being in force or in any instrument having effect by virtue of any law other than this Act."'. (62)

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the new Clause 48A to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That the new Clause 48A be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 48A was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment Nos. 63 and 64 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

Clause 49

That at page 13, *after* line 26, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

"(d) clause (xi) shall be *omitted*";. (63)

That at page 13, line 27, for the bracket and alphabet "(d)", the bracket and alphabet "(e)" be *substituted*. (64)

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister may now move that the Amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Wakf (Amendment) Bill be agreed to.

SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: I beg to move:

"That the amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill be agreed to."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill be agreed to."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The motion is adopted and the amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Wakf (Amendment) Bill, 2010, as passed by Lok Sabha, are agreed to by the House.

Hon. Members, as some new clauses have been added to the Bill, I, therefore, direct that wherever required, the subsequent clauses may be renumbered accordingly.

19.06 hrs.

SUBMISSION BY MEMBERS

Re: Reported Occupation of Indian Territory by China

[English]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA (Hazaribagh): Sir, I was waiting because what I am going to raise is a matter of grave national importance and of national security.

[Translation]

We have just come to know that Shri Shyam Sharan, who is special Emissary of the Prime Minister, has been assigned the responsibility to study the actual line of control with China. After study he has submitted a Report indicating that China has occupied 640 sq. kms of our land. 640 sq. km. has been occupied by China. Here the situation is that the Parliament is unaware it. The people of the country know nothing about this. It is being discussed outside. But the Parliament is silent.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to request the Government to ask Shri A.K. Antony to be present here immediately and explain the position. Whether China has actually done it. If it is so, then I would request that there should be debate in the House on this issue immediately.(Interruptions)

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): Sir, it is a very serious matter ...*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister is on his legs.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is on his legs. Please listen to him.

...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur): It is a very serious matter ...*(Interruptions)* Raise this matter tomorrow ...*(Interruptions)* What is the problem in speaking this? ...*(Interruptions)* It is a question of the country ...*(Interruptions)* Don't you love your country? ...*(Interruptions)* Don't you love India?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): Sir, the hon. Member has raised a point about a report. Government cannot respond to this like this, when was this occupied, what is this report. However, with the seriousness of the matter which the Member has raised, I will inform the Defence Minister and request the Defence Minister to make a statement to this House tomorrow. ...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Sir, Delhi can be captured in a night*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, kindly make it first thing tomorrow morning. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, it is 7 o'clock in the evening. ...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Sir, even Delhi can be captured in a night*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him respond, please.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please. Let the Minister respond.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is on his legs. Let him say. Please take your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister is on his legs.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, this is a serious matter and obviously the Defence Minister will have to get all the facts. It is 7 o'clock in the evening, and I will request the Defence Minister to make it as early as possible but definitely before one o'clock. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : It is all over the media. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, I have said that I will be requesting him to make it as early as possible but definitely before one o'clock. ...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Raigarh): The Defence Minister should reply it before 12 o'clock. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: It is a question of the country ...*(Interruptions)* It is a question of Mother India ...*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Taking the seriousness of the issue, definitely, as the hon. Minister has already promised, as early as possible, he will see that the hon. Defence Minister make the Statement.

...*(Interruptions)*

19.10 hrs

RIGHT TO FAIR COMPENSATION AND
TRANSPARENCY IN LAND ACQUISITION,
REHABILITATION AND RESETTLEMENT
BILL, 2013*

(Amendments made by Rajya Sabha)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the Supplementary List of Business – Item No. 12(A).

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): Sir, I beg to move:—

“That the following amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill to ensure, in consultation with institutions of local self-government and Gram Sabhas established under the Constitution, a humane, participative, informed and transparent process for land acquisition for industrialisation, development of essential infrastructural facilities and urbanisation with the least disturbance to the owners of the land and other affected families and provide just and fair compensation to the affected families whose land has been acquired or proposed to be acquired or are affected by such acquisition and make adequate provisions for such affected persons for their rehabilitation and resettlement and for ensuring that the cumulative outcome of compulsory acquisition should be that affected persons become partners in development leading to an improvement in their post acquisition social and economic status and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration:—

**Clause 6 Publication of Social Impact
Assessment Study**

1. That at page 8, after line 27, the following proviso be inserted namely:—

“Provided that, in respect of irrigation projects where the process of Environmental Impact Assessment is required under the provisions of any other law for the

time being in force, the provisions of this Act relating to Social Impact Assessment shall not apply”.

**Clause 25 Period within which an award
shall be made**

2. That at page 15, for lines 20 and 21, the following be substituted.

“then, all provisions of this Act relating to the determination of compensation shall apply; or”.

3. That at page 15, lines 32 and 33, for the words “compensation in respect of a majority of land holdings has not been accepted”, the words “compensation in respect of a majority of land holdings has not been deposited in the account of the beneficiaries” be substituted.

The Second Schedule

4. That at page 40, line 7, for the words “each affected family”, the words “as far as possible and in lieu of compensation to be paid for land acquired, each affected family” be substituted.”

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): Sir, I request you to take up this Item No. 12(A) relating to land acquisition. Item Nos. 12(B) and 12(C), relating to Security Laws (Amendment) Bill, maybe taken up – since they were listed – tomorrow, so also Item Nos. 13 and 14 – because they relate to the Law Minister, who is now in Rajya Sabha. So we can take up the Land Acquisition Bill first. I would appeal to this House, as this House has very extensively discussed it, to pass this Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, we can do it if the House agrees.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

“That the following amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill to ensure, in consultation with institutions of local self-government and Gram Sabhas established under the Constitution, a humane, participative, informed and transparent process for land acquisition for industrialisation, development of essential infrastructural facilities and

*The Bill was passed by Lok Sabha on 29.8.2013 and transmitted to Rajya Sabha for its concurrence. Rajya Sabha passed the Bill with amendments at its sitting held on 4.9.2013 and returned it to Lok Sabha on 5.9.2013.

urbanisation with the least disturbance to the owners of the land and other affected families and provide just and fair compensation to the affected families whose land has been acquired or proposed to be acquired or are affected by such acquisition and make adequate provisions for such affected persons for their rehabilitation and resettlement and for ensuring that the cumulative outcome of compulsory acquisition should be that affected persons become partners in development leading to an improvement in their post acquisition social and economic status and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration:-

Clause 6

1. That at page 8, *after* line 27, the following proviso be *inserted* namely:-

“Provided that, in respect of irrigation projects where the process of Environmental Impact Assessment is required under the provisions of any other law for the time being in force, the provisions of this Act relating to Social Impact Assessment shall not apply”.

Clause 25

2. That at page 15, *for* lines 20 and 21, the following be *substituted*.

“then, all provisions of this Act relating to the determination of compensation shall apply; or”.

3. That at page 15, lines 32 and 33, *for* the words “compensation in respect of a majority of land holdings has not been accepted”, the words “compensation in respect of a majority of land holdings has not been deposited in the account of the beneficiaries” be *substituted*.

The Second Schedule

4. That at page 40, line 7, *for* the words “each affected family”, the words “as far as possible and in lieu of compensation to be paid for land acquired, each affected family” be *substituted*.”

The motion was adopted.

MR CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up the Amendment Nos. 1 to 4 made by Rajya Sabha.

The question is:

Clause 6

1. That at page 8, *after* line 27, the following proviso be *inserted* namely:-

“Provided that, in respect of irrigation projects where the process of Environmental Impact Assessment is required under the provisions of any other law for the time being in force, the provisions of this Act relating to Social Impact Assessment shall not apply”.

Clause 25

2. That at page 15, *for* lines 20 and 21, the following be *substituted*.

“then, all provisions of this Act relating to the determination of compensation shall apply; or”.

3. That at page 15, lines 32 and 33, *for* the words “compensation in respect of a majority of land holdings has not been accepted”, the words “compensation in respect of a majority of land holdings has not been deposited in the account of the beneficiaries” be *substituted*.

The Second Schedule

4. That at page 40, line 7, *for* the words “each affected family”, the words “as far as possible and in lieu of compensation to be paid for land acquired, each affected family” be *substituted*.”

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister may now move that the Amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill, 2013, be agreed to.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I beg to move:

“That the Amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill, be agreed to.”

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

“That the Amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill, be agreed to.”

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, Clause 15, which was negated by this House has been inadvertently printed in the copies of the Bill, as passed by Lok Sabha, I, therefore, direct that subsequent Clauses after Clause 14 be renumbered accordingly.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Item No. 15 – hon. Minister, Dr. Girija Vyas.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): Sir, I have a point of order. It is a very serious matter. The House works till late in the night. It continues upto 10-11 O'clock and the employees here, as well as Members of Parliament are left hungry. At least Government should make such arrangements that people can have their meals in small groups. The Government should make this arrangement. The House is functioning continuously for the last two days till 11 O'clock. At least this arrangement should be made.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Minister is going to reply.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (Cuttack): Sir, for this Bill, four hours' time has been allotted by the Business Advisory Committee. Everybody wants to participate in this important Bill. If you are going to continue this Bill tomorrow, then we can take up this Bill today. Now, it is already 7.15 p.m. and it will go up to past 11 p.m. So, it would not be possible ... (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): Sir, I completely agree with the Member [TRANSLATION] that there should be arrangement for dinner ... (Interruptions) Let me conclude. If we are unable to do this, then I beg your pardon ... (Interruptions)

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): Then you hold the discussion tomorrow. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, let us take up this Bill now. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: We are asking for the employees. We are not asking for ourselves ... (Interruptions)

SHRI KAMAL NATH: I am also saying for the employees ... (Interruptions)

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: This message should not go that the Members are asking for food. We don't want it ... (Interruptions) We can eat at our homes. We are talking about employees ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, let us take up this Bill now and see how it goes, and we shall take a decision later on.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay.

Now, the hon. Minister.

19.17 hrs

STREET VENDORS (PROTECTION OF LIVELIHOOD AND REGULATION OF STREET VENDING) BILL, 2012*

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (DR. GIRIJA VYAS): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to protect the rights of urban street vendors and to regulate street vending activities and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman Sir, today when I bring this important Bill in the House, not only me, but all the Members who are sitting here must be feeling the pain and agony of the street vendors. Street vendors are an important and unavoidable organ of our urban economy. Street selling is not only a source of income and self-employment for the poor people

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

in cities and towns, but also a source of economical and convenient services for common people. Street vendors are generally those persons who are unable to find regular employment in a profitable organised sector. They try to solve the issues of their livelihood through small financial resources and hardwork.

Here, I would like to submit that there was a proposal to make a policy in this regard since 2004. In the year 2007, UPA-1 raised this issue and a new policy was developed in 2009. In the year 2010, was sent to all States as a model Bill. But, I am constrained to say here that the State Governments did not take it seriously and as far as I remember, except one State, no other State brought a Bill in this regard. Therefore, despite being a State subject, when legal department was consulted, the Central Government was asked to make a universal law under entry 20, 23 and 24 under the Concurrent List. In 2012, Uniform Central Bill was prepared and was brought before cabinet on 17th August 2012. It was sent to Lok Sabha on 6th September, 2012, referred to the Standing Committee on 10th September and was sent back on 10th March and here today this Bill is before us.

Before speaking on this Bill, I would like to recall an incident of my childhood. Fairs used to be held at our place as these are held everywhere. At that time, there was a boy by the name Mohan. When he would go to fair to sell his toys, he used to sing a song in a very serious words. "Why to play with clay again and again, why so much love with these perishable toys" I used to think why he sings that song. When he would come back from the fair, some of toys were broken, some damaged, sometimes police would thrash him, sometimes he was shunted by the municipality. I would see his eyes filled with tears. All of you must have seen such scenes at one time or the other, when makeshift shops of small shopkeepers are dismantled and their carts are removed and they are rendered homeless. Mr. Chairman Sir, there are people who have very small money with them, but they want to earn their livelihood with self respect. I have seen such incidents. Once a whole lot of carts loaded with mangoes, especially belonging to women vendors was plundered and at that time I was thinking of a couplet "Duniya walo yeh kaisi Basti hai, zindagi maut se sasti hai! Log dete hain maut ko kandha, Zindagi rehem ko tarasti hai" I did not know that years after I would be

presenting this Bill in the House for those unknown faces, for 2.5 per cent population of the cities. For this, I would like to thank all of you that after a long exercise this Bill has been introduced in the House and definitely it would be assed unanimously.

The Government has introduced this Bill to enable the street vendors, who are comparatively poor people of the urban society, to earn their livelihood with dignity. There is a provision of equal opportunity for all street vendors. But, here, I would like to submit that the promise of inclusive growth, was made by our Government in the 11th and 12th Plan, and as per that promise and claim they have thought about the people who were ignored till now.

Sir, this Bill is important in this respect also that the existing street vendors have been given security in two ways. First, with the implementation of the Bill, all street vendors will become totally secure from the problem of vacating and relocating. In addition to this, who have been issued sale certificate, licence, etc. prior to enforcement of this Act, shall also be included in that category.

Here, I would also like to submit that on the basis of continuity and from the point of view that everybody is benefitted, they can buy cheaper goods from the surrounding areas which are easily available there. In this way, street vendors as well as the people belonging to lower and middle class will be benefitted.

Sir, with the introduction of this Bill special provisions of the Constitution have been taken care of, under article 19(1) and 19(1) (G), 38 (2), 39 (A), 39(B) and 41. These provide security to the rights of citizens and they could earn their livelihood without any fear. The Bill which was cleared by the cabinet on 23rd February, has come today in this shape and we are moving forward in the direction of passing it.

Sir, here, I would like to submit that this Bill has many salient features and most important thing which I feel about this Bill is that there is a provision of Town Vending Authority. Every local authority which comes under the Bill shall implement it and there will be forty per cent elected people in that Town Vending Authority, which will be amongst those vendors and out of them 30 per cent shall be women. It will include SCs, STs and OBCs etc.

To avoid disputes, a provision and safeguard has been made in this Bill that a survey will be conducted at least once in every five years. Also, there is a provision in the Bill that till the completion of survey no street vendor shall be evicted from his place or will be relocated and all the street vendors will be issued a certificate of sale. It is a unique thing in itself. Along with this, as I had submitted earlier, these street vendors constitute 2.5 per cent of our urban population. As per the existing figures, it is at least 2.5 per cent. We can imagine that with the urbanisation, 2.5 per cent of the urban population will be supported by this. The Town Vending Committee has been given ample powers so that they could impart justice equally to all those people. A provision of vending zone and non-vending zone, etc. has been made.

With the implementation of this Act, stress has been laid on natural markets and these have been specially defined. A natural market is a place where sellers and buyers traditionally assemble for a definite period for sale and purchase of a specific product or service as decided by the Local Authority after consulting the Town Sale Committee. Adequate planning process will have to ensure that the provision of place or area of street vendors is suitable for existing natural market. In this regard, I would specially like to draw the attention of the House that the markets which are functioning continuously for the last fifty years, are natural markets. Thus, the natural place where buyers and sellers assemble on a regular basis, has been given protection under this Bill. Thus, street vendors will be protected against torture and given equal opportunity to earn their livelihood.

The most important thing in this Bill is a special provision to protect the street vendors from the suppression at the hands of police and other authorities. I would like to draw your attention towards a clause in this Bill, which has been specially mentioned, because it is raised many times that there is another provision, under which they are dislocated. But with the implementation of this, any old rule will immediately become null and void.

It is written in it- Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being enforced, no street vendor who carries on street vending activities in accordance with the terms and conditions of his certificate of vending shall

be prevented from exercising such rights by any person or police or any other authority exercising powers under any other law for the time being enforced. It is a big condition in itself.

Sir, there is a provision in this Bill to set up a mechanism to remove the non-judicial complaints. Whenever a street vendor feels that injustice is being done to him or he is denied the sale certificate or it has been suspended under the provisions, he can make an appeal to the local authorities under such circumstances. Here, I would submit that as 40 per cent of his own people will be there, there are more chances of getting justice from there.

The Local Authority, on the basis of recommendation of Urban Sales Committee and in consultation with Planning Authority, will work towards preparing a plan for upgrading the profession of street vendors every five years. The following guidelines will be observed for this.

Firstly, any existing natural market and any existing market identified under the survey shall not be treated as non-vending area. It would not be suddenly announced that this one is a non-vending area.

While declaring any area non-selling area, a fact would be kept in mind that while doing so, least number of street vendors are displaced. In crowded areas, they are stopped, because those are already crowded areas. Under this act, they have been given a big protection that any crowded area will not be the basis for treating any area non-vending area unless there is a ban on giving licence to those street vendors.

One more argument which is given is that they are evacuated on the plea of cleanliness. It has also been mentioned that the reasons related to cleanliness will not be the basis for treating any area non-selling area, unless the street vendors themselves are the cause of cleanliness concerns. That garbage cannot be removed by suitable civic action by the authorities. If it can be removed, they will not be evacuated in any circumstances, especially at a time when survey has not been done and the plan for street vending has not yet been prepared. Street vendors will not be removed from any area and that area will not be treated as non-vending area. Thus, in this Bill elaborate interests of the street vendors have

been guarded. There is definitely provision for determining some duties and responsibilities, we shall discuss that also. It is the responsibility of street vendors to maintain cleanliness and social order of surrounding areas so that proper maintenance of civic amenities and public properties could be ensured. In the same way, they have to be vigilant in the crowded areas.

My Ministry is aware of the difficulties being faced by the street vendors. Actually we have received many representations from the street vendor community wherein they have mentioned that special provision should be made to get their confiscated wares back. A provision has been made, action to be taken by the local authorities to confiscate the goods as a last resort. But, such action would be taken by the local authority after serving 30 days notice to the street vendors. There is a special provision under this Bill, where a list of the confiscated goods is prepared and one copy of it would be given to the street vendor under the signature of an authorised person. Thereafter, such an arrangement is also made that confiscated non-perishable goods are returned within two working days and in the case of perishable goods, they are returned the same day. The claim is made by the street vendor. Thus, many such provisions are made in this Bill.

Here, I would like to mention that this reflects the agony of oppressed people. Their pain has been given voice through this Bill. The most important thing about this bill is that their elected representatives will be included having one third of the women. Where there are SCs and STs. They can make their appeals to them. But there are any conflicts, the judicial process is there and the retired Justice will help in resolving those disputes.

Here, I would like to submit that it should be ensured that the process of getting a place evacuated be made difficult. As far as possible, there should not be any eviction action, there should not be any police action. The municipality should not coerce or threaten on daily basis. First of all, no-vending zone will be determined, only then action would be taken. One more thing which has been included is that if there are large number of vendors at the time of registration, they would be settled on the basis of lottery in that area and the remaining vendors would be settled in the nearby markets.

Here, I would like to mention one more thing which is very important. There is a provision in this Bill that five per cent of the money of National Livelihood Mission would be spent for their training, for capacity building, for beautification of the city and for giving grants to these people. If five per cent of the money is given to street vendors, they would definitely be able to promote their activities. There is a provision under Section 29 that they would be given full protection, the police and the other authorities will have no right to interfere. One more thing which has been specially mentioned, specifically provided is that the rules under the Bill will be framed within one year of preparing this Bill and its scheme would be notified within six months so that it may not remain on papers only. But, there is a need to bring it out of papers and make it a reality.

I would like to submit that there is an exercise in this Bill to mitigate the sufferings of the people by creating a right atmosphere. I would say that there can be no more self-respecting (khuddar) than those who did not get Government jobs, are not fully educated with the help of their meager resources, and have tried to earn some livelihood on their own. Such people must be given protection.

Sir, I have full confidence that we will receive opinions on the concept of natural market and on all the provisions related to no-vending, other vending, etc. But before concluding my speech, I would definitely like to mention again and again that through this Bill an exercise has been done which was on the basis of recommendation of the NAC and both State Governments and the Central Government shall work unitedly and it would be universal.

The unique thing about this Bill is that when 2.5 per cent of the urban population is covered by this, you can well imagine as to how many people will be benefitted. Since morning, many street vendors are knocking at my door to enquire as to when this Bill will come. Respected Soniaji had enquired about the Street Vendors Bill and it is the intention of this Government. The Standing Committee has given very good suggestions. ...*(Interruptions)* I am speaking further. The Standing Committee has given very good suggestions in this regard and we have accepted most of the suggestions given by the Standing Committee: Along with this, the suggestions of the leader of Opposition

and all other people shall be taken care of. While replying I will definitely mention it. Shahnawaz Saheb is going to express his view on this. But, I would again reiterate that we should not let the dreams of small vendors vegetables and fruit sellers, toy sellers and all others die who every morning venture out with dreams in their eyes. It is our duty to provide the security. I would thank all of you for the role played by you in achieving the aim of this Bill and I also thank you for making a beginning today.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved.

“That the Bill to protect the rights of urban street vendors and to regulate street vending activities and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto be taken into consideration.”

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): Mr. Chairman, am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vendors) Bill, 2012. BJP people Shahnawazji could have spoken but because he is a spokes person, he would like to appearer on TV and newspapers and that is why he wants to speak tomorrow.(Interruptions)

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: I want that it should be taken to its conclusion. How can you read my mind?

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: We have asked Arjunji ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Shailendra Kumar, please address the Chair. Nothing else will go on record.

.....(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Shailendra Kumar, Please continue.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: It has been mostly seen that in metropolitan cities and towns street vendor selling

food items, fruits and vegetables readymade cloths, toys, books and domestic value items, decorative items do their business from pavements. Mostly they are called hawkers. These people mostly belong to SC, ST, the poor and downtrodden sections of society. People belonging to OBCs, minorities and our muslim brothers are involved in this.

It would not be out of place to mention here if they are called labourers of unorganised sector. The Hon. Minister Ms. Girija Vyas has introduced this Bill and I would express my views fully supporting this Bill. This Bill was long awaited. It was late but, now come at right time. According to Government figures, the number of street vendors in the country is at least one crore. But, actually this number is far more than one crore. In Delhi itself, there are about four lakh street vendors, out of which only 55 thousand are licence holders. In Bombay, their number is about five lakhs, out of which only 18 thousand are licence holders.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it has been often seen in cities, towns and metropolitans that they are very shabbily treated. Municipal Corporations, municipalities make them run from one place to other. They are extorted vending fee in big amount which results in their economic exploitation. One the other hand, police do not allow them to sell their wares in the name of encroachment. This is a very good Bill, which deals with their protection. I think we are talking about giving benefit to 2.5 per cent of urban population. But more people can also be benefited. You will have to identify the area where these people could be located. You should not select a place which is very far off from the city. If it is so then they shall not be able to run their business. Our effort must focus on the print that the place should be near to the populated area, so that consumers as well as vendors are benefitted.

You have made a provision in the Bill that if a vendor parks its cart at a wrong place, he will be liable to pay Rs. 250 as penalty instead of Rs. 1000. It is a very good thing. I would say that poor fellow hardly earns Rs. 250 in a day. Many a time his goods are not sold. It would be better if it was further reduced. Nishikantji, you can see a street vendor works for 10 to 12 hours. If he earns something he is able to take grocery for his children. He has also to face the fury of nature. If it rains, he covers his wares with some waterproof sheet while wetting himself. He does not

*Not recorded.

care about his health. Whether it is rain, winter or scorching heat, he sets his shop and sells his stuff. He is deprived of any social security. I would like that after identifying these people, it would be better if arrangement for their health insurance is also made.

Second thing, when the business flourishes, one Department comes in contact with the another. There are many shopkeepers who engage one or two helpers. He also gets minimum wage because he is not able to sell that much of his goods. Therefore, he gets minimum wages. He starts his small shop with his little capital. They don't get loans from the banks, because there is nobody to give their guarantee. He has no such property. If he has money or the property, why would he set up his business, on the footpath? Generally, they get money from the money lenders to start their business. They are exploited to the extent that they are not able to repay even the interest money. The money lenders exploit them in many ways.

Hon. Minister, Sir, you are requested to pay attention towards this aspect. You have given some indication that we shall make some arrangement in this regard. Minimum age for this has been fixed 18 years. If someone gets himself registered after paying the fees, we will give him authorised place where he can start his business but you will also have to consider the fact that some children younger than 18 years are found involved in this business. We will also have to take care that child labourers are not misused. Fixing age at 18 years is a right step. Men and women both will have to be included, only then the purpose of this Bill will be fulfilled.

Secondly, many a time, they don't get respect in the name of encroachment. They run here and there. They are compelled to start their business from some dirty place. They have to live their life under oppression and exploitation. Government has done a noble job by bringing this Bill.

Hon. Minister, I thank you as well as this Government. The Government needs to be congratulated for this Bill. While strongly supporting this Bill, I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI K. JAYAPRAKASH HEGDE (Udupi-Chickmagalur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much

for giving me this opportunity to speak in support of the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Bill, 2012. In this Session, we have already passed three important Bills, namely, the Food Security Bill; the Land Acquisition and Rehabilitation Bill; and Pension Regulatory Bill. Today, we have passed some Amendments to the Wakf Bill. This present Bill helps the street vendors, as also the local authorities as well as the pedestrians.

On the face of it, it may look like as if it is a very small Bill, but it has far-reaching effects. It protects the livelihood of crores of street vendors, who are always facing threat from the police and other local authorities by way of being removed from the place where they are doing business.

There are vendors who sell vegetables or consumer products; or cobblers who repair shoes and *chappals*; it may be cycle repair shops or tea shops; or it may be shops selling *paani puri* and such other items. They sell their products at very cheap prices, and in a way feed the poor people. On one side, they need protection from the Mafia who are controlling these street vendors. On the other side, they have some sleeping partners, that is, they do not invest money, but they come daily and collect money from these street vendors, namely, the department officials as well as the Police. I do not generalize the complaint against all the officers. But in the case of street vendors, this is what is happening day in, day out. I repeat that the allegations against the officials are not general. However, it is a fact that those who are involved in it do not invest any money, but they come daily and collect money from these street vendors. This is one part.

At the same time, this Bill also helps the pedestrians. At present, the street vendors are occupying the footpaths as they are forced to come on roads. There are likelihood of occurring accidents. Maybe sometimes, it is fatal, sometimes it is a minor accident. But once it is regulated, there will be control over all these things. Apart from these problems, the food items they serve, which is prepared on the road side, are not hygienic. The cut fruits are sold and the *paani puri* are also sold. They may not be hygienic. So, it will help the authorities to control selling these fruits and food items in the open.

On the other side, the local authorities will have to give them all the civic amenities like water supply and maintain hygiene in and around the place where they sell.

One other thing is that there are chances of these street vendors sitting in front of small hotels and small shops wherein it affects the shop keepers who pay tax and do business there. So, if everything is regulated, probably it will help both the street vendors and the shop owners.

The other main thing is that the local authorities have some control over the street vendors also because they can regulate. This is not a phenomena of street-vending only in India but it is in the Western country also. But the problem with our country is that it is not regulated. After this Bill becomes Act, probably the local authorities can take care of all these things.

The problems associated with the street-vending are not just confined to urban areas only. Even in the rural areas, the same difficulties are being experienced but it is not in a big way. It is in a small way. So, I would request the hon. Minister that the same Bill should be brought for the rural areas. The Rural Development Minister has just left. Maybe I think in a different form, they should bring another Bill to introduce all these regulations in the rural area also.

I would like to give certain suggestions to the Minister because in the Bill, it is said that certain things of the exclusion of Railway vendors in sub-clause 4 of Clause 1. It says:

“The provisions of this Act shall not apply to any land, premises and trains owned and controlled by the Railways under the Railway Act, 1989.”

What I suggest is that even in the State headquarters, it should be mentioned “any land premises and vehicles owned, controlled and regulated by the State Road Transport Authorities also”. It is because it is restricted only to Railways in the urban areas, what will happen to Road Transport Authorities who have their bus stations where these problems also may arise?

The other thing is clause 21 of the Bill – “Preparation the Street Vending Plan”. Every local authority shall in consultation with the Planning authority, if the Town

Vending Committee is also included, probably they are the people ultimately who give license to these street vendors. So, it will help the planning authority to prepare a plan in a better manner and the stakeholders also should be involved in the planning authority. The Clauses 16 and 17 are almost the same. Clause 16 says:

“Every street vendor shall maintain civic amenities and public property in the vending zone in good condition and not damage or destroy or cause any damage or destruction to the same.”

Clause 17 says:

“Every street vendor shall pay such periodic maintenance charges for the civic amenities and facilities provided in the vending zones as may be determined by the local authority.”

These two Clauses 16 and 17 should be clubbed. Why I am suggesting this is whenever a Bill is drafted, it should be understood by the common man also. Ignorance of law has no place. So, unless he understands, it has no meaning. Just the law makers or the lawyers' understanding alone is not sufficient. If you simplify these Bills, it will help the common man. When confiscation is done under Clause 19, confiscation must be accompanied by issue of panchnama listing all the items that have been confiscated.

The Sub-Clause (1) of Clause 38 is about rule-making and its implementation. The Bill has not prescribed a time frame. I would suggest to the hon. Minister to insert a specific time period within which rules may be drafted and provisions of the Act implemented, when it comes to force. Otherwise, it takes years together to draft the rules. I would suggest all these things to the hon. Minister.

One other thing that is very important is with regard to the representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and persons with disabilities. That is very important. That is not sufficient. There must be due or adequate representation of these categories. They may not be considered at all, if it is not specifically mentioned.

The duties of local authorities, as per the provision of this Bill, are not limited. In the absence of this addition, it appears as though it is an exhaustive list. This would severely constrain the local authorities in the implementation of the Act.

About the dispute redressal mechanism, you have mentioned about the Sub-Judicial or Judicial Magistrate. When you were explaining, you said about the retired person. If it is so, that is well and good. The authority against whom the appeal is preferred should not be the local authority again. It should not go before the local authority because they are the people who are granting the vending licence. You cannot prefer an appeal again to the local authority as they cannot be the adjudicating authority also. They are the people who are granting and they cannot be the people who can adjudicate. That should not happen.

At the first instance of the grievance, an application must be made to the Town Vending Committee and the Town Vending Committee shall hold a settlement meeting. If a settlement or compromise is not arrived at within two weeks of receipt of application, then the matter may be referred to the permanent committee. There are second tier and third tier committees in place. I do not think one committee is necessary. Maybe you can have one District Committee. You cannot have a Committee for every small urban area. Maybe, if you are able to make a little bit change in these things, probably that will really help.

I commend this Bill. It is a very progressive Bill. It should have come much earlier. At least, it is better late than never. It has come into effect. I must compliment the Minister and the Government. Even this was recommended by the National Advisory Council. Even the Supreme Court had discussed about this. I support the Bill and conclude my speech.

20.00 hrs

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Raigad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you that you gave me an opportunity to speak. The hon'ble Minister has introduced Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Bill, 2012 in the House and I am in support of this Bill. Mainly more attention has been paid for providing security and protection to Street Vendors in the Bill.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Geete, please take your seat. Now it is 8 o'clock. Does the House want to continue with the discussion?

...(Interruptions)

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: No. Please take up 'Zero Hour'.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. Let the hon. Member finish his speech and then we will take up 'Zero Hour'.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He wants only two minutes. Tomorrow he is not available. So, let him finish and then we will take up 'Zero Hour'.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, do you want to continue tomorrow?

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: I will continue tomorrow. That would be better.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. We are taking up 'Zero Hour' now.

[Translation]

SHRI MAKAN SINGH SOLANKI (Khargone): Mr. Chairman Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. 70 per cent population of Madhya Pradesh is dependent on agricultural economy. The consumption of chemical fertilizers in Madhya Pradesh is very low as per the national average and it is around 83 per cent per hectare. The less consumption of fertilizers affects the foodgrain production in Madhya Pradesh and also the income of farmers. The supply of fertilizers to Madhya Pradesh is done mainly through Railway Rakes. There are 66 Railway Rake points in Madhya Pradesh. Out of those, half of the Rakes point are declared. Only 32 rake points are operating and no supply is being done at 34 points.

There is absence of basic facilities in that and these are not functioning to the full capacity. No supply is being done at 34 points even after declaration by the Railway Department. The Gondacha in Maharashtra adjacent to my Parliamentary Constituency, Khargaon Badwani, is also not functioning. There is a need to enhance the capacity alongwith making arrangements for basic facilities at Indore, Meghnagar, Khandwa and Unacha. Due to the lack of basic facilities at Rake points many difficulties are be faced in the maintenance and unloading of fertilizers during rainy season. Fertilizers get destroyed and full production capacity of land remains unutilized. In this situation, it is necessary that the Railway Department start all the closed Rake points there with immediate effect and develop basic facilities at operating rake points.

SHRI NARAYAN SINGH AMLABE (Rajgarh) : Mr. Chairman Sir, there are many institutions nearby Ruthai district in my Parliamentary Constituency which comes under Bhopal Railway Division due to which there is need to start new Express trains from there. It will prove important contribution in enhancing income of Railway Division, the a nation and the State if this train starts running from there. Ruthai Railway Station is a main centre to connect different towns of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. JP Technical University; Messers National Fertilizers Limited; GAIL India Limited Vijaypur; Messers Vidyut Station, Village Motipura and OEC Dongar Vijaypur; and Raghogarh city having a population of one lakh are situated adjacent to it. There is only one passenger train for Bhopal Divisional headquarters from. Ruthai Junction. Bhopal being the Capital of State is a main junction of Indian Railway route. All the trains stop here and passengers travel from here all the time. There is no direct train between main stations of Bhopal Railway Division Ruthai, Guna, Beena, Bhopal and Etarasi. This Railway section is fully electrified and nowhere there is need to change the Railway engine. There is a need to start a new express train to connect all the above stations for the benefit of passengers.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon'ble Minister is present here and I propose that an express train named as RajyaRani Express train may be started from Vijaypur to Etarasi via Ruthai, Guna, Beena and Bhopal.

SHRI KAMESHWAR BAITHA (Palamau): Mr.

Chairman Sir, I come from Palamau Parliamentary Constituency and I want to put forward sentiments of people of Palamau before you. My Parliamentary Constituency, Palamau is famous for two reasons. First is famine and drought, and other is Naxalism. My constituency is a very backward area. Every year, there is famine and there is no facility of irrigation. Today, there is not a drop of water in our area and 'Bhadai' crop has been ruined and there is no hope of next crop to grow.

My Parliamentary Constituency Palamau and Gadhwa districts gets 30 megawatt power from 'Rehand' in Uttar Pradesh and 25-30 megawatt from Son-Nagar in Bihar which is insufficient. Both districts should be provided 500 crore each every year. I would like to say that we should be provided 60 to 50 megawatt power from Rehand and Son-Nagar respectively and Palamau division should be connected with Hatia grid of Ranchi and power should be provided from there so that farmers and businessmen should feel some relief.

The crops of farmers of Palamau have totally ruined. Therefore, they should be provided compensation per acre for sustenance. This is my only demand.

[English]

SHRI J. M. AARON RASHID (Theni): Thank you very much. I would like to raise an urgent matter regarding a massive problem created by the bank managers regarding students' education loan in Tamil Nadu, especially in my constituency.

When highly deserving poor students and their parents approach the banks, the bank officials do not guide them in a proper way. They are asked to come several times; they are running from pillar to post, to get the loans sanctioned. Whenever they come, they are asking for several documents. According to the IBA guidelines, the branches should not demand collateral security for sanctioning students' education loan. They are asking for margin money and third party guarantee for sanctioning education loan, even for loans less than Rs.4 lakh. But many branches demand securities even for sanctioning loans up to Rs. 4 lakh, an Othat too, they demand collateral security. Particularly the officials of the Bodi Branch of the State Bank treat the poor students with rudeness and often say that the banks are not the

property of – sorry to say this – the Finance Minister, Shri P. Chidambaram, and so, we cannot give you the loan; whatever you want to do, you can do – this is the way they are speaking. They give only Rs.5,000 to the students of teachers' training. Whoever has recommended – either the MP or even higher-ups – they say that with these MPs' letters, we cannot sanction the education loan, whereas, they sanction Rs.1-2 crore to the builders and businessmen because their palms are greased by these persons. You are well aware that in these days, the fees of a student of 1st standard or KG or even pre-KG, is Rs.25,000-30,000. The fee in the Nursing and Engineering colleges is between Rs.1 to Rs.4 lakh. You can imagine the plight of the poor students, particularly teacher training students. Today is the Teachers' Day being celebrated as the birthday of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. On this day, I wish to bring to your attention that only Rs.5,000 is given as loan for the students undergoing teacher training whereas the fee charged is Rs.1 lakh. In such a situation how is it possible for the poor students to complete their studies? Through you, I would like to request the Government of India, the Hon. Minister, to bring legislation in this august House so that the poor students can take advantage of the Education Loan – started by the hon. UPA Chairman, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi – and complete their studies without any obstacle. With these words, I conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Adhi Sankar is allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri J.M. Aaron Rashid.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (Domariyaganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you that you have given me an opportunity to speak on a subject of public importance. Today the basis of democratic system of India is three tier Panchayati Raj. It is the best system in the world. If there is any better system of accountability towards the people available anywhere in the world, it is in the democratic system of India. Whether it is through representation in Lok Sabha or representation in Legislative Assemblies or through elected Pradhan or Head of Panchayat of Panchayats in the villages.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, eighty per cent people of India live in the villages and to represent them Gram Pradhan is elected. That Pradhan holds the responsibility and is

answerable for the development of village, whether through all the schemes of Central Government or developmental schemes of centre. He not only priorities those schemes but works for implementing them and also bring those to the ground level in reality. But it is an irony that he does not have any power and he does not get any honorarium ...*(Interruptions)* Shailendra ji, Pradhans in Uttar Pradesh held agitations and demonstrated in front of Vidhan Sabha recently for honorarium or salary to them and they were lathi charged. The most basic unit of the country is 'Gram Pradhan' and area Panchayat Member is elected as a Nyaya Panchayat person. The area Panchayat does not have any say in the proposal for development by the 'Kshetra Panchayat', and he does not have any responsibility. After getting elected he is not aware of his role and responsibility/ Nothing has been defined in this regard till now.

Through you, I would like to say that Gram Pradhan should be given some kind of a salary and as 'Gram Sachivalaya' is responsible toward Pradhan in the same way officers and employees of the block should also be responsible. Today, utilization certificate is there in MNREGA, social audit is there ...*(Interruptions)* the people linked with Panchayati Raj should get salary and allowances. This allowance will strengthen the Panchayati Raj system and the democratic system of India. Our all honourable members want to associate themselves with this issue. Thank you.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Members who are interested to associate with the matter being raised by Shri Jagdambika Pal may send slips.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: S/Shri Ramashankar Rajbhar, Ashok Kumar Rawat, Shailendra Kumar, Ravindra Kumar Pandey, Ashok Argal, P.L. Punia, Gorakhnath Pandey and J. M. Aaron Rashid are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Jagdambika Pal.

*Not recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI KAMLESH PASWAN (Bansgaon): Mr. Speaker, Sir the flood situation in Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Poorvanchal is very serious. My Parliamentary Constituency covers two districts, Joria and Gorakhpur in which Chorichora, Barhaj, Radrapur, Bansgaon Legislative. Assembly areas are situated and unfortunately, all the five legislative areas are considered to be flood prone areas. Every year, due to floods, all the roads areet fully damaged. Even after making demands many a time, whether it was BSP Government or Samajwadi Party Government no action has been taken. I demand that the condition of NH-29 is very bad, where vehicles cannomovet people have to go by foot and they have to go through side paths leaving the main roads. Therefore, there are many villages which have submerged in the floods. There is no road remained in my area and poor people who are affected by these floods have lost their houses. However, they are being given only rupees 3500. With this meagre amount even a 'Chhapar' cannot be erected. Therefore, I demand that this amount should be increased and an adequate amount should be given so that they can make their houses to live in. You gave me time and I thank you for this.

20.17 hrs

(SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL *in the Chair*)

SHRI P. L. PUNIA (Barabanki): Mr. Chairman Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on an important subject. This subject is not only connected with Dalit and Tribal people but with OBC's also. Honourable Supreme Court has passed an order regarding All India Institute of Medical Sciences on 18th July and said that the Institutes like All India Institute of Medical Sciences which are related to Super Specialty and reservation will not apply in those Institutes. This matter has been raised in this House also many a times. Hon'ble Sharad Yadav ji, Hon'ble Mulayam Singh Yadav ji and Dara Singh Chauhan ji and Members of all other parties raised this matter and the whole House supported it. They apprised the House about the public sentiments that the decision of hon'ble Supreme Court is wrong and measures should be taken to make that ineffective. When this matter was raised, Hon'ble Law Minister himself assured that he will not allow any change in existing reservation system already being

followed and he also assured that they are filing a review petition in Supreme Court. He also assured that if this does not happen then they have another alternate to bring a constitution amendment. Now only two days are left for this session. We were hoping that constitution amendment in this regard would be brought in between but it has not come up till now, whereas it has the support of all the parties. Therefore, we hope that this will be brought in these two days.

If need not to be mentioned that former Chief Justice delivered his decision on the last day of his retirement and we are well aware of that situation. That order has left many questions before us which was passed on the last day. The question also comes before us as to how the system of appointing Judges needs a change. There should be some system to provide due representation deprived society, Scheduled Castes, Backward Class, Women and Minorities. It is essential to make provision for reservation in higher Judiciary. I would not like to go in to the details about this, but would certainly press upon the matter that there should be a constitution amendment in this regard. A constitution amendment should be brought here and passed to make the order in effective which has been passed on 18 July, 2013 by the hon'ble Supreme Court. I request only this much.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Those honourable Members who wish to associate with this matter, and hon'ble Shailendra ji, Dara Singh Chauhan ji and other honourable members should give this in writing. Hon'ble P.L. Punia ji has raised an important issue but hon'ble Minister has replied to it that, the existing provision of reservation will continue.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Whatever you have said, I have mentioned that the system is there. Shri Shailendra Kumar, Shri Kamal Kishore Commando, Shri Raja Ram Pal Shri Ashok Kumar Rouat, associate themselves with the matter raised by Shri P. C. Punia.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Chairman, Sir, today is the great day for India. 5th September is being Celebrated as Teacher's Day in every nook and corner of the country. Directions were given from the Chair and discussions were held. Alongwith the

Teacher's Day 'Hindi pakhwara' is also being celebrated. The makers of constitution provided section 343 and 343 to 351 for language. Section 343 was made for Hindi and accordingly a law was made for official language Hindi, a Committee was made under section 344 and it was decided that Hindi will be official language in the whole country. But work is not being done according to official language. An agitation is being held even now. Shri Shyam Rudra Pathak who has passed IIT is still on a 'Dharna' and he had gone to Jail also. He went to the residence of UPA Chairperson Smt. Sonia Gandhi also. 'Dharna' are also being held at the residence, office and courts and are being held everywhere in Delhi. Their demand is that work should be done in official language Hindi everywhere be it in Courts, High Courts or Supreme Court. It should be in Hindi. Recently participants of UPSC exams were arrested and they have also the same demand.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yesterday as, you raised this important issue.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Sir, this is also related to that issue ...*(Interruptions)* Today, agitation is being held for the language in court but everywhere Hindi is being neglected. For example they have made 22 numbers of nine questions mandatory in English out of 80 questions in preliminary exams for UPSC. They have made it mandatory in English. A new pattern has started.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your point has come in the records.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: There was a change in 1979 also for the practice of new pattern. At that time three additional chances were given.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can add Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan also. Your point has come.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Sir, I am going to conclude. This is their demand and they have been arrested at Lok Manya Tilak Police Station. Their demand is that they should be given three chances for appearing in exams and the compulsion of English should be withdrawn. The language of the Courts, High Courts and Supreme Court should be Hindi and Indian language. They were shouting the slogan - "Angrez yahan se chale gaye, Angrezi chhod gaye, Angrezi mein kaam na hoga, Phir se desh gulam na hoga, Dr. Lohia ki Abhilasha, Chale

Desh Mein Apni Bhasha". The countries in the world have progressed in their languages. There is a misconception in India that English speaking people are more efficient and only English can prove to be helpful in phenomenal growth.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, all your issues have been taken.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: This kind of a feeling should be done away with. Acting upon the views put forward by the framers of the Constitution Section 343 was enacted in India which mandates that the Official Language Act should be promoted to be the language of every citizen. It should be global language and vernacular also. Hindi language should be promoted. We are faced with the issue of implementation of native language.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Dara Singh Chauhan, Shrimati Jyoti Dhurve, Shri Shailendra Kumar, Shri P. L. Punia, Shrimati Botcha Jhansi Lakshmi, Shri Mahendra Singh Chauhan, Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey and Shri J M Aaron Rashid associate themselves with the matter raised by Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh.

SHRI RAMASHANKAR RAJBHAR (Salempur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, except 15 per cent Members of Parliament like Shahnawaj Saheb, 85 per cent Members come here after they start facing the problem of eyes, hair fall, teeth extraction, and make laws in this House for five years provide justice to the people of the country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is natural that after five years when they retire they are very old. When they come to Delhi along with their guests in a senile state they do not have accommodation to reside. If you provide some accommodation to them for medical check-up or to take medicine from Parliament House Annexe, it will be very helpful for them.

Through you, I would like to request the Government that there should be some consideration for those old members of Parliament who have retired and stay here for medical aid or meet leaders of treasury benches or to draw their pension. They should also be provided transport for this purpose.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is a very important issue. I demand from the Government that some houses should

be constructed here in Delhi and ex-members should be provided one house on concessional rate. At least, they should get transport for coming to Annexe for medical treatment ...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have raised an important issue. The Government would take notice of it. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, ex-members are not treated with honour. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Raghuvansh ji, this matter has come on records. Any member who wants to associate himself with this may send in writing. If you speak standing here, it will not go on record.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Shailendra Kumar, Shri Mahendra Singh P. Chauhan, Shri Kamal Kishore Commands, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur, Shri Ashok Argal, Shri P.L. Punia, Shri Syed Shahnawaz Hussain and Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey associate themselves with the issue raised by Shri Ramashankar Rajbhar ji.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: This will all vanish in air. Nothing will happen if it goes on record? This should be articulated in the House. Written submission will lead you nowhere. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Raghuvansh Ji, you are in the Panel of Chairman. Tomorrow is the last day of the Session and many important subjects are not there in the lottery. Madam Speaker has permitted, we want to give an opportunity to all the members. Those whose names are called in zero hour should raise their point. But do not leave the House after you speak. Please leave only after the Zero Hour is over. Everyone will get an opportunity to raise the matter.

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN (Ghosi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to raise a matter of difficulties being faced by small businessmen under Food Security and Standard Act.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, any food item made in any factory in the country goes to every corner of the country and the sample officer checks that item and after that it reaches the small markets and is supplied there. The items which come out of the factory in sealed packs, the Food Inspector in

districts harass small shopkeepers and threaten them that if any discrepancy is found in the sample, they will be liable to pay fine and will also have to and themselves in jail. They terrorize them in this manner and Sample Officer charges heavy amount from small traders. Though this problem prevails all over the country Uttar Pradesh deserves special mention. These charges are many times more than the one levied by the Government. The officers harass them in the name of 'Suvidha Shulka' in more ways than one.

I would like to request the Central Government that it should intervene in the matter and make such arrangements in the Food Security Standard Act that exploitation of businessmen could be stopped and the owners of Factories; where these items are produced should be punished, if found guilty under this Act. When these items reach small businessmen in the market the sample officers harass them and charge hefty amount from them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please be brief. You have said all the things.

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: I would like that such factories should be banned. I would like to say that a provision for punishment should be made against the people who take illegal money in the name of renewal of license and small businessmen should be given licenses and their exploitation must be stopped.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The name of Shri P.L. Punia and S.S. Ramasubbu Rao is associated with the matter raised by Shri Dara Singh Chauhan, Shri Syed Shahnawaz Hussain.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Sir, he is speaking for the second time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You also speak several times in the House.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Sir, he is speaking for the second time in Zero hour.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All of you may please sit down. Only those who I give permission to, may speak.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur): I am fortunate that you are in the Chair as Chairman. I respect you very much. You have given me permission to speak and it will be remembered in the history. Today,

the Samajwadi Party does not have any Member from minorities. You can consider me as your Member.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: All right.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: You will become somewhat secular by this.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: We have adopted you.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Sir, today is teachers' day and it is fortunate for me that I am the son of a teacher and husband of a teacher. My wife works in a Government school in Delhi. We remember Radhakrishnan ji on this teacher's day. I represent Vikramshila, Bhagalpur constituency where Guru Atish Deepankar ji taught. Vikramshila was established in the Sixth century and Guru Atish Deepankar ji became its vice chairman in the ninth century. Nalanda, Taxshila and Vikramshila are our cultural heritage.

Sir, Taxshila is very developed. We may have different opinions about Pakistan, but I went to Pakistan with Hon. Speaker Madam and there I saw that they have maintained Taxshila very well. If anything is good about Pakistans this that they have well taken care of the culture of Taxshila and well maintained it. In Nalanda also, our Chief Minister who is from Nalanda in Bihar has done a lot of work there and has developed Nalanda University very much, but Vikramshila is neglected. Our friend Nishikant Dubey ji is from nearby area and Vikramshila is adjacent to his constituency.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is doing many developmental work in his area.

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY (Godda): Vikramshila is my village.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: I am his Member of Parliament, he is voter, he votes for me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Therefore, we want that we should work together.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: I called on Hon'ble President, Prime Minister in regard to Vikramshila. Hon'ble Prime Minister sent DG Geological Survey of India there. After all these things a report was submitted and rupees five thousand crore was released

by the Central Government but Bihar Government has not done anything so far. No work has been done about DPR, Land Acquisition and other things.

Sir, through you, my only humble submission is that Chief Minister, who is from Nalanda district, has just taken over charge. However, Bhagwat Jha Azad who belonged to Vikramshila was Chief Minister earlier. When Bhagwat Jha Azad was Chief Minister he never neglected Nalanda. Therefore, the existing Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar ji who is from Nalanda, should not neglect Vikramshila. He may be annoyed with me but he should not have any annoyance with my constituency Bhagalpur and Vikramshila.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Good wishes of this House are for you. Please be brief.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Sir, it is a national heritage. When Vikramshila was established and with the passage of time it ceased to exist. Oxford university came into existence in 1189. In the wake of oxford university coming into existence people are pursuing their studies in oxford university and many lawyers educated in oxford come here and give lengthy speeches. But, Vikramshila should not be neglected. Members of Parliament like me go to everyone and talk to them, then Government should pay attention to Vikaramshila. If there is a mutual understanding between Bihar Government and Central Government, they should do some work on that count. Do not engage in friendship only, do some work also and Vikaramshila should be developed. I am thankful to you that on teacher's day you allowed me to raise this issue of Vikarmshila where Guru Atish Deepankar taught the pupils, set up Dalai Lama Sect. Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I will remember this gesture all my life and as a Chairman you have allowed me to raise this matter on the occasion of Teacher's Day. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri P. L. Punia ji's name is also associated with the matter raised by Shri Shahnawaj Hussain.

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR CHAUDHARY (Basti): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you and feel obliged that you have allowed me to speak on an important subject.

Sir, it is a matter of great fortune for us that you are holding this Chair. I come from Basti Lok Sabha

Constituency of district Basti you also belong to that place. The delegation of farmers and employees might have met you and it is in your knowledge also. It is a very serious subject. Sir, Bajaj Sugar Mill was established in Basti district before independence in 1926 and uptill now it is doing its work of rushing with full capacity is continuously running in profit. The farmers have made an estimate of more production of sugarcane in their fields but the management of the mill has given a notice of closure of mill which has caused of fear of non-payment of pending balance amount of farmers and loss of jobs of daily and temporary workers there. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Raghuvanshji, you please take your seat.

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR CHAUDHARY: Farmers may be compelled to commit suicide if their dues are not paid. Madam, workers are and continuously agitating. Through you, we demand that the Government should intervene through you and the mill located in Basti should run. ...*(Interruptions)* They are in connivance with Mill owners. A conspiracy is being hatched to close the mill their collusion. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please do not level such charges. This will not go on records.

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR CHAUDHARY: Sir, this is a conspiracy. ...*(Interruptions)*, they are conniving. The farmers there are on the verge of starvation. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have made your point.

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR CHAUDHARY: I request you to intervene in this matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mill is still running, it should not be closed. You have raised this important matter and the Government will ensure that it should not be closed, because sugarcane is cash crop for farmers and sugarcane is the life blood of farmers. In Uttar Pradesh particularly in Eastern Uttar Pradesh, it is their life line. You have raised a very important matter ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Recently Shri Sharad Pawar ji and Mulayam Singh ji had a meeting on the issue of sugar mills and deliberations were made as to how sick mills would be revived...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shailendra Kumarji you please take your seat.

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR CHAUDHARY: Sir, I am thankful to you that you have allowed me to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shailendra ji has assured you that the mill will not be closed. It is their Government and he has assured that mill will not be closed. This is a good thing.

Shri P.L. Punia's name is associated with the matter raised by Shri Arvind Kumar Chaudhary.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I would like to raise a matter of urgent public interest and in my view all the Members here will agree with me on this matter. Issues have been raised here with regard to Bhojpuri language for the last 15-20 years and more than 50 crore people speak Bhojpuri language in the country and abroad. Mr. Chairman, Sir, you have also been elected from there, from Poorvanchal. People are elected from Bihar. All the members sitting in the House know very well about this. How many of your ex-Ministers and Chief Ministers have raised this matter. The matter has been raised by Shri Prabhunath Singhji, Shatrughan Sinhaaji and all the Hon. Members. This has been raised by Shri Neeraj Shekharji who belongs to that area.

I want that this language should be included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution and as far as the number of speakers supporting the matter is concerned, Shri Sanjay Nirupam also submitted that Bhojpuri should be included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. Besides, it is requested that it is a small Bill and with two day left in the Session, the Bill seeking to include Bhojpuri in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution should be included in this very session so as to boost the pride of native speakers and the country so much so that Bhojpuri language is spoken by several Presidents and Prime Ministers who represented the country abroad. I want that to accentuate the pride of Bhojpuri language you direct the Government should give some assurance. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shailendraji, you have expressed your sentiments and the sentiments of the House also get reflected along with yours. When the sentiments of the House are reflected, the Government will take cognizance of it.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Please direct them. This is a very serious issue. Hon. Ministers are sitting here, please ask them to give some assurance. It is a matter of Bhojpuri language and you may give some assurance.
(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The entire House agrees with the issue raised by you.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: I cannot compel the Hon. Minister, but he may give some assurance. He may at least say that he will look into the matter.(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Putul Kumari, Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey, Shri Kamal Kishor 'Commando' and Shri P.L. Punia associate themselves with the matter raised by Shri Shailendra Kumar.

[English]

DR. P. VENUGOPAL (Tiruvallur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I express my gratitude for giving me an opportunity to bring to the notice of the Government the urgent necessity for a stoppage of express/mail trains at Tiruvallur, near Chennai.

Tiruvallur is my parliamentary constituency. Tiruvallur is also the Headquarters. A number of temples are located in and around Tiruvallur. It is called a religious place too. In a range of about 15 kms. Avadi is located where we can find a number of Central Government offices and establishments. For example, in Avadi, we have Heavy Vehicles Factory, Avadi Tank Factory, Ordnance Clothing Factory (OCF), CVRD, CRPF Training Centre, Railway EMU Workshop, Air Force Station, Colleges and Schools. Added to this vast population residing at Avadi, adjacent place called Ambattur is an industrial hub.

Close to Tiruvallur, in Sriperumbudur, in addition to the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development, we also have Multinational Companies (MNCs) like Nokia, Hyundai, Saint Gobain Glass. Hence, stoppage of trains at Tiruvallur would go a long way in helping people habituating and working in and around Sriperumbudur.

All I am trying to say is that there is an urgent necessity for a stoppage of express and mail trains at Tiruvallur so that the rush at Chennai Central Station is reduced considerably. The status is that now all the railway passengers have to get down at Chennai Central Station and return back to Tiruvallur or Avadi. Considering stoppage of trains like Brindavan Express, Kovai Express, Intercity Express, Lal Bagh Express, Mumbai-Kachenguda-West Coast Express and numerous express and mail trains from Kerala and from North at Tiruvallur would reduce congestion at Chennai Central Station.

It may kindly be noted that I have raised this issue in this very House a couple of times and also written to the Railway Minister and Railway authorities, apart from meeting officials at Rail Bhavan, but nothing fruitful has come out of it. Hence, this renewed effort.

Considering the reasonable reasons and reducing the time of railway passengers and congestion at Chennai Central Station, stoppage of express and mail trains at Tiruvallur should be considered forthwith without any further delay. I hope, the hon. Minister of Railways would accede to this genuine request of mine to help my parliamentary constituency, Tiruvallur, for which act both the people of my parliamentary constituency and I would be indebted.

SHRI P. L. PUNIA (Barabanki): Sir, I would like to associate with the issue raised by Dr. P. Venugopal.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Sir, I am on a point of order.(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not speaking from your seat. Please go back to your seat. Please quote the rule under which you are raising the point of order.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: This relates to Question Hour.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no such rule.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I simply wish to submit that the importance of Question Hour has increased with your presence in the Chair. You must have observed that the number of Members is increasing. The credit goes to you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

[English]

SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI (Vizianagaram):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to speak in Telugu.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please be brief. Several Hon. Members have to speak.

[English]

*SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI: Hon. Chairman Sir, I would like to thank you on behalf of people of Andhra Pradesh, for allowing me to bring to the notice of the House, the agitation going on in our state for the last few days, in the wake of sensitive Telangana issue. Sir, when the decision to bifurcate Andhra Pradesh was made, people throughout the state erupted in emotions. Telugu speaking people were living together in one state and now they are feeling that they have to leave their motherland, because of this decision. Around 5 crore people from seemandhra region are agitating, irrespective of their caste or community and are demanding united Andhra Pradesh for the last 36 days.

Through this opportunity, I would like to draw the attention of the House, and would like to express the feelings and emotions of people of my state. I request UPA Government to understand these feelings and especially Smt. Sonia Gandhi on whom we have profound faith. I request through you that there is a need to remove this feeling of insecurity amongst people of Andhra Pradesh. Sir, please give me two minutes. Sir, Andhra Pradesh is known as Annapurna- the rice bowl and around 75% of our population is farmers. Most of them are small and marginal farmers.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have made your point.

SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI: Sir, when we compare other States, the capital cities are for administrative convenience, whereas, Hyderabad is not only a capital city, it is also an economic centre, education hub and a centre for many activities.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are raising your issue in Zero Hour. In Zero Hour, you know your limitations. I have given maximum time to you, Madam.

SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI : Please, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only half-a-minute.

SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI: Sir, I would like to submit that Hyderabad was considered as our own city and accordingly it was developed by people of Andhra Pradesh. There is a need to understand the agitation that is going on in our state. Opposition parties are politicizing this issue. Sir, I am a lady member from Vizianagaram.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have made your point. Thank you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think, you have expressed your feelings. Now, Shri Anurag Thakur ji.

SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI : Kindly give me time, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now you have made your point. Nothing will go in records.

(Interruptions)...*

[Translation]

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR (Hamirpur, HP): Mr. Chairman, I seek your permission to speak from this seat.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have made your point. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Thank you very much Hon. Chairman for providing me an opportunity to speak during Zero Hour.

Sir, I belong to a hilly area in Himachal Pradesh where the farmers have very small land holdings. Approximately two and a half lakh farmers have committed suicide in the last nine years. Being a small and hilly State the farmers have very small holdings. The monkey terror in the last few

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Telugu

*Not recorded.

years has assumed a serious proportion. Most of the farmers there have given up agriculture. I have written to the Union Government several times to modify the Wild Life Act and make provision for the farmers there under the MNREGA Scheme, so that they can save their fields.

The Union Government has not taken a single proper measure. The situation has come to such a pass that monkeys swarm all over and attack masses. They have made the life of people miserable in their houses. So much so, the farmers have totally given up farming. This is not the only issue pending with the Union Government, there are several such pending issues where the poor farmers and common man is leading a miserable life in Himachal Pradesh.

Hon. Chairman, through you, I would like to ask the Union Government if the State is being ignored because of its small size and characteristics of being hilly? Be it the Railways, only 40 kilometers railway line could be laid in 64 years. We do not get any funds for the maintenance of our roads. The recruitment in the Army is done on the basis of population.

Hon. Chairman, through you, coming back on the issue I would simply wish to submit that farmers are being ignored just like other issues. The monkey problem has assumed ominous proportion. Amendments should be made in the Wildlife Protection Act and provision should be made under MNREGA Scheme so that farmers could resume farming and produce foodgrains for the country and earn their livelihood.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Hon. Members are requested to include only one question in the issue raised by them during Zero Hour. It is also requested that they should focus only on the main issue because when you raise several other issues with the main issue, your main issue gets diluted. You are requested to focus only on that issue during Zero Hour for which you have given a notice.

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH (Udhampur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, with deep regret, I have to submit that you know and the entire country knows about what transpired in my own area Kishtwar. Two or three issues have come to the fore. I can tell you about the condition of the people through an example. There is a widow and her child who run a shop.

The value of this shop would be approximately Rs. 80-90 lakh. I wish to submit that shops worth Rs. 20 to 90 lakh have been burnt down, and the people have suffered heavy loss on this account. I made a request from day one that its inquiry should be conducted by the CBI. It is a fact that such incidents are not fresh but these are continuing since 1993. These incidents of burning down of shops are ongoing continuously from 1993 till 2013.

Hon. Chairman, through you I wish to submit that the turmoil in the State continued for 30 years. Communal harmony and peace could be established in the State with great difficulty through the sacrifices made by politicians, civilians and the armed forces. People lived amicably in the State. I wonder who is behind all these incidents.
...(Interruptions)

Sir, this issue is very serious...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is why I am giving you time. I can understand your feelings.

[Translation]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: My purpose of raising the issue before you is because you are a serious and a sensitive person, you can understand and empathize with them. That is why I am telling you all this. It is my request that the recurrence of the Kishtwar type incidents should be checked and the conspiracy behind the incident should be foiled. The State should be saved. I request you that an inquiry should be conducted and the actual losses suffered should be cited. The reports evaluate the loss to the tune of rupees two to five lakhs. The people, the owner of these shops are not responsible for such incidents. It is the State machinery, be it mine or yours, it is responsible because it failed to pre-empt such incidents, so the State or the Union Government will have to bear the actual loss ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have raised your point.

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you it is requested that actual amount should be compensated.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You know that you will have to write to the State Government for getting inquiry conducted by

CBI and when the State Government recommends it the Union Government will consider it.

[English]

*SHRI P. LINGAM (Tenkasi): It has been announced that the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meet will be held in Sri Lanka in November this year. India is a member country of Commonwealth. As per the convention of Commonwealth, brotherhood and protection of human rights are to be upheld. But when we look at the events taking place in Sri Lanka we witness blatant violations of human rights in that country. Ethnic genocide has taken place. Press is denied its due freedom. There is no freedom of expression. Altogether Sri Lanka is functioning against the laid conventions of the Commonwealth. UN Human Rights Council has been conducting an enquiry on the human rights violations in Sri Lanka. It is injustice and improper to organize the Commonwealth Conference in Sri Lanka where fellow countrymen were killed through ethnic cleansing. India is a country known for upholding equality, brotherhood and world peace. Our nation has the right to protect human rights. We have our blood relations living in our neighbouring country, Sri Lanka.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly sum up. You have made your point.

SHRI P. LINGAM: There is a need to protect the integrity of this nation. In the name protecting human rights and interests of Tamils, and to uphold the conventions of Commonwealth, India should not take part in the CHOGM scheduled to be held in Sri Lanka.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly sum up.

SHRI P. LINGAM: India should also insist upon other Commonwealth countries not to participate in this Conference. I urge the Government of India through this House that at any cost India should not participate in the Commonwealth Conference to be held in Sri Lanka.

SHRI J. M. AARON RASHID (Theni): Sir, I would like to associate with the matter raised by Shri P. Lingam.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Okay.

Shri Kamal Kishor 'Commando'.

[Translation]

SHRI KAMAL KISHOR 'COMMANDO' (Bahraich): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you for providing me an opportunity to speak. I have got the opportunity to speak about my Parliamentary Constituency Bahraich after a long time. Bahraich is situated along the border of Nepal which is poverty stricken. The local residents suffer a lot from floods. This is a Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribe and Muslim dominated area, and looking at their condition one can imagine, if there is abject poverty anywhere in India, it is in Bahraich.

I demand from the Government that looking at the heavy loss caused to them during floods, which hit the area recently and in absence of any help from the disaster management and in view of their poverty, the Union Government is requested to provide them all kinds of assistance.

My second question relates to the order of the Hon. Supreme Court issued on 18th July, in which not only the scheduled castes but other backward classes. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please raise only one issue. You have spoken about the flood. Please raise the second issue tomorrow in the House. Please obey the Chair.

....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAMAL KISHOR 'COMMANDO': Mr. Chairman, Sir, I need one minute only. ...*(Interruptions)*. I associate myself with the issue raised by Shri Punia. There is need to review the judgment.

21.00 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have requested all the Hon. Members to raise only one matter during Zero Hour. You are raising a very important matter that of flood and associating it with the issue of reservation would be most inappropriate. You may write to the State Government on the issue of flood that it should send a memorandum to the Union Government only then a team would be sent from here.

SHRIMATI PUTUL KUMARI (Banka): Hon. Chairman, through you, I would like to draw your attention to my Parliamentary Constituency Banka. This area earns the

reputation for silk weavers and the popular fragrant Katarni rice. Just now you asked us not to dilute two major issues. However, I am raising the two issues simultaneously since my Parliamentary Constituency suffers both from drought and floods. Eight blocks viz-Katoria, Bani, Dhaureya, Fullidumar, Chaandan, Bailher, Rajaun and Shubhganj are reeling under drought. Seeds have dried up. Seeds of Katarni rice, the pride of Banka, have dried due to insufficient irrigation facilities. The earlier irrigation facility has run down, because every time the soil replenishes.

Through you, the Government is requested to develop pucca canals there on the lines of Punjab so that the residents of Banka do not face the problem of drought. This will be a system that will go on for years. However, those eight blocks should be declared drought ridden immediately and appropriate assistance should be provided there.

The two blocks of Sultanganj and Shahkund are deluged. These two blocks are situated in Bhagalpur district. Shri Shahnawaz belongs to that area. 11 Panchayats of Sultanganj and 8 Panchayats of Shahkund are inundated. The people are repeatedly calling for help. The maize crop is devastated here.(Interruptions) Means of transportation is disrupted.(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Putul Kumariji, you have raised both the issues of flood and drought. Please state your demand now.

....(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI PUTUL KUMARI: My demand is that at least Rs. 80 thousand assistance should be provided to the people whose houses have been damaged, so that they could get their houses repaired and make them habitable. Rs. 10 thousand per acre compensation should be provided for the damaged crops.(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Syed Shahnawaz Hussain associates himself with Shrimati Putul Kumari.

SHRI GORAKHNATH PANDEY (Bhadohi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I express my gratitude to you for providing me an opportunity to raise a very important issue. Bhadohi is my Parliamentary Constituency. I am elected from the rural area Bhadohi of Uttar Pradesh. We wrote extensively to all the Ministers of Railways in the past

requesting them to provide an up/down to Kamayani Express train, which goes to Mumbai, in Suryama. There were agitations, hunger strikes for months. Officials came, gave assurances and left. The Hon. Minister of Railways was sitting here right now. We wrote to him in the Budget session. Besides we raised this issue several times. We also got an assurance in this regard in the House, however, no action has been taken thereon so far. Besides, Shivganga Express which comes from Varanasi to Delhi, there is Gyanpur arers of Bhadoh. district between Allahabad and Varanasi. We wrote several times to provide stoppage of that train on Gyanpur road., However, no action was taken despite the assurance.

Through you, it is requested that up down of Kamayani Express should be provided in Suryama. Similarly, a halt should be provided to the recently introduced intercity for Lucknow in Suryama and Shivgnaga Express which is being highly demanded should also be provided a stoppage in Gyanpur.

Through you, I demand that the Government should take action on the demand raised by us several times through letters. We have even got an assurance in the House and I want an assurance from you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not repeat words. You have raised your point. Thanks.

[English]

SHRI A. SAMPATH (Attingal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, even though our House is almost empty and the Press gallery is completely empty, I am at the mercy of my colleagues and learned friends because in our House we have less than half the quorum. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am at your mercy.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But our attendance is increasing day by day.

SHRI A. SAMPATH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to invite your attention and, through you, invite the attention of the Government of India to the sad plight of more than five million Indians working and living in the Middle-Eastern countries. During every year, during the months of August, September and October from India to the Middle-East countries and from the Middle-East countries towards

India, maximum number of passengers are depending on the airline services during this quarter. But unfortunately, Chairman Sir, what happens is that many of the airlines cancel their services in order to increase the airfare and to sell their tickets in black market. This happens. It is a matter of grave concern. Our coffers are not at all empty because more than five million Indians are working in the Middle-Eastern region.

Now, what happens is that all of us know that there has been an increase in the air turbine fuel. The prices of air turbine fuel have gone up to 22 per cent. But what is the justification for the increase in the airfare by five times? Five times increase has happened. This increase has happened for an economy class ticket.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your demand? Now, you have raised your issue very well.

SHRI A. SAMPATH : This is a great air robbery. This whole House has to condemn this great air robbery.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have expressed your sentiments.

SHRI A. SAMPATH: The Government of India should definitely intervene in this matter. This is a matter concerning the lives of our sisters, our mothers, our brothers and our children. They have to come to their home towns, to India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have made your point.

SHRI A. SAMPATH : There is no other alternative through which they can come back to India. The only way that they can depend on is the airlines.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sampath, you have made your point and the Government will take cognizance.

SHRI A. SAMPATH : Yes, Sir. I seek your mercy. I am not consuming any more minute but I need your mercy. I need your help. Through you only, Mr. Chairman, Sir, I can invite the attention of the Government of India because most probably our House may be concluding this Session either by tomorrow or day after tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have succeeded to draw the Government's attention and the Government will take cognizance. Please sum up.

SHRI A. SAMPATH: But before the conclusion of this Session, I need a definite and concrete decision and that decision should be implemented. I seek the help of the Government of India regarding this matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Dhananjay Singh, Shri Syed Shahnawaz Hussain, Shri Nishikant Dubey, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, Shri J.M. Aaron Rashid, Chaudhary Lal Singh, Shri S.S. Ramasubbu, Shri Ashok Argal, Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey and Shrimati Putul Kumari are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri A. Sampath.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KAISAR JAHAN (Sitapur): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to put the problems of my constituency in the House. Through this House, I want to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Minister towards major problems pertaining to railways in my area. The majority of my Lok Sabha constituency, Sitapur is deprived of rail facilities even after 65 years of independence and where these facilities exist, they are of lower level. The existing facilities at Sitapur, Biswan and Mahmudabad railway stations are for namesake only. Khairabad town is a prominent town in Sitapur district. A railway crossing exists there. It is closed hours before the arrival of the train and remains closed after passing of the train, waiting for the arrival of the next train. There is a big hospital in this town and due to the sure of this railway crossing, the patients cannot reach the hospital in time.

Through this House, I request the Hon'ble Minister to give necessary instructions to the concerned officers for the smooth functioning of this railway crossing.

The major towns of Laherpur, Reusa and Tambaour are still deprived of railway facilities even after 160 years of introduction of Indian Railways, thereby the common people, weavers and traders face a lot of problems.

Therefore, through this House, I request the Hon'ble Railway Minister to take necessary action to lay a new rail line from Sitapur to Behraich via Laherpur, Reusa and Tambaour and to take necessary steps to provide high level passenger facilities at Sitapur, Biswan and Mehmudabad Railway Stations.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sh. Kamal Kishore 'Cammando' associate himself with the issue raised by Shrimati Kaisar Jahan. This is the maiden speech of Hon'ble Member. Therefore, please encourage her.

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY (Godda): Thank you Mr. Chairman Sir, I want to raise the problems of Jharkhand. You are aware of that problem because your Son-in-law has been affected with this. He has been injured and his life could be saved with great efforts. Presently, Jharkhand is affected by three problems - Naxalism, terror of Bangladesh intruders and continuous increase in the Rape incidents. These are the matters related to law and order. In Dumka, which is a part of my constituency, the naxalites kill S.P. of Pakur. When the S.P. is killed by naxalites, a team of NIA is sent there. In our State, electoral rolls are being revived wherein it is found that suddenly 60 to 65 per cent electorates have increased. No one knows how it has happened.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, if any incident happens in Delhi and Mumbai, this House get very much concerned because the media highlight the matter in a big way. The so - called policemen raped the two girls of Devghar aged twelve years and fourteen years in police line and thereafter, they were killed. The State Government has recommended the matter for C.B.I. inquiry. One and half months have lapsed but the inquiry is yet to start. A lady constable was raped in Latehar, she was carrying a dead body. This incident happened 15 days ago. In Hazaribagh, the son of a policeman raped a girl. We have Pahadia tribe in Pakur, which comes under Primitive Tribal Group (PGT). It is on the verge of extinction. 25 boys raped the four girls of this tribes.

Mr. Chairman Sir, the naxalite menace, the intrusion by Bangladeshi citizens and the incidents of rape are the matters related to law and order. I was trying to raise these matters since 5th August and today, you gave me this opportunity. The money you give in the name of Royalty, is spent on the maintenance of CRPF and BSF battalions only. We are fighting the naxalism and the Government of India is not providing money for the purpose. The State Government has to give money for it. This is the reason States like Punjab and Jammu-Kashmir have been ruined by this menace, they have gone down. They have

spent a lot. Therefore, through you, I request the Central Government or the Ministry of Home Affairs to issue a circular on the incidents of naxalism, rape and intrusion and the law and order situation in Jharkhand and to work for the welfare of Dalits, Backwards and the Minorities of the State.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have raised an important issue. But this is a matter of Law and Order. Therefore, it comes under the jurisdiction of the State Government.

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: All this happened during the President's rule.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nishikant Dubey ji, whenever you raise any issue, the Government takes note of it and the Government has taken note of it. The Government sitting here.

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Giridih): Mr. Chairman Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by Shri Nishikant Dubey ji.

SHRIMATI JVOTI DHURVE (Betul): Mr. Chairman Sir, I want to raise a serious issue pertaining to my Parliamentary Constituency. Agriculture is the occupation of the people in my constituency. Even today, there are no such big industries, so that people can earn their livelihood. I demand, through you, two big projects for my constituency from the Government. There is one Development Block, Harsood and the other is Timrany. Harsood comes under Nimad area. You know that Nimad area always remains dry and is a hilly area. My whole constituency comes under Sixth Schedule and the economic condition of the small farmers, Adivasis, Dalits and Backward class is very poor. Therefore, I demand two projects. One is Indira Sagar Canal Project. It can irrigate the land of farmers of 40 villages and thereby they earn their livelihood and improve their economic condition. The second project is Dakshineswar Canal Project. Through you, Sir, I demand these two projects from the Central Government so that the small farmers of the area can improve their economic condition through their main occupation i.e. agriculture.

Mr. Chairman Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to put my views on this subject.

SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI CHAUHAN (Aligarh): Mr. Chairman Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this subject.

Sir, world fame Aligarh Muslim University is there in Aligarh. This University is a source of encouragement for education for the whole Muslim Community all over the world. This University was established by Sir Saiyyed Ahemad Khan in 1872 in the form of MAO College. Sir, Saiyyed Ahemad Khan was in favour of providing better and modern education to the Muslim community. This University was set up in 1920 under the Aligarh Muslim University Act. Thereafter, his University went on developing into a great Centre of education in the entire world. But as per the Aligarh Muslim University Amendment Act 1972, efforts were made to withdraw the Minority status of this University and timately, the Minority status of this University had been withdrawn by the said amendment. Since 1972 till date, the minority Muslim Community is struggling to restore its minority status and fulfill the dreams of Sir Saiyyed Ahemad Khan.

Sir, Therefore, I request you to direct the Government to amend Aligarh Muslim University Amendment Act, 1972 and declare it a minority institution under Article 30 of the Indian Constitution.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Today, this is the maiden speech of the hon'ble Member. Today, many Members are getting the opportunity to speak for the first time.

[English]

SHRI O.S. MANIAN (Mayiladuthurai): Mr. Chairman, I wish to bring the following few lines regarding the formation of a NH road in Tamil Nadu.

The ongoing construction of four lane NH 32 (old No.45A) in between Villupuram and Nagapattinam via Puducherry is under progress. The construction work is completed between Villupuram and Puducherry. The 18 kms. stretch of the road between Sirkazhi and Akkur is only a 12 ft. single road. It is an important NH road which connects important towns like Karaikal, Nagapattinam, Velankanni and Vetharanyam. There are a number of hairpin bends in this road stretch. Due to the narrowness of this single road and heavy traffic, a lot of accidents are taking place. The district authorities have already provided

details about the total estimate for the said 10 metres road formation which also includes land acquisition process to National Highway Development Programme. People are demanding the early completion of the said road.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJARAM PAL (Akbarpur): Mr. Chairman Sir, I would like to put forth my views in short. I want to raise a matter pertaining to lakhs of ex-servicemen of the country. Since independence, the entire country is living in peace due to their sacrifices and hard work. The ex-servicemen have demanded many times their cent per cent pension from the Government of India by farming various organisations. But, no proposal has been brought in the House so far for this purpose. I want to put, through you, the anguish and agony of these ex-servicemen. There are so many ex-servicemen who find it much more difficult to lead a respectful life with the pension they are getting. Their pension has not been revised for a long time and as a result, there is discontentment among them. I demand that the Government should pay heed to their demand of pension so that they can lead a respectful life. Apart from it, they also demand that they should be allowed to remain the members of CSD Canteen and should be provided the facility of reservation in the railways. The soldiers throughout the country go to their villages after retirement. Their demand is that they should be provided reservation in cities also. I demand, through you, that a proposal to give a respectful livelihood to the lakhs of ex-servicemen be brought in the House. These people serve the country while in service and can serve the country after their retirement also. Therefore, the Government should pay attention toward their demands.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ashok Argal and Shri Kamal Kishore Commando associate themselves with the issue raised by Shri Rajaram Palji.

Shri Ashok Argal, you have associated yourself in the zero hour and now you want to speak on the other issue also.

SHRI ASHOK ARGAL (Bhind): Mr. Chairman Sir, everybody in the country require three things i.e. electricity, water and the roads. In Madhya Pradesh, the Government of Shivraj Singh Chauhan ji is providing electricity, the God

has gifted water in abundance. I want to speak in short about the roads. There is a major road which connects Gwalior to Bundelkhand via Datia and Jhansi. It is a fact that when you go to Datia and Dabra from Gwalior, you will see the worst condition of the road. The road is full of pot holes and each such hole is of 15 to 20 feet. A road is being constructed there under the Golden Quadrilateral Scheme which has been completed up to 62 per cent. I want to tell that people prefer to travel 100 Kilometers instead of travelling on Gwalior-Jhansi road. Such is the worst condition of that road. The Central Government may send a Central team to assess the condition of that road. The former Member of Rajya Sabha, Hema Malini ji had been there and she also commented on that road.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have a right to speak and that is why you are getting an opportunity to raise this issue. There is no need to mention anybody. You ask the Minister and he will certainly listen to you and there will be an inspection.

SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Same is the condition of Gwalior to Bhind, Etawa road. The quantum of traffic is of four lanes but there are still two lanes. The State Government constructed it under BOT, but daily accidents occur there killing two to four people. At least 100 people have been killed there so far. Mr. Chairman Sir, I want it to be inspected. There are big and deep pot holes on the National Highway No. 3 also. It also needs to be looked into.

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH (Hamirpur, U.P.): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I should also be allowed to speak from here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You yourself interpret the law. Even then, it is O.K.

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH: Three districts of Hamirpur, Mahoba and Banda fall in my Parliamentary Constituency. The whole tehsil of Hamirpur is submerged under water and the Tinwari area in Banda, which is my area, is also under water. I want to ask what the State Government is doing? The State Government is simply saying that they have asked the D.M. There is a lady D.M. in Hamirpur and there is same condition of other areas also. They are distributing gram and food only. I want to say

that there should be a permanent solution to this problem.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your demand?

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH: I am coming to the demand. Water has receded there, but it keep on standing at the 2 feet level in the house continuously for 15 days. If two pumps per village are installed, the entire water can be cleared within two days. The flood has gone, water has receded but two feet water is still there in the houses and it will remain for two months and the houses are callapsing as a result thereof.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is a subject pertaining to the district administration and not to the Central Government. I have given you time for a Central subject.

SHRI VIJAV BAHADUR SINGH: The district administration is saying that they have no money.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You should raise the questions which pertain to the Central Government.

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH: I know the State subjects and the Central subjects.

MR. CHAIRMAN: And the Concurrent Subjects also.

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH: I want to say that in the times of floods, a Committee should be constituted under the Chairmanship of the Member of Parliament of that area and after assessing the situation, the Committee should recommend as to what action should be taken. For example, the whole crop is ruined and the cheques worth 500 rupees are coming after two years. Therefore, I say that such loss should be assessed and the compensation for the loss should be paid before the advent of winter crop.

My third point is that in the event of such calamities, the crop loans should be waived of. The demand of the local people is much more but we have assessed that the Central Government should provide Rs. 30 crore for that purpose.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, you have made your point, thank you. You should write a letter to the State Government also to submit the memorandum indicating the actual loss. If you want that actual losts needs to be paid, you should write a letter to them. Unless the State Government submit the memorandum, no team

from the Government of India will be sent there. Shri C. Rajendran, please speak.

[English]

SHRI C. RAJENDRAN (Chennai South): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Union Minister of Law and Justice to a very serious issue concerning Tamil as a language to be used in Madras High Court.

Tamil is one of the oldest languages and it is recognized by the Union as an Official Language. It is also included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India. Article 348 (2) of the Constitution as well as Section 7 of the Official Languages Act, 1963 envisage the usage of the State's Official Language in the judgments, decrees, and proceedings of the High Court with prior concurrence of the President of India. Accordingly, this practice of using the Official Language of the State in High Courts is already adopted in four States of the country. But Tamil Nadu's genuine, fair and repeated requests for using Tamil in the Madras High Court has been turned down and declined.

In this connection, our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Dr. Amma had urged the Union Government to reconsider its stand on the issue of allowing the usage of Tamil in the Madras High Court.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have made your point.

SHRI C. RAJENDRAN: If the Government is really interested in taking the administration of justice genuinely closer to the people of this country, then it is absolutely essential that the local language is allowed to be used in the High Courts as is being done in the State Governments and State Legislatures.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly conclude.

SHRI C. RAJENDRAN: Hence, I would urge the Government of India to look into this matter and make necessary recommendations.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri P. Lingam is permitted to associate with the matter raised by Shri C. Rajendran

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT (Misrikh): Mr. Chairman Sir, Sandila-Bilhore-Kachhona Municipal Committees/Town

panchayats come under Misrikh Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh. Due to rail lines passing through these areas, there is a heavy rush of traffic on the railway crossings which leads to traffic jams for hours and people have to face lot of problems as a result thereof. The people there are demanding construction of overbridges on these railway crossings for a long time. I have put my point under Rule 377 also, but no action has been taken so far in this regard. I request that an over bridge should be constructed on the railway crossing falling under Sandila-Bilhore-Kachhona Municipal Committee/Town Panchayat and if this is not possible, underpasses for small and medium vehicles should be constructed there to get rid of traffic jams.

Through this House, I request the Government that stoppages for Padmavat Express, Sadbhavna Express, Rajrani Express, Saharanpur Express at Sandila Railway Station, for Tata-Chhapra Express, Mathura-Chhapra Express, Utsarg Express and all other express trains at Bilhore Railway Station and for Kanpur- Kasganj Express and Kalindi Express at Arval Makanpur Railway Station should also be provided.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have mentioned the stoppages for many trains at one go.

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Giridih): Mr. Chairman Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

Public sector undertakings like Bokaro Thermal, Chandrapura and C.C.L fall under my Lok Sabha Constituency. The Government of India have made water and electricity arrangements for the displaced persons. Mr. Chairman, Sir, you will be surprised to know that electricity and water connections of the displaced persons, who gave their land for Bokaro thermal power plant, are being disconnected. A situation has arisen there that people have come on the roads. They are resorting to gheraos and demonstrations. I demand, through you, from the Government of India that the existing arrangements of providing electricity and potable water to the displaced persons in the five kilometer radius and the people living nearby should be restored. Some new arrangements should also be made for them. People are agitated, there, I request that action should be taken and orders should be issued to the concerned authorities in this regard.

[English]

SHRI S. S. RAMASUBBU (Tirunelveli): Chairman Sir, it is related to my constituency. It is for the formation of a new Railway Station at Kavalkinaru. The Kavalkinaru is situated between Tirunalvelli and Kanya Kumari Railway line. It is a very important area because the Koodankulam project is in that area and ISRO is also in the Mahendragiri which is nearer to Kavalkinaru. It is a long pending demand of our people because in that Kavalkinaru area, more than one lakh people are living. More than 250 village people can use this Railway station. This Railway station is a very important one. So, I urge upon the Government and our Railway Minister to provide the Railway station at Kavalkinaru as early as possible.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have made your point in a very befitting manner. Thank you.

Shri Dhananjay Singh Ji

[Translation]

SHRI DHANANJAY SINGH (Jaunpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw your kind attention towards an important matter. It is a policy matter. The Government releases Rs. 5000 to 6000 crore every year under Indira Awas Yojna, under which the standard size of the house measurements is 108 sq.ft. The Government functions for the welfare of common man but the life of the common man has been dragged to the sub-standard level. In this regard, I would like to make a submission before the Government. Earlier it used to give Rs. 10,000 which later on was enhanced to Rs. 20,000 and then to Rs. 40,000 and now it provides Rs. 70,000 for this purpose. But this amount is insufficient. We want to provide housing facility to the common man under National Housing Policy. The Government should provide at least a house with two rooms at the rural level. This house must include a varandah, a kitchen and a toilet, only then the life of a common man will be improve. Otherwise, merely the allocation of money is not sufficeient. Recently, the Government has introduced the Food Security Bill. I am not levelling any allegation on the Government. But, I wish that no one should points a finger on the loopholes of the policy in future. So, it would be better if we implement these policies in a better way. Recently, I got an opportunity to visit Sri Lanka. ...
(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You had raised the issue regarding National Housing Policy. It was good.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI DHANANJAY SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sri Lanka is a poor country. Just now one of my colleagues has been raising the issue of Sri Lanka and he told that the Government of that country has set a criteria under the Rehabilitation Programme being run in its north province. The Government of India has been building houses there which have two rooms. We have been providing Rs. 3,60,000 in Indian currency. Therefore, I would like to request that this type of arrangement should also be applied for the common man in this country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, Shri Ashok Argal and Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey ji also associate with the issue raised by Shri Dhananjay Singh.

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL (Bikaner): Mr. Chairman, the State Governments have been assessing the weights and measures since 1956 in the country. In the year 1975, this matter was put into the concurrent list. The Legal Metrology Act 2009 bypassed the States and entrusted the work of assessment of the weights and measures to the private agencies, though the Standing Committee of Parliament had specifically negated the proposal tarce. Every State Government has an independent department and laboratories which are equipped with instruments worth millions of rupees to assess the weights and measures. They receive huge income from this source. At least 10,000 people earn their livelihood for decades. The Government of India has not paid any heed to the recommendations made by the Standing Committee and not considethe submissions made by the employees of that Department and has been insisting to frame rules so that the private agencies assess the weights and measures. If this work is entrusted to the private agencies the officials and the employees of the State Governments will have to adjust themselves with their work. The Government laboratories will be wasted. The Government will suffer the loss of revenue and several people will be rendered unemployed. I, through you, would like to say that there are reports of the two Standing Committees which say that this work should not be entrusted to the private agencies. I, therefore, through you request the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food

and Public Distribution that they should stop framing rules whereby the right to assess the weights and measures are entrusted to the private agencies and these rights should be kept with the State Governments. This is my request through you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, Shri Ashok Argal and Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey ji associate themselves with the matter raised by Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal.

SHRI BADRI RAM JAKHAR (Pali): Mr. Chairman, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I would like to speak on the Naik caste. This caste is very poor and the people of this caste living in a pitiable condition which would bring tears in one's eyes. The Bheel and the Naik caste trace their origin to the Dhanu caste. In the Dhanu community, weddings are held with Bheels and Naiks. But, this caste has not been included in the Bheel caste. Therefore, they are not getting any benefit. Sometimes, we have to look for the Members of this caste in the districts, councils and panchayat samitis. I, therefore, would like to make an impassioned plea to include the Naik caste in the Bheel caste. The Naik caste is a sub-group of the Bheel caste. There is no difference between them and they share a common descent. I through you, would like to demand from the Government that the Naik caste should be included into the Bheel caste.

SHRI MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHAN (Sabarkantha): Mr. Chairman Sir, as you may be aware, the drug abuse, particularly alcohol abuse has been increasing in the country. As per the survey report released by the World Health Organisation and the United Nations Organisation in the last decade, consumption of alcohol has become a serious problem in the country. Even the adolescents studying in the 8th or 9th standard are falling prey to this menace. Our youths are getting spoiled due to smoking

and drinking. It makes them susceptible to serious diseases and they become financially bankrupt. The women are its serious victim because the drunkard spouse ruin their families. In such conditions, it is imperative to save our youths which is our true strength.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is ironical that the Governments raise huge amounts and distribute the license of liquor. They arise huge taxes from the country of foreign liquor and later on it set up hospitals with that money to treat the patients who fall victim to the diseases because of the consumption of liquor. It also launch awareness campaign against alcohol abuse and motivate people to fight against it and when people actually launch movement it sends police in the name of law and order. This is a cruel joke with the people of the country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in my home State Gujarat which is also the home State of Mahatma Gandhi, there is a law for prohibition. The poor people have been benefitted because of this. But, in the other State adjoining our State, there is no prohibition because of which the liquor is smuggled into our State. Therefore, we do not get the desired benefits of prohibition. I, therefore, demand from the Government that prohibition should immediately be enforced in the entire country.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Friday, September 6, 2013.

21.43 hrs

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, September 6, 2013/
Bhadrapada 15, 1935 (Saka).*

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