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Thursday, July 20, 2023
Ashadha 29, 1945 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Twelfth Session

(Seventeenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XXV contains Nos.1 to 10)

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Sahu , Shri Chunnilal (Mahasamund)
Sahu, Shri Chandra Sekhar (Berhampur)

Sai, Shrimati Gomati (Raigarh)
Saikia, Shri Dilip (Mangaldoi)
Saini, Shri Nayab Singh (Kurukshehra)
Samadani, Dr. M. P. Abdussamad (Malappuram)
Samanta, Prof. Achyutananda (Kandhamal)
Sangma, Kumari Agatha K. (Tura)
Sao, Shri Arun (Bilaspur)
Sarangi, Shri Pratap Chandra (Balasore)
Sarangi, Shrimati Aparajita (Bhubaneswar)
Sarania, Shri Naba Kumar (Kokrajhar)
Saraswati, Shri Sumedhanand (Sikar)
Sardinha , Shri Francisco (South Goa)
Sarkar, Dr. Subhas (Bankura)
Sarkar, Shri Jagannath (Ranaghat)
Saruta, Shrimati Renuka Singh (Surguja)
Satyanarayana, Shri M. V. V. (Visakhapatnam)
Satyavathi, Dr. Beesetti Venkata (Anakapalle)
Sawant, Shri Arvind (Mumbai South)
Selvam, Shri G. (Kancheepuram)
Selvaraj, Shri M. (Nagapattinam)
Senthilkumar S., Dr. DNV (Dharmapuri)
Seth, Shri Sanjay (Ranchi)
Sethi, Shrimati Sarmistha (Jajpur)

Shah, Shri Amit (Gandhinagar)
Shah, Shrimati Mala Rajya Laxmi (Tehri Garhwal)
Shanmuga Sundaram, Shri K. (Pollachi)
Sharma, Dr. Arvind Kumar (Rohtak)
Sharma, Dr. Mahesh (Gautam Buddha Nagar)
Sharma, Shri Anurag (Jhansi)
Sharma, Shri Jugal Kishore (Jammu)
Sharma, Shri Kuldeep Rai (Andaman & Nicobar Islands)
Sharma, Shri Vishnu Datt (Khajuraho)
Shejwalkar, Shri Vivek Narayan (Gwalior)
Shekhawat, Shri Gajendra Singh (Jodhpur)
Shetty, Shri Gopal (Mumbai North)
Shewale, Shri Rahul Ramesh (Mumbai South-Central)
Shinde, Dr. Shrikant Eknath (Kalyan)
Shrangare, Shri Sudhakar Tukaram (Latur)
Shyal, Dr. Bharatiben D. (Bhavnagar)
Siddeshwar, Shri G.M. (Davanagere)
Sigamani, Dr. Pon Gautham (Kallakurichi)
Sigriwal, Shri Janardan Singh (Maharajganj)
Simha, Shri Prathap (Mysore)
Singari, Dr. Sanjeev Kumar (Kurnool)
Singh 'Lalan', Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Munghyr)
Singh (Raju Bhaiya), Shri Rajveer (Etah)

Singh Deo, Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari (Bolangir)

Singh, Dr. Amar (Fatehgarh Sahib)

Singh, Dr. Jitendra (Udhampur)

Singh, Dr. Satya Pal (Baghpat)

Singh, Gen. (Retd.) Dr. V. K. (Ghaziabad)

Singh, Rao Inderjit (Gurgaon)

Singh, Shri Arjun (Barrackpur)

Singh, Shri Atul Kumar *alias* Atul Rai (Ghosi)

Singh, Shri Bhola (Bulandshahr)

Singh, Shri Brijbhushan Sharan (Kaiserganj)

Singh, Shri Brijendra (Hisar)

Singh, Shri Chandan (Nawada)

Singh, Shri Dharambir (Bhiwani-Mahendragarh)

Singh, Shri Dushyant (Jhalawar-Baran)

Singh, Shri Ganesh (Satna)

Singh, Shri Giriraj (Begusarai)

Singh, Shri Kirti Vardhan (Gonda)

Singh, Shri Lallu (Faizabad)

Singh, Shri Mahabali (Karakat)

Singh, Shri Pashupati Nath (Dhanbad)

Singh, Shri Pradeep Kumar (Araria)

Singh, Shri R. K. (Arrah)

Singh, Shri Radha Mohan (Purvi Champaran)

Singh, Shri Raj Nath (Lucknow)
Singh, Shri Rajbahadur (Sagar)
Singh, Shri Rakesh (Jabalpur)
Singh, Shri Ravneet (Ludhiana)
Singh, Shri Sunil Kumar (Chatra)
Singh, Shri Sushil Kumar (Aurangabad)
Singh, Shri Uday Pratap (Hoshangabad)
Singh, Shri Virendra (Ballia)
Singh, Shrimati Himadri (Shahdol)
Singh, Shrimati Kavita (Siwan)
Singh, Shrimati Pratibha (Mandi)
Sinha, Shri Jayant (Hazaribagh)
Sinha, Shri Shatrughan (Asansol)
Solanki, Dr. (Prof.) Kirit Premjibhai (Ahmedabad West)
Solanky, Shri Mahendra Singh (Dewas)
Soni, Shri Sunil Kumar (Raipur)
Sonkar, Shri Vinod Kumar (Kaushambi)
Soren, Shri Sunil (Dumka)
Sreekandan, Shri V. K. (Palakkad)
Srinivas, Shri Kesineni (Vijayawada)
Subba, Shri Indra Hang (Sikkim)
Subbarayan, Shri K. (Tiruppur)
Sudhakaran , Shri K. (Kannur)

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

Tomar, Shri Narendra Singh (Morena)
Tripathi, Dr. Ramapati Ram (Deoria)
Tripura, Shri Rebatl (Tripura East)
Tudu, Er. Bishweswar (Mayurbhanj)
Tumane, Shri Krupal Balaji (Ramtek)
Udasi, Shri S. C. (Haveri)
Uikey, Shri Durga Das (Betul)
Ulaka, Shri Saptagiri Sankar (Koraput)
Unnithan, Shri Rajmohan (Kasaragod)
Vaithilingam, Shri Ve. (Puducherry)
Vallabhaneni, Shri Balashowry (Machilipatnam)
Vardhan, Dr. Harsh (Chandni Chowk)
Vasava , Shri Mansukhbhai Dhanjibhai (Bharuch)
Vasava, Shri Parbhubhai Nagarbhai (Bardoli)
Veerawamy, Dr. Kalanidhi (Chennai North)
Velusamy, Shri P. (Dindigul)
Venkatesan, Shri S. (Madurai)
Verma, Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh (Jalaun)
Verma, Shri Parvesh Sahib Singh (West Delhi)
Verma, Shri Rajesh (Sitapur)
Verma, Shri Ramshiromani (Shrawasti)
Verma, Shrimati Rekha Arun (Dhaurahra)
Vichare, Shri Rajan Baburao (Thane)

Vijaykumar *alias* Vijay Vasanth , Shri (Kanyakumari)

Vikhe Patil, Dr. Sujay (Ahmednagar)

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

Yadav, Shri Ashok Kumar (Madhubani)

Yadav, Shrimati Dimple (Mainpuri)

Yadav, Shri Dinesh Chandra (Madhepura)

Yadav 'Nirahua', Shri Dinesh Lal (Azamgarh)

Yadav, Shri Giridhari (Banka)

Yadav, Shri Krishnapalsingh (Guna)

Yadav, Shri Ram Kripal (Patliputra)

Yadav, Shri Shyam Singh (Jaunpur)

Yeptomi, Shri Tokheho (Nagaland)

OFFICERS OF LOK SABHA

THE SPEAKER

Shri Om Birla

PANEL OF CHAIRPERSONS

Shrimati Rama Devi

Dr. (Prof.) Kirit Premjibhai Solanki

Shri Rajendra Agrawal

Shri Kodikunnil Suresh

Shri A. Raja

Shri P.V. Midhun Reddy

Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab

Shri N.K. Premachandran

Dr. Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar

SECRETARY GENERAL

Shri Utpal Kumar Singh

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**CABINET MINISTERS**

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

Shrimati Smriti Zubin Irani	The Minister of Women and Child Development and Minister of Minority Affairs
Shri Piyush Goyal	The Minister of Commerce and Industry; Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Minister of Textiles
Shri Dharmendra Pradhan	The Minister of Education and Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
Shri Pralhad Joshi	The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs; Minister of Coal and Minister of Mines
Shri Narayan Rane	The Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
Shri Sarbananda Sonowal	The Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways and Minister of AYUSH
Dr. Virendra Kumar	The Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment
Shri Giriraj Singh	The Minister of Rural Development and Minister of Panchayati Raj
Shri Jyoraditya M. Scindia	The Minister of Civil Aviation and Minister of Steel

Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw	The Minister of Railways; Minister of Communications and Minister of Electronics and Information Technology
Shri Pashupati Kumar Paras	The Minister of Food Processing Industries
Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat	The Minister of Jal Shakti
Shri Kiren Rijju	The Minister of Earth Sciences
Shri R. K. Singh	The Minister of Power and Minister of New and Renewable Energy
Shri Hardeep Singh Puri	The Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs
Shri Mansukh Mandaviya	The Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers
Shri Bhupender Yadav	The Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Minister of Labour and Employment
Dr. Mahendra Nath Pandey	The Minister of Heavy Industries

Shri Parshottam Rupala

The Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying

Shri G. Kishan Reddy

The Minister of Culture; Minister of Tourism and Minister of Development of North Eastern Region

Shri Anurag Singh Thakur

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting and Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports

MINISTERS OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

Rao Inderjit Singh

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

Dr. Jitendra Singh

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

Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Law and Justice; Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Ministry of Culture

MINISTERS OF STATE

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

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

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

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

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

Shri Nisith Pramanik

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

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Vol. XXV First day of the Twelfth Session of the Seventeenth Lok Sabha No. 1

LOK SABHA

Thursday, July 20, 2023/ Ashadha 29, 1945 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[HON. SPEAKER*in the Chair*]

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The National Anthem was played

11.01hrs

MEMBER SWORN

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: The names of the newly elected Members will now be called by the Secretary General for the purpose of making and subscribing oath/affirmation.

SECRETARY GENERAL: Punjab – Shri Sushil Kumar Rinku.

Punjab

Shri Sushil Kumar Rinku (Jalandhar) - Oath - Punjabi

11.02 hrs

OBITUARY REFERENCES

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, with profound grief, I have to inform the House about the passing away of two of our colleagues, Shri Rattan Lal Kataria and Shri Balubhau alias Suresh Narayan Dhanorkar and eleven former members

Shri Rattan Lal Kataria was a sitting Member of Lok Sabha representing the Ambala Parliamentary Constituency of Haryana. Prior this he was also a Member of the 13th and 16th Lok Sabha.

Shri Rattan Lal Kataria was Union Minister of State for Jal Shakti and Social Justice and Empowerment during the current term of this Lok Sabha.

Shri Kataria was a Member of the Committee on Defence, Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions, Committee on Finance, Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Committee on Energy, Committee on Subordinate Legislation and Privileges Committee.

Earlier, he had also served as a Member of the Haryana Legislative Assembly.

Shri Rattan Lal Kataria passed away on 18th May 2023 in Chandigarh at the age of 71. He will always be remembered for his dedicated public service and his continuous endeavors to ensure social justice.

Shri Balubhau alias Suresh Narayan Dhanorkar was a sitting Member of Lok Sabha representing the Chandrapur Parliamentary Constituency of Maharashtra.

Shri Dhanorkar was a Member of the Committee on Coal, Mines and Steel.

Earlier, he was also a Member of Maharashtra Legislative Assembly. Shri Dhanorkar used to work with total commitment for the welfare of all the sections of society particularly that of the deprived sections of society.

Shri Balubhau alias Suresh Narayan Dhanorkar passed away on 30th May, 2023 in Gurugram, Haryana at the age of 48.

Shri Parkash Singh Badal ji was a Member of the 6th Lok Sabha representing the Faridkot Parliamentary Constituency of Punjab.

Shri Badal had also served as Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation.

Shri Parkash Singh Badal was the Chief Minister of Punjab for five terms. He was a Member of the Punjab Legislative Assembly for 11 terms. He also served as the Leader of the Opposition Party in the Punjab Legislative Assembly for 3 terms.

In recognition of his exemplary contribution towards the service of the nation, Shri Badal was conferred with India's second highest civilian award, Padma Vibhushan in 2015. He was a popular politician who made immense contribution in the prosperity and development of Punjab and the entire nation. Throughout his life he was engaged in safeguarding the interests of the farmers. Shri Parkash Singh Badal passed away on 25th April, 2023 in Mohali at the age of 95 .

Shri Ranjit Singh was a Member of the 7th Lok Sabha representing Chatra parliamentary constituency of undivided state of Bihar.

He passed away on 24th March, 2023 in Gurugram at the age of 80 .

Shri Sujan Singh Bundela was a Member of the 8th and 13th Lok Sabha representing Jhansi parliamentary constituency of Uttar Pradesh. Shri Bundela was a Member of the Committee on Food, Civil Supplies and Public Distribution.

He had also served as a Member of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly. Shri Sujan Singh Bundela passed away on 30th March, 2023 in Lalitpur, Uttar Pradesh at the age of 76.

Shri Sandipan Thorat was a Member of the 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th Lok Sabha representing Pandharpur parliamentary constituency of Maharashtra.

Shri Thorat was a Member of Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Public Accounts Committee (PAC), Committee on Office of Profit, Committee on Labour, Committee on Energy and Committee on Finance.

Shri Sandipan Thorat passed away on 31st March, 2023 in Solapur at the age of 90.

Dr. Viswanatham Kanithi was a Member of the 9th and 10th Lok Sabha from Srikakulam Parliamentary Constituency of Andhra Pradesh.

Dr. Kanithi was a Member of the Committee on Estimates and the Committee on Human Resource Development.

Dr. Viswanadham Kainithi passed away on 15th April, 2023 in Srikakulam at the age of 90 .

Shri Ateeq Ahmad was a Member of the 14th Lok Sabha representing Phulpur Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh. Shri Ahmad was a Member of the Committee on Railways.

Earlier, he had also served as a Member of Legislative Assembly of Uttar Pradesh.

Shri Atiq Ahmad passed away on 15th April, 2023 in Prayagraj at the age of 60 .

Shri Trilochan Kanungo was a Member of the 13th Lok Sabha representing Jagatsinghpur Parliamentary Constituency in Odisha.

Shri Kanungo was a Member of the Committee on Human Resource Development and the Committee on Energy.

He had earlier served as Member of Odisha Legislative Assembly.

Shri Trilochan Kanungo passed away on 21st April, 2023 in Bhubaneswar at the age of 82 .

Shri Ilyas Azmi was a Member of the 11th and 14th Lok Sabhas representing the erstwhile Shahabad Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh. Shri Ilyas Azmi was a Member of the Committee on MPLADS, Committee on Home Affairs, Committee on Defence and Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament. Shri Ilyas Azmi passed away on 4th June, 2023 in New Delhi at the age of 88 .

Shri Anadi Charan Das was a Member of the 5th, 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th Lok Sabha representing Jajpur parliamentary constituency of Odisha. Shri Das had served as the Chairman of the Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and was also a Member of various parliamentary committees. Shri Anadi Charan Das passed away on 16 June, 2023 in Bhubaneswar at the age of 88 years.

Shri Nihal Singh was a Member of the 7th and 8th Lok Sabha representing Agra parliamentary constituency of Uttar Pradesh. He was a Member of the Committee on Public Undertakings and Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House. Shri Nihal Singh passed away on 20th June, 2023 in Agra at the age of 83.

Shri Raj Karan Singh was a Member of the 8th Lok Sabha representing Sultanpur parliamentary constituency of Uttar Pradesh. He was a Member of the

Committee on Papers Laid on the Table. Shri Raj Karan Singh passed away on 25th June, 2023 in Amethi at the age of 87.

The House deeply mourns the loss of our colleagues, Shri Rattan Lal Kataria and Shri Balubhau alias Suresh Narayan Dhanorkar and our former colleagues and joins me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

Now, the House will remain silent for some time in respect of the departed souls.

11.10 hrs

The Members then stood in silence for short while.

HON. SPEAKER: Om Shanti: Shanti: Shanti:.

***WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

Starred Question Nos. 1 to 20

Unstarred Question Nos. 1 to 230

*** For Questions, please refer to Master copy of English version, placed in Library.**

You can also visit <https://sansad.in/ls/questions/questions-and-answers> for more information.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: The House is adjourned till 2 P.M.

11.12 hrs

[English]

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen of the Clock.

14.00 hrs

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

(Dr. (Prof.) Kirit Premjibhai Solanki *in the Chair*)

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, we have received notices of Adjournment Motion on certain matters. Hon. Speaker has not allowed any notice of Adjournment Motion.

... *(Interruptions)*

14.01 hrs**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

Hon. Chairman: Now, the papers to be laid on the Table of the House.

Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal ji.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): Hon. Chairperson, I lay on the Table a copy of the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Ordinance, 2023 (No. 1 of 2023) (Hindi and English versions) promulgated by the President on 19th May, 2023 under article 123(2)(a) of the Constitution.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9623/17/23]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (GEN. (RETD.) DR. V. K. SINGH): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table: -

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of Section 212 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988:-

- (i) The Central Motor Vehicles (Nineteenth Amendment) Rules, 2022 published in Notification No. G.S.R.844(E) in Gazette of India dated 23rd November, 2022.
- (ii) The Central Motor Vehicles (Twentieth Amendment) Rules, 2022 published in Notification No. G.S.R.850(E) in Gazette of India dated 25th November, 2022.
- (iii) The Central Motor Vehicles (Twenty-first Amendment) Rules, 2022 published in Notification No. G.S.R.858(E) in Gazette of India dated 30th November, 2022.
- (iv) The Central Motor Vehicles (Twenty-second Amendment) Rules, 2022 published in Notification No. G.S.R.863(E) in Gazette of India dated 2nd December, 2022.
- (v) The Central Motor Vehicles (Twenty-third Amendment) Rules, 2022 published in Notification No. G.S.R.879(E) in Gazette of India dated 14th December, 2022.

- (vi) The Central Motor Vehicles (Twenty-fourth Amendment) Rules, 2022 published in Notification No. G.S.R.885(E) in Gazette of India dated 16th December, 2022.
- (vii) The Central Motor Vehicles (Twenty-fifth Amendment) Rules, 2022 published in Notification No. G.S.R.888(E) in Gazette of India dated 19th December, 2022.
- (viii) The Central Motor Vehicles (Twenty-sixth Amendment) Rules, 2022 published in Notification No. G.S.R.901(E) in Gazette of India dated 26th December, 2022.
- (ix) The Central Motor Vehicles (First Amendment) Rules, 2023 published in Notification No. G.S.R.29(E) in Gazette of India dated 17th January, 2023.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9624/17/23]

- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section 1(b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:-
- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2021-2022.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2021-

2022, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9625/17/23]

14.01½ hrs

[English]

At this stage, Shri K. Navaskani, Sushri S. Jothimani, Adv. A. M. Ariff and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

[Translation]

... (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES (SHRI

KRISHAN PAL): Hon. Chairperson, I lay the following papers on the Table:-

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of Section 59 of the Energy Conservation Act, 2001 :-

(i) The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (Particulars and Manner of their Display on Labels of Deep Freezers) Regulations, 2023 published in Notification No. BEE/S&L/Deep Freezer/128/2022-23. in Gazette of India dated 31st January, 2023.

- (ii) S.O.482(E) published in Gazette of India dated 2nd February, 2023 notifying the deep freezers and direct display of particulars on label of deep freezer.
- (iii) S.O.481(E) published in Gazette of India dated 2nd February, 2023 notifying the energy consumption standards for deep freezers.
- (iv) The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (Particulars and Manner of their Display on Labels of Light Commercial Air Conditioners) Regulations, 2023 published in Notification No. BEE/S&L/LCAC/37/2022-23 in Gazette of India dated 27th February, 2023.
- (v) S.O.1022(E) published in Gazette of India dated 2nd March, 2023 notifying the energy consumption standards for light commercial air conditioners.
- (vi) S.O.1023(E) published in Gazette of India dated 2nd March, 2023 specifying the Light Commercial Air Conditioner and display of particulars on labels of LCAC.
- (vii) The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (Particulars and Manner of their Display on Labels of Ultra-High Definition Televisions) Regulations, 2023 published in Notification No. BEE/S&L/UHD/02/2022-23 in Gazette of India dated 3rd March, 2023

- (viii) S.O.1221(E) published in Gazette of India dated 14th March, 2023 notifying the energy consumption standards for Ultra-High Definition Televisions.
- (ix) S.O.1222(E) published in Gazette of India dated 14th March, 2023 specifying the Ultra-High Definition Televisions and display of labels on Ultra-High Definition Televisions notified by the Government.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9626/17/23]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 182 of the Electricity Act, 2003:-

- (i) The JERC for UT of J&K and UT of Ladakh (Adoption of various Regulations of JERC for the state of Goa and UTs) Regulations, 2021 published in Notification No. JERC-JKL/Tech-13/2021 in Gazette of India dated 4th August, 2021.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT /17/23]

- (ii) The Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for Union Territories Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh (Renewable Purchase Obligation, its Compliance and REC framework Implementation) Regulations, 2022 published in Notification No. JERC-JKL/REG/2022/01 in Gazette of India dated 7th July, 2022.

- (iii) The Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh (Constitution of Advisory Committee for UT of J&K and UT of Ladakh) Regulations, 2022 published in Notification No. JERCJKL/REG/2022/02 in Gazette of India dated 2nd August, 2022.
- (iv) The Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2022 published in Notification No. JERC-JKL/REG/2022/03 in Gazette of India dated 2nd August, 2022.
- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9627/17/23]

- (4) A copy of the Bhakra Beas Management Board (Amendment) Rules, 2023 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R.94(E) in Gazette of India dated 13th February, 2023, under sub-section (3) of Section 97 of the Punjab Re-organisation Act, 1966.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9628/17/23]

... (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA): Hon.

Chairperson, I lay the following papers on the Table: -

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

(i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the National Small Industries Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2021-2022.

(ii) Annual Report of the National Small Industries Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2021-2022, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9629/17/23]

(3) A copy of the Notification No. S.O.1296(E) (Hindi and English Versions) published in Gazette of India dated 20th March, 2023 notifying that the certificate issued on the Udyam Assist Platform to Informal Micro Enterprises

shall be treated at par with Udyam Registration Certificate for the purpose of availing Priority Sector lending benefits under sub-section (3) of Section 29 of the Micro, Small Enterprises Development Act, 2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9630/17/23]

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item no. 8; Shri Rameshwar Teli ji.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal ji.

... (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): Hon. Chairperson, on behalf of Shri Rameshwar Teli, I lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Engineers India Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2022-23.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9630A/17/23]

... (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI KAUSHAL KISHORE): Hon. Chairperson, I lay the following papers on the Table :-

- (1) A copy of the Delhi Development Authority (Management

and Disposal of Housing Estates) Amendment Regulations, 2022(Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O.753(E) in Gazette of India dated 17th February, 2023, together with a corrigendum thereto (in Hindi version only) published in Notification No. S.O. 1045(E) dated 3rd March, 2023, under Section 57 of the Delhi Development Act, 1957

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9631/17/23]

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

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of Hindustan Prefab Limited, New Delhi for the year 2021-2022.
- (ii) Annual Report of Hindustan Prefab Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2021-2022, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9632/17/23]

(4) A copy of the Delhi Urban Art Commission (Terms and Conditions of Service) Rules, 2023 (Hindi and English

versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R.50(E) in Gazette of India dated 6th May, 2023, under sub-section (3) of Section 26 of the Delhi Urban Art Commission Act, 1973.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9633/17/23]

- (5) A copy of the Delhi Development Authority (Amalgamation charges for Integrated Schemes for Commercial Centers) Regulation, 2023 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. F.5(9)2019/AO(P)/DDA in Gazette of India dated 29th May, 2023, under Section 58 of the Delhi Development Act, 1957.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9634/17/23]

... (*Interruptions*)

14.03 hrs

**JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE FOREST (CONSERVATION) AMENDMENT
BILL, 2023**

(i) Report

SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL (MEERUT): Hon. Chairperson, I present the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Joint Committee on the Forest (Conservation) Amendment Bill, 2023.

... (*Interruptions*)

(ii) Record of Evidence

SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL (MEERUT): Respected Chairperson, I lay on the Table the Record of Evidence of the Joint Committee on the Forest (Conservation) Amendment Bill, 2023.

(*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I request all of you to go back to your respective seats. You are senior Members, please go back to your seats.

... (*Interruptions*)

14.04 hrs

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The hon. Members who have been granted permission to raise matters under Rule 377 today, may lay the approved text of their matters on the Table within 20 minutes.

... (Interruptions)

(i) Need to expedite construction of various irrigation projects in Chatra Parliamentary Constituency

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH (CHATRA): There is a great need for development of water resources in the state to bring arable land of Jharkhand state at par with the national average. Despite the fact that several rivers flow through Jharkhand, scarcity of water for irrigation remains a challenge for the state, primarily due to the inadequate development of water resources here. Several irrigation projects are pending in my constituency, some of which I am mentioning here:

North Koel Reservoir Project - This scheme was approved by the Union Cabinet in August 2017 for completion within 3 financial years. The proposal for a special package for installing gates at Mandal Dam was under consideration. It should be given approval. Information regarding the nature of the plan and the time required for the completion of remaining tasks should be provided.

*Treated as laid on the Table.

The Ramghat Irrigation Scheme and Malay Reservoir Scheme were targeted to be completed by March 2022. The status of these projects should be appraised. Efforts should be made to provide irrigation facilities through these projects.

The detailed project report of important irrigation projects like Amanat Barrage Project, Golai Irrigation Project, Dulki Irrigation Project, Chako Irrigation Project, Piri and Sonare Irrigation Project and Ghaghari Irrigation Project has been under preparation for many years. Concrete action should be taken to complete these projects.

Apart from these projects, many other important and useful irrigation projects including Auranga Reservoir Project, Garhi, Muhane and Malay, Anjanwa Malay, Tahle, Kadvan, Nakti nala, Ghaghari have remained pending and become damaged. Since repair work has not been done these projects have become non-functional. Farmers are not getting water for irrigation. This year, Chatra Lok Sabha has received less than normal rainfall so far. Therefore, efforts should be made to improve irrigation facilities and ensure availability of water for farmers.

(ii)Regarding setting up of National Tribal Museum in Odisha

[English]

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO (BOLANGIR): Odisha is home to as many as 62 tribes including 13 particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups. In terms of percentage, they constitute 24 per cent of the total population of the State. These tribes form the soul of the State. Odisha is proud of the cultural diversity brought over by them. It is imperative that we preserve, promote and educate the public about their rich culture, tradition and legacy. The tribal communities embody the sustainable practices that we all must strive to meet. The rich diversity of tribal culture in Odisha makes it a perfect place to showcase the tradition and heritage of the tribes present in the country. I request the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to set up the National Tribal Museum in Odisha. It will help the current and future generations to understand the tribal art and culture.

(iii) Regarding construction of airport in Malda district, West Bengal

[Translation]

SHRI KHAGEN MURMU (MALDAHA NORTH): I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the construction of the airport in my district Maldaha. Maldaha is an important city in West Bengal. The city has offices of the Union Government, Railway Division, BSF Camp, Two Kendriya Vidyalayas and NTPC power grid besides other commercial activities. The biggest issue for the residents here is air connectivity. The nearest airports are Bagdogra and Kolkata. The distance from Maldaha to Bagdogra is 250 km and Kolkata is 350 km. There are very few areas in the country where airports are located at such a distance from any city. Therefore, it is absolutely necessary for medical emergency services as well. Therefore, in these circumstances, the construction of an airport in Maldaha for air transportation services is necessary. I would like to suggest that renovation of old airport can also solve this problem. Therefore, I urge the hon. Minister to kindly add Maldaha to the air traffic map.

Thank you.

(iv) Regarding inclusion of Khetauri, Ghatwal – Ghatwars and others as Scheduled Tribes

[English]

DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY, (GODDA): I refer the matter raised under rule 377 regarding inclusion of Khetauri, Ghatwal - Ghatwars and others as Scheduled Tribes in Parliament and received a reply from Hon'ble Minister of Tribal Affairs. But amidst all of this, no development has taken place in this regard.

In this context, I want to place a piece of great historical record – a book titled: "The Little World of an Indian District Officer", written by R. Carstairs and published by Macmillan & Co., London in 1912. In this book, there is a detailed, historical record of the fact that the Santhal Parganas was created and named in 1855, and thus was the youngest of the Bengal districts. The writer provides a wonderful account and description of the Ghatwals (guardians of the passes) and the Khetowrie (Khetauri) and how at the time of the Permanent Settlement in 1790, every part of the territory was occupied. It details that at the time of the Permanent Settlement there was not a single Sonthal in the whole of this area. "Bhunyas, Khetowries, Hindoos, Mahomedans, Highlanders – yes, but Sonthals, no". It is a fact that when these findings were recorded and when the book in question was published, the dispensation of Scheduled Castes and Tribes did not exist in the context of what it means administratively today. Thus, the aborigines of the region are the ones who are deprived of their rightful status and claim to be recognized as Scheduled Tribes.

**(v) Regarding construction of Dhalbhumgarh Airport in Jamshedpur
Parliamentary Constituency**

[Translation]

SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO (JAMSHEDPUR): My parliamentary constituency Jamshedpur is known for the industry established there by the industrialist Tata. In addition, MSME sector has a strong presence in Adityapur. MSME and the automobile sector together account for approximately two thousand industries, both large and small, in the city. Additionally, mining is also a major sector in this area. Therefore, the Union Government had approved the construction of Dhalbhumgarh Airport here and the Airport Authority of India has also allocated about 100 crore rupees for this. After the approval of the said airport, the foundation stone was laid by the then Chief Minister of Jharkhand and former Minister of State in the Union Ministry of Civil Aviation in January 2019. But unfortunately, the work of the said airport has not yet started, due to non-issuance of NOC by the Forest Department. I had raised the aforementioned matter in the Lok Sabha on February 7th, 2023, under Rule 377, to which I received a response through a letter from the Hon'ble Minister of State for Civil Aviation Ministry, Government of India, dated February 28th, 2023. The letter states that the Environmental Appraisal Committee found that the proposed site falls in forest areas, the habitat of a large number of elephants, and this area is demarcated as "Elephant Corridor". In the meeting dated 25.9.2020, it was concluded that the proposed site is not suitable for the development of the airport, and the committee did not approve of the site selection. It was suggested that an alternative location for the project should be identified. The above

response left me deeply disappointed, because local residents say that they have never seen a single elephant in the area, so how does the question of an elephant corridor arise? Now, I am not aware of which selection committee it is or when they went for site inspection. Despite me being the sitting MP from the area, I was not informed about it at any time. It is known that during the Second World War in 1942, there was an airport at the same location. At that time, there used to be dense forest as well, but today, nothing of that sort exists. Previously, the CCF and three DFOs of the Forest Department had said in the presence of officials of the Airport Authority that there was no problem in this regard. There is a railway line at a distance of 100 metres and NH at 500 metres. Earlier also, the site was inspected at least 10 times by the Forest Department and Airport Authority officials and it was said that there are wild bamboo thickets that can be cleared. Therefore, I would like to request the Union Government to hold discussions with the State Government to expedite the process of obtaining forest land clearance and commence the construction of the Dhalbhumgarh Airport. This will not only benefit Jharkhand but also connect cities like Kharagpur, Midnapore, Jhargram, Purulia in West Bengal, and Baripada, Mayurbhanj, and Balasore in Odisha to Jamshedpur.

(vi) Regarding ban on foreign Apps

SHRI GOPAL SHETTY (MUMBAI NORTH): Over the past 9 years, terrorist infiltration from the neighboring borders of the country has been almost completely stopped. But, efforts need to be made to put a stop to the obscene content being made easily available to one and all through the internet and google which is undermining the Indian culture. The civilisation and culture of our country have survived for thousands of years, primarily due to our traditional practices and customs. It is undeniable that the google app is corrupting not only the children and society but also inculcating immoral values in the people of the country. It is more dangerous than terrorism for the country. Secondly, In today's digital age, the security of the country is not dependent solely on weapons, but data has an important role to play too. Nowadays, many countries are also using data as a weapon. Some countries have restricted the usage of apps developed in other countries to prevent breach of security and privacy. China is one of them. Therefore, I suggest in the interest of the country that the way China has prepared its own apps for Chinese citizens by banning many foreign apps like Google etc., in the same way, all foreign apps like Google etc. in our country, which are proving harmful for the younger generation and our security, should be banned and proactive steps should be taken for developing our own apps etc. for the citizens of the country.

(vii) Need for stringent laws to control road accidents in the country

SHRI RAMDAS TADAS (WARDHA): I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways towards a major accident that occurred near the village of Pimpal Khuta in Sindkhedraja, Buldhana district, Maharashtra, due to the negligence of a driver of Vidarbha Travels. In this accident, 25 passengers were killed, including 14 passengers and 02-year-old girl from Wardha district. This accident has left Maharashtra grief-stricken. The direct responsibility for this accident lies upon the driver of the vehicle as well as the owner of the Travel company. Action should be taken against both for this incident. To prevent recurrence of such accidents, it is essential for the Union Government to implement stringent provisions and to establish good driving schools across the country. The hon. Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways is requested to take the appropriate decisions in order to enforce stringent rules to reduce road accidents and to build good driving schools in the country.

(viii) Need to operationalise Raxaul airport in Bihar

DR. SANJAY JAISWAL (WEST CHAMPARAN): I want to draw the attention of the government towards the fact that the Raxaul Airport in East Champaran district of Bihar is not in a functional state. So far, there is no designated air service route to any city in the East and West Champaran districts of Bihar. It is noteworthy that the PM package for Bihar in 2015 also includes Rs 250 crore for the revival of Raxaul Airport, which is still pending due to an additional 121 acres of land required from the State Government for the development of the airport. Presently, due to non-operation of Raxaul Airport, many traders, exporters and industrialists from North and West Bihar are facing a lot of difficulties and are eagerly awaiting the revival of the 60-year-old airport, which will play an important role in reducing the distance between Patna, New Delhi and other big cities. I urge the government to make concrete efforts to expedite the opening of Raxaul Airport, considering its strategic importance in the current scenario.

(ix) Need to introduce services of Vande Bharat Train between Rajkot and Mumbai

SHRI MOHANBHAI KUNDARIYA (RAJKOT): I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Railways to the fact that a large number of people travel on a daily basis from Gujarat's Saurashtra region, especially from Rajkot to Mumbai. The Rajkot-Mumbai route is important for trade and tourism. Unfortunately, due to the scarcity of seats on trains originating from Rajkot, most passengers are unable to get seats. Therefore, it is very important to start the Vande Bharat train service between Rajkot and Mumbai as soon as possible. The Vande Bharat train service will provide an excellent travel experience, along with saving time and expenses for passengers, and facilitate faster exchange of goods. I request hon. Railway Minister for the prompt initiation of daily Vande Bharat train service from Rajkot to Mumbai for the convenience of the people of Saurashtra. Thank you.

(x) Regarding problems linked with storage, processing and sale of millets in Bundelkhand region

[English]

SHRI ANURAG SHARMA (JHANSI): Millets are considered to be the next superfood or Nutri-cereals of the world because of their high nutritional content. They are gluten-free, non-allergenic and good sources of proteins, carbohydrates, dietary fibre and essential amino acids. Millets have the potential to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) —mainly SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 12 (Sustainable Consumption and Production), and SDG 13 (Climate Action). The Bundelkhand region is among the highest producer of millets such as Kodon, Sawa, Kutaki, Ragi and Mandwa, but the farmers are facing problem of storage and further processing. Therefore, the demands are to develop market linkage solutions to strengthen the supply of inputs (HYV seeds etc.) and outputs (distribution, market access etc.) and develop infrastructure for small-scale decentralized processing that is affordable and easy to use for farmers.

(xi) Need to accord sanction for the Master Layout Plan of Leopard Rescue Centre at Ahmednagar, Maharashtra

DR. SUJAY VIKHE PATIL (AHMEDNAGAR): As on December 2020, there were approximately 12,852 leopards in India which have been declared as "vulnerable" by the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red Data List. Due to habitat fragmentation, leopards often wander into human settlements for food or shelter, leading to numerous incidents of conflicts. There have been increasing cases of leopard attacks and incidents of man-leopard conflict at times leading to death of the species. In order to curtail such incidents there is a need to provide long-term care for leopards injured by villagers or trapped in conflict situations. In order to achieve the goal of conservation of the Indian leopard population, a request has been made by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Maharashtra for establishing a Leopard Rescue Centre at Belwandi, Ta. Shrigonda, District Ahmednagar (Maharashtra). The establishment of this Leopard Rescue Centre will create awareness amongst the masses about wildlife conservation. The layout plan of the Centre along with all the necessary documents has been submitted and more than two months has elapsed, and still there has been no decision on the same. I request the Government to kindly intervene and accord sanction for the Master Layout Plan of the Leopard Rescue Centre at the earliest.

(xii) Need to establish Indian Agriculture Research Centre or Agriculture University in Ganganagar Parliamentary Constituency

[Translation]

SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHAUHAN (GANGANAGAR): My Parliamentary Constituency District Sriganganagar is a border area and is an agrarian district. It is known as the "Food Bowl" because crops such as wheat, mustard, barley, gram, cotton, and citrus fruits are grown here in large quantities. Despite such large scale cultivation in this border region of the country, it is unfortunate that no Indian Agricultural Research Center or Agricultural University has been established here so far, which is highly unfortunate for this agriculturally rich district. Under the leadership of Hon. Prime Minister, the Central Government is laying great emphasis on doubling farmers' income and employing new technology in the field of agriculture, so that the farmers can get the enhanced remunerative price for their crops. In this context, I request the Union Government to establish an Indian Agricultural Research Center or Agricultural University in my parliamentary constituency Shriganganagar. This would enable the farmers in this region to benefit from the latest agricultural research. Additionally, it would provide higher education in agriculture to the agricultural students in this area.

(xiii) Need to set up an Ethanol Plant in Maharajganj Parliamentary Constituency

SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL (MAHARAJGANJ): The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas is implementing a major scheme called the "Ethanol Blended Petrol Program" at a rapid pace with a view to making India self-reliant in petroleum and natural energy. To carry forward this work, large number of Ethanol plants are required to be set-up to step-up the production of Ethanol. Therefore, I request the government to establish a grain-based ethanol plant in my parliamentary constituency, Maharajganj, Bihar, in public interest. Ample raw material for ethanol production is available in my constituency as well as surrounding areas. Therefore, I urge the government to establish a grain-based ethanol plant in my parliamentary constituency, Maharajganj in Bihar, so that the farmers, youth, and entrepreneurs of my constituency can benefit from it.

**(xiv) Regarding road construction and maintenance work in Mannuthi –
Vadakkancheri**

[English]

SHRI T. N. PRATHAPAN (THRISSUR): It is widely alleged by the local people around and passengers travelling on NH - 544 that the construction of roads in NH - 544 Mannuthi- Vadakkancheri is highly unscientific and allegedly corrupted. Many roads and allied constructions are collapsed and have been washed away during the monsoon rains. The overpass in Vazhukkumpara showed huge cracks and the support wall has fallen. The transportation through this area became horrible and time consuming. There is only one lane among the four to six lanes of this NH which is in operation nowadays. The construction company that worked here be black listed and Government of India constitute a Central Vigilance Investigation in this matter. I would like to convey the emotion of the people who are using these roads and living around it. All toll plazas in the road may be closed down until all the maintenance works is completed and investigations are done. The road construction in Mannuthi- Vadakkancheri NH - 544 was started a decade ago and it is still going on and that too with repeated anomalies and problems.

(xv) Regarding ethnic strife and violence in Manipur

SHRI HIBI EDEN (ERNAKULAM): First of all, I am raising my voice to the unfortunate and disappointing fact that the conflict in Manipur could not be brought under control, even after two months and loss of countless lives. I had visited the places where this conflict has devastated and displaced many. On the basis of my experiences, I am requesting the Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs that, there needs investigations on the following grounds 1. Whether some groups are conspiring to take political advantage of the ongoing conflict between the two feuding tribes 2. The motive behind the attacks, particularly on a religious sect of both groups. 3. For unearthing the roots of conspiracy if any. The most stringent action must be initiated against the perpetrators of these attacks at the earliest. Immediate steps must be taken on matters such as relief and rehabilitation of the victims whose employment, livelihood, and dwellings were lost in the conflict. The Government must uphold its constitutional commitment to protect the religious minorities and Scheduled Tribes and all possible measures at restoring peace and order must be exercised by the Government so that Manipur does not become a hotbed of ethnic strife and violence.

(xvi) Regarding appointment of batch No. 109 of the course completed Act Apprentices of Andhra Pradesh in Railways

SHRI SRIDHAR KOTAGIRI (ELURU):It has come to light that there are a significant number of candidates who have completed their course and become eligible for appointment, pending on the grounds that they did not pass the NCVT before the cut-off date of 12/04/2019. These candidates, primarily belonging to batch number 109 of the course completed Act Apprentices, received their training in the South-Central Railway region, particularly in Andhra Pradesh. It is worth noting that most of these candidates completed their course by November 2018, and according to their National Apprentice Certificate conducted by NCVT, they passed the examination in 2019. As per para 12.2 of RRC CEN 01/2019, the cut-off date for the completion of apprenticeship is mentioned as 12/04/2019. However, the results for these candidates have not yet been declared. During the document verification process, all the candidates have submitted their NAC Certificates issued by NCVT. Considering the fact that their course was completed well before November 2018 and the examination was held in June 2019 because of General Elections but date mentioned in their certificate was April, 2019, it can be argued that the examination should be deemed to have taken place before the cut-off date of 12/04/2019. In light of this situation, I kindly request the authorities to consider these candidates eligible for appointment.

(xvii) Need to grant more time to footwear industry to adhere to new BIS norms and address the concerns of footwear manufacturers

[Translation]

SHRI ARVIND SAWANT (MUMBAI SOUTH): The footwear industry supports the government's initiative of "Make in India." But the people engaged in this business are concerned about a number of issues. Before the implementation of BIS, cluster-based footwear labs should be established for in-house testing of footwear. The government should provide subsidies for setting up such cluster-based footwear labs and issue a single license for all purposes. Even if the factory makes different types of shoes. The old stock manufactured before implementation of BIS norms should not be discarded and adequate time should be given to off-load it after holding discussions with the retail sector. All requirements under BIS should be fulfilled before starting shoe production, so that the quality of the shoes can be maintained at all times. There should be no audit for 3 years after its implementation. The test standards should be switched to follow SATRA standards. The testing cost of footwear should be very modest and cognizance, so that it is affordable for the smallest unit. Therefore, I request the government to take cognizance of these issues and resolve the problems.

(xviii) Regarding removal of encroachment on land earmarked for development of Sabeya airport in Gopalganj district, Bihar

DR. ALOK KUMAR SUMAN (GOPALGANJ): Sabeya Airport is situated in Hathua block of my parliamentary constituency Gopalganj. It is part of the defence estates of the Defence Ministry and has been included in the “UDAN” scheme. The Defence Estate Officer, Danapur, has identified 1011 encroachers on 338.66 acres of land who are using it for agricultural purposes and have made kutcha/pakka constructions thereon. Airline companies say that they will not participate in the bidding process until the encroachment is cleared. This has made it problematic for both the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Civil Aviation to make the airport operational. On June 21st, 2022, I was informed through a letter by the hon. Defence Minister that the details of the land have been provided to the Sub-Divisional Officer of Hathua by the Defence Estate Officer, Danapur. However, the Sub-Divisional Officer of Hathua states that the complete details regarding the relevant order and the land associated with the order have not yet been provided by the Defence Estate Officer, Danapur. On July 10 and 15, 2023, the Defence Estate Officer, Danapur, was invited by the District Magistrate of Gopalganj to participate in a meeting at the Settlement Office in Gopalganj to discuss and resolve all issues related to clearing the land of encroachments. The meeting was not attended by Defence Estate Officer, Danapur. As a result, the above points could not be discussed. This reflects an indifferent and negligent attitude. I urge hon. Defence Minister to direct the Defence Estate Officer, Danapur, to attend the meeting with the DM, Gopalganj

alongwith all the relevant documents and take concrete steps in collaboration with the district administration to remove encroachment, so that bidding process and operationalisation activity under the Udan scheme can be initiated.

(xix) Need to reform and revitalize State Finance Corporations (SFCs)

[English]

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Banks are raising high incidence of NPA under Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) in various forum. One of the reasons for such high NPA may be scaling down the project cost & not making full disbursement. In order to find out the reason of such high incidence, it is suggested that a study on NPA accounts may be undertaken through a 3rd party to arrive at the reason of such high incidence of NPA. Central Government is providing budgetary support to commercial Banks against their NPAs. I would like to know regarding any Plan of the Central Government to give any budgetary grant to SFCs against their NPAs. As the MSME sector in Odisha is totally affected due to continuous natural calamities and more particularly due to recent pandemic of COVID-19, NPA percentage is almost 100%. Union Government should come out with a plan to fund Odisha State Financial Cooperation (OSFC). Necessary steps need to be taken by the Union Government to revive and revitalize the State Finance Cooperation (SFCs), many of which are sick today incapacitating them to carry on their mandated role. Will the Central Government fund jointly with the State Government for revival/restructuring of SFCs? How can the SFCs run effectively unless and until low-cost fund on soft term in shape of refinance support is made available to the SFCs? Is there any plan and programme of the Central Government to provide low-cost fund to SFCs for rendering financial assistance to MSME Sector for growth and development of MSMEs in Odisha, there is any

urgent need that the Union Government should come out with a plan to reform and revitalize SFCs like Banking Sector Reform.

(xx) Regarding implementation of the Waqf Act, 1995 in Uttar Pradesh

KUNWAR DANISH ALI (AMROHA):I would like to bring to your attention the issue regarding the absence of notified rules under certain critical subjects of the Waqf Act of 1995. It should be noted that the Uttar Pradesh Government has not issued any notification through an Official Gazette to implement the provisions of the Waqf Act, 1995. These rules are outlined in various sections of the Act, particularly in Section 109(2) which encompasses 26 subjects and Sections 110(1) and 110(3) which also make references to some critical subjects. These rules are crucial for effectively executing the functions of the Act. The reasons for the delay in notifying these rules remain unclear. I strongly urge upon the Ministry of Minority Affairs to provide information regarding the number of rules that have been notified regarding the subjects mentioned in the aforementioned sections of the Act. Additionally, it is crucial to establish a proposed timeline for the operationalization of these rules through their publication in the Official Gazette. This step is necessary to ensure the smooth functioning of the Board in carrying out its duties.

(xxi) Regarding implementation of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in Satara Parliamentary Constituency

[Translation]

SHRI SRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL (SATARA): In my Satara Lok Sabha constituency २६(26) roads have been sanctioned under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. We were told that road construction work would be started two to three months after approval. I want to ask the Minister of Rural Development about the commencement date of road construction work and urge him to initiate the process for starting road construction work as soon as possible. The roads in my parliamentary constituency, for which approval has not been granted due to technical issues, should also be approved as soon as possible.

(xxii) Regarding problems faced by Tiruppur Hosiery Industry

[English]

SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN (TIRUPPUR): Tiruppur Hosiery Industry is faced with unprecedented problems. More than half of the companies are closed. Reasons for the severe collapse include demonetization, GST, unstable and spiralling cost, increased electricity charges, etc. Tiruppur is a major hosiery hub and it exports to all five continents. Tiruppur industry earns substantial foreign exchange. This industry is employment intensive. It provides employment to migrant workers from several states. Tiruppur's social economic condition suffers a severe setback due to closure of companies particularly thousands of MSMEs. I urge upon the Union Government to take immediate remedial measures to protect the hosiery industries of Tiruppur.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Pralhad Joshi ji.

... *(Interruptions)*

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; THE MINISTER OF COAL AND THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): Sir, in response to the

demand made by the Opposition about a discussion on Manipur, I want to make it clear on-record, and Hon. Rajnath Singh Ji, the Deputy Leader, has also clarified that we are ready for discussion on Manipur in both the Houses. ...

(Interruptions) Manipur is a sensitive matter, deeply connected to human sentiments. It is a very important issue. Therefore, we want to discuss it, and the Home Minister will give a detailed response thereafter.... *(Interruptions)*

Therefore, I request your cooperation in ensuring that the proceedings of the House run smoothly.... *(Interruptions)* People are watching.... *(Interruptions)*

There are many important Bills that need to be passed and there are also many matters that need to be discussed.... *(Interruptions)* We are ready to discuss the issue of Manipur.... *(Interruptions)* Let the hon. Speaker decide the date.... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, we are ready to discuss this, I want to clarify this.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, you all are senior Members. The government is open to discussion and the Parliamentary Affairs Minister has called for a discussion. You all start the discussion.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The House is adjourned till 11 A.M. on July 21, Friday, 2023.

... (Interruptions)

14.06 hrs

[English]

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, July 21, 2023/Ashadha 30, 1945 (Saka).

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