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Ashadha 31, 1943 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Sixth Session

(Seventeenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XII Contains Nos. 1 to 10)

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NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, July 22, 2021/ Ashadha 31, 1943 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[HON. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Question Hour.

Question No. 41, Shri Y.S. Avinash Reddy.

. . . (*Interruptions*)

[English]

11. 0 ½ hrs

At this stage, Shri Gurjeet Singh Aujla, Shri Gaurav Gogoi, Shri Kalyan Banerjee and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

. . . (*Interruptions*)

(Q.41)

[English]

SHRI Y. S. AVINASH REDDY : Sir, G.O. no. 107 dated 28th September, 2004 of erstwhile Andhra Pradesh states that the minimum drawdown level of Srisaillam Dam is at 854 ft. because only at 854 ft., water can be given to Rayalaseema Districts, Nellore District, Prakasam District, and also to Chennai but Telangana GENCO is producing power at the level of 800 ft.... *(Interruptions)* After the hon. Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh wrote to the Government of India, KRMB directed Telangana GENCO to stop the power generation. In spite of court's order, power generation is still continuing without maintaining water level in Srisaillam Dam thereby badly affecting the Rayalaseema Districts, Nellore District, Prakasam District and Chennai also... *(Interruptions)* Considering the above facts, will the Government of India and KRMB strictly enforce the order passed by the KRMB to stop untimely power generation by Telangana GENCO, to protect the farmers' interests and to protect the right to drinking water of the people of Andhra Pradesh and Chennai City?

[Translation]

SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT: Hon. Speaker Sir, I completely agree with the question that the Hon. Member has asked about the farmers of Rayalaseema, Andhra Pradesh.... *(Interruptions)* The KRMB (Krishna River

Management Board) is a regulatory body, as per the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, it was decided in the 9th meeting that power generation will be incidental to irrigation and drinking water requirement. Water will only be released from the dam when it is required for irrigation and drinking purposes....

(Interruptions)

I had received the letter of the Hon. Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, along with that, he had also written a letter to the Chairperson of KRMB.... *(Interruptions)*.

We have also given a written reply to the question in this context.... *(Interruptions)*.

We have repeatedly communicated through both KRMB and direct correspondence with the GENCO to stop power generation immediately. But instead of stopping, GENCO has answered that they are not stopping it right now, and that all three plants should operate in full swing.... *(Interruptions)*. We have once again written a letter to the Telangana Government that it should be stopped.... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI Y. S. AVINASH REDDY : In addition to this illegal and untimely drawal of water, Telangana Government is constructing Palamuru-Ranga Reddy Lift Irrigation Scheme without taking any permission from CWC or KRMB and without getting environmental clearance... *(Interruptions)* In disguise of drinking water project, they are constructing massive lift irrigation project which will pump 90 tmc of water every year at the level of 800 ft. from Srisaillam Dam through power

generation from left bank, Palamuru-Ranga Reddy Lift Irrigation Scheme, Kalwakurthy Lift Irrigation Scheme, Dindi and SLBC Tunnel Scheme. The Telangana Government will be able to draw or consume 8 tmc of water per day at the level of 800 ft. from Srisaïlam Dam. If Palamuru-Ranga Reddy Lift Irrigation Scheme is completed, then the ayacut of SRBC, Telugu Ganga Project, K C Canal, GNSS, HNSS, Veligonda and also the drinking water needs of the Andhra Pradesh and Chennai will be at a very high risk as the minimum level to give water to the A.P. projects is 854 ft. except for GNSS which is at 834 ft. Keeping in view of the severe loss that is going to be caused to the people of Andhra Pradesh and Chennai City... (*Interruptions*), will the Government of India take stern measures to stop Palamuru-Ranga Reddy Lift Irrigation Scheme?

[Translation]

SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT: Hon. Speaker Sir, to safeguard the interests of States situated in interstate basins, both the Constitution of India and the Interstate River Water Disputes Act have provisions. Accordingly, the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act also established the KRMB (Krishna River Management Board) and the GRMB (Godavari River Management Board) to protect the interests of both States, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, on projects built on the Krishna and Godavari rivers, respectively.... (*Interruptions*) However, its notification could not be issued until seven years.... (*Interruptions*) Both the

Boards try to discharge their duties. We are in constant touch with the State Governments in this regard.... *(Interruptions)*

We have recently notified the jurisdiction of both the boards to further streamline this arrangement.... *(Interruptions)* After the notification, the powers of the Board will further increase and we shall certainly be able to check such situations in the times to come.

Hon. Speaker Sir, this is unfortunate that there has been a tradition of undertaking such projects without permission of CWC and the Government of India in both the States and that practice is still being followed, which definitely serves as a tension between the two States.... *(Interruptions)*

HON.SPEAKER: Questions 48, 50 and 60 are being clubbed with Question 42.

Shri Basant Kumar Panda, Question No. 42

... *(Interruptions)*

(Q. 42, 48, 50 and 60)

SHRI BASANT KUMAR PANDA: Hon. Speaker Sir, I would like to thank the Hon. Minister of Jal Shakti that under the leadership of our Honorable Prime Minister, Rs. 3323.24 crore have been sanctioned this year for my State Odisha *(Interruptions)* I would like to make a request that the work related to supply of piped water in Nuapada district has been going on since very long, but at a very slow pace. This needs to be expedited. The work should also speed-up in Kalahandi district... *(Interruptions)* I would like to make a request to the Hon. Minister for directing the State Government to give priority to the aspirational district under piped water supply issue as it comes under aspirational district of Western districts of Odisha. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT: Hon. Speaker Sir, I wish to congratulate the Hon. Member for expressing gratitude to the Honorable Prime Minister for the successful implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission *(Interruptions)* Water is a State subject and the States in general have the right to ensure work as per their priority in their districts. We work together to carry forward these tasks keeping a constant vigil on all issues. As far as the discussion of the Hon. Member regarding Aspirational Districts is concerned, we have already initiated work to incorporate such districts with priority into the Jal Jeevan Mission *(Interruptions)* I am pleased to share with all of you and the nation that, comparing the pace at which we have

worked in aspirational districts, with the average pace of the entire country, much more connections have been provided in aspirational districts. And for those backward districts, which lagged behind in the race of development, we are committed to work to liberate mothers and sisters of their families from the curse of drudgery and from carrying water on head in the 75th year of our independence."... *(Interruptions)*

Hon. Chairperson: Shri Su. Thirunavukkarasar

... *(Interruptions)*

Hon. Speaker: Advocate Dean Kuriakos

... *(Interruptions)*

Hon. Speaker: Shri Nihal Chand Chauhan

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHAUHAN: Hon. Chairperson Sir, I would like to thank the Hon. Prime Minister of the country that under his leadership, the Hon. Minister of Jal Shakti has tried to take the stringent action on the industrial units polluting the rivers.... *(Interruptions)*

Through you, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the action taken report to penalize and guide industrial units to check the discharge of untreated water in the rivers has been submitted to the Central Government? ...

(Interruptions) Whether the CPCB and the Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB) will give Rajasthan the... *(Interruptions)*

HON SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I urge you again that this House is for discussions and dialogue.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, this House has its dignity. People have not sent you to exhibit placards and shout slogans in the House.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON SPEAKER: Hon. Members, you are supposed to raise the issues concerned with people, discuss and work towards getting them resolved through this House. I request you once again to go back to your seats.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I will give you enough time and opportunity on every issue, but now you please go back to your respective seats. This House is for discussion and questions. If placards are to be shown and slogans are to be shouted, then I would request you to please do the sloganeering outside the House.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, this is not appropriate. This is absolutely unfair. Please discuss and raise matters in the House. This is not fair to exhibit placards and shout slogans in the House. This House is yours. It is your responsibility to maintain the dignity of this House. If you do not maintain the dignity, the democracy would not be strengthened. Democracy would only be strong when there is discussion and dialogue in the Parliament.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON.SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I once again urge you all to go back to your seats. I am ready to get the issue discussed that you are shouting upon. Please go back and take your respective seats. Do you want to have discussion or to put up placards?

...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: The proceedings of the House are adjourned till 12 P.M.

11.11 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Twelve of the Clock.

¹* WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

(Starred Question Nos. 43 to 47, 49 and 51 to 59

Unstarred Question Nos.461 to 690)

(Page no.17-852)

*** 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..

12.00 hrs

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

(Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab *in the Chair*)

... (*Interruptions*)

12.0 ½ hrs

*At this stage, Shri Hibi Eden, Shri Kalyan Banerjee, Dr.T. Sumathy (A.)
Thamizhachi Thangapandian, and some other hon. Members
came and stood on the floor near the Table*

... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, hon. Speaker has received notices of Adjournment Motion, on different issues, from some Members. Hon. Speaker has disallowed all the notices of Adjournment Motion.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I would request all the hon. Members to go back to their seats. The Chair has repeatedly said that the Government is agreeing to respond to all the issues and is agreeable for deliberations.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Now, I would again request you to go back to your seats and allow the House to function.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; THE MINISTER OF COAL AND THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): Hon. Sir, I would like to say ... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please go back to your seats.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: We have repeatedly said that the Government is ready to discuss all the issues.... (*Interruptions*) I would also like to bring this into the notice whatever discussion that the Opposition sought about COVID has also been discussed upon in the Rajya Sabha, we are ready to discuss all here as well. ...
...(*Interruptions*) Please specify which issue you wish to discuss; we are ready to discuss it.... ...(*Interruptions*) In this case when we are repeatedly saying it is not appropriate to postpone the Question Hour.... ...(*Interruptions*) Question Hour is the right of the Members.(*Interruptions*) Question Hour is the right of the Members.(*Interruptions*)... [*English*] It is the right of the Members. In spite

of that *[Translation]* what you are doing is absolutely wrong.... ...*(Interruptions)*
[English] When the Government is ready for discussion, the Government is ready to respond, *[Translation]* It is inappropriate to disturb the entire environment like this*(Interruptions)* Once again I appeal *[English]* that the Government is ready for discussion. Kindly go back to your seats. You may tell the subject on which you want to have the discussion. This is what I would like to say on record....
(Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The Government has been repeatedly saying that it is agreeable for any subject to be discussed in the House. The Business Advisory Committee can finalise the subject and we can have discussion, as it happened in the other House. So, I would request all the hon. Members to go back to their seats and allow the House to function.

... *(Interruptions)*

12.03 hrs

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[Translation]

HON. Chairman: Now the papers will be laid on the table. Item No. 2.

Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal ji.

... *(Interruptions)*

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (SHRI ARJUN RAM**

MEGHWAL): Hon Sir, On behalf of Engineer Shri Bishweswar Tudu ji, I beg to lay the following papers on the Table of the House:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Brahmaputra Board, Guwahati, for the year 2019-2020, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Brahmaputra Board, Guwahati, for the year 2019-2020.
- (2) Statement showing reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above (Hindi and English versions)

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4356/17/21]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Mission for Clean Ganga, New Delhi, for the year 2019-2020.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Mission for Clean Ganga, New Delhi, for the year 2019-2020.
- (4) Statement showing reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4357/17/21]

12.03 ½ hrs**COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES****3rd to 8th Reports**

SHRI RAJESH VERMA (SITAPUR): Sir, I beg to present the following Reports^{2*} (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Welfare of Other Backward Classes:-

- (1) Third Report of the Committee (2019-20) on the Subject “Measures undertaken to secure representation of OBCs in employment and for their welfare in Coal India Ltd. (CIL), Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL) and South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL)” pertaining to the Ministry of Coal.
- (2). Fourth Report of the Committee (2019-20) on the Subject “Measures undertaken to secure representation of OBCs in employment in Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Limited (RCF)” pertaining to the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers.
- (3) Fifth Report of the Committee (2019-20) on the Subject “Measures undertaken to secure representation of OBCs in employment and for their welfare in

^{2*} These Reports were presented to Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha on 13.06.2020 and 25.07.2020 under Direction 71A of the Directions by the Speaker, Lok Sabha. The Speaker was pleased to order the printing, publication and circulation of the Reports under Rule 280 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

National Fertilizers Limited (NFL)” pertaining to the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers.

- (4) Sixth Report of the Committee (2019-20) on the Subject “to secure representation of OBCs in admissions in Ph. D and appointment of teachers in Delhi University” pertaining to the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education).
 - (5) Seventh Report of the Committee (2019-20) on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in their Twentieth Report (16th Lok Sabha) on “Measures undertaken to secure representation of OBCs in employment and their welfare in Central Public Works Department (CPWD) ” pertaining to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
 - (6) Eighth Report of the Committee (2019-20) on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Twenty-first Report (16th Lok Sabha) on “Rationalisation of Creamy Layer in Employment for OBCs in Services and Posts under the control of Government of India including Union Territories, PSUs etc.” pertaining to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
-

12.04 hrs**STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR****20th to 24th Reports**

SHRI BHOLA SINGH (BULANDSHAHAR): Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Labour (2020-21):-

- (1) Twentieth Report on “Functioning of National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT)”.
- (2) Twenty-first Report on Action taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations of the Committee contained in their 44th Report (16th Lok Sabha) on the Subject 'Safety, Security and Welfare of TV/Broadcasting/ Digital Entertainment/ Advertisement Industry Workers'.
- (3) Twenty-second Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations of the Committee contained in their 45th Report (16th Lok Sabha) on the Subject `Scheduled/Non-Scheduled/ Test Flying Air Operators/ Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) companies/Airport Operators - Safety, Social Security Measures and norms for their Workers/ Employees particularly in the context of those who are associated with flying the Aircraft in Civil Aviation Sector“ .

(4) Twenty-third Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations of the Committee contained in their 52nd Report (16th Lok Sabha) on the Subject 'Compliance with the prescribed provisions of deduction and deposit of PF, ESI and TDS (of Income Tax, etc.) by the Employers'.

(5) Twenty-fourth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations of the Committee contained in their 57th Report (16th Lok Sabha) on the Subject 'Guidelines, Monitoring, Rating and Regulatory System, Status of Investment in Bonds and such Instruments - [example of Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services(IL&FS)] by PF Funds, Pension Funds'.

12.04 ½ hrs

STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT, TOURISM AND CULTURE

292nd Report

SHRI SUNIL BABURAO MENDHE (BHANDARA-GONDIA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the 292nd Report (Hindi and English versions) on “The Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India (Amendment) Bill, 2021” of the Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture.

12.05 hrs**MOTION RE: 22nd REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF COAL AND

MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I beg to

move:

“That this House do agree with the Twenty-second Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on 20th July, 2021.”

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That this House do agree with the 22th Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on 20th July, 2021.”

The motion was adopted.

[English]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I once again request all the hon. Members to please clear the Well of the House.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please go back to your seats and allow the House to function.

Now, Bills to be introduced.

... (*Interruptions*)

12.06 hrs

GOVERNMENT BILLS- Introduced

(i) Inland Vessels Bill, 2021^{3*}

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Sarbananda Sonowal.

.... (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS AND MINISTER OF AYUSH (SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL): Respected Sir, I rise to move for leave to introduce a Bill to promote economical and safe transportation and trade through inland waters, to bring uniformity in application of law relating to inland waterways and navigation within the country, to provide for safety of navigation, protection of life and cargo, and prevention of pollution that may be caused by the use or navigation of inland vessels, to ensure transparency and accountability of

^{3*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 22.07.2021.

administration of inland water transportation, to strengthen procedures governing the inland vessels, their construction, survey, registration, manning, navigation and such other matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The Chair has received some notices opposing the introduction of the Bill. I call out their names.

Shri Kodikunnil Suresh

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Manish Tewari – Not present.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Hibi Eden – He is in the Well of the House.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri M.K. Raghavan

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: It seems that none of them is interested to oppose the Bill.

[Translation]

The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for uniformity in the implementation of the law relating to inland waterways and shipping within the country, protection of shipping, protection of life and cargo, and to provide for redressal of pollution which is caused by use or navigation of inland vessels, ensuring transparency and accountability of administration of inland water transport, inland vessels, their manufacture, survey, registration, personnel requirement, strengthening the processes governing shipping and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Minister, now you may introduce the Bill.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

12.08 hrs**(ii) Essential Defence Services Bill, 2021^{4*}**

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Now, I come to Item No. 8, the Essential Defence Services Bill, 2021.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (ADV. AJAY BHATT): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, with your permission, on behalf of the hon. Defence Minister, Shri Raj Nath Singh, I rise to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the maintenance of essential defence services so as to secure the security of nation and the life and property of public at large and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Motion moved:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the maintenance of essential defence services so as to secure the security of nation and the life and property of public at large and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

^{4*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 22.07.2021.

Some notices have been received opposing the introduction of the Bill. Shri Kodikunnil Suresh, do you have anything to say? Not present.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri N.K. Premachandran, do you have anything to say?

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): I strongly oppose the introduction of the Bill as it is a draconian legislation to cut down the democratic and legitimate rights of the workmen in the country.... (*Interruptions*)

Sir, the provision in the Bill is to prohibit the strike. The Essential Defence Services Bill is violating the fundamental right guaranteed in Article 19 of the Constitution of India. The sole intention of the Bill is to curtail the democratic rights of the defence civilian workers. ... (*Interruptions*)

Sir, the legitimate right of workers to strike is guaranteed in Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 and also in the latest Industrial Relations Code. The infringement of the legal right of the employees, that is, civilian defence employees, is a violation of all these rights as well as the provisions of the ILO Convention. ... (*Interruptions*)

The ILO Conventions have already stated that right to strike is the legitimate democratic right of the working class in the country. It is being unilaterally curtailed. The entire purpose of this legislation is to cut down the democratic right of the working class in India. Hence, I strongly oppose this Bill and I also appeal to the Chairman that this is not the way by which a Bill is introduced when the House is not in order. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Manish Tewari – not present.

Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Prof. Shri Saugata Roy. He is not there.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Gaurav Gogoi

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Dr. Shashi Tharoor

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Thomas Chazhikadan

... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Minister, do you want to give any reply?

... *(Interruptions)*

ADVOCATE AJAY BHATT: What Hon. Premchandran ji has said just now is all baseless *(Interruptions)* The Government has no intention of troubling or harassing anyone.... *(Interruptions)* Interests of all the employees, all the officials have been fully taken care of.... *(Interruptions)* Sir, all are protected. ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The Bill will be discussed on the floor of the House when it is taken up for consideration and passing.

[Translation]

The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the maintenance of essential defence services so as to secure the security of nation and the life and property of public at large and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

ADV. AJAY BHATT: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I would urge you once again, please go back to your seats and let the House function.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The House is adjourned till 2 P.M. today.

... (*Interruptions*)

12.10 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen of the Clock.

14.00 hrs

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

(Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab in the Chair)

... (Interruptions)

At this stage, Sushri Mahua Moitra, Kumari Ramya Haridas and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

... (Interruptions)

14.0½ hrs**STATEMENT RE : ESSENTIAL DEFENCE SERVICES ORDINANCE 2021^{5*}**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (ADV. AJAY BHATT): Sir, I, with your kind permission, on behalf of the *Raksha Mantri*, Shri Rajnath Singh, beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for immediate legislation by promulgation of the Essential Defence Services Ordinance, 2021 (No. 7 of 2021).

... (Interruptions)

^{5*} Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 4355/17/21.

14.01 hrs**MATTERS UNDER RULE 377^{6*}**

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, who have been permitted to raise matters under Rule 377 today may personally handover approved text of the matter at the Table immediately.

... (*Interruptions*)

(i) Regarding One District One Product Scheme

SHRI UNMESH BHAIYASAHEB PATIL (JALGAON): The One District One Product Scheme under PM-FME seeks to promote food processing. My constituency of Jalgaon was also selected under this scheme for promotion of banana processing and export. In addition to this, Horticulture Cluster Development Programme was launched in pilot phase and will be implemented in 12 clusters covering 11 States/UTs. These decisions by the Government have been appreciated by the farmers and young entrepreneurs since these will generate employment and empower them. Jalgaon also has large number of farmers who produce lemon apart from banana and hence in order to achieve better infrastructure for lemon processing, I request the Government to include lemon

^{6*} Treated as laid on the Table.

under the One District One Product scheme for Jalgaon and also expand the pilot phase of Cluster development programme to include my constituency of Jalgaon which is a pioneer in export of banana and other citrus fruits along with horticultural products.

(ii) Need to provide compensation to farmers who suffered loss due to damage to their crops caused by Nilgai in Palamu Parliamentary Constituency, Jharkhand

[Translation]

SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM (PALAMU): My Parliamentary Constituency Palamu consists of two districts Palamu and Garhwa respectively. It is known that the farmers' crops namely Pigeon peas (Tur), Maize, Oilseeds and vegetables in various blocks such as Vishrampur, Ketat, Pandu, Nava Bazar, Medininagar, Patan, Chhatarpur, Kandi, Majhiyaun including other blocks of the two districts have been extensively destroyed by the Nilgai. Due to severe damage caused to the crops, the farmers are reeling under heavy debt and this is happening every year. In view of the hardships faced by the farmers, a team should be constituted by the Ministry of Forest, Environment and Climate Change to assess the damage caused to the crops and provide compensation to the farmers so that their economic losses can be meted out to some extent.

Therefore, the Hon. Minister of Forest, Environment and Climate Change, Government of India is requested to provide compensation for the crops destroyed by Nilgai.

(iii) Regarding pre-poll alliance by political parties

SHRI GOPAL SHETTY (MUMBAI NORTH): In the country, various political parties form alliances before the elections and make promises/commitments to the general public during this period. However, after winning the elections, they sideline their pre-election alliances and form a Government with other political parties, with whom they had fierce competition during the elections. This is a blatant betrayal of the public trust. It has often been seen that the basic tendency of political parties in India has been to break the alliance in their private interest than to maintain it, which is a betrayal of the trust of general public.

In this regard, I would particularly like to cite the example of the State of Maharashtra where the BJP and Shiv Sena contested the assembly elections by forming an alliance. But the Shiv Sena broke alliance with the BJP after the elections and formed a coalition government with the Congress and the NCP, which were its fierce opponent parties during the elections. Similar examples of this kind have also come to light in other States of the country from time to time.

I, therefore, request in this regard that for the broader interest of the country, any political party forming alliances with other party before the elections should only be allowed to participate in the elections only after registering it with the Election Commission. Furthermore, after the elections, if any political party forms a

government by sidelining its pre-election alliances and forms alliance with other parties, they should be restricted, or their parties should be derecognized.

(iv)Need to develop tourist or pilgrimage sites in Satna district, Madhya Pradesh

SHRI GANESH SINGH (SATNA): Wetland Health Card, Wetland Mitra formation and Concentric Management Scheme have been covered under Namami Gange Programme in different districts of Madhya Pradesh. Under the National Wetland Conservation Programme, tourist and pilgrimage sites are to be developed on the wetland banks of Narmada river. I request that many wetlands have been identified in my Lok Sabha constituency Satna district, so tourist places or pilgrimages should be developed at riverside wetlands of Tamas Baraj Dam, Bansagar Dam, Govindgarh Pond, Mukundpur Pond, Vishnu Sagar, Dharma Sagar, Semrawal River, Tamas River, Mandakini River Banks in Chitrakoot and Maihar in District Satna

(v)Regarding quality of road construction work from Sandila to Mehandighat via Gausganj in Misrikh Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh

SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT (MISRIKH): In my Parliamentary Constituency, Mishrikh under Sitapur district (U.P.), construction of a road is being undertaken by the Public Works Department, extending from Sandila to Mehndighat via Gausganj, funded by the NABARD, where contractors are allegedly using substandard construction materials by colluding with the concerned engineers.

I myself have found during my parliamentary excursion that the Central funds are being misused by putting substandard quality material to use, bypassing the standards in construction of the said road, thereby tarnishing the image of the Government among the local public.

I, therefore, request that the construction work of the aforementioned road and the financial amount involved therein should be halted immediately and a high-level technical committee should be constituted at the central level to investigate and ensure appropriate departmental action against the guilty engineers and take necessary steps to prevent misuse of central funds.

(vi)Need to convert National Highway No. 19 passing through Aurangabad district in Bihar into six lane and also repair the river bridges which are part of the National Highway

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH (AURANGABAD): I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the pathetic condition of National Highway No. 19 passing through Aurangabad (Bihar). The condition of this National Highway connecting Delhi to Kolkata is extremely pathetic from Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh to the borders of Bihar and Jharkhand. There are large and perilous potholes in a significant section near Madanpur in Aurangabad of Bihar, causing daily traffic jams for hours together and here, accidents are a common thing. Due to heavy traffic on road, the work to convert this four-lane highway into a six-lane highway is underway but the progress of the work is slow and distressing. I myself have written letters to the relevant authorities a dozens of times, informing them about the situation, but no action has been taken. Besides, the condition of bridges over the Sone River, North Koel Canal, Sorhar and Morhar rivers in Dehri-on-Sone, Bihar on this National Highway is also in dilapidated condition.

I request that the bridges on the said rivers should be repaired immediately along with the conversion of the 4 lane highway into 6 lane highway.

(vii)Need to replenish ground water level in Jalore and Sirohi districts in Rajasthan

SHRI DEVJI PATEL (JALORE): Jalore and Sirohi districts are in dark zone and the groundwater level is continuously depleting. In 1966, discussions were held as per agreement signed between the Governments of States of Rajasthan and Gujarat regarding the Mahi Project to address the water crisis affecting the residents of Jalore. Subsequently, the Gujarat Government refused to share water, citing the State's own water requirement. It was discussed in the year 1988 for the last time. Afterwards, the then Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje had asked to conduct a survey, but with the change in Government, the matter got stuck. In this regard, a five-member team was formed in 2017, but since then, the matter has remained stalled.

In order to provide a permanent solution to the depleting groundwater levels in Jalore and Sirohi districts and to make the district lush green, there is a need to liven up the years old proposed plan for the Mahi Dam.

(viii) Need to provide adequate compensation to people affected by floods in Sheohar, Sitamarhi and East Champaran districts in Bihar

SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI (SHEOHAR): Everyone is well aware of the problem and horrors of floods that occur every year in North Bihar. Bihar is the most flood affected State in the country where a large part of it gets submerged in flood waters every year. Due to lack of effective flood control measures, lakhs of people are rendered homeless, crops are damaged and a large number of people lose their lives due to this disaster in Bihar. At the onset of the monsoon season, this year too, floods have wreaked havoc in my parliamentary constituency, including the districts of Sheohar, Sitamarhi, and East Champaran along with North Bihar. In my constituency, most of the agricultural land, fields and houses in the aforementioned three districts have been submerged, as a result, numerous people lost their lives. People are forced to live a nomadic life, but many blocks have not been declared flood-affected by the local administration. Due to this, the farmers and common people are being deprived of the relief measures being provided by the Government.

I, therefore, request the Government to provide appropriate relief/compensation to the people while assessing the disaster and damage caused by floods in Sheohar, Sitamarhi and East Champaran districts under my Parliamentary Constituency.

(ix) Need to expedite irrigation project for channelizing water of Telhar Kund to Jagdahwah dam in Kaimur Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (SASARAM): There is an urgent need to construct a dam near the villages of Padri-Panchkuian, located on the left and right banks of the Suwara River in the Kaimur district of Bihar to divert the water of Telhar Kund of the Adhaura block to Jagdahwa Dam. The only source of irrigation in this unirrigated and backward area is the Jagdahwa Dam. A number of correspondence have been made in this regard, in the light of which I have been apprised that consultant has been appointed for the construction of the dam. The consultancy firm SGE was supposed to prepare the Detailed Project Report (DPR) and submit it within three months. The process has been commenced with obtaining clearance from the Forest Department and approval from the Government of India. However, due to delays, farmers/people have started to feel disappointed. The sooner the irrigation facilities will be provided to areas impacted by years of drought, the earlier the farmers get relief.

It is, therefore, requested to direct the Ministry of Jal Shakti to implement the said irrigation project on priority basis and as soon as possible with special interest.

**(x) Need to accelerate the pace of development of Bilaspur city,
Chhattisgarh as a Smart City**

SHRI ARUN SAO (BILASPUR): A big thank you from the bottom of the heart from the people of Bilaspur to the Government of Hon. Narendra Modi ji which has decided to develop Bilaspur city as a smart city. But the State Government of Chhattisgarh is not serious about expediting work to make Bilaspur a smart city. Due to this, there is an inordinate delay in the implementation of this ambitious scheme.

Bilaspur is the second largest city of Chhattisgarh and it is the city of mythological and cultural importance, It is the city where the institutions like High Court of Chhattisgarh, Zonal Headquarters of Railways, Central University, Headquarters of SECL and NTPC are situated. Hence, I request the Government of India to expedite work to develop Bilaspur as a Smart City.

(xi) Need to re-categorise certain Panchayats under Jamshedpur Parliamentary Constituency, Jharkhand as Gram Panchayats

SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO (JAMSHEDPUR): Ghatsila Assembly Constituency under the Jamshedpur Parliamentary Constituency is a Scheduled Tribes(ST) seat. In the Ghatsila and Musabani blocks, there are 8 panchayats of Ghatsila namely Kashida, Ghatsila, Pavada, Dharam Bhal, Gopalpur, Northern Mau Bhandar, Eastern Mau Bhandar, Western Mau Bhandar and 8 panchayats of Musabani block namely Northern Ichda, Southern Ichda, Musabani East, Musabani West, Northern Badiya, Southern Badiya, Eastern Badiya, Western Badiya, where Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), extremely backward, and economically disadvantaged tribal populations resides in majority. Additionally, these regions are also affected by extremist activities. In the 2011 Census, these panchayats have been erroneously put into urban code despite that there is no municipal or notified area in its vicinity, yet for reasons unknown, such a large population has been deprived of the benefits of the schemes of the Government. The people there have been demanding for years that they should be allowed to remain in the Gram Panchayats as was in the past.

I, therefore, request the Hon. Home Minister Sir to remove all the above Panchayats from the Urban Code and let them remain in the Gram Panchayats

only, so that they may get the benefit of other Central schemes including Pradhan Mantri Gramin Awas Yojana being implemented in the villages.

(xii) Regarding resumption of train services on Karaikudi -Tiruvarur BG Section

[English]

SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR, (TIRUCHIRAPPALLI): The Karaikudi — Tiruvarur MG Section was taken up for BG conversion in 2012. After seven long years of completion, statutory clearances were accorded for operation in April 2019. Initially, DEMU train was operated on this route. Later, with the imposition of lockdown, the train service was suspended in March 2020 and not resumed yet.

The undue delay in resumption of train services in this Section has caused much disappointment and hardship to rail users particularly, the senior citizens, pregnant women, agriculturists and people residing in delta region. Despite crores of rupees were spent for laying this newline, it has remained completely unutilised due to non-deployment of gatekeepers in its 72 manned railway gates and other essential staff.

I shall, therefore, humbly urge upon the Hon'ble Minister of Railways to take immediate necessary action for early resumption of train services on Karaikudi — Aranthangi — Peravurani — Pattukottai — Thiruthurainoondi — Tiruvarur (150 kms.) BG Section.

(xiii) Need to provide adequate fertilizer to farmers in Chhattisgarh

[Translation]

SHRI DEEPAK BAIJ (Bastar): The demand for Chemical Fertilizer Urea, DAP, NPK and SSP for this year's Kharif crop for the farmers of the State was timely made by the Government of Chhattisgarh, but the Central Government has made available a very little supply of chemical fertilizer as against the demand made by the Government of Chhattisgarh. This is a matter of concern. Due to this, keeping in view the short supply of fertilizers made to farmers, the State Government at its level is making available organic fertilizers from its godowns to increase the crop production for the benefit of farmers. On the other hand, the Central Government is ignoring the interests of the farmers by neglecting the demand of the State of Chhattisgarh. I would like to request the Union Government to consider the demand of chemical fertilizers made by the Government of Chhattisgarh in the interest of the farmers and provide chemical fertilizers without any further delay.

(xiv) Regarding Mekedatu project

[English]

DR. T. SUMATHY (A) THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN (CHENNAI SOUTH):

The proposed Mekedatu project would impound and divert the first component of uncontrolled flows due to Tamil Nadu, i.e. the flows coming in river Cauvery from the uncontrolled catchment of Kabini sub-basin downstream of Kabini reservoir, the catchment of mainstream of Cauvery river below Krishnarajasahara, uncontrolled flows from Simsha, Arkavathy and Suvernavathy sub-basins and various other small streams. Therefore, the implementation of Mekedatu project would certainly affect the interests of Tamil Nadu's farming community.

While the drawl of water from the river for drinking water usage in Bengaluru Metropolitan City has been permitted by the Hon'ble Court, citing that as the reason for constructing such a major reservoir at Mekedatu, which is too far away from Bengaluru Metropolitan area does not sound valid. Further, when Karnataka already has adequate infrastructure for drawing drinking water to meet the demand of Bengaluru Metropolitan area even now, the justification of the need for a reservoir with a storage capacity of 67.16 TMC just to utilize 4.75TMC as drinking water is not at all acceptable. This would definitely jeopardize the availability of water to Tamil Nadu.

Therefore, I urge the Union Government to intervene in this crucial issue and instruct the Karnataka Government not to pursue the Mekedatu project.

(xv) Regarding reservation for women in Legislature

SHRIMATI APARUPA PODDAR (ARAMBAGH): Reservation for women in legislature is the need of hour and it is high time to implement 33% reservation for women. The issue was raised several times in the parliament. Despite making progressive comments, why is the government not ready to implement it? It sounds parochial.

The women reservation bill should be re-introduced in the house immediately. Progress of woman in a society will be measured by their participation in power system. Therefore, the Government of India must take deep interest in this matter. The Women reservation Bill in the house should be re-introduced as soon as possible.

(xvi)Regarding ban on single use plastic

SHRI SRIDHAR KOTAGIRI (ELURU): Our Hon'ble Prime Minister has announced a total ban on single use plastic. The Government is dragging its feet on implementation. A ban on plastic is good for domestic economy. Plastic as we all know is from fossil fuel which is 100% imported while the substitutes are paper, metal, glasses etc which are all available locally. This will help create local demand and decentralize economic activity like plastic wrappers for cigarette packets, packaging alcohol etc. Here plastic is used as cheap resource to preserve life of 10 or 20 cigarette while it sucks life out of people and planet.

Hence, I request the Government to start with ban on single use plastic for goods that contribute to ill health.

(xvii) Regarding price hike in respect of domestic gas, petrol and diesel

SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA VISWANATH (KAKINADA): The price of LPG (14.2 Kg) cylinder has been hiked by Rs.25.50 with effect from 1st July, 2021 and reached Rs.863.00 from Rs.837.50 in Kakinada Parliamentary Constituency and similar hike made with little variation across all over India. As per new prices, a 14.2 kg cylinder price has been raised by Rs.140 in the last six months. On the other side, the cost of Petrol per litre has been hiked from Rs.90.33 to Rs.107.19 whereas Diesel from Rs.83.15 to Rs.99.66 since last 6 months. Hike in prices of Gas, Petrol & Diesel is impacting hike of essential needs i.e., Vegetables, Provisions & Consumer goods directly & indirectly. This is over burdening the common man especially in the current pandemic Covid period. Hence, I request the Government to take suitable action for control of price hike in respect of domestic gas, petrol and diesel for the benefit of common man.

(xviii) Need to declare and develop Madhushrava in Arwal district in Bihar as a tourist place

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDESWAR PRASAD (JAHANABAD): Madhushrava is a historic and religious place in Kaler in Arwal district under my Parliamentary Constituency Jehanabad but tourism facilities have not been developed here. Madhushrava is Maharshi (sage) Chyavan's birth place and is the centre of historical and religious faith. It is said that Lord Ram also performed puja at Madhushrava temple on his way while going to Gaya for Pind- Daan. The importance of this place has also been depicted in the 'Puranas'. Out of the two Malmaas Fairs to be held at two places in Bihar, one is held here. In this fair, people from every corner of Bihar come and worship Lord Madheswar Nath by offering prayers and wish for their wellbeing.

There is immense potential for tourism development here but the initiatives required for development in this region have not been taken. At this sacred place, the Government has constructed only one or two buildings, which are inadequate. There are no proper toilets and drinking water facility. The situation in this area is worsening day by day.

Development of this place is extremely necessary considering its historical and religious significance. I would like to request the Government to declare Madhushrava as a tourist destination and develop all tourism facilities there.

(xix) Need to shift the MNC in Gajaraula, Uttar Pradesh which had poisonous gas leakage in June 2020, to a place far from human settlements

KUNWAR DANISH ALI (AMROHA): On the night of 8th June 2020, a poisonous gas leak occurred at the multinational company located in my Parliamentary Constituency Gajaraula, putting the lives of hundreds of people in danger. Such incidents are taking place here every other day.

A resident of the city had filed a petition in the NGT and after a year, on Wednesday, July 7th 2021, NGT has imposed a fine of Rs 10 crore on the company. However, where the troubled common people are supposed to go for their complaints? There is lack of requisite action by the State Government and local administration.

I would like to know what action has been taken by the Government in this matter? And I would urge that keeping in mind the importance of lives and health of the public, this company must be shifted away from the populated area.

کنور دانش علی (امروہہ): محترم چیرمین صاحب، میرے پارلیمانی حلقہ میں گجروہ میں موجود ملٹی نیشنل کمپنی میں 8 جون، 2020 کی رات میں زہریلی گیس

لیک ہوئی اور سیکڑوں لوگوں کی زندگی خطرے میں پڑ گئی۔ اس طرح کے حادثات یہاں آئے دن ہوتے رہتے ہیں۔

شہر کے ایک مقامی نے این-جی-ٹی۔ میں ایک یاچکا دائر کی تھی اور ایک سال کے بعد 7 جولائی 2021 کو این-جی-ٹی۔ نے اس کمپنی پر 10 کروڑ روپے کا جرمانہ لگایا ہے۔ لیکن عام جنتا جو پریشان ہے وہ شکایت لے کر کہاں جائے؟ ریاستی سرکار اور مقامی انتظامیہ کے ذریعہ اپیکشٹ کاروائی کا ابھاؤ ہے۔

میں آپ کے ذریعہ سے جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ سرکار نے اس معاملے میں کیا کاروائی کی ہے؟ اور میری مانگ ہے کہ عوام کی زندگی اور صحت کو دھیان میں رکھتے ہوئے اس کمپنی کو آبادی والے علاقے سے دور منتقل کیا جائے۔

(xx) Regarding privatization of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant

[English]

SHRI JAYADEV GALLA (GUNTUR): The unwavering approach of the Union Government to privatize RINL is opposed by 5 crore people of AP. We have been raising this issue since long and employees, workers, JAC of trade unions have been demanding that GOI desist from privatizing VSP. Even the State Legislative Assembly passed a Resolution on 20th May, 2021, opposing the decision of GOI to privatize VSP.

Selling away a company if it incurs losses is not panacea for any ills. Our approach has to be pragmatic, holistic, humane and every decision has to be taken keeping in mind the people who are directly and indirectly dependent on it. With firming of steel prices, RINL is doing better and also earned profits in the last financial year. In view of the above, I urge GOI to first withdraw tender issued and secondly give RINL one more opportunity to prove itself by providing it necessary coal linkages.

(xxi) Need to accord approval to the proposal for construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in Nagaur Parliamentary Constituency, Rajasthan

[Translation]

SHRI HANUMAN BENIWAL (NAGAUR): In pursuance of the proposals sent to the then Minister of Rural Development vide letter No. 452 dated 23/12/2020 under PMGSY-III for my Parliamentary Constituency Nagaur, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Rural Development for issuing administrative and financial approval to the 348.5 km of roads approved for Nagaur, Jayal, Mundwa, Didwana, Ladnu, Makrana, Parbatsar and Nava Blocks at the earliest. Even after continuous correspondence, the approval for the said roads of the geographically large Nagaur district is being kept unnecessarily pending, With the aforesaid approval, those parts of the rural regions will get connected which were to be asphalted and made accessible pathways for decades. Apart from Nagaur, the works of roads have almost been completed in all the Parliamentary constituencies of the State under the said Phase. In such circumstances, it is imperative that the issuance of approval for these roads be expedited so that the vision of connecting villages and hamlets with roads can be realized.

HON.CHAIRPERSON: I would request all of you to go back to your seats. If you want the reply, then please ask from there only.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please ask whatever questions you want to ask but first please go back to your seats and then you can ask your questions from there.

... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

HON.CHAIRPERSON: The House stands adjourned till four o'clock today.

14.02 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Sixteen of the Clock.

[English]

16.00 hrs

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

(Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab in the Chair)

... (Interruptions)

At this stage, Prof. Sougata Ray, Shri Hibi Eden and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Most of you are responsible Members of this House. I would request all of you to go back to your seats and allow the House to function. I am told that the Government is agreeable to have a structured discussion in the House on the subjects you want to discuss. Please allow the House to function. As responsible Members of this House, I would request all of you to go back to your seats and allow the House to function.

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The House stands adjourned till *Eleven of the Clock* on Friday, the 23th July, 2021.

16.01 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, July 23, 2021/Sravana 1, 1943 (Saka).

INTERNET

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<https://sansad.in/ls>

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