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Thursday, July 21, 2022 Ashadha 30, 1944 (Saka)

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(English Version)

Ninth Session
(Seventeenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XIX contains Nos.1 to 10)

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, July 21, 2022/Ashadha 30, 1944 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[HON. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Question No. 61 - Shrimati Poonam Mahajan.

... (Interruptions)

11.02 hrs

At this stage Shri B. Manickam Tagore, Dr. Thol. Thirumaavalavan, Dr. T. Sumathi (A)Thamizhachi Thangapandian, Shri Hibi Eden and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: After Question Hour.

... (Interruptions)

(Q.61)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN: Thank you, Speaker Sir.

Sir, what I have understood from the answer given by the hon. Minister. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: After the Question Hour.

... (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN: In the year 2021, the hon. Prime Minister has told that in the coming years how can we not depend ourselves on fossil fuels. (*Interruptions*) We have already shifted 40 percent of our energy demand to nonfossil fuel 09 years ahead and have also started to explore alternative energy.

consumption to energies other than fossil fuels even before nine years of the target. ... (Interruptions)

It is a notable achievement, but my question was about schools. ... (Interruptions)

I would like to know from the Minister do we have such an integrated policy for the whole country, as his answer is confined to Maharashtra only? (Interruptions)

He told that it can be done through the District Planning Committee, or with the MP-MLA funds. But, we have a lot of things to do. ... (Interruptions) Can we make such an integrated policy whereby we could provide clean energy to every school across the country? ...(Interruptions)

I come from Mumbai. We have electricity available all the time, but if we look at the areas in the villages and mountains, the small schools there do not have electricity. ... (Interruptions) I have experienced it in Rajkot, in Jind. ... (Interruptions) There are areas where district administration itself works to get the solar panels installed. ... (Interruptions) Can we tie-up with the Education Ministry and do so?

SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA: Speaker Sir, the hon. Member is concerned that the power to be provided to the schools should be regular and in the right quality.... (Interruptions) As of today, till March 2020, the Government of India had implemented that scheme for artisans.... (Interruptions) Nowadays, it has become so viable that they get returns on their investment within just two years. ... (Interruptions) The Government of India has no such scheme for schools and commercial areas at present.... (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN: Speaker Sir, I want to give a suggestion along with this question.... (*Interruptions*) Apart from COP-21, we have propounded Panchamrit in COP-26 to work in non-fossil fuel sources. We also want to make Railways zero emitter by 2030. There are many such projects.... (*Interruptions*) When Bawankule was our Minister, he thought about how to install solar panels in three hundred schools in Nagpur.... (*Interruptions*) We talk about

integrated digital classrooms all the time, but we cannot pay the electricity bills, so the classrooms are not used much.... (*Interruptions*) Today, we are in great need of solar panels for integrated digital class rooms. I want to suggest that our government should talk to Education Ministry and Renewable Energy Ministry and check whether we can install solar panels in the schools for clean energy, so that we can improve the quality of education by supplying power to integrated digital class rooms and to make toilets better. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA: Speaker Sir, the concern of the hon. Member is to install solar panels in schools under some other scheme.... (*Interruptions*) The work of installing solar panels on the building of the Home Ministry and all its buildings is already going on. Similarly, we are putting efforts to introduce good schemes for the Universities and the Education Ministry.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMSHIROMANI VERMA: Sir, I would request the Minister to tell the House whether the Government has made any plan to install solar power panels in composite schools, primary schools, upper primary schools in the country or is the Government considering providing the facility of light and fans to the students, so that they study comfortably.... (Interruptions)

SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA: Hon. Speaker, I have already said that there is no scheme running as of today.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Speaker Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister about the Oxfam Report published recently. It says that out of total Primary Health Care Centers, 4.6 per cent do not get electricity.... (Interruptions) Yesterday it was published in the Economic Times that the Central Government will give exemption to Public Enterprises on the purchase of solar panels. Does the government has any provision to provide electricity to Primary Health Care Centers through solar panels? ... (Interruptions)

SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA: Hon. Speaker, Sir, we have already further simplified the previous Solar Rooftop Scheme.... (*Interruptions*) We have asked to

apply on the National Renewable Portal instead of the existing state level portal.... (Interruptions) Earlier, the people had to choose only the empaneled vendors, but to promote this scheme, now, we have made the provision of 'Select Any Vendor'.... (Interruptions) We have given approval to provide electricity at the time of Discom's approval. Earlier vendors had to participate in bidding, but now we have made it easier that the vendor will pay only Rs 2.5 lakh as guarantee and they get registered. Assistance is now given directly to the customer through Central Financial Assistance (CFA) instead of vendor.... (Interruptions) Although the Government of India and our Ministry do not give any assistance directly to anyone, yet we have provided all the facilities to the consumers and they can get Central Financial Assistance under our policy. Thank you.... (Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF COAL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): Sir, the Opposition, especially Congress Party and other parties, were demanding discussion on the rise. (Interruptions) [Translation] price It was told by me yesterday and was also informed by the Chair. In the other House also, it was informed by the Chair that we are ready to discuss. ... (Interruptions) As soon as Mrs. Nirmala ji's gets well and arrives here, we are ready to discuss the price rise on the date agreed by them in the BAC.... (Interruptions) They were saying that they wanted a discussion on the price rise. ... (Interruptions) Now that we have agreed, then what is the problem now? I wonder if they want the House to function properly or not. For the reason they have brought placards here, I want to ask whether all are equal before the Law? ... (Interruptions) If She is a chairperson of the Congress, is she a super human being? Do they think that the Law does not apply to her? ... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: The House now stands adjourned till 11.30 A.M.

11.11 hrs

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

11.31 hrs

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Thirty-One minutes past Eleven of the Clock.

(Shri Rajendra Agrawal in the Chair)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ...Contd.

[English]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Question Nos. 62 and 69 are clubbed.

Shri Pradyut Bordoloi - Not present.

Dr. Rajdeep Roy - Not present.

Kumari G. Madhavi.

... (Interruptions)

(Q.62 and 69)

SHRI T. R. BAALU: Sir, what is this? ... (*Interruptions*)

The Government is not responding. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please listen to the question and the answer.

... (*Interruptions*)

KUMARI GODDETI MADHAVI: Sir, the recent floods in Godavari river resulted in unforeseen misery for the tribals living in Andhra Pradesh who had to trek up the hills to save themselves from the floods. ... (*Interruptions*) Can the Minister state the measures taken to ensure welfare of such people belonging to tribal communities in the State affected by the floods recently? ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI T. R. BAALU: Sir, I want a categorical reply from the Government. ... (*Interruptions*)

11.32 hrs

At this stage, Shri T.R. Baalu, Shrimati Supriya Sadanand Sule and some other hon. Members left the House.

SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT: Sir, the hon. Member has expressed concern about the recent flood situation in river Godavari because of the excessive rains occurred in the catchment area. The Government of India is aware that a couple of hundred people have been evacuated or have been compelled to go to uphill locations to save their life and livelihood. Primarily, relief measures are to be taken by the State Government.

The Government of India through the recommendations made by the Finance Commission allocates funds to the States under the SDRF grants and, if desired and required, under the NDRF grants. That grant is available with the States. Primarily those measures have to be taken by the States. If desired by the State, the Government of India is going to extend support.

[Translation]

DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY: Sir, thank you for allowing me to ask a question.

Sir, the most alarming thing in the hon. Minister's answer is my State. They are not using the money at all. They are neither surrendering the money nor utilizing it, because the Government there does not want to work. My question to the Minister through you is that there are many states where illegal sand mining is being done. The dams built there have been silted up, but are not being desilted. The drainage system of the rivers is also not successful, because the things which need to be drained out are not getting drained. Because all this depends on the State Government. The Central Government provides funds, but State Governments do not utilise that money, as I have given an example of my State Jharkhand. Does the Government of India have any such policy through which it can find out which states do not want to do this work and are hit by floods? Every year there is a huge loss due to floods, and ultimately the Central Government has to compensate. Our Government has been struggling with these things for 8 years in a row. May I know the policy of the Government of India in this regard? Thank you.

SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT: Hon. Chairman, I can understand the anguish of the respected member which is deeply reflected in his words and I sympathise with him for what he has expressed and whatever he could not express. But in the Constitutional System, the Government of India cannot directly interfere in the subjects listed in the State List. Therefore, initially the states themselves have to look in to such matter. We repeatedly urge the State Governments on this issue, send them advisories, send them letters, hold meetings with them, and request them again and again to work on both the structural and non-structural flood mitigation measures. We have asked the state of Jharkhand and other states also to work in flood-prone zones. This has been repeatedly

requested so that the recurring perennial damage caused by such disasters can be prevented and the suffering of the people can be reduced. I can certainly assure the hon. Member that there is no let up in our request. But, ultimately the responsibility of making arrangements rests with the State Government, and the State Government itself will have to work on it on a priority

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shrimati Rama Devi - Not present.

[English]

SHRIMATI LOCKET CHATTERJEE: Sir, Balagarh Assembly Constituency under Hooghly Lok Sabha Constituency of West Bengal has been facing a long-standing problem of fragmentation. Many areas in this Assembly Constituency are plagued by this breakdown problem. About 700 people, including 80 families and others, are directly affected by the collapse of more than 300 meters in Magra block.

My question to the hon. Minister is this. What is the Central Government thinking to stop the erosion of the Ganga and build river banks in this area? Many people in the other areas of this Assembly Constituency are victims of this erosion for a long time, such as Chandrahati 1,2 Panchayat, Nityanandapur 1,2 Panchayat, Dumurdah, Khamargachi, Somra Bazar, Jirat, Guptipara which also have this same erosion problem. Is the Central Government having any major plan to eradicate the erosion problem in all these areas?

Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT: Hon. Chairperson, the Government of India is aware of the challenges caused by the collapse and erosion of the embankments. The Government works with the states to supplement their efforts. Till now, the Government of India has invested more than Rs. 6 thousand crores in all these activities in the last 10 years. Primarily, State Governments prepare their

DPR and send it to the Government of India. We will take into consideration all such DPRs received from the Government of West Bengal. In the future also, under the plans, policies or schemes of the Government, whatever cooperation the Government of India has to do, it will definitely do.

DR. SANJAY JAISWAL: Hon. Chairperson, the problem of Assam and Bihar is completely different. The rivers that flow through our state, start from another country. Like they flow from Nepal, so it is uncertain as to when they will built dams on these rivers, and when water will be stopped. But every year the people of Bihar suffer because of the rivers, especially Burhi Gandak floods and the water spreads in our entire area. Somewhere in Nepal, if there is a flash flood in that river due to various reasons, we get washed away.

I want to ask from the hon. Minister through you that, like we constructed a dam on Gandak river and solved many problems created by it, similarly can we construct dams on Burhi Gandak, though it originate from Nepal and its tributaries having catchment in Champaran.

The rivers like Bangari, Sirsiya and Masan are tributaries of Burhi Gandak. What if we built micro dams on all those tributaries that enter from Nepal? Also, how can we combat floods by promoting climate-resilient agriculture, especially in Champaran? Does the Government of India has any plan for this or not?

SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT: Hon. Chairman, it is true that heavy rains in Nepal cause flood like situation in Bihar. Sometimes we have seen floods in Bihar even without a single drop of rain. Floods also occur in Uttar Pradesh. The Member has predominantly asked about Bihar, because the people of Bihar have to bear the brunt of floods. Such a situation has arisen this year also. Such type of situation is seen in Gandak, Burhi Gandak, Bagmati, Kamla, Kosi and Mahananda rivers of Bihar every year. As the hon Member has suggested, we can discuss with Nepal to construct dams there as permanent measures, so that floods

could be handled by using these structures as flood cushions. But this is an international matter and I do not want to comment much on this matter now. But, apart from this, we have developed an early warning system for flood forecasting in Nepal. I would like to add to the knowledge of the hon. Member and the House that earlier we used to forecast flood 24-hour in advance, now we have developed an IMD data based system by creating an understanding with Nepal and other neighboring countries that serve as catchment areas to our rivers; and have started to give forecast 5 day in advance. On the lines of the best advanced forecasting system in the world today, we have developed an equal systematic capacity in India, so that even if we may not be able to avert the floods, we can respond to the challenges and loss of life and property caused by it. We are working on it. As far as the construction of dams is concerned, controlling floods by constructing small dams may be a moot point. But, we are regularly holding talks with the Government of Nepal about the big dams which are already under consideration.

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR PINTU: Chairman Sir, as Dr. Sanjay Babu just told when it rains in Nepal, it floods in BiharPresently, drought-like situations prevaile in Bihar, because of less rainfall.Many rivers flow from Nepal and pass through my parliamentary constituency, Sitamarhi, the menifestation place of Maa Jagatjanani Sita.A dam is being constructed there, and the pace of progress is very slow.Due to this, the diversion of river flow towards Majorganj Rasoolpur has displaced 10-20 families.

The dams have been constructed up to Nepal border, if these embankments are further extended up to railway line which is two and a half kms towards Indian side then we can save hundreds of houses and several villages from displacement, but it is pending for his sanction. If we build a road on the top of this dam, then there will be ease of transportation and the probability of flood will also be reduced. ... (Interruptions) I want to know from the hon. Minister when the schemes of our district will be approved and how fast the dams will be constructed to protect the people from the scourge of floods?

SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT: The hon. Member has said something about the dam. It seems to me that he is interested in the embankment. According to our agreement with the Government of Nepal, we also work to strengthen and construct such embankments on their side with funding from our side. If Bihar Government has sent any such proposal, then we will check that at what level is it pending, we will definitely let the hon. Member know.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shrimati Bhavana Gawali (Patil) - Not present.

Shri Arvind Sawant - Not Present. Shri Prataprao Jadhav - Not Present.

Shrimati Sangeeta Azad ji.

SHRIMATI SANGEETA AZAD: Sir, today all the districts of Purvanchal, including my district Azamgarh, are facing the brunt of drought. Hon. former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee's ambitious plan was to link all the rivers of India. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any progress is being made in this scheme? If yes, then how much work has been completed?

I would like to request that the Government of India should direct the State Government to release sufficient water in the canals of Azamgarh, presently proportionately less water is being released, so that the farmers there can at least do irrigation and sow paddy.

SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT: Hon. Chairperson Sir, although the question asked by the hon. Member does not relate to the main question - 63, but since the hon. Member has asked, I am happy to say that during the time of respected Atal ji, it was envisioned that the water from the water surplus basin should be transferred to the water deficit basin. There has been progressing on that since 2014 under the leadership of hon. Prime Minister. Respected Nitin Gadkari ji is sitting here.

Under the National Perspective Plan 31 links were identified during his tenure, where water can be transferred from water surplus basin to water deficit basin, DPR and PFR of those 31 links have also been prepared, and nowt the files of all those links are pending with the states for mutual agreement.

Sir, I am glad to say that standing on this platform, I want to thank the hon. Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Yogi Adityanath ji and the hon. Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Shri Shivraj Singh ji that both of them have reached a common agreement for linking Ken and Betwa rivers. They have made a tripartite agreement with the Government of India. Under the guidance of hon. Prime Minister, the hon. Finance Minister has not only sanctioned that Rs. 44,000 Budget, but has also

allocated Rs. 4,400 crore for it in the last Budget. This is not just a project, but a gesture towards a new beginning in the country.

I believe that other states will also take inspiration after they see the changes in the lives of the people of Bundelkhand. Based on the mutual agreement between the states, we will be able to implement the remaining links. In some areas floods occurs every year, and in other areas, drought occurs every year, we will be able to find a complete, holistic and long lasting solution for both these problems.

[English]

SHRI MARGANI BHARAT: Thank you, hon. Chairperson, Sir. This is regarding the Polavaram Project. The discharge from the spillway of the Polavaram Project is about fifty lakh cusecs of water. But due to the recent floods, backwaters got stagnated at the spillway area. After the discharge from the spillway of the Polavaram Project, water straightway goes to Dowleswaram Barrage and after that, water goes into the sea. The Dowleswaram Barrage was built by Sir Arthur Thomas Cotton. The capacity of the Dowleswaram Barrage is around thirty-six lakh cusecs of water. The discharge from the spillway of the Polavaram Project is about fifty lakh cusecs of water and the discharge from the next project is around thirty-six lakh cusecs of water. In fact, the villages and the islands will be submerged. Is there any provision to build another project at Dowleswaram? The release of water from the spillway is about fifty lakh cusecs of water and the release of water from Dowleswaram Project is about thirty-six lakh cusecs of water which is very less. I would like to ask whether there is any provision to consider this.

[Translation]

SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT: Sir, I would like to tell the hon. Member that we were constantly keeping an eye on the backwater impacts caused due to the current discharge in the Godavari River, damages reported and breaches occurred in some parts of the Lower Coffer dam. We had also repeatedly requested the state government to speed up the work and complete it by 31st July, but the

challenge has arisen due to a sudden change in the weather. The weather changed one month before the usual monsoon time and it started raining excessively due to which water filled in the catchment area. But, we constantly reviewed it and worked closely with the State Government so that there were minimal losses and our project did not get delayed due to that. We kept an eye on it and with that point of view, we took decisions also and resolved it. As the hon. Member has talked about another project of constructing Dowleswaram dam downstream of Polavaram, I would like to inform that no such project proposal of the state government is pending with the Government of India for consideration. If the State Government submits any such proposal, there is a separate procedure for that. There will be a technical appraisal and only then a decision will be taken about it.

(Q.64)

[English]

SUSHRI DEBASREE CHAUDHURI: I would like to know from the Minister whether it is a fact the Budget allocation for Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana has been increased to Rs. 48,000 crore and of this, Rs. 28,000 crore is allocated for PMAY-U in 2022-23. If so, to what extent the Budget allocation has been increased for PMAY-U? What is the target set for completion in this current financial year and what is the achievement made so far?

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Sir, when the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana for the urban sector was announced on 25th June, 2015, the hon. Prime Minister said

that it was his dream that by the time we celebrate 75 years of India's Independence, every Indian who needs a home, no matter where he or she lives, should have a pucca home over their heads with a toilet, kitchen, gas connection and all the amenities that a modern home should have for each of our citizens. So, I am very happy to announce and place before this House that by 31st March this year as against the target based on demand assessment which originally stood at one crore, we had already sanctioned one crore twenty-two lakh homes under four separate verticals. That has already been completed.

Out of this figure of one crore twenty-two lakh homes, sixty-one lakh homes under four different verticals have already been handed over to the beneficiaries. The remaining ones already stand grounded and given the technology in use, it takes typically between 12 months to 18 or 24 months or slightly more for the construction to be completed. We have exhausted and sanctioned all one crore twenty-two lakh houses. The hon. Member wanted to know whether there is a budgetary provision in the current financial year. This budgetary provision has been made specifically to ensure that the homes which have been grounded and are in the pipeline be completed. The precise period of completion will depend on different projects. Some projects are being completed. Also, during the course of the implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana for the urban sector, the hon. Prime Minister had desired that we should try to incorporate the latest technologies in the construction sector. For this purpose, an entire year was devoted to organizing a global housing technology challenge.

As a result of which, 53 of the latest technologies which are being used in the construction sector throughout the world, these were shortlisted and I am also very happy to inform the House that out of these 53, six technologies were chosen to carry out lighthouse projects in six different cities in the country and these are being implemented. Some have already been completed. Some of these projects have already been handed over as part of this. This typically involved constructing 1,000 housing units in the period of one year.

Out of the budgetary allocation which the hon. Member has sought, in the Budget Estimates, Rs. 28,000 crore had been set aside, had been earmarked for the fiscal year 2022-23. Should the situation arise that some more money is required to complete the projects, I have no doubt that the Finance Ministry would consider but this is a scheme which has been very well implemented. All the one crore twenty-two lakh will get their homes very soon. Sixty-one lakh have already got it and the budgetary provisioning will not prove to be an impediment, should the need arise to provide more.

SUSHRI DEBASREE CHAUDHURI: Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister how much fund has been allocated and released to the West Bengal State for implementation of the PMAY-U during the last five years.

How many houses were constructed during the said period in West Bengal? I also would like to know whether any irregularities in the implementation of the scheme to build homes has come to the notice of the Union Government. If so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Union Government in this regard.

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Sir, I think the hon. Member has slightly raised the canvass of the question. Insofar as the number of homes sanctioned and implemented under the different four verticals in the State of West Bengal are concerned, those statistics are available, I think, in the body of the answer. The figures for each State and Union Territory are given. For the rest, as far as I know, from memory, I can tell the hon. Member that in the case of West Bengal, of the two verticals which have been implemented, one is BLC.

BLC is Beneficiary Led provision. That is if you own a family home and it is in a state which requires some repair, then the Central Government gives Rs. 1.5 lakh to do up the place. In BLC, the figures for the State of West Bengal are as follows: The total number of houses sanctioned was 6,05,599; number of houses grounded are 4,03,854 and houses completed and delivered are 2,06,047. Under the Affordable Housing and Partnership vertical which typically involves the State

Government making available land, the Central Government and the State Government are providing some money for the construction of homes. The figures I have is, even though 3,542 homes were sanctioned, none has been grounded and therefore, none has been delivered. Under the CLSS -- it is an interest subvention scheme under which if a young professional wants to buy an apartment, then a bank typically provides a loan, say, at 12 per cent interest and we would provide a 3 per cent interest subvention upfront – 81823 loans have been sanctioned. These are done by designated banks. Out of these, the number of houses that have been grounded are 73,182 and the number of houses completed and delivered is 73,182. In other words, *in situ* slum rehabilitation and VHP, the State of West Bengal does not seem to have implemented the schemes. On the other two, I have shared the figures. If the hon. Member, should she so desire, I am always ready to go into other details. But I am not in a position to answer some of the questions for the simple reason that those are things for which the State Government has to bear responsibility on whether the construction is being done in compliance with the prescribed procedure or not.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Question no. 67 and 73 are being clubbed.

Question no. 67

Shri C.N. Aannadurai Not present.

Shri Gajanan Kirtikar Not present.

Shri Ganesh Singh

(Q. 67 and 73)

SHRI GANESH SINGH: Pradhan Mantri Shahari Aawas Yojana is a scheme to upgrade the living standards of the poor. When we got independence, the first slogan raised was food, clothing and shelter. Unfortunately, that slogan remained as a slogan only. Governments came and also ruled for a very long time. In the year 2014-15, the hon. Prime Minister, Narendra Modi ji started this scheme. Today, 1 crore 22 lakh houses have been approved in cities and more than 2.5 crore houses have been built in rural areas in a very short time. It is indeed a life-changing scheme.

Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister that just as the Housing Plus Scheme is for rural areas, likewise, whether the government proposes to start a new scheme under it for providing houses to those people who have been left out in the urban areas also?

[English]

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Sir, I would try to give a quick reply. The question asked by hon. Member is a pertinent question. [Translation] This is a central scheme. We have introduced this scheme based on the demand assessment received from the states. At the outset, we were told that there would be a demand assessment of around 1 crore all the states and union territories combined. The more we implemented the scheme, the more was the demand assessment. First it increased to 1 crore 12 lakh and then to 1 crore 22 lakh. I completely agree with the hon. Member. The feedback we have received indicates that this scheme has brought fundamental transformation in the lives of the beneficiaries and their families. At present, one vertical, CLSS vertical for middle income people, ended on 31st March, 2021 and the rest of the scheme was exhausted on 31st March, 2022 which we will complete by the coming year. It is a hypothetical question. If the states submit another demand assessment after that,

then the Centre will take a view on that. I would rather not comment more at this point. Thank you very much.

*WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

(Starred Question Nos. 65, 66, 68, 70 to 72 and 74 to 80 Unstarred Question Nos. 691 to 920)

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

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The Question Hour is over

12.00 hrs

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Now Papers to be laid on the Table.

General (Retd.) 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 (GEN. (RETD.) DR. V. K. SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Aircraft (Third Amendment) Rules, 2020 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R.192(E) in Gazette of India dated 20th March, 2020 under Section 14A of the Aircraft Act, 1934, together with an explanatory note.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7151/17/22]

(3) A copy of the National Highways Authority of India (Recruitment, Seniority and Promotion) Amendment Regulations, 2022 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R.203(E) in Gazette of India dated 15th March, 2022 under Section 37 of the National Highways Authority of India Act, 1988, together with an explanatory memorandum.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7152/17/22]

- (4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 10 of the National Highways Act, 1956:-
 - (i) S.O.1135(E) published in Gazette of India dated 11th March, 2022, regarding user fee notification for the project of four lane of Bellary to Byrapura Section from Design Km. 266.820 to Design Km. 308.550 of NH-150A in the State of Karnataka.
 - (ii) S.O.1188(E) published in Gazette of India dated 16th March, 2022, regarding amendment in S.O. No. 4457 (E) dt. 13.12.2019 for Ranchi Piska More-Bijupara- Kuru (3.600 to Km. 55.00) in the State of Jharkhand on EPC mode.
 - (iii) S.O.1203(E) published in Gazette of India dated 17th March, 2022, regarding user fee notification for the project of six laning of National Corridor NH-19 from Palsit to Dankuni section from km 588.870 to km 652.700 (total design length 63.830 km) in the state of West Bengal under Bharatmala Pariyojana on BOT (Toll) basis.
 - (iv) S.O.1204(E) published in Gazette of India dated 17th March, 2022, regarding user fee notification for the project of Panagarh to Palsit section from Km.521.120 to Km.588.870 on NH-19 in the State of West Bengal under Bharatmala Pariyojana on BOT (Toll) basis.
 - (v) S.O.1374(E) published in Gazette of India dated 25th March, 2022, regarding user fee notification for the project of four laning of Medeshi-Washim-Sawarkheda (Hingloli) Section from design kilometer 60.725 to kilometer 128.200 (existing km 63.600 to km 132.760) of NH-161 in the State of Maharashtra on EPC mode.
 - (vi) S.O.1423(E) published in Gazette of India dated 28th March, 2022, regarding amendment in the notification published vide S.O. No. 3022 (E) dated 22.08.2019 for the project of Kanaktora to Jharsugada section from Km. 0.000 to Km. 68.000 (Design Chainage from Km. 197.300 to Km. 263.040) of NH-49 (Old NH-200) in the State of Odisha.
 - (vii) S.O.1424(E) published in Gazette of India dated 28th March, 2022, regarding user fee notification for the project of Four laning of Simaria –

- Khagaria Section from deisgn Km. 206.050 to Km. 266.282 (existing Km. 209.945 to Km. 270.000) of NH-31 in the State of Bihar.
- (viii) S.O.1425(E) published in Gazette of India dated 28th March, 2022, regarding user fee notification for the project of Kallagam to Meensurutti Section from design Chainage Km. 38.700 to Km. 98.433 of NH-227 in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (ix) S.O.1426(E) published in Gazette of India dated 28th March, 2022, regarding user fee notification for the project of Four laning of Trichy to Kallagam Section from design Km. 0.000 to Km. 38.700 of NH-227 in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (x) S.O.1448(E) published in Gazette of India dated 29th March, 2022, regarding user fee notification for the project of Devaliya to Rajpipla Section from design Km. 459.500 to Km. 483.500 of NH-56 in the State of Gujarat.
- (xi) S.O.1449(E) published in Gazette of India dated 29th March, 2022, regarding user fee notification for the project of Four laning of Janavali to Patradevi Section from Km. 395.000 to 460.410 of NH-66 in the State of Maharashtra.
- (xii) S.O.1450(E) published in Gazette of India dated 29th March, 2022, regarding user fee notification for the project of Jhadol-Ambhabelly Section from design Km. 43.900 to Km. 91.00 (existing Km. 51.515 to Km. 2.690 of VR) of NH-58E in the State of Rajasthan.
- (xiii) S.O.1451(E) published in Gazette of India dated 29th March, 2022, regarding user fee notification for the project of Satna-Bela Section from design Km. 155.000 to Km. 202.040 (existing Km. 155.000 to Km. 202.040) of NH-75 (New NH-39) in the State of Madhya Pradesh.
- (xiv) S.O.1452(E) published in Gazette of India dated 29th March, 2022, regarding user fee notification for the project of Four laning of WaroraWani Section from design Km. 313.850 to Km. 332.160 (existing Km. 6.145 to Km. 21.475) of NH-930 in the State of Maharashtra.
- (xv) S.O.1535(E) published in Gazette of India dated 31st March, 2022, regarding amendment in published notification bearing No. S.O. 104 (E) dated 18.01.2010 for the project of Six laning of Delhi-Agra Section of

NH-2 from Km. 20.500 to Km. 200.000 in the State of Haryana/Uttar Pradesh under NHDP Phase-V as BOT (Toll) on DBFOT Pattern.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7153/17/22]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): Hon. Chairperson, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 179 of the Electricity Act,2003: -

- (1) The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Payment of Fees) (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2022 published in Notification No. L1/02/2022-CERC in Gazette of India dated 24th March, 2022.
- 2) The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Deviation Settlement Mechanism and Related Matters) Regulations, 2022 published in Notification No. L-1/260/2021/CERC in Gazette of India dated 22nd March,2022.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7154/17/22]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAMESWAR TELI): Hon. Chairperson, I beg to lay the following papers on the Table: -

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):-
 - (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Oil India Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2021-2022.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7155/17/22]

(ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2021-2022.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7156/17/22]

(iii) The Memorandum of Understanding between the Engineers India Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2021-2022.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7157/17/22]

(2) A copy of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (Gas Exchange) Amendment Regulations, 2022 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. F. No. PNGRB/Fin/9-Gas Ex(2)/2021(P-3676) in Gazette of India dated 6th May, 2022under Section 62 of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Act, 2006

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7158/17/22]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI KAUSHAL KISHORE): I lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under subsection 1 (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Kochi Metro Rail Limited, Kochi, for the year 2020-2021.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Kochi Metro Rail Limited, Kochi, for the year 2020-2021, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7159/17/22]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA): I lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):

(i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited and the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy for the year 2021-2022.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7160/17/22]

(ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited and the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy for the year 2021-2022.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7161/17/22]

12.01 hrs

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

62nd to 67th Reports

[Translation]

SHRI KAUSHLENDRA KUMAR (NALANDA): I beg to present on the Table the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Government Assurances:-

- (1) 62nd Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Review of Pending Assurances Pertaining to the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways'.
- (2) 63rd Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Acceded to)'.
- (3) 64th Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Not Acceded to)'.
- (4) 65th Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Review of Pending Assurances Pertaining to the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology'.
- (5) 66rd Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Acceded to)'.
- (6) 67th Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Not Acceded to)'.

12.02 hrs

STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

170th to 172nd Reports

[Translation]

SHRI MANOJ KOTAK (MUMBAI NORTH-EAST): I beg to lay on the Table the following Reports^{1@} (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Commerce:-

- (1) *'170th Report on 'Implementation of Districts as Export Hubs (DEHs) including One District One Product (ODOP) Initiatives'.
- (2) '171st Report on 'Issues affecting the Indian Tea Industry especially in Darjeeling region'.
- (3) '172nd Report on 'Promotion and Regulation of E-Commerce in India'.

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^{*}These Reports were presented to the hon. Chairman, Rajya Sabha on 15th June, 2022, when the House was not in session. A copy each of the said Reports was also forwarded to the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha on the same day.

12.02 ½ hrs

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

365th Report

[English]

DR. JAYANTA KUMAR ROY (JALPAIGURI): I beg to lay on the Table Volume-I (Hindi and English versions) of 365th Report* containing 'Recommendations of the Committee' on "The Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Bill, 2021" of the Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment, Forests and Climate Change.

2. Also, to lay Volume-II (in the language received) of the 365th Report containing 'Memoranda submitted by individuals/experts/ institutions'.

^{*}The Report was presented to Hon'ble Chairman, Rajya Sabha on 21st April, 2022 under Direction 30(i) of Directions by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha when the House was not in Session and Hon'ble Chairman was pleased to order for the publication and circulation of the Report under direction 30 (ii) and forwarded to Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha on the same day.

12.03 hrs

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES, LAW AND JUSTICE

117th Report

[English]

SHRI SURESH PUJARI (BARGARH): I beg to lay on the Table, Volume-I (Hindi and English version) of 117th Report* on "The Mediation Bill, 2021" of the Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice.

2. Also, to lay on the table volume-II (in the language received) of the 117th Report containing 'Memoranda submitted by individuals / experts / institutions'.

^{*}The Report was presented to Hon'ble Chairman on 13th July, 2022 under Direction 30 (i) of Directions by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha when the House was not in Session and Hon'ble Chairman was pleased to order for the publication and circulation of those Reports under Direction 30 (ii) and forwarded to Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha on the same day.

12.04 hrs

STATEMENTS BY MINISTER

(i) (a) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 281st Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations /observations contained in the 276th Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2020-21) pertaining to the Ministry of Civil Aviation*

[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): I beg to lay a statement regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 281st Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the 276th Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2020-21) pertaining to the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

^{*}Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. LT 7148/17/22

(b) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 291st

Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on

Transport, Tourism and Culture on Demands for Grants (2021-22)

pertaining to the Ministry of Civil Aviation*

[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): I beg to lay a statement regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 291st Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on Demands for Grants (2021-22) pertaining to the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

(c) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 302nd Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/ observations contained in the 291st Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2021-22) pertaining to the Ministry of Civil Aviation^{2*}

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): I beg to lay a statement regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 302nd Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the 291st Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2021-22) pertaining to the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

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^{2*} Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. LT 7150/17/22

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[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Adv. Adoor Prakash - Not present.

Kumari Goddeti Madhavi.

[English]

KUMARI GODDETI MADHAVI (ARAKU): Thank you, hon. Chairman, Sir, for this opportunity. Coffee cultivation work undertaken by tribal farmers in Andhra Pradesh's Araku valley and Paderu area, earlier included under MGNREGA, was removed from the Scheme by the Union Government in September, 2020.

The Government's decision to delist the work from MGNREGA has adversely affected around 1.60 lakh tribal farmers in Andhra Pradesh, who depended on coffee cultivation as their main source of agricultural income.

Sir, I request the hon. Minister of Rural Development to relist the coffee cultivation work under MGNREGA as coffee grown in these areas exclusively by tribal farmers is a special case. The discontinuation of wages under MGNREGA has affected a lot of coffee producers and plantation workers in Andhra Pradesh.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRMAN: Shri M. K. Raghavan - Not present.

Shri Tejasvi Surya - Not present.

Shri Dharambir Singh

SHRI DHARAMBIR SINGH (BHIWANI-MAHENDRAGARH): Hon. Chairman, nowadays in Haryana state, Lal Dora Mukt Swamitv Yojana is being implement for the village settlements as per the revenue records. The location of the house is checked by drone. There have been complaints from many villages in my area that the drones are being operated by private companies who in connivance

with scrupulous elements show houses in the name of other people though the land belongs to someone else name. Most of the businessmen in my area live in Mumbai, Kolkata and Surat and in their absence, their land gets registered to some other person's name, which creates a lot of trouble.

Through you, I want to urge the State Government to resolve this issue at the earliest. Thank you.

SHRI GOPAL SHETTY (MUMBAI NORTH): Hon. Chairperson, many building development projects across the country and especially in Mumbai city are stalled due to the problems created by the officials of the Environment Authority. There is a system in our country, there is an arrangement, there are rules implemented through the bureaucracy and you will be surprised to know that the officials of the Environment Authority disobey those rules.

If I talk about slum development in Mumbai, more than 50 per cent of the people live in the slums. In the name of development, slum dwellers are shifted out by paying rent and the Environment Authority officials harass them for 6 to 12 months and do not give permission.

I want to say through you that it is natural that if there is slum, there will be pollution and there will be litter. If slums are removed and buildings are constructed, then it will be beneficial for the environment. Despite this, Environment Authority officials harass and fine them on a large scale. The High Court and the Supreme Court have also commented about it a couple of times, but despite that, there has been no change in their mentality. To be very clear, the people are blackmailed, they are harassed. Such a rampant irregularity is being done by the bureaucracy there. Thank God, the Government has changed there.

If my voice reaches there through you, it will prove to be helpful in facilitating building construction for the slum dwellers. They will get good houses, the Government will start generating revenue and the lives of these people will experience a lot of change. I will take one more minute. Sometimes, I am surprised that the system which we have made is to help the people or to harass them? It should be audited at times. The officials involved in such sharp practices should be brought in limelight, in public domain. A system should has to be put in place against this. In Mumbai ...^{3*} there is an official. Some people say he is good, some say he is not. I do not know. I request you to make a rule of two lakh sqft for development under the SRA development project and authorize the CEO of SRA to give permission for it. Make a rule for two to four lakh sqft. and authorise the CEO of SRA to give permission directly. The Authorities should make rules for it. They should not send files case to case basis. That is what I want to say. I hope my voice will reach Maharashtra and Mumbai through you. Thank you.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Basant Kumar Panda - Not present.

[English]

SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA VISWANATH (KAKINADA): Hon. Chairperson, here, I am requesting the hon. Prime Minister to take immediate steps for early sanction of ENCORE project of coastal area. The ENCORE (Enhancing, Coastal and Ocean Resource Efficiency) Project is strategically an important project for providing sustainability to the coastal population and conservation and protection of coastal resources. The length of Andhra Pradesh coastal line is the second largest line with 974 kilometres next to Gujarat. High sea erosion is being noticed especially in East Godavari and other districts of Andhra Pradesh during every natural calamity.

Sir, irrespective of full moon or no moon, coastal waves hit at Uppada, Konapapapeta, and in Pitampura in my Parliamentary Constituency. The Kakinada-Uppada road is gradually disappearing due to shoreline erosion. So, there is every

^{3*}Not recorded.

need to minimise the human loss besides property and other losses during calamities.

Sir, ENCORE Project phase-I had already been approved by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, and placed before the Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs(CCEA) for its approval.

Hence, I would request the hon. Prime Minister to take stringent measures for early sanction of the ENCORE Project in Andhra Pradesh and other coastal States for safeguarding coastal population and fishermen. Thank you.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri M. Srinivas Reddy-ji – Not present

Shri Varun Feroze Gandhi-ji – Not present

SHRI RAGHU RAMA KRISHNA RAJU (NARSAPURAM): Hon. Chairman, Sir. I am raising an issue which the hon. Minister Dr. Jaishankar, Government of India had also spoken about. It is about burgeoning deaths in various States, and the precautions that we would have to take wherein several States are likely to go the Sri Lankan way.

In this regard, I would like to bring one submission that recently in my own State of Andhra Pradesh, the income which was supposed to go to the State Exchequer Treasury, is being diverted to a Corporation ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MARGANI BHARAT (RAJAHMUNDRY): Do you have any knowledge on it? ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAGHU RAMA KRISHNA RAJU: Sir, let me speak. ... (Interruptions)
Sir, I am not allowed to enter my Parliament ... (Interruptions) I am not allowed to speak ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: You please say what you want to.

[English]

SHRI RAGHU RAMA KRISHNA RAJU: Why are they talking unnecessarily?

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Raju, you just make your point.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAGHU RAMA KRISHNA RAJU: Yes, Sir.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh has come up with an Act 9 of 2022 wherein the income which was supposed to have accrued to the Treasury has been diverted to the AP State Beverages Corporation, and against that... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MARGANI BHARAT: Do you have any evidence? ... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHU RAMA KRISHNA RAJU: Yes, I have an evidence. I have the Act. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MARGANI BHARAT: Do not shout. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Raju, please address the Chair, and complete your submission.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI MARGANI BHARAT: Sir, he cannot shout like this. ... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Raju ji, please make your point and address the Chair only.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI MARGANI BHARAT: He has no decency at all. ... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Bharat, please sit down.

... (Interruptions)

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[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Raju ji, please speak your point only.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAGHU RAMA KRISHNA RAJU: Sir, I am addressing the Chair. ... (Interruptions)

So, the point is that the amount which was supposed to have been accrued to the State Exchequer is being diverted to a Corporation, and against that Corporation, they are raising loans, which is now the concern for the Government of India also. They are talking that additional loans should not be taken. ... (*Interruptions*)

I will give all the details. Just because someone is managing some institution, it would not take us anywhere. ... (*Interruptions*) I will give all the details. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Now, Shri Rattan Lal Kataria-ji

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA (AMBALA): Chairperson Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this august House to the Chandigarh International Airport. This airport is located in Mohali, Punjab state, while the state of Haryana is also an equal stakeholder in it. This airport is very important for Chandigarh, Panchkula and Mohali tri-city. It offers both domestic and international flights. People of Panchkula have to travel 25 km to reach the airport from Mohali, whereas the distance from Panchkula to airport is just four to five km. Due to the lack of direct

connectivity to the airport, people have to travel for a longer time and bear extra fuel expenses.

It is also contrary to the Government's commitments to a clean environment. Panchkula has been declared a metropolitan city by the Government of Haryana. The way Gurgaon and Faridabad have developed in Haryana state in the last 50 years, the Government is paying full attention to this city. Considering the pressure of population in Delhi, Gurugram and Faridabad, the Government intends to develop Panchkula as a very good city. For that, a route to the international airport must be provided from Haryana.

Sir, I request the hon. Road and Transport Minister to provide connectivity from Panchkula to the airport, this will not only facilitate the passengers but will also save traveling time and money spent on fuel.

[English]

^{4*} **SHRI SURESH PUJARI (BARGARH):** Thank you Sir. Today, I want to raise a very important issue concerning the State of Odisha. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, many schemes have been launched for the upliftment of the poor and for the benefit of the farmers. Among them, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Beema Yojana is the most ambitious one. But in Odisha, the Scheme has been totally derailed.

Last year on 7 December, 2021, I had raised the same issue in this House. Sir, I represent the Bargarh Constituency which includes the district of Jharsuguda also. The Bargarh district accounts for 1/7th of paddy production in the State of Odisha. The Government has made an agreement for crop insurance with a company called STFC Agro Insurance. The said Company is not ready to pay the farmers their due for two consecutive years.

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 $^{^{4*}}$ English translation of the speech originally delivered in Odia.

Sir, I want to inform you that 8,25,868 non-loanee and 6,076,77 loanee registered with the Company had applied for insurance amount. The Company is rejecting their claims after the due date without any valid reason. Regarding claims, four lakh twenty thousand applications have been reverted, one lakh thirty nine thousand and five applications have been rejected and many cases are still pending. As a result of which, a large number of farmers are incurring heavy losses.

Another issue I would like to raise here is about crop cutting. The State Government has not yet uploaded the requisite information. The insurance company is dodging the issue. Not only in Bargarh Sir, in the entire State of Odisha, the Crop Insurance Scheme has been a big failure. Sir, through you, I want to request the Hon. Ministers of Finance and Agriculture to ask for ground report from the State Government of Odisha. They must inquire why this kind of treatment is being meted out to farmers. STFC Company should be black listed and should not be allowed to operate in any part of the country. The registered farmers should get their compensation as early as possible. Sir, I need your intervention. Thank you.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, if anyone wants to associate themselves with the matter, may hand over their slips.

Shri Ritesh Pandey - Not present.

Shri Arvind Sawant Ji.

SHRI ARVIND SAWANT (MUMBAI SOUTH): Respected Chairperson, you know that I have been very concerned about a subject for the last five-six years and have been putting it up here time and again.

Sir, there are BDD Chawls in Maharashtra comprising 3-4 complexes. These are located at in Naigaon, Worli, NM Joshi Marg and Sewri. The State Government decided to redevelop them and the redevelopment work has also been started. The land of first three clusters belongs to the State Government, but the Sewri cluster

does not. The fourth one namely Sewri cluster is located on the land of Mumbai Port Trust of the Central Government. They have not given permission till date. Around 960 families are living there. It has 16 buildings. The State Government has decided to redevelop buildings and also to bear the expenses. These people are going to get free houses, that too of 600 square feet each. Even in such a situation, the Central Government has not taken any decision to date. No one can do this now, hence I request the respected Prime Minister through you as to why are they being deprived? There is one more achievement for the Central Government. A route named Mumbai Trans Harbour Link, which is the way towards the proposed airport, passes through that area. It is passing above that Sewri building. So the houses on that land will have to be demolished in future. The land belongs to the Mumbai Port Trust. Mumbai Port Trust has given permission for the Trans Harbor Link, but is not giving permission for these buildings. Therefore, through you, I request the Prime Minister to pay attention to this issue personally. This is not an unauthorised residence. This is an authorized residence. It is not a matter of slums. That is a different matter. I will talk about that matter some other time, but despite being authorized, these are ramshackle buildings and can collapse any time. Enter any house and you would find that every toilet is leaking. There are common toilets. I urge through you that the respected Prime Minister himself should pay attention to this issue and give permission for the redevelopment of BDD Chawl of Shivadi as soon as possible so that the State Government can start its work.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri E. T. Mohammed Basheer, Not present.

Shri Hibi Eden, Not present.

Shri Subhash Chandra Baheria, Not present.

Shri Rahul Ramesh Shewale.

SHRI RAHUL RAMESH SHEWALE (MUMBAI SOUTH-CENTRAL):

Thank you, Chairperson Sir. Over the past few years, there have been several

cloudbursts in the hilly and coastal areas, such as Mumbai (2005), Uttarakhand (2013), Kedarnath (2013) Malin village in Maharashtra (2014) and in Amarnath (2022) this month only. These incidents have caused a huge loss of life and property. The country has had to suffer with loss of lives and agricultural produce. There has been a severe cloudburst in Himachal this week. Cloudbursts cause soil erosion, landslides on roads and railway tracks and even the low-lying areas of hilly regions submerge in the water. I would like to draw your attention towards the impact of global climate change and its adverse effects on cities like Mumbai as well as on the urban and rural areas of the country. Similarly, the difficulties are faced by the rural population in various parts of India and Maharashtra, especially in almost every area of megacities like Mumbai.

Mumbai is facing several challenges such as transportation, storm water, drinking water, drainage, sewage treatment, environmental protection, pollution and increasing risk from the effects of global climate change. The Ministry of Climate Change, Government of Maharashtra has selected Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai to develop innovative solutions by conducting Cloudburst Resilience Planning Study through hydraulic modelling of cloud burst or heavy rainfall to assess physical and social damages caused thereby, and proposed to start a pilot project in South West Mumbai area. The proposal should be implemented immediately through Department of Disaster Management or the Ministry of Climate Change or the BMC of Mumbai.

We expect that as an outcome of the study, the specified study area of South Central Mumbai will provide protection and resilience for extreme conditions by identifying opportunities, so that community and environmental benefits can also be derived under normal circumstances.

I request the Government to get the concept design; and to approve budget estimate, and to arrange funding from the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, ADB; and to conduct a feasibility study and prepare DPR (Detailed Plan Report)

as well as start a pilot project in Mumbai after getting environmental and statutory approval from the NGT, the Ministry of Environment and Forest, and later on, it should be implemented across the country so that not only Mumbai but hilly areas and other parts of the country can also be protected from the cloud burst.

[English]

DR. UMESH G. JADAV (GULBARGA): Thank you, hon. Chairperson Sir, for giving me this opportunity. I would like to raise an important issue relating to my Constituency Kalaburagi, Karnataka. I would like to bring to your kind notice that the Kalaburagi city has outgrown beyond the existing ring road at an alarming rate.

The traffic on NH 150E, NH 50, and NH 150 is very high, and people have to travel on the existing ring road along with the Kalaburagi city traffic, resulting in heavy traffic congestion and also poor riding quality. Hence, a new bypass is required for safe, smooth, and congestion free movement of traffic. The proposed length of the bypass is 41.43 km, starting from its junction with NH-150E and ending at its junction with NH-50.

The proposed bypass is a four-lane bypass with paved shoulder carriageway. The alignment connection between NH-150E and NH-50 *via* NH-150 has already been approved by the Ministry on 14.02.2017, and Notification under rule 3(a) had also been published in the Gazette on 09.01.2019.

The declaration of NH to this proposed bypass is awaited from the Ministry, that is, it is pending in the Planning Department of the Ministry. This is inclusive of land acquisition cost in the current Annual Plan. This needs to be approved.

The Government of Karnataka has agreed to this. Sir, I have met Bommai ji yesterday. He has agreed to bear 50 per cent of the land acquisition cost. I have raised this matter many times in the 'Zero Hours' and the hon. Gadkari ji also replied when this subject was raised as a Starred Question. This has to be approved at the

earliest. Sir, through you, I request the Government that it should give the approval at the earliest, that is, in another 2-3 months' time. Thank you, Chairperson Sir.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL (BATHINDA): Sir, the entire House knows very well that Punjab is called the Granary of the Country, because Punjab has been the biggest contributors of wheat and rice wheat and rice in the country for the last 70 years. The farmers of Punjab recently staged a huge protest, in which 700 farmers were martyred. The whole country witnessed that. The Government asked the farmers on December 9, 2021 to end their movement as it wase withdrawing those laws, at that time, in the letter given by the Agriculture Minister to the farmers, MSP was clearly mentioned. The point number one in it was that a committee will be formed, whose mandate will be to ensure that the farmers of the country get MSP. This was the number one point, and the farmers number one agenda was that they should be given a legal guarantee of minimum support price. But surprisingly, on the 12th of this month, a gazette has been issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, where all those points are removed and only written - "To make MSP more effective and transparent."

The Agriculture Secretary has been made the Chairman of the committee being formed to work out the objectives who was the architect of those three laws. Along with him, there are the members of NITI Aayog, who have brought these black laws. After that, the Farmers' Representatives mention in it, out of that ... ^{5*} and all the others are associated with the BJPOne of them had been an MLC of BJP in Maharashtra.... * is from BJP. ... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRMAN: Names will not go in record.

SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL: Sir, this is the part of the report. The five representatives of farmers in this are the same people who vociferously

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^{5*}Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

supported and favoured these laws in the country. They are the members of the committee. The Members of the University of Jammu and the University of Jabalpur are given representative as of the Agriculture Universities. The State Government in it include Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Sikkim and Odisha, but neither the farmers of the Punjab who fought, nor the government of Punjab or a agriculture university of Punjab has been included in it.

Sir, do not force the farmers protest once again. This is sheer atrocity with Punjab.

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

| The Members by whom the matters of urgent public importance were raised. | The Members, who associated themselves with the matters raised. |
|--|---|
| Shri Rahul Ramesh Shewale | Shri Shrirang Appa Barne Dr. Shrikant Eknath Shinde Shri Prataprao Jadhav |
| Shri Arvind Sawant | Shri Gopal Shetty |
| Shri Suresh Pujari | Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari Singh Deo |

12.27 hrs

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Now, Matters under Rule 377 – Dr. Heena Vijaykumar Gavit.

(i) Need to amend existing guidelines pertaining to Jal Jeevan Mission

DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT (NANDURBAR): The Government is implementing Swacch Bharat Mission (Gramin) which includes Solid-Liquid Waste Management Program with the objective of bringing improvement in cleanliness, hygiene and the general quality of life in rural areas. Villages with population of more than 5000 are given funds directly for construction of drainage system.

The Jal Jeevan Mission Scheme is being implemented on mission mode wherein 55 litres *per capita* per day is being provided and the average water consumption for a household is 200 litres per household. The availability of water leads to generation of liquid waste and grey water which requires a proper drainage system in order to drain out the waste water which, if accumulated, can lead to increase in vector-borne diseases. The current guidelines state that for villages with less than 5000 population, funds are to be given through MNREGA and 15th Finance Commission Guidelines for construction of drainage system.

However, the said funds are inadequate and hence, I request the Government to kindly remove the cap on funding for villages with 5000 plus population and make necessary amendments to the existing guidelines in order to provide funds

for construction of drainage system in every village irrespective of the population which will ensure proper waste management and reduce pollution.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Member, please read the same text that you have. Only that will go on record. Don't say anything other than that.

... (Interruptions)

(ii) Need to provide urea and DAP at subsidized rates to farmers in Chhattisgarh

SHRI ARUN SAO (BILASPUR): Hon. Speaker, thank you for giving me the opportunity to raise a matter of urgent public importance under Rule 377.

Under the leadership of hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Central Government is working for the growth of farmers. Modi ji's Government is giving large subsidy on chemical fertilisers. For urea around Rs. 2,700 and for DAP around Rs. 2,500 per bag are being given to the farmers, but in Chhattisgarh, these products are allegedly being sold in black market and farmers are being exploited. Therefore, through you, I request the hon. Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers to take notice of this issue and direct the State Government to ensure that urea, DAP etc. are provided to the farmers at the prescribed rate.

(iii) Need to take necessary steps for growth of agriculture sector in the country

SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA (BHARUCH): There are many hints which suggest that agricultural and food grain production are declining in the country. The Prime Minister has emphasised on increasing production and also for improving the prices. The main reasons for slow growth of agriculture sector are low public investment, stagnant productivity, soil erosion, crop harvesting waste, under-valuation, under-utilisation of technology in rainfed areas and pricing of farmers' produce by market intermediaries etc. To bring about the second Green Revolution in the country, we have to recollect and learn from the process, which made the first Green Revolution possible. There is a need to use the experience of countries like Israel in biotechnology, water conservation, micro agriculture and biotechnology etc. I urge upon the Central Government to make every effort for the development of agriculture in the country.

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(iv) Regarding recent terror activity in Udaipur, Rajasthan and growing

network of terrorist organization in the State

SHRI ARJUN LAL MEENA (UDAIPUR): Sir, a planned conspiracy was

hatched to spread communal riots in my parliamentary constituency Udaipur.

Kanhaiyalal Tailor was murdered inside his shop in Maldas Street in Hathipole area

of Udaipur city and a live video, an objectionable video, of the murder was made

viral, which sparked communal tension after the murder. When the agencies started

investigating such a heinous incident, it was revealed that the incident has links

with the Pakistan-based Dawat-e-Islami organization. The real objective of this

organization operating from Pakistan is to spread terror and spark communal riots

in India. This organization is active in Rajasthan and constantly expanding.

Sir, through you, I demand from the Government of India to impose an

immediate ban on the Dawat-e-Islami organisation which is constantly expanding

in Rajasthan. At the same time, In order to provide justice to the deceased

Kanhaiyalal, there should be a special investigation on the case and the culprits

should be given death penalty, so that no predator does any such crime fearlessly

in a calm and safe and streets of my city Udaipur. Thank you.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Only your submitted text will go in record.

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Ramesh Bidhuri ji.

Shri Prataprao ji.

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(v) Regarding Nanded-Bidar Railway line project

SHRI PRATAPRAO PATIL CHIKHLIKAR (NANDED): Chairperson Sir,

The Nanded-Bidar Railway Project is a very important railway project of my

Parliamentary Constituency connecting the two States, Maharashtra and

Karnataka. After the budget assessment by the Government, this project has been

given in-principle approval and included it in the Pinkbook. When I asked the

details of progress of this railway project, I was informed by the Ministry of

Railways through a letter that the proposal is pending for the consent of both the

State Governments or in other words, it is under consideration for approval from

Maharashtra and Karnataka State Governments. It has been a year since it is under

consideration, but there is no progress till now. I earnestly appeal to the Government

that both the concerned Governments should be directed to acquire land in their

respective areas and approve the budgetary provision within a minimum time frame

and to submit the proposal to the Central Government at the earliest so that the rural

areas of all the beneficiary districts of this railway route may get the benefit and

the Prime Minister's dream of connecting maximum rural areas with rail services

is also realised.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Subrat Pathak ji.

Smt. Keshari Devi Patel ji.

(vi) Need to include 'Margashirsha Shukla Ekadasi' as 'Antarashtriya Geeta Diwas'

SHRIMATI KESHARI DEVI PATEL (PHULPUR): Chairperson Sir, our country India is a religious country. Shrimad Bhagavad Gita, which was revealed on the soil of this country about 5200 years ago, is a divine book of 700 verses. It is a priceless intellectual treasure, a pot of nectar in the sea of literature, a Kalpataru in the garden of ideas, and a lighthouse of truth along the religious path. It contains the essence of the Vedas, the crux of the Upanishads, the cream of historical texts like the Mahabharata and the coordinates of Samkhya. This is such a spiritual science, which can transform a human being to Narayana. This divine book is such a philosophical knowledge, in which rests the soul of not only India but of the entire world and which has remained undisputed till date. The founders of almost all the sects have reiterated the core of Gita in their language that "God is One". There is a problem all round the world. The bureaucracy of every nation of the world is trying to find a solution to the gory environment, terrorism, racism, inequality and many issues, but the complete solution to all these is only well found in Shrimad Bhagavad Bhashya Yatharth Gita. Hon. Chairperson, I have a request and valuable suggestion in this regard. According to our calendar "Gita Jayanti" is celebrated on Margarshirsha Shukla Ekadashi. As per our belief, this day is the symbolic birthday of Shrimad Bhagavad Gita. On this day, before the Mahabharata war, Lord Krishna preached Geeta to Arjuna. Therefore, in order to honour this great book in the world, efforts should be made to declare this day as "International Day" so that the attention of the world public can be drawn to its teachings.... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Devji Patel.

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Cannot associate him with it. When do we associate in Rule 377.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI DEVJI PATEL (JALORE): Chairperson Sir, he has associate himself from his heart.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

- (vii) Regarding augmentation of railway services providing better railway connectivity to Jalore district, Rajasthan SHRI DEVJI PATEL (JALORE): Chairperson Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the following important matters concering the Railways in my Parliamentary Constituency, Jalore.
 - 1. The doubling and electrification work of the Samdadi-Bhildi rail route should be done.
 - 2. The stoppage of Train No. 22483/84Jodhpur Gandhidham train should be provided at Modran station.
 - 3. Barmer Yeshwantpur AC Express train 14805/14806 should be run seven days a week and sleeper coaches may be added to it.
 - 4. A new train should be introduced from Jalore to Delhi via Jaipur, Samdadi Bhildi Road.
 - 5. The Jalore district should be connected to major cities of South India by rail, as -
 - (i) Bangalore to Jodhpur via Samdadi Bhildi,
 - (ii) Hyderabad to Jodhpur via Samdadi Bhildi,
 - (iii) Coimbatore to Jodhpur via Samdadi Bhildi,
 - (iv) Chennai to Jodhpur via Samdadi Bhildi,
 - 6. The new railway line Jaisalmer-Kandla via Sanchaur should be sanctioned and constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Gati Shakti Yojana.
 - 7. Delhi Sarai Rohilla Bhagat Ki Kothi Superfast Express train 22421/22422 should be extended up to Bhildi Junction.

(viii) Need to promote scientific instruments industries in Ambala, Haryana

SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA (AMBALA): Hon. Chairperson, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Science and Technology towards the scientific equipment industry of Ambala. Ambala is famous in the world for manufacturing of scientific instruments and defence products. Microscopes, glassdares, physics and other instruments are manufactured here. Some equipments of Agni-5 are also manufactured by a businssman of Ambala scientific industry. Nearly 3,000 units are operating there with an annual turnover of about Rs.1500crore. After taking over India's electronic market, China has captured the 45 percent of world famous scientific industry of AmbalaIf trained labour is not made available to the scientific industry of Ambala and goods coming from China are not banned, then this industry providing employment to thousands of people will be destroyed. At present, the government needs to upgrade the marketing and manufacturing skills of entrepreneurs associated with the scientific instrument industry of Ambala. There is also a need to build a big common facility center here. Earlier a tool room and a DDC were established here, which are closed down now.I put forth a demand to the Government to save the scientific industry of Ambala from the clutches of the Dragon.

(ix) Need to sanction Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project

SHRIMATI JASKAUR MEENA (DAUSA): Hon. Chairperson, At present, the basis of India's economic progress is self-reliant agriculture sector. On the basis of government policy, many measures are being taken to make agriculture self-reliant. But, it is also important to ensure the availability of water for irrigation facility. The maximum area in my Parliamentary Constituency Dausa is fall under the dark zone. The rainfall rate is also low in Rajasthan. In the DPR, prepared by the state government, Dausa district has been kept out of the command area.

Therefore, I demand that keeping in view the plight of the farmers in my parliamentary constituency Dausa, where 90 percent people are dependent on agriculture, the ERCP project should be approved.

(x) Need to set up a Krishi Vigyan Kendra in Pataliputra Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (PATLIPUTRA): Sir, while drawing your attention to my parliamentary constituency Patliputra, I want to say that there is only one Krishi Vigyan Kendra functional which is in Barh city of Patna district. If a farmer in my area wants to know about the latest technical information or profitable schemes related to agriculture, then he has to travel about 80 kilometers to reach Barh, which is not logical and practical from any point of view. It is noteworthy that many ambitious schemes have been launched by the government to double the income of farmers by training them technically, for which the Krishi Vigyan Kendras have a leading role. The people of my parliamentary constituency are completely deprived of benefits of the said schemes, because the functional Krishi Vigyan Kendra is about 80 kms away from my parliamentary constituency.

It is also known that Patna district is geographically very large and there are three Lok Sabha constituencies in Patna district whereas only Krishi Vigyan Kendra is located at Barh in Patna district. If a district has large area, then there is an provision to set up additional Krishi Vigyan Kendra in the said district. Therefore, it is a handfold request to the hon. Minister of Agriculture through you that in the light of the above facts, please give the desired orders and instructions for opening a Krishi Vigyan Kendra on priority basis at a suitable place in any of the 6 assembly constituencies (i.e. Phulwarisharif, Danapur, Maner, Paliganj, Masaurhi, Bikram) falling under my Parliamentary Constituency Pataliputra.

(xi) Need to include Banjara community of Uttar Pradesh

in the list of Scheduled Tribes

SHRI SUBRAT PATHAK (KANNAUJ): Hon. Speaker, first of all, I would like

to thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak. Through you, I would like to

draw the attention of the government to an important matter concerning my state.

The matter of inclusion of Banjara community in the category of Scheduled Tribes

is pending with the Union Government for a longtime. The Banjara community of

Uttar Pradesh is in a very miserable condition economically, socially, educationally

and politically. For these reasons, the Cabinet of the State Government has taken a

decision in this regard in 2013 itself and sent its strong recommendation to the

Center through letter number 1689, dated 8.11.2013.

It is also an important fact that Banjara community fulfills all of the 5 criteria

set for inclusion in the category of Scheduled Tribes. This fact was verified after

thorough examination by the state's Scheduled Castes and Tribes Research

Institute, Lucknow and only after that the State Government recommended for

inclusion. In this regard, on the directions of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs,

Government of India, 2018, the Government of Uttar Pradesh has again provided

an explanation to the Central Government on 15.3.2019 vide letter No.

717/2632019dated of the Social Welfare Departmentrd Therefore, I request the

Government through you to take this issue seriously and include the Banjara

community of Uttar Pradesh in the list of Scheduled Tribes at the earliest.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Raju Bista - Not present.

(xii) Regarding Corporate Social Responsibility initiative in Panipat Refinery and NDRI, Karnal in Haryana

SHRI SANJAY BHATIA (KARNAL): Hon. Chairperson, the CSR expenditure in Karnal and Panipat has been increasing lately due to its proximity to developing cities Delhi and Gurugram. Some of outstanding initiatives are being undertaken with the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in these flourishing cities, which have been contributing in providing safe drinking water and protecting water resources, healthcare and sanitation, education and employment enhancing vocational skills, empowerment of women and making them socially and economically self-reliant. My parliamentary constituency Karnal, Panipat has world class facilities for textile products, medical equipment, liberty footwear and huge industrial complexes like NDRI, Panipat Refinery. Hon. Speaker, in view of all the above facts and circumstances, through you, I humbly request the hon. Finance Minister, hon. Natural Gas and Petroleum Minister and hon. Agriculture Minister to establish a Women Training Centre, a Driving School, Women Scholarship Schemes through CSR funds of Panipat Refinery and of Karnal NDRI.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Subhash Chandra Baheria - Not present.

(xiii) Regarding expeditious disinvestment of CCIL Kurkunta

[English]

DR. UMESH G. JADAV (GULBARGA): CCIL Kurkunta stopped its production in 1998 and faced disinvestment in 2006 by the Government of India. With this disinvestment, more than 4,000 to 5,000 families have gone through severe financial crisis as this cement industry was the only source of their income.

After my pursuance of this matter since 2019, Secretaries-level meeting was called by the hon. Minister for Heavy Industries on 26.11.2019, which resulted in a public hearing in September, 2020 for three continuous days by the Pollution Board to seek queries or objection for starting the mining process of limestone in this area. Now, the people of this area found a ray of hope that at least something is going to start soon for their livelihood. In this area, limestone is in abundant quantity to start a cement factory of two million tonne capacity and this would last for more than 100 years. If the Clinker Process is granted by the Government of India, then it will be the game changer for the common people as it will generate more than 2,000 jobs through direct and indirect employment. I, therefore, request you to kindly give directions to the concerned authority to start the Clinker Process and expedite the disinvestment process of CCIL Kurkunta.

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(xiv) Regarding construction of national highways in Rajsamand

Parliamentary Constituency, Rajasthan

[Translation]

SUSHRI DIYA KUMARI (RAJSAMAND): Chairperson Sir, the speed with

which the National Highways and Expressways are being constructed for

transportation in the country at present is commendable.

My parliamentary constituency Rajsamand is a hilly terrain with unfavorable

geographical conditions. It is also famous for its religious and historical heritage.

For ease of movement in Rajsamand Parliamentary Constituency, the construction

of the following roads is very important.

1. The current NH-158, which is approved from Mandla Bhilwara to Ras

and is in progress, should be extended by 40 kms to connect to NH-89 via

Riyabdi and Padukalan.

2. The work of NH-458 Ladnu to Jassakheda via Merta has been completed,

but the construction of 32 km streethe of the road (Raipur to Jassakheda)

in the forest area has been left incomplete. DPR for this work is being

prepared, but it is getting further delayed. It should be completed at the

earliest

3. In order to connect NH-158 to NH-89, the road from Lambia to Pushkar

via Kurki which is 58 km should be declared an NH. The state government

has submitted its recommendation in this regard to the Central

Government.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Ravneet Singh - Not present.

Dr. Mohammad Jawed - Not present.

Shri Deepak Baij - Not present.

Shri A.K.P. Chinraj - Not present.

Smt. Vanga Geetha Viswanath - Not Present

(xv) Regarding inclusion of natural fibers in Textile PLI Scheme [English]

SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA VISWANATH (KAKINADA): The Union Government approved the textile sector Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Program last year. Along with measures such as Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies and the Remission of Duties or Taxes on Export Products, this move was intended to herald a new era in the textile industry by providing raw materials at competitive prices, skill development, and other benefits, while boosting domestic manufacturing and lowering import bills.

The scheme provided incentives worth Rs 10,683 crore over a five-year period to boost the manufacture of high-value manmade fiber fabrics, apparel, and technological textiles. However, in this pursuit to push manufacturing of high-value manmade fiber fabrics, the natural fibers that are produced by plants, animals and geological processes, and are recyclable and biodegradable in nature have largely been ignored by the policymakers.

With right policies in place, new, expensive and exotic fabrics can be developed by natural fibers, promising high return to the farmers.

Especially, in our State, the weaving of Patnulu Khadi, which happened to have impressed Gandhiji when he visited the area in the early 1920s, can be turned into a thriving enterprise. As a result, it is critical for the Union Government to expand the scope of the proposed Phase II of the Textile PLI Scheme to include natural fibres in order to ensure doubling of farmers' income.

(xvi) Regarding approval of City Water Action Plan under AMRUT 2.0 Scheme (CWAP)

SHRI RAJENDRA DHEDYA GAVIT (PALGHAR): Sir, Vasai Virar City Corporate population of 24 lakh has been facing acute water crisis and against the demand of 372 MLD, available water from all sources is only 230 MLD. The corporation has prepared DPR for augmentation and strengthening of distribution system for 225 MLD (165 MLD from MMRDS Surya Scheme and 60 MLD from Kholasupada 1& 2). Out of the 310 MLD sewerage generated under Vasai Virar City Municipal Corporation, the present sewage treatment installed capacity of the Corporation is only 77 MLD. As such, 230 MLD STP capacity is required to be installed. The National Green Tribunal or the MPCB bas already imposed a penalty of Rs. 113.58 crore on the Corporation for not having required sewage treatment facility. To overcome the above problems, the Corporation has submitted the projects worth Rs 1200 crores in City Water Action Plan (CWAP) under AMRUT 2.0 scheme of the Union Government.

I request the Government to approve the said projects which will augment water supply distribution system & also provide underground sewerage system for Nalasopara (East & West). The grants need to be made available to the corporation by approving the above projects under Central Government AMRUT-2.0 Scheme.

(xvii) Need to restore Old Pension Scheme to teachers and employees of Navodaya Vidyalaya Schools

[Translation]

SHRI DILESHWAR KAMAIT (SUPAUL): Chairperson Sir, Navodaya Vidyalayas of the country are giving wings to the hopes of the countryfolk. Navodaya Vidyalayas have spread the light of education at the rural level. The credit for this success goes to the teachers of Navodaya Vidyalaya, who are providing services by staying in the campus for 24 hours, leaving behind their family and social environment, but the sad aspect behind this great success is that these teachers and all the employees of Navodaya Vidyalaya have been deprived of the facility of social security like pension under CCS 1972 who are working in difficult conditions, while the employees of CBSE, Sainik School, Railway School, NCERT, NIOS, Tibetan School etc. have this facility. Through the House, I request that teachers and staff, who joined Navodaya Vidyalayas before January 1, 2004 should be covered within the provisions of old pension scheme.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Chandra Prakash Choudhary ji - Not present.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: It is time for the submission of matters to be raised during Zero Hour. If anyone's name is left in today's list, they will be given an opportunity.

Shri Ritesh Pandey Ji.

SHRI RITESH PANDEY (AMBEDKAR NAGAR): Chairperson Sir, the youth in our country is facing challenges of unemployment. In this context, about 12 thousand jobs have been eliminated by the start ups, in which companies like Ola, Blink It, Byjus, UnAcademy, Vedantu, Cars 24, Mobile Premier League, Lido Learning etc. have laid off thousands of people. Due to continuous layoff, it seems that around 50 thousand jobs will be lost in these start up sectors.

I must say through you that the laws were enacted to provide jobs to the youth and youngsters, a clause of restructuring of cost management has been inserted in it, these companies are using this clause as a panacea in their business.

13.00 hrs

They are using this as an excuse to lay people off, due to which the future of the youth is completely in darkness. Due to this, lakhs of families have lost hopes.

Sir, through you, I request the hon. Labour and Employment Minister to look into this matter seriously. New Unicorns are being created in our country and the youth is being told to improve their technical skills so that they can get jobs, at this point we need to provide security to these youth. They need your protection and for that you should direct the Labour and Employment Minister to look into the seriousness of this matter and work to provide a security cover to these youth so that their jobs can be saved. Thank you ver much.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Subhash Chandra Baheria ji, you speak your Zero Hour Matter.

SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BAHERIA (BHILWARA): Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the government towards the cheque bounce menace. People give blank cheques and the bearers fill the amount by themselves and then get it bounced to take legal action. Through you, I request that no action should be taken against the drawer until it is proved that the drawer has received any money or goods from the payee. There are a lot of checque bounce cases registered in the police and because of such cases, people are being harassed illegitimately. Necessary action is required for reconsidering the existing cheque bounce rule and action should be taken only in those cases where cheques are issued by a drawer to a payee. Thank you very much.

13.02 hrs

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377- Contd.

[English]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Matters under Rule 377 – Shri Subhash Chandra Baheria.

(xviii) Need to restore the operation of trains discontinued due to Covid-19 pandemic

[Translation]

SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BAHERIA (BHILWARA): Lakhs of people travel by trains in the country everyday. Passenger trains (local trains) are convenient and affordable means of transport for a common man. Before the Corona pandemic, passenger trains used to stop at every station, But, the Ministry of Railway followed zero-based policy during the pandemic and discontinued the stoppage of many passenger trains at various stations. Common people are suffering a lot due to this and demands for restoring stoppage of passenger trains are being raised in the area now and then. I request the hon. Minister of Railways through the House that the passenger trains (local trains) are run not only to earn profit but also for the convenience of movement of the common people. Therefore, the stoppages of the local trains at all these stations should be restored as earlier by changing the policy of passenger trains for the relief of the common man.

(xix) Regarding redressal of electricity related grievances of the people in NCT of Delhi

SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI (SOUTH DELHI): Hon. Speaker, through you I would like to draw the attention of the House, especially of the Minister of Power, towards the serious problem of Delhi. Respected Sir, there used to be a 3 to 4 hours' power cut every day in my parliamentary constituency, South Delhi in Delhi, the national capital. Under the leadership of respected Prime Minister Shri Modi ji, with the efforts of hon. Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari ji and the then Power Minister Shri Piyush Goyal ji, the problem has been solved by the construction of 400/220 kilo watt powerhouse on Shooting Range Road for Rs 3100 crore. But, two problems in the Power sector are still being faced. There were 40.47 lakh consumers in Delhi in the year 2010, which has now increased to 61.68 lakh and the collection is Rs. 900 to 1000 crore every month. Many irregularities are prevalent in the BSES Yamuna Power Ltd. In my area, new connections are not being given in Kishangarh, Masoodpur Dairy, JJ Bandhu Camp, Jai Hind Camp, Rajokri, BESE Camp located in Mehrauli Legislative Assembly; and Mandi Village, Chhatarpur Extension, Chhatarpur Enclave, Rajpur Khurd, Rajpur Colony located in Chhatarpur Legislative Assembly. The reason they give is that there is too much load on the transformers and these may be burned out due to new connections. Along with this, in Okhla, Seelampur, Matia Mahal, Ballimaran, Mustafabad areas, 80% of the electricity is stolen and once in a while, when raid is carried out to check power theft; and the bills are issued as per usage, then 70 to 90 percent of the penalty is waived off. On the other hand, if a case of theft or misuse is detected in other areas of Delhi, then only 30 to 50 percent of the penalty is waived. What is the reason for such discrimination? Even the old transformers are also not replaced, while the total planned expenditure of the Delhi government in the power sector has reduced drastically. In the year 2011, the planned expenditure was only 13.44% of the total which has now come down to 0.31% in 2020-21. On the contrary to this, the prices have been increased by 6 to 8 percent in the name of PPAC. This 6% increase is just an eyewash, it has almost doubled. There are 4 components of electricity distribution. There has been an increase of 6% in every compound, due to which the consumers have to pay 12% more. I request the hon. Minister of Power through you to take notice of this matter and try to find some solution with the help of the hon. Lieutenant Governor of Delhi.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The House stands adjourned till 2.15 P.M.

13.06 hrs

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

14.18 hrs

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

(Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab in the Chair)

INDIAN ANTARCTIC BILL, 2022

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No.13, Hon. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS; MINISTER OF

STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

Hon. Chairperson Sir, since a large number of members are absent today and the opposition is also not present, I would suggest and request, so can we leave it today and take it up for discussion some other day, the rest is your final decision, because this is a very important bill regarding Antarctica. This matter will be discussed for the first time. There are many such aspects in it, which should come to everyone's knowledge and attention. Each aspect also has its own importance. The bill has been introduced and is now at the consideration stage.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: This is the most important bill. It would be better if there is a healthy discussion on this. Meghwal ji, would you like to say something? Consent of the House is required. As the Minister has just told that very few members of the opposition are present in the House and I want the consent of the House, because the government's intention is that without the Opposition, the Bill should not be passed, so what would you like to say in this regard?

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Chaudhary ji, you say.

SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY (PALI): This bill introduced by the Government is a very important bill. While having discussion on this bill, we want that Member from the opposition should also be there, everyone should be there, so that a meaningful discussion takes place. I also believe, since the Members of the Congress and other opposition parties are not present in the House for the discussion of this important bill of today, they should have been in the House. It is our first duty to stay in the House and discuss such an important bill, but it is a matter of great regret that they are not in the House today. If they had been in the house today, then this would have been discussed.

DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA): Sir, this House is for debate, for discussion. If a good bill, an important bill, in the interest of the country, should not be passed without listening to the suggestion of the opposition. The way the Congress and the opposition have boycotted today, when such an important bill was listed for discussion; the intention of the government is clear that the government wants to discuss everything and take the opposition into confidence.

I would request through you that the suggestion of the Government should be accepted and listed for the discussion on next day, because this bill in itself is very important in the interest of the country.

[English]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I understand; the sense of the House is to defer this Bill to a different date.

The House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow, the 22nd July, 2022, at 1100 a.m.

14.22 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, July 22, 2022 / Ashadha 31, 1944 (Saka)

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