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**Wednesday, July 3, 2019**  
**Ashadha 12, 1941 (Saka)**

**LOK SABHA DEBATES**  
**(English Version)**

**First Session**  
**(Seventeenth Lok Sabha)**



**(Vol. II contains Nos. 11 to 20 )**

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**NEW DELHI**

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## LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

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Wednesday, July 03, 2019/Ashadha 12, 1941 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[HON. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

*[English]*

**SHRI T.R. BAALU (SRIPERUMBUDUR):** Sir, I have given notice of an Adjournment Motion. ...(*Interruptions*)

**HON. SPEAKER:** You may raise it in 'Zero Hour' and not during Question Hour.

... (*Interruptions*)

**11.01hrs**

**ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

*[English]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Question no. 161, Shri Jagdambika Pal.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:** Hon. Speaker, I am very grateful to you. In response to the question, I asked through you, the Hon. Railway Minister said that the survey of the Barahni to Kathmandu railway line was approved in the year 2015-16. Much of it falls in Nepal, so permission from the Government of Nepal is required. The policy of our hon. Prime Minister and our government is neighbor first. After becoming Prime Minister, he did not first go to Europe and America, but to Maldives and our neighboring countries. Our policy is to have very good relations with our neighbors. He also said in Nepal's Constituent Assembly that two buses are plying from Kathmandu to Delhi for connectivity. Today, the railway line from Barahni to Kathmandu is quite essential. With regard to further action after survey in this regard, the Ministry of External Affairs is ready to give money for further action after taking consent from Government of Nepal, when will the project be started or will the Ministry of Railways take permission from the Government of Nepal to sign further agreement?

*[English]*

**SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI:** Sir, hon. Member Shri Jagdambika Pal is a very senior Member and has asked a very appropriate question.

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Minister, please speak a little louder.

*[English]*

**SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI:** Sir, hon. Member Shri Jagdambika Pal is a very senior Member and has asked a very appropriate question. Only five kilometres of this rail line is in Indian territory and the remaining 354 kilometres fall in the territory of Nepal. The process is going on and the Ministry of External Affairs

is already following it up. Hon. Prime Minister is also having very good relations with Nepal. *[Translation]* Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ji also said that we should have good relations with our neighbouring countries, that is our policy. We are still trying for it. If the Government of Nepal gives permission at the earliest, we will try to complete it after the survey. Survey of 5 km in the Indian territory has already been done.

*[English]*

**SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:** Hon. Speaker, it makes no difference that only five kilometres of the line is in India and 400 kilometres of the line is in Nepal. The question is that the Government of India has to take initiative and expedite this agreement between the Government of India and the Government of Nepal. *[Translation]* In this regard the Ministry of Railways has conducted the survey and China which is 4000 km away. It is trying to bring the rail line to India's border. Nepal is dependent on us. Today you see that for the past few days our vegetables and fruits have been blocked from going there. Such kind of politics is being played by the Communist Party that since yesterday, milk and juices are also being stopped. The entire trade is with India, it is suffering. Most of the people of Nepal work in India. If we construct 354 km railway line up to Kathmandu, then our friendship with Nepal, which is also our desire, will intensify. There will be full connectivity, then no one from Kathmandu will look to China, all the people will come to India. What action will you take in this regard?

**SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI:** Sir, the hon. Member has asked a very good question. Nepal and Karnataka enjoy great ties as far as Pashupatinath temple is concerned. The priest at Pashupatinath temple is appointed from Karnataka. We are quite satisfied the way we are going to forge a relationship. *[English]* The Ministry of External Affairs is already expediting the work. As soon as the Government of Nepal gives its consent to this survey, then immediately this work would be taken up. *[Translation]* The constituency of my friend Sanjay Jaiswal

also falls in that area. He was also saying that Nepal, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar should have good relations and to further this end, we will try our best to do this work only after the Nepal Government grants permission to the External Affairs Ministry.

**SHRI JUGAL KISHORE SHARMA:** Thank you, hon. Speaker. I would like to thank the hon. Prime Minister Narendra Bhai Modi ji and the Railway Minister Piyush Goyal ji on behalf of the people of Jammu and Kashmir through you, because the survey that was conducted for laying the railway line from Jammu to Poonch was completed. Hon. Speaker, I urge the Minister and want to know when the work of laying the railway line from Jammu to Poonch will be started so that people from far-flung areas also get rid of the problems and they are able to travel to other parts of the country easily and conveniently.

*[English]*

**SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI:** Hon. Member has raised a valid point. Hon. Prime Minister's vision is that every part of the country should be covered by the railway network. *[Translation]* The government is trying to provide inexpensive railway facilities to every man in the country *[English]* Earlier, Railways was being politicised. *[Translation]* Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji had worked to connect the roads and now Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji is working to connect the railways, working to connect the whole country. I will give the complete details of this to the Hon. Member later.

**DR. SANJAY JAISWAL:** Hon. Speaker, thank you very much. My question is to the hon. Minister. When both the Prime Minister of Nepal and the Prime Minister of India met, they approved the project to construct a rail line from my Lok Sabha constituency Raxaul to Kathmandu. Its DPR was to be made. My question to the Hon. Minister is whether he will develop Raxaul as a railway hub and what is the status of Raxaul to Kathmandu railway line? You please give information about it.

**SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI:** Sir, an MoU has already been signed after the visit of Hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and the survey has already been completed. And Raxaul's PET survey was completed in *[English]* March 2019 for this 200 Km. long electrified broad-gauge line. Another Survey for rail line between Krishan Nagar to Kapilvastu has been sanctioned. *[Translation]* This work is under progress. Sanjay Jaiswal ji is asking this in respect of his constituency Raxaul. *[English]* Prioritised construction of new rail line from Raxaul to Kathmandu was announced by hon. Prime Ministers of India and Nepal on 7.4.2018. The MoU was signed in August. The Preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey, what we call PET, was completed in March 2019 for this 200 km long electrified broad-gauge line.



**(Q. 162)**

*[Translation]*

**SHRI NIHAL CHAND:** Hon. Speaker, at the outset I would like to thank the Central Government and the hon. Prime Minister of the country for the rapid development and modernization in Indian Railways. In the last five years, the way the hon. Railway Minister has laid a network of rails in the country, 13 trains have been introduced from my constituency. I would like to congratulate the Hon. Railway Minister that he has done such a tremendous job. I would like to know through you from the hon. Railway Minister as to how many LHB coaches are being manufactured every year in the country. Is the government considering to set up a new rail factory in Rajasthan?

Hon. Speaker, the local train plying in my Lok Sabha constituency Sriganganagar has only five-six coaches and daily passengers face a lot of trouble. My question to the Hon. Minister is whether the department will complete the process of replacing the ICF coach and install LHB coaches there, considering the passenger load, will the department complete the process of adding additional coaches in them?

**SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI:** Sir, the hon. Member has asked a very relevant question. *[Translation]* There are approximately 57 thousand conventional coaches in this country. Right now, we have changed 21 percent coaches and attached LBH coaches. These Link Hoffman Bush coaches are quite safe against accidents. Our Prime Minister says that safety is first. The Prime Minister has given instructions that safety, cleanliness, and punctuality are the priority. I would like to submit in reply to the question that the Hon. Member has asked that every year we are going to change these coaches. We are changing the coaches every year, in record breaking time. *[English]* I congratulate the officers concerned and public sectors of our railways because they have manufactured the largest number of coaches in India under Make in India project of our Hon. Prime Minister. *[Translation]* The concern of the hon. member about passengers is also our

concern. For this, we are trying to do it as soon as possible and we are changing approximately 57,000 coaches in phase wise manner. *[English]* We are going to change the coaches for the facility of the passengers as early as possible.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI NIHAL CHAND:** Hon. Speaker, I would like to thank the Hon. Minister that a new train is about to be introduced from my constituency on the sixth of this month. That train will be start from Anupgarh to Bathinda via Suratgarh, I would like to thank you for that.

Hon. Speaker, I would like to ask the Government through you, and would like to know from the hon. Minister that in the year 1998, the then Prime Minister, Hon. Atal Bihari Vajpayee, announced a train from Hanumangarh to Sardarshahar via Rawatsar in my constituency Hanumangarh, which is pending. The track from Sriganganagar to Jaipur via Canal Loop is almost complete, by when does the government propose to ply a new train on this route?

**SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI:** In this regard, I can assure you that we shall celebrate Deepawali together and you will also get good facilities. About the concern expressed by the hon. Member for his region, I can reaffirm with great satisfaction that I will celebrate Deepawali with him.

**DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH:** Sir, my categorical question to the Minister is that a train was introduced from Baramulla to Banihal by Manmohan Singh ji, but the coaches have never been changed and are in a very bad condition. I would request the hon. Minister to kindly increase the number of those coaches and improve their condition. Both things are needed *[English]* - More coaches and the improvement of coaches that are presently there.

**SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI:** Sir, the hon. Member has asked a relevant question. I will get the details and let him know afterwards whatever the details are there. We are interested in changing the coaches. We are giving more safety to the people. We are concerned about them.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY:** Sir, after the formation of the new government, a 100-day action plan has been prepared. It is being reported that seven production units are going to be privatized or corporatized as per the action plan. Yesterday, our CLP leader Madam Sonia Gandhi raised this issue.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, please ask only the supplementary questions related to the original question.

**SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY:** Sir, please provide us information on this subject. This is a serious issue.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, you should ask questions about LHB Coaches.

**SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY:** Sir, this announcement has caused panic among the employees; there is fear.

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):** Hon. Speaker, once again, we witness the double standards and duplicitous policies of the major opposition party in this House. I would like to quote here the first Budget Speech of the Finance Minister of the UPA Government, 2004-05. The former finance minister is from their party and probably also their senior leader, he says:

*[English]*

“... Disinvestment and privatization are useful economic tools. We will selectively employ these tools, consistent with the declared policy. As a first step, I propose to establish a Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE). The Board will advise the Government on the measures to be taken to restructure PSEs, including cases where disinvestment or closure or sale is justified.”

*[Translation]*

This was the policy of the Congress. ... (*Interruptions*) You must have the courage to listen. I am coming to all the issues. We have never hesitated to answer your questions... (*Interruptions*) Listen please. .... (*Interruptions*) Let us also tell the House how their duplicitous policy works?

Hon. Speaker, GST was to be introduced in the country. A council was to be established for GST. The Congress government formed a private limited company on 28 March 2013, under which private companies were allowed majority stake i.e., the GST data of the entire country was to be given to a private company. We made it a public company in September 2018 on the instructions of the hon. Prime Minister Modi ji. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

**SHRI D.K. SURESH:** Sir, this is not the question asked to him. ...*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI B. MANICKAM TAGORE:** Sir, let him answer the question asked to him. ...*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI T. N. PRATHAPAN:** Sir, the question was about Rae Bareli Coach Factory. ... *(Interruptions)* You please answer to that specific question here. ... *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

**SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL:** In January 2006, Congress Government announced a group of ministers, which entrusted Mumbai and Delhi airports in private hands. ...*(Interruptions)* This is the policy of the Congress party ...*(Interruptions)* In budget Speech, 2005 - 2006, the then Finance Minister once again stated that "... Stamp duty on Stock Exchange 'Corporatization'..." These are the words.

*[English]*

**SHRI BENNY BEHANAN:** You please answer the question. ...*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL:** It further states that :

"...The Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956, as amended recently, requires all stock exchanges to be corporatized and demutualized. ... *(Interruptions)* Three stock exchanges are not yet corporatized. ... *(Interruptions)* In order to facilitate their corporatization, I propose to grant a one-time exemption to them from stamp duty on the notional transfer of assets..." ... *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

Hon. Speaker, it is clear that the Congress government had done privatization, not corporatization... *(Interruptions)* Our government is corporatizing so that jobs and investments may come in these production units and they grow, and serve the public. *(Interruptions)* Manufacture good modern LHB coaches. Manufacture aluminium coaches, train sets, electric trains. ... *(Interruptions)*. But what we have written is that due to corporatization of it, the government will remain the owner. ... *(Interruptions)* We will hold all its shares. ... *(Interruptions)* Not like them that everything is picked up and sold to the private sector. *(Interruptions)* Why are we corporatizing that, because this is what Congress would have done. ... *(Interruptions)*. It announced in 2007-08. ... *(Interruptions)* but did nothing after giving assurance. ... *(Interruptions)* Gradually, came the year 2014. ... *(Interruptions)* Till the year 2014, this coach factory had not manufactured a single coach. ... *(Interruptions)* They would paint a coach or tighten a screw. ... *(Interruptions)* Coaches came from ICF.... *(Interruptions)* Coaches came from Kapurthala. ... *(Interruptions)* Their government only made announcements, but didn't do anything. ... *(Interruptions)* We ran the factory.

People were given jobs in the factory, but the job was never given by the Congress. ... *(Interruptions)*. We gave jobs to local people across the country. ... *(Interruptions)*. That factory manufactured 1422 coaches last year. ... *(Interruptions)* against the manufacturing capacity of one thousand. ... *(Interruptions)* This is the way our government works. ... *(Interruptions)* We do not make duplicitous statements and say baseless things.

**(Q. 163)**

**SHRI AJAY MISRA TENI:** Hon. Speaker, the hon. Minister has given a comprehensive reply. According to his reply, as against 62 crore rupees import from Vietnam in the year 2017-18, television worth Rs. 2,317 crore was imported in the year 2018-19, which is approximately 37 times increase.

Sir, I think the impact of the Free Trade Agreement with the South East Asian countries is that only 5 ASEAN countries out of the countries with which we have entered into FTA own 97 percent share of the total import.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, do not read out the answer, you ask your question.

**SHRI AJAY MISRA TENI:** Sir, I am asking question. There has been an increase from Rs 4591 crore to Rs 7011 crore in the year 2018 -19 as against the year 2017 - 18, which shows an increase by 50 per cent. Sir, I want to know through you from the Hon. Minister whether the Government has made any plan to facilitate the trade of TV and LED sets manufactured and assembled in India as a whole, to promote 'Make in India' and 'Start-up India' and to expand the domestic television industry and reduce dependence on imports in our country?

**SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:** Hon. Speaker Sir, the hon. Member has asked a very good question. As he himself has said while asking question that to influence foreign policy we have adopted a policy of importing at zero duty from ASEAN countries. TV sets have been imported from Vietnam. But let me tell the House, through you, that there are 38 LCD and LED television manufacturing companies in the country and 80 percent of the country's requirement is being met from Indian companies. In Narendra Modi's government, we have taken forward electronic manufacturing in 'Make in India'. I want to say three things to the House in the year 2014-15. Electronic hardware production was 1,90,366 crores, which increased in the year 2018-19 to Rs. 4,58,006 crores and about 20 lakh people have got jobs in it. For mobile manufacturing, I want to say that when

our government was formed in the year 2014, there were only 2 mobile factories in the country and now their number has increased to 268 and today mobiles of 1,70,000 crore rupees are being produced, which was earlier 18,090 crore. About 6.7 percent people have got direct-indirect jobs.

Sir, under the direction of Hon. Prime Minister, 'Make in India', has moved ahead in electronic manufacturing, LED bulbs are being made, lamps are being made and other items are also being made. We will take it further. The Hon. Member has given a good suggestion, but at times foreign policy and 'Make in India' also have to work in tandem.

**SHRI AJAY MISRA TENI:** Hon. Speaker, the hon. Minister gave a very good answer and, indeed, between 2014 and 2019, the way employment opportunities have increased we have moved forward in every field. I certainly want to thank the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister and submit that we have many domestic companies in India, along with foreign companies, which manufacture lot of electronic items including TV. Those companies manufacture electronic items in three ways, they either manufacture them completely in the country or assemble the components brought from abroad or for buy them from countries where there is a lot of relaxation, From there they get cheap products, so they import them directly and supply them in the country. This affects the indigenous companies in India and increases competition. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether such indigenous companies, which manufacture sets entirely in India, and the assembled components are also manufactured in the country itself would be provided in can gives for will you make any such policy in GST or custom duty, which can encourage the companies that manufacture in the country?

**SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:** Hon. Speaker, this is an expansion of electronic manufacturing, Indian companies are also supportive in this matter. I want to tell you that there are 93 mobile factories in the vicinity, i.e. Noida. Nowadays, mobiles are manufactured, components are also manufactured,

chargers and batteries are also manufactured, and this process needs to be taken forward. In response to the question of Hon. Member, we will have to consider that whenever a technology-driven action takes place, foreign participation is essential. We want Indian companies to be more competitive. To facilitate them we have started MCAF program, in which we extended cooperation to many people. I through you, would like to tell the House very humbly that big manufacturers in the field of electronics are coming to India today and they are outsourcing and setting up big plants for big companies of the world. We are also encouraging it, because our effort is that if India is moving ahead in manufacturing, then India should also become a major export hub. I am thinking about this. We have human resource in India, we have talented engineers, so India should also become a major hub of electronic manufacturing.

**SHRIMATI HEMAMALINI:** Hon. Speaker, very good work is being done in our country through 'Make in India'. *[English]* We are very proud of the work being done under 'Make In India'. I want to ask the hon. Minister as to what significant support for the electronics sector has been offered so far under the National Electronic Policy, 2009 by the Government. Also, I want to know whether there are suggestions from electronic manufacturing associations for giving various incentives such as deduction of trade fair expenses etc. for the growth of the industry and exports and whether the Government has positively responded to such suggestions.

**SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:** Sir, that is a very relevant question asked by the hon. Member. Let me explain it. We have taken a series of measures. First was the M-SIPS whereby we used to give 25 per cent of interest subvention and subsidy. Now, we have come with the latest Electronic Policy, 2019 which lays the whole architecture whereby India's electronic manufacturing becomes an important component of making India's \$1 Trillion digital economy – from software to hardware. We need to understand that electronic software is also an important component of electronic manufacturing and that is our focus.



As regards other incentives, we have always been emphasising that Indian companies should also become proactive, competitive, professional and technology driven. This whole Electronic Policy, 2019 basically stresses upon that. I am quite sure, in the light of the experience of last five years, we will surely be able to achieve the target set for ourselves.

**(Q. 164)**

*[Translation]*

**SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA:** Hon. Speaker, through you, I would like to ask the Minister a question regarding Railways in Saurashtra. Saurashtra was a separate state in the state of Gujarat. After independence, a state was established in 1948, the capital of which was Rajkot. Now Saurashtra is the third part of Gujarat. Dwarka and Somnath are also two big temples in Saurashtra. Both of these are centers of faith where people come from all over India.

The Rajdhani Express plying from Delhi to Ahmedabad, starts from here at eight o'clock at night, reaches Ahmedabad at nine in the morning and starts from Ahmedabad at seven in the evening to reach Delhi at seven in the morning.

I want to request the Hon. Minister that the maintenance work of the train is done in Ahmedabad. This train remains in Delhi from morning till evening. If the maintenance work is done there and a separate facility is provided to Rajkot, then a direct train will be available from Delhi to Saurashtra.

**SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI:** Sir, Hon. Kundaria ji has asked a very good question. Just as Shri Narendra Modi ji has connected the whole of India, he also wants connect Rajasthan and Gujarat. *[English]* Ahmedabad to Rajkot is 250 kilometers. *[Translation]* It takes a minimum of four hours to travel 250 kilometers, so minimum eight hours are required. For service and maintenance, minimum six hours are required. That time is not set. In the coming days, *[English]* what best help we can give to the people of Rajasthan and Ahmedabad, Gujarat, we will study that.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA:** Hon. Speaker, my supplementary question is the same.

**HON. SPEAKER:** If this is supplementary question, then you have the reply.

**SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA:** There has always been injustice by the Railways with Saurashtra, for 70 years. Sonnagar to Rajkot being single track, the railway load on this track is more than one hundred fifty taka, so new train was never provided. When Shri Narendra Bhai's government was formed, Rs. 1200 crore was sanctioned to double the track, for this I also thank the hon. Minister.

I thank the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Health Minister for sanctioning an AIIMS in Rajkot. The work of doubling the track should be completed at the earliest and Saurashtra should get more trains, that is my question.

**SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI:** Hon. Speaker, we have studied the subject of the hon. Member. Hon. Kundariya Saheb has raised the subject. The lines are being doubled across the country. We are trying to complete it as quickly as possible. The work of five years ago is now going on very fast. We will try to provide this facility as soon as possible.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Question number 165, Shrimati Kanimozhi ji.

**(Q 165)**

*[English]*

**SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI:** Sir, the Ministry has given a detailed reply to the question and I thank them for it. They have in the reply said that there are unresolved, pending issues obstructing the progress of the railway line. I would like to ask the Minister if the necessary land has been acquired to complete the project. The project is supposed to be completed by 2021. The entire budgetary allocation is Rs.1,182 crore but so far only Rs.342 crore has been allocated. Will they increase the budgetary allocation and finish the project on time?

**SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI:** Sir, I would like to say through you that there are 22 projects of new lines, gauge conversion, etc., in Tamil Nadu worth Rs. 22,000 crore which are at different stages of progress. From 2009 -2010 to 2013-2014, Rs.879 crore per year has been spent. From 2014 to 2019, Rs.1,979 crore per year has been spent. That is 225 per cent of the UPA Government's spending.

...(Interruptions)

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, you will get the opportunity to ask supplementary.

...(Interruptions)

*[English]*

**SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI:** Can I explain my question, Sir?

I am only asking about one particular railway line in Thoothukkudi, I am not asking about what the UPA Government has spent.

**SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI:** There is a system. The State Government and the Centre have to coordinate on giving land to complete the projects. If the land issue is cleared, immediately the project from the Railways will start.

**SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI:** Sir, I have a supplementary, which is not directly connected to the first question.

The Government has advised to close down five railway printing presses. What is the need to close down these printing presses and what happens to the future of the people whose livelihood depends on these and the people who are employed in these printing presses?

*[Translation]*

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):** Hon. Speaker Sir, once again the same thing comes up that the world is moving ahead. *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

Sir, it is very unfortunate that the whole world is moving forward but some people, some parties, some alliances are living in history. The whole world is moving towards digitalisation. The whole world is moving towards modern technology. These printing presses were set up by the British many years ago to print tickets and make them available to all the railway stations. Gradually more and more people are booking tickets online, more and more people are engaging in digital and modern technology and the use of these printing presses has declined so drastically that they are totally uneconomical now.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, some of the tickets cost more to print than the total value of the ticket. Unfortunately, some people want us to continue so that tomorrow we will be forced to increase passenger fares because they do not want us to bring efficiency in Railways. We want to bring efficiency in the Railways. To bring efficiency in the Railways, some of these projects which are unviable are being closed down. The jobs of all the people who are working there are protected. They will be absorbed in other activities of the Railways. I would like to assure the hon. House and the people of India that not a single person will lose his job, everybody's job will be protected. They will be absorbed in other parts of the Railways. However, we will not allow inefficiency to run the Railways like it was in the past many years.

**SHRI K. NAVASKANI:** Hon. Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity. The train service between Karaikkudi, Aranthangi, Peravurani up to Pattukottai has been stopped due to unguarded level crossings. More than 35 unguarded level crossings are on this line. Due to this, the commuters are facing problems. I want to ask the hon. Railway Minister whether he is going to depute guards at all unguarded level crossings.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI:** Sir, I will inform the hon. member after collecting details in this regard.

**SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL:** Let me reply to him. *[English]* We are proud that this Government has eliminated Unmanned Level Crossings in the whole broad-gauge network in the country. ... *(Interruptions)* There is not a single Unmanned Level Crossing in the broad-gauge network in the country today. ... *(Interruptions)*

This particular line may not be a broad-gauge line, that is why there could be Unmanned Level Crossing for which we have set up a protocol. As per that protocol, the train runs and stops and the person closes the gates. ... *(Interruptions)* Then the train runs further. That is for Unmanned Level Crossing on the narrow-gauge or other gauges. But on the main line – the broad-gauge network – there is not a single Unmanned Level Crossing today in the country. ... *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, don't talk to each other Hon. Minister, please don't reply to them.

... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Minister, you need not reply as per their orders.

Question No. 166. Shri Vijay Kumar Dubey.

**(Q. 166)**

*[Translation]*

**SHRI VIJAY KUMAR DUBEY:** Hon. Speaker, I thank you because this is my first time to ask questions and I am a new member. I also thank the hon. Railway Minister for taking all the schemes to every corner of this country and giving facilities to the people and enhancing the prestige of the country.

Hon. Speaker, through you, my question is that the Kushinagar Lok Sabha constituency is the last point of this country bordering Nepal and the border of Bihar, it is the land of Lord Buddha, who preached peace throughout the world. It is a Buddhist circuit area. The area has not been developed till date. We have got home ministry and defense ministry from this Kushinagar Lok Sabha constituency. Those who led this country for sixty years, did not make development. I thank our hon. Prime Minister for the development of this Buddhist circuit in terms of providing an international airport, which has been, completed 80 percent. ... *(Interruptions)* I, through you would like to ask the hon. Railway Minister that now after this international air flight, tourists will come to this region from abroad. Will the work of beautification, modernization, and computerization of the dilapidated railway station of Paniyahwa, Khadda, Padrauna, Ramkola, Kaptanganj in this Lok Sabha constituency will also be taken up and by when will it be done?

**THE MINISTER RAILWAYS AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):** Hon. Speaker, Sir our Government has shown sensitivity for aspirational districts. This is historic in itself. In the country where there are 115 aspirational districts, today railway facilities reach 87 districts.... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, hon. Minister is competent, please sit down. Hon. Minister, wait a minute. I am again urging the hon. Members that no one will make any comment sitting in the House. If you want to ask a question, give a notice on the table. I will allow your supplementary question. Please sit down.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

**SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL:** If you ask a political question, we will give a political answer. ... (*Interruptions*) As far as aspirational districts are concerned, our Government has started the work of encouraging more and more aspirational districts to be connected.

We have just now sanctioned nearly Rs. 5,000 crore to connect three or four Aspirational Districts of Uttar Pradesh with the main network. [*Translation*] As far as the question of the hon. Member is concerned, the work of connecting different regions of the country takes its own course. New schemes are introduced and they have their deadlines, survey is conducted and the government is also concerned about it. I want to assure you that Hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji has a strong desire that rail connectivity should reach every nook and corner of this country. His point of view is very clear. Many projects were previously announced, but the work was not carried out on them. When our government announces something, it also executes them.

**SHRI VIJAY KUMAR DUBEY:** Hon. Speaker, I want to know through you, from the hon. Railway Minister that the Buddhist Circuit area of Kushinagar, where 20 percent construction of International Airport is remaining to be completed. Kushinagar Legislative Assembly constituency, which will be known as a tourist spot not only in the country but in the whole world in the coming days, is still not connected with the rail facility. Whether the land where the meter gauge is laid from Sardar Nagar to Hetimpur is still under government's control? Whether it will be connected by laying a broad gauge connecting it to the said Buddhist circuit area? If it will be done then by when will it be done?

**SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI:** Sir, the hon. Member's concern for his area is genuine. A study will be conducted as soon as possible and the report will be given after examining it.

**SHRI REBATI TRIPURA:** Thank you Sir, I come from East Tripura.



**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Members kindly put your hands together for the hon. Member, he hails from an aspirational district.

**SHRI REBATI TRIPURA:** Dhalai district is one of the aspirational districts in the country and Dambur Lake is a tourist destination in my district. It is one of the many tourist spots in Tripura. The road connectivity to get there is in poor state. I want to know from the hon. Railway Minister, whether the Railway Ministry is planning to provide any connectivity to go there? There is one more question for the hon. Minister. Jampui Hill, where Oranges are grown, Tripura's Orange is very famous, you must know. This hill area is also a tourist destination, which has no rail connectivity. I want to know if the Railway Ministry is planning to provide connectivity there too?

**SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI:** Sir, I would like to speak on behalf of the Hon. Railway Minister that for the first time, the work of connecting the entire North East has been done during the Government of the hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Our Chief Minister in Tripura is Mr. Biplab Kumar Deb. The tourist spots that are there, we will give the details after studying them completely that what all is required for their development.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Shri B. Manickam Tagore. This question is of the aspirational district. You were saying something while sitting, that is why I have called you.

*[English]*

**SHRI B. MANICKAM TAGORE:** Hon. Speaker, Sir, Virudhunagar is an Aspirational District. In 2018, the Government had announced it as an Aspirational District. The project of Madurai –Aruppukottai - Thoothukudi rail link is still pending. An announcement was made that the Silambu Express would run thrice a week. There was a demand for a daily train which has not been met. As far as improvement of railway stations is concerned, there are stations like Thiruthangal and Sivakasi which have not been considered. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether in the coming year, it will be taken into consideration under the Aspirational Districts Programme.

**SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI:** You know very well since you were an hon. member during the 14<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha also. Hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for the first time called a meeting of all the State Legislative Assembly Members, Members of Parliament of both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha in the Central Hall under the Chairmanship of the Speaker to study whatever is to be done for the development of the 115 aspirational districts.

Whatever he is saying on the development of the stations is an on-going process; whatever remaining information is there, I will get the detail and submit to him.

**(Q. 167)**

*[Translation]*

**SHRI RAJAN BABURAO VICHARE:** Hon. Speaker, I through you, congratulate the hon. Minister of Railways that commendable work has been done during his tenure. I through you, want to ask this question as to how many stations have been selected by the Indian Railway Station Development Corporation for the development of railway stations in the country and the states? Does it particularly include Thane railway station in Maharashtra?

*[English]*

**SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI:** Sir, the hon. Member Shri Rajan Vichare comes from Thane.

For Thane station, we have already spent Rs. 27 crore. The refurbishment of railway stations is an on-going process. We are making progress in Thane railway station. Refurbishment and upgradation of stations is in continuous progress: circulating area, platform surface, waiting hall, retiring rooms, toilets, FOBs and many other facilities are being provided.

He is saying that Thane is a station of historical importance. Places of historical importance visited by Mahatma Gandhi, Swami Vivekananda and others are being taken into consideration for showcasing the culture of the country in different stations. So, as the hon. Member has asked, work in this station is already in progress for improvement.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI RAJAN BABURAO VICHARE:** Hon. Speaker, Thane Railway Station is a historic railway station from where the first train of the railway plied between Boribandar to Thane on 16 April 1853. It has completed almost 164 years. Approximately, 7-8 lakh passengers travel daily from this station. After Mumbai under the Central Railways, this station is the largest revenue earner of Rs. 50 lakhs per day. I want to ask the hon. Minister through you, what additional

facilities have been provided for this station and will it be given the status of World Class Station?

**SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI:** Sir, as per the hon. Prime Minister's vision, train safety is the first priority; second is punctuality; and then cleanliness. Any facility the hon. Members require for passenger safety, we are already doing in all the stations. *[Translation]* It is an old and good railway station in the country. The study will be done at international level and the Railway is ready to do whatever additional facilities should be given to the people after studying. *[English]* Development is an on-going process in all the railway stations in the country. *[Translation]* We will try to make it better in the coming days.

**(Q. 168)**

*[Translation]*

**SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV:** Hon. Speaker, the trade relationship between India and Central Asia is very old. When the geographical situation was not favourable, the situation was quite difficult, then even at time there was trade between us and Central Asia. Due to lack of proper development of the countries of Central Asia, many things are imported from other countries. I want to know from the Hon. Minister, what efforts the Government has made in relation to the security problems that are being facing in Central Asia, the security problems that are being faced in doing business, and the solutions to those security problems? Is the government making any effort?

**SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL:** We have very good and close relations with these countries. In fact, there is not as much security problem as there is language problem. There is a problem in the registration of products, disputes settlement etc and there are trade related subject matters, on which we are constantly holding dialogues with them.

If you look at the whole area properly on the problem of security, then there is continuous dialogue about it all over the world. Our foreign office is also concerned about these matters. But there is no direct role or contribution of India in the security problems of that region.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, do you want to ask supplementary question?

**SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV:** Hon. Speaker, there is a problem of security in Central Asia. But the Government of India has not taken any initiative, it is a different matter. The problem is in the whole of Central Asia, in all the countries there. If the Indian government has not been able to make any effort, it is a different matter.

**SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL:** Sir, I have said that the problem is in the whole region. But Government of India should make an arrangement from here for security in those countries, I think no one in the House would think so.

**SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:** Hon. Speaker, the Hon. Minister has answered the question very well. Nevertheless, I would like to know with which countries the competition has been felt in doing business with Central Asia during the last three years and what efforts have been made to succeed in this competition? My question is that the countries of Central Asia Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, are the members of Eurasia and the unions. EAEU which includes Russia, Armenia and Belarus are the other three countries. There is some language problem and some difficulty in finding the possibilities of free trade agreement with them. But our Hon. Prime Minister wants that we should be able to deal with and resolve the problems being faced by in our business in the country and abroad. Would the Minister like to tell how long will it take to do this and how can you do it and what facilities can you give in doing business with these foreign countries?

**SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL:** Sir, it is India's priority to give more thrust to the possibilities of import-export all over the world. When we did a joint feasibility study, it came to notice that there is a lot of potential with EAEU. Under it, we have shared a joint statement with Uzbekistan regarding the significant potential shown in increasing trade with these countries in the joint feasibility study that together we are the five countries and the three countries that the hon. Member has named, Belarus, Russia and Armenia. This group of eight countries, with which we can get a free trade agreement later, we will do it. We are committed for good relations and trade all over the world.

*[English]*

**DR. SHASHI THAROOR:** Mr. Speaker, the hon. Minister has given some reasons in his statement as well as orally but he has not mentioned the biggest obstacle which is that historically our trade with Central Asia has gone through what is today Pakistan and the Northern part of Afghanistan. As long as that relationship remains the way it is, land route to Central Asia will essentially be impossible, let alone unviable.

The question is, whether the Minister would consider embarking on a serious effort to create regional comprehensive trade agreements with massive concessions in order to make up for the extra cost that would be involved in trade with these countries that would have to go by air rather than by land. There are many such countries. As you can see, Kazakhstan has a fairly decent figure, but it is mainly oil and gas. We really need to do more in terms of finished goods. These countries could be a market for our goods if we would actually make gesture from our side as well.

**SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL:** I would undoubtedly agree with the hon. Member that there is huge potential for trade with these countries. I would like to draw his attention to part (a) and (b) of the reply where we have talked about low accessibility and poor connectivity. Obviously, these are the barriers that come in the way of having trade in this region.

In the coming days, we will try to work on it. The hon. Prime Minister has developed very good personal relations with the leadership of these countries. The nation and the people-to-people ties between these two countries are also very strong. We would certainly very much encourage bilateral agreements or an FTA with this region. But they normally work as the EAEU. So, it will need a lot of engagement. As the hon. Member, who was formally handling the Foreign Ministry, is well aware that these are issues that prolong over a long period of time. Every nation secures its own national interest and national priorities. The process has been initiated by our sending them the joint statement.

I can assure the hon. Member that the Government will be working towards a resolution of the free trade or some sort of arrangement with these countries.

**(Q. 169)**

*[Translation]*

**SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM:** Hon. Speaker, the closure of unmanned level crossing by the Railways is a welcome step. I certainly want to thank and congratulate the hon. Railway Minister, Shri Piyush Goyal ji for that but sometimes some practical difficulties arise due to the closure of unmanned railway line crossing. If the village is located on either side of the railway crossing and school, educational institution and hospital are located in one part, etc. So there are difficulties in going to those places. The Railways are trying to overcome these difficulties. Also, the work of constructing ROB, RUB and LHS is also being done. There are three places in my parliamentary constituency - Pajrikala, Lalgarh, and Dali, where people are facing unlimited difficulties. I through you want to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Railway Ministry will make any plans to build LHS at these places?

**SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI:** Sir, on 01-04-2019 there were 22,388 level crossings across the country, Manned level crossing were 21, 340 and unmanned level Crossings were, 1,048. All unmanned level crossing on Broad Gauge have been eliminated on 31. 01. 2019. Sir, this was done on the instructions of the hon. Prime Minister and under the guidance of our Railway Minister Shri Piyush Goyal. I congratulate them for this. *[English]* From 2009 to 2014, in five years, elimination of UMLCs was at 1137 per year whereas in 2014 -19 the progress was only 1,789. So, it was 57 per cent higher. From 2009 to 2014, the elimination of manned level crossings was only 199 per year in 2014-19. The yearly progress was 462. So, it has been increased by 132 per cent.

Regarding the construction of ROB/RUBs, the growth in this regard is 66 per cent in 2014-19, which is more as compared to earlier the progress during 2009-14. *[Translation]* This work is also in progress. We are making efforts to construct LHS and ROBs everywhere and to facilitate trains.



**SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM:** Hon. Speaker, the closure of unmanned level crossings has reduced railway accidents. But we want to know whether it has also improved punctuality of trains? If there has been improvement, what is the punctuality of zone wise trains?

**SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI:** Sir, this work has brought a lot of improvement. After taking detailed information in this regard, we will send it to the Hon. Member.

*[English]*

**SHRI NITESH GANGA DEB:** Hon. Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. This is the first time that I have come here as an MP. Actually, I had given an Unstarred Question. I would like to thank you for allowing me to put a supplementary to this Starred Question.

In my constituency, in two areas, namely, Redhakhol and Bamra, there are unmanned level crossings. I would like to request the hon. Minister to kindly look into the matter.

**SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI:** The hon. Member is very much concerned with the development of his constituency. I will get the report from the officials. We will send full details of this to them later.

**SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN:** As per the statement, there are around 21,340 manned level crossings. When do you propose to eradicate them? In Tamil Nadu, most specifically, there are around 1419 manned level crossings in Broad Gauge and nine in Meter Gauge.

Kindly tell us specifically when you will eradicate the same. Kindly give the reply in English.

**12.00 hrs**

**SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL:** I will certainly answer you in English.

The hon. Member is very rightly concerned, as are the other Members here that we have to quickly look at replacing the Manned Level Crossings also with

underpasses or over bridges. For that, the Ministry of Railways is working with all the State Governments. Wherever a large number of vehicles are crossing, those LCs, particularly the ones which are in cities and National Golden Quadrilateral, we are focussing on them on a priority basis. Therefore, very recently, after the new Government came in, the hon. Prime Minister has asked the Ministry of Railways to work out a scheme by which, on a high priority, on the Golden Quadrilateral, which has the highest carrying capacity and highest used rail network, we can quickly eliminate all the Manned Level Crossings at the first phase. But ideally the country will have to proceed towards eliminating all the Manned Level Crossings.

In Tamil Nadu also, on specific level crossings where the traffic is very high, we are working with the State Government. For all Road Overbridges, the policy is that 50 per cent share is borne by the State and 50 per cent by the Centre. On under bridges, at the LC point, the Railways spend the entire money but we certainly have to prioritise where the demand of the passenger traffic, of the trucks or freight or the vehicles is highest; they have to be given priority. After all, the total cost of a project for eliminating 21000 Manned Level Crossings would run into a few lakh crores of rupees. So, it is obvious that it will take a few years and we will work in a graded manner.

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## **WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS \***

(Starred Question Nos.170 to 180

Unstarred Question Nos. 1802 to 2031)

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\* Available in Master copy of Original Version of Debate, placed in Library.

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

**12.01hrs**

**NOMINATION TO PANEL OF CHAIRPERSONS**

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Members, I have to inform the House that under Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I have nominated Shri N.K. Premachandran as a member of the Panel of Chairpersons.

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*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** I have received notices of adjournment motion from some members on various subjects. Although these matters are important, they do not warrant interruption of normal business of the House. These matters may be raised on other occasions. Therefore, I have not given permission for any notice of the adjournment motion.

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**12.02 hrs**

**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Now the Papers will be laid on the Table.

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION; 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):** I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (English and Hindi versions) under article 323(1) of the Constitution:-

- (1) 68th Annual Report of the Union Public Service Commission, New Delhi, for the year 2017-2018.
- (2) Memorandum explaining reasons for non-acceptance of advice of the Union Public Service Commission in respect of cases referred to in Chapter 9 of the Report.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 101/17/19]

*[English]*

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN):** Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi, for the year 2017-2018.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi, for the year 2017-2018, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi, for the year 2017-2018.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 102/17/19]

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**12.03 hrs**

**MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA**

*[English]*

**SECRETARY GENERAL:** Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary General of Rajya Sabha:

“In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2019 considered and agreed without any amendment to the Jammu and Kashmir Reservation (Amendment) Bill, 2019 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2019.”

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**12.04 hrs**

**BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Report**

*[English]*

**THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF COAL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI):** Sir, I beg to present the Second Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

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**12.04 ½ hrs**

**ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEES**

- (i) **All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) at Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Jodhpur, Kalyani, Mangalagiri, Nagpur, Patna, Raebareli, Raipur and Rishikesh**

*[English]*

**THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (DR. HARSH VARDHAN):** I beg to move the following:-

“That in pursuance of Section 4(g) of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Act, 1956 read with Section 6 of the AIIMS (Amendment) Act, 2012, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner, as the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to each of the ten All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) at Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Jodhpur, Kalyani, Mangalagiri, Nagpur, Patna, Raebareli, Raipur and Rishikesh, subject to the other provisions of the said Act.”

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** The question is:

"That in pursuance of Section 4(g) of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Act, 1956 read with Section 6 of the AIIMS (Amendment) Act, 2012, the members of this House do proceed do elect, in such manner, as the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to each of the ten All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) at Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Jodhpur, Kalyani, Mangalagiri, Nagpur, Patna, Raebareli, Raipur and Rishikesh, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

*The motion was adopted.*



(ii) **Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export  
Development Authority (APEDA)**

*[English]*

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE  
AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):** I beg to move the following: -

“That in pursuance of clause (d) of sub-section (4) of Section 4 of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) Act, 1985 read with rule 3 of APEDA rules 1986, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner, as the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) subject to the other provisions of the said Act and rules made thereunder.”

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** The question is:

“That in pursuance of clause (d) of sub-section (4) of Section 4 of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) Act, 1985 read with rule 3 of APEDA rules 1986, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner, as the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) subject to the other provisions of the said Act and rules made thereunder.”

*The motion was adopted.*

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**12.06 hrs****NEW DELHI INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION CENTRE BILL, 2019\****[English]***THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):**

Hon. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment and incorporation of the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre for the purpose of creating an independent and autonomous regime for institutionalised arbitration and for acquisition and transfer of undertakings of the International Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution and to vest such undertakings in the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre for the better management of arbitration so as to make it a hub for institutional arbitration and to declare the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre to be an institution of national importance and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Motion moved:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment and incorporation of the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre for the purpose of creating an independent and autonomous regime for institutionalised arbitration and for acquisition and transfer of undertakings of the International Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution and to vest such undertakings in the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre for the better management of arbitration so as to make it a hub for institutional arbitration and to declare the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre to be an institution of national importance and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

**DR. SHASHI THAROOR (THIRUVANANTHAPURAM):** Hon. Speaker Sir, I do appreciate the intention of the hon. Minister to set up the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre to encourage arbitration in India, but I am afraid

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\* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section 2 dated 3.07.2019.

I have to object the introduction of this version of the Bill because of three reasons.

Firstly, we need an autonomous arbitration centre which is independent of the Government, especially since arbitration involving PSUs is a common feature in our country. The Bill vests the powers of direction and control with the Central Government in relation to the arbitration centre. Therefore, the hon. Minister must remove these powers from his general superintendence powers; otherwise, independence will not be there and it will not be seen as an arbitration centre.

Secondly, the Bill specifies that every rule made under it, shall be placed before Parliament. Now we have to give enough elbow room to the Centre to change its arbitration rules for administering disputes. But the fact is that the world is changing in the field of arbitration. The Singapore Centre for International Arbitration has amended its rules multiple times since 2010 and is actually receiving many cases that should come to India. Its proceeds are only burdensome to put this before the Central Government. I would like to request that this also has to be looked at again.

Thirdly, the relationship between the Centre and the parties are contractual in nature. Thus, the Centre must be held accountable and should work in a transparent manner. The limitation of liability of the Centre under this law is too broad and it will fail the purpose of achieving an arbitration law rather than adopting a wide exception such as good faith. The Bill should adopt a more acceptable standard for the question of the Centre's liability. The transparency standards also need to be increased. Of course, the Centre is deemed to be under the ambit of the RTI Act which is also a challenge that the hon. Minister appears to have overlooked.

So, Sir, let me request you, we do need a robust International Arbitration Centre that can make India the hub of arbitration. Right now, many Indian cases are going to Singapore because we are not doing it. Therefore, if the hon. Minister

would withdraw this Bill and think of these objections and come back with a Bill that can truly meet international standards, he could introduce that.

**SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:** Hon. Speaker, Sir, I am little amused by the observation of the hon. Member. On the one hand, he is supportive of the idea that India must develop as a hub of domestic and international arbitration, but on the other hand, he comes with a 'however'.

This Bill has been enacted pursuant to a recommendation of a Committee headed by Justice Srikrishna consisting of many eminent Jurists. The Body which we are supposed to take over by this Bill has done only 55 arbitrations in 25 years. Who will man this Body? It will either be a retired Supreme Court Judge, or a retired High Court Chief Justice, or by eminent people in the field of arbitration.

Hon. Member, let me tell you very clearly and categorically that we are keen as a Government that India must emerge as a big hub of arbitration. I think, after introduction when we debate the Bill you will have ample opportunity to raise queries and I will have some time to respond to your queries. This Bill is very clear.

Lastly, I must say that we are sitting here to run the country with the mandate of the people of India. Here something is said where Government of India cannot even give gentle directions to a Body for a right cause -- I fail to understand this. Do not belittle the mandate of the people of India and the responsibility which dawns upon us on that side and this side. That is all I have to say.

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment and incorporation of the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre for the purpose of creating an independent and autonomous regime for institutionalised arbitration and for acquisition and transfer of undertakings of the International Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution and to vest such undertakings in the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre for

the better management of arbitration so as to make it a hub for institutional arbitration and to declare the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre to be an institution of national importance and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

*The motion was adopted*

**SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:** I introduce\* the Bill.

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\* Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

**12.11 hrs****STATEMENT RE: NEW DELHI INTERNATIONAL  
ARBITRATION CENTRE ORDINANCE, 2019\****[English]*

**THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE; MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):** I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for immediate legislation by promulgation of the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre Ordinance, 2019 (No. 10 of 2019).

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\* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library See No. LT 103/17/19.

*[English]*

**SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (KOLKATA UTTAR):** Sir, yesterday in Zero Hour, an hon. Member, Shrimati Locket Chatterjee, mentioned about cut money which is a type of bribery....(*Interruptions*) It is said that it will be 25 per cent with the party workers and 75 per cent of cut money is kept with ... \*

Sir, if any such wild allegation is raised in the West Bengal Legislative Assembly against the Prime Minister and if it is not expunged, it will not look good. ...\* (*Interruptions*)

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, whatever you have pointed out, I will give a ruling, after going through the entire proceedings.

... (*Interruptions*)

*[English]*

**SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY:** Our Chief Minister is one of the honest and best Chief Ministers of the country. Sir, law and order situation also cannot be discussed on the floor of the House. If it is allowed, then Uttar Pradesh and Bihar situation should also be discussed on the floor of the House. ...(*Interruptions*)

So, I believe that it should be expunged from the proceedings of the House and it should not be kept in the proceedings of the House. ...(*Interruptions*)

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, if there is any unparliamentary, objectionable content, I will revert to you after going through the proceedings.

... (*Interruptions*)

**HON. SPEAKER:** Shri Pallab Lochan Das.

...(*Interruptions*)

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\* Not recorded

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Members, do not talk among yourselves.

...(Interruptions)

**HON. SPEAKER:** Only the speech of Shri Pallab Lochan Das will go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Members, this is not the Bengal Legislative Assembly. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

**HON. SPEAKER:** Nothing other than the speech of Pallab Lochan Das will go on record.

...(Interruptions)

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, you are senior. Please sit down...

...(Interruptions)

**HON. SPEAKER:** Shri Pallab Lochan Das.

...(Interruptions)

**SHRI PALLAB LOCHAN DAS (TEZPUR):** Hon. Speaker Sir, I thank you again that you gave me the chance to speak in Zero Hour. ...(Interruptions)

**HON. SPEAKER:** Do not make it Bengal Assembly.

... (Interruptions)

**SHRI PALLAB LOCHAN DAS:** Hon. Speaker, we have made education a Fundamental Right. Education to every child is the first responsibility of the government. Right now, there is one such place in Assam, we created an India by breaking the Princely States, but at the same time we kept the tea state as a state.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Members, do not talk among yourselves. Please listen and appreciate what our new hon. Member is speaking. He should be appreciated.

**SHRI PALLAB LOCHAN DAS:** Sir, we have kept the state as a tea state, state within the state. The rules of the state are not followed within the tea state. All

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\* Not recorded



the workers in Bengal and Assam's Tea Garden are industrial workers and secondly they are citizens of this country. They are not getting the facilities available to the citizens of the country. The Plantation Labor Act, which was enacted recently, states that there is a provision of primary education for them in school, but there is no facility for upper primary and secondary education.

Sir, for this I had also said yesterday that the Plantation Labor Act should be amended. Secondary School, Upper Primary School, Residential School and College or Higher School should be set up there through Right to Education. Through you I make this demand.

*[English]*

**SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN (VADAKARA):** Sir, I would like to raise a matter regarding the Indian citizens, stranded in a conflict between foreign workers near Tengiz Oil Field, Kazakhstan. Over 150 Indians, including the workers from Kerala, got trapped after a brawl erupted between a large group of foreign and local employees at the major oil and gas project in Western Kazakhstan.

Sir, we do not know as to what happened to our friends in Kazakhstan. The Ministry of External Affairs told that diplomatic discussions are going on. But we do not know as to what the present situation is. So, I urge upon the Central Government to intervene in this matter and save the Indians in Kazakhstan. Thank you.

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Shri N.K. Premachandran is allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri K. Muraleedharan.

**SHRI MANOJ KOTAK (MUMBAI NORTH-EAST):** Hon. Speaker, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the House and the Government to an important matter. There are two ESIC hospitals in Mumbai. Some amount is taken out of workers' wages, which is for providing medical facilities to them. A hospital caught fire last year, in which 14 people died and the hospital remains

closed till date. The second hospital is of 300 beds but does not have occupancy of more than a hundred beds. It is in a very shabby state. The Central Government deducts money from the workers' wages for their welfare under the Workers Welfare Central Scheme. In Mumbai, several workers were killed as a result of wall collapse. Due to heavy rains, in Mumbai, it is necessary to provide medical facilities in these two hospitals for the treatment of workers. One hospital is closed and the other is in a very dilapidated state, which is in my constituency. The condition of the residence of the employees is also very bad. I through you, want to draw the attention of the government to start one of these two hospitals and increase health facilities in the other.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Dr. Kirit P. Solanki is permitted to associate with the matter raised by Shri Manoj Kotak.

**SHRI SATYADEV PACHAURI (KANPUR):** Hon. Speaker, I through you, would like to draw the attention of the Union Government to an important matter of my constituency. My parliamentary constituency Kanpur metropolis has a very old BIC's Lal Imli Mill, which has been closed since 2013. There are still 600 employees working in other positions as watchmen and their salaries have not been paid for two years. You may imagine their plight that they are class IV employee, what will be the condition of these families when salary is not being paid for two years? Their children are ill, they cannot go to school, and their family is on the verge of starvation.

Hon. Speaker, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Union Government to the payment of arrears of those employees and the payment of those employees should be made at the earliest. Decision should also be taken in regard to the Mill which was closed in the year 2013.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is allowed to associate himself with the matter raised by Shri Satyadev Pachauri.

**12.20 hrs**

**SUBMISSION BY MEMBER**

**Re: Alleged derogatory remarks made by Puducherry  
Lt. Governor against Tamils**

*[English]*

**SHRI T. R. BAALU (SRIPERUMBUDUR):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, with a heavy heart I would like to draw the attention of this august House and especially the present-day Government to the nauseating remarks made by the so-called ...\* of Puducherry. ... (*Interruptions*)

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, you are a very senior Member. No remarks can be made regarding those who are occupying constitutional position in the House, so give it in writing.

... (*Interruptions*)

*[English]*

**SHRI T. R. BAALU:** Sir, these remarks insult the 10-crore people of Tamil Nadu who have got a rich heritage and culture. ... (*Interruptions*)

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, you are a very senior Member. No remarks can be made regarding those who are occupying constitutional position in the House, so give it in writing.

Shri Mohanbhai Sanjibhai Delkar.

... (*Interruptions*)

*[English]*

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\* Not recorded.

**SHRI T. R. BAALU:** Sir, I have given a notice for an Adjournment Motion on the same issue. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, you are a senior Member. It is under Rules and Procedure that no remarks can be made in the House on those who are on constitutional position.

... (*Interruptions*)

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, please be seated. You always stand up.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

**SHRI T. R. BAALU:** Sir, please give me 15 seconds. ... (*Interruptions*) What is stated by the ... \* of Puducherry is not true. ... (*Interruptions*) Sir, I will quote the remarks of the ...\* of Puducherry made on her Twitter account on 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2019. Then, you can understand the seriousness of the language. I quote:

“Poor governance, corrupt politics, all the people who have been elected from Tamil Nadu by the people of Tamil Nadu are corrupt politicians, indifferent bureaucracy, highly selfish and cowardly attitude of the people.” ...(*Interruptions*)

Sir, these remarks are very serious. The Government should give an answer to this issue. ... (*Interruptions*) The Leader of the House is here. The Government should give an answer to this issue right now. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, I have given the ruling. Please adhere to it.

... (*Interruptions*)

**12.22 hrs**

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\* Not recorded.

*(At this stage, Shri T.R. Baalu, Shri B. Manickam Tagore and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)*

... *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** No comment can be made about a person holding constitutional post.

... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Shri Mohanbhai Sanjibhai Delkar.

... *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** This is no way.

... *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** I have given you a chance to speak. Now please, Hon. Member. Shri Mohanbhai Sanjibhai Delkar. Nothing except the speech of Shri Mohan Delkar ji, will go on record.

... *(Interruptions)* \*

**SHRI MOHANBHAI SANJIBHAI DELKAR (DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI):** Hon. Speaker, there is a serious problem with the administrative system in all the union territories. There is no Zila Panchayat, Zila Parishad, Municipal Council because there is no Legislative Assembly. The Government of India had decided that when the Panchayati Raj Institution was established, under the Panchayati Raj Act, it was decided to fully empower Zila Panchayats,

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\* Not recorded.

Municipal Councils, of all the Union Territories. This decision was taken by the Government of India. As per this decision, the Zila Panchayat and the Municipal Council were fully empowered to govern the funds, functionaries and the staff of 30 departments and exercise full control over them. But Sir, it was not implemented then. Subsequently, the Government of India and especially the Ministry of Home Affairs had taken this decision and gave instructions in writing that the control over 30 departments should be entrusted to the Zila Panchayat, Zila Parishad, and Municipal Council and it should be immediately implemented. Sir, today the situation is such that as a result of not entrusting the administration of these departments to the Zila Parishads, all the popular welfare schemes of the Government of India were affected there. ... (*Interruptions*)

The people have suffered loss on this account. ... (*Interruptions*) All facilities do not reach people, people are upset by this. I request the Government of India to immediately comply with the instructions given by the Ministry of Home Affairs in the year 2001, in which all control and authority were to be given to the Zila Parishad and the Municipal Council. ... (*Interruptions*) The Government of India is requested to immediately comply with the instruction issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs in the year 2001 entrusting the control and administration of power to the Zila Parishad and Municipal Council. All the popular schemes are properly implemented, ...(*Interruptions*) The Zila Parishad should be entrusted with full control over employees. I request the Government of India to issue such directions and make rules in this regard. Thanks a lot. ... (*Interruptions*)

**HON. SPEAKER:** Baalu ji, please give notice under the rule, I will consider it.

... (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI GOPAL SHETTY (MUMBAI NORTH):** Hon. Speaker, the country adopted the concept of federal structure after independence in the year 1947. But some state governments misuse it. ... (*Interruptions*) The hon. Prime Minister of the country wants to give water to people, wants to provide electricity, wants to

give roads, wants to give houses. He wants to give five lakh rupees annually to the people under the Ayushman Bharat Scheme, ...*(Interruptions)* He wants to bring a big change in education but some state governments misuse their power and do not follow the central government's order. ... *(Interruptions)* I request the government to make such a system that all the state governments of the country should strictly follow the suggestions and directions for the development oriented welfare schemes of the federal government. Thanks a lot.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Dr. Manoj Rajoria and Dr. Kirit P. Solanki are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Gopal Shetty.

*[English]*

**THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF COAL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI):** I would like to bring the facts on record. ... *(Interruptions)*. As per Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha ... *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Only the statement of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs will go on record.

... *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

**SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI:** Rule 352(v) says:

“A Member while speaking shall not reflect upon the conduct of persons in high authority unless the discussion is based on a substantive motion drawn in proper terms.”

*[Translation]*

Now, there is no motion or any other business, it should be ... *(Interruptions)* during zero hour. *[English]* They have not moved the Motion. During *Zero Hour*, they cannot discuss either the statement or behaviour of the

Government in any manner. ...(*Interruptions*). So, I appeal to them - let them give notice of the Motion and Government will consider that. ...(*Interruptions*)  
*[Translation]*

**DR. MOHAMMAD JAWED (KISHANGANJ):** Hon. Speaker, I have been elected by people from Kishanganj. I am saying with great regret that due to lack of job opportunity, lakhs of people are going to different parts of India and working in inhuman conditions. Through you, I appeal to the government that industries should be opened in Kishanganj, small scale industries should be opened, schools and colleges should be established there.

The most regrettable thing is that in the year 2013-14, the UPA government decided to open a branch of AMU there. Shrimati Sonia Gandhi ji, the then Chairperson allocated Rs. 137 crore for that but sadly, in the last five years only ten crore rupees have been given. I request through you that Kishanganj should not be overlooked. Factory and school-college facilities should be provided there.

**HON. SPEAKER:** I am giving opportunity to the first elected women members in the House a chance to speak. You are interrupting the house, it is not fair.

**SHRIMATI ANNPURNA DEVI (KODARMA):** Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw attention to the two national highways in my parliamentary constituency, Kodarma. There is heavy traffic on National Highways 2 and 31. There is no trauma centre within 100 kilometres of both national highways.

Through the House, I want to demand that a Trauma Centre should be opened near National Highway-2 at Bagodar. Kodarma Valley is near National Highway 31, which connects the two states of Jharkhand and Bihar. Accidents take place frequently on this route and due to lack of treatment, the victims face lot of difficulties. ... (*Interruptions*) My demand is that trauma centres should be opened at both these places.

The hon. Prime Minister laid the foundation stone of Karma Medical Hospital at Kodarma on NH-31. I demand that it should be constructed as soon as possible. Thank you. ... (*Interruptions*)



**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Members, if you go back to your seats, I will ask the hon. Defence Minister to reply.

... (*Interruptions*)

**12.31 hrs**

*(At this stage, Shri T.R Baalu, Shri S.S. Palanimanickam, Shri Bhagwant Mann and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.)*

[*Translation*]

**HON. SPEAKER:** When the hon. Minister of Defence speaks, no one will make any comment from his seat in the House, one can speak only when I allow.

Hon. Defence Minister.

... (*Interruptions*)

**THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH):** Hon. Speaker, I would like to draw your attention to Rule 352 of '*Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Lok Sabha*'.

[*English*]

**SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI (HYDERABAD):** What about the conduct of ...

\* ... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

**HON. SPEAKER:** Nothing will go on record except the speech of Hon. Defence Minister.

... (*Interruptions*)\*

[*English*]

**SHRI RAJNATH SINGH:** It is clearly written. Rule 352 (v) says:

“A Member while speaking shall not -

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\* Not recorded.

“reflect upon the conduct of persons in high authority unless the discussion is based on a substantive motion drawn in proper terms; ” ”

*It explains thus-*

“Explanation:- The words 'persons in high authority' mean persons whose conduct can only be discussed on a substantive motion drawn in proper terms under the Constitution or such other persons whose conduct, in the opinion of the Speaker, should be discussed on a substantive motion drawn up in terms approved by the Speaker; ”

*[Translation]*

I want to say that if he wants a discussion on the conduct of the Governor then he should move a substantive motion, discussion can be allowed on that. ...

*(Interruptions)*

**HON. SPEAKER:** You give a notice, we will discuss.

*... (Interruptions)*

**HON. SPEAKER:** I will give a ruling after you give the notice.

*... (Interruptions)*

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*[Translation]*

**SHRI RAM SHIROMANI VERMA (SHRAWASTI):** Hon. Speaker, you gave me a chance to speak in Zero hour, thank you very much for that. My Parliamentary constituency Shravasti is extremely backward in the health and medical education sector. There is no medical college in this area and nearby district to treat the poor people of this region, due to which they have to spend a lot of money to get treatment in private hospital and private hospital charges

arbitrarily. The government has no control over them. The poor people of this area have to go to Lucknow and Delhi to get their treatment. The economic condition of the people here is extremely pitiable and there is lack of proper education, due to which people here are unable to go to Lucknow and Delhi. Those who take the plunge and come here, many people die half way due to distance.

I through you request the government to set up a medical college in my parliamentary constituency so that the poor people here can get timely treatment and prevent serious diseases at a low cost. Thank you.

**SHRI BALAK NATH (ALWAR):** Hon. Speaker, Sir, from the 17th, a demand is being made in the House by the hon. MPs from all the states. Be it Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and many areas of U.P., there is shortage of drinking water there.

I would like to urge the government through you that wherever there is water crisis in Alwar, Hon. Prime Minister should bring a plan. In the manifesto, the hon. Prime Minister has said that in the coming five years every house will get water through the pipeline. The Government should provide water as soon as possible in every district, in every house, in every village. Water, clean water supply should be ensured. At the same time, I also urge my government to help them build such water harvesting tanks by bringing such a subsidy scheme for the existing houses or those new houses which are going to be built, for storing water when it rains, so that they can preserve drinking water in their homes and use it for drinking. I again request my government to provide this facility in Alwar and 13 districts of Rajasthan. Thank you.

**HON. SPEAKER:** All the hon. members should do this in their respective areas.

Kunwar Pushendra Singh Chandel, Dr. Manoj Rajoria, Dr. Kirit P. Solanki, Shri Ramcharan Bohra and Shri C.P. Joshi are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Balak Nath.

... (*Interruptions*)

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, please sit down.

**SHRI SUBRAT PATHAK (KANNAUJ):** Thank you hon. Speaker Sir, for giving opportunity to the first time elected members to speak. I would like to draw the attention of the House through you to water conservation. In my parliamentary constituency Kannauj, maize cultivation is done by farmers on a large scale immediately after potato cultivation. Due to the intense summer season for maize farming, ground water is being exploited on large scale for irrigation, as a result of which the water level is going down day by day. In future, a huge crisis of pure drinking water may be imminent before the general public. Therefore, through you, I want to draw the attention of the government to it. The government should prepare a special action plan for drip irrigation for maize irrigation in district Kannauj and the surrounding areas. For crop, the government should immediately consider and implement the action plan to promote the use of improved seed system and rain water and natural resources for irrigation. Along with this, a plan should be made by the government to promote potato based industries so that potatoes do not have to be thrown even if there is bumper crop and our 'Annadata' farmers get a fair price. Kannauj is famous worldwide for perfumes and aromatic oils. Therefore, our government should seriously consider making arrangements to set up Aroma University in Kannauj. Thank you.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Dr. Manoj Rajoria and Shri Mukesh Rajput are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Subrat Pathak.

**\*SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL (DAKSHINA KANNADA):** The Hon. Prime Minister of the country Shri Narendra Modi ji has a dream for doubling the income of farmers by 2022. I congratulate our hon'ble Prime Minister and the

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\* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Kannada.

NDA government for implementation of various programs to make our farmers progress economically. It shows that our government is Pro-farmer.

Areca nut is grown in 13 states of the country. Especially in Karnataka the crop is grown in 16 districts. However, areca nut growers are in great distress. Areca nut is considered auspicious and it is very much essential in all religious functions and ceremonies. In northern India areca nut is used for consumption by a large number of people. Areca nut grown in parts of Shimoga district in Karnataka is used to make Painting works and adhesive. So, it can be understood that areca nut is used by all sections of the people of the country.

However, the growers of such an important crop are in a pathetic condition for three reasons. Firstly, the areca nut crop is affected by Fruit rot disease and Yellow leaf disease. Such diseases are causing huge drop in the yield of the crop. Therefore I urge upon the government through you to take steps to develop a proper pesticide to prevent the disease in a scientific way.

My second point is that there is rampant illegal trade of areca nut from neighbouring countries such as Bangladesh etc. Illegal import of areca nut is also causing loss to the national exchequer to the tune of Rs. 5000 crores due to evasion of custom duty by illegal traders. There is a need to put an end to the illegal trade of areca nut. The security in the border States should be strengthened to prevent illegal import of areca nut.

My third point is that the Union Government should announce Support Price for areca nut and also a special package should be introduced to protect the interest of the areca nut growers in the country.

I urge upon the Union Government to take appropriate measures to protect our areca nut growers, who are adversely affected by heavy rains in the country especially in Karnataka. Thank you.

**HON. SPEAKER:** All the hon. Members will get a chance to speak.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

**SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY (BAHARAMPUR):** Sir, Opposition members should also be given the opportunity to speak. There should not be any discrimination between the Ruling Party members and the Opposition party members.

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, I am finalising the list of speakers during Zero Hour. Thereafter I will allow the hon. Members, on their request. Please allow them to speak, don't disturb them.

*... (Interruptions)*

**HON. SPEAKER:** It is not so. I gave ample time to Shrimati Sonia Gandhi ji yesterday.

*... (Interruptions)*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, please sit down.

*... (Interruptions)*

**ADV. AJAY BHATT (NAINITAL- UDHAM SINGH NAGAR):** Hon. Speaker, I want to thank you. *... (Interruptions)*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, please sit down.

*... (Interruptions)*

**ADV. AJAY BHATT:** You have given me the opportunity to speak in the House for the first time. I have come from Nainital Udham Singh Nagar. Sir, in this very House, in the year 1967 i.e. 52 years ago, the matter of Jamrani dam project was raised, which has not been completed till date. In 1974, a detailed project was made and the plan was also approved. The cost of the Jamrani dam project at that time was 61.25 crores. The technical approval of this project was given by the Government of India and administrative approval was given by the then Uttar Pradesh Government because we were with the Government of Uttar Pradesh earlier. Sir, Uttar Pradesh and our MoU had not been signed. But this time, MoU had been signed and all the approvals have come. We have taken 16 approvals in total and this is the plan for Bhabar region, Gangetic region of

Bareilly, Rampur area and Terai area. People of Bhabar region have said that if this plan is not implemented, then Bhabar will be destroyed. We do not have that much money. Today its total cost is Rs. 2584 crores, so it is very important to take it in the national project. Sir, I pray to the government through you to take this work under national project and start construction work immediately.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Ajay Bhatt.

**SHRI BANDI SANJAY KUMAR (KARIMNAGAR):** Sir, you gave me the opportunity to speak in this House for the first time. Hon. Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I want to speak in Telugu.

\*Hon. Speaker, Sir, suicides are committed in various regions for various reasons. But, in Telangana, due to ...\*\* negligence, 27 intermediate students committed suicide. An inexperienced company by the name 'Globerena', was awarded works pertaining to Intermediate Board, as a result 3 lakh students out of 9 lakh students failed in intermediate exams. A three member committee has submitted its report and ...\*\* has expressed his displeasure on this development but Telangana...\*\* has neither responded on this issue nor consoled parents of those students. No action has been taken till date...\*\* personally consoles families of celebrities but he completely ignored families of 27 students who committed suicide. Therefore, an inquiry should be conducted in this incident and appropriate action should be taken by the Union Government.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, please give prior notice if you have to speak in a regional language.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

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\* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Telugu.

\*\*Not recorded

**DR. T. R. PAARIVENDHAR (PERAMBALUR):** Hon. Speaker, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak during 'Zero Hour' on a matter relating to my constituency. I am also one amongst the first-time speakers; I am a first-time MP. I have been elected from Perambalur Parliamentary constituency. It is one of the backward constituencies where 70 per cent of the people are engaged in agriculture. It is unfortunate that they cannot sell their produce anywhere except in the local areas, due to which we are unnecessarily encouraging middle men or brokers. So, the poor are becoming much poorer. Therefore, I would request the Government, through you, that we badly need a railway line which will connect four nearby districts. The produce of the farmers will be taken to those four nearby districts.

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\*\* Not recorded.

Of course, they can sell their produce there at a better price, at a fair price and thereby they can improve their standard of living.

Secondly, there is no industry in my area, and so, there is no industry, so, there is no employment. When there is no employment, educated youths remain unemployed and they become restless.

Therefore, if these four places, namely, Ariyalur, Perambalur, Thuraiyur and Namakkal are linked by train, there will be a better development in my Constituency by which we can eradicate the problem of unemployment.

Further, I would also request the Minister to improve the standard of life of the farmers. This is very important. This proposal for the railway line is pending for the last 50 years. After 72 years of Independence of our country, this is the only area where people have not seen the Indian Railways. This is the situation there. At one point of time, there was a survey of land at the cost of Rs.



16.5 lakh. But nothing has happened. So, I urge the Government to take action in this respect.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (BALLIA):** Hon. Speaker, Sir, I request you to allow a structured debate on the problem of farmers in the House.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, please give it in writing.

Shri Arjun Lal Meena.

**SHRI ARJUN LAL MEENA (UDAIPUR):** Sir, I come from Udaipur area of Rajasthan.

**HON. SPEAKER:** The Hon. Member has to speak for the second time because even after remaining the member of the House earlier we do not recognise all 542 hon. members. I am one of them. Now in this House, we will try to know each other, to know everyone in person, we will make a comprehensive action plan in this regard. I am also one of them.

**SHRI ARJUN LAL MEENA:** Sir, National Highway number 8 from Delhi to Mumbai passes through my parliamentary constituency. I express my thanks to the Hon. Minister and the Prime Minister of the country that the work of six laning of four laned National Highway No. 8 which passes through Udaipur has been approved in March 2017. An approval of Rs. 12444.10 crore has been received. The government has awarded contract to IRB company in this regard.

Hon. Speaker, I would like to request the Hon. Minister that the company which has been awarded the contract has sublet it to small companies. The road construction debris is blocking the river drains. Tidi, Barapala, Kaya, Parsad, Paduna, Khairwada etc. areas of Udaipur have a lot of natural drains and rivers, they are getting blocked. Khairwada, is a large town. When there was excess rainfall in 2006, the entire town's roads were blocked due to water logging. NHAI has also proposed to build over bridge there. Through you, I request the government to have a pillared over bridge there. This is what I want to request through you. Thank you.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel and Dr. Manoj Rajoria are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Arjun Lal Meena.

**SHRI SANJAY SETH (RANCHI):** Hon. Speaker Sir, Chandil Dam was constructed under the 'Subarnarekha- Purushi Project- Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal in Chandil (Ichagarh Assembly) of Ranchi, my parliamentary constituency, 35 years ago. It displaced 14,000 families, but only 1150 people got jobs and 2000 people were not even surveyed. The situation is so pathetic that the displaced people of the dam are starving. I request you to re-survey it and under the Narmada water policy, the displaced people of Chandil Dam should also get justice. By the year 2019, those who have attained the age of 18 years, their names should also be added to that booklet. But no decision has been taken in this direction yet.

Hon. Speaker, this is my humble request that I have seen their plight during elections and I got a lead of approximately 70,000 votes in that assembly constituency. I assured the people that I will raise this issue in Lok Sabha and help dispense justice to the displaced.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is allowed to associate with the issue raised by Shri Sanjay Seth.

Shri Pradyut Bordoloi,

Hon. Member is speaking in the House for the second time today. Yesterday also, he spoke in the House and is still speaking today. He is a new member.

*[English]*

**SHRI PRADYUT BORDOLOI (NOWGONG):** Sir, Assam is in the grip of floods again. Floods will probably subside in a few days or in a week or two but it will leave behind a trail of devastations. In Assam, what will stay on is the year-long phenomenon of river bank erosions. What is very regrettable is that the river bank erosion is not considered as a calamity. The undercurrents of Brahmaputra are so strong that they hit the river banks like torpedoes. Unless the

water is channelized, this is a problem. So, it should be mitigated and so also is erosion.

The recurring floods and erosion have caused a huge drainage on the precious resources of a small State like Assam, and that is why, this should be the responsibility of the Government of India. I would like to urge, through you, Sir, the Jal Shakti Ministry that it should treat the water management in a holistic manner. It should also include the riparian countries like China, Bhutan, Bangladesh on the one hand, and on the other hand, the riparian North-Eastern States like Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur besides Assam. There should be a River Valley Authority and it should manage the water resources.

Sir, through you, I want to make one request that this should be the responsibility of the Government of India. I want to tell you that at a time when the rest of the country is reeling under water crisis, we could put up water refineries in Assam; we could construct pipelines; and we could give minimal *swachh pure paani*, Manasarovar's *paani*, to the rest of the country. My request to the Government of India, through you, is that they should look after us and we will, in turn, take care of the rest. Thank you, Sir.

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** This is a very good suggestion.

Shri Gaurav Gogoi and Shri Kuldeep Ravi Sharma are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Pradyut Bordoloi.

*[English]*

**SHRI PRASUN BANERJEE (HOWRAH):** Thank you, Sir, for giving me time to speak on an important issue.

I am elected from Howrah Parliamentary constituency, West Bengal. Sir, through you, I draw the kind attention of the Railway Minister. In spite of several attempts, the South-Eastern Railway authorities did not provide under-passes at three highly busy railway crossings, namely (i) Baksara Gate level crossing No.

LC 06, (ii) Jana Gate level crossing No. S/S 01 and (iii) Batore Gate level crossing No. S/S 02, which is much more important and which is situated at the heavy and busy traffic track on the mainline.

Sir, as the entire Baksara area is highly populated, through you, I am demanding the Railways to provide suitable alternatives at these level crossings so as to get rid of the daily pain of the public from wastage of time in going to their schools, colleges and offices. It is not out of place to mention that on several occasions, the patients died in the ambulance while waiting for the gate to open.

Sir, my request, through you, to our Railway Minister is that steps may be taken as quickly as possible to construct these under-passes.

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Many Hon. Member are raising hands to speak. I urge all the hon. Members, I will give all the hon. Members a chance to speak, but 46 new women members have been elected. First of all, the first time women Members would be given an opportunity to speak in the House. The leader of the House, the hon. Prime Minister and Sonia Gandhi ji would also want that all the women members who have come for the first time should get a chance to speak.

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL):** 78 women members have been elected, 46 of them are new.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Shrimati Ranjita Koli is a first time elected member.

**SHRIMATI RANJITA KOLI (BHARATPUR):** Hon. Speaker, Sir, you gave me the opportunity to speak for the first time in the House, thank you very much for that. I through you would like to draw the attention of the government to the availability of drinking water and irrigation in my Lok Sabha constituency Bharatpur. To overcome the water problem, the Yamuna Water Agreement was reached, which was to meet the requirement of water of district Bharatpur through the Gurgaon Canal Bharatpur feeder. But water does not reach Rajasthan border

as per that agreement. I would like to request the Minister of Jal Shakti to make water available in my Lok Sabha constituency Bharatpur through this scheme.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shrimati Ranjita Koli.

**SHRIMATI KESHARI DEVI PATEL (PHULPUR):** Hon. Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much that you have given me the permission to speak in the House. I have been elected as a Member from Phulpur Lok Sabha seat of Prayagraj district. Prayagraj has a mythological, historical, literary and political history. Sir, I want to draw the attention of the government through you to the survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization, in which the unemployment rate in Prayagraj district is the highest at 8.9 percent, which is a matter of great concern. A total of 45 cities were surveyed. I, through you, request the government to set up new industries in Prayagraj district to solve this serious problem and the industries which are lying closed should be revived and the defence corridor, which was announced by the Central and Uttar Pradesh governments be expanded and district Prayagraj should be included therein.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is allowed to associate with the issue raised by Shrimati Keshari Devi Patel.

**SHRIMATI GEETABEN V. RATHWA (CHHOTA UDAIPUR):** Hon. Speaker, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak. This is the first time I have been elected in the Lok Sabha election. I through you would like to put some problems related to my parliamentary constituency Chhota Udaipur in the House. The metre gauge line of Vadodara, Dabhai, Chuchhapura and Tankhala railways was operational earlier, but has been closed for a few years now. A broad gauge line should be laid there. There is no issue of land here. I also want to mention that the 'Statue of Unity' is only 10 to 12 kilometres from here. If it is also connected with a railway line, then the tourists will be very happy.

Sir, my second question is that a very large tourist destination in our region, Pavagarh has been given the status of a place of tourist interest by Hon. Modi ji.

I am thankful to him. If Vodadara, Hallaul, Pavagarh, Shivrajpur and Pavijaitpur are connected by rail, then tourists will have convenience. There is an old line, but it is to be renovated. Therefore, through you, I would request to get the work done at the earliest in my parliamentary constituency so that the people of the area are benefited.

I am grateful to my national leadership and state leadership, who gave me a big platform to serve. I also express my gratitude to my voters for believing in me and getting me elected and giving me an opportunity to serve.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shrimati Geetaben V. Rathwa.

*[English]*

**SHRIMATI CHINTA ANURADHA (AMALAPURAM):** Hon. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for allowing me to give my maiden speech. I am a first-time elected representative to this august House.

I am also thankful to the Leader of my Party and the hon. Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Shri Y.S. Jaganmohan Reddy for deeming me very good worthy of this gathering.

Sir, I represent the aspirations of more than 22 lakh people of which nearly 14.5 lakh are electorates of Amalapuram constituency. Our people have been longing for a railway line since Independence. However, it has remained a distant dream even till date. Everyday our people traverse nearly 100 kilometres to Rajahmundry and 250 kilometres to Vijayawada and face numerous troubles to reach the railway line. It is due to lack of railway line that development activities like transport, trading, employment, and tourism are on hold.

Here, I would like to state that our State being the largest producer of coconut, equal to Kerala, we lack railway transport facilities. So, there is an urgent need of a railway line.

**13.00 hrs**

Sir, though the previous Government under Shri Narendra Modiji had sanctioned one bridge over Gautami River, one of the tributaries of the Godavari, the work has not yet started and our dream remains far from fulfilment. While we desperately need two more railway bridges immediately, to connect Kakinada with Narsapuram, over the Vainateya and the Vasishta, both being two other major tributaries of the Godavari, but unfortunately, the alignments have been changed more than three times so far, and the process of land acquisition has not even begun.

The majority of people who reside in these areas are Dalits, and the others belong to backward classes and economically poorer sections of the society. They have been living there since generations with same small and micro landholdings, but with deep emotional attachments. Therefore, the compensation has to be not only just and fair but also commensurate with the pain of their emotional detachment as well.

Sir, I appeal to the hon. Finance Minister and the hon. Railway Minister, through you, to expedite the matter and complete the sanction process in this Budget Session itself, and the land acquisition should also be completed at the earliest.

**SHRIMATI MALA ROY (KOLKATA DAKSHIN):** Hon. Speaker, Sir, as we all know, Kolkata Metro started its operations in 1984 and is India's oldest metro service. During this period of time, we have experienced many suicides and suicidal attempts in the Metro. A large portion of the Kolkata Metro runs through the parliamentary constituencies of Kolkata Dakshin, Kolkata Uttar and Jadavpur. So, I would like to request the hon. Minister to look into this matter very seriously and take immediate steps to introduce platform screen doors at all the Kolkata Metro stations to enhance the safety and security of the people.

Thank you.

**KUMARI GODDETI MADHAVI (ARAKU):** Hon. Speaker, Sir, at the outset, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak for the first time in this august House.

I would also like to thank our hon. Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Shri Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy *garu* for encouraging and giving a 26-year old woman representing the tribal community a chance to contest elections.

I wholeheartedly thank the people of my constituency Araku also for showing immense faith in a young person like me.

As I said earlier, I represent the Araku constituency which is a reserved constituency. We have huge reserves of mineral wealth which have been exploited for so many years. As a result, the lives of the poor tribal people have not improved considerably and the forests, being the main source of their livelihood, are being lost at a rapid rate.

There was a proposal to start a bauxite mine which again would displace a large number of people. I specially thank our CM, Shri Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy *garu* for putting that project on hold. I request the hon. Environment Minister to evaluate the loss of livelihood of tribal community before granting clearance to the mining project.

In my constituency, there is dire lack of drinking water facilities and this seriously affects the health of the people living in my constituency. I humbly request through you, Sir, the hon. Minister for Drinking Water to include my constituency under the available scheme of Comprehensive Drinking Water Project to improve the drinking water facilities in my constituency at the earliest in this financial year itself.

Thank you.

*[Translation]*

**SHRIMATI SHARDA ANIL PATEL (MAHESANA):** Hon. Speaker Sir, you have given the opportunity to the new MPs to speak, I thank you for that. I also thank the hon. Prime Minister and Shri Amit Bhai. ... (*Interruptions*) I am also



grateful to our national and state leadership, who gave me a big platform to serve. I also thank my voters who believed in me and elected me by a large majority and gave me a big platform to serve. ... (*Interruptions*)

Sir, in order to provide better health care to the residents of villages in my parliamentary constituency Mahesana, there is a need to open a well-equipped wellness centre in the said district where Allopathy, Ayurvedic, Homeopathy and other Indians Medical and health systems should be available under one roof, so that people can take advantage of various programs run by the Ministry of AYUSH Schemes. We believe that 'Prevention is better than cure'. Therefore, through this House, I urge the government to open a well-equipped wellness centre in Mahesana soon. Thank you.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Dr. Kirit P. Solanki and Shri Naranbhai Kachhadia are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shrimati Shardaben Anilbhai Patel.

**SHRIMATI GOMATI SAI (RAIGARH):** Hon. Speaker, first of all I thank you. ... (*Interruptions*)

**HON. SPEAKER:** Gomati Sai ji has also been the Speaker of the District Panchayat thrice.

... (*Interruptions*)

**SHRIMATI GOMATI SAI:** Hon. Speaker, I thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to speak. I have been elected for the first time from my Lok Sabha constituency Raigarh, Chhattisgarh. I express my gratitude and thanks to the people of my area through this House.

Hon. Speaker, I am a resident of Jashpur, a tribal dominated area of Chhattisgarh. Jashpur has been the work place of Balasaheb Deshpande and Kunwar Dilip Singh Judeo. Jashpur is a very backward district, where the people of Pahari Korva Samaj, the adopted son of Rashtrapati Ji also reside. The district Jashpur has remained untouched by the rail line, while Jashpur is situated between Ranchi, the capital city of Jharkhand, Rourkela, the industrial city of Odisha and

Raigarh, my own constituency. Our Jashpur is at the top in terms of studies in Chhattisgarh. Students of Jashpur are at top 10 in board examination. We have bumper cultivation of potato and chilli in Path and tomato in Pathalgaon region. Despite all this, the district has remained untouched by the railway line. Hon. Kunwar Dilip Singh Judeo ji had tried for years to get a railway line laid there.

I would like to request that the railway line from Korba to Lohardaga in Raigarh and Jashpur constituencies should be approved at the earliest. Thank you.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shrimati Gomati Sai.

Shri Hans Raj Hans ji will also speak for the first time. Hans ji is a Sufi saint, at some time he will sing before you all. Hans ji also sings Sufi bhajans and is also a saint.

... (*Interruptions*)

**HON. SPEAKER:** When you all have time, we will arrange a program.

... (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI HANS RAJ HANS (NORTH-WEST DELHI):** Hon. Speaker, Thank you. Huzur, I thank you, I have been elected for the first time, you have given me a chance to speak. I was elected from the constituency of Delhi. I am thankful to my Mehboob Narendra Bhai Modi, Hon. Prime Minister. ... (*Interruptions*) There are many issues in my area, but I am speaking for the first time, so I think.:

Wasl ke shab na chhedunga kissa-e-gum,

Ye kisi aur din suna lunga.

My Sadguru, my Babaji taught me a prayer, I share it with you. May be it will be useful for all of you. Very important luminaries are sitting here, the leaders of my country are sitting. First of all, 'darja- badarjaa ba-adb, pranam, namaskaram, charan sparsh,. The prayer is:

"Jindagi di hai, to jeene ka hunar bhee dena,

Paanv bakshe hain, to taufeeq-e-safar bhee dena,

guftagu tune sikhai hai, ki mai gunga tha,  
 Ab mai bolunga, to baaton mein asar bhee dena."  
 "Mere uljhe hue khwabon ko taraju de de.  
 Mere bhagwan mujhe jai par kabu de de.  
 Main samandar bhi kisi gair ke hathon se na lu.  
 Aur ek katra bhee samandar hai agar tu de de."

Sir, I was born in Punjab. It was such a holy land. It used to be said that even after killing someone and burying him there, he used to come out alive. Ahh! Someone's evil eye fell on it. We could not save that land, we could not save water, we could not save the youth. It first became a victim of terrorism, then of the drug menace. The land on which Guru Nanak Saheb, Jagatguru our supreme saint said, "Naam Khumari Nanaka chadhi rahe din raat." Here the sufis had raised the slogan that:

"Nai main mast hun, nai hum sharabi,  
 mujhe maikade ki khabar nahin,  
 tere ishq ne woh nasha diya, mujhe har nasha se bacha liya."

Where there was intoxication of 'NAM', people have become drug addicts. It is said "Mukaam kiska tha Mukeem kaun hua." I came to Delhi Sir, same is the case in the northwest region. Youth, children are becoming drug addicts. Drugs are also being sold around schools. I request all leaders to try hard, save the youth, save your future. Sir, my dear Prime Minister talks about the poor. There is a song of Lata ji.

"Bujhe to aise jaise kisi garib ka dil,  
 Jale to aise jaise chirag jalte hain."

The poor man is dying, no one cares. He is worried and concerned. I want to say, listen carefully, the condition of the people is that-

"Chehra bata raha tha ki maraa hai bhokh se,  
 sab log keh rahe the ki kuchh kha kar mar gaya."

O people, worry about those poor. I speak of a society that is not poor, but which is extremely poor, backward, dying in the gutter. I talk about persons engaged in cleaning. Say yes to them. They die every day, but they do not get compensation. If someone dies in an accident, crores of rupees are paid. Their young children are dying, there is no one for them. In the end, I would like to mention that the Hon. Amit Shah Saheb had said that sufis moved from Kashmir, Jammu. Let me explain a little bit about what sufism is. Sufism is that we are made of clay and we will be relegated to clay in a moment. Hey people remember death. Some will be buried in this soil, some will be cremated. The caste and religion all will go with you.

"Mitti hai to pal bhar mein bikhhar jayenge,  
Khushboo hai to har daur ko mahak aajenge hum log.  
Hum ruh-e-safar hain hamein naamo se na pahchan,  
Kal aur kisi naam se aa jayenge hum log."

O my reverend colleagues, you are very beautiful, may your beauty be safe, may my love be safe. Stay alive, be happy and think of the poor. Long live Mother India. Jai Ho Valmiki Maharaj ki...(Interruptions)

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel and Dr. Kirit P. Solanki are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Hans Raj Hans.

... (*Interruptions*)

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Members, this is House, please sit down. Hon. Members are new. I again urge the Hon. new members not to raise slogans in this manner in the House. Please raise your point.

*[English]*

**SHRI LAVU SRIKRISHNA DEVARAYALU (NARASARAOPET):** Thank you Speaker Ji for giving me this opportunity and I also thank the people of my constituency who have reposed faith in me and sent me here.

I have been here for the last two weeks and listening to a lot of people speaking about water crisis in various constituencies. Mostly, they are all man-

made disasters or the result of greed of some people. What I am bringing here to your notice is something totally different.

Nagarjuna Sagar dam was conceived in the year 1952. It was constructed in my constituency. During that time, the people of my constituency worked there and built it with their own hands. They sacrificed so much and thought that, at some point of time, they would also get water and some benefit from it.

The water from Nagarjuna Sagar has been used by the villagers or towns downstream, but unfortunately the Palnadu Region, where I come from, has been a drought-prone area for the last 50 years or so. If you check all the data that is available for the last 50 years, then you will come to know that every time there is a drought it is always in the Palnadu Region.

Therefore, I would request the Jal Shakti Ministry to do Varikapudisela Project, which is a lift irrigation project and which can draw water from backwaters of Nagarjuna Sagar and provide water to almost 4,50,000 households and can irrigate up to 1,20,000 acres of farm land. There is a hitch in doing this project, which is that the lift irrigation has to be done through forest areas. So, we need permission from the Ministry of Forests wherein five acres of land has to be given to this project.

I sincerely hope that both the Ministries will look into this issue and speed-up the whole project. Thank you very much, Sir.

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Members, I again request that I have given a ruling that no Hon. Members come near the well. For this, I have urged the floor leaders of all political parties that they will request their hon. Members. Now, if any hon. Member comes near the well, I will have to call him by name.

Shri S. Gyanatiraviyam.

**\*SHRI S. GNANATHIRAVIAM (TIRUNELVELI):** Hon. Speaker Sir, Vanakkam. Long live Dr. Kalaignar. Under the able guidance of DMK leader Thalpathi Thiru M.K. Stalin, I wish to raise an important issue pertaining to Tirunelveli parliamentary constituency in this august House. This is my maiden speech in this august House. I request that the Union Government should focus on removing the wastes and carry out the cleaning work in the river Thamirabharani with a special fund allocation of Rs.500 Crore. Similar to Kumbhmela, it has been the practice of organizing Thamirabarani Pushkarani once in 144 years and it was held last year. the Union Government has been allocating funds for carrying out cleaning work of river Ganges under Namami Ganga scheme. Similarly, the Union Government should allocate Rs 500 Crore for Thamirabharani. Every year around 13.5 tmc of surplus water from Thamirabharani drains into the sea. In order to benefit water starved Tamil Nadu, particularly Tuticorin and Tirunelveli districts, the drinking water schemes should be implemented. This is the need of the hour. Thamirabharani-Karumeniyar-Nambiyar flood canal scheme should be immediately implemented providing irrigation facilities to 24000 hectares of land through 252 ponds. During the year 2009, the then Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Dr. Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi announced this flood canal scheme with an allocation of Rs. 369 Crore. The AIADMK Government, which came to power thereafter, kept this scheme pending for long. Now an amount of Rs 896 Crore is required for implementing this Scheme. I therefore urge upon the Union Government to immediately implement inter-linking of rivers, especially the rivers that flow through the southern part of this country. I urge that Rs 500 Crore should be allocated as a special package for carrying out cleaning work in river Thamirabharani. I urge

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\* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

that the Union Government should come forward to immediately implement the Thaamirabharani-Karumeniyar-Nambiyar flood canal scheme at a cost of Rs 900 Crore. Thank you.

**SHRI HANSMUKHBHAI SOMBHAI PATEL (AHMEDABAD EAST):**

Hon. Speaker, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak. I have the opportunity to speak for the first time in this supreme and august House of India, for this I feel happy and honoured. I thank the President of the Bharatiya Janata Party, Hon. Shri Amit Shah ji and the most popular Prime Minister of the country, Shri Narendra Bhai Modi ji and the voters of my parliamentary constituency for conferring this honour and I accept this responsibility.

Hon. Speaker, a railway line is passes near Rakhial Village in my parliamentary constituency. There was a road in Rakhial village which connected about 20-25 villages. A short while ago the railwaymen dug up the road, because some landfill was being done. Although the road is in the area of the railway line, it connects 20 to 25 villages. I through you request the Hon. Railway Minister to repair the road so that 20-25 villages will get road connectivity.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel and Dr. Kirit P. Solanki are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Hansmukhbhai Sombhai Patel.

*[English]*

**DR. G. RANJITH REDDY (CHEVELLA):** Sir, this is my maiden entry in Parliament. Thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. This is the first time I entered Parliament even without entering the Assembly. I am really thankful to my hon. Chief Minister for giving me this chance.

I would like to talk about the poultry industry. As far as poultry industry is concerned, hon. President, the hon. Minister, Shri Sarangi, the Opposition leader, Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and others spoke about Green Revolution, White Revolution, and Blue Revolution. But no one spoke about the poultry industry which is contributing the cheapest protein in the form of eggs and chicken to the

nation. Poultry industry, which has come from the backyard farming, has grown to the extent of contributing Rs.1 lakh crore to the GDP of the country. We are the third largest egg producers, and the fifth largest chicken producers in the world. It is a self-grown industry. No one has supported the poultry industry – neither the State nor the Centre. It was for the first time, the hon. Chief Minister, Shri K. Chandrasekhar Rao has started supporting the poultry industry. After that, others followed suit. Now, a few States are supporting the poultry industry. At present, the poultry industry is in dire crisis because of absolute shortage of maize, which is the main constituent of the poultry feed.

Through you, Sir, I would like to request the Agriculture and Commerce Ministers to permit import of maize. Whenever there was a crisis in the poultry industry during 1989-90, the NAFED had supported the poultry industry by purchasing eggs and putting them in the cold storage. Whatever losses which were incurred, the same was made good by the country and the Egg Coordination Committee. I would like to request the Ministers to also look into this issue. Thank you once again for giving me this opportunity.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI GIRISH BHALCHANDRA BAPAT (PUNE):** Hon. Speaker, first of all I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak. I have come from Pune city of Maharashtra and I would first of all, like to pay obeisance to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, Sant Dnyaneshwar and Tukaram.

Sir, 40 workers who lived at the construction site in Pune, died last week and 20 people died in Mumbai. Pune is moving towards a smart city, and if workers die like this, it is not something good. I through you request the Union Government that the provision made for the workers in the Disaster Management and DC Rule of the Corporation are not implemented. Workers come from Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Odisha, work and big buildings are being built, but there is no place for these poor people to live.



I want to draw the attention of the Union Government, be in the City Council or the Corporation, they should make such an arrangement that before the construction, arrangements for the workers should be made because they work hard, but being unorganized they do not get protection. In order to provide security to them, the Union Government should make some arrangements by improving the Disaster Management Rule and DC Rule. This is my request to you.

Hon. Speaker, I also want to thank our leaders Narendra Modi ji and Amit Shah ji. The people of Pune have sent me here. I also greet them and conclude my speech. Thank you.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Girish Bhalchandra Bapat.

**SUSHRI DIYA KUMARI (RAJSAMAND):** Hon. Speaker, I thank you very much for giving me a chance to speak. I through you, would like to draw the attention of the government to the deteriorating law and order situation of Rajasthan. Presently, law and order in Rajasthan is crumbled. The safety of women is compromised and appalling. The incidence of kidnapping and rape is increasing continuously. In the last few months, four or five incidents have happened in my own Lok Sabha constituency. When we go to the administration and police officers, we hear that they are taking action. They also say that when you were in government, some CCTVs were sanctioned. In my own constituency, Rajsamand, 400 CCTV connections were sanctioned and till now, only 50 have been installed. 800 connections were sanctioned in Ajmer and so far only 132 have been installed. Control centers were also not established.

Hon. Speaker, allow me to speak a little more. This is a very serious situation. ... (*Interruptions*)

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, it is a state subject. You should not raise the the state subject in Parliament.

.... (*Interruptions*)

**SUSHRI DIYA KUMARI:** Sir, the situation is very serious. Kindly allow me to speak. ... (*Interruptions*)

**HON. SPEAKER:** This is the first time, instructions have been given. You may continue.

... (*Interruptions*)

**SUSHRI DIYA KUMARI:** Sir, all these incidents are mostly taking place with minors and women. Just two days ago, there was an incident with a minor in Jaipur. After that Section 144 was imposed in Jaipur. Internet services were shut down, but no concrete action has been taken. Such incidents keep happening in Rajasthan again and again, every second or third day, such incidents come to notice the moment starts reading a newspaper. ...(*Interruptions*)

Sir, I through you, would like to request the hon. Home Minister that there should be some kind of pressure on the State Government for women safety and public safety in Rajasthan to take concrete steps so that such incidents do not recur. ... (*Interruptions*)

**HON. SPEAKER:** Shri Ramcharan Bohra, Shri C.P. Joshi and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Sushri Diya Kumari.

Shri Abu Hasan Khan Choudhary-

... (*Interruptions*)

**HON. SPEAKER:** They are new members.

... (*Interruptions*)

**HON. SPEAKER:** I would again urge the hon. Members to try not to raise a state subject here. They should try that.

... (*Interruptions*)

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Members, right now the list of Hon. Members who wish to speak is quite long. If you all want all the hon. members to get a chance to speak, then conclude your speech in one minute. If you speak to the point on the subject, then everyone will get a chance. All are senior members.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

**SHRI ABU HASEM KHAN CHOWDHURY (MALDAHA DAKSHIN):** I would like to draw your attention and the attention of the Government of India to the severe problem being faced in Malda District of West Bengal.

The Malda District is famous for its varieties of mangoes. A lot of people are dependent on the mango crops for their livelihood. At present, the greatest difficulty is marketing.

In the past, our major buyers would come from East Bengal which is now Bangladesh. After Partition, 30 per cent mango growing areas went to Bangladesh. As a result, the Malda District lost its principal market. The mangoes of Malda are now sold mostly in Kolkata or in Assam. What is sold is a very small portion of what is being produced.

The problem of marketing might be solved if a food processing plant is set up in the Malda District. A food processing plant can process mangoes and make varieties of mango products. It can also bring in fruit and vegetable crops such as litchis, pineapples, oranges and tomatoes from northern districts and other surrounding districts. It would generate better incomes for the rural people of North Bengal.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI RAJENDRA AGGARWAL (MEERUT):** Hon. Speaker, Meerut-Hastinapur rail route has been approved, but considering this as economically unviable, the Ministry is avoiding the construction of this rail route. Hastinapur has been a very important centre of our historical and religious importance. This city has currently the world-famous Jain Shrine and in its vicinity is the birth place of Bhai Dharam Singh, one of the Panj Pyare, named Saifpur Karamchandpur, just three kilometers away, where a huge gurdwara is built. Visitors visit these places in large number from all over the country and the world. I do not think that this rail route will prove economically unviable, but even if it

is, even then Hastinapur has a unique place of the historical and cultural importance. Respecting the sentiments of the two major minority sections of the country- Jain and Sikh society and considering the social responsibility of the ministry, the work of laying the railway line from Meerut to Hastinapur should be started soon and it should be done. I through you request the government especially the Railway Minister.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Rajendra Agarwal.

**SHRI MANISH TEWARI (ANANDPUR SAHIB):** Hon. Speaker, thank you very much. I through you, want to draw the attention of the House and the Government to India's strategic and security potential. This House knows that Pakistan is on one side of India and China on the other side of India. In the last nine years, the amount of money China spends on defense has increased by more than 83 per cent. In contrast, the expenditure that India incurs on its defense is decreasing every year. Last year, an Estimate Committee of the House, which was headed by a very senior Member of Parliament, our former MP Shri Murali Manohar Joshi, gave a report that the expenditure incurred on India's defence in the year 2017-18 was 1.60 percent of India's GDP and it is the lowest expenditure in the last 58 years. The interim budget in February was reduced to 1.52 per cent. Hon. Speaker Sir, it is relevant because the capital expenditure on Defence of India was 45.3 percent in the year 2009-10. I will take one more minute because the topic is important. That was reduced to 31.28 percent last year. Of this House... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, speak on the budget, this is a big topic. I will give you a chance.

**SHRI MANISH TEWARI:** Hon. Speaker, I am concluding in a minute. Many committees of this House, the Standing Committee on Defense, the Estimate Committee have drawn the attention of the government to it. I hope that the Finance Minister ... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Bidhuri ji, I have not allowed you to speak yet.

**SHRI MANISH TEWARI:** He was Minister of Defense, earlier. He will improve this deteriorating situation in the budget. Thanks a lot.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Shri B. Y. Raghavendra. I would not like to ring the bell for any hon. member, so please be brief.

*[English]*

**SHRI B. Y. RAGHAVENDRA (SHIMOGA):** Hon. Speaker, Sir, there is digital network problem in Karnataka, especially in the rural areas. The Malenadu hilly areas and coastal regions of Karnataka are particularly badly affected with this problem. BSNL is a public sector undertaking of the Union Government. Its equipment need regular maintenance but there is a lack of supply of diesel to the generators, providing distilled water to the battery, and lack of network towers. The Union Government has launched the concept of Digital India. Under this concept, most of the young people are wholly dependent upon the digital network for their work and also for Government works. It is common now that young generations are having to leave their parents and go in search of jobs to various metro cities and settle there.

During vacation, if they intend to visit their parents, they do not get proper network to finish their day to day activities. Due to this reason, they are avoiding the visit to their parents' place.

So, hon. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has planned any new project to install new mobile towers in hilly and forest areas. If not, he should give priority to these badly affected areas.

Thank you, Sir.

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kumari Shobha Karandlaje is allowed to associate in the subject raised by Shri B.Y. Raghavendra.

*[English]*

**KUMARI RAMYA HARIDAS (ALATHUR):** Hon. Speaker, Sir, Thrissur Government Medical College Hospital is the most important hospital as far as the number of patients is concerned. Patients from different parts of Thrissur, Palakkad and Malappuram are coming to this hospital by train, especially cancer patients. Therefore, I humbly submit that suburban stations such as Mulagunnathukavu and Wadakkanchery may be developed as satellite centres of Thrissur and Shornur respectively. Besides this, stoppages may be provided for the trains like Palakkad Punalur Palaruvi Express, Kochuveli Nilambur Rajya Rani Express and Trivandrum Madurai Express passing through these stations.

I also urge the Government to sanction a new passenger train from Palakkad to Palani, which is a very prominent pilgrimage destination in South India.

Thank you, Sir.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI RAMSWAROOP SHARMA (MANDI):** Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the development of Lahaul Spiti, Kinnaur and Pangi Quila, the most important frontier districts of my constituency, Mandi. Sir, these districts have no contact with other parts of the country for about 6 months in a year. Due to excessive snowfall in winter, the temperature here reaches minus 40 degrees Celsius. Communication services are also inadequate in these districts. Being close to the border of China, there is a great need to develop communication services here. China's mobile network is found within 10-15 km. of our border. Sir, the Hon. Prime Minister has launched several commendable developmental schemes for tribal areas in the last 5 years. As a result of this, the people of tribal areas have once again given Modi ji a strong majority. Sir, the present government can provide special packages for the North-Eastern Frontier States, then by allocating special funds for these districts of Himachal under Centrally Sponsored Schemes, they can make invaluable contribution in the overall development of the region. Apart from BSNL,

assistance of private companies can also be taken, especially in the telecom sector. When the people of the tribal areas are busy with public life due to 6 months of snowfall, then telecommunication is their only support, due to which they can interact with their relatives.

Sir, I through you, urge the government, that wherever necessary, make arrangements to connect the people of the tribal area with BSNL and JIO network as soon as possible. Thank you.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Ramswaroop Sharma.

*[English]*

**ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH (ATTINGAL):** Sir, the Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme better known as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme plays a significant role in addressing the issue of rural distress. Millions of rural workers depend upon this scheme for their survival. The demand for increase in wages is genuine and comes from all the States. The Rural Development Ministry notified revised wage rates for 29 States and Union Territories this year. Even after a higher budgetary allocation for MGNREGS, the hike in wages is meagre, ranging from Rs. 1 to Rs. 17 in various States. The wages paid under MGNREGS remains below the minimum wages in many States.

The Committee set up by the Union Rural Development Ministry have recommended that the wages paid to unskilled agricultural labourers under MGNREGS should be the minimum wage fixed by the respective State or the current wages as per the consumer price index for the agricultural labourers, whichever is higher.

So, I request the Government to consider the Committee's recommendations and take steps for fixing the wages accordingly.

Thank you, Sir.

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Shri Kuldeep Rai Sharma is allowed to associate with the matter raised by Advocate Adur Prakash.

... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. SPEAKER:** I would urge the hon. Members to try to speak in the House without reading as there is Rule 377 for reading out from the text. Try to speak without reading during Zero Hour, it will be good.

**SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY (BAHARAMPUR):** Sir, it has been reported that Tiware Dam in Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra has broken due to cracks. Many people have died as a result. A flood situation has arisen in a large area. It is reported that 6 people have died so far, many people are missing. It is also reported that the Dam Authority was already warned that the condition of this dam is bad.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Is this matter related to the Union Government?

**SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY:** Sir, if efforts had been made to repair the dam, accident of such a big magnitude would have been averted. Therefore, I want a statement from the government in the House as to what the condition there is. How many people have died, how many missing, how the rescue operation is going on, they should inform the house.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, when any member raises state subject, you make objection that they should not raise state subject and you are such a senior leader and are raising a state subject.

... *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY:** Sir, this is a national disaster.

...*(Interruptions)* It is not a state subject. ... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, I am here to give the ruling. You have not been given this responsibility. I am giving the ruling.

Shri N.K. Premachandran.

*[English]*



**SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM):** Hon. Speaker, Sir, first of all I would like to place on record the magnanimous decision in nominating me in the panel of chairpersons for which I express my sincere thanks.

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** You sit for long hours and know the rules and procedures. All the hon. members applauded as you got nominated for the panel of Chairpersons. This is good. You are a senior member.

**SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY:** Sir, please also tell him that when he is in the chair he should give us more chances. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

**SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN:** Thank you, Sir. I have given a notice of adjournment and my Zero Hour submission is in that regard. Two days ago, the hon. High Court of Madras had issued a judgement banning the admission of wards of poor workers on some technical grounds. The admission is going to close by 6<sup>th</sup> of July. Immediate intervention from the Ministry of Labour as well as the Ministry of Health is required. In all the ESIC medical colleges, daughters and sons of poor workers are entitled to get admission. There is 35 per cent of reservation for these ESI workers who are having the benefit under the ESIC. Unfortunately, because of the verdict of the High Court, it is being banned. So, I seek the urgent intervention of the Ministry of Labour as well as the Ministry of Health. The hon. Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal is here. I request the Government to kindly respond to this and take immediate action so as to file an appeal before the Division Bench, and if the verdict is against it, then to go to the Supreme Court so as to safeguard the interest of the poor workers' children.

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Adv. A.M. Arif is allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri N.K. Premachandran.

....*(Interruptions)*

**HON. SPEAKER:** All will be given a chance today.

Shri M.K. Raghavan.

*[English]*

**SHRI M. K. RAGHAVAN (KOZHIKODE):** Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to highlight the drawback in the provision of 10 per cent reservation for economically weaker sections as per the 124<sup>th</sup> Amendment which is affecting the people of Kerala. The norm ensuring 10 per cent reservation for economically weaker students in medical admissions may affect the chances of deserving students from the State of Kerala. Already, prospective students for NITs, IITs and IIMs have missed the opportunities. Unfortunately, the yardstick adopted while preparing the Amendment Bill was based on the social and economic situation prevailing in North India. The landholding criterion of 2.3 cents in the cities and 4.6 cents in the rural areas is the villain in this issue.

In Kerala, according to the Government standards, the minimum land requirement for construction of a house is three cents. Therefore, the minimum land holding should be increased to at least 1,500 square feet.

According to reports, under the provisions of the 124<sup>th</sup> Constitution Amendment only those children who are living in rental accommodation and who are purely landless will be benefited, leaving behind majority of the aspirants of the forward community.

The State Government of Kerala is not acting on this issue till this time. Therefore, I urge upon the hon. Ministers of Law and Social Justice to kindly intervene and re-examine the provisions of the Amendment and bring a further amendment so that the EWS children from Kerala belonging to the forward community could avail of the benefits of the 124<sup>th</sup> Amendment.

Thank you.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI C. P. JOSHI (CHITTORGARH):** Hon. Speaker, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak in Zero hour. Sir, this is an important matter related

to farmers and to Rajasthan. For the past several months in Rajasthan farmers are being cheated and exploited. I demand through you that the Union Government should pay attention to it. The people of Chittorgarh Parliamentary constituency have re-elected me. There are dairy and other institutions in that area, which are democratically elected institutions. Today, they are being targetted in a planned manner. Some officers have been posted there who are themselves trapped in the ACB. By appointing such officers there democratically elected board is being dissolved and that they are being harassed. All the milk producing and cattle rearing farmers there are being harassed. Thousands of farmers demonstrated before the collectorate. The farmers there and the chairperson of the dairy board are just being harassed. They are trying to dissolve that institution. ... *(Interruptions)* They are being harassed in a planned manner. I demand from the government to intervene in this matter. Hon. Rahul Gandhi ji is not here. He also spoke of waiving the debt in ten days.

Hon. Speaker, the farmer there is distressed today. There was neither any loan waived nor any other work done. The farmers there are vexed. ... *(Interruptions)* The farmers there are committing suicide. I demand through you that the government should intervene and take action against such people.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri C. P. Joshi.

**SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (PATALIPUTRA):** Hon. Speaker, I wish to draw your attention and that of the House and of our Government to a very important matter.

Sir, Patna University is not only a renowned university of Bihar, but enjoys that prominence countrywide. It was established in the year 1917. It has been established for more than 100 years. It is the seventh university in the whole of India. This is the oldest university. I think this university is famous in many countries. The university has produced several great men to serve the country and society. Many politicians, two out of them are sitting here right now, one is Shri

Ashwini Kumar Choubey ji, he served there as the honorable president and the other is Shri Ravi Shankar. There is also contribution of Jai Prakash ji, Rashtrakavi Dinkar ji, literateur Usha Kiran ji. This is a very sensitive matter, so I am drawing your attention and that of the government.

Sir, this university has become 100 years old. Its centenary year was also celebrated and the Hon. Prime Minister was its chief guest. I remember, Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey is the Hon'ble Minister now, when he was the President of the Students 'Union in 1977, he organized a three-day conference of the students' unions from all over the country and at that time it was decided that Patna University should be given the status of Central University. The then Prime Minister Morarji Bhai Desai, even at that time had assured that it would be done. Many times the state government has drawn the attention of the Union government for a Central University. Sir, I am an old member. I have been an MP six times. There was no year when I did not draw the attention of the House to demand the Central University status for it but nothing has been done till date.

Sir, today, through you, I would again like to request the Hon. Minister of Human Resource Development and especially the Hon. Prime Minister with folded hands and also request you to intervene in this matter.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Shri. Sushil Kumar Singh, Shri Bidyut Baran Mahato and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are allowed to associate with the subject raised by Shri. Ram Kripal Yadav.

**SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:** The sentiment of the entire country is attached to it. Not coming out of this, these people in other parts of the country. ... *(Interruptions)* Sir, allow me to make a last submission. I have been trying for three consecutive days. It was a great blessing that you gave me a chance to speak. I am anguished to utter it with regret and sorrow. There is a demand of the people, there is a feeling of the people of entire Bihar, there is a demand that the Patna University should be given the status of Central University. It would be a great favour by you.

Sir, I again request that immediate action should be taken to award Central University status to Patna University. The entire Bihar will be grateful for this. Thanks a lot.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Shri. Sushil Kumar Singh, Shri Bidyut Baran Mahato, Shri Janardan Singh Sigriwal and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Ram Kripal Yadav.

*[English]*

**SUSHRI S. JOTHIMANI (KARUR):** Hon. Speaker, Sir, Vanakkam. I thank you for the great opportunity given to me to make my maiden speech in this august House.

Sir, I am a first-time Member from a humble agricultural background and I can proudly say that I am the first woman MP from Karur as well. I thank the people of Karur and the Congress Party for this great opportunity.

Karur is known for the textile industry and is the fourth largest textile exporter in the country. It is also a leading player in building bus body and mosquito net. It generates around Rs.6000 crore in foreign exchange through export. The industry employs more than three lakh people out of which 70 per cent are women.

Through you, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the most important crisis - the rising unemployment and the plight of the textile industry - that my constituency Karur, the Western part of Tamil Nadu and the State of Tamil Nadu as a whole is facing.

The rising competition from the neighbouring countries and the hasty implementation of GST have put the textile industry into a big stress. Also, the Basel III norm, classifying textile sector as stressed sector, has tightened the hands of the bankers and financial institutions in lending money to the textile units. Since most of the textile chains fall under MSME category, NPA-classified units are being reported every day. This leads to the closure of thousands of business houses and thus resulting in unemployment.

Recently, in Tamil Nadu 10 lakh people with higher qualifications like MBA and M.Tech. had applied for the sweeper job. This indicates the state of unemployment that is there in the country. Aspiring young men and women are jobless. The dreams of the families and parents of a great future for their children are being shattered. Make-in-India cannot be a mere slogan. It should be implemented in letter and spirit.

I quickly come to a few solutions to revamp the industry. Most of the textile industries flourish under MSME. I urge upon the Government to introduce 20 per cent tax rate for the partnership firms with sales up to Rs.10 crore....(*Interruptions*)

**HON. SPEAKER:** Shrimati V. Geetha.

**SUSHRI S. JOTHIMANI:** Sir, please allow me to finish by making only two points. Please give me one minute to suggest two or three solutions. I do not want to politicise the issue. ...(*Interruptions*)

**SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA VISWANATH (KAKINADA):** Thank you, Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

[*Translation*]

**HON. SPEAKER:** I have given chance to the Hon. Member, earlier also. She is speaking for the second time in seven days.

[*English*]

**SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA VISWANATH:** I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Finance to the problems of more than 30,000 gold appraisers who are working with banks all over India.

Banks earn profits on the secured gold loans. The appraisers are playing a key role in disbursing loans but they do not have either job security or suitable remuneration. Banks collect appraising charges as well as processing charges from the customers. The State Bank of India is the largest public sector bank in India. Against the gold loan of Rs. 1 lakh, the SBI pays just Rs.100 to the appraisers, whereas other public sector banks pay Rs.500 for the same job. The

appraisers working all over India are facing problems. I would request the Government to save these gold appraisers from the hardships that they are facing. Thank you.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI P .P. CHAUDHARY (PALI):** Hon. Speaker, thank you very much. I have got the opportunity to speak for the first time in the seventeenth Lok Sabha. My issue is regarding blood sugar standard. Recently, there was a meeting of major companies in Spain, which manufacture blood sugar medicines. It said that currently the limit for fasting blood sugar is 120, it should be reduced to 100. This means that forty percent of the drug sales will be increased and 70 percent of the people in the country would fall under the category of sick.

If history is to be seen, the blood sugar limit in fasting was 160 in the year 1997, it was gradually reduced to 120. I would say that this will put pressure on the hospital, WHO sets this standard. Why don't we have this kind of mechanism, laboratories in which we can verify whether their standards are correct or not? At least it will be diagnosed. If 70 percent of the people fall under the category of sick, this will put pressure on the hospital. Thanks a lot.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Shri Ajay Kumar, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Shri Subhash Chandra Baheria, Dr. Kirit P. Solanki, Shri Rahul Kaswan and Dr. Manoj Rajoria are allowed to associate with the subject raised by Shri P.P. Chaudhary.

Hon. Member is lawyer turned doctor, today.

*[English]*

**SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (KOLKATA UTTAR):** It is more dangerous when a lawyer becomes a doctor.

**SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE (SREERAMPUR):** Doctor is saved only by a lawyer.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI GAURAV GOGOI (KALIABOR):** Hon. Speaker, at present the economic condition of PSUs is becoming very weak. BSNL and MTNL have been discussed in this House. I would like to discuss India Post today. Today India Post has become more loss making than BSNL and MTNL, it has suffered a loss of about fifteen thousand crores. Due to this is not able to give salary. NITI Aayog report mentions selling about fifty public sector units, like NTPC, Cement Corporation of India and Steel Authority of India. It should look at how to save them instead of selling them. We see in China that there are state-owned enterprises, they are earning profit all over the world but today in India public sector enterprises are getting weaker.

**SHRIMATI SANGEETA AZAD (LALGANJ):** Hon. Speaker, rail is considered to be a very cheap means of transportation. Through you, I would like to draw the attention of Hon. Railway Minister to the railway related problems of my Parliamentary constituency Lalganj. My parliamentary constituency adjoins the Prime Minister's Parliamentary constituency Varanasi and from the other end is close to Gorakhpur, the former parliamentary constituency of the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh. If our people have to go to metros or other states, then they have to travel a long distance. People of my constituency have been demanding for a long time that a new direct rail line from Varanasi via Lalganj and Azamgarh to Gorakhpur should be introduced as soon as possible. Thanks a lot.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, please conclude your speech in a minute.

**SHRI RAMCHARAN BOHRA (JAIPUR):** Hon. Speaker, thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak during the Zero Hour. I want to draw your attention to the increasing cyber crime in the country, especially ATM and Internet banking related activities. This new age crime has increased the challenge of the police in the country manifold. In my parliamentary constituency Jaipur, cyber criminals have withdrawn lakhs of rupees from the accounts of many people during the last two days. Just days before, on the 29th, an eighty-year-old pensioner was duped



of Rs 26,000 from his account. When he went to the bank, the bankers refused and sent him back. In the past, about 36 crore rupees have been swindled through cybercrime in Jaipur.

I also want to draw your attention to the fact that cases of rape are increasing in Rajasthan for the last several days.

**14:00 hrs**

The way a seven-year-old girl was raped in Jaipur, I want to say through you that the state's deteriorating law and order should be rectified by the Union government by interfering in it.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Shri Rahul Kaswan and Shri Manoj Rajoria are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Ramcharan Bohra.

**SHRI JANARDAN SIGRIWAL (MAHARAJGANJ):** Hon. Speaker, this matter is related to the students and parents of my parliamentary constituency. Kendriya Vidyalaya Maharajganj, District Siwan was established in the year 2012 in my parliamentary constituency Maharajganj, Bihar. Since the establishment of the Kendriya Vidyalaya, this school has been running in the premises of Shri Gauri Shankar High School Ujjain Duraunda, District Siwan till date. Even today the building is not there and land is required.

I would like to urge the Hon. Minister of Human Resource Department through you to provide funds for land and building construction for Maharajganj Kendriya Vidyalaya.

Hon. Speaker, Sir, I express my heartfelt gratitude to you for giving me an opportunity to speak during Zero Hour. Thank you.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is allowed to associate with the subject raised by Shri Janardan Sigriwal.

*[English]*

**KUMARI AGATHA K. SANGMA (TURA):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak.

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Km. Agatha K. Sangma, I gave you the opportunity yesterday but you were not present.

**KUMARI AGATHA K. SANGMA:** Sir, yesterday, it might have come by mistake. I had given notice last week. But today, I have given it intentionally.

*[English]*

Sir, this summer season has seen punctuated multiple heat waves. According to the IMD report, the average temperature is higher than the 2018 summer. But the latest report of the Centre for Science and Environment has conclusively established that electricity demand of Delhi is directly linked to temperature and humidity conditions. In fact, over 50 per cent of the electricity consumed in Delhi during summer months is to cool the buildings. Interestingly, demand for electricity is more during nights. This clearly shows that the buildings in this city are not able to cope up with the environmental conditions and it is forcing people to use more energy-intensive air-conditioning to keep their buildings cool. 'Mid-night demand peaks' indicate that the households are more stressed. Given the fact that ACs throw waste heat outside and make cities hotter, it is also a coal-based power which is one of the leading green house gas emissions. It is a vicious cycle. Hotter it gets, the more we need to cool and the more ACs we need to use.

I would like to urge upon the Government to ensure that steps are taken to make buildings more energy-efficient. That also takes care of the cooling aspect of the buildings. I would request the Government to take measures in terms of legislations, notifications, etc. so that buildings are made in more sustainable and energy efficient. With the result, buildings would become cooler and we would not need to use that much of air-conditioning at this time of summer.

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is allowed to associate with the matter raised by Km. Agatha K. Sangma.

*[English]*

**SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE (SREERAMPUR):** Sir, according to the Press Release dated 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2018, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs had taken a decision that the procurement of 100 per cent jute bags for all sectors and 20 per cent for sugar will be made. But this procurement is not being made. This is a decision of the Central Government and the aim is to help the jute industry. The jute industries are really suffering. In two districts of Hooghly and North 24 Parganas of West Bengal, we have at least 25 jute mills. They are all suffering. I would request that the Ministry of Textile must implement this Cabinet decision which was taken for the purpose of procurement of jute bags from the jute mills. But no procurement is being made. Around 60 per cent jute mills have closed down and lakhs and lakhs of jute workers have become unemployed. Therefore, my request is that procurement should start immediately.

*[Translation]*

**SHRIMATI JASKAUR MEENA (DAUSA):** Hon. Speaker, you have given me permission to speak, thank you very much for this. My subject is very important for the whole country. Agriculture is the basis of economic growth of India. I know that Mahatma Gandhi called agriculture as the "soul of India". Even today the rural population of India is based on agriculture. The leader of our government has taken care of the farmers.

Hon. Speaker, there is an urgent need to plan and work to fulfill the dream of our Prime Minister, only then we can double the income of the farmer. This dream can be fulfilled only if the integrated plan for the advancement of organic agriculture, fruits, vegetables and milch cattle will be implemented in each district. For this, the Agriculture Department needs to conduct awareness campaigns. The crops will have to be identified according to the health of the region-wise soil, along with this, arrangements will have to be made simultaneously to get a fair price for their produce. The Agriculture Department

has established agricultural science centers, but the agricultural science centers are not functioning. All the agricultural science centers of Rajasthan are not working. The Agricultural Science Center of my parliamentary constituency is such that, sad to see that even the grass is not grown there and lakhs of rupees per month is spent on scientists. I request you that if we want to double the agriculture income, increase it ten times, then an integrated plan should be worked out.

[English]

**SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK):** Hon. Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to raise an issue during 'Zero Hour'.

For the last one week or so we have been deliberating on history and history is a very interesting subject. Through you, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that the West Bengal Assembly passed a Resolution to conduct an investigation on the mysterious death of the late Shyama Prasad Mookherjee when he was incarcerated in Jammu and Kashmir. Till date no such investigation has been conducted. But the Resolution of the West Bengal Assembly is still there. It was sent to the Union Government, especially to the then Home Ministry to conduct an investigation to find out what was the cause of the death of the late Shyama Prasad Mookherjee.

The late Shyama Prasad Mookherjee was the first *Udyog* Mantri of Independent India. He relinquished the post of Ministership in 1950. After that my father took over from Eastern India as the representative. Both of them visited Cuttack, my Parliamentary constituency, where Shyama Prasad Babu was accorded a very huge reception. He was very much popular not only in Bengal but also in Eastern India and also in the country. Later on, no doubt, he became the founder of the *Bhartiya Jan Sangh*. He was fighting against the mistake that was being committed by interpolation of article 370 and later article 35A.

But my point here is this. A Resolution was moved by West Bengal Assembly and sent to the Union Government to conduct an impartial investigation relating to his death. I would now urge upon the new dispensation

that has come to power at the Centre, to take this up and conduct an impartial investigation into the cause of his death. The mysterious disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose has been investigated. I would now like to urge upon this Government to conduct an investigation relating to the death of Shyama Prasad Babu.

Thank you.

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is allowed to associate with the issue raised by Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab.

*... (Interruptions)*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Minister, please do not talk, please. You should note that the Hon. Member is speaking.

**DR. (PROF.) KIRIT PREMJI BHAI SOLANKI (AHMEDABAD WEST):**

Hon. Speaker, you have given me permission to raise an important issue relating to my parliamentary constituency. I come from Ahmedabad. Kendriya Vidyalayas are known for high quality education. Railway line divides Ahmedabad in two parts, Eastern and Western part. All the Kendriya Vidyalayas are in the western part. There is no Kendriya Vidyalaya in Eastern part. There is a provision in Right to Education that education would be available within 6 km radius, but still they do not get admission there. I request the Government and the Minister, through you, to open at least 2 Kendriya Vidyalayas in my constituency Gomtipur, Laba, Nicol, Indrapuri, Amraiwadi. I pray to the government through you that we are under pressure to have Kendriya Vidyalayas. Now-a-days there is a pressure on all MPs for Kendriya Vidyalayas. The 10 seats of Kendriya Vidyalayas which we have the right to grant, should be increased to 50. Thanks a lot.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is allowed to associate with the issue raised by Dr. Kirit P. Solanki.

**SHRI JASBIR SINGH GILL (KHADUR SAHIB):** Hon. Speaker, the issues that I am going to raise here today are of national and historical importance. All the Hon. Members are here, they will support me in this cutting across the party line,. Before I raise the issue, I want to make a request to you. When you smile, we sweat because the bell rings with the smile. So please do not smile for two minutes.

Sir, we observed the centenary of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre. Hon. Rahul ji and our hon. Chief Minister of Punjab Captain Amarinder Singh ji attended it. Sir, there are two iconic structures in Jallianwala Bagh, one is a flame shaped structure, the other which is a martyr well, a structure was built on it. The Ministry of Culture, Government of India started work on it to beautify him to renovate him, but sadly, the structure which was 100 years old above the martyr well has been broken, which is not good for the coming generations as well as for the country. I request you to ask the Minister of Culture to take action against those who have broken it, and another structure like that should be built there. Thank you.

**SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH (AURANGABAD):** Hon. Speaker, thank you. You have given me a chance to speak on an important subject. For the first time in the seventeenth Lok Sabha, I am going to raise an important issue relating to my region with your permission. Sir, I have come from the Aurangabad parliamentary constituency of Bihar, which is totally a plateau and has extreme temperature, hot and wet ground and lack of ground water. Realizing the scarcity of water in the country, our Hon. Prime Minister has taken the initiative by taking cognizance of this serious matter for taking concrete action in this direction. Ministry of Jal Shakti has also been set up for this, but I read a newsitem in the newspaper today, in which about 1600 blocks of 300 districts of the country have been identified by the Ministry of Jal Shakti which are water scarcity areas, comprising half of our parliamentary constituency which falls in Gaya district.

The name of Gaya district is in that list but Aurangabad district is not in that list, whereas people here have to bring water from three kilometers.

There is no alternative of water. The ground water level has gone down so much that almost all the hand pumps have dried up. I request the government, to the Ministry of Jal Shakti, that Aurangabad district should also be included in that list, so that drinking water can be provided there through that scheme of the Government of India. Thank you.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel and Dr. Nishikant Dubey are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Sushil Kumar Singh.

You can discuss at length when there would be detailed discussion on, issues like budget, rail etc. Only urgent matters should be raised during Zero Hour. Therefore, I urge all the Hon. Members that for the first time there will be such a long discussion on the budget that you will get as much time as you want to speak.

... (*Interruptions*)

**PROF. SOUGATA RAY (DUM DUM):** Sir, I have a question. You are asking us to raise important matter right now. Is there a single cabinet minister sitting here? For whom will Members speak? They have come from such a remote area, will speak for the first time. ...(*Interruptions*) There is not a single cabinet minister here. ...(*Interruptions*)

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, please sit down, I am giving a ruling.

... (*Interruptions*)

**HON. SPEAKER:** Please sit down a minute, I am giving a ruling.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

**SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA):** Sir, please give me one minute. ... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member Suresh ji, you are a senior Member. Have a seat please.

... (*Interruptions*)

**HON. SPEAKER:** You are a senior Member.

... (*Interruptions*)

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Senior Member, Cabinet meeting is going on right now and the hon. Minister has gone with my permission.

... (*Interruptions*)

**PROF. SOUGATA RAY:** Sir, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is also not here. ... (*Interruptions*)

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, please sit down.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

**SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:** Sir, please give me one minute. ... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

**HON. SPEAKER:** There is no need, it is not so in the rule. Shri. Virendra Singh, please continue.

... (*Interruptions*)

**DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA):** Speaker Sahab is giving chance to new people. ... (*Interruptions*)

**PROF. SOUGATA RAY:** But they must listen first.

... (*Interruptions*)

**HON. SPEAKER:** Shri Virendra Singh ji, please continue.

**SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (BALLIA):** Hon. Speaker, I would like to draw the attention of Parliament through you on a very serious matter, which is very pressing for the country. Today \*...(A) judge of ...\* has given the statement that ...\* Let me speak. (*Interruptions*). Legacy and caste based appointments are being made in ... decisions are being taken. This is a very serious matter for the

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\* Not recorded



country and a serious question. This matter should be discussed in both the Houses.

Hon. Speaker, I request that if there is a crisis of trust in the judiciary, then there will be a crisis in democracy. Till now, among all the institutions of democracy, the judiciary is such an institution, which has the trust of crores of people of the country. When the crisis of familyism and casteism arose in the Executive, the debate arose, the people of the country rejected familyism and casteism. I want to tell the country and Parliament, through you, with concretion that when judiciary is being accused of familyism and casteism by a judge, who will give the judgment?

Hon. Speaker, being a political activist when the people's expectation is broken by the judiciary, I think democracy will be threatened, then anarchy will spread, laws will be broken. Therefore, the entire House should debate on this serious concern and a way should be found out so that trust in the judiciary is maintained.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Virendra Singh.

**SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI (SHEOHAR):** Hon. Speaker, I want to begin by citing two lines that

Nari jab jaagti hai to adhikar mangti hai  
Prem se pukaro to pyar baantati Han  
Ma bahan our beti ban kar samaj KO sambhalti hai  
Apradhiyon ka Durga ban kar sanhaar karti hai.

Today, I am saying it because the women have got some space and they are doing their work with authority. The Speaker is giving due respect to the women Members. You have given the first time chosen women a chance to speak, I thank you from the bottom of my heart for this.

I would like to draw your attention to an important issue of my parliamentary constituency during zero hour. The Gurhanwa Railway halt situated in Darbhanga, Raxaul railway section under Samastipur railway division of East Central Railway zone under my parliamentary constituency is deprived of basic amenities where there is neither drinking water nor toilet facilities for the passengers. The waiting room there is also in a dilapidated state.

Sir, the said Gurhanwa Railway Halt is located on the Indo-Nepal border, which is also a flood-affected area, where water logging occurs on the railway tracks during rainy days, affecting the running of trains. In this context, increasing the height of the platform is also absolutely necessary. The station building has become dilapidated as it is very old. It has been there for years. I want to state the whole thing. Hundreds of passengers travel by railway every day, yet there is not even a departmental phone. There was a control phone installed at the time of meter gauge, but after the start of the broad gauge line service, the connection of the control phone has not been added nor the magnet phone has been given due to which the passengers do not get the correct information of the arrival and departure of the train.

Therefore, through the House, the government is requested that, in public interest, basic amenities should be provided at the Gurhanwa Railway Halt located on the Raxaul-Sitamarhi railway section of the East Central Railway zone under my parliamentary constituency.

Also, the dilapidated waiting room should be restored under an action plan. Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to speak during Zero Hour.

**SHRI HARISH DWIVEDI (BASTI):** Hon. Speaker, Raja Dasarath performed a putreshti Yajna for the birth of Lord Shri Ram, who is a pivot of faith of all Hindus of the country and the world. That place is in Makhanda Dham, Basti district. Every year, devotees from Hindustan and other countries perform 84 Kosi circumambulation in lakhs, but they cross the Ghaghra river by boat. The

yatra goes through five districts - Basti, Ambedkar Nagar, Ayodhya, Barabanki and Gonda.

Hon. Speaker, through you, I request the Hon. Minister to kindly get the work of a bridge of Sherwaghat on the Ghaghra River completed, which has been pending for a long time.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Shri Ritesh Pandey and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Harish Dwivedi.

**SHRI AJAY TAMTA (ALMORA):** Hon. Speaker, I have the opportunity to speak for the first time in the 17th Lok Sabha, I thank you very much for this.

Sir, I am drawing attention of the government through you, on a very important subject. I have been elected as an MP from Almora parliamentary constituency in Uttarakhand. In Pithoragarh, the border area of Nepal, China and Tibet, the work of runway was going on for the last 25 years, the construction of an airstrip was going on, there was no air landing on it. Permission was granted to land on the runway following the clearance of DGCA and Airports Authority of India through the government under the guidance of the hon. Narendra Bhai Modi. The then Home Minister, and the present Defense Minister, hon. Rajnath Singh ji, the hon. Chief Minister of Uttarakhand and all of us MPs inaugurated it on October 8, 2018. The Flights were operated through a private air heritage. Tickets were also booked for one month. This is a frontier area. It takes us 20- 22 hours to reach this place. To provide air connectivity runway work was going on in Dehradun, Pant Nagar and Pithoragarh, but on February 9, 2019, When the plane flew from Pant Nagar to Pithoragarh, the plane's gate opened in the air.

The crew acted very carefully and got the plane landed. There was no loss of life or property in this. Since it has been taken under the Udaan' scheme, I want to say through you that it should be operated by Air India or a Heritage Company or whoever wants to run it. It is a matter of frontier region; it is a matter of

providing facility to the people of the frontier areas so I want to bring this very important matter to the notice of the government.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Ajay Kumar.

**SHRI ARJUN SINGH (BARRACKPUR):** Sir, I extend you my felicitations for providing me a chance to speak. I am a first time MP. I want to speak about the district adjoining our parliamentary constituency. I want to speak about the international and national problem. In Hinduism, cow has been sacred and revered since ancient times. The magnitude of smuggling of cows from all the border areas of West Bengal is so large that I have to admit it with shame that the state government of 'PC Bhaipo' is executing this disgusting work. Millions of cows are transported from India to Bangladesh and the worst thing is that if the officers of our BSF try to stop it, then they are implicated in a false case. ...*(Interruptions)*. I want to urge through you, that fake currency and drugs are smuggled from Bangladesh to destroy the youth of West Bengal. ...*(Interruptions)* Force should be widely deployed there and CCTV cameras should be installed on the border, so that this tyrannical regime could be done away with. ... *(Interruptions)*. People belonging to \* community, should be strictly dealt with. ... *(Interruptions)*.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Arjun Singh.

Shri Margani Bharat

... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Only the speech of Shri Margani Bharat will go on record.

... *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

**SHRI MARGANI BHARAT (RAJAHMUNDRY):** Hon. Speaker Sir, thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak. I would like to draw your attention

to the road accidents happening everywhere, in fact, every second, across the country. Day before yesterday, in Jammu and Kashmir valley, almost 35 people were killed in a mishap. In this connection, I would like to draw your kind attention to my constituency, Rajahmundry, which is located on the National Highway 5 running between Kolkata and Chennai.

In my constituency, there are five major accident-prone junctions, where the situation is really petrifying. Out of these five major accident-prone junctions, only one junction was sanctioned by the hon. Minister. The rest of the four junctions have to be sanctioned. ... (*Interruptions*). I will give my proposal and complete it. ... (*Interruptions*).

I request hon. Minister and the Government of India to sanction one single flyover, so that the traffic coming to the city comes under the flyover and all the major vehicles will go on the flyover. So, you could save as many lives as possible, and you will be considered remarkably noble. I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister to initiate the work at the earliest.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI SATISH KUMAR GAUTAM (ALIGARH):** Hon. Speaker, I would like to draw your attention to my Lok Sabha constituency Aligarh, where the Aligarh Muslim Central University is located. The students belonging to the SC, ST and OBC categories get reservation in BHU, but due to the mistakes of Congress, neither the SCs/ STs nor the OBCs get reservation in my university. The reservation was done away with during the Congress rule. ... (*Interruptions*) The former HRD minister issued a letter to the university. Today, the SCs, the STs and the OBC students of my constituency are suffering because they cannot study in that university. It was the gift of the Congress that today there is no reservation in that university. ... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

**SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:** Sir, he cannot make wild allegations against the Congress party... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

**SHRI SATISH KUMAR GAUTAM:** The University runs with the money of the Central Government, but today due to the Congress party, the children of the SCs, the STs and the OBCs are not able to study there. I demand from the Government of India that since this university runs with central government's funds, it should provide reservation to students of the SCs, STs and OBC categories.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Satish Kumar Gautam.

[English]

**SHRI JAYADEV GALLA (GUNTUR):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I am going to raise an urgent matter of public importance; and I would make it very quick.

Sir, Bytedance, which runs *Helo* and *TikTok* Apps is the world's most valuable start-up. Its App *Tik Tok* has reportedly crossed one billion downloads worldwide, and has over 300 million users in India. Its applications collect 45 per cent more information and permissions than any other Apps granting them intrusive access to their users.

Bytedance also runs a network of paid influencers, who receive Rs. 1 lakh per month. In 2019, Facebook removed over 11,000 fake or morphed election-related media shared by *Helo* in India.

There was also widespread use of *TikTok* for campaigning by political parties during the recently conducted elections. We have also seen people spreading fake news and malicious content under the guise of freedom of speech, which is impacting our democratic process. Under the garb of a light-hearted application, *TikTok* and its affiliates pose a serious threat to India.

So, I would request the Government of India to take appropriate action to ban *TikTok* and other such similar Apps in the country and to direct Google, Apple, and Android etc., to remove such Apps from their platforms.

Thank you, Sir.

*[Translation]*

**DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA):** Hon. Speaker, elections have just been concluded in the country. The government has enacted a law to control print media and electronic media. But, through Facebook, as Jayadev Galla ji was speaking right now, journalists have lined up in every district and every block through various apps or net, who put mikes in front of you and interfere with your privacy. All the members of parliament have come here after contesting elections.

I urge the government through you that the way electronic media and print media are working in the country under a guided law, similarly Google facebook etc. which are the medium of paid news or whatever kind of news. Or social media, the government should enact a stringent law to control them so that the privacy of the people does not get interfered.

**HON. SPEAKER:** This is a very good issue and a matter of concern for the House. It should be discussed. If you give notice for discussion under Rule 193, we will discuss it.

Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Shri S. C. Udasi, Dr. Rajdeep Rai and Shri Dushyant Singh are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Dr. Nishikant Dubey.

**SHRI ANUMULA REVANTH REDDY (MALKAJGIRI):** Hon. Speaker, I have been trying to speak for three days. Thank you very much for giving me a chance.

Sir, there is a very serious problem. This problem has persisted for more than hundred years. A case has been going on for four days in Sarsala- Village, Kagaznagar Division, Komaram Bhim Asifabad District, in Telangana. When the officers go for plantation in the forest, the tribal people beat the forest officers there. On the 30th, when the officers went there, the entire tribal people attacked the officers, as a result the officers' hands have been broken.

Komaram Bheem, who was the first Indian Tribal Guerrilla Warier, was martyred by fighting against the Nizam government for this reason. But today, even after hundred years, this problem persists. The state government lost the elections at Godavari province. The BJP has been voted to power in the last state election. The forest officers are being sent there and the tribals are being told that they are the same people suggesting that they should be beaten up. ...  
(*Interruptions*)

Therefore, I want to tell the Union Government through you that there is no coordination between the Forest Officers and the Revenue Officers.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Member, you have not been allowed to speak. Please sit down.

... (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI ANUMULA REVANTH REDDY:** Sir, there is no co-ordination between the revenue department and the forest department. ..(*Interruptions*). There is no law and order. ...(*Interruptions*). The tribals also beat up the forest officers yesterday, in the constituency of the Members, who were speaking yesterday and in Mulakalapalli, Bhadrachalam, and Khammam districts. ...(*Interruptions*). This means that it is a problem of five lakh hectares. ... (*Interruptions*) These tribals are living in the forests. ... (*Interruptions*). This government should try to get these people out of the jungles. So, I want to tell the hon. Forest Minister and the hon. Home Minister through you that those who come under the Fifth schedule will ....\* is a full contractor . ...(*Interruptions*) You give order to ...\*that all those who are involved in this should be given justice by conducting its immediate review. ...(*Interruptions*)

**SHRIMATI LOCKET CHATTERJEE (HOOGHLY):** Hon. Speaker, Namstey.

I want to speak about what is happening in Bengal in the House today. ...(*Interruptions*), Shyama Prasad Mukherjee's Bengal is burning today.



...(Interruptions) From Hooghly, Gurap to Gaighat and Gangarampur to Gangasagar, everywhere today Jai Shri Ram. ...(Interruptions)

\*\*Sir, today from Gurap to Gaighata, Gangarampur to Ganga-sagar, whoever is chanting 'Jai Sri Ram' is being gunned down like a terrorist by the police and Trinamool ... \* They hit Joychand Mallick and Sagar Baul Das in Gurap with bullets today. I wish to tell you that 'Jai Sri Ram' is the clarion call of India, Sri Ram is the heartfelt chant of the Indians 'Jai Sri Ram' is the symbol of honesty, indicative of good governance, and justice. It brings people together, irrespective of caste, creed or religion. ... \* gets down from her car and rushes towards the persons who raise the 'Jai Sri Ram' slogan. Police cases are filed against them. In Ramayan, we find Hanumanji chanting the Jai Sri Ram slogan. ...(Interruptions)

**HON. SPEAKER:** Kunwar Pushendra Singh Chandel is allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shrimati Locket Chatterjee.

No objectionable words will go on record

... (Interruptions)

**HON. SPEAKER:** The House stands adjourned till Thirty minutes past Fifteen of the Clock.

**14.37 hrs**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Thirty Minutes past Fifteen of the Clock.*

**15.32 hrs**

*The Lok Sabha reassembled after Lunch at Thirty -Two  
Minutes past Fifteen of the Clock.*

*(Shrimati Rama Devi in the Chair)*

**MATTERS UNDER RULE 377\***

*[Translation]*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Hon. Members, matters under Rule 377 should be laid on the Table of the House. Members who have been allowed to take up matters under Rule 377 today and who are willing to put them on the table of the House, should send the text of the matter to the House in person within 20 minutes. Only those matters will be deemed to be laid on the Table of the House for which the text of the matter has been received on the table of the House within the stipulated time. The rest will be considered as lapsed.

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\* Treated as laid on the Table.

**(i) Regarding flood control measures in Misrikh Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh**

*[Translation]*

**SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT (MISRIKH):** Mallavan Bilgram Legislative Assembly constituency under the Misrikh Parliamentary constituency of Uttar Pradesh is a flood-affected area of the Ganga river. Here every year when Ganga river floods, it not only ruins the crops in many villages including Katri - Kachdu - Parsaula - Chilbramau but also the houses are severely damaged due to which they are rendered inhabitable. In such a situation, not only their source of livelihood is destroyed when agricultural produce is wasted but they also become homeless.

I request the government to construct a dam under the Misrikh Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh. A dam should be constructed with the central allocation from Mahadipur to Rajghat Sariya Bridge. Necessary steps should be taken to provide houses to people rendered homeless and arrangements should be made to provide relief and rehabilitation to the flood affected people.

**(ii) Regarding pending projects of Godda Parliamentary Constituency, Jharkhand**

*[English]*

**DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA):** Deoghar has been included in the list of prominent cities and has been declared as mega tourist destination by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India. Deoghar is the unique and extremely revered site of one of the 51 Shaktipeeths and also of Dwadash Jyotirlinga in the country. It is a religious and cultural capital of Eastern India which catapulted the holy place to the International level and is visited by over 5 crore pilgrims every year.

I wish to submit the following level points for your kind consideration:-

- (1) Regarding the requirement of land for the proposed Military Station, the area available will be approximately 400 acres to 500 acres which can be reduced or increased once the feasibility is done. The land will be near the ongoing DRDO centre project at Deoghar (Jharkhand).
- (2) DRDO Lab at Deoghar.
- (3) Ordnance Factory or any defence infrastructure project at Deoghar.
- (4) Sainik School at Godda (Jharkhand).
- (5) Defence recruitment centre at Deoghar.

As we know well that large parts of the state are affected by Naxalism and terrorism. The spread of Naxalism and terrorism is an indication of the sense of desperation and alienation that is sweeping over large sections of Jharkhand's Santhal Pargana region, which has not only been systematically marginalized but also cruelly exploited and dispossessed.

Jharkhand Government is more than willing to extend a helping hand for the above mentioned projects.

**(iii) Need to establish a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Kekri in Ajmer  
Parliamentary Constituency, Rajasthan**

*[Translation]*

**SHRI BHAGIRATH CHOUDHARY (AJMER):** There is resentment in the residents and students of the Kekri Legislative Assembly constituency of parliamentary constituency Ajmer due to the absence of a single Kendriya Vidyalaya run by the Central Government. There are 51 Gram Panchayats, 2 municipal councils, 2 panchayat samitis, 4 tehsils, 1 sub-tehsil and 4 police stations in this Vidhan Sabha constituency. There are about 2,55,000 voters in this region. There is a Subdivision Office at Kekri Urban Headquarters, Pt. C. Office, Tehsil Office, Office of the Additional Superintendent of Police, Office of the District Transport Officer, Office of the Deputy Treasurer, Office of Assistant Director Agriculture, Government Post Graduate College, 3 Government High schools and 5 private colleges, 3 B.Ed Colleges including 25 - 30 private schools functioning there. 700 families of former and current officers of the Indian Army also reside in Kekri circle. They do not get the benefit of Kendriya Vidyalayas situated at a distance of 70 to 80 km in Ajmer City, Kishanganj, Nasirabad and Beawar in Ajmer District. On the other hand, in the last 15 years, families of hundreds of villagers in the Bisalpur Dam catchment area have also settled Kekri area.

Therefore, I request the Government of India that the situation of Kekri (Ajmer) circle should be reviewed at departmental level and a Kendriya vidyalaya may please sanctioned in the departmental scheme of Department of Human Resources for the the year 2019 - 20.

**(iv) Regarding drinking water problem in Jhunjhunu Parliamentary Constituency, Rajasthan**

**SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR (JHUNJHUNU):** There is shortage water in the entire area of Assembly constituency Udaipur and Surajgarh of Jhunjhunu (Rajasthan). There is departmental drinking water system in cities and villages, which is completely dependent on ground water. Tube wells/ hand pumps have gone dry. Administrative sanction amounting to Rs. 718.41 crore and 612.25 crore rupees for 85 villages and 'Dhanis' of Surajgarh and Udaipurwati legislative assembly constituencies under the Scheme was given by the State Government on 25.04.2016 with a view to draw a permanent solution of the drinking water problem. In the budget for the year 2016-17, the State Government announced that the the work of implementation of these projects would commence through the funding from multinational financial institutions. On 16.5.2018 the Ministry of water Resources (MOWS), Government of India sent the proposal for approval of the Ministry of Finance (DEA), Government of India. In this regard, detailed discussions have been held with Public Health Engineering Department, Jaipur Rajasthan by Shri Avinash Kumar Mishra, Director, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India for external assistance by Jaika on 22.4.2019. Moreover, on 01.06.2019 in order to provide financial support the Jaika mission visited Surajgarh and Udaipur Wati assembly constituencies for including it in its Rolling plan. Therefore, it is requested that keeping in view the serious problem of drinking water in the area necessary action may please be taken to provide relief to the people of my area.

**(v) Need to establish a head post office in Kaushambi district,  
Uttar Pradesh**

**SHRI VINOD KUMAR SONKAR (KAUSHAMBI):** Kaushambi got separated from Allahabad on 4 April 1997 and a new district was created where till now the head post office has not been formed due to which lot of difficulties have to be faced in correspondence. In absence of a major post office, there is delay in delivering the letter and the ambitious scheme of the Ministry of External Affairs also starts the Passport Seva Kendra in every district. I am not able to get it here and have trouble in making Aadhaar card. Due to not having a head Post office in Kaushambi district, the people of Kaushambi are also being deprived of the benefits of many ambitious schemes of the government.\

Therefore, I demand that the Head Post Office should be opened in Kaushambi district at the earliest

**(vi) Need to implement AMRUT scheme in Jhansi Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh**

**SHRI ANURAG SHARMA (JHANSI):** I represent Jhansi Parliamentary Constituency of Bundelkhand. As you are aware that due to lack of rain in my area, there is a lot of water problem, due to which one has to go far for drinking water. Due to shortage of water, problems of irrigation are being faced in agriculture and everyday life. People are forced to leave their homes and migrate. The quote of Kabir Sahib appropriately describes my area:

**Rahiman Pani Rakhiye, Bin Pani Sab soon  
Pani gaye na ubare, moti, manus, choon.**

I request the government to kindly implement the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation AMRUT Yojana at the earliest. This scheme will ensure the availability of water for irrigation and other farming methods to ensure the development of the entire Bundelkhand, thereby solving the serious problem of lack of clean drinking water.



**(vii) Need to construct a pucca bridge on river Ganga between Prayagraj and Bhadohi districts in Uttar Pradesh**

**PROF. RITA BAHUGUNA JOSHI (ALLAHABAD):** Two rivers flow from Prayagraj - Ganges and Yamuna rivers. The rural area of this district is divided into two parts - Gangapar and Yamunapar. 80 percent of my parliamentary constituency Allahabad is in Yamunapar. When the Ganges river rises towards Mirzapur from the confluence, there is no bridge over the river for 100 kilometers, due to which connectivity between Yamunapar and Gangapar is possible only by road from either Prayaagraj Nagar or Mirzapur. It makes a difference of about 50 to 100 kilometers. The pontoon bridge is built in Meja tehsil to connect Allahabad parliamentary constituency to Gangapur. It is about one kilometer long. Every year many lives have been lost due to drowning in the rain. Pontoon bridge is continuously constructed since 2001, it also connects famous tourist spot Sitamarhi and Baba Maharaj.

Therefore, the construction of a pucca bridge at the tail end of Madra and Bhadohi districts in Meja tehsil is very important for Prayagraj district.

**(viii) Regarding compensation to farmers**

*[English]*

**SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA (BIDAR):** The Karanja major irrigation project is in my district. Farmers who lost their land due to this project have not received any compensation. I would like to urge the government to take immediate action on this issue by providing relief to many poor farmers.

**(ix) Regarding drinking water problem in Rajsamand Parliamentary Constituency, Rajasthan**

*[Translation]*

**SUSHRI DIYA KUMARI (RAJSAMAND):** I want to draw the attention of the government to the drinking water problem of my Lok Sabha constituency Rajsamand.

The Chambal Bhilwara project was started by the government to supply drinking water in the Mewar region. Supply of drinking water in Bhilwara and its adjoining area is also proposed through this scheme. Some villages of Bhim and Deogarh tehsils of my parliamentary constituency Rajsamand have also been linked with this scheme.

In view of the adequate flow of water in the Chambal river, the above projects can also be connected to drinking water supply by expanding the said project.

Therefore, I request the Hon. Jal Shakti Minister to expand the Chambal-Bhilwara Project Phase-2 Package-1 and supply drinking water to the urban and rural areas of Bhim and Deogarh Tehsils of Rajsamand district.

**(x) Regarding Tribal health care in the country**

*[English]*

**DR. (PROF.) KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI (AHMEDABAD WEST) :** I want to raise the pertinent issue of tribal health in the country. According to the expert committee report called Tribal Health in India by the health and welfare ministry, 104 million tribal people are heavily marginalised and discriminated against who account for 8.6% of country's population. Not only are tribal communities socio-economically discriminated by the mainstream Indian populace, they also face a host of structural inequalities, with access to healthcare being one of the biggest. According to expert committee report 42% of tribal children are underweight, 1.5 times higher than non-tribal children. They constitute 8.6% of the total population but report 30% of the malaria cases. And 50% of all malaria related deaths are in the tribal population. I urge the Government to release an annual budget equal to 2.5% GDP per capita basis for tribal healthcare.

**(xi) Need to expedite construction of Gulbarga - Latur new railway line**

*[Translation]*

**SHRI SUDHAKAR TUKARAM SHRANGARE (LATUR):** Infrastructure like road rail is a necessary and important component for the economic and social development of society and the region. The development of any society and region cannot be conceived without road, rail, and any other linkage.

My parliamentary constituency is Latur, which is in Marathwada region of Maharashtra. Moreover, it is well known that Marathwada is a drought affected area. Here, agriculture has been affected due to drought and lack of adequate means of employment; the situation is getting worse day by day.

The Railway Ministry has proposed the Gulbarga - Latur rail line to facilitate the people of this region and to encourage economic and business activities. This new rail line will connect Gulbarga - Aland - Omega Nilanga - Shirur Anantpal Bhatangali and will benefit 4 talukas of 2 districts of Maharashtra and Karnataka. Even after the announcement in March, the survey of this new line has not been completed yet. This new project will not only provide new connectivity to North and South India, but we have great hopes from this plan that it will be very helpful in the economic and social progress of our region.

Hon. Railway Minister will direct the completion of this project as soon as possible and will start work on it soon. Such is the hope and prayer of the people of our region.

**(xii) Regarding closure of HMT Factory at Ranibagh in  
Nainital district of Uttarakhand**

**ADV. AJAY BHATT (NAINITAL - UDHAMSINGH NAGAR):** I want to draw the attention of the government towards H.M.T. watch factory located in Ranibagh in Nainital district under my Parliamentary constituency Nainital - Udham Singh Nagar. Due to wrong management policies, the said factory was closed illegally in the night of 22 March 2019 while its main objective was to develop the area as well as provide employment to the unemployed youth.

I would also like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that despite clear orders were given by the Ministry of Labor not to conduct the auction without payment of the dues of the employees; starting of the e-tendering process of the sale of the parts and machines of the said company is a betrayal of the employees of the said plant. Letter to this effect is with Deputy Secretary, Labor Department, Government of India, Secretary, Heavy Industries, Government of India and the Chairman and Management HMT Bengaluru under consideration for action.

It would be appropriate that the Government of India should set up a factory to manufacture defense equipment in this institute, so that in addition to providing employment to the local youth in the said plant, HMT factory workers can also be accommodated, which will also speed up the development of the region, and promote employment.

**(xiii) Regarding construction of a railway line between Chapra and Muzaffarpur, Bihar**

*[English]*

**SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (SARAN):** For a very long time, there is a proposal to construct a railway line between Chapra and Muzaffarpur. Initially, the cost of the project was estimated to be Rs 400 crore. For acquiring land, a portion of the money was given to the state government. The construction works at several places have been initiated. Recently, I had an inspection of that place and I have found that at places some amount of work has been done. There are issues relating to the acquisition of land both in the district of Saran and Muzaffarpur. It has come to my notice that the budget for the project has gone up to Rs. 2600 crore. I would like the Indian Railways to :-

- (1) Speed up the process by enhancing the cost outlay of the project as put up by the Railways to Rs 2600 crore.
- (2) Land acquisition issues as with respect to both Chapra and Muzaffarpur should be put up for discussions with the state government and involve the district administration for acquiring and disbursement of money.
- (3) It is a project which is long over-due, therefore, I urge the Government to complete this project at the earliest which will provide a major relief to lakhs of people especially the people of Chapra and Muzaffarpur.

**(xiv) Need to construct an airport at Dhalbhugarh in Jamshedpur  
Parliamentary Constituency, Jharkhand**

*[Translation]*

**SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO (JAMSHEDPUR):** I want to draw the attention of the government to a very important matter. My parliamentary constituency is an area where thousands of industries are established and abundant mineral wealth is available. Due to big industries like Tata, people from different parts of the country reside here for employment and their movement is always there. Kolhan Division is one such region where huge amount of mineral wealth is available and due to Jamshedpur being the main focus of this division, there is a huge scope of development. There is abundant export of precious metals like iron, uranium copper, manganese, gold, kyanite etc. as well as import part of industry manufactured equipment from here. Due to this, there is always the movement of big businessmen from abroad. Due to lack of airport facilities, the development of the entire Kolhan division has stalled. Due to the availability of mineral wealth here, investors come from abroad for investment, but due to lack of airport facilities, they return. Apart from this, the people of the industry are also facing a lot of inconvenience here in absence of an airport. It is a fact that during World War II of 1942, two big airports were constructed at Dhalbhugarh and Chakulia under East Singhbhum which are not in use. The Hon. Chief Minister, Government of Jharkhand and the then Minister of State for Civil Aviation, Shri Jayant Sinha, laid the foundation stone about 6 months back after the completion of the entire process for taking NOC from the Central Government for the public use of Dhalbhugarh Airport in public interest. But the work has not started.

Therefore, I demand that construction of Dhalbhugarh Airport should be started without delay.

**(xv) Regarding shelter homes for homeless people in Mumbai**

**SHRI MANOJ KOTAK (MUMBAI NORTH-EAST):** The Government of India has introduced National Livelihood Mission with the objective of providing basic amenities with shelter to the urban poor including urban area homeless people (NULM). The city of Mumbai is a densely populated city and people come from every corner of the country to earn their livelihood. Today, the population of Mumbai city is around 20 million. If we take the population of 2011 to 125 million, then there should have been 125 Shelter Homes in this city. The Supreme Court has also taken cognizance in this regard in 2010 and asked the Municipal Corporation to arrange it. But till now, there has not been adequate provision of shelter homes for the homeless in Mumbai city. The municipality is currently running 6 - 7 asylum sites exclusively for children. The rainy season is about to begin and Mumbai experiences heavy rainfall. With the onset of rainy season, the problems of homeless people increase greatly, so there is a great need for shelter homes for the homeless.

If permanent arrangements are not made immediately, then a temporary shelter should be constructed in the city of Mumbai immediately. Also, efforts should be started immediately to construct permanent shelter. I have a humble request to the Minister of Housing and Urban Development that sufficient funds should be made available for this purpose so that a shelter could be provided to all the homeless people of Mumbai.



**(xvi) Regarding construction of a dam under Pachnada Project  
in Uttar Pradesh**

**DR. RAMSHANKAR KATHERIA (ETAWAH):** In my Lok Sabha constituency Etawah people have to face water problems for irrigation. Under the Yamuna- Chambal Pachanada project, the Uttar Pradesh government had sanctioned about 26 crores, in which the Government of India also extended its support. I want to convey through you to the Hon. Minister that a dam should be built on the Yamuna-Chambal Pachnada project so that the people of Etawah, Jalaun, Kanpur, Auraya can get enough water for irrigation for agricultural work. Moreover, through this project electricity can also be generated, so that the problems of water and electricity of the people of my Lok Sabha constituency and the local people around it could be resolved.

**(xvii) Need to construct flyover at Hanspal on NH- 16  
in Bhubaneswar, Odisha**

*[English]*

**SHRIMATI APARAJITA SARANGI (BHUBANESWAR):** There is a need for a flyover at Hanspal on NH 16 in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Many communications have been sent to NH authorities in this regard. However, there has been no response.

Due to highway cross traffic at Hanspal and absence of a flyover, there are accidents on a regular basis. I have personally visited the spot and interacted with all the residents there. The flyover should start from Kuakhai river bridge and should run up to the end of Pahala. This is a matter of urgent public importance.

**(xviii) Regarding formal border trade along the  
Indo-Bangladesh border**

**SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY (BAHARAMPUR):** The district of Murshidabad in West Bengal is recognized as a poor and backward district in the country. It has been included in the list of aspirational district. Lakhs of poor people migrate to the other parts of the countries and also go to the gulf region. As it is a porous district bordering the neighbouring country Bangladesh, a substantial number of people are involved in illegal trade which can safely be called smuggling with Bangladesh. More often than not, this kind of illegal trade entails a conflict between BSF and common men who are involved in smuggling under the duress. Simply it is a way of their livelihood. However both India and Bangladesh government want to enhance trade and other business activities. In this regard my proposal to government is to facilitate formal border trade along the Indo - Bangladesh border by establishing “border huts” which may change the economic scenario and more so it will contribute to government kitty. The so called smugglers could be converted into traders.

**(xix) Regarding construction of railway line projects from Tindivanam to Nagari and Tindivanam to Thiruvannamalai in Tamil Nadu**

**DR. M.K. VISHNU PRASAD (ARANI):** About 10 years back, two railway line projects, one relating to construction of railway line BG from Tindivanam to Nagari and the second one from Tindivanam to Thiruvannamalai had been sanctioned. Unfortunately, due to step-motherly treatment, adequate funds were not provided to these projects and the work is going at snail's pace. The delay in implementing has drastically increased the project cost from Rs.450 crore to Rs.600 crore.

All the formalities like land acquisition and detailed project reports are complete. The rail line construction is also going on and only a small portion of it is pending. However, Tindivanam to Thiruvannamalai, which is hardly 68 kms in length is still pending.

If these rail line projects are completed, the people in and around the area would be highly benefited leading to economic activities in our region. Therefore, I urge upon the Government through this august House to expedite the construction of these two rail line projects by allocating sufficient funds in the present Budget.

**(xx) Regarding road connectivity in Bilgaon and Jamuguri  
in Golaghat, Assam**

**SHRI GAURAV GOGOI (KALIABOR):** The areas between Bilgaon and Jamuguri, in Golaghat of Assam are geographically isolated. The area is having river on one side and a railway track on the other side, thus depriving its citizens of any method of surface connectivity, The inhabitants of the region depend upon agriculture for their livelihood, however, owing to lack of surface connectivity, they are unable to market their produce effectively.

Despite numerous requests, no measures have been taken to augment the surface connectivity of the region. There is an urgent need to construct a level crossing between Bilgaon and Jamuguri railway station to remove the transportation barrier currently faced by the people. In addition to this, the provision of an authorized stop of the Special Train at Jamuguri will largely help to alleviate the sufferings of the local people. I urge the Government to take steps in this regard.

**(xxi) Need to construct lower under subway at Kodumudi Railway Station in Tamil Nadu**

**SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI (ERODE):** I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Railways towards the fact that Kodumudi in Erode District is a temple city in western region of Tamil Nadu. Holy Cauvery river and Magudeeswarar Temple attracts thousands of pilgrims daily.

Kodumudi Railway Station is situated in the middle of the Kodumudi town. There is a Railway crossing near Om Kaliaswami Koil and southern side of Kodumudi Railway station. Railway lines are electrified and enroute the Erode — Trichi & Erode — Kanyakumari in which Super-Fast, Passenger & Goods trains are crossing round the clock. Due to this reason, the Railway crossing is always closed for heavy traffic. Public in Kodumudi are very much suffering to cross the Railway crossing to go across to Kodumudi town.

Hence, I request the Hon'ble Minister to look into the matter and arrange to construct a Lower Under Subway (LUS) near Om Kaliaswami Koil, on the southern side of Kodumudi Railway station.

**(xxii) Need to complete one side Railway platform of Chandkhali Halt Station in West Bengal**

**SHRIMATI PRATIMA MONDAL (JAYNAGAR):** I would like to inform the Hon'ble Railway Minister that during 16th Lok Sabha, I had raised the issue regarding incomplete one side platform of Chandkhali Halt station on Sealdah - Canning line on the floor of the House on four occasions, which falls under my parliamentary constituency Jaynagar. In this regard, I personally met both the then Railway Ministers and submitted letter to them. Not only that I had talked with the officer of Railway department on different occasions but all my efforts were in vain. The condition of the said pending work remains the same.

I would like to request the Hon'ble Railway Minister to take necessary steps to complete the above mentioned work which would be a boom for thousands of local people. Kindly note that opposite side to the platform was constructed more than 8 years ago. Sir, action will be highly appreciated for the greater interest of the people.

(xxiii) **Regarding Special Economic Status to Andhra Pradesh**

**SHRI SRIDHAR KOTAGIRI (ELURU):** The promise of Special Economic Status was the glimmer of hope, it was a life line for the people of divided Andhra Pradesh. Of course we now for the last past 5 years have realized that our hopes have been shattered and the promise not fulfilled. Being a new Parliamentarian, I want to know why the assurances made in the House have not been implemented although by and large, the general public believe that assurances made on the floor of Parliament are invariably implemented. Then why assurances to grant special status to Andhra Pradesh have become elusive so far. I also fail to understand that when assurances are not met then how can a new member be serious about the discussions/debates. or what should a member do to be serious on the floor. I don't mean any disrespect to the House but as said earlier I will fail the people of my state who believed in my leader. We should bring this matter to the notice of the house, to the Government and the people of this great country that the Parliament has a word to keep and we have a right to demand.



**(xxiv) Regarding setting up of National Investment Manufacturing Zone in Nagpur, Maharashtra**

*[Translation]*

**SHRI KRIPAL BALAJI TUMANE (RAMTEK):** NIMZ (National Investment Manufacturing Zone) was announced by the Central Government at 14 places in the country, including Nagpur district. The project was to be constructed in Nagpur on 6280 hectares and by the implementation of this project 60,000 people were going to get direct and two lakh people indirect employment. This project will open new avenues of development.

I want to know the extant status of this project from the government and how much more time will it take to implement it fully and what are the appropriate steps taken by the government to implement this project at the earliest.

**(xxv) Need to develop N.H. 104 between Sitamarhi and Sursand in Bihar as per laid down norms**

**SHRI SUNIL KUMAR PINTU (SITAMARHI):** The upgradation of the road from Sitamarhi to Sursand on National Highway no. 104 has not been done as per the prescribed norms, because of which the problem of road accident and traffic there is frequent and persistent. While this road passing through an area of large population, also connects these, bordering areas of Bihar which are also very important from education, business, tourism and strategic point of view.

Therefore, this road needs to be developed urgently in line with the prescribed norms for National Highways.

**(xxvi) Need for laying underground cables instead of erecting overhead high voltage power lines by Power Grid Corporation Ltd. in Tamil Nadu**

*[English]*

**SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN (TIRUPPUR):** The Power Grid Corporation of India Limited and the Tamil Nadu Transmission Corporation Limited have undertaken the work of erecting Overhead High Voltage Power lines over the farm lands in Tamil Nadu. Farm lands in 7 districts of Tamil Nadu are included in this project. These towers are erected to facilitate transmission of high tension electricity. This project involves bringing electricity from Raigarh in Chhattisgarh to Pugalur in Tiruppur district and from there to Thrissur in Kerala. The farm land provides livelihood to the farmers. Erection of High voltage Power lines on the farm land will render the land untenable for the purpose of any farming activity. It will also devalue the cost of land. The farmers of 7 districts of Tamil Nadu are up in arms against this project ever since it started in the year 2015. Plenty of petitions have been submitted but no official has so far scrutinized any petition. Instead of looking into their complaints, they are being harassed, intimidated, threatened and thrashed by the officials with the help of police. The Power Grid Corporation of India Limited should assess the feasibility of laying underground cabling for transmission of power. Underground cabling plays crucial role in power transmission with resilience in severe weather conditions. Though the underground cabling is expensive, nothing can be more expensive than the cost of lives of the people. After all, the development should aim at improving the standard of living of the people and it cannot be at the cost of their lives and sustenance.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to immediately direct the Power Grid Corporation and the Tamil Nadu Government to stop forthwith the activity

of erecting overhead High Voltage Power Lines in Tamil Nadu and try for underground laying of cables.

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**15.34 hrs****DENTISTS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2019***[Translation]***HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Item No. 11, hon. Minister*[English]***THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (DR. HARSH VARDHAN):** I beg to move:

“That the Bill further to amend the Dentists Act, 1948, be taken into consideration.”

*[Translation]*

Hon. Madam Chairperson, the Dentists Act, 1948 was enacted immediately after independence. I have moved this Amendment Act to carry out certain amendments in this Dentists Bill.

When Dentists Act, 1948 was enacted, there were only three dental colleges in the country and the procedure to constitute first Dental Council of India of the country was started through this Dentists Acts. The Dental Council of India had certain basic functions like regulation of dental profession, dental education and dental ethics as well as preparing curriculum for training of dentists and dental hygienists, dental mechanics, to make recommendation for setting up of new colleges as per requirement. Graduation course in dental education is called B.D.S. Grant permission to start M.D.S. and diploma courses and to increase admission capacity of the existing colleges. Consider whether to grant recognition to foreign degree in the field of dental education in the country or not. These were the basic principles on which Dental Council of India had started functioning when Dental Council of India was first constituted, the Council made a register of all the dental surgeons in the country and the register is called Indian Dentists Register. All kinds of entries were made in the register. It was categorized into two parts i.e. Part A and Part B. Certain qualified dentists like

B.D.S., M.D.S., and diploma holders of the country were covered under Part A of the register because there were only three dental colleges in the country. There was shortage of dentists. A number of people came to India in the wake of partition. Some were repatriated from Bangladesh or Ceylon, Burma later. A number of people did not have any formal degree but they used to practice as dental surgeons to earn their livelihood. They had practiced for more than five years. They were covered in Part B of the register under the Dentists Act, 1948. The Government of India used to nominate 6 persons in the Dental Council of India under the Dentists Act, 1948. Similarly, nominations were made to the State Councils and a joint State Dental Council was conceptualized wherein two States could form their Dental Council together. A provision was made in this regard to permit the Government of India to nominate 4 dental surgeons from Part A and 2 dental surgeons from Part B of the register. Similarly, four people from Part A and two people from Part B of the register were nominated to the State Dental Councils. In the joint State Council, two people from Part B were nominated. People of West Bengal, Kerala, Delhi, Punjab, Jammu-Kashmir and Puducherry were covered under Part B. No doctor was registered under Part B of the register after the year 1972. Those people who were repatriated before 28 March, 1948 were registered at that time. Those who were repatriated from April, 1957 to March, 1972 when Bangladesh was taken place, were also covered under Part B. Today the point is that there are around 2 lakh 70 thousand doctors registered under Part A and only 979 doctors registered under Part B of the register. It constitutes only 4 per cent of the total percentage. This law was enacted in the year 1948 as per the requirement of that time. 33 per cent reservation was mandatory for doctors registered under Part B whereas their number was only 490. Four people from Part A and two people from Part B of the register are to be nominated. When the Government started working in the year 2014, I do remember that the Prime Minister of the country had stated in the first Cabinet meeting to study all the laws enacted in the country. Those laws,

which do not have any relevance in the present scenario, which are no longer people friendly or are only helpful in exploiting the people and promote 'Inspector Raj'. He had stated in the first or second Cabinet meeting to study these laws in your representative Departments and we would examine such obsolete laws in the Parliament. If you see the record of last five years more than around 1500 laws have been scrapped. Around 150 new laws and modern legislation as well as several amendments in the old laws have been introduced during the last five years. Today amendments in three sections have been proposed with the intention to rationalise the legislative process and to do away with the redundancy thereunder. There is a mandatory clause that nomination from Part B is necessary. Anyone from Part B can be nominated, but their number is disproportionate and the number of qualified doctors is 2 lakh 70 thousand. If they get representation as per their ratio in a fair manner as the function of the Dental Council of India to regulate dental ethics and dental education is very important.

The opinion of the Government is that perhaps that representation would be better. Accordingly, it was prepared and introduced in Lok Sabha in December 2018. But it could not be taken up due to some reasons. Therefore, the Government has once again moved this Bill here after getting it passed by the Cabinet. It is an ordinary and very rational subject. It has been prepared with objectivity. I request all the Hon. Members to put forth their opinion in this regard. If the Bill is passed unanimously, it will give more sense to this amendment.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:**

The Bill is moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Dentists Act, 1948 is taken up for consideration.

*[English]*

**DR. M.K. VISHNU PRASAD (ARANI):** Thank you, Madam. This being my maiden speech, I would like to thank my leader, Shri Rahul ji, Shrimati Sonia ji, my State's alliance leader, Thiru M.K. Stalin and the magnificent people of Arani, who elected me and made it possible to present their views in this august House.

At the outset, I would like to recall certain facts. In 1960, the statistics on dentists to population ratio were collected, that is, how many dentists were there to treat the population. For 3,00,000 people, there was only one dentist in 1960. In 2016, similar statistics were taken and it was found that for 10,000 people, there was one dentist. So, this gap was narrowed by the relentless effort and phenomenal contribution by the Congress Party and the UPA Governments in the past years.

Madam, I am going to talk on the Dentists (Amendment) Bill, 2019. As the hon. Minister said that there is not much of technicality in this Bill, I do agree that there is no scope at all but still the Government has to bring a comprehensive Bill because just passing this Bill is not going to solve the problem. There is a saying that tortures are of various kind. Some tortures are physical and some are mental. But if there is one with both physical and mental, then it has to be dental.

Madam, this is a very important issue. Why did this Dental Act come in 1948? It is a very serious subject because in saliva you can find stomach ulcer and stomach carcinoma. So, it has come under NCDA, that is, oral care. The main point is that in 1948, they thought that they should set up a Dental Council of India (DCI) under the Dental Act. At that time, they also thought to have a registry. In that registry, the State Government should register the dental practitioners who are either educationally qualified or are not qualified but still practicing for five years.

Here, we also have to mention about the fake doctors. I am not here to stop their livelihood. But, unfortunately, it is dealing with life. The tooth extraction

leads to bleeding, some sympathetic shock and infection. So, this has to be taken care of and the Government has to take a serious note of this issue.

Madam, dentists who were educationally qualified were registered in the Part A and those who were not educationally qualified dentists but still practicing were registered in Part B. But after 1972, this registration did not take place. So, it has become redundant now.

Now, the point is, in the Dental Council of India, two members are taking part in Part B. They are dental practitioners. I want to know from the hon. Minister as to what will happen to these posts. Are they going to be vacant or are they going to be replaced by the members belonging to Part A? For example, in Kerala, there are 30,000 dentists practicing. Proportionally, in Tamil Nadu, it can be a little higher also.

The hon. Minister said that around two lakh to 2.4 lakh dentists are registered in Part A. Yesterday, the same hon. Minister brought an amendment Bill on MCI. He raised the number from seven to twelve, thereby increasing five members into the MCI. Similarly, does the Government have any plan to replace these two members who are left out in Part B with Part A members? Similarly, the State Dental Council and Joint Dental Council, who can be elected among themselves, should also be represented from Part A. Otherwise, the bureaucratic nominee will outnumber the dental practitioners. This is a serious subject because dental practitioners are in regular touch with the patients. They know about the latest equipment, curriculum and difficulties faced by the dental practitioners. So, this is my humble submission to revise this Bill and bring back a new Bill accommodating the members from Part A and also increase the number from two in the MCI and four in the Dental Council of India.

Moreover, the amendments in the Bill are a welcome move since it removes provisions which have become redundant over a period of time, thus also clearing any administrative roadblocks in the correct constitution of Dental Council of India and State level bodies.



Sir, it is shocking that in February, 2017, the CBI booked the Director of Dental Council of India and three others for alleged cheating and corruption for favouring a dental college in increasing seats. This highlights the urgent need ...*(Interruptions)* It is not an expected thing from the hon. Member here, but still, I am not surprised by this reaction. This highlights the urgent need to reform the Dental Council of India. The Government must not restrict itself to mere removal of blemishes because we are talking about dentists and dentists always get to the root of the problem.

The Government must take strict measures to ensure transparency and formulate an anti-corruption policy to deter any instances of corruption in future. These members, who go for an inspection, know about the curriculum, patients' inflow, infrastructure and many other things involved. So, I humbly suggest to the hon. Minister to re-create or re-frame the Dental Council of India which is the need of the hour, beyond which there are almost 88 members, out of which only 34 are notified by the Government while they have to examine, verify and validate the membership of the remaining 54. Otherwise, it becomes a mess and we will not have any control on this body. There are, in fact, members from private universities also and it has to be taken into serious consideration.

While the Medical Council of India is on the path of a complete overhaul, reforms for the Dental Council of India are nowhere in sight. Members of the profession have demanded that a body should be formed to review its functioning and to scrutinise illegal membership. There is a syndicate of dental college owners. They have managed to establish dental colleges. There used to be a clause that anybody can start a dental college even if he does not have a dental hospital; they can affiliate with a nearby hospital within 10 or 15 kilometres of radius. In order to prevent coming up of any new dental college, the syndicate or the cartel of dental colleges has managed to get a clause stating that a new dental college can come up, but it should have its own hospital. This is not feasible. As it is, the rural-urban dentist population is highly varied. There is mushrooming of colleges

in urban areas, but there are no takers. As you know, a dentist, after adopting the profession after the college, earns a maximum between Rs. 15,000 and Rs. 20,000 per month. This is a sad state. In fact, for PG seats also, there are no takers. But in the rural areas, there are no dentists. We have to make a mandatory step here by appointing a dentist compulsorily in all the PHCs as well as train all the ASHA workers and village health workers and teach them about the basic oral healthcare so that they will give an adequate and appropriate guidance to the patients.

My humble submission is that this clause of 10 km. radius should be taken into consideration seriously so that a lot of dental colleges can come in the rural areas also. We should serve our nation in a wider angle.

Finally, I would like to state that I am here partly to welcome the Bill. But I would be appreciating if the Government listens with a motherly heart and come back with a revised and comprehensive Bill which will take care of dental education and profession largely.

My last submission is this. I come from Arani which is a very backward district and a very backward constituency. So, I would like the hon. Minister to establish a dental college with a research centre in my Arani Parliamentary Constituency. Thank you very much.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHOUHAN (GANGANAGAR):** Hon. Chairperson, I rise to support his Bill. I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to discuss the Dentists (Amendment) Bill, 2019. I would like to thank the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister for introducing this Bill for the first time in the Parliament for amendment. After 1948 this Bill has been introduced for the first time in the House in 2017. Before 1993 this right was under the purview of the States but after 1993 this right comes under the purview of the Centre. I think when in the year 1948 this law was enacted, the number of colleges was three only and now their number has increased to 313. If I delve into its intention, if anyone is going to be benefited from the Dentists Act 1948, it is the poor of the villages. It will benefit the last person who is unable to reach cities.

I, through you, would like to thank the hon. Minister as the Bill introduced by him provides for the constitution of a council and the Government is committed to nominate seven members of this Council. I think this Bill is as important as the Bill related to Ophthalmology.

Hon. Chairperson, the Dental Council of India i.e (DCI) was constituted under the Act of 1948. Thereafter, the State Dental Councils were set up. I think the objective of the Government behind this is that very few dentists are working in the rural areas at present and the Government wants that they get opportunities of growth there. Two or more than two State Governments may sign agreement to constitute a council as provided in this Bill. It is a big thing. The Bill provides for registration of diplomaholders or persons not holding qualifications such as BDS or MDS but engaged in practice of dentistry as principal means of livelihood for a period not less than five year main source of livelihood. I want to thank the hon'ble Minister and the Government as he told that 2 lakh 7 thousand doctors in Part A and only 979 doctors are registered with it and the Government is promoting them. I would like to thank the Government that an acute shortage of dentists and their assistants is being felt now-a-days in villages and cities. Our

Government is committed to remove that shortage. For the first time the hon'ble Minister is doing a new work in the country by bringing transparency related to all the aspects of odontology and by setting council in this regard. I would like to thank the Government for this. Earlier, before the year 2016 students used to get admission through NEET. If anyone tried to bring transparency in admission system through general counselling or through NEET, it is the Government India.

**16.00hrs**

The Government is working to provide free medical treatment facility in each city, each hospital, in rural areas under free health care policy. I would like to congratulate the Government. There is an acute shortage of doctors in all the hospitals of rural areas. I am saying this because patients have to go to the city for dental treatment as there is no dentist in the hospitals of rural areas. You may imagine how much time and money they have to spend when patients visit the city for dental treatment. I, through you, would like to request the government. ...(*Interruptions*).

**SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (SARAN):** Madam, the hon. Member again went back. This is contempt of the House. Please call him back.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Please come ahead.

**SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY:** Please call the hon'ble Member ahead.

**SHRI NIHAL CHAND:** I would like to request the hon. Minister that there should be a provision in this Bill to ensure that every rural Primary Health Centre has a dentist. Such facility should be provided.

**16.01hrs**

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

Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I through you, would like to request the hon. Minister that there should at least be one post for maxillofacial surgery at district headquarters. Today there is not a single post of maxillofacial surgery at district Headquarters. Leave aside rural areas, such a post is not available in district headquarters. In case of any accident or if any case comes, patient is taken to the capital city. I belong to Rajasthan, and in this State there is only one post of

maxillofacial surgery in Jaipur and we can imagine what would happen to an accident patient while taking him/her to Jaipur. This Government has generated a hope that such facility would be provided in rural areas also. I would request the hon. Minister to provide a post of maxillofacial surgeon at district headquarters because in case of accident, patient has to go to private hospital and not to Government hospital. We cannot imagine the fee of private hospital. I would like to submit that the syllabus of BDS and MBBS is similar. I would like to request the hon. Minister if there is a separate bridge course for BDS in future, it will have a distinct impact on children in future. If bridge course is included therein, it will benefit the rural talent. This is my request.

Hon. Chairperson, Sir, a specific chair is required for this. In dental hospitals a chair is provided and all treatment is carried out on that Chair. If such chairs are made available in rural areas, in district headquarters and a dentist is posted there, I think it would be of great use. The persons living in villages would be benefited a lot from this.

Hon. Chairperson, Sir, not a single seat is reserved here in MBBS college and BDS college. I think reservation of seats is necessary. Students of rural areas get education in government schools and we know their condition. There is a huge difference like day and night between the urban students educated in big private schools and students of rural areas educated in Government schools. You know the condition of children educated in Government Schools. I, through you would like to say that there should be reserved seats. If a provision is made to reserve seats for children educated in Government schools of rural areas then they will be benefited a lot. If the children of rural areas will get benefit and rural talents come forward, I think the country will be further strengthened. If we translate the slogan of hon. Prime Minister, 'Sab Ka Saath, Sab Ka Vikas' in reality then the rural talents will get more opportunity.

On this occasion, I would like to submit that we can also add NRHM in it. NRHM is such a scheme which is available in rural areas also. We may add the

post of dental doctors in it also. We add the NHRM doctors and others in it then a large number of persons of villages and cities will be benefited and burden on Government will decrease a little bit. Today, the condition of dentists is not hidden from anyone. Dentists are not available in any of the hospitals of the city. As per WHO there should be a doctor for every 10 thousand population, but what is the reality, I do not need to tell anyone. I would like to thank the hon. Prime Minister of our country who tried to connect not only this country but the entire world through yoga therapy. It has become very popular. Along with yoga therapy, Ayurveda therapy, acupuncture therapy, Sujok therapy may also be added to this subject. Our naturopathy also known as nature, therapy, physiotherapy are ancient system of medicines of India. China borrowed these from us and we are now lagging behind in it. China is far ahead of us in this system today. Bihar is such a State where a person having knowledge of Naturopathy, physiotherapy is considered a doctor. A person with the knowledge of such systems of medicine is put in the category of doctor and provided Government job.

Sir, I, through you, would like to request the Government that if we include nature therapy in all the States, doctors and colleges, it is going to benefit a lot. In Bihar, the Government has included it. I, through you, would like to request to include it in all the Government institutions of the country.

Sir, I rise to support this Bill. I thank the hon. Minister and the hon. Prime Minister for this Bill. I extend them my felicitations that they understood the importance of this Bill and introduced it in the House. I request the entire House to support this Bill.

Sir, I express my gratitude to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this Bill. Thank you.

*[English]*

**DR. T. R. PAARIVENDHAR (PERAMBALUR):** Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I thank you for the time given to me to speak on the Dentists (Amendment) Bill, 2019.

At the outset, I would like to thank my Constituency people who voted in large numbers to allow me to win with a thumping majority. At this juncture, I would also like to thank my alliance Party Leader, *Thalaivar Thalapathi Thiru Stalin*, who gave me an opportunity to contest from the Perambalur Parliamentary Constituency in Tamil Nadu.

My approach to this Bill may be a little different because I am in the field of education for the last 40 years as I do run medical, dentistry and so many other institutions. In my opinion, a dental college, dental hospital and dental institution should be together at one place only. I do not know when it happened that the hospital is elsewhere and the college is somewhere else. I think that it might be an old practice, but we are not talking about it now. We are discussing about the 2019 Bill. Those are all old cases.

These are all old cases. This Dental Bill to be passed is very simple and clear. When there are qualified dentists – about 2 lakh and odd dentists are there – there is no need to have unqualified people. The idea is that we have got enough number of dentists and there is no need for unqualified people. That is the crux of the Bill. In this respect, I support the Bill.

Instead of criticising the Bill, I would like to talk about the problems being faced by the dental colleges, getting professors at the senior level and at the post-graduate level. These problems are there since time immemorial. Still we find a number of dental colleges in many States, in general, and in Tamil Nadu, in particular. Tamil Nadu has a huge number of medical and dental colleges. Due to this, Tamil Nadu has become a hub for medical and dental education. My idea here is that the Dental Council has to be sure and careful about the selection of first four Members, and also two other Members as substitute.

The genuineness of the Members in the Council is very important. We have seen enough problems in medical field. Dental Council is nothing but a brother of Medical Council. Both are similar in nature. Therefore, instead of talking more about the Bill, we have to talk about the quality of Council Members we are going to take. Rules, laws, etc. are there. How are they going to be interpreted by the Council Members?

Actually, running a medical or a dental college is really a torture. I used to say at one point of time that if parents or ancestors of somebody had committed a sin - I am talking about management – only that person would start a medical or a dental college. Apparently, people think that those who are running a medical or a dental college are looting money, or making money, or they are charging more, etc. because they are not in the seat. If they go, sit and run it, they would find the difficulty.

On the other hand, choose the right, capable and clean hand, and watch them. Of course, there is a doubt or a fear among the Members. If the number of Members is going to be increased by two – already four Members are there – you should make sure whether these Members would discharge their duties as per law. Our apprehension is that the remaining Members should be absorbed from the bureaucracy of this Government. I know that bureaucrats always really harm rather than do good. If Ministers carry out some difficult things, it is not that the Ministers were doing, but it is only on the advice of the bureaucrats, the Ministry are doing such things. Therefore, my suggestion is that pay full concentration to the selection of the initial four Members, and then the two Members of the Council.

As I said, basically I am an educationist, running some universities and colleges. In the initial days, dental education was a part of medical education. A step taken in 1920 was considered as the first milestone in the progress of dental education as a separate entity in India.



The first full-ledged autonomous dental college was founded in Calcutta by the late Padma Bhushan Dr. Rafiuddin Ahmed, the ‘Grand Old Man of Dentistry’.

Dentistry was, unfortunately, one of the neglected subjects in earlier days. During that time, infrastructure was lacking. No post graduation was possible due to lack of infrastructure. Currently, there are 313 dental colleges with a total number of 26,000 seats for UG, 6,228 seats for PG and total number of dentists currently in our country is 2.7 lakhs. Majority of dental colleges are offering post-graduation courses, the number keeps on increasing further. The faculty position in dental colleges is not good. Today, most of the institutions have wonderful infrastructure on par with foreign institutions and their quality of education is outstanding.

We had great leaders who have contributed to the growth of the profession, like late Dr. B. P. Rajan who was from my State and was the President of the Dental Council of India.

The survey by Indian Dental Association sounded an alarm and expressed the need to affirm once again – ‘Oral health is very vital to general health and well-being.’

Hon. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would ask the hon. Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Shri Harsh Vardhan ji, to consider favourably the proposal of the Dental Council of India and the NITI Aayog that dentists be allowed to study a bridge course and practise modern techniques in dental care. I strongly recommend the Government to take a decision on the request of Dental Council of India immediately.

Sir, the UG curriculum was revised in 2007 and has not been updated till date, though the proposals have already been made to the Government. The Government should also bring in dental insurance for all in the country. ‘Mouth is the mirror of the body’ instils the importance of oral health among all strata of

population. The Government should encourage rural dental practice among the dentists by giving attractive incentives to dentists to practise in the rural regions.

There is an increasing evidence that oral health plays an important role in overall health. Hence, the Government may consider appointing dentists at the Primary Health Centres. It will also create job opportunities for young dentists.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Kindly conclude now. Your time is over.

**DR. T. R. PAARIVENDHAR:** The dental equipment at present are costly because of high duty. The duty on the purchase of equipment should be at par with other equipment.

For more transparency and to avoid corruption, the Dental Council may be scrapped in line with the Medical Council. Any corrections may again end up in corruption like in the case of Medical Council. So, you may abolish the Medical Council also along with this.

Sir, I have been in the field for the last several years. I have observed that whenever Inspectors come, whether for medical or dental college, they are from a particular State. I have researched on that. How does it happen that they all come from one particular State? The Inspectors coming to the premises or campuses for inspection, they keep in touch with somebody away and they expect a signal whether to allow a college to continue or to close. That is what is happening. Hon. Minister, please see that there is uniformity. Throughout the country we have got specialists in medical as well as dental fields. So, the Inspectors should be selected from all parts of the country, not from one State or one particular town which is the case now. The hon. Minister knows very well about it. Thank you very much, Sir.

**SHRIMATI PRATIMA MONDAL (JAYNAGAR):** Thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity speak on the Dentists (Amendment) Bill, 2019.

Sir, health is wealth, and respected doctors are the resources to make a society wealthier in terms of health. There are several Acts in the Constitution

which encompass this sector. Oral health is equally crucial as any other part of our body. However, it is neglected by the majority of the people. Better awareness and Acts are required to change this notion.

The Dentists Act, 1948 came into existence from 29<sup>th</sup> of March 1948. Since then it has been modified several times subsequently. Basically, the Act provided for two groups of dentists classified under Indian Dentists Register. Part-A is of the ones possessing proper qualification and Part-B is of Indian citizens practising dentistry without technical education at least five years prior to the registration date notified. Here it is very important to note that the situation then was completely different. There was a dearth of proper dental institutes. There hardly existed any dental institution that could take care of the dental health of the masses. This is the major reason for provision under Part-B and as to why a lenient approach was opted, and persons displaced or repatriated from the neighbouring country, as mentioned in the Act, were given a chance to carry on their means of livelihood.

The last registration that took place in Part-B was in 1972. At that point of time, representation in the Central Council required a certain sense of equality and hence the provision ensured two dentists of Part-B along with four others from the Government side. But today the Ratio of Part-A and Part-B is 2,07,950. This certainly does not require any form of safeguard. Hence the Dentists (Amendment) Bill, 2019 seeks to remove from the legal framework the representation of dentists who do not have technical education.

It is also to be noted that since the last registration occurred in the year 1972, the age of those doctors will be around 70 to 75 years. Being members of a responsible society, it is our duty to give opportunities to the younger population since they will lead the country forward. Thus, the subject matter of the Bill is justified.

However, I severely oppose this Bill on the ground that the Members will be nominated by the Government. The essence of democracy lies in empowering

its people by giving them the right to choose. By denying this right to the Council, the Government is trying to break the pillars of the democratic spirit. If members of the Council are nominated, transparency will be lost and the ruling party will always favour members related to them. This should be amended and all the members must be elected.

The Act provides a Central Council which ensures curriculum in institutions, registering the pass outs of dental colleges, and very importantly, secures ethical code of conduct. Thus, it is the backbone of the dental health of our country.

On this note, I would like to ask the Minister through you, Sir, whether the Government seeks to fix a minimum qualification for the members of the Council. This is so because in the present scenario, the members do not have any minimum requirement whereas the Council being a regulatory body needs experienced and highly qualified members. In the absence of a minimum requirement, the doctors who have not pursued MDS or highly experienced are also allowed to have a say in the syllabus and all other crucial matters. This simply cannot add value in the functions that are to be discharged by the Council. Thus, we see that the question of 'whether' does not arise rather it is an urgent requirement to fix a minimum criteria.

It is also important for us to provide support to this sector. Out of 310 dental colleges, only 40 are Government institutes. A major setback is the uneven distribution of colleges. Certain States like Jharkhand, North-Eastern States, etc., have very few colleges when compared to other States.

Again, as per World Health Organisation, the provision of oral healthcare in rural parts of India is negligible. Various studies have concluded that the unmet treatment need of the population is very high and the services present are inadequate. Record also shows that only 5 per cent of graduates are employed in the Government sector whereas the rest 95 per cent is employed in the private field among which very few afford the expensive latest technology. Private

practice clinics require a heavy investment which is unavailable to the young doctors.

Thus, I would like to conclude by saying that the proposed amendment is a small step forward which requires a big leap. Our prime focus should be to spread awareness amongst the people, provide better job opportunities, improve the infrastructure of the institutions and most importantly, recruit the truly deserving candidates in the Central Council.

Thank you, Sir, for allowing me to express my views on such an important matter.

**DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE (KALYAN):** Thank you, Sir, for allowing me to voice my views on The Dentists (Amendment) Bill, 2019.

This Bill seeks to make the Dental Council of India more effective. This amendment seeks to reduce redundancy by restructuring the Dental Council. The representation of the Central Government members and elected members would no longer be made mandatory in the Dental Council and thus it will help restructure the Dental Council. The representation of dentists registered in Part B as Central Government nominees in the DCI and the election of four or two members from Part B to the State or the Joint State Dental Councils under the respective clauses in the Act has lost its relevance now. I want to ask the hon. Minister what will happen to these two or four members? Will it be added to Part A?

I am glad that our beloved Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji and his able Government has finally decided to end the autonomy enjoyed by the DCI in constituting its own Governing Board. Set up in the post-independence era, I wonder, how such a law, relevance of which does not make sense in the modern world could subsist and occupy a central place and nobody seems to be bothered about it – not for a year or two but for more than four decades.

There were widespread allegations on the functioning of the DCI and the autonomy enjoyed by it. The ‘hand in gloves’ approach of the policy-makers

along with the power centres of the Council had a huge contribution in demeriting and truncating the condition of dental education in this country.

Every now and then, one would hear of some scam or corruption that took place in some part of the country; sometimes in the name of allowing a non-complying institution to start operating; sometimes in the name of increasing the number of seats of a dental college and sometimes in the name of giving admission. The dental education industry acting through the Dental Council of India was always in the news but not for the right reasons. The Dentist (Amendment) Bill 2016 was also a very welcome step, the primary purpose of which was to introduce a uniform entrance examination for all the dental colleges for the undergraduates and postgraduate degree.

As this august House is aware, the Dentists (Amendment) Bill provides for the constitution of the Dental Council of India to regulate permission to start colleges, courses or increase the number of seats, registration of dentists and standard of professional conduct of dentists. If you go by the existing situation of dentists in our country, it seems the Dental Council of India has failed miserably. There is acute unemployment among dentists. New dental graduates are going jobless. In India, we have 310 dental colleges which give us about 36,000 dentists every year. In 2010, there were 30,570 dentists, whereas in 1970, you would get to see only 8,000 dental students graduate annually. There is a huge disproportion between the urban and the rural areas. I think these dental graduates should be placed properly. New dental graduates have very low job prospects. Starting one's own practice requires huge finances apart from the space and infrastructure. The major cause of unemployment of dentists is mushrooming of dental colleges. It is a most urgent call of dentistry profession to streamline the dental education keeping in view the demand and ensure that those who pass out as dental graduates, if not provided with jobs, should at least be provided with conducive environment to practice dentistry. I also want to suggest that the dental treatment should be included under the cashless health insurance scheme. Hence, I urge

upon the Government to make necessary provisions for major reforms in the Dentists (Amendment) Bill and bring a Bill like the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill that we discussed yesterday.

**SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SADANAND SULE (BARAMATI):** Hon. Chairperson, I stand here today to support this Bill. I would definitely like to congratulate the hon. Minister who himself is a very good doctor and has worked for years on polio as well as oral cancer. So, he is very sensitive to these issues, but there are a few facts which I would like the hon. Minister to clarify.

Actually, we need an intervention on two points. One is the registration in Part A and Part B. In clause 3 and 4 in section 21 and 23, the hon. Minister has talked about removing the registration. So, what will be the final number of representations? I will give you a case of Maharashtra. There are 39 ex-officio members in our Dental Council in which every college has representation. There are 35,000 practitioners. So, if there are four on this side and the number of registrations in Part B becomes zero out of Part A and Part B, how would the formula work? It will be completely lopsided. There will be more people who will run colleges as administrators vis-à-vis people who are practitioners. If you could kindly throw some light on that, that would really be of help.

I would not take too much time of the House but I do like to repeat a point which is about the insurance that is required. Nowhere in the world you get dental insurance. Today, probably one of the highest costs of medical treatment is in dental treatment. We have friends who actually go for tourism all over the world. They fly to India get dental treatment and go back. It is because globally the dental treatment is very expensive. The education is not expensive but I think an entire infrastructure is needed for a dentist. They don't need too much space but I think everything is taxed because most of the things a dentist needs are imported from outside India. But somehow, when compared to global market, it is cheaper. I would also like to repeat a point that we need oral care. I have had the fortune of working with the hon. Minister on oral cancer. Oral hygiene is one of the most

important aspects in oral cancer. Tobacco and *gutka* are real issues, but there is a substantial population in India today, which is suffering with oral cancer purely because of bad oral hygiene.

If to give you an example, about 35 per cent of people in India would die of cancer, 35 per cent are due to oral cancer. It is probably one of the highest in the world. As a part of that, I would like to draw the attention to the hon. Minister that of lot of young children are using dentures. If you are using dentures for a very long time – he is aware of all the data – and if you do not get good oral hygiene, it could lead to oral cancer. Every five hours, there is one death due to oral cancer in India and it is one of the highest in the world as I mentioned earlier. So, what intervention can be done? This is not just about making a change in the Bill but this is far more important. I come from a cancer-survivor's family. I know how difficult it is.

The doctors are excellent, the infrastructure is excellent but it is the access for each human being which needs to be taken care of. There are many good hospitals in the country, Tata Memorial being one of them which is in my State but if you go and see, you would find that oral cancer issues are on the rise and we need to bring in awareness about it and the required money.

There is some data. Last year, on the 17<sup>th</sup> July, when Shrimati Anupriya Patel was a Minister, there was a programme called Oral Health Programme which the Government of India had started. In all the data I have received, I see that the money is sent but the spending shows almost zero or is minimal. Is the Central Government asking, if you are giving Rs. 5,000 crore or Rs. 6,000 crore to the States, is it getting spent or not? Assam has allotted money but given more. Maharashtra has spent only Rs. 25 lakh. This is what the data is saying. I am sure it is a statistical mistake but it is very important. India does not take oral healthcare very seriously but today it is one of the largest causes of deaths and 35 per cent people die of oral cancer in this country. We need bring this up and speed it up with a big awareness programme. This is not just about a dental community



to be represented. I think, we as a society need to rise to the occasion. These health-related Bills are not UPA vs. NDA issues. I do not think they think any differently from what we think about healthcare.

I think there should be some programmes with unanimous support in the interest of this country. I have full faith in this Minister that he will deliver superior results because he had done it in polio. I have very high expectations from him. There is just one disappointment. With these health-related Bills, I would urge the Parliamentary Minister that though you took up two Bills for health which is a very good step, we should have a discussion under rule 193 on the death of 150 children who died due to whatever reason. Somebody said it was because of litchi. Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy clarified that litchi was blamed unnecessarily. I agree with him. It has nothing to do with litchi; it was purely due to malnutrition. I proudly share that I come from a State which had done an exceptional amount of good work on malnutrition. Let us look at health more holistically and practically. I think, if the Government rises to the occasion on any good suggestions, we would be happy to share good practices in building a good and healthy nation.

Thank you.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (SARAN):** Hon. Chairperson Sir, the House will surely be thinking that what after all my relevance of speaking on this issue is. I am not a doctor but I am definitely a patient. We all have been patients at some point of time. Therefore, it is a matter of big concern.

Sir, our body has a lot of organs which automatically carry out their functions for which there is no need to feel any concern. Whether we remain asleep or awakened, they keep on doing their functions. However, our teeth are a

wonderful thing. We clean it after getting up in the morning and again clean it before going to sleep at night and those who do not look after it remain in a painful state because we have been taught all this right from our childhood. My mother is 85 years old at present and she brushes her teeth with a neem twig. Her teeth are alright. Just now Supriyaji was speaking and whenever she was laughing her beautiful teeth were becoming visible which was making me happy. I had to seek time from Sanjay Jaiswal ji but I was not getting the opportunity till he was keeping silent. But as soon as he started speaking, his teeth shone, he felt happy and my work was done. God has made such a thing which needs to be looked after but this thing is out of our priority.

Sir, Doctor saheb has brought this Bill. The Department of Health is in news for the last two days. Yesterday also, you were in office and today also, you have assumed the office. The Government and the Prime Minister have taken a good decision and we are gradually making headway in this direction. Entrusting the health related work to a person concerned with health and entrusting external affairs to a person related to external affairs is really paving a good way.

Let our House also get the benefit of that knowledge. Sir, this is a simple Bill and I don't know why so many years are taken in improving such things. On one chair is sitting the person who is a qualified MBBS and on the other side is a person whom we call a quack in rural area and he had got the same rights in this regard. It is surprising that only four-five states had implemented it which included West Bengal, Kerala, Jammu-Kashmir, Delhi and Puduchery. The registration on Chapter-B was not taking place anywhere in the country, it was nowhere in the big states but was being implemented only in the smaller states.

Sir, it is necessary to go down the annals of history because dentistry is in existence from almost 7000 B.C since the beginning of human race. In the first place, the information about dentistry came to surface when a lot of tools were found in the Harappan civilization which also included the tools for removing

tooth and the dentistry is having its existence since then. The silver filling in tooth had been started in Sumerian civilization from 7000 B.C and by the Chinese from 2000 B.C and Hippocrates, who is called the Father of Medicine, had mentioned about it in almost 400 B.C. Acharya Sushruta of India had carried out a research around 400 B.C as to how a tooth should be extracted and what should be procedure of a dental treatment, so there is a long history behind it and influences everyone. Earlier in France, there used to be two categories of barbers. Besides cutting hair, they also used to provide dental care and the higher category barber in France used to extract tooth. Its history is so engrossing that if we delve into it time will run out. Today, we are making a decision in this regard but the concern related to the number emerges with it. Today, India is a country with a population of 1.25 billion. If we compare the number of doctors in such a huge country, it is almost 2 lakh doctors per 350 million population today. Japan has 13 crore population which is 13 times less compared to our population and there are one lakh doctors there. The population of Italy is 6 crore and it has around 50 thousand doctors. France has a six and half crore population and there are 43 thousand doctors there. The population of United Kingdom is 7 crore and it has 34 thousand doctors and in this way the number is declining respectively. Even Korea has 5 crore population but it also has only 24 thousand dentists.

Sir, it is a matter of grave concern as to whether we have adequate number of dentists for 125 crore population? A question also arises in this regard that out of 1 lakh 80 thousand registered dentists only 80 percent dentists are practicing at present and the remaining doctors have no interest in pursuing it. Earlier, most dental colleges were private due to which only the children of rich families undertook dentistry job who had no interest in this field. So, it also raises an issue. Do we have persons in such a large number or not as per the figures available with us? According to the history of India Dr. Ahmad, who was awarded Padma Bhushan in the year 1920, was instrumental in setting up the first Dental Medical College of Kolkata which later on came to be affiliated with Kolkata University.

A lot of friends in India told that there is only one dentist for almost 8000 persons in urban area and there is only one dentist for one and a half lakh to three lakh people in rural area. It is a grave crisis because this is an issue related to number and sometimes the dental illness and the illness of gums give rise to many types of diseases which the people in the rural area normally get rid of by consuming antibiotics. If we observe today, there are more private dental colleges in the whole of India. These are around 292 in number whereas there are 40 government colleges. Now, from which angle does this ratio exist? These are mostly in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and few more in a few other states. Thus, it has been a focal point of big business somewhere which included giving admission and regulating the same and therefore, the need of giving it a due consideration also arises. Now a days, this technology has become marvelous. I am recalling that when in my childhood I was in school, I felt pain in my tooth. In my childhood, I had the habit of eating a lot of sweets and chocolates and when I went to the PMCH in Patna and the doctor applied a machine on my tooth, it was blazing hot like a fire and was spinning round and round and on that day I decided that I would never visit a dentist.

Today, when we visit some doctor, what kind of tools and what kind of treatment we find there. ...(*Interruptions*) not in Khan market there is one more good doctor in Lajpat Nagar, in New friends colony and I visit him. Sir, 'Cone beam technology' is such a technology in which a small x-ray chip is inserted in the mouth and the portion of the whole teeth appears on the front screen and then they make interventions there. Nowadays, pain free dental care is available; I don't know how many persons know about it and how many persons can get this treatment. The information regarding the technologies available with the small doctors also needs to be disseminated like Microscopic root canal therapy and all. At other places there is specialisation but every dentist is a surgeon in himself and that's a great thing. He has to have the knowledge of both the things, he has to extract the tooth and he also has to stitch it and this is a multiple job role. In India

gutkha has its toll. Those people who consume cigarette have a greater risk in the coming days. The mouth cancer in the country originates from here and it lacks detection. Had dental surgeons and dentistry care risen in India perhaps we would have easily understood the detection part of oral cancer. When we have mouth ulcers and feel pain, we consume antibiotics and off the rack medicines. It led to a study of global burden disease in India and almost 7 or 8 billion population of the world today have oral diseases, it is affecting almost 3.58 billion people in the world. As oral dentistry, oral health is something which is catching up with the world. Like many other diseases, it goes mostly unnoticed.

Sir, today 90 to 95 percent people in India have gum problems. I just don't understand whether pyorrhoea or any other disease, it is increasing in the whole of India. *[English]* The Indian Dental Association calls it a silent epidemic, which possibly, we may not be realising, but it is happening in a very big way, especially in rural areas.

Now, I come to children's dental care. Oral diseases like oral cancer, caries, periodontal diseases and sports injury are all preventable. *[Translation]* All these are preventable. If we are able to provide good treatment for all of them perhaps all these diseases can be treated. Today, when 26 million children come every year in India in the schools, their eye care is given some importance there but if the Ministry of Human Resource Development focus on oral tests and diagnosis in the schools and if you provide the information about oral dentistry and the related hygiene to the children at the primary stage perhaps it can bring out big benefits. Simultaneously, today it is also a big business. Today, the oral health industry in the whole world is around 4.5 billion dollars. As Supriyaji was just telling, today the medical tourism in India amounts to one lakh crore rupees in which the share of dental health care is around ten thousand crore rupees. This is a big opportunity for India in the whole world. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, I have a last issue and there are two points only. The Government of India has launched Ayushman scheme. The teeth are not such a thing that if they

are not diagnosed in the absence of money that a person will die, so the people keep on avoiding it. Ayushman Bharat is the biggest scheme of the world and I have discussed it earlier also. Fifty crore people will have the health card and any poor person will normally get such a treatment done under Ayushman Bharat scheme as announced by the Government of India. For the sake of information of the House, I would like to mention that *[English]* the fixation of fracture of jaw with closed reduction costs Rs. 5000. The fixation of fracture of jaw with open reduction cost Rs. 12000. Sequestrectomy costs Rs. 1500. TM Joint Ankylosis costs Rs. 15000.

*[Translation]*

Sir, all these are such treatments in case of which a poor person of this country falling sick would have lived his life by consuming antibiotics and painkillers but could never resort to such treatment. Such a scheme has been brought by the Prime Minister of this country that those 50 crore people of the country can avail these nine types of dental treatment. I think that this is a very big achievement which we had never thought about. This 'Golden Card' is a magical card. People are getting it and it is still to be issued in a large number.

Hon. Minister, if you ask me whether I am happy with this Bill, I would say that I am not because a small change is happening. After 50 years you have got the opportunity.

If you bring an elaborate Bill regarding oral dentistry, oral issues, oral hygiene and its care we would definitely welcome you because you are a doctor by profession and you are a knowledgeable person in this regard. You should bring an elaborate Bill through which we all appear beautiful and healthy like you. The smile of the world and the smile of India could get connected with your smile. I would like to urge you to bring an elaborate Bill of Oral Health Care in the coming days which this House would welcome. With these words, I support the amendment proposal in this Bill brought by you.

[English]

**SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU (BEHRAMPUR):** Sir, the proposed Bill seeks to amend the Dentists Act, 1948 so as to take away the mandatory requirement of representation of Part B dentists in the Dental Council of India, State Dental Councils and Joint State Dental Councils. On behalf of our Party, Biju Janata Dal, I support the proposed amendment in the Bill.

If I remember correctly, during my student days, I had seen Chinese people treating dental patients in Odisha. They were dentists. Mostly, people do not go to them because if there is any pain in tooth, they go for desi medicines like *labanga* or some oil or something else. That used to be the treatment earlier. But now things have changed. A lot of dental colleges have come up. They are mostly in private sector. People have also become aware of dental care. As most of my colleagues have said, teeth hold the most significant place in the face because anything we take, we take through mouth. So, dental care is required for everybody. I hope this Bill will help people in coming years.

There are some lacunae. Our degrees like Bachelor in Dental Surgery or Master in Dental Surgery are not recognised in the UK and the USA. They have to study there first and have to take the whole course. I would like to know whether we recognise the degrees, which people get from the UK or the USA.

In Odisha, our leader, hon. Chief Minister, Shri Naveen Patnaik has taken steps in this regard. In most of the Primary Health Centres, we have dental surgeons. He is making provisions to have dentists in all the PHCs. In the cities, there are a lot of practising dentists but in rural areas, people do not get this facility. Our leader, Shri Naveen Patnaik Ji, has taken care of appointing dentists in almost all the PHCs.

In the present scenario when medical science is progressing and new researches and developments are taking place, there is no relevance of this provision. There has been no registration in Part B after 1972. I hope, with this amendment, the Dental Councils will be restructured and become more effective

to deal with the challenges being faced by the Dental science sector, like severe shortage of dentists in the country. The oral statistics published by the World Health Organisation for the year 2017 says that India has 1,867 dentists per 10,000 people. In absolute numbers, there are only 2,51,207 dentists to take care of our entire population in this country. In the year 2008, the fees for graduate courses for dentists were Rs. 2.5 lakh per annum including material charges etc. In colleges like Manipal, the fees today are close to Rs. 5 lakh to 6 lakh per annum. For MDS, Government colleges charge Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 2,00,000/-, whereas in private colleges the fee ranges from Rs. 10 lakh to Rs. 14 lakh per annum. Why I am saying this is because most of the dental colleges are in the private sector. So, Government should take the initiative to set up more Government run dental colleges so that we will have more dentists in the country in the future.

Overall, employment of dentists is projected at 19 per cent by 2026, must faster than the average of all occupations. Demand for dental services will increase as the population ages. The ageing population will need dental care.

Hon. Chairperson, there are approximately 950 dentists registered in Part B. I would like to suggest here that for the dentists registered in Part B there should be a crash course through which they can update themselves with the latest technologies, developments and researches in dentistry. Part B now has no relevance because so many dental colleges have come up and there are now a number of degree holders in the field.

I support this Bill. Many of my colleagues in this House are doctors and yesterday also when the Medical Council Bill was discussed some of our colleagues suggested to have representation of Members of Parliament in the Governing Body and Councils. So, I would like to suggest to the hon. Minister consider having at least 2 to 3 Dentists from amongst the Members of Parliament in the Dental Council of India.

Thank you.



**SHRI JAYADEV GALLA (GUNTUR):** Hon. Chairperson, thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Dentist (Amendment) Bill, 2019. While we support the Bill, we should improve the quality of various Councils, namely, the Dental Council of India, the State Dental Councils and the Joint State Dental Councils by removing the Part B dentists which have become obsolete.

I cannot help but wonder why this Bill is so limited in its scope when the dental needs of our people, especially our brothers and sisters living in rural areas, are going largely unmet as many people have already mentioned and even my friend Rudy ji has explained in great detail.

Sir, since my time is so limited, I have one question to ask and two suggestions to make. My question is this. How will you actually increase the number of Part A dentists to meet the shortage especially in the rural areas? That is a big question and I think, this is what all of us would like to know.

I have two suggestions. First one is that in many countries, schools require -- make it mandatory -- to have annual dental check-ups and annual medical check-ups. One suggestion is to make it mandatory to have these medical and dental check-ups in the school itself so that from a young age the children not only are being given the care and attention but also are given the exposure and knowledge, and create a habit -- and exposure to create a culture -- of looking after their health needs and dental needs. Can we not somehow integrate dental care into the PHCs that we have all over the country as that will help reach the rural population much better? My second suggestion is to include dental care also in all PHCs in the country.

**17.00 hrs**

**SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA VISWANATH (KAKINADA):** Sir, on behalf of YSRCP, I welcome the Bill.

We are happy over the introduction of Dentists Bill and the proposed amendment in the Parliament. Under the Act, the register of dentists is

maintained in two parts, namely Part-A and Part-B. I would not like to discuss it at length because the hon. Minister has explained the features of the Bill and many Members have also mentioned their views.

Using this opportunity, I would like to say a few words about my State. In Andhra Pradesh, our then Chief Minister, Shri Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy, introduced Aarogyasri Programme for the benefit of the poor people, SCs, STs and other communities residing in the villages. Under Aarogyasri Programme, lakhs of people have been benefitted by getting treatment. Also, the present Government led by Shri Y.S. Jaganmohan Reddy is continuing the YSR Aarogyasri Programme in Andhra Pradesh.

**17.01 hrs**

(Shri Kodikunnil Suresh *in the Chair*)

I would like to request the hon. Minister on certain points. Three Sections are to be amended in the Bill. The omission of Part B is welcome but increase of dentists under Part-A is very much essential to fill the gap.

There should be an increase in the number of representatives of dentists in Dental Council of India and State Dental Councils as there is a huge increase of dentists (which is approximately 2.7 lakhs) as compared to what was passed in 1948. This is as regards the dentists part.

Though oral health is included under non-communicable diseases, least priority is given to oral health awareness. The hon. Member, Shri Rudy, and another hon. Member also have explained in detail about oral health awareness and oral cancer.

I am very particular that oral awareness camps should be conducted in the villages under the National Health Mission. It is very important to conduct such camps. Dental surgeons need to be appointed in every PHC as oral health is very much important. As per the World Health Statistics, dentist population ratio is 1:1,50,000 in rural areas.

In India, for the development of healthcare, the Central Government has initiated Ayushman Bharat Programme which is useful and beneficial to the poor people but allotment of funds to the Health Department should be enhanced.

I have read in a book that, BRICS countries, other than India, are investing 5 to 8 per cent of their budget on health whereas India's investment is just 1.3 per cent. In India, personal investment of public on health is higher than the allotment of funds by the Government of India towards healthcare for its people.

Finally, I request the hon. Minister that all Government schemes should lay stress on oral health awareness and focus on prevention rather than treatment of diseases.

Already, we have more than 2,70,000 dental doctors. So, sanction of new dental colleges should be stopped for at least a few years because there is already a surplus production of dental doctors. Sir, with these words, I once again support the Bill. Thank you.

*[Translation]*

**DR. SUBHASH SARKAR (BANKURA):** Hon. Chairperson, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak in support of Dentists (Amendment) Bill, 2019. The work of making our country free of corruption has been started under the leadership of our Hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi from the year 2014. The people of India trusted his work and voted Narendra Modi ji and his team again to power with a landslide majority.

Hon. Chairperson, the excellent team rooting out corruption through surgery in the world is the Cabinet led by Shri Narendra Modi ji. You may see as to what are the qualities of an excellent surgeon. It is said that an excellent surgeon has a "lion's heart", "eagle's eye" and "lady's finger". The Cabinet led by Shri Narendra Modi ji has the determination to match "lion's heart" and has "eagle's eye" too i.e. they are not going to leave even an iota of corruption. We would deal with corruption in every field and finally make our country corruption free. This is our thinking. You may see how beautifully the Hon. Minister of

Health & Family Welfare has presented this Bill in the House, this is the precision of "lady's finger".

Hon. Chairperson, the hon. Minister has discussed "Part-A" and "Part- B" in detail. There were not so many dental surgeons in the year 1948. Any person making artificial denture or carrying out tooth extraction in the market was given an opportunity for registration. Now, science has advanced much. So a large number of medical colleges have been set up in our country. The college established in the year 1948 has completed 71 years. We got our independence 72 years ago. Their registration expired in the year 1972 and 47 years have lapsed thereafter. We have got a substantial number of qualified dental surgeons.

We have got 2.5 lakh qualified dental surgeons. The number of dentists registered under Part-B is only 950. Till now 4 to 5 members registered under Part-B used to become the members of Dental Council every time. What was its need? There is no reason for keeping such Members in the Dental Council, who have no standard knowledge or qualification and know nothing about what to do in the colleges. I think the Members of the ruling parties as well as the opposition parties agree on this point. These colleges were set up at a mass scale in the year 2011. Our friends in opposition parties also know about this. CBI had raided the office of Dental Council in the year 2011. 264 private medical colleges were set up whereas only 49 government medical colleges were set up during the period of ten years. Everybody knows as to how it became a business. After that only 21 private medical colleges and 9 government medical colleges have been set up during the next eight years. We have put brakes on this practice.

Sir, now I am concluding. We have done away with this but this Amendment Bill is meant to deal with Dental Council, the standard of dental medical education and dental profession and to make this process transparent. I appeal to all the Members sitting in the House to support this Bill. Hon. Rajiv Pratap Rudy ji has said that there are nine types of post graduation courses in

dental science. There is PG Course Stem in trauma, maxillofacial surgery etc. Stem cells are formed of the pulp inside the gum.

Sir, you have not given me much time. Give me two more minutes and I will complete. There are nine types of courses in dental stream. There is oral medicine and radiology. There are not many members in the House, but all the Members know that Dental Bill is being discussed and they do not want to sit here. Oral cavity is the gateway of India. If you do not agree with it, let it be called the gateway of health. Oral cavity is certainly the gateway of health.

*[English]*

Sir, there are streams like Conservative Dentistry, Prosthetic Dentistry, Paediatric Dentistry, Periodontics, Orthodontics, Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology etc. Lastly, there is Public Health Dentistry and diseases in this dentistry can be controlled by preventive and social medicines. We can prevent oral cancer. My friend gave the suggestion that a Dental Surgeon should be posted in every Primary Health Centre and I support this suggestion. *[Translation]*

I would again request all my colleagues even the ones sitting in Opposition on the other side to give their consent and extend their support to the Bill.

*[English]*

**SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM):** Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for affording me this opportunity to speak on this Bill and I support this Bill. This is a harmless Bill in which a minor amendment is being made. By this amendment, Dentists registered in Part B of a State Register shall be omitted.

Sir, when we talk about Dentistry and when we talk about the Dentists Act, 1948, the Dentists who were practising in India five years before 1948 were given recognition. The Dentists who repatriated from Bangladesh, Burma and Ceylon from 1957 to 1971 were also given recognition. Now there is no scope for having Part B Dentists in our country. That is why, Sections 3, 21 and 22 have to be amended. We are deleting these Clauses and Part B is being omitted.

I have submitted three amendments to the three clauses. When we delete these clauses, I would submit that opportunity may be given to fill up those vacancies by the teaching faculty. In my second amendment, I have suggested that the Dentists who are registered in a particular State should be given an opportunity so that they can be represented in the State Council. My third amendment is that if two States join together to form a Joint Dental Council, then the Dentists who are registered in those States should be given an opportunity so that they can be represented in that Council. So, my main suggestion is that the Part B may be replaced by the teaching faculty or the Dentists who are practising in a particular State may be allowed to be represented in the State Dental Council so that the strength of the Council may not be decreased. These are the three positive amendments which I have proposed. I hope the hon. Minister will look into the matter and take necessary steps to accept these amendments.

Sir, almost all the hon. Members have mentioned that dental colleges are mushrooming like anything these days in our country. There is too much commercialisation of medical education in the country and it has reached an alarming situation.

Yesterday also, when we talked about Medical Council of India (Amendment) Bill, we had talked about the quality of education. Similarly, the same thing has happened in the case of dental medical education. As we know, dentistry is a special branch of medical science and the impact of other organs will definitely reflect in the mouth, teeth and other areas also. So, the dental protection and dental rehabilitation are required for maintaining the general health of a person. These two are very important as far as this area is concerned because dental protection, dental care as well as dental rehabilitation are highly essential to maintain general health of a person. So, dentistry is a fast-developing branch of medical science in the country. That is why, the number of medical practitioners in the field of dentistry is also increasing, but the quality has to be maintained.

As Supriya Sule has rightly stated that premalignant lesion and oral cancer are being reported like anything. India is having the highest number of oral cancer patients due to smoking and due to chewing of *pan parag* and so many other things. The number of oral cancer patients is increasing. If it is found at the primary stage, it can definitely be rectified or it can be cured. As some of my friends have rightly said, at least at the community health centres, I am not even suggesting for the primary health centre, a dentist post may be allocated, so that oral cancer can be identified at the primary stage and it can be cured. This is one of the suggestions that I would like to make. ...(*Interruptions*)

Another branch in the dentistry is facial cosmetic surgery. The facial cosmetic surgery comes under the purview of the dentistry. That is also there. So, my suggestion to the hon. Minister is this. When he deletes the clause of 'B' Class practitioners, which means those who do not possess any registered qualification, then let it be replaced by teaching faculty and the dentists who are registered in a particular State. I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister to educate people and bring awareness so as to avoid the surgical incision of oral cancer in this country. These are my suggestions.

With these suggestions, I would like to support the Bill.



*[Translation]*

**SHRI SANTOSH PANDEY (RAJNANGDGAON):** Hon. Chairperson, I rise to speak in support of the Dentists Amendment Bill, 2019. In fact, both the last two days have been very important for the medical world and for India. It was a brainstorming session yesterday too. Today, we are all discussing the Dentist Amendment Bill. Hon. Rudy ji has left. He made a very good start. Actually,

*Shareer madhyam khalu dharma saadhanam*

If the body is there, then all kinds of religious, deeds, country and world, everything is there. These teeth are part of the body, when we are happy, we show them and sometimes a lot of things happen due to the teeth. When we get angry or emotional, then the teeth are at risk. From 1947 to partition, Bill was brought to amend the Dentists Act, 1948, and in the past, there were amendments in the Dentists Act, 1948. Still, at present, there is need and sufficient scope for revision. All the points that our learned, hon. Dr. Harsh Vardhan has brought in this Bill are worth passing. Before that, I would like to share a couplet, which has two beautiful lines:

Chhalaa gaya tha manjihi pehle apni hi patvaaron se

Doli luti raah mein sahasa dhokebaaj kahaaron se.

The dentists and all the office bearers of the Dentist Council of India, did not portray a very good picture of the country by the kind of work they have done.

The entire country is aware of the works done by their registrars and the team. If there is anyone who has taken up cudgels against corruption, it is Modi ji. Today, with the coming of Shri Narendra Modi to eradicate corruption, the situation has changed.

Sir, the Delhi Dental Council registrar was suspended for corruption and bribery. Apart from this, it was decided to remove his advocate from the council. The CBI also arrested the advocate for the council. During this time, it was

reported that the documents of crores of benami properties belonging to the Health Minister of Delhi were recovered from the registrar's locker. In the same sequence, this fact came to light that the Delhi government cancelled the nomination of three members nominated by the Lt. Governor and nominated their own close doctor as member of the council. Later on, he was appointed as registrar by violating the rules. In the council meeting, several members citing the Dentist Act said that the registrar is a government post, yet doctors doing private practice were given this position. There are many such things. The DDC's team was influenced. There was huge pressure on them, whether through money, due to some other influence or due to some bias, the academic session in many government colleges was declared as 'session zero'. PG seats were not provided to them. Government colleges were affected by this and private colleges were benefited. The fundamental thing is that this transparent bill should be passed wholeheartedly without any bias for the council. I believe that the Council should have its own infrastructure and the teaching faculty. There should be adequate faculty, equipments with well-equipped infrastructure. With these words I support this Bill.

**SHRI M. BADRUDDIN AJMAL (DHUBRI):** Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on this important issue. I extend my support to this bill.

Sir, there is a great need of dentists in our country. The number of dentists in the country is very less. There was discussion on MBBS doctors throughout the day yesterday. Today, we are talking about the Dentists. I thank Dr. Saheb for this. Today, there is such a shortage of dentists in the country that there is one doctor in a city over thousand patients and in case of villages, there is one doctor over fifty thousand patients. Therefore, the number of doctors should be increased. The private doctors have no machinery and no equipment. Teeth plays an important part in beauty, if anyone is beautiful, but does not have teeth, then all the beauty is gone? Today, teeth are affected by cancer. Major diseases affect the teeth. Teeth are damaged due to contaminated water. Haldighati is a place in

Assam, where an entire village has been ruined by water. Doctor Saheb needs to give special attention to such places. There is a need to promote this profession in our country because there is shortage of dentists here. There has been a lot of negligence in this matter. I hope this will be taken care of under the leadership of Doctor Saheb. This will be taken care of throughout the country, and especially my fellow member has just now given a suggestion that the faculty of the dentists should be mandatorily appointed even inside the Government Hospitals. There should be at least one or two doctors there. They should be fully equipped so that when poor patients, farmers and labourers visit them, they have everything available for their treatment. Doctor Saheb will take care of these things. With these words I conclude my speech.

**SHRI BHAGWANT MANN (SANGRUR):** Hon. Chairperson, thank you very much. Debate on a very serious matter is going on here. I am supporting this bill which has been brought by doctor Saheb. According to the law of WHO - There is one doctor for a thousand patients. But here, there is one dentist for twenty thousand people, which is very less. If such a bill has been brought, I sincerely support it. If I belong to the opposition party, it does not mean that I always have to condemn. I will appreciate good things too. Today, I have stood up to praise. There is no awareness about gum disease. There is no awareness about its treatment either. If such a bill is being brought, which will sensitize people of their dental disease, then it is a good thing.

Sir, many Punjabis settle in the U.S.A., Canada and England. The treatment is very expensive there. There, consulting a dentist is very expensive. They do not even have insurance. The ticket to come here is cheap and they come here for the treatment and return. They will also meet relatives and their teeth will be treated. This means that the treatment we have here is of good quality. I agree with this. I once went to JNI in Bangalore, there was a sentence written there. I liked what was written in the canteen at JNI, a Naturopathy institute in Bangalore that "There are no teeth in the intestine so chew, eat after chewing."

Through you, I want to say that if people from the USA and Canada can come here to get their treatment, then we can do it even better. There is no dental insurance yet, so, make it happen. You will also have to consider about the rural dental insurance. Lastly, I want to say in Parliament that Bhagwant Mann and the smile of our country may be saved under your protection.

**DR. BHARTI PRAVIN PAWAR (DINDORI):** Thank you so much, Sir. *[Translation]* This is my maiden speech. I would like to express my gratitude to my party leaders and all voters of my Parliamentary constituency. *[English]* I stand here to support the Dentists (Amendment) Bill, 2019. The purpose of this Bill is to make the Dental Council of India more effective. The amendment will help restructure the Dental Councils and the representation of Central Government members and elected members would no longer be made mandatory in the Dental Councils. This process will reduce redundancy.

The objectives of this Bill are to maintain uniform standards of dental education, both, at under-graduate and post-graduate levels; to inspect the dental colleges for granting permission to start a dental college, to increase the number of seats and start new P.G. courses; to prescribe the standard curricula for training of dentists, dental hygienists, dental mechanics and condition of such trainings; and the overall supervision of the dental institutions to ensure that they maintain the prescribed standards.

*[Translation]*

Sir, awareness regarding dental hygiene has increased today. There is a demand for dental hygiene and cosmetic dentistry. The service of the dentists is available in cities. But my request to the Hon. Minister is that in our rural areas, such as my Dhondori area, where I come from, be it PAC or RH, there are no dentists even today. Just as everyone has said that oral cancer is on the rise, by the time it is diagnosed at the last stage, time runs out. So, my request is that dentists should be there, be it RH or PAC. Perhaps the payment, if we compare it with the cities, should be increased. This service is not available for most of

the children and senior citizens in rural areas. Therefore, this service should also be increased in rural areas. Cosmetic dentistry work done in cities should also be made available in rural areas. Most of the dental deformities in children are also increasing in rural areas, so, it is necessary to have dentists. There is a need for awareness camps, which are essential for oral health care and awareness camps should be increased for those who were diagnosed with the oral cancer at the last stage. 'Ayushman Bharat Yojana' is a very good scheme, which has become a boon for the people. I want to thank you for that. Through you, I wish to make a request. *[English]* Please increase the number of dental colleges. *[Translation]* If possible, consider Nasik district. And increase the number of under-graduate and post-graduate seats.

Sir, I just want to say that our hon. Prime Minister, Shri Modi ji wants a healthy India, a strong India, a capable India and a laughing India. This Bill is another step taken in this direction. I welcome this Bill, I support it and I thank the hon. Minister.

Thank you.

**\*DR. THOL THIRUMAAVALAVAN (CHIDAMBARAM):** Hon Chairman Sir, Vanakkam. I thank wholeheartedly for this opportunity to speak on the Dentist Amendment Bill, 2019. When we make a comparison with the countries of the world, especially the developed countries are far better than India in creating awareness among general public on dentistry and dental hygiene. We in India lack awareness in this field. 'If we loose our tooth, we loose our speech, there goes a Tamil proverb. Human teeth help to break down food by grinding chewing and swallowing it inside besides ensuring better looks for our face. Tooth is necessary to speak. Protection and maintenance of teeth besides having awareness about oral health care are important. In rural areas people have the practice of using sand and charcoal powder for brushing or whitening their teeth. As a result the gums are weakened and people in their young or middle ages loose their teeth. The Government should take responsibility in addressing this issue. Today many corporate companies are engaged in marketing their tooth pastes and tooth powder. It is matter of fact that those toothpastes and toothpowders are also not protecting our teeth. Government should give importance to dentistry and dental hygiene in the first instance. It is my appeal that extra attention should be given to this field of health science At the national level many dental colleges should be opened and Government should grant permission in this regard.

My humble request is that Dentists should be appointed in all the Rural Primary Health Centres as a mandatory feature. This is an historical truth that the sticks of Banyan and Neem trees are used for brushing and strengthening of teeth. Because of failing to protect their teeth, the youth of this country loose their teeth and ultimately their speech. I welcome the Dentists Amendment Bill aimed to upgrade the dentistry and dental hygiene. In the Part A Register, more than 2,70,000 persons are registered as qualified Doctors. The number of Members in the Register should be increased. Instead of 4 Members or 6 Members, the

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\* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

number of representation of Members of the Dental Council of India should be increased at any cost. In the Part B Register, as many as 950 Members have been registered. The decision regarding not to appoint any Member from the 950 Members found in Part B Register of the Dental Council of India should be reconsidered as this number is it a small one. My appeal is that at least one Member from this Group of 950 members should be given representation They should be protected. They should not be neglected as it is a Group of 950 persons. They should get adequate representation. Thank you for this Opportunity. Thank you.

*[English]*

**SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY (BAHARAMPUR):** Sir, fifty per cent of our population in India do not even use the toothbrush and paste. In the age of digital economy of five trillion, if 50 per cent of our population is not habituated of using brush and toothpaste, then, you can easily assume the gravity of the situation. So, please do something so as to make public aware of using the toothbrush and paste. *[Translation]* I want to say that it should be included in the education curriculum. Children should be taught how oral health and oral hygiene can be maintained. This is for our future generation; secondly, fluoride products make our teeth strong. Here, we provide mid-day meals to our children; we should consider fluoride fortification in mid-day meals to ensure that people have healthy teeth and gums since childhood.

Sir, now-a-days, due to food habits people are facing dental problems. You go to any dentist, you will see long queue for teeth whitening. What is the reason for such stigma on the teeth. Our food habits which include aerated drinks and sugar etc., is the reason for tooth decay. You should consider these two three things too that at least, our future generations have strong dental health.

**DR. HARSH VARDHAN:** *[English]* Sir, I saw at least 18 Members participating in this debate, and I am very happy *[Translation]* that all the people have gone very deep while discussing this and everyone is very well aware of oral health. There are many things which came out, but many of us are not clear here because in this Amendment, there is a mandatory provision in part 'B', in a way we have only removed the word 'mandatory'. There is nothing else that we have changed. There should not be any confusion regarding this in our mind, this is neither in favour of any one nor it is against any one. But because it was mandatory, as I have said earlier that 0.4 per cent used to get 33 per cent representation, as we say there were aberrations with time, and through this amendment, we have tried to rectify this. I listened to everyone and broadly, everyone supported not only this but also extended support to its spirit. Our colleague, Shrimati Pratima Ji has supported this and at the same time, opposed it and for this, she has given the reason that in this Amendment, the Government of India is making nomination and in this, they would nominate their own people and relatives. I would like to inform her and, I think it will enlighten others also that there are almost 89 Members in the list of Dental Council of India. If you see the breakup of these 89 Members, 18 Members out of this are.

*[English]*

“(i) one registered dentist possessing a recognised dental qualification elected by the dentists registered in Part A of each State Register.”

It has nothing to do with us.

“(ii) one member elected by the members of the MCI;

(iii) not more than four members elected by the Principals, Deans, Directors and Vice-Principals of dental colleges;

(iv) one member from each university established by law in the States.”

Of course, it includes your State also.

“(v) one member nominated by each State from among the persons registered either in a medical register or a dental register.”



It is a State Government nominee [*Translation*] and their numbers are almost 27 here.

“(vi) One member from each university established by law in the States.”

Their numbers are almost 39. After this,

“(vii) Six members nominated by the Central Government, of whom at least one shall be from the UT’-- Part-A-- ‘and at least two from Part-B registered dentists.”

This Bill has been introduced to remove the mandatory provision. One is [*English*] the Director General of Health Services as an ex-officio member [*Translation*] and like this, there are total 89. You should not keep any apprehension in your mind. First thing is that in all councils, a very small part of it is nominated [*English*] and we can promise that [*Translation*] our Government does not believe in nepotism, we treat everyone equal, we are here for them and this is what we call, 'Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas'. You should not have any confusion in this regard. I want to thank all of you for supporting this. The best thing here that makes me happy is that many people have expressed their concern about oral health care.

Especially, Supriya ji and a few other people have expressed their concern about oral cancer. This topic is something which is like passion for me, I am an ENT surgeon. As far as practising in life is concerned it is almost 36 years, and if I reduce the time during which I have been Minister. Probably the law is I cannot go to my operation theatre. I have spent 36 years in this profession. If you want to operate mouth and throat, you have to go through the teeth.

Our senior doctor Abdullah Saheb is here with us. I have seen so many cases in my life. I have seen cases of tongue cancer, lip cancer, laryngeal cancer, and oropharynx cancer. I have been involved in surgery of many people. I had met many such patients and I used to tell them to quit smoking, tobacco and pan-

masala etc otherwise they would be suffering from sub mucus fibrosis which can later lead to cancer also. I had met many such patients during my years of service. Many patients had taken care of whatever I said and they recovered from leukoplakia and if anyone had mild symptoms, it was harmless and there was no cancerous change. But I have seen large number of such people. I had prepared a list in my clinic where I used to note down their address and telephone numbers and whenever any patients used to visit me, I advised them to meet those patients once because those who had not listened to me, I had to remove someone's tongue, someone's throat and someone's larynx.

Sir, this is the concern for the House and Supriya Ji has particularly highlighted it and I feel that she has experienced the pain of it and witnessed it closely and that is why, she has done a lot of work in her life. During treatment of these patients, I developed a passion to work for 'Tobacco-free society'. Fortunately, I got the opportunity to receive the highest award by Director General of World Health Organization in the year 1998 in Brazil. I understand the importance of oral health, oral care, and oral cancer is painful. Not only oral cancer, but all types of cancer is painful. This is the reason, we should take care of our dental health and all these things are inter-related. When we operate the throat, we have to open the mouth by fixing gag on the teeth and that is why, teeth are very important. And you all know the importance of teeth for our smile. All of us are public representatives and you very well understand the importance of your smile to people living in your constituency. You may not be able to do anyone's work, but if you talk to him little politely with a smile on your face, he would at least, not be sad and upset.

A lot of people, here, have said many things about the Dental Council of India and highlighted its working, functioning and corruption involved therein. I do not want to give a lecture here about these things and I am as much concerned about it as you all are. Our Prime Minister is also concerned about it and he wants

that such institutions should function with full transparency, honesty and commitment and work for the welfare of the country, society and profession.

In this direction, work will be done as per the requirement in future. You know, we have implemented the procedure of NEET for selection of dental colleges. Whatever qualitative reforms can be brought in this regard, the Government is moving forward in that direction. After listening to all of you, I realized that many of you, perhaps, are not aware of the significant portion of oral health care component in our primary and secondary health care. After coming into power in the year 2014, our Government had launched National Oral Health Programme in the country in the year 2014-15. *[English]* It was to strengthen the public health facilities of the country for an accessible, affordable and quality oral healthcare delivery with an aim to ensure improvement in the determinants of oral health – its example is healthy diets – oral hygiene improvements etc. and to reduce disparity in oral health accessibility in rural as well as urban population, about which many Members have expressed concern in this House. The second objective is to reduce morbidity from oral diseases by strengthening oral health services at sub-district/district hospitals, to start with. The next one is to integrate oral health promotion and preventive services with general healthcare system and other sectors that influence oral health and also promotion of public-private partnerships for achieving public health goals.

*[Translation]* Many Members have talked about oral hygiene. Many Members have talked about food. The FSSAI, which is an institute related to food safety, is going to develop a programme relating to 'Eat right-eat less' in the entire country as a movement. Our sages also used to say:

Álp Bhuktam, Bahu Bhuktam'

If you eat less, you will live longer. *[Translation]* A study was conducted in the world to assess the lifestyle of the people who lived more than hundred

years and one common thing came to light therefrom that they used to eat less. Our sages said this thing long ago. We are taking it up as a movement.

As I said just now, that all of you should get information in this regard. You know that health is a state subject. If you send proposals from your districts and constituencies, monitoring is conducted and funds are provided under programme implementation. By using that fund, you can improve all the healthcare system in your constituencies. I would like to say on record about the systems you can strengthen. I am being told to take care of time. *[English]* So, I will just run through that. There are two components of this programme. One is NHM component which is for the support of health facilities at the district level and below of the States with the following components of a Dental Unit. The first one is manpower support which includes support for a dentist, dental hygienist and dental assistant. It also includes equipment, including dental chairs. *[Translation]* Someone suggested here that a chair should be set up, but it is already a big programme. *[English]* It is already working. It is already there in the system. We had started this in 2014.

Then, there is support for consumables for dental procedures. The tertiary component includes designing IEC materials like posters, TV, radio spots, training modules and organising national, regional nodal officers' training programme to enhance the programme management skills and review the status of the programme.

It also includes preparing State and district level trainers by conducting national and regional workshops to train the para-medical health functionaries associated with healthcare delivery. *[Translation]* We support it. *[English]* It is the responsibility of the States and the UTs to prioritise and provide comprehensive oral healthcare services to its citizens, including providing braces to children in rural areas. *[Translation]* Just now our colleague talked about our children and all those things. *[English]* All oral healthcare services proposed by the States and UTs in their Programme Implementation Plan, which is popularly

called as PIP, are considered in the Department of Health and Family Welfare here. Further, under the NHM component of National Oral Health Programme, States and UTs can seek support for setting up of dental care units, including the following components, equipment including dental chairs and x-rays, consumables, manpower, including dental surgeons, dental assistants, etc. *[Translation]* I mentioned it because many new Members are also present here. I would like to request them to make proposals regarding these facilities, if they are not available in their constituencies, through DMs or other people in order to strengthen their system and sent it through your respective State Governments to the Government of India under National Health Mission. Some MPs have written in this regard during the last three or four day..

*[English]* I can promise we will support and try to strengthen this aspect. As an ENT surgeon myself, I am aware and I realise its importance. *[Translation]* I know about the importance of oral healthcare and dental hygiene and education is very important for this. No matter if fifty per cent people in your constituency do not have brush, if they are advised to rinse their mouth properly after every meal and massage their gums and teeth with their finger, they can keep their gums and teeth healthy for a lifetime. We should educate people in this regard. It is not necessary to provide brush to everyone. Apart from this we should also educate them how they can protect their oral health, protect themselves from cancer and be safe if they save their lives from cigarette, betel leaf, tobacco and beedi. I think it will be very beneficial.

There is a huge ambitious programme of the Government about which everyone had discussed and also appreciated it. Our hon. Prime Minister has implemented Ayushman Bharat Yojana. It has a secondary component also in which the emphasis has been laid on building health and happiness clinics. It is a very ambitious programme under which about 18-19 thousand clinics have been set up so far. 1.5 lakh clinics have been targeted to be set up by the year 2020. We want to deliver the benefits of the scheme to 130 crore people in the New

India of Prime Minister's dream, when every Indian will have a smile on his face and his problems will have been completely redressed.

Under this programme 15 health and wellness clinics have also been set up in which compulsory check up for early diagnosis of oral cancer is being done for the persons above 30 years. The programme includes preventive aspect, promotive aspect and aspect of positive health. The doctors engaged in healthcare system know that in treatment of all the non-communicable diseases, the role of medicine and hospital is only 10 per cent while 90 per cent role is of health education, prevention, promotion and positive healthy lifestyle. If we develop a positive social movement regarding health including oral health, our country will be able to present the model of Health for all which is a successful model for the world. Only India has the ability, capacity and DNA to provide this successful model to the world. We all will have to take a resolve.

**18.00 hrs.**

I have been asked to conclude by six o'clock. I will talk about it in detail some other time. The hon. Prime Minister wants to develop a movement regarding health.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Hon. Members, if the House agrees, the time of the House may be extended until the passing of this Bill.

**SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS:** Yes. ...(*Interruptions*)

**DR. HARSH VARDHAN:** I will finish in one minute. [*Translation*] In the end, I would like to appeal to all of you. The hon. Prime Minister also wishes to develop a big positive public movement with regard to health in India. His Ayushman Bharat Yojana is an effort towards fulfilling that dream. You all should be health messengers in your respective constituencies and should inspire the general public to lead their lives with a focus on positive health. I think it will be beneficial for you in your political life also. The Dentist Amendment Bill introduced by the government has been accepted by all. As I said, there is no big

point in it and there is no controversy in it. I appeal to all of you to pass this Bill unanimously.

*[English]*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** The question is:

“That the Bill further to amend the Dentists Act, 1948, be taken into consideration.”

*The motion was adopted.*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

**Clause 2**

***Amendment of Section 3***

**SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM):** I beg to move:

Page 1, lines 7 and 8,-

*for* ‘the words and letter “and at least two shall be dentists registered in part B of a State register” shall be omitted’

*substitute* ‘for the words and letter “and at least two shall be dentists registered in Part B of a State register”, the words “and at least two shall be holding an appointment in an institution for the training of dentist as a teaching faculty under the direct control of the State Government” shall be substituted.’ (1)

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** I shall now put amendment No.1 moved by Shri N. K. Premachandran to clause 2, to the vote of the House.

*The amendment was put and negatived.*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** The question is:

“That clause 2 stand part of the Bill.”

*The motion was adopted.  
Clause 2 was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 3**

***Amendment of Section 21***

**SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN:** I beg to move:

Page 1, line 9,-  
for “clause (b) shall be omitted”

*substitute* “for clause (b), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:-‘(b) four members elected from among themselves by dentists in the State Register’.”. (2)

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** I shall now put amendment No.2 moved by Shri N. K. Premachandran to clause 3, to the vote of the House.

*The amendment was put and negatived.*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** The question is:

“That clause 3 stand part of the Bill.”

*The motion was adopted.  
Clause 3 was added to the Bill.*

#### **Clause 4                      Amendment of Section 23**

**SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN:** I beg to move:

Page 1, line 10,-  
for “clause (b) shall be omitted”

*substitute* “for clause (b), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:-‘(b) two members elected from among themselves by dentists in the State Register of each of the participating States’.”. (3)

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** I shall now put amendment No.3 moved by Shri N. K. Premachandran to clause 4, to the vote of the House.

*The amendment was put and negatived.*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** The question is:

“That clause 4 stand part of the Bill.”

*The motion was adopted.  
Clause 4 was added to the Bill.*



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

**DR. HARSH VARDHAN:** Sir, I beg to move:

“That the Bill be passed”.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** The question is:

“That the Bill be passed”.

*The motion was adopted.*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** The House stands adjourned to meet again on Thursday, the 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2019 at 11.00 a.m.

**18.04 hrs**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, July 4, 2019 / Ashadha 13, 1941 (Saka)*

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