

The Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE; AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): Sir, I beg to move:

?That the Bill further to amend the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, the State Bank of India Act, 1955, the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980, be taken into consideration.?

माननीय अध्यक्ष : क्या आप कुछ बोलना चाहती हैं?

? (व्यवधान)

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: I will reply, Sir. ? (*Interruptions*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : रूल ? 372, लोक सभा में किसी भी विषय पर अध्यक्ष की सहमति से मंत्री द्वारा वक्तव्य दिया जा सकेगा, किंतु जिस समय वक्तव्य दिया जाएगा, कोई प्रश्न नहीं पूछा जाएगा ।

? (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आपको कोई प्रश्न पूछना है, क्लेरिफिकेशन करना है, तो वह अब नहीं होगा ।

? (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : सदन नियमों-प्रक्रियाओं से चलता है । जब सदन नियमों-प्रक्रियाओं से चलता है तो नियमों-प्रक्रियाओं से ही चलाना पड़ता है ।

? (व्यवधान)

श्री गौरव गोगोई (जोरहाट) : सर, माहौल बनाइए । आप संवाद का वातावरण बनाइए ।? (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : ऑनरेबल फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर ।

? (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप नोटिस दे दीजिए । मैं उसको देख लूंगा ।

? (व्यवधान)

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, in the Union Budget of 2023-24, it was announced and I had read it. I would like to quote it:

?To improve bank governance and enhance investors? protection, certain amendments to the Banking Regulation Act, the Banking Companies Act and the Reserve Bank of India Act are proposed.?

So, in order to achieve the same, amendments to the following Acts have been proposed through the banking laws. ? (*Interruptions*)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : सर, आप सक्षम हैं । आप संवाद का माहौल बनाइए ।? (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप रूल बताइए ।

SHRI HIBI EDEN (ERNAKULAM): Sir, I am referring to a Rule from the Practice and Procedure of the Parliament by Kaul and Shakhder. It is on page no. 155 -- Leader of the Opposition. The process of parliamentary government is based on mutual forbearance between the Opposition and the? ? (*Interruptions*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : कौल एण्ड शकधर में नहीं, आप रूल्स की किताब में बताइए ।

? (व्यवधान)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : सर, यह आपका निर्णय है । आप माहौल बनाइए ।? (व्यवधान)

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, a total of 19 amendments are being discussed here. In the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, there is one amendment which is proposed. The Banking Regulation Act, 1949 has 12 amendments which are proposed. The State Bank of India Act, 1955 has two amendments. The Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 has two amendments and the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980 has two amendments. So, the 19 amendments that we are talking about, which we are proposing through the Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, be brought in, and of that, I would like to highlight seven of the 19 amendments.

Sir, these amendments to the Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill of 2024 are being introduced now. It was actually introduced on the 9th of August, 2024. The proposed Bill seeks to improve on governance standards, provide consistency in reporting by banks to the Reserve Bank of India, ensure better protection for

depositors and also for investors, improve audit quality in public sector banks, and also, to increase the tenure of the directors, other than the chairperson and whole-time directors, in co-operative banks.

So, in specific, if I have to highlight seven of the 19 amendments that are being brought in now, I will in a sequence talk about amendments to the Banking Regulation Act. The first one in the Banking Regulation Act is to allow for up to four nominees.

Sir, this includes provisions for simultaneous and successive nominations offering greater flexibility and convenience for depositors and their legal heirs especially concerning deposits, articles in safe custody and also safety lockers. So, that is the first of the seven amendments that I would like to highlight. There are 19 amendments in total but I am highlighting seven amendments. Of the seven amendments, this is the first one. The second amendment that I would like to highlight, Sir, is again amendment to the Banking Regulation Act which actually revises the reporting dates for the submission of statutory reports by banks to the Reserve Bank of India from reporting every Friday to the last day of the fortnight, month or the quarter. So, this change will ensure consistency in reporting and that will make it easier for even those who want to observe the Indian economy or the way the banks follow statutory reporting. So, that is the second amendment of the seven highlights that I want to say of the total 19 amendments that we are bringing now.

Sir, then, the third of the amendments to the Banking Regulation Act is extending the tenure of the directors excluding those of the Chairman and the wholetime directors in cooperative banks from eight years to ten years.

Sir, there are 12 amendments only to the Banking Regulation Act but I am highlighting some of them. So, the fourth one is the amendment to Section 5 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 which will redefine substantial interest. The expression substantial interest is getting redefined. The threshold for shareholding of a substantial interest will be increased from rupees five lakh to rupees two crore reflecting the present value as the same as was last fixed in 1968. The fifth amendment of the Banking Regulation Act. I already mentioned that there are total of 19 amendments that we are coming along with now and of the 19 amendments, 12 amendments pertain Banking Regulation Act is sub-section 3 of Section 16 of the Banking Regulation Act to allow a director of a central cooperative bank to serve on the board of a State cooperative bank.

Normally, Sir, in banks, when you appoint directors, they can hold the position of a director only in one institution and not more. However, in the cooperative bank structure unless a person is elected to one layer of the cooperative, they cannot get into the next layer and as a result, they will necessarily have to hold position in more than one place. So, this amendment making the Banking Regulation Act consistent with that provision so that they are in alignment with the cooperatives that are in banking area. Obviously, I would like to mention for clarification's sake through you, Sir, to the hon. House that when we are touching matters related to cooperative laws, I think that is very important for me to clarify right at the beginning that it is only the banking aspects of cooperatives, those cooperatives which are functioning as bank as well, only in their banking activity are these amendments going to come into play once the House passes it. The other activities of the cooperatives like primary agriculture society, cooperative society and so on have nothing at all to do with these amendments. They are cooperative activities but we are looking at the banking activities. So, amendment to sub-section 3 of Section 16 is for allowing a director in the Central cooperative bank to serve on the board of a State cooperative bank as well.

Sir, the State Bank of India has two amendments. Of that, one of which I would like to highlight here as an opening remark is amendment to Section 41 of the State Bank of India Act, 1955 and Section 10 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980 will provide public sector banks with the discretion in determining remuneration of auditors.

This measure aims to improve the quality of audits by giving banks the opportunity to attract the best talent in the market and aligning compensation with the financial capacity of the banks. So, these are the proposed amendments. I have highlighted some of them. There are 19 of them. They pertain to at least five of the major Acts which are the Reserve Bank of India Act; Banking Regulation Act, 1949; State Bank of India Act 1955; Banking Companies Act, 1970; and Banking Companies Act, 1978. So, with these opening remarks, I submit to you, Sir, that these proposed amendments will only strengthen governance in Indian banking sector besides enhancing consumer and customer convenience with respect to nominations and protection of investors.

With that, Sir, I would appeal to you that the discussion can be taken up ?
(Interruptions)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रस्ताव प्रस्तुत हुआ :

?कि भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक अधिनियम, 1934, बैंककारी विनियमन अधिनियम, 1949, भारतीय स्टेट बैंक अधिनियम, 1955, बैंककारी कम्पनी (उपक्रमों का अर्जन और अन्तरण) अधिनियम, 1970 और बैंककारी कम्पनी (उपक्रमों का अर्जन और अन्तरण) अधिनियम, 1980 का और संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक पर विचार किया जाए ।?

? (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री गौरव गोगोई जी ।

? (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप वरिष्ठ सदस्य हैं । जब कोई दूसरा विषय शुरू हो चुका हो, बिल शुरू हो चुका हो तो फिर बीच में पॉइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर नहीं उठाया जाता है । दूसरा, कौल एंड शकधर कन्वेंशनल है । संसद रूल्स एंड रेगुलेशन्स से चलती है तथा जो परंपराएं अच्छी होती हैं, हम उनको मानते भी हैं ।

? (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : मैंने कहा कि कौल एंड शकधर की जो परंपराएं हैं, वे परंपराएं अध्यक्ष पर निर्भर करती हैं और जो परंपराएं अच्छी हैं, उन्हें हम लागू भी करते हैं ।

? (व्यवधान)

SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): One minute, Sir. Yes, I agree with you ? *(Interruptions)* Parliament is run by conventions and procedures also. As per the convention and procedure, the Leader of Opposition has a great role in parliamentary procedure. As the Prime Minister has a role, the Leader of Opposition also has a great role. Now, I am quoting only one sentence: ?The Leader of the Opposition is the official spokesman of the minority or minorities and to that end he zealously watches any encroachment on their rights. His task, though not so difficult as that of the Prime Minister, is of sufficiently great public importance because he has to maintain a team?a ?shadow Cabinet??ready to take over administration. In performing his duties and obligations, the Leader of the Opposition has to take into account not only?? ? *(Interruptions)*

Sir, you are also a Member of the Parliament. I saw that when late Sushma Swaraj was the Leader of the Opposition, whenever she used to stand for a minute, at that point of time, the Speaker used to allow her. This is the custom.

Now, we do not want to argue with the Government. Everybody is interested in China issue. The entire INDIA alliance and the entire Opposition is interested in this

issue. The LoP wants to give a suggestion. What is stopping you, Sir, from giving him a suggestion? It is a constitutional body.

डॉ. निशिकान्त दुबे (गोड्डा) : स्पीकर सर, वेणुगोपाल जी ने जितनी भी बातें कहीं हैं, उनसे मैं सहमत हूँ ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : माननीय सदस्य, इसमें जो लास्ट में लिखा है, उसे आप पढ़ दीजिए ।

डॉ. निशिकान्त दुबे : सर, मैं पढ़ रहा हूँ । यह सभी लोगों को जानने वाली बात है । ?Though he may criticise the Government vehemently on the floor of the House and outside in his country, but when abroad he should eschew party politics.? सर, ये जब विदेश जाते हैं तो भारत सरकार को क्रिटिसाइज करते हैं । यह कौल एंड शकधर है । यह कैसा लीडर ऑफ अपोजिशन है?

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्लीज, नो कमेंट्स । सभी को सदन के नेता और प्रतिपक्ष के नेता पर टिप्पणी करने से बचना चाहिए ।

? (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : मैंने कहा है कि सदन के नेता पर और प्रतिपक्ष के नेता पर टिप्पणी करने से बचना चाहिए । यह मैंने सबको कहा है । इस तरफ वाले सदस्यों से भी कहा है और दूसरी तरफ वाले सदस्यों से भी कहा है । सदन के नेता के बारे में बोलते समय भी हमारी मर्यादा रहनी चाहिए और प्रतिपक्ष के नेता के बारे में बोलते समय भी हमारी मर्यादा रहनी चाहिए ।

श्री गौरव गोगोई जी ।

? (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : गौरव गोगोई जी को बोलना है । मैंने आपको इजाजत नहीं दी है । मैंने गौरव गोगोई जी को इजाजत दी है ।

? (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : गौरव गोगोई जी, क्या आप बोलना चाहते हैं? मैंने आपको इजाजत नहीं दी है इसलिए उनका रिकॉर्ड में नहीं जाएगा । आप उनको इजाजत नहीं दे सकते हैं । यह काम मेरा है । जब आप इस सीट पर बैठ जाएं, तब डायरेक्शन दे देना ।

? (व्यवधान)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : आपका हक है, इसलिए हम बोल रहे हैं कि आप एलओपी को सुनिए । आपका ही हक है, आप ही इस महान परंपरा के संरक्षक हैं । आप संवाद की बात करते हैं, आप जो शब्द का उच्चारण बार-बार करते हैं, हम आपसे आग्रह करते हैं कि एलओपी को बोलने दीजिए ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप बैंकिंग लॉज (अमेंडमेंट) बिल पर बोलिए ।

श्री गौरव गोगोई : हम आपकी ही बात आपको सुना रहे हैं ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आपको बैंकिंग लॉज (अमेंडमेंट) बिल पर बोलना है?

श्री गौरव गोगोई : हम आप ही की बात बोल रहे हैं । यह आपका ही हक है और अभी मुझे आपने ही अनुमति दी है, इसके लिए मैं आपका शुक्रिया अदा करता हूँ ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप बैंकिंग लॉज (अमेंडमेंट) बिल पर बोलिए ।

श्री गौरव गोगोई : आदरणीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि बैंकिंग लॉज (अमेंडमेंट) बिल, बैंकिंग गवर्नेंस और इंवेस्टर्स प्रोटेक्शन के संदर्भ में लाया गया है और कुछ अहम एक्ट्स में संशोधन करना है । वे कौन से अहम एक्ट्स हैं ? रिजर्व बैंक और इंडिया एक्ट 1934, बैंकिंग रेग्युलेशन एक्ट 1945, स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया एक्ट 1955, बैंकिंग कंपनीज एक्ट 1972.

सर, मैं इन कानूनों का उच्चारण इसलिए कर रहा हूँ क्योंकि जब मैं बाद में इन कानूनों का जिक्र करूंगा तो मुझे यह न कहा जाए कि मैं विषय के बाहर चला गया हूँ । मैं इन कानूनों के संदर्भ में बैंकिंग रेग्युलेशन एक्ट, एसबीआई एक्ट, बैंकिंग कंपनीज एक्ट, आरबीआई एक्ट और जो ऑब्जेक्ट्स कहे गए हैं कि बैंक गवर्नेंस इम्प्रूव हों, मैं इसी संदर्भ में अपनी सारी बातों को रखना चाहूंगा । सर, यह डिसक्लेमर है । हमें बाद में न बोला जाए ।

सर, जैसा कि आदरणीय मंत्री महोदया ने कहा है कि वे बिल में कुछ संशोधन लाना चाहती हैं । वे क्या हैं, ? Increasing the threshold for shareholding of a beneficial interest by an individual; to allow for the nomination of up to four persons, including provisions for simultaneous and successive nominations, to ease services for depositors and their nominees, particularly regarding deposits, articles in safe custody, and safety lockers; to provide for the transfer of unclaimed dividends, shares, and interest or redemption of bonds to the Investor Education and Protection Fund.?

आदरणीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, यहां तक तो सब ठीक है । चाहे वे फोर्टनाइट का कैश रिजर्व लाना चाहती हैं, डायरेक्टर्स के टेन्चोर्स में सुधार लाना चाहती हैं, प्रोहिबिशन ऑफ कॉमन डायरेक्टर्स लाना चाहती हैं, सब्सटेंशियल इंटेस्ट बढ़ाना चाहती हैं, यहां तक ठीक है, लेकिन वर्तमान बैंकिंग सिस्टम देश की आर्थिक स्थिति के साथ जुड़ा हुआ है । आज हम जिस आर्थिक स्थिति में हैं, पहले हमें उसकी क्रोनोलॉजी समझनी पड़ेगी । हम बैंकिंग कानूनों को सिर्फ आइसोलेशन में देखें । आज चार-पांच दिनों के बाद सदन में दोबारा चर्चा हो रही है, पूरा देश हमें और आपको देख रहा है । देश चाहता है कि सारे मूल मुद्दों पर विचार-विमर्श हो । उन पर सत्ता पक्ष और विपक्ष अपनी बात रखें । हमें कानून के संदर्भ को समझना है । वर्तमान की सरकार ने आर्थिक स्थिति का ढांचा तोड़ दिया है । हमें उस तोड़ को समझना पड़ेगा, जिसकी शुरुआत आज से लगभग आठ साल पहले हुई ।

14.44 hrs (Shri Krishna Prasad Tenneti *in the Chair*)

8 नवम्बर, 2016, जब रातों-रात एक सिद्धांत आया कि पांच सौ और हजार के नोट गायब । उस समय देश ने देखा कि देश के प्रधान सेवक आए और क्या कहा, घर में शादी है, लेकिन पैसे नहीं हैं । उन्होंने मजाक उड़ाया, उन आंसुओं का मजाक उड़ाया, जिन्होंने जितने पैसे जमा करके रखे थे, बैंक से जो निकाल कर रखे गए थे, वे पांच सौ के नोट गायब, वे एक हजार के नोट गायब । मोदी जी हमें ऐसे-ऐसे दिखा रहे हैं । शादी है, लेकिन घर में पैसे नहीं हैं, ऐसे-ऐसे दिखा रहे हैं । अभी वर्ष 2024 के चुनाव प्रचार में मंगलसूत्र की बात की गई । क्या आपको

पता है कि उस समय आपके इस कानून के कारण, नोटबंदी कानून के कारण कितनी महिलाओं ने अपने मंगलसूत्र गिरवी रख दिए, ताकि वे अपनी बच्ची की शादी कर सकें, तब आपको मंगलसूत्र की याद नहीं आई । आठ साल हो गए, क्या हासिल किया, यह मुझे बताएं । अलग-अलग समय पर अलग-अलग तर्क, पहले तर्क आया कि इससे कानूनी स्थिति अच्छी होगी । जम्मू कश्मीर में लॉ एंड ऑर्डर में सुधार आया? आज देखें कि जम्मू कश्मीर में क्या लॉ एंड ऑर्डर में सुधार आया? ? (व्यवधान) आप पूछिये ।? (व्यवधान)

साथियो, कृपया पिछले सालों में अपने दल के पंचायत के नेताओं की जो हत्याएं हुई, आप उनकी शहादत का तो मजाक मत उड़ाइये । आपके ही दलों के पंचायत के नेताओं पर ? (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Kindly address the Chair.

? (Interruptions)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : सीमा के उस पार से आकर लोगों ने उनकी हत्याएं कीं । आप उनको तो मत भूलिये । हमें तो याद हैं । ? (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The hon. Member is requested to address the Chair.

? (Interruptions)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : फिर क्या कहते हैं? ? (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Kindly address the Chair.

? (Interruptions)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : डिजिटल करने के लिए नोटबंदी लाए । पेटीएम के साथ प्रधान मंत्री जी का एड भी आया और कितना डिजिटल हुआ? आठ साल में कितना डिजिटल हुआ? वर्ष 2016 में ? (व्यवधान) मैं आरबीआई का डेटा पढ़ देता हूं । आरबीआई खुद कहता है कि वर्ष 2022-23 में जितना कैश परसेंट ऑफ जीडीपी पब्लिक के साथ है, वह वर्ष 2015-16 से कहीं ज्यादा है मतलब जितना कैश लोगों के पास डिमोनेटाइजेशन से पहले वर्ष 2015 में था, उससे बहुत ज्यादा कैश आज लोगों के हाथ में हैं और लगभग जीडीपी का 12 प्रतिशत है । कोई डिजिटल नहीं हुआ, लोग आज भी कैश पर निर्भर हैं । उसके बाद आपने क्या किया? आदरणीय विदेश मंत्री जी यहां पर थे । उन्होंने बहुत अच्छी बातें कीं । उन्होंने कहा कि जब से चीन के साथ सरहद पर, हमारे जवानों ने शहादत दी, तो हमारा रिश्ता चीन के साथ पहले जैसा नहीं है ।? (व्यवधान) It is not normal. ? (Interruptions) मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि इस सरकार के दाएं हाथ को पता नहीं कि बाया हाथ क्या कर रहा है । विदेश मंत्री कहते हैं कि जब से चीन के साथ हमारी सीमा पर मुठभेड़ हुई है, तो हमारा रिश्ता पहले जैसा नहीं है । कॉमर्स मंत्री पीछे बैठे हैं, चीन से और आयात बढ़ कर आ गया है । हम चीन से और इम्पोर्ट कर रहे हैं । ? (व्यवधान)

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्री गिरिराज सिंह): महोदय, क्या ये बिल पर बोल रहे हैं? ? (व्यवधान)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : ट्रेड डेफिसिट चीन के साथ बढ़ा है ।? (व्यवधान) यह है, अपना प्रमाण । ये बड़ी-बड़ी बातें कहते हैं कि चीन को हमने लाल आंख दिखाई । क्या लाल आंख दिखाई? आप तो चीनी लोगों को और वीजा देना चाहते हैं । आप चीन से और इम्पोर्ट करना चाहते हैं । आप यह लाल आंख दिखा रहे हैं । ? (व्यवधान)

माननीय सभापति : आप बैठिये ।

? (व्यवधान)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : फिर क्या आया? इलेक्टोरल बॉन्ड आया । इलेक्टोरल बॉन्ड कुछ नहीं, बल्कि ...* को कानूनी दर्जा देने का एक कानून था । ? (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please be restricted to the Bill.

? (Interruptions)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : सभापति महोदय, आपको पता है कि ? (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Kindly discuss about the Bill.

? (Interruptions)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : आरबीआई के डिप्टी गवर्नर ने खुद इलेक्टोरल बॉन्ड का विरोध किया । उसके बावजूद सरकार ने एसबीआई पर दबाव डालकर इलेक्टोरल बॉन्ड निकाला । इसलिए मैं जिक्र कर रहा हूँ । फिर सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने खुद बोला कि यह इलेक्टोरल बॉन्ड नाजायज है । इस समय मैं नाम नहीं लेना चाहूंगा, वह हमारे बीच में नहीं हैं, लेकिन आपके कितने सारे लोगों ने, कितने सारे मंत्रियों ने उस इलेक्टोरल बॉन्ड, जो गैर संवैधानिक था, लोगों से सच छिपाने वाला था, ...* ? (व्यवधान) आपको क्रोनोलॉजी बहुत पसंद है, इसलिए मैं क्रोनोलॉजी समझा रहा हूँ । आप थोड़ा माफ करना, मैं वर्ष 2016 से 2020 वाले चीन के विषय पर आ गया । मैं थोड़ा वर्ष 2016 से पहले भी चला जाता हूँ । उस समय के गुजरात के मुख्यमंत्री कहते थे कि जब यूएस डॉलर की तुलना में इंडिया की करेंसी दुर्बल होती है तो सरकार और कमजोर होती है । यह कहा था कि जब रुपया और डॉलर के बीच तुलना की जाती है, तो रुपया जितना कमजोर होता है, देश उतना ही कमजोर होता है । ? (व्यवधान) क्या आपको पता है कि 84.97 रुपए के बराबर एक डॉलर हो चुका है ।? (व्यवधान) डॉलर की तुलना में आज भारतीय रुपया सबसे कमजोर है । मैं यह क्यों कह रहा हूँ? ? (व्यवधान) मैं यह इसलिए कह रहा हूँ क्योंकि आरबीआई की जिम्मेवारी बनती है । मैं ऐसा इसलिए कह रहा हूँ क्योंकि ये जो बिल लाया गया है, वह अधूरा है ।? (व्यवधान) भारत की अर्थव्यवस्था को और सशक्त करने के लिए आपको एक सम्पूर्ण और ताकतवर बिल लाना चाहिए था ।? (व्यवधान)

फिर क्या आया? ? (व्यवधान) फिर आया जीएसटी । जिस जीएसटी के तहत असम के चाय बागानों पर 18 परसेंट का टैक्स लगाया गया । जीएसटी ने हमारे चाय बागान कर्मियों को खत्म कर दिया है ।? (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Member, kindly talk about the Bill only. I am requesting you again to discuss upon the Bill.

....(Interruptions)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : सर, मैं टैक्स रेवेन्यू पर आता हूँ ।? (व्यवधान) इन्होंने क्या किया? इन्होंने जीएसटी के द्वारा कमजोर और मध्यम वर्ग के कम्पनियों की रीढ़ की हड्डी तोड़ दी और इंसाॅल्वेंसी एक्ट लाकर बड़ी-बड़ी कम्पनियों को हेयरकट का मुनाफा देकर इन्होंने बड़ी कम्पनियों की मदद की ।? (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Member, I am requesting you to restrict yourself to the Bill.

....(Interruptions)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : मैं उस पर आ रहा हूँ । आप चिंता मत कीजिए । जब सत्ता पक्ष की ओर से बोलेंगे, तो ये भी बातें कहेंगे ।? (व्यवधान)

पंचायती राज मंत्री; तथा मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्री (श्री राजीव रंजन सिंह उर्फ ललन सिंह): सर, क्या ये बैंकिंग अमेंडमेंट बिल पर बोल रहे हैं? ? (व्यवधान)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : क्या मैं झूठ बोल रहा हूँ? अभी तक कुछ झूठ बोला? ? (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please come to the Bill.

....(Interruptions)

विधि और न्याय मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री; तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अर्जुन राम मेघवाल) : यह कोई पब्लिक मीटिंग नहीं है ।? (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Venugopal ji, kindly be seated.

....(Interruptions)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : अभी चार-चार मंत्री खड़े हो गए हैं । डिसरप्ट करने के लिए चार मंत्री खड़े हो गए हैं । ? (व्यवधान)

क्या आपको पता है कि मध्यम वर्ग के लोग अपने खून-पसीने की कमाई से टैक्स के पैसे सरकार को देते हैं, इन्होंने मध्यम वर्ग को कोई राहत नहीं दी ।? (व्यवधान) इस साल पहली बार, देश के मध्यम वर्ग के लोगों ने कारपोरेशन टैक्स से ज्यादा पैसे इनकम टैक्स के द्वारा दिए हैं ।? (व्यवधान) क्या यह दुख की बात नहीं है? ? (व्यवधान) Indians are paying more through the Income Tax than the corporations are paying through the Corporation Tax.(Interruptions) Is it not sad that this Government gives Corporate Tax cuts but no tax relief to the middle class? (Interruptions) आपने दुनिया में कहीं भी सुना है कि एक ही समय पर मल्टीपल टैक्स रिजीम हैं? आपको ये वाला टैक्स रिजीम चाहिए या वो वाला टैक्स रिजीम चाहिए । आप इस साल ये वाला टैक्स रिजीम दे सकते हो, अगले साल वो टैक्स रिजीम दे सकते हो । ऐसा कहीं भी नहीं है । In no country there is multiple tax regime. अभी बात आई है ।

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Where is it mentioned in the Bill. Please come to the Bill.

....(Interruptions)

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: Sir, I have time.(Interruptions) I am on finance. (Interruptions) I am on economy.(Interruptions) What does the Q2 data reveal? The Q2 data has revealed that अब तक मैंने जो बोला है, वह मैंने हवा में नहीं कहा है, मैं सच्चाई बोल रहा हूँ । इस बार का Q2 का डेटा 5.4 परसेंट है, जो सबसे कम है । यह पिछले क्वार्टर से सबसे कम है ।? (व्यवधान) पिछले क्वार्टर में, Q1 में 6.7 परसेंट था, अब Q2 में यह ग्रोथ 5.4 परसेंट आया । यह क्यों आया? यह इसलिए आया क्योंकि आपका इंडेक्स ऑफ इंडस्ट्रियल प्रोडक्शन कम है ।? (व्यवधान) आपका जीबीआई कम है, यह इसीलिए हो रहा है । आज अर्बन डिमांड कम है, इसीलिए आज यह हो रहा है ।? (व्यवधान) अगर आज जीडीपी चल रहा है, तो उसका एक कारण है कि the Government is pumping money through capex. जिस दिन गवर्नमेंट का कैपेक्स निकल जाएगा, पैसे अलग-अलग स्कीम्स में चले जाएंगे, रेवेन्यू एक्सपेंडिचर में पैसे चले जाएंगे, तो हमारी पूरी की पूरी इकोनॉमी और खराब हो जाएगी ।? (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Member, I am again requesting you to please talk on the Bill. You are not talking on the Bill. You are talking all around but not on the Bill. Kindly come back to the Bill.

....(Interruptions)

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: Sir, I hear you.(Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I have made repeated requests to you to discuss about the Bill.

? (Interruptions)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : सर, इन्होंने कुछ महीने पहले क्या कहा? ? (व्यवधान) मैं प्रधान मंत्री की बात कर रहा हूँ । ? (व्यवधान) प्रधान मंत्री ने क्या कहा? ?एक हैं, तो सेफ हैं? । ? (व्यवधान) यह प्रधान मंत्री की बात है । ? (व्यवधान) प्रधान मंत्री की बात तो सुनोगे? ? (व्यवधान) प्रधान मंत्री ने कहा ?एक हैं, तो सेफ हैं? । ? (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Sir, if you do not come back to the Bill, I will have to restrict your speech to another five minutes. I am giving you last five minutes to come to the Bill.

? (Interruptions)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : सर, पहले मुझे समझ नहीं आया कि कौन सेफ है? ? (व्यवधान) वह एक कौन है, यह मुझे समझ नहीं आया । ? (व्यवधान) फिर मैंने मीडिया की सुर्खियां पढ़ीं, तो मुझे समझ आया कि ?एक हैं, तो सेफ हैं? का क्या मतलब है? ? (व्यवधान) इसका मतलब क्या है? अगर मीडिया कंपनी छीननी है, तो सीबीआई आपके

साथ है । ? (व्यवधान) अगर आपको एयरपोर्ट लेना है, तो ईडी आपके साथ है । ? (व्यवधान) अगर ऑस्ट्रेलिया में कोयले की माइन लेनी है, तो एसबीआई आपके साथ है । ? (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: No. You are diverting the entire thing.

? (Interruptions)

माननीय सभापति : माननीय गोगोई जी, क्या आप बैंकिंग लॉज़ (अमेंडमेंट) बिल के बारे में बोल रहे हैं? आप किस बिल के बारे में बोल रहे हैं? Kindly come to the Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill.

? (Interruptions)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : अगर सोलर पावर का प्रोजेक्ट चाहिए, तो सोलर एनर्जी कॉरपोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया आपके साथ है । ? (व्यवधान) सीबीआई आपका है, इनकम टैक्स और ईडी के साथ क्या हो रहा है, क्या हमको पता नहीं है? ? (व्यवधान) ... ? (व्यवधान) मार्च, 2023 में लैपटॉप और फोन हड़प लिया गया, जांच हो रही है कि किसको, कितनी रिश्तत दी गई । ? (व्यवधान) भारत को बताया नहीं, लेकिन एमईए को पता था । ... ? (व्यवधान) ... ? (व्यवधान) क्या कहते हैं? सबका साथ, सबका विकास? । ? (व्यवधान) कहां सबका साथ? कहां सबका विकास? । ? (व्यवधान) हमें तो बस एक का विकास दिख रहा है और एक का साथ ही हमको दिख रहा है । ? (व्यवधान) कौन सेफ नहीं है? ? (व्यवधान) सर, ये ... से इतना डरते क्यों हैं? ? (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The last three sentences are withdrawn from the record. They should be deleted from the record.

? (Interruptions)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : अरे, आप देश के सेवक हो, आप ... के सेवक नहीं हो । ? (व्यवधान) आप ? के सेवक नहीं हो, आप देश के सेवक हो । ? (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: When the hon. Member is not in the House, you cannot take his name.

? (Interruptions)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : कौन सेफ नहीं है? ? (व्यवधान) ... सुनकर यह हलचल क्यों? ? (व्यवधान) आप देश के सेवक हो, ... के सेवक नहीं हो । ? (व्यवधान) जनता आपको तनख्वाह देती है, ... नहीं । ? (व्यवधान)

विधि और न्याय मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री; तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अर्जुन राम मेघवाल) : सभापति जी, यह कोई पब्लिक प्लेटफॉर्म नहीं है । ? (व्यवधान) इनको बिल पर बोलना चाहिए । ? (व्यवधान) इन्होंने जो कुछ बिल के संबंध में नहीं बोला है, उसको रिकॉर्ड से हटाया जाना चाहिए । ? (व्यवधान) आपको व्यवस्था देनी चाहिए । ? (व्यवधान) क्या यह कोई पब्लिक प्लेटफॉर्म है? ? (व्यवधान) इन्हें बोलना है, तो केवल पब्लिक मीटिंग में जाकर बोलें । ? (व्यवधान) क्या यहां कांग्रेस की कोई सभा हो रही है, जिसमें ये बोल रहे हैं? ?

(व्यवधान) यह कोई कांग्रेस की मीटिंग थोड़ी ही है, यह संसद है । ? (व्यवधान) ये जो बोले हैं, उसको इन्हें प्रमाणित करना पड़ेगा । ? (व्यवधान)

श्री सतीश कुमार गौतम (अलीगढ़) : चेयरमैन सर, इनकी बात सभा की कार्यवाही से बाहर की जाए । ? (व्यवधान)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : आज के दिन कौन सेफ नहीं है? ? (व्यवधान) किसान सेफ नहीं है । ? (व्यवधान) मैं किसान की बात कर रहा हूँ । ? (व्यवधान) किसान अपना केसीसी लोन रिन्यू कराना चाहता है, लेकिन उसका लोन रिन्यू नहीं हो रहा है । ? (व्यवधान) उसका केसीसी का लोन रिन्यू नहीं हो पा रहा है । ? (व्यवधान)

सर, अभी टाइम है । ? (व्यवधान) युवा शिक्षा लोन चाहता है, लेकिन उसको बैंक्स से शिक्षा लोन नहीं मिल रहा है । ? (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Sir, I deleted it from the record.

? (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I have already told about deleting it from the record.

? (Interruptions)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : स्टार्टअप्स क्या चाहते हैं? ? (व्यवधान) स्टार्टअप्स चाहते हैं कि उनको बैंक्स से लोन मिले, लेकिन उनके पास कोई ? (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Kindly be seated for one minute.

Hon. Minister.

? (Interruptions)

संसदीय कार्य मंत्री; तथा अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्री (श्री किरेन रिजिजू) : सर, आज काफी दिनों के बाद हाउस अच्छी तरह से चल रहा है । ? (व्यवधान) बिल पर चर्चा करने की यह अच्छी शुरुआत हुई है । ? (व्यवधान) फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर ने ऑलरेडी बिल को टेबल किया है और सबको सुनकर रिप्लाय देने की बात कही है । ? (व्यवधान) यहां जब बिल पर चर्चा होती है, तो उसका एक स्टैंडर्ड होता है । ? (व्यवधान) गौरव गोगोई जी नए एमपी नहीं हैं । ? (व्यवधान) वे डिप्टी लीडर भी हैं । ? (व्यवधान) इस हाउस में वे तीन बार आ चुके हैं, इसलिए, वे नए नहीं हैं । ? (व्यवधान)

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15.00 hrs

सभापति जी, किसी भी बिल पर बोलते समय यदि आप बिना समय सीमा तय किए प्रधान मंत्री जी को गाली देंगे और किसी का भी नाम लेंगे, किसी बिजनेस मैन का नाम चर्चा में लेंगे, यह चर्चा के स्तर को गिराता है ।? (व्यवधान) मैं गौरव जी से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि आप जरूर बोलिए । आपके बोलने का अधिकार छीनने का हमारे पास कोई हक नहीं है ।? (व्यवधान) यह क्या तरीका है? ? (व्यवधान) ऐसा है, तो सिर्फ आप ही बोलते रहिए ।? (व्यवधान) हाउस रूल से चलना चाहिए । आप बताएं कि क्या हाउस रूल या रेगुलेशन से नहीं चलना चाहिए? ? (व्यवधान) क्या आप जो मर्जी बोल सकते हैं? ? (व्यवधान) यह सही तरीका नहीं है । बिल पर चर्चा को विषय पर केंद्रित करके बोलना चाहिए ।? (व्यवधान) बिल पर चर्चा राजनीतिक भाषण देने के लिए नहीं होती है । यह गलत बात है ।? (व्यवधान) बिल पर चर्चा न करके और इधर-उधर की बात करना सही नहीं है ।? (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON : Please be seated.

? (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I have given permission to him to speak. Please listen.

? (Interruptions)

SHRI KIREN RIJJU: Sir, we should not diminish the standard of the debate and discussion. Let us not reduce the convention of this very great House to ... ?

(Interruptions) आप स्टैंडर्ड की बात कीजिए, आपको स्टैंडर्ड में जवाब मिलेगा । हम आपकी इज्जत करते हैं, आपको भी हमारी इज्जत करनी होगी? वन साइड... नहीं चलेगी ।? (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I have given permission to him. He is speaking. Please listen to him.

? (Interruptions)

माननीय सभापति : श्री निशिकांत दुबे जी ।

? (व्यवधान)

डॉ. निशिकान्त दुबे : सर, रूल-94 क्या कहता है यह गौरव गोगोई जी और सारे हाउस को जानना चाहिए ?

?The discussion on a motion that the Bill or as the case may be, the Bill as amended, be passed shall be confined to the submission of arguments either in support of the Bill or for the rejection of the Bill. The Member while making the speech shall not refer to the details of the Bill further than is necessary for the purpose of arguments which shall be of a general character.?? (Interruptions)

जनरल करेक्टर का कोई भी आर्गुमेंट नहीं हो सकता है । बिल के सपोर्ट में, क्लोज के सपोर्ट में या क्लोज के विरोध में बोला जा सकता है ।? (व्यवधान) माननीय सदस्य ने रूल-94 का वॉयलेशन किया है । आप इन्हें कहिए कि बिल की सपोर्ट में या बिल के विरोध में बोलें ।? (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Kindly be seated. I have heard him. Kindly be seated. Please go back to your places and kindly be seated.

? (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Kindly be seated. Please take your seat. You cannot do like this. You are disrupting the House. The entire nation is watching you.

? (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please sit down. I am speaking.

? (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Rule 94 says this. I am reading only a part of Rule 94. I am not reading the entire Rule 94. I am reading only a part of it.

? (Interruptions)

SHRI B. MANICKAM TAGORE (VIRUDHUNAGAR): You are the Chairperson. You are in the Chair. ? (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please do not remind me of my job. I know what I am doing. Please listen to me.

? (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: ?The Member while making the speech shall not refer to the details of the Bill further than is necessary for the purpose of arguments which shall be of a general character.? What is the previous sentence?

?The discussion on a motion that the Bill or as the case may be, the Bill as amended, be passed shall be confined to the submission of arguments either in support of the Bill or for the rejection of the Bill.?

So, you have to decide whether you are supporting the Bill or not supporting the Bill, and restrict to the discussion on the Bill. This is the sixth time I am requesting you to restrict and confine your discussion to the Bill only.

श्री गौरव गोगोई : सभापति महोदय, धन्यवाद ।

महोदय, मैं यह बात कर रहा हूँ कि आज बैंकिंग सिस्टम अनफेयर हो चुका है । आज बैंकिंग सिस्टम गरीब, किसान, छात्र, अनुसूचित जाति, आदिवासी समाज के लिए काम नहीं कर रहा है । एक समय था जब इन्दिरा

गाँधी जी ने बैंकों का राष्ट्रीयकरण किया था । उन्होंने यह इसलिए किया था, ताकि गरीबों की बैंकिंग सिस्टम तक पहुंच बने ।? (व्यवधान)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please come back to the Bill.

? (Interruptions)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : सर, मैं तो बैंकों की बात कर रहा हूँ ।

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I have given you so many opportunities. No.

? (Interruptions)

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: Sir, I am talking about banks now. ? (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Why are you talking about proper nouns? You please talk about the Bill.

? (Interruptions)

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: Sir, I am now telling you that the banking system today is unfair and it is broken. ? (Interruptions) The banking system, when it underwent nationalization, the objective was to open bank branches in remote areas and to make banking accessible to the poor SCs / STs. ? (Interruptions) This is what is not happening today. ? (Interruptions)

What is happening with farmers? Farmers who want their KCC loans to be renewed are not getting it because their credit rating is not being corrected by the banks. Students who are from SC / ST community want student loans and they are first-generation learners, they are not getting student education loans.

What is happening to young startups? People who are coming from the poor and middle-class and who do not have a land bank as a collateral, but they want to open up a startup. They are not getting bank loans. MSMEs and SMEs who want to expand have to run around banks and CEO's and managers. They have to keep going knocking on doors, but they still do not get the requisite funds to expand the project and that is why the banking system today is broken.

We also have recommendations. As Opposition, we can also recommend. What are we recommending? That banks also must disclose where are their major investments? I am asking this because these days banks are also operating as mutual caps and as mutual funds. Banks are also operating mutual funds. So, many

Indian depositors are depositing in our banks mutual cap because they have the reputation of that bank to consider.

I am talking about investor protection. Middle-class people today are investing in SBI primarily because of SBI's solid reputation. But the investor must know how much exposure does SBI have to companies undergoing investigation whether inside India or outside. It is for investors to know because the stocks with respect to their mid-caps are associated.

Similarly, penalties for companies who are failing to disclose their unfair practises, their penalties must be higher. Today, a company is trying to settle a case of SEBI. It is a big company owned by a big billionaire. Do you know how much settlement fee they are offering? It is Rs. 28 lakh. Are they insulting SEBI?

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Kindly conclude now.

? (Interruptions)

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: Are they insulting the law? The 4th biggest so-called billionaire's companies are offering Rs. 28 lakh as settlement fees. This is what is happening.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Kindly conclude now.

? (Interruptions)

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: So, our recommendation is that increase the penalties for companies who do not follow shareholding disclosure norms.

Thirdly, we are talking about governance and talking about boards. We must look at boards of institutions and regulators as well and ensure that no such regulator or bank or its board has any member who has a conflict of interest with a company that is getting the largest of that regulator or the services of that bank.

सर, आदरणीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि आपने प्रधान मंत्री जी के बारे में कहा । हमने तो ऐसा कहा ही नहीं, उल्टा मुझे यह बात याद आ गयी । मैं तो उनको धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि अगर केन्या, बांग्लादेश, श्रीलंका में प्रोजेक्ट्स चाहिए, तो ? जी आपके साथ हैं ? (व्यवधान) यह है आपका ? एक हैं तो सेफ हैं? मॉडल ? (व्यवधान)

सर, इसलिए हम चाहते हैं कि you give more teeth to SEBI. SEBI wants to investigate, but it has no CBI power, Income Tax power or ED power. Why is it so? ... @ ?
(Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please conclude now. Is it relevant to the Bill now?

? (Interruptions)

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: How will they find their Mehul Choksi and ? (Interruptions)

डॉ. संबित पात्रा (पुरी) : सभापति महोदय, आपका धन्यवाद कि आपने मुझे आज बैंकिंग लॉज़ (अमेंडमेंट) बिल, 2024 पर अपनी प्रस्तावना को रखने का मौका दिया ।? (व्यवधान)

महोदय, जहां तक बैंकिंग सेक्टर का विषय है, इसमें कोई दो मत नहीं है कि आज हिन्दुस्तान पूरे विश्व में चौथे नम्बर की अर्थ स्थिति पर है, इकोनॉमिक पोजीशन पर है ।? (व्यवधान) yaha se milana

प्रधान मंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी जी का जो स्वप्न है, जो साकार होने वाला है, उनके इसी टर्म में, India is going to become the third most powerful economy of the globe. प्रधान मंत्री माननीय नरेंद्र मोदी जी ने वर्ष 2047 तक विकसित भारत का स्वप्न देखा है, यह साकार हो रहा है, इसलिए बैंकिंग सिस्टम एक रोबस्ट तरीके से काम करे, उसमें रीफॉर्म्स हों, यह अनिवार्य है । इससे पहले मेरे ज्ञानी मित्र बोल रहे थे, उन्होंने एक हैं तो सेफ हैं कहा । मैं कहूंगा कि ठीक कह रहे थे ।

Recognition of the problems in the banking sector, recovery, resuscitation, and recapitalisation of the public sector banks or reforms, जब ये चारों आयाम एक हो जाते हैं तो पब्लिक सैक्टर बैंक्स सेफ हो जाते हैं । जब रिफॉर्म्स एक हो जाते हैं, तो बैंक्स सेफ हो जाते हैं । मोदी जी जब कहते हैं कि एक हैं तो सेफ हैं, वह केवल हम सबके लिए एक मंत्र नहीं है । ? (व्यवधान) वह हम सबके लिए हर धारा में, चाहे बैंकिंग रिफॉर्म्स के लिए भी यह महत्वपूर्ण है । As far as the amendment of the banking sector is concerned, it is to streamline the banking operations to align them with the contemporary financial practices. It is the commitment of Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, to improve the bank governance, to enhance the investors? protection and to enhance the depositors? protection.

As far as this amendment is concerned, let me also thank the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Finance Minister who is present in the House, that in this amendment, the number of nominees has been increased. You are talking about the middle class. Today, a middle-class person can nominate four nominees in succession. Simultaneously, हमारे बैंकों में लॉकर्स होते हैं । बैंकों से हम लॉकर्स लेते हैं, आर्टिकल रखते हैं । मुझे आश्चर्य हो रहा है कि अभी तक बैंक लॉकर्स नॉमिनी प्रॉविज़न नहीं था । मैं नरेंद्र मोदी जी को धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगा कि इस प्रकार से सक्सेशन के साथ एक, दो, तीन, चार, इन सक्सेशन, इसके बाद यह, इसके बाद यह, आप सक्सेशन के साथ नॉमिनीज़ के नाम को अपॉइंट कर सकते हैं ।

आज आपने अभी रूल नंबर 94 के विषय में कहा कि the ambit should be within the laws and rules framed for the reforms of the banking sector. I want to remain within this ambit and framework. I want to bring out a very pertinent point. The banking crisis was one of the biggest legacies that we got from them in 2014, thanks to them. Let

me give you data. When the Atal Bihari Vajpayee-led NDA Government took the office, the GNPA ratio in public sector banks was 16 per cent. When Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji left the Office of the Prime Minister, he brought it down to 7.8 per cent. Thank you Atal Ji! In September, 2013, when they were concluding SAI, this ratio went up to 12.3 per cent. Atal ji had given them 7.8 per cent, but it went up. Thanks to the 'Phone Banking System'. You are trying to improvise upon me. So, I thought I will seek your permission. The Phone Banking System of the Congress Party had two P's, where you need not be a performer, but you need to be a powerful man with powerful connections in the system. फोन उठा कर के इनके नेता बोलते थे कि लोन दे दो । लोन वापस आएगा कि नहीं, देखना नहीं है । यह इसी फोन बैंकिंग सिस्टम का नतीजा रहा कि हम एनपीए में गले तक डूब गए थे । धन्यवाद नरेंद्र मोदी जी कि आपने इनसॉल्वेंसी बैंकिंग कोड ला कर आज सिस्टम को सुधारने का काम किया है, आज हम आगे बढ़े हैं ।

आज मैं हाउस से एक निवेदन करूंगा । मैं पहली बार का सांसद हूँ । यहां ज्ञानी-गुणी लोग बैठे हैं !? (व्यवधान)
नहीं-नहीं, आप भी ज्ञानी हैं । मैं आपके ऊपर कोई आक्षेप नहीं लगा रहा हूँ । आप ज्ञानी-गुणी लोग बैठे हैं । मैं आपसे एक निवेदन कर रहा हूँ कि आज आप नागरवाला केस जरूर पढ़ें !? (व्यवधान)

सर, हम पार्लियामेंट में बैठे हैं । I want to bring to your notice a famous case of 1971. On May 24, 1971, there was a phone call to the Parliament Branch of the State Bank of India. फोन उठाया Mr. Malhotra, the Bank Manager and he heard the voice of ... the then Prime Minister. ...said in 1971 to Nagarwala, साठ लाख रुपये दे दो । बैंक से निकाल कर नागरवाला जी को साठ लाख रुपये दे दो । ? (व्यवधान) ... के कहने पर साठ लाख रुपये नागरवाला को दे दिया गया । बाद में इस पूरे इश्यू पर रेड्डी कमीशन बैठा !? (व्यवधान) ... का नाम तो नहीं आया, मगर उनको पूरी तरीके से क्लीयरेंस भी नहीं मिली । आज भी बैंकिंग फ्रॉड का श्रीलिंग स्टोरी, mysterious story of the banking fraud during ... time is the Nagarwala case. ? (Interruptions)

15.17 hrs

At this stage, Shri Amrinder Singh Raja Warring came and stood on the floor near the Table.

सभापति महोदय, मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि जहां तक बैंकिंग सिस्टम का ग्राँस एडवांसेस है, ? (व्यवधान)

सभापति जी, मैंने ऐसा कुछ तो नहीं कहा कि लोग मुझ पर नाराज हो रहे हैं !? (व्यवधान)

जहां तक पब्लिक सेक्टर बैंक्स का ग्राँस एडवांसेस है, आपको जानकर आश्चर्य होगा कि वर्ष 2004 के मार्च महीने में यह 6.6 लाख करोड़ रुपये का था । जो ऋण तुरंत वापस लेने के लिए दिया जाता है, वह ग्राँस एडवांसेस 6.6 लाख करोड़ रुपये का था । मार्च, 2012 में जब इनकी सरकार थी, यूपीए की सरकार थी, तब ग्राँस एडवांस बढ़ कर 39 लाख करोड़ रुपये का हो गया । इन लोगों ने जिसको मन किया, उसको उठाकर लोन दिया, लेकिन वह लोन वापसी नहीं हुई । ? (व्यवधान)

सभापति महोदय, मैं आज फक्र के साथ कहना चाहता हूँ कि प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने जब ऑफिस संभाला, उसके पश्चात gross NPA of the State on lenders stood at 4.4 per cent and net NPA at one per cent at the end of September, 2023. ? (Interruptions) सभापति महोदय, मैं बैंकिंग सिस्टम के लिए कह रहा हूँ। Our banking system was on ventilator. ? (Interruptions) हमारा बैंकिंग सिस्टम वेंटिलेटर पर था।

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Kindly be seated. He is discussing about the Bill only.

? (Interruptions)

DR. SAMBIT PATRA: It took Modi ji to come, rescue, recover and resuscitate; RRR ? (Interruptions) तेलुगु में अभी एक बहुत बड़ी मूवी है, जिसका नाम आरआरआर है; rescue, resuscitate and recover the banking system of India. ? (Interruptions)

15.19 hrs

At this stage, Shri Amrinder Singh Warring went back to his seat.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Kindly be seated. Kindly listen to the hon. Member.

? (Interruptions)

DR. SAMBIT PATRA: I am astonished Chairman, Sir that the alienated, external vulnerability that the Indian banks were under the UPA Government is whopping. The India's external vulnerability shot up because of overdependence on External Commercial Borrowings what we call as ECBs. The borrowing crisis which was one of the most infamous crises of the UPA Government during 2004 and 2014 when the Atal Bihari ? (Interruptions) I am astonished that they do not want to listen to this but I believe that there are certain issues which I would surely be highlighting over here. I would like to bring to your attention the fact that the Modi Government turned around the banking system, the banking sector and over Rs.10 lakh crore bad loans have been recovered in 10 years.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Sambit Patra ji, one second please.

? (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Kindly be seated.

? (Interruptions)

SHRI A. RAJA (NILGIRIS): Sir, there is one Point of Order ? Rule 94. ? (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I will listen to you if you are seated.

? *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Kindly be seated. I will listen to you.

? *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please be seated. I will listen to you.

? *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Sir, please be seated.

? *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please allow the House to function. You cannot stand as you wish.

? *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please be seated. I am requesting you. Why do you not listen to my request?

? *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please be seated. No, it cannot go on like this. Please be seated.

? *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I am requesting everybody. Sir, please look behind.

? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: Only two people.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: No, there are ten.

Mr. Raja, would you like to speak now?

SHRI A. RAJA: I am referring to Rule 94. ? *(Interruptions)* Why are you laughing? Do not be a laughing stock? ? *(Interruptions)* Why are you laughing? ? *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Raja, kindly address the Chair.

SHRI A. RAJA: The hon. Member Nishikant submitted before this House about Rule 94 that Gogoi is exceeding the limit. It is beyond 94. Now, the hon. Member is saying that in 1971, .. * picked up the phone and a loan was granted by the State Bank. Is it within the Bill? Are you having any substantial evidence? ? (*Interruptions*) Where is the evidence? ? (*Interruptions*) ...is not in the House. Beyond the metes and bounds of the Bill, you are referring the name of ...without any reason. These are baseless allegations. ...What does that mean? ? (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I heard you.

? (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Sambit Patra, if you have anything to say in defence, I will listen to it. Otherwise, I will take a decision.

DR. SAMBIT PATRA: Sir, I draw my powers from what you made in the Rule no. 94. We have to be within the ambits of the Bill that is being discussed, the amendments that are being discussed. Here, we are discussing the Indian Banking Sector and the amendments therein. So, of course, the Nagarwala case is one of the foundations on which reforms of the banking sector are based. It is recorded. It is noted. ? (*Interruptions*) It is a foundation on which the reforms of the banking sector are based. And by the way, I would like to remind the hon. Member that ..* did not pick up the phone. Mr. Malhotra picked up the phone. He was the Manager. ? (*Interruptions*) Assumably, ... was the caller. So, he has got the whole thing wrong.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Sir.

Hon. Minister, Shri Kiren Rijiju ji.

? (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please be seated.

15.24 hrs (Hon. Speaker *in the Chair*)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; AND MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU): First of all, while sitting here, I heard some of the Members from the Opposition Bench said, ?चेयरमैन हाय हाय !? You raised slogans against the Chair. I take serious objection to that. चेयर के खिलाफ आप इस तरह से टिप्पणी नहीं कर सकते हैं । ? (व्यवधान) You can raise rules. ? (*Interruptions*) आप एक मिनट सुन लीजिए ।

आप रूल के तहत बात रख सकते हैं । आपने चेयर के खिलाफ हाय-हाय का नारा लगाया । आप नाराज हो सकते हैं, लेकिन चेयर के खिलाफ नारा नहीं लगा सकते हैं ।

डॉ. मोहम्मद जावेद (किशनगंज) : हम कुछ नहीं कर सकते । ? (व्यवधान)

श्री किरिन रिजिजू : यह क्या कोई तरीका है? ? (व्यवधान) क्या यह बात करने का कोई तरीका है??(व्यवधान) यहां कांग्रेस पार्टी के लीडर भी हैं, डिप्टी लीडर भी हैं । क्या ऐसे ही कोई भी उठकर खड़ा होकर अपनी मर्जी से बोलेगा? सदन ऐसे नहीं चलता है । आपको ऑथराइज किया है तो आप उठिए । यहां व्यवस्था की बात उठाई गई । राजा जी ने रूल को कोट करते हुए कहा ।

सबसे पहले चेयर के खिलाफ जो नारा लगाया, चेयरमैन हाय, हाय, यह बहुत गलत है, इसके लिए जरूरत पड़े तो माफी मांगना चाहिए । दूसरा, संबित पात्रा जी ने जो बात रखी है, उन्होंने एक एग्जिस्टिंग केस के बारे में बताया, उन्होंने कोई मनगढ़ंत कहानी नहीं सुनाया है । एक एग्जिस्टिंग केस को उन्होंने रेफर किया है । ? (व्यवधान) उन्होंने कोई यहां डिस्कवरी नहीं किया है । वह केस रिकार्ड में है । हमने डिस्कवरी करके नया केस नहीं निकाला है । मैं चाहता हूं कि आज बहुत महत्वपूर्ण बिल पर चर्चा हो रही है । हम बिल पर ही केन्द्रित रहें, मैं अपने मेंबर्स से भी कहूंगा कि वह बिल पर ही केन्द्रित रहकर बात करें, आपके लोग भी बिल पर ही बोलें, यही मेरा आग्रह है । ? (व्यवधान)

SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): Sir, we are debating on the banking legislation. Actually, he crossed all the limits. ... * was assassinated. She is a martyr of this country. She fought against Pakistan and won the war. Entire India is treating her as mother. I want to remind the Members that when we won the war against Pakistan, ?? (Interruptions)

What did he say now? He said that ... took the telephone and called the Bank Manager and asked the bank manager to do this. Was he a witness there? Was he present there? Was he present at that time? ? (Interruptions)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: वेणुगोपाल जी, एक मिनट सुनिए, प्लीज । मैं एक व्यवस्था दे रहा हूं, अगर आपको कोई ऑब्जेक्शन है तो स्वर्गीय इंदिरा गांधी जी का नाम एक्सपंज कर देंगे । लेकिन मेरी यह अपेक्षा है जो बात संसदीय कार्य मंत्री जी ने कहा कि चेयर पर कभी भी टिप्पणी नहीं करें, जो चेयर पर बैठा है वह हमारे लिए प्रतिष्ठा का सवाल है । हम अगर सदन की मर्यादा रखेंगे तो उचित रहेगा ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष: श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण जी, आप बोलना चाहती हैं?

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Thank you, Sir. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak in between.

माननीय अध्यक्ष: आपने बिल पर एक कमेंट्स किया, उसी पर टिप्पणी करना चाहती हैं ।

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: I will definitely say all this and more during my reply. I will say all this and more during my reply. ? (*Interruptions*) I have not finished yet. You may thank me afterwards. I have not finished yet.

Sir, I would like to appeal to you that since the point derived from 1994 and then said confine yourself to the Bill, I am here wanting to hear and then wanting to reply and you have taken a considered call. I respect your call that you would remove the name of former Prime Minister. ... * . We all respect Mrs. Indira Gandhi for her achievements. Of course, we equally remember of her Emergency but I think it is important. ? (*Interruptions*) I think it is important ... It is contentious. There is no proof. There are enough people who said he has not said that. Therefore, even that statement that Vajpayee Ji said this should be equally removed and you have taken a considered call. ? (*Interruptions*)

Why Mrs. Indira Gandhi is not respected? I said Mrs. Indira Gandhi is respected. Do you have an objection? I said Mrs. Indira Gandhi is respected. Do you have an objection on that? What is this Sir?

Sir, you have said that it will be removed from Shri Sambit Patra's speech. I appeal to you that people have spoken beyond 1994 and I take the name of hon. Member Shri Gaurav Gogoi here. Most of his speech was beyond 1994. Sir, would you consider removing that also from the record? ? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL: Sir, she is putting question on you.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Hon. Member, Shri K. C. Venugopal is very, very clued in on what I am saying ? (*Interruptions*) Therefore, Sir, he is saying that I am challenging you ? (*Interruptions*) No, I am appealing to you to remove Shri Gogoi's complete speech which was beyond this Bill. Equally, the speech of the hon. Member who said ?Chairman hai hai? should be removed ? (*Interruptions*) That is my request to you ? (*Interruptions*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: दादा, प्लीज़ बैठ जाएं ।

? (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: वित्त मंत्री जी ने जो सवाल उठाए हैं कि माननीय अटल जी ने क्या बोला था । मुझे लगता है यह रिकॉर्ड में नहीं जाना चाहिए । इस विषय को रिकॉर्ड की सत्यता के बाद ही रिकॉर्ड में जाना चाहिए । यह पुरानी घटना है ।

मेरी माननीय सभी दल के सदस्यों से अपेक्षा है कि हम सदन की गरिमा बनाते समय बिल में और बिल में जो संशोधन लाए गए हैं, उसके परिप्रेक्ष्य और उसकी परिधि में बोलें। हम यहां बिल पर अगर पोलिटिकल आरोप-प्रत्यारोप लगाते रहेंगे तो इससे सदन की गरिमा बढ़ेगी, विधेयक पर चर्चा होगी? आप अच्छे संशोधन दें, अच्छे विचार दें। अगर बिल में कोई कमी है, संशोधन करना है तो विचार बताएं। विधेयक पर जितनी डिटेल्ड चर्चा होगी, सारगर्भित चर्चा होगी तो निश्चित रूप से सरकार के ध्यान में रूल्स बनाते समय यह विषय आएगा। अगर आवश्यक होगा तो विधेयक के खंडों पर भी विचार किया जाएगा। यही सदन की गरिमा रही है।

मैं सोचता हूँ कि आप सदन की गरिमा बनाए रखें। सदन में विधेयक पर चर्चा करते हुए हम पोलिटिकल परिप्रेक्ष्य में न जाएं। विधेयक में जो संशोधन लाए गए हैं, आप विधेयक के कंटेंट्स के परिप्रेक्ष्य में बोल सकते हैं। सदन की अच्छी परंपरा रही है, इसे बनाए रखें, आप सबसे यही अपेक्षा है।

? (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: माननीय सदस्य, अब आप कन्कलूड करें।

डॉ. संबित पात्रा : मैं कन्कलूजन में कुछ महत्वपूर्ण बिंदु बैंकिंग सैक्टर और इस बिल से संबंधित रखना चाहता हूँ। This Bill is basically a reform Bill of the banking sector.

किस प्रकार से बैंकिंग सैक्टर के रिफार्म्स चल रहे हैं, इसी कड़ी में आगे रिफार्म्स कैसे होंगे, यही चेष्टा है।

आपको जानकर खुशी होगी कि हमारी सरकार के आने के पश्चात् वर्ष 2014-23 के बीच में भारतीय बैंकिंग प्रणाली में लगभग दस लाख करोड़ रुपये, हम बैड बैंक लोन के कारण वंचित थे, दस लाख करोड़ रुपये रिकवर किए गए हैं। जैसे आज का रिफार्म हो रहा है, इसी तरह के रिफार्म के कारण यह संभव हो पाया।

आज यहां ईडी और सीबीआई की बात हुई, मैं इस पर नहीं जाना चाहूंगा लेकिन जो डेटा ईडी को लेकर है, मैं इसके बारे में जरूर बताना चाहूंगा, बैंकिंग सैक्टर से ईडी ने लगभग 1105 बैंक फ्रॉड्स को इन्वेस्टिगेट किया है और इसमें से जो कन्फिस्केट किया है, अटैच किया है प्रोसीड्स ऑफ क्राइम से, वह 64920 करोड़ रुपये है। About Rs. 64,920 crore have been confiscated from proceeds of crimes.

सबसे बड़ी बात है कि दिसंबर, 2023 तक कन्फिस्केटेड एमाउंट में से 15,180 करोड़ रुपये पब्लिक सैक्टर बैंक्स को, पीएसबीज़ को दिया गया है। यही तो बैंकिंग रिफार्म होता है।

मैं आज माननीय प्रधान मंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी और मैडम निर्मला सीतारमण जी का धन्यवाद करूंगा कि रिसेंट बैंकिंग रिफार्म्स हुए हैं, उसके कारण भारत के बैंकों ने इतिहास रचा है।

A significant milestone has been achieved by recording its highest ever net profit of Rs. 3 lakh crore. यह सब हमारे डिसाइसिव लीडरशिप के कारण संभव हुआ है।

महोदय, माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने जिन 7 क्लॉजेज के बारे में कहा है, उन 7 क्लॉजेज को मैं केवल टच करके बैठूंगा। पहला क्लॉज था ?definition of fortnight?. जिसे हिंदी में पखवाड़ा कहते हैं। पहले जो पखवाड़ा होता था, वह फ्राईडे टू फ्राईडे होता था। इस बार निर्णय लिया गया है कि not from Friday to Friday but

from 1st to 15th and 15th to 30th would be the dates. This standardises the calculation of the cash reserves. यह एक स्टैंडर्ड सेट करेगा, जो अपने-आप में एक बहुत बड़ा रिफॉर्म है ।

15.35 hrs (Shri Krishna Prasad Tenneti *in the Chair*)

Second is the ?tenure of the Directors of the Cooperative Banks?. आप देख सकते हैं कि a director cannot hold office beyond eight years. पहले यह 8 वर्ष था, जिसे बढ़ाकर 10 साल किया गया है । यह को-ऑपरेटिव सेक्टर में स्टैबिलिटी लाने के लिए किया गया है । So, the cooperative sector which forms the backbone of the banking system in our country, and in various activities, जिससे कि स्टैबिलिटी मिले, इस हेतु मैं माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद करना चाहता हूँ ।

The third point is about prohibition on common directors in cooperative banks. इसमें भी संशोधन की बात की गयी है । This enhances the coordination and strengthens the leadership within the banking system.

The fourth one is the ?substantial interest in the company?. पहले 10 प्रतिशत शेयर या 5 लाख रुपये आप होल्ड करते थे, तो आप उसमें डायरेक्टर नहीं हो सकते थे । आपको डिस्क्लोज करना पड़ता था । इसे 2 करोड़ कर दिया गया है । स्वाभाविक रूप से यह बड़े इन्वेस्टर्स को फैसिलिटेट करेगा, जिससे हम लोगों का भला होगा, गरीबों का भला होगा ।

Next is the Settlement of unclaimed accounts. यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण क्लॉज है । 7 वर्षों के बाद अनक्लेम्ड अकाउंट्स आईपीएफ में जाएंगे । Any individual who subsequently wants to claim his unclaimed account, shares, interest, can claim it back. I congratulate, Madam Finance Minister for bringing in this Clause.

The last point is related to remuneration of the auditors. जो पहले स्ट्रिजेंट मेजर था कि केवल आरबीआई ही इस पर निर्णय लेती थी कि रिम्यूनेरेशन कितना होगा, यह फ्रीडम अब बैंकों को दिया गया है कि ऑडिटर्स का रिम्यूनेरेशन कितना होगा । This kind of reform is what is required for a Viksit Bharat of 2047.

Here, it would be an injustice if I do not mention one thing. I am a first time Member of this House. Previously, when I used to watch the proceedings in the television, once I was watching and Lok Sabha was in Session. I saw the then Finance Minister. I would not name him because the rule says I cannot name him. He, in the House, said: ?Do you believe that in a digital India *sabji wala, thela wala, rehdi wala* would be able to connect with digital India? This is not possible.? यह संभव नहीं है कि सब्जी वाले के पास डिजिटल इंडिया का कुछ हो सकता है या वह पे कार्ड लेकर घूमेगा ।?. Sir, times have changed. Modi proved contrary to what the then Finance Minister was saying. जब मैं अपने संसदीय क्षेत्र पुरी में नेवी डे के लिए ट्रेस रिहर्सल देखने गया था, तो मुझे बहुत दिनों बाद

सी-बीच पर गोलगप्पे खाने का मन हुआ । मैंने गोलगप्पे खाए, तो पेट्टीएम करके मैं आया हूँ । यही फर्क है यूपीए और एनडीए सरकार में ।

धन्यवाद ।

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Before I call Shri Rajeev Rai ji, Saugata Roy ji, you can put your point within one minute.

PROF. SOUGATA RAY (DUM DUM): Sir, while the discussion was going on, hon. Member, Nishikant Dubey, referred to Rule 94 which says that the discussion on a motion that the Bill or as the case may be, the Bill as amended, be passed shall be confined to the submission of arguments either in support of the Bill or for the rejection of the Bill. This is all right and well-taken.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Kindly conclude now.

PROF. SOUGATA RAY: Sir, you are also new to the House. Please listen to me. You may pick up a little bit of information from me. We are not in the stage of passing the Bill. We are in the stage of consideration of the Bill. Please read this.

Please see Rule 93 (1) which says:

?When a motion that a Bill be taken into consideration has been carried and no amendment of the Bill is made, the member in charge may at once move that the Bill be passed.?

So, what is going on right now? We are discussing a motion for consideration of the Bill. While we are discussing a motion for consideration of the Bill, it gives us a wide leeway and a wide passage. We can discuss the Bill along with all the other connected aspects of the Bill. The problem is that clever lawyers always cite a wrong law to establish their point. That is what Mr. Nishikant Dubey is trying to do. He is trying to be clever by not quoting Rule 93 (1). By just reading Rule 94, he is misleading the House. ? *(Interruptions)* There is a wide scope of discussion. ? *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Sir, I have heard you.

? *(Interruptions)*

PROF. SOUGATA RAY: There is a wide scope of discussion, of course, not to the extent what Mr. Sambit Patra did by mentioning respected Indira Gandhi ji's name. ? *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Sir, thank you. As you have taken the name of Shri Nishikant Dubey ji, I have to give him an opportunity to speak.

? (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Sougata Ray ji, I have heard you. Your point is well taken. It is comprehensively stated.

? (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I have given the permission to Shri Rajeev Rai ji.

? (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Kalyan Banerjee ji, I have not given you the permission to speak.

? (Interruptions)

डॉ. निशिकान्त दुबे : सभापति महोदय, मैं सौगत बाबू का बहुत रिगार्ड करता हूँ । वे प्रोफेसर हैं । वे कुछ भी बोल सकते हैं । उसके बगल में नियम ? 94 में लिखा हुआ है-

?Scope of debate on motion for passing of Bill.?

यदि इसके पीछे में लिखा हुआ है तो डिबेट ही हो रहा है । प्रोफेसर साहब आधा टूथ बताकर पूरे देश को गुमराह करने का प्रयास न करें । मैं इस हाउस से यही अपेक्षा करूंगा । ? (व्यवधान)

श्री राजीव राय (घोसी) : सभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया, इसके लिए आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद । मैं अपने राष्ट्रीय नेतृत्व का आभारी हूँ कि राष्ट्रीय नेतृत्व ने मुझे बोलने के लिए कहा । ? (व्यवधान)

सभापति महोदय, हम बहुत दिनों से सुन रहे थे कि बैंकिंग अमेंडमेंट बिल आ रहा है । हमारे जैसे लोग, जो गाँव के हैं, गरीबों के हैं, बड़ी उम्मीद के साथ सोच रहे थे कि जब सुधार की बात होती है तो सुधार में यह भी बताया जाएगा कि बैंक की किन बीमारियों से सबसे ज्यादा लोग ग्रसित हैं । जैसे- सिबिल, बच्चों के लिए एजुकेशनल लोन, एग्रीकल्चरल लोन और छोटे-छोटे व्यापारियों के लिए लोन आदि के बारे में बातें होंगी । मैं इंदिरा जी और अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी जी का नाम नहीं लूंगा, क्योंकि मैं जानता हूँ कि उसको निकाल दिया जाएगा । लेकिन, मैं यह जरूर उम्मीद कर रहा था कि 2000 रुपये के नोट में जो चिप थी, उसके बारे में बता दिया जाएगा कि वे कहां गए और 2000 रुपये के नोट क्यों गायब हो गए? मैं यह भी उम्मीद कर रहा था कि बैंकिंग लॉ में अमेंडमेंट करके यह भी बता दिया जाएगा कि जो 15 लाख रुपये आ गए थे, वे कब और कैसे बांटे जाएंगे? लेकिन, फिर मुझे ख्याल आया कि हम किन लोगों से उम्मीद कर रहे हैं । इनके लिए हम दो लाइनों में बात करेंगे-

?इनसे न उम्मीद करो इतनी सादगी के साथ,

ये दौर अलग है, ये लोग अलग हैं,

अगर इस दौर में इनसे वफा ढूँढ रहे हो,

तो बड़े नादान हो जहर की शीशी में दवा ढूँढ रहे हो?

सभापति महोदय, हमारे मित्र डॉ. संबित पात्रा जी ने गोलगप्पे खाये और पेटीएम से पैसे पे कर दिए। दो परसेंट, डेढ़ परसेंट के हिसाब से कितना पैसा कहां चला गया? अगर पेटीएम कमीशन नहीं लेता तो मेरा पैसा सीधे गरीब को जाता। उसको दस रुपये के दस रुपये मिलते, लेकिन वह बीच में दलालों को दे दिया गया। यह पहली बार हुआ कि पेटीएम का प्रचार माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी ने किया। यह परंपरा भी पहली बार शुरू हुई।? (व्यवधान)

सभापति महोदय, पिछले तीन सालों में बड़ी अच्छी-अच्छी टर्मिनोलॉजी लाई गई है। मैंने पोस्ट कर दिया था कि पिछले तीन सालों में उद्योगपतियों के 5,64,365 करोड़ रुपये राइट ऑफ कर दिए गए हैं। अगर यह कहा जाएगा कि माफ कर दिया गया है, तो आप कहेंगे कि नहीं-नहीं, राइट ऑफ किए गए हैं। मैं आज आपसे अपने नेता के सामने यह मांग करता हूँ कि देश के किसानों के ऊपर चाहे कितना भी कर्ज हो, सबको राइट ऑफ करने की घोषणा कर दीजिए, हम उसका स्वागत करेंगे, लेकिन आपकी बुद्धि यहां नहीं आती है।

आप चौथी सबसे बड़ी अर्थव्यवस्था की बात करते हैं, आप तीसरी सबसे बड़ी अर्थव्यवस्था की बात करते हैं। तब हमारे जैसे लोग इस सदन में नहीं थे, लेकिन टीवी पर यह सुनकर हमारा सीना चौड़ा हो जाता था, जब कोई कहता था कि देश में रुपये की केवल कीमत ही नहीं गिरती है, बल्कि देश का स्वाभिमान भी गिरता है, तब हमें लगा था कि कोई आएगा, वह स्वाभिमान बढ़ाएगा। मैं तो आपसे जानना चाहता हूँ कि देश के स्वाभिमान को आपने किस रसातल में भेज दिया है और उसको कहां तक गिराने का इरादा है?

चौथी सबसे बड़ी अर्थव्यवस्था बन जाएगी, डॉलर की कीमत के सामने रुपये की कीमत खत्म हो जाएगी और आप अपनी पीठ थप-थपाएंगे। इस देश का जो बैंकिंग सिस्टम है, वह गरीबों के घरों से दिन भर की कमाई निकालता है। मैडम, मैं आपसे अनुरोध करता हूँ कि इस पर जरूर विचार करिएगा। अगर कोई गरीब दिन भर सब्जी बेचता है और रात या अगले दिन बैंक में पैसा जमा करता है, फिर निकालता है, तो वह अपने ही पैसे पर ट्रांजेक्शन फीस देता है। पहली बार इस देश ने यह भी देखा है कि गरीब जितनी बार भी बैंक में जाएगा और बैंक से पैसा लेकर आएगा, तो आपको कुछ न कुछ जरूर होगा। आप तो मंदिर के उस महंत की तरह हो गए हैं कि जब जाएंगे, तब कुछ देकर आएंगे। यह तो ठीक नहीं है।

पहले मैं इस सदन में नहीं था। इस देश में मैंने एजुकेशनल लोन के लिए बड़ी लड़ाई लड़ी है। जब आप छात्रों के एजुकेशनल लोन के लिए नियम बनाते हैं, तब बड़ी अच्छी तस्वीर पेश करते हैं। मेरा एक मामला पार्लियामेंट की कमेटी ने हल किया था। जब बच्चे एजुकेशनल लोन लेने के लिए जाते थे, तब कहते थे कि 50 प्रतिशत मार्क्स होने चाहिए। जब बैंक से एजुकेशनल लोन लेकर कोई बच्चा साक्षर होगा, आप 4,00,000 रुपये से अधिक पर 9, 10, 12 या 14 प्रतिशत कोलैटरल सिक्योरिटी की बात करते हैं। कोई व्यापारी लोन लेने जाता है, तो उसके लिए कोलैटरल सिक्योरिटी है या नहीं है, मुझे तो नहीं पता है। अगर आपने मार्जिन का रिकॉर्ड बनाया है, तो देश ने वह रिकॉर्ड भी देखा है कि लोग देश का सबसे ज्यादा पैसा विदेशों में लेकर चले गए हैं और वे भाई वापस नहीं आए।

आदरणीय सभापति महोदय, मैं आपका ध्यान सिबिल स्कोर की तरफ आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा। वर्ष 2005 में जब नियम बना था, तब बैंकों की तानाशाही थी। मैं स्वयं उसका भुक्तभोगी रह चुका हूँ। मैं लड़ाई लड़ते-लड़ते एमपी बना हूँ, अब शायद उसका समाधान हो रहा है। कोई एनपीए न हो, अच्छे इन्टेंशन के साथ यह आया था,

तभी इसको सरकार लाई थी, लेकिन एकतरफा कानून है। सबके पास क्रेडिट कार्ड होगा, आपके पास फोन आएगा, वे कहेंगे कि आपका क्रेडिट कार्ड स्वीकृत हो गया है, क्रेडिट कार्ड का पैसा भी शुरू हो जाएगा। जब एक दिन पैसा इकट्ठा करके घर बनावाने या बच्चों को पढ़ाने या बेटी की शादी करने के बारे में सोचेंगे, तो आपको पता चलेगा कि आपका सिबिल स्कोर खराब है। तब आप ढूँढ़ेंगे तो पता चलेगा कि उस समय एक क्रेडिट कार्ड लिया था, जिसकी जानकारी आपको नहीं है।

बैंक एकतरफा जानकारी लेते हैं। वे गरीबों का सिबिल स्कोर खराब कर देते हैं, मध्यम वर्गीय लोगों का सिबिल स्कोर खराब कर देते हैं। जब उसको जरूरत पड़ती है, तब कोई तो ऐसा सिस्टम होना चाहिए कि दोनों तरफ की बातें सुनी जाएं। अगर बैंक के पास जानकारी आती है कि आपने पेमेंट नहीं किया है या कोई डिफॉल्टर है, तो एक ई-मेल किया जाता that we have received this information from the bank. Kindly clarify if you are a defaulter or you have paid that amount. उसके बाद करना चाहिए। सिबिल स्कोर के नियम को सुधारने की जरूरत है।

पता नहीं कितना समय है। मैंने वर्ष 2005 में घर बनाने के लिए एक बैंक से लोन लिया था। मैंने लगातार 15 सालों तक बिना किसी डिफॉल्टर के पेमेंट किया, जब मैं 15 साल के बाद बैंक गया और कहा कि मुझे एनओसी दे दो, तब कहा गया कि इस दौरान ब्याज दर बढ़ गई थी, इसलिए आपके ऊपर 19,00,000 रुपये का कर्ज अभी और बाकी है। उसी खाते में मेरे पैसे थे, उसी बैंक में मेरे स्कूल-कॉलेज के सभी खाते थे। मुझसे न ही कोई कम्युनिकेट किया गया, न ही कोई ई-मेल आया, वे आटो डेबिट कर सकते थे, मुझे रिमाइंड करा सकते थे। मंत्री जी, मैंने आपको भी पत्र लिखा था। मैं दुख के साथ कहूंगा कि आपने उस पत्र का जवाब भी नहीं दिया, समाधान तो दूर की बात है।

मैंने आपको लैटर लिखा था। अगर आप कहेंगे तो लैटर आपके समक्ष रख दूंगा। मैं संशोधन में रिकमेंडेशन के लिए तीन-चार बातों की तरफ आपका ध्यान दिलाना चाहूंगा। एक एजुकेशन लोन है। जब बच्चों की पढ़ाई पर खर्च आ रहा है और अगर सरकार सही में उस दिशा में है तो उसको ध्यान में रखते हुए 20 लाख रुपये तक का लोन ब्याज मुक्त करने की घोषणा करनी चाहिए। डिजिटल करेंसी की बात होती है तो बैंक में पैसा रखने में भी डर लगता है। एक फोन आता है और फोन पर बातें होती हैं। जब हम और आप सब पैदा नहीं हुए थे, लेकिन जो व्यक्ति यहां नहीं है, अब डिजिटल अरैस्ट में पैसा चला जाता है। यह आपकी टेक्नोलॉजी की देन है। सबसे ज्यादा फ्रॉड हमारे उत्तर प्रदेश में हो रहा है। लॉकरों में नॉमिनी के नाम बढ़ा दिए गए हैं। क्या इस सदन को बताने का कष्ट करेंगे कि अगर मेरे लॉकर में करोड़ों रुपये हैं और वह चोरी हो गए या गायब हो गए तो बैंक की लायबिलिटी कितने की बनती है? जहां तक मेरी जानकारी है तो बैंक की कोई लायबिलिटी नहीं है।

महोदय, उत्तर प्रदेश में एक लाख रुपये तक 37 लॉकरों से एक साथ चोरी हो गए थे। ऐसा कानपुर, गाजियाबाद, आन्ध्र प्रदेश और कुर्ग में हुआ। यदि आप उसकी जानकारी निकालेंगे तो आपके पास लिस्ट आ जाएगी। आदमी लॉकर में मेहनत का पैसा रखता है, आप उसकी फीस लेते हैं, लेकिन पैसा गायब हो जाता है तो कोई जिम्मेदारी नहीं है। आप साइबर फ्रॉड के ऊपर कानून बनाते हैं, व्याख्यान देते हैं, लैक्चर देते हैं, मैसेजिंग होती है, लेकिन हर रोज लोगों का पैसा लूटा जाता है। गरीब व्यापारियों को कर्ज दिए जाते हैं।

मैं शिक्षा लोन पर 20 लाख रुपये और किसानों के लिए मांग करूंगा। अगर बैंकिंग रिफॉर्म करना है तो जो आपके मित्र बाहर चले गए हैं, जो इस देश के तथाकथित उद्योगपति चले गए हैं, जिन बातों को कहकर आप सरकार में आए थे, अपने उन पुराने वीडियो को देख लीजिए, अपने पुराने भाषणों को देख लीजिए, उन पर

अमल लाइए । देश के किसान बॉर्डर पर भीतर आने के लिए तरस रहे हैं, आत्महत्या कर रहे हैं, बच्चे आत्महत्या कर रहे हैं, बेरोजगारी बढ़ रही है, उस पर ध्यान दीजिए, तब बैंकिंग रिफॉर्म होगा । गरीबों का पैसा बैंक में डाल देने से कोई रिफॉर्म नहीं होता है । उस रिफॉर्म का कोई मतलब नहीं है । आप चौथी अर्थव्यवस्था बन जाइए और एशिया की सबसे कमजोर करेंसी का नाम भारत का रुपया हो जाए । हमारे लिए और इस देश के लिए नोटबन्दी में बैंक की लाइन में मां लगी थी और उससे बच्चा पैदा हुआ । हमारे राष्ट्रीय अध्यक्ष जी उस खजांची बच्चे का जन्मदिन मनाकर आपको याद दिलाते रहते हैं । वह नोटबन्दी नहीं थी । गोगोई जी ने सही कहा कि तब आप ठेंगा दिखा रहे थे, आपके लिए अट्टाहास का विषय था, आपके लिए गर्व का विषय था ।

अगर प्रधान मंत्री जी ने यह कहा होता कि पैसे तो बैंकों से ले लिए, लेकिन मुझे विदेश जाने नहीं दिया, तब हम सबने ताली बजाई होती, लेकिन प्रधान मंत्री जी खुश थे कि गरीबों के घर में शादी है और बैंक में पैसे नहीं हैं । उन सब पुरानी बातों से सीखते हुए, जब संशोधन की बात करते हैं तो कॉस्मैटिक चेंजेस नहीं होने चाहिए, सही संशोधन होने चाहिए । इस उम्मीद और विश्वास के साथ कि संशोधन गरीबों के लिए होना चाहिए, संशोधन किसानों के लिए होना चाहिए, संशोधन छात्रों के लिए होना चाहिए, तब तो संशोधन की बात बनती है, अन्यथा बेईमानी की बात होगी । आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया, इसके लिए आपका धन्यवाद ।

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE (SREERAMPUR): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, in connection with the Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024, I wish to speak on a few points.

First of all, I come to clause 3 of the Bill which seeks to amend Section 5 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 and says ??in section 5, in clause (ne), in

sub-clause (i), for the words ?five lakhs of rupees?, the words ?two crore rupees or such other amount?..?. Earlier, if you had five lakhs of rupees, you could have become a Director. Now, this amount is being enhanced to two crores of rupees. Whom do you want to bring in? Do you want to bring in big industrialists, big capitalists and not the poor people, not the middle-class people? Then, whom do you want to bring in here, in the main Indian economy that is called banking?

You have taken a different route altogether to bring them here. Middle class people cannot be Director now. Only the rich people can be Director.

The RBI?s control or supervision is being curtailed by this Bill. Instead of ?last Friday?, ?last day? will be substituted. Why? Banks, whether private or Government, are only scared about the RBI?s supervision. People are having faith on the banks because ultimately RBI is the controlling authority. RBI is at the top. You are decreasing it. Instead of every week, now it will be done only at the end of the month. Heavy work will come on the RBI. You have not increased the strength of the RBI?s staff. How can it be supervised? I am completely disputing this and opposing this.

Regarding nomination of four members, Section 45ZA has been amended. Four persons will be nominated as if through the nomination successor's rights are being given, which is completely contrary to well settled principles of law. In the case of Ram Chander Talwar and another versus Devender Kumar Talwar and others reported in 2010, Volume 10, Supreme Court Cases 671, while interpreting the same provision the Supreme Court has said Section 45-ZA merely puts the nominee in the shoes of the depositor after his death and clothes him with the exclusive right to receive the money lying in the account. It gives him all the rights of the depositor so far as the depositor's account is concerned. But it by no stretch of imagination makes the nominee the owner of the money lying in the account. It needs to be remembered that the Banking Regulation Act is enacted to consolidate and amend the law relating to banking. It is in no way concerned with the question of succession. All the monies receivable by the nominee by virtue of Section 45-ZA would, therefore, form part of the estate of the deceased depositor and devolve according to the rule of succession to which the depositor may be governed.

By bringing four nominees you are inviting a battle between the successors. This is completely contrary to all succession laws. Nominee, for the time being, holds the money. Why are you bringing four nominees? I am opposing this. The proposed amendment Bill is contrary to the judgment.

In view of the amalgamation, merger of the six banks, the total staff of Canara Bank, Central Bank, and Indian Bank has been decreased to 40,392. A total of 40,392 employees' services has been terminated due to the merger of the six banks.

16.00 hrs

The 2023 banking crisis was a major event that affected the banking sector and the economy globally. It was the most significant system-wide banking stress since the great financial crisis, which has brought to focus the risks to banking stability. Though, we were not in a recession, but projecting its effect, the Reserve Bank of India had perhaps seen incipient delinquency in personal loans when it first advised the banks and the NBFCs to strengthen their surveillance mechanisms to address rising risks in the system.

Deposits in the banks and the financial institutions have been declining with households as they allocate their savings to mutual funds. Today, everywhere in the banking system savings are decreasing and investments are more in mutual

funds. Why is it so? It is because of the rate of income tax. If you are in mutual fund, then for five years it is 10 per cent tax. If you have fixed deposit for five years in the savings bank account, then it is 33 per cent tax. Therefore, all are going for mutual funds. Of course, the income tax principles and policies are the prerogative of the hon. Finance Minister. But I will request you to look into the matter. In the case of mutual fund, if I keep for five years in mutual funds by taking some risk, I may get 20 per cent and from the benefit I have to pay 10 per cent tax. Whereas if I keep a fixed deposit for five years, I have to pay 33 per cent tax. Kindly consider this point in the next Budget.

16.02 hrs (Shri A. Raja *in the Chair*)

The GNPA ratio for agriculture was 6.2 per cent while the GNPA ratio for personal loan was 1.2 per cent. This reduction of NPA is not due to higher recoveries. Mr. Patra was saying that the Finance Minister will say about the NPA and very strongly they are saying that the NPA has decreased. It is not because of the recovery of the NPAs, but because of striking off the NPA itself. This is the nice way in which things are being done. It is jugglery of words by striking off the NPAs. Nowadays, it has become a common feature.

Basically, in the name of amendment, the Central Government is trying to interfere in the State Cooperative Banking system in respect of nominations and to provide for an increase in the tenure of the Directors in the Cooperative Banks. The Bill will increase the scope of the exception clause, which could lead to more conflicts of interest of the State Government and also interfere with the independence of the State Cooperative Banks.

The Bill also aims to redefine the concept of substantial interest for bank Directorships. I have already touched upon this point, and I will not repeat it.

India's foreign debt in 2014 was Rs. 49 lakh crore, which has increased to Rs. 205 lakh crore in 2024. देश आगे बढ़ रहा है । कितना बढ़ रहा है? उधारी में देश आगे बढ़ रहा है । देश आगे बढ़ रहा है, लेकिन उधारी में बढ़ रहा है । उधारी का बोझ बहुत भारी हो गया है, लेकिन बढ़ रहा है । According to Trading Economics global macro models and analysts expectations, the Government debt to GDP in India is expected to reach 88 per cent of GDP by the end of 2024-2025 fiscal.

External debt in India increased to 682,300 USD million in the second quarter of 2024 from 663,800 USD million in the first quarter of 2024. But a gap in loan growth and deposit growth, the SBI continues to lose market share in deposits over the

years. Now the question is, how much is the interest rate on borrowing? Will it be funded? What will be the guaranteed return of investment? What will happen if SBI fails to repay on time? The RBI is informed that Rs 3,207 crore was lost because of 5,082,000 cases of cyber fraud. He was talking about cyber fraud between 2020 and 2024 financial years. Sir, who suffers? Who? It is not the rich people. It is only the poor and the middle-class people. They are the sufferers of the cyber fraud. Sorry, till today the Central Government and its mechanism, whether it is CBI, ED, or whatever the instrument is, could not detect anyone. Very unfortunate! This is the fraud of cybercrime. The number of cyber fraud incidents has increased from 75,800 in 2023 to 2,92,800 in 2024. Just take it. That means more than 2,00,000 cases have been increased only in a year. What is going to happen in 2025?

Today I was hearing a speech. I do not know whether the hon. Prime Minister was giving the speech or not. On the television he was talking about cybercrime. I request the hon. Prime Minister to save this country from cybercrime. Take an effective step. सिर्फ बातों-बातों में कुछ नहीं होता है, काम करना होता है, काम कीजिए, कुछ तो काम कीजिए । The real growth in an economy is built on bank credit going to large industries and infrastructure projects. Deposit mobilization has been lagging credit growth for some time now. As of 23rd August, 2024, credit offtake in the Indian banking sector was Rs. 169.5 lakh crore, a 6.2 per cent increase from December 2023. According to the latest RBI data, over the past decade, the share of public sector banks has dropped from more than 75 per cent since 2012 to less than 60 per cent of the overall system. There is a need to give top priority to cyber security issues to check financial fraud. An IT management advanced system for fraud detection is a must for building robust cyber security measures. There is a need for strict regulatory compliance to adherence to stringent regulations for data privacy of customers and industry-specific laws like anti-money laundering practice.

The banking Bill is a ?donkey passage? towards privatization of the Indian banking sector. *Prima facie*, it is to improve bank guarantee and investor protection, but actually a slow pace for setting targets of minimum holding in public sector banks from 51 per cent to 26 per cent.

DR. RANI SRIKUMAR (TENKASI): Hon. Chairman, I would like to remind this House that it was Dr. Ambedkar who laid the foundations of the Reserve Bank of India through his work, ?The Problem of the Rupee ? Its Origin and Its Solution?. It was based on his recommendation that the Hilton Young Commission proposed the establishment of the Reserve Bank of India. Ambedkar proposed the establishment

of the RBI so as to establish a better banking system to ensure better economy and wellbeing of the citizens of this country. But the BJP-led NDA Government has been acting contrary to the vision of Dr. Ambedkar.

This proposed Bill aims to amend the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, the State Bank of India Act, 1955, the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970, and the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980.

The proposed Amendment Bill aims to increase the number of nominees from one to four nominees per account. It has increased the tenure of directors of cooperative banks from eight years to 10 years. It has allowed the directors of Central cooperative banks to serve in State cooperative banks also. This Bill enables the transfer of unclaimed dividends, shares, and interest or redemption of bonds to IEPF when they remain unclaimed for seven consecutive years. This Bill allows individuals to claim transfers or refunds from IEPF. This Bill has redefined the term 'substantial interest' by increasing the threshold share from Rs.5 lakh to Rs.2 crore.

There are certain concerns with this Bill. Especially, the idea of dual membership and extended tenure poses a serious threat of consolidation of power under some individuals. Also, allowing the directors of the Central cooperative banks to serve in the State Cooperative Board is a clear encroachment of the independent identity of the State cooperative banks. This is another attempt by the BJP to make the States as a local body or as a municipality. It is against the spirit of cooperative movement.

The Bill omits any mention of the privatisation of the Public Sector Banks, a central aspect of the Government's reform agenda. Despite the Finance Minister's 2021-22 Budget announcement to privatise two PSBs alongside IDBI Bank, the Bill fails to address this issue leaving the future of PSB ownership uncertain.

The Bill overlooks critical digital safeguards despite the growing role of digital banking. As financial services move online, cybersecurity, data privacy, and fraud prevention become urgent concerns. Yet the Bill fails to address these adequately. Additionally, the Bill does not establish clear regulations on consumer data protection, increasing the risk of breaches and misuse. Without specific measures for digital fraud, which is more sophisticated than traditional forms, the sector remains vulnerable. The Bill proposes to update the substantial interest to Rs.2

crore as per the present realities. But it would be better to attach it to a specific percentage every year instead of fixing a static amount so that the Bill need not be amended regularly for updating the threshold amount.

In addition to this, I would like to address certain serious issues in the banking sector. Coming to NPAs, there is always an accusation against the UPA Government by the NDA Government that the Non-Performing Assets were higher. But in reality, if we look at the data, it shows a very different picture. As per the RBI data, in the past 10 years, the Gross NPA accumulation under the NDA Government in Public Sector Banks was 1.6 times more than that of the UPA Government.

Another issue that comes regularly along with the issue of NPAs is write-offs. As per the replies given by the Government in Lok Sabha, it has been found that in the past 10 years about Rs. 16.26 lakh crores of bank loans have been written off and among them the loans written off to large corporates stood at Rs. 7.4 lakh crore. The yearly write-offs by the public sector banks had increased from Rs.7,187 crore per year in 2013 to about 1.2 lakh crore in 2023. The Government justified the write-offs by saying that the bank write-offs are part of a regular exercise by the banks to clean up their balance sheet so as to optimise their capital. But in reality, it affects the net profits of the banks which eventually affects the priority sector lending. The NPAs by the Non-Priority Sector was just 50 per cent of the NPAs during 2012-13 but it had touched 80 per cent by 2019. It eventually leads to less credit being available for the priority sector.

Now, coming to the agricultural loans, six per cent of total lending of any bank has to be advanced to agriculturists, whereas many of the Nationalised Banks, and especially the private banks are not at all complying with the rule of advancing six per cent lending to the agriculturists. Is it not a discrimination against the farmers who are feeding the nation? The pity is that the banks are averse to the agriculturists by way of parking this six per cent lending, which is actually due to the farmers, into the RIDF of NABARD and thereby earning a huge interest of the money belonging to the farmers.

Despite repeated requests to waive-off the farmers' loans, this Government, which does not hesitate to write-off the corporate loans for about Rs. 7.4 lakh crore, has repeatedly refused to waive-off the farm loans, which is a pittance amount. This clearly shows that this Government is always an anti-farmer Government.

The UPA Government during its tenure had waived off the farmers' loans worth Rs. 72,000 crore. And during his tenure, Muthamizh Arignar Dr. Kalaignar had waived off loans worth Rs. 7,000 crore in the year of 2006, and also under the dynamic leadership of Thalapathy, our Tamil Nadu Government has waived off Rs. 7,000 crore farm loans in cooperative banks and also provided interest free loans worth Rs. 35.85 lakh crore to the farmers between May, 2021 and December, 2023, and it still continues to provide interest-free loans to the farmers.

Now, I come to education loans. As far as the educational loans are concerned, it should be treated as a welfare scheme, thereby the interest waived on such educational loans should be scrapped. I submit that levying of interest on the needy students is unacceptable. Five years moratorium for the repayment of loan should be scrapped. The repayment should start only after the concerned student is employed. Demanding repayment before getting an employment is deplorable. Therefore, the Government should consider this demand. In addition to that, multiple conditions are being imposed to provide educational loans to students leading to complexities and harassments. The process should be simplified for the benefit of students.

Now, I come to penalties on common citizens. It is because of NPAs and write-offs, the banks have started to push this burden over the common citizens of this country. We are all aware that the Government restricted the number of free ATM withdrawal of money from their own account. They have increased the minimum balance amount in the past decade. They are charging for SMSs also.

As per a reply given by the Government in Lok Sabha this year, it has been observed that there has been an increase of over 35 per cent in penalties collected by the Public Sector Banks in the past five years. And the most serious revelation from the reply was that the Public Sector Banks had collected over Rs. 8,500 crore from the common people as penalties for not maintaining the Average Monthly Balance. If we include the private sector banks also, then, as per a reply given by the Finance Ministry in the Rajya Sabha, about Rs. 21,000 crore has been collected since 2018 by both the public and the private banks. The same banks that had waived off about Rs. 7.4 lakh crore of corporate loans, had collected Rs. 21,000 crore from the common people. In addition to this, the Government had collected over Rs. 8,000 crore for transactions through ATMs beyond free withdrawals and Rs. 6,000 crore as SMS charges. Why should the people pay charges for withdrawing their own money?

Next comes the issue of hidden charges. The banks have been imposing fees on customers that are not disclosed in the Key Facts Statement of the loan which eventually leads to higher interest rates on these loans. This issue has become so serious that the RBI Governor himself raised concerns regarding this at the Monetary Policy Committee meeting in June this year.

Now, I come to cyber frauds issue. If this is the scenario in the conventional banking arena, the situation of customers utilising online banking Apps is worse. As per a recent survey conducted by the community platform called Local Circles, about six out of ten customers have faced issues of hidden charges in online banking platforms. Last year, the Deputy Governor of RBI had raised concerns about this issue of mis-selling, which is popularly called as dark patterns.

With the increase in digitalisation, many security issues have been created. In a recent RTI reply, the RBI has stated that the number of cyber fraud cases had increased from 75,800 cases in the financial year of 2023 to 2,92,000 cases in the financial year of 2024, and about Rs. 2,056 crore were lost due to cyber frauds in the financial year of 2024 alone so far.

As per an estimation made by the Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre, loss due to cyber frauds could amount to 0.7 per cent of the GDP in future.

The senior citizens of our country are the most vulnerable to these online frauds. There have been multiple cases where the scammers have been specifically targeting the elderly people. The Government needs to promote better cybersecurity measures to protect the elderly from cyber frauds.

There is a gender disparity in banking. There is a continuing gender disparity issue in the banking sector. As per the Global Findex Database 2021 released by the world bank, nearly 20 percent of women lack access to a bank account in India. The gender disparity in accessibility to banking has to be resolved.

There is lack of accessibility in rural areas. The banking accessibility in rural areas is a cause of grave concern. In many remote rural areas, the ATMs are located inside the banks. So, when the bank closes by 6 PM, the people also lose access to the ATM. This creates serious accessibility issues for the people in rural areas.

Now, I will talk about welfare of bank employees. Another major issue that needs serious attention is the welfare of the bank employees. As per recent reports, about

500 bank employees in India committed suicides over the past decade due to work pressure and abuse by the senior officials.

I conclude that Dr. Ambedkar envisioned a strong banking sector for our country. But the banking sector has been one of the most affected sectors under the NDA Government. Measures have to be taken to ensure that the issues in the banking sector are resolved by keeping the concerns and welfare of the common people in mind.

Thanking you,

Thamizh Vellum.

SHRI DAGGUMALLA PRASADA RAO (CHITTOOR): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity.

I rise to address this august House as we discuss the Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024 that reflects the vision of our hon. Prime Minister on the unwavering commitment of this Government to reform and strengthen the banking sector and to fulfil the promise of better bank governance and investor protection.

The hon. Finance Minister said promised in her 2023-24 Budget Speech to improve the banking governance and enhance investor protection through amendments to key financial laws such as Banking Regulation Act, 1949, the Banking Companies Act, 1970, the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.

Today, through the introduction of this Bill, that promise is being fulfilled. The Act is not just a legislative measure. It is a testament to the Government's aim of streamlining the functioning of banks, ensuring transparency and protecting depositors and investors alike. This initiative is in alignment with the principles of recognition, recapitalisation, resolution and reform pursued by the Government in the banking sector. This has enabled remarkable outcomes with the gross non-performing assets ratio of Scheduled Commercial Banks falling to a six years' low of 2.8 per cent and the slippage ratio declining from 7.31 per cent in 2018 to 1.78 per cent in 2023.

There are four major amendments proposed in this Bill. One is revising the reporting dates for statutory reports. This amendment revises the reporting dates for submission of statutory reports to the last day of the fortnight, month or quarter. The Government aims to ensure consistency and transparency in reporting. This Amendment Bill streamlines the operations of the banks, reduce

compliance ambiguity and uphold the principles of good governance. It is pertinent to note that the Government's reform measures have been comprehensive, combining operational streamlining with financial support.

Since financial year 2015, the Government has infused Rs. 3,00,000 crore in State-run banks and the mega-merger of ten State owned banks into four larger entities has created robust public sector bank capable of driving economic growth.

The PSBs play a significant role in driving economic growth. This is done by providing timely credit to small businesses and entrepreneurs. One of the flagship initiatives that enables this is Mudra Loans scheme.

In 2023, States like Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka have reported over 30 lakh beneficiaries each, showcasing significant progress, while Andhra Pradesh lagged behind with just 10 lakh beneficiaries. Therefore, to ensure robust reforms to create a ground impact, I request the Government to revise the targets under Mudra Loans for Andhra Pradesh.

Regarding increasing the number of nominees, a recent RBI report highlights a significant rise in unclaimed deposits, which have surged by 26 per cent, reaching Rs.78,000 crore. To address this pressing issue, the proposed Amendment Bill introduces provisions for nominating up to four individuals, allowing for both simultaneous and successful nominations to ensure better management and claim of these funds. By simplifying the nomination process, the Government has not only reduced bureaucratic hurdles, but also prioritised depositor convenience and protection. The Government's responsiveness to evolving challenges ensures that no depositor's hard-earned money lies unclaimed or inaccessible.

The third point is regarding enhancing investor protection. This Amendment Bill provides for the transfer of unclaimed dividends, shares and interest or redemption of proceeds of bonds to the Investor Education and Protection Fund. While the reserve fund available under IEPE has grown from Rs.83 crore in 2018-19 to Rs.86 crore in 2023-24, spending on investor education has disappointingly declined. In the light of cybercrime reports indicating that Rs.14,000 crore were duped from investors, this amendment underscores the urgent need to strengthen education and awareness. It is vital that funds under IEPE are effectively utilised to safeguard investors against fraud and exploitation.

The fourth one is extending directors' tenures in cooperative banks. This Amendment Bill extends the tenure of directors in cooperative banks from eight

years to ten years. This measure is in alignment with the on-going efforts in the state of Andhra Pradesh to improve the functioning of cooperative societies.

The State Legislative Assembly introduced the Andhra Pradesh Cooperative Society Amendment Bill, 2024 to enhance transparency, efficiency and management of cooperative societies. Hon. Chairman, Sir, this amendment reflects the unified functioning of the double-engine sarkar, the seamless partnership between the leadership at the Centre and the States, working together for the progress of every sector of our economy.

Under the able leadership of our hon. Prime Minister, Sri Narendra Modi ji and the visionary Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Sri Chandrababu Naidu ji, we are building a prosperous and progressive India. The synchronised governance of this double-engine sarkar ensures that the vision of Swarna Andhra 2047, a state of happy, healthy and wealthy people, contributes to the larger goal of Viksit Bharat. This Bill is yet another step towards a robust Government, stronger financial systems and empowered citizens. I stand in support of these reforms that pave the way for a brighter and more secure future for all.

Sir, give me one minute. I have two more suggestions to make. At the district level, regarding PMEGP and MSME loans I will give you one instance. In SBI, 80 applications had been uploaded. But only five applications were cleared. So, a clear instruction should be given to the banks so that these people will get the benefit out of it.

I request the hon. Finance Minister, through you, to strengthen or streamline the conditions or terms for the OTS scheme in banking. While considering the banking recapitalisation, I request the hon. Finance Minister to look for a stringent basis for the recapitalisation of banks. Thank you very much for giving this opportunity.

SHRI ANIL YESHWANT DESAI (MUMBAI SOUTH-CENTRAL): Thank you, Sir. This proposed legislation seeks to improve governance standards, provide consistency in reporting by banks to RBI, ensure better protection for the depositors and investors, improving audit quarterly in public sector banks, bring customer convenience in respect of nominations, and provide for the increase in the tenure of the directors in the cooperative banks.

The Bill proposes to amend, namely, RBI Act of 1934, the Banking Regulation Act of 1949, the State Bank Act 1955, the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970, and 1980.

There is an amendment in Section 5, the first amendment, which is to redefine ? substantial interest?. The threshold limit of a shareholder or an individual could be increased from Rs. 5 lakh to Rs. 2 crore. It is being redefined. Last time, when it was taken up, that was way back in 1968. But, the moot question lies here, that the limit is being raised to Rs. 2 crore. I would like to know from the Minister whether it is with a specific purpose to accommodate the rich or the ones who are well-versed with the banking system as compared to poor. I am stating this because banking industry is one of the major sectors, which is an indicator of the health of the economy, and in India, fortunately, banks have been doing well in the last few years.

There is another amendment in Section 10A of the Banking Regulation Act, where you are increasing the tenure of directors from 8 years to 10 years, excluding the Chairman and the whole-time director in cooperative banks. Now, this is to align with the 97th Amendment which had taken place in 2011. This department of cooperative is a state subject. Would it be in the interest of the State more than the Centre to decide on this? I am aware though that the entire system of the industry lies in the Finance Ministry and, of course, RBI is there to regulate the whole system.

Further, by amending Section 16 of the Banking Regulation Act, you are allowing directors of the Central Cooperative Bank to be elected simultaneously in the State Cooperative Banks also. They can be directors in the state cooperative banks also. Now, here also, a question comes. Is it with the intention of accommodating someone who has vested interests? We all know that cooperative banks did not have a good history as far as State of Maharashtra or other states are concerned. Cooperative banks have always seen upheavals. They have seen the ups and downs, and more downs have come in the recent past. To help them or to bail out, that becomes a big question and then the entire question becomes a political scenario, where if the Board of Directors comes from the Ruling Party, they are spared, if they are coming from the Opposition Party, they are hanged. So, this needs to be explained in proper perspective.

Sir, there are amendments in Sections 18, 24, 25 and Section 56 of the Banking Regulation Act to revise reporting dates for the submission of statutory reports by the banks to RBI. It is a very necessary step, and that is mandatory to align them with the last day of the fortnight. Earlier, it was from Friday to Friday. If the Saturday is aligned with the holiday, that used to make very much a difference in

reporting. So, that has been taken out or erased out by this amendment. It would, of course, be seen in good light. Has the supervisory role played all along by the Reserve Bank been lessened? The inspection which used to take place in the banking system, that has really gone down. Now, to buck it up, to bring it up to a certain level, these steps were necessary. I think, if there was any other motive, that could be explained by the Minister while answering the questions.

You are also amending Sections 45ZA, 45ZC, and 45ZE of the Banking Regulation Act to allow nominations of up to four persons to ease services for the depositors. Though it looks like a welcome step, as it has been mentioned earlier by one of the speakers, does it not spoil or does it not come in the way of the Indian Succession Act? On the death of the account holder, the question of succession comes and you have to get the probate from the court. I mean, the nominees also have a problem in operating the account. So, even that needs some explanation.

Moreover, the steps like amending Section 38 of the SBI Act 1955, Section 10B of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970, and Section 10B of the 1980 Act for transfer of unclaimed dividends, shares and interest or redemption of bonds to the Investor Education and Protection Fund allow the individuals to claim the transfer of all refunds from that account. These steps were welcome and also expected. But the major thing is today, if you go by the reports, due to steps not taken at regular intervals, even there is non-performance by the bankers as far as KYC of the depositors are concerned, and there are a lot many accounts which are lying in a dormant position. I think, the RBI today only issued a missive or advisory to the banks to make the inoperative accounts active. So according to me, this kind of a step like transferring that to the Investor Education and Protection Fund is a step in the right direction. I would say that it is a welcome step because investors do need this support. Today, rather than going into banking, people have moved away from banking as a source to save. Instead of banking, people have moved out because they find that it is more lucrative than banking.

Sir, Section 41 of the SBI Act provides to bring in the auditor and gives discretion to the bank for appointing the auditor and giving them the remuneration. I think, the RBI is not moving away from its duty. Whenever any fund transfer, which is of suspicious nature, takes place and becomes a scam in future, the RBI should not be moved out. Otherwise, because the remuneration and the auditor are decided by

the bank itself, the bank and the auditor come into problem, and RBI moves out of the picture.

Sir, in the last quarter, the GDP has come down to 5.4 per cent which is because the industrial output was not up to the mark. It was seen that the credit offtake will facilitate the banking industry, the depositors, the investors, and the people at large would be making use of the banking facility. But I think that is not happening. The hon. Minister may explain whether the credit offtake is smooth in the banking industry. If that be so, then where is the private investment and why is the GDP going down?

Last but not least, whenever a bank comes into an issue or any problem because of any kind of scams or mismanagement, bail-out is the only option. In the last few years, the bail-in was the option being thought over where a bad bank was to come into the picture. What is the picture now? Bail-out is the thing that the Government has been doing by recapitalizing the banks with the funds and replenishing the banking funds so that banks can operate very smoothly. Nowadays, it is the other way around. If the bail-in, people will move away from the banking system. So, if we need to prevent this from happening, we will have to make the banking industry very strong. Thank you very much.

डॉ. आलोक कुमार सुमन (गोपालगंज) : सभापति महोदय, मैं आपका धन्यवाद करता हूँ कि आपने मुझे the Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024 पर अपनी बात रखने का मौका दिया। भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था को आगे बढ़ाने में बैंकों की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका रही है। सरकार समय-समय पर सुधार कर बैंकिंग सिस्टम को बेहतरीन बनाने के लिए प्रयास करती रही है। वर्तमान विधेयक - The Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024 को लाने का उद्देश्य यह है कि बैंकिंग व्यवस्था और अधिक सुगम हो तथा देश में इनवेस्टर्स को और डिपोजिटर्स को और ज्यादा प्रोटेक्शन मिले। इसके लिए रिज़र्व बैंक ऑफ इंडिया एक्ट, 1934, बैंकिंग रेगुलेशन एक्ट, 1949 और स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया एक्ट, 1955 इत्यादि के अधिनियमों का संशोधनों करना जरूरी था, ताकि हम बैंकिंग सिस्टम के गवर्नेंस को और कंज्यूमर ओरिएण्टेड बना सकें।

महोदय, दी सेंट्रल बैंकिंग इक्वायरी कमेटी 1931 में यह उल्लेख है कि उधार या कर्ज का लेन-देन वैदिक पीरियड 2000 बीसी से 1400 बीसी तक होता था। ऐसा माना जाता है कि भारत में इसकी शुरुआत 500 बीसी से हुई है और यह रिकॉर्डेड है। हमारे महान अर्थशास्त्री चाणक्य ने भी बैंकिंग सिस्टम की बात की है। उन्होंने कर्ज, उधार और व्यापार का संबंध बैंकिंग सिस्टम से बताया है। भारतीय इतिहास देखने से पता चलता है कि बैंकिंग व्यवस्था में वैदिक पीरियड से लेकर आज तक समय के अनुसार इसके रूल्स और रेगुलेशंस को अर्मेंड किया गया है, ताकि वर्तमान परिप्रेक्ष्य में हम डिपॉजिटर्स एंड इन्वेस्टर्स के हितों को पूरा कर सकें और इससे जुड़े लोगों को अच्छी व्यवस्था दे सकें।

महोदय, वर्ष 1935 में रिज़र्व बैंक ऑफ इंडिया की स्थापना की गई। तब से लेकर अभी तक आरबीआई ने 90 साल की अवधि बैंकिंग गवर्नेंस में सफलतापूर्वक पूरी की है। बैंकिंग अर्मेंडमेंट बिल 2020 के पास होने से

निश्चित रूप से सरकारी बैंकों की ऑडिट क्वालिटी व्यापक और बेहतर होगी । साथ ही साथ ट्रांसपेरेंसी भी आएगी और देश में व्यापार लेन-देन, लोन तथा उपभोक्ता के हित में होगा ।

महोदय, दी बैंकिंग रेगुलेशन एक्ट 1945 के सेक्शन 5 में सबर्टेंशियल इंटेस्ट को दोबारा परिभाषित किया गया है । इसे पाँच लाख रुपये से बढ़ा कर दो करोड़ रुपये किया गया है ।

महोदय, इसमें मेरा सुझाव होगा कि अगर हम इसको पाँच करोड़ रुपये तक रखते हैं तो वर्तमान वैल्यू के साथ होगा तथा छोटे व्यक्ति जो बैंक से जुड़े हैं, उनके इंटेस्ट की पूर्ति होगी । इससे इन्वेस्टर्स तथा डिपॉजिटर्स के हितों की भी रक्षा होगी ।

महोदय, दी बैंकिंग रेगुलेशन एक्ट के सेक्शन 10 ए के सब-सेक्शन 2 ए में भी अमेंडमेंट किया गया है, ताकि कोऑपरेटिव बैंक्स के डायरेक्टर का टेन्चोर आठ साल से बढ़ा कर दस साल हो । यह संशोधन संविधान के उन्नीसवां संशोधन 2011 के समरूप हो ।

महोदय, हमारे माननीय प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी एवं माननीय मुख्यमंत्री श्री नीतीश कुमार के नेतृत्व में बैंकिंग सिस्टम एक कुशल और रिकॉर्ड क्रेडिट तथा प्रॉफिट वाला बैंक बन रहा है । हमारे माननीय मुख्यमंत्री जी के नेतृत्व में बिहार में सबसे पहली बार स्टूडेंट क्रेडिट कार्ड शुरू किया गया और स्टूडेंट लोन के लिए सरकार ग्रांटर बनी ।

हमारे माननीय प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में सरकार ने 3.5 लाख करोड़ बैंकों में सुधार एवं सुविधा के लिये खर्च किया । यह कुशल नेतृत्व का ही प्रभाव है कि वर्ष 2018 में जो नॉन-परफॉर्मिंग एसेट 11.25 परसेंट था, वर्ष 2023 में इसमें 3 परसेंट की कमी आई । आरबीआई की डेटा के अनुसार 57,585 करोड़ रुपये वर्ष 2015-16 में राइट ऑफ किए गए । वर्ष 2016-17 में 81,683 करोड़ रुपये और वर्ष 2017-18 में 1,28,229 करोड़ रुपये राइट ऑफ किए गए ।

महोदय, इस विधेयक पर अपनी बात रखते हुए, मैं एक और सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ ।? (व्यवधान)

सर, मुझे एक मिनट का समय दीजिए । मैं सुझाव देना चाहूँगा कि देश में बैंकिंग सिस्टम से आम आदमी और व्यापार को दूर-दराज के गांव तथा पहाड़ी इलाकों में रहने वाले लोगों को भी बैंकिंग सुविधा मिले । जिन गांवों में अभी तक बैंक नहीं हैं, यदि वहां दस हजार से ज्यादा की आबादी है तो वहां पर बैंक की परमानेंट यूनिट की स्थापना की जाए । इससे किसान और आम आदमी बैंकों से फायदा ले सकते हैं ।

महोदय, मेरा एक और सुझाव है कि बैंकों में खाली पड़े सभी परमानेंट वैकेंसीज को भरा जाए, ताकि बैंक के कामकाजों में और ज्यादा इजाफा हो । शिक्षा के लिए जो लोन दिया जाता है, यह लोन हायर एजुकेशन पाने के लिए दिया जाता है । इसको सिम्प्लीफाई करके अधिक से अधिक छात्रों को लोन दिया जाए । इंडियन बैंक एसोसिएशन के डेटा के अनुसार वर्ष 2022-23 में 24,997 करोड़ रुपये का लोन दिया गया था । ? (व्यवधान)

महोदय, अब मेरी लास्ट लाइन है । वर्ष 2023-24 में 28,699 करोड़ रुपये का लोन दिया गया, जो कि एक सराहनीय कदम है । इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करते हुए अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ ।

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE (BARAMATI): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I stand here in support of the Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill. I would like to ask a few questions,

highlight a few points and give a few suggestions to the hon. Finance Minister of India.

She has brought this Bill with the good intention of improving banking, a system we all are happy to be a part of, with more transparency and make sure that every depositor and investor is protected. What is it that a bank brings to you? Banking is a relationship of trust only. You can trust a bank and that is why, you go to a bank. Clearly, it is a relationship of trust. The first thing you expect of that relationship is protection. So, I appreciate what she has done, but I would like to ask her a few questions, which she could kindly answer in her reply.

With regard to amendment in the tenure of Directors in the cooperative banks, I would like to give a suggestion to the hon. Finance Minister. When we amended the Companies Act, we made it prospective. Whatever tenure you make, eight years or ten years, can we make sure that it is prospective? Right now, there is such a big change in the system. There will be a whole generation of people, of Directors who will have to be moved out. That could create a huge disruption. So, why should we not make it prospective, starting from this year? It is a suggestion. Maybe, you can put few years here and there, but I think, it will help the industry. It could be a plan for the next five to ten years, if you are wishing to bring in a new crop. In a cooperative, Sir, you and I get elected. In cooperative banking, they are elected members. They have capped the number of elected members. I do not know what the intention of the Government is in capping it. I am sure that it is capped with a very noble intention. But if it is prospective, it will really help the industry. Hence, I am making this recommendation to her.

In the second point, she has talked about governance standardisation and making sure that the depositors are protected. I have a question here. In the PMC case, the hon. Finance Minister was very helpful when we reached out to her for help. There is another bank called Shivaji Bhosale Sahakari Bank in Maharashtra, which is a cooperative bank. There are many banks pan-India where the investors are not protected. Then, they put the five lakh of rupees? cap. When you say that, the normal reply from the Government is that 95 per cent people get their deposits back and only five per cent do not get it. From five to ten to fifteen to twenty-five is not a large amount. What happens in such cases? I am going to make a very pragmatic statement now. If somebody really does a financial fraud in this country, should the first action be to put him in jail? I would like to make a humble suggestion which has come to me from people in my constituency and my State.

When there is a financial fraud, you pick up somebody and put him in jail. They remain in jail for ten years, let us say, but nothing happens to them. And, people are still suffering and they do not get their money back. So, what is the big advantage of arresting somebody? I am not saying do not arrest them. What I am trying to suggest is why we should not make that person first pay back to all the poor people to whom he or she owes the money and then, put him in jail or go through any system. In the case of PMC ? in that case, she has been very indulgent towards us in helping ? when the entire family was arrested, for years, nobody got any hearing for the reason that all the assets were in their names and there was nobody in the family to sell it. So, the depositors never got any money. Then, what happens? If it is in a huge litigation, the Government goes to court and it goes on forever.

It is the same thing which has happened in the case of IBC. The intention behind the IBC is very good. You put them into insolvency, but what happens? The court which was first a facilitator, has become an arbitrator. You go to a court, but justice is never done. Please do not misunderstand me. I am not saying that if somebody does a fraud, do not arrest him. Please do arrest him, but can we have a system when he first pays back to the depositors? What is the intention of doing all this? It is to clean up the system and making it a fair justice system so that the depositor is protected. How will you protect the depositor, if he or she does not get the money back in time? They do not get loans. They do not get loans for their children, the education loans. They do not get their insurance. They do not even get the health services. So, how does it help? The first thing, I think, we really need to think is about these things. Maybe, you can send it to the Finance Committee to think about the solution. We may all put our minds into it. Nobody is against this Bill. How do we innovate to the next step, strengthen our banking system and make sure that the depositors get their money back? This is my suggestion to the hon. Finance Minister.

She has also suggested about the Investor Education and Protection Fund. A protection fund is like a pension fund. Now, this Government for years have been raising the issue of EPS-95. It is a little bit away from the Banking Bill, but I would like to highlight it. I am just doing a comparison. The EPS-95 pensioners have given money which is lying with the Government. They do not get the money that was committed to them. It has been a decade now. I would like to quote hon. Arun Jaitley ji. Unfortunately, he is no more with us. When he was the Finance Minister, he had committed to the EPS-95 people to get the money that they deserve. It is

their own pension money, but they never got it. I do not want this scheme also to go in the same way because we have had a history. Since you are calling that a pension and a protection fund is something very similar, I hope there is no confusion in any of this. The EPS-95, which is the pension money, the people should also get it.

One important point is about cyber scams. As a matter of fact, in today's newspaper, it has come that just in Delhi alone, Rs. 452 crore worth of scams in banks have occurred in the last one year. I am talking only about Delhi. How are we going to ride over the technology? How are we going to ride over dark net? What is the Government going to do or are you working with the banks? You are making sure that you do not want scamsters, you want investors to be protected. All these senior citizens whose money is lying in the bank, how are we going to help them and protect them? A lot of times, they get little notes. They click on it and the money is gone. So, what intervention is the Government doing for technology? It is going to be very, very hard. I do understand because it is not necessary that on this dark net anyone who is doing scams is sitting in India. It could be anywhere in the world. What intervention is the Government doing to safeguard all the securities in the bank?

I would like to make two small points. Sambit Patra ji extensively talked about how well the banks are doing. I appreciate that the merging was a very good suggestion and a good idea and that is why the banks are looking much better and stronger. But was it the bank balance sheet appropriation that really made the magic? Was writing off or haircut ? you can call it whatever ? the reason that the banks are looking stronger? If you could kindly clarify and see what it is, it would be good.

One last point is that a lot of you have talked about the Mudra loan. The Government of India gives a lot of sovereign guarantees for many things. But there is a new thing which we are seeing, especially in our constituencies. For farmers? education loans, the banks are giving a lot of money to NBFCs. Now, when the bank gives a loan, it is in, say, five to eight per cent range. They give it to NBFCs. The core job of the bank is to give the loan. They are outsourcing it to NBFCs who are increasing the interest rates. How do we control this interest rate? It is happening in a lot of farm loans that the interest rates are very high while the banking rate is not.

I would like to make one last very small point on which I know she will give us a clarification. Banking globally is becoming smaller because the deposits in the

banks are going down because in the economies which are fast growing, people are moving to mutual funds as an option. This is not a small thing. This may not be relating to the Bill but eventually in maybe 5-10 years from now it will be relevant. Since we are talking about banking, does the Government have some plans for the growth of banks? If the deposits will eventually over a period of time go down and people would prefer to go to mutual funds over banking and be conservative, safe deposit is an option. So, where does banking go in the next few years since this is such a comprehensive Bill you are bringing for safety? I think we will have to think about this. So, I ask her this question. In the last quarter, the economy has come down to 5.4 per cent and I know that the hon. Finance Minister herself has been quoted in a newspaper that she is looking to cut the interest rates. Is this an option they are looking at because the Commerce Ministry and the Finance Ministry have been quoted today?

With the slow growth, unemployment going up, and food inflation going up, what is the Government's plan? The rate of 5.4 per cent is something we have been predicting for the last few years because India is no more an insulated economy in the global crisis. I would request her to please talk about how she is going to look at the growth story of India.

Thank you.

श्री रविंद्र दत्ताराम वायकर (मुम्बई उत्तर-पश्चिम) : माननीय सभापति जी, मैं सदन में बैंकिंग विधियाँ (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2024 के बारे में अपने विचार सदन में रख रहा हूँ। यह विधेयक भारतीय बैंकिंग प्रणाली को सशक्त और आधुनिक बनाने की दिशा में ऐतिहासिक कदम है। यह विधेयक न केवल बैंकिंग क्षेत्र में पारदर्शिता और प्रभावशीलता लाने का प्रयास है बल्कि जमाकर्ता और निवेशकों के अधिकारों की रक्षा के लिए ठोस प्रावधान भी है।

यह विधेयक भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक अधिनियम, 1934, बैंककारी विनियमन अधिनियम, 1949, भारतीय स्टेट बैंक अधिनियम, 1955, बैंककारी कम्पनी (उपक्रमों का अर्जन और अन्तरण) अधिनियम, 1970 और बैंककारी कम्पनी (उपक्रमों का अर्जन और अन्तरण) अधिनियम, 1980 में संशोधन करता है। इसके माध्यम से बैंकिंग क्षेत्र को आधुनिक प्रबंधन और संचालन के अनुरूप बनाया गया है। इस बिल में कुछ महत्वपूर्ण संशोधन किये गए हैं जिसके बारे में सभागृह में बात हुई है। मैं कम समय को देखते हुए कुछ सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ।

गैर-निष्पादित परिसंपत्तियाँ (NPAs) एक गंभीर समस्या है। भारतीय बैंकों, विशेष रूप से सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के बैंकों (PSBs), के सामने सबसे बड़ी चुनौती गैर-निष्पादित परिसंपत्तियाँ (Non-Performing Assets) हैं। मार्च 2023 तक, PSBs का सकल एनपीए 5.53 लाख करोड़ रुपये था। यह समस्या न केवल बैंकों की लाभप्रदता को प्रभावित करती है, बल्कि यह ऋण वितरण की गति को भी धीमा करती है। एनपीए के कारण बैंकों का पूंजी आधार कमजोर होता है जिससे विकासशील क्षेत्रों को ऋण देना मुश्किल हो जाता है।

मेरा सुझाव है कि बैंकों को एनपीए की पहचान करने के लिए रिस्क मैनेजमेंट सिस्टम को सुदृढ़ करना चाहिए और इंसॉल्वेसी एंड बैंकरप्सी कोड (IBC) के तहत मामलों के तेजी से समाधान को प्राथमिकता दी जानी चाहिए ।

दूसरा विषय डिजिटल बैंकिंग से खतरा का है । डिजिटल बैंकिंग में वृद्धि के साथ साइबर धोखाधड़ी की घटनाएं बढ़ी हैं । वर्ष 2023-24 में भारतीय बैंकों में 25,000 से अधिक साइबर धोखाधड़ी के मामले दर्ज किए गए । ग्राहकों का डेटा और धन सुरक्षित रखने में बैंकों को काफी चुनौतियों का सामना करना पड़ता है । मेरा सरकार से निवेदन है कि बैंकों को एआई आधारित साइबर सुरक्षा प्रणाली लागू करनी चाहिए और ग्राहकों और कर्मचारियों के लिए साइबर सुरक्षा प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम आयोजित करने चाहिए ।

मेरा सुझाव वित्तीय समावेशन (Financial Inclusion) के बारे में भी है । ग्रामीण और दूरदराज के क्षेत्रों में बैंकिंग सेवाओं की सीमित पहुंच वित्तीय समावेशन के लिए एक बड़ी चुनौती है । वित्तीय समावेशन सूचकांक, 2023 के अनुसार कई राज्यों में बैंकिंग सेवाओं की पहुंच अब भी कमजोर है । ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में शाखाओं और एटीएम की संख्या बहुत कम है ।

मेरा सरकार से निवेदन है कि डिजिटल बैंकिंग सेवाओं के लिए इंटरनेट कनेक्टिविटी इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर को मजबूत करना चाहिए । मोबाइल बैंकिंग वैन और डिजिटल कियोस्क की शुरुआत की जानी चाहिए और बैंकों को ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में शाखा खोलने के लिए विशेष प्रोत्साहन दिया जाना चाहिए ।

सहकारी बैंकों की कमजोर स्थिति है । सहकारी बैंकों का प्रशासन और पूंजी आधार कमजोर है । कई सहकारी बैंकों में वित्तीय अनियमितताओं और भ्रष्टाचार के मामले सामने आते हैं और इसका सीधा प्रभाव जमाकर्ताओं और स्थानीय ग्राहकों पर पड़ता है । मेरा सुझाव है कि सहकारी बैंकों के लिए पारदर्शी प्रशासन तंत्र लागू किया जाए और सहकारी बैंकों को मजबूत करने के लिए केंद्र सरकार विशेष फंड स्थापित करे ।

एक माननीय सदस्य ने पीएमसी बैंक के बारे में कहा । पंजाब एंड महाराष्ट्र कोऑपरेटिव (PMC) बैंक जैसे मामलों ने जमाकर्ताओं को भारी परेशानियों में डाला है । ग्राहकों की मेहनत की कमाई को वापस पाने के लिए उन्हें लंबा इंतजार करना पड़ा है । मैं इस संबंध में माननीय वित्त मंत्री से मिला था, तब आपकी आंखों में पानी था और मेरी आंखों में भी पानी था क्योंकि पीएमसी बैंक के कारण करीब 150 जमाकर्ताओं की मृत्यु हो गई थी । मेरा सरकार से निवेदन है कि ऐसे लाखों एकाउंट होल्डर्स के साथ न्याय होना चाहिए और सहकारी बैंकों के लिए व्यापक डिपोजिट इंश्योरेंस योजना लागू की जानी चाहिए । यह मामला न केवल बैंकिंग प्रणाली की खामियों को उजागर करता है, बल्कि भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) की निगरानी तंत्र की विफलता को भी दिखाता है ।

15.00 hrs

पीएमसी बैंक में धोखाधड़ी और कुप्रबंधन के कारण लाखों जमाकर्ताओं को अपनी मेहनत की कमाई तक पहुंचने से रोका गया है । आरबीआई, जो देश की बैंकिंग प्रणाली का संरक्षक है, इस घोटाले को रोकने में असफल रहा । इतना ही नहीं, यूनिटी फाइनेंस, जिसे बैंक का प्रबंधन सौंपा गया था, अब तक जमाकर्ताओं को उनकी राशि लौटाने में असफल रही है, भले ही उसने धनराशि की वसूली कर ली है ।

वर्ष 2021 में, आरबीआई ने सेंट्रल फाइनेंस और भारत पे के साथ पीएमसी बैंक के विलय को मंजूरी दी, जिससे यूनिटी बैंक का गठन हुआ । यह निर्णय बैंक बंद होने के दो साल बाद लिया गया, जबकि जमाकर्ता अपनी जमा राशि तक पहुंचने के लिए संघर्ष कर रहे थे । यह चौंकाने वाली बात है कि यस बैंक, जिसे केवल 20 दिनों में 15 हजार करोड़ रुपये के बेलआउट के साथ बचाया गया, वहीं पीएमसी बैंक, जिसका एनपीए मात्र 6 हजार करोड़

रुपये था, जिसके पास 10 लाख ग्राहक थे, को ऐसे किसी बेलआउट का लाभ नहीं दिया गया। इसके बजाय डीआईसीजीए ने सेंट्रम फाइनेंस को 4 हजार 5 सौ करोड़ रुपये का लगभग बिना ब्याज वाला ऋण प्रदान किया और बैंक की संपत्तियां, जिनकी कीमत हजारों करोड़ रुपये है, उनके हवाले कर दी।

पीएमसी बैंक के पास एक हजार पांच सौ करोड़ रुपये के मानक ऋण थे, जो नियमित आय दे रहे थे। इसके बावजूद यूनिटी बैंक ने जमाकर्ताओं को उनकी पूर्ण राशि लौटाने से इनकार कर दिया। हर जमाकर्ता को केवल 6 लाख रुपये का भुगतान किया गया, चाहे उनकी जमा राशि करोड़ों में ही क्यों न हो। इसका परिणाम यह हुआ कि लाखों ग्राहकों, खासकर वरिष्ठ नागरिक, अपने दैनिक खर्चों, चिकित्सा आवश्यकताओं और अन्य जरूरतों के लिए संघर्ष कर रहे हैं।

एचडीआईएल की संपत्तियों और अन्य ऋणों के वन-टाइम सेटलमेंट से हजारों करोड़ रुपये की वसूली हो चुकी है। यदि नहीं हुई, तो की जाए, फिर भी यूनिटी बैंक ने ग्राहकों को उनकी राशि का पूरा भुगतान करने के बजाय 10 लाख रुपये जमा करने वाले ग्राहकों को वन टाइम सेटलमेंट के तहत केवल 6 लाख का भुगतान किया, जिससे बैंक ने 3.70 लाख रुपये का तुरंत लाभ कमाया।

आरबीआई की अमलगमेशन योजना के अनुसार, यूनिटी बैंक शेष 40 हजार ग्राहकों को 9 लाख रुपये की राशि जनवरी, 2027 तक किस्तों में लौटाएगा और शेष राशि वर्ष 2032 तक, यानी पूरे 8 वर्षों के बाद, लौटाई जाएगी। यह योजना ग्राहकों के साथ एक बड़ा अन्याय है। यह संकट न केवल वित्तीय है, बल्कि नैतिक और सामाजिक भी है। लाखों ग्राहकों की मेहनत की कमाई को इस प्रकार बर्बाद होते देखना अत्यंत दुःखद है।

मैं सरकार और आरबीआई से कुछ कदम उठाने की मांग करता हूँ। पहला, सभी ग्राहकों को उनकी जमा राशि का तुरंत और पूरा भुगतान सुनिश्चित किया जाए। दूसरा, आरबीआई की इस विफलता की जांच की जाए और भविष्य में ऐसे मामलों से बचने के लिए ठोस नीति बनाई जाए। करीब 25 हजार बोगस खाते भी खोले गए। तीसरा, यूनिटी बैंक को वसूली गई राशि का उपयोग ग्राहकों को राहत प्रदान करने में करना चाहिए, न कि मुनाफा कमाने में। चौथा, एनसीएलटी जैसे संस्थानों के माध्यम से मामलों का तेजी से निपटारा किया जाए।

माननीय मंत्री महोदया, यह स्थिति न केवल जमाकर्ताओं के साथ अन्याय है, बल्कि हमारी बैंकिंग प्रणाली की विश्वसनीयता पर भी सवाल खड़े करती है। इसके अतिरिक्त सरकार इन बैंकों की निगरानी के लिए विशेष प्राधिकरण स्थापित करे और प्रभावित जमाकर्ताओं को राहत देने के लिए शीघ्र समाधान सुनिश्चित किया जाए।

बैंकिंग कानून (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2024 हमारे बैंकिंग क्षेत्र को अधिक सशक्त, पारदर्शी, और उत्तरदायी बनाने की दिशा में एक दूरदर्शी कदम है। यह विधेयक न केवल हमारे बैंकिंग तंत्र को आधुनिक बनाएगा, बल्कि ग्राहकों, निवेशकों और बैंकों के लिए एक सुरक्षित वातावरण सुनिश्चित करेगा।

अतः मैं इस विधेयक का पूर्ण समर्थन करता हूँ और आग्रह करता हूँ कि मेरे द्वारा दिए गए सुझावों पर भी विचार किया जाए। साथ ही, मैं PMC बैंक ग्राहकों के लिए शीघ्र न्याय की माँग करता हूँ। धन्यवाद।

SHRI KONDA VISHWESHWAR REDDY (CHEVELLA): The banks have a vital role in the nation's growth and development. They offer capital and financial services to industries, small businesses and individuals enabling them to thrive. The Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024 was introduced in August this year. The Bill aims to

bring about better governance, standardised definition of terms, standardised reports, greater autonomy to cooperatives and protect the depositors. These are all part of the much needed reforms in the banking industry. I feel all parties should support the Bill and I am glad to see that some of the Opposition Party Members are also supporting this Bill in the interest of the nation.

However, some hon. Members have reservations. One of the hon. Members from Congress seems to be opposing on certain grounds. In fact, there is no consistency. There is opposition among themselves. The hon. Member was saying that this Bill is an attack on the very federal system and the federal structure of this country because it goes into the cooperative banks which is a State subject. Yet another hon. Member says this is superfluous.

These are very simple and there could have been amendments that could have been done through an administrative decision. So, two sides of the Opposition are opposing one another. See this hon. Member from Congress who feels that the federal structure is threatened. He should know that if anything, any Bill was against the federal structure, it is the 97th amendment of the cooperative that the Congress Government brought in 2011. While the entire Bill was not struck down by the Supreme Court, it struck down those aspects of the Bill which actually infringed upon the State authority on July 20. So, if anything is against the federal structure, it is the Bill brought by the Congress Party. फेडरलिज्म खतरे में है, that is because of the Congress, the UPA Bill. लेकिन, आरोप हमारे पास है that we threaten the federal structure.

Some feel that five legislations through one Bill is too much. But imagine that 19 amendments through 19 Bills will take several years to pass in this House full of disruption, thanks to the Opposition. Also, they have forgotten that in 2013, the NDA Government amended it. It is a nice Bill. It is Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. This amendment also amended several Bills including the National Highways Act and the Railways Act showcasing the pattern and the comprehensive legislation aimed to address a critical issue. ? (*Interruptions*) Thank you, Sir. We will discuss this.

Our Government recognised the need for reforms in the banking sector after the previous Congress Government left the banks in doldrums with humongous NPAs leaving many banks on the verge of collapse. So, the hon. Member Gaurav Gogoi ji talked about the chronology. Give me a minute to talk about the chronology. We heard the history of banking industry from 1969 when the banks were suddenly

nationalised overnight. ? *(Interruptions)* It does not matter who opposed. ? *(Interruptions)* It happened. Whether it is good or bad, it can be discussed later. But it happened.

I respect the sentiment and the sensitivity of my colleagues from the Congress Party. So, I will not take the names. But the scam happened right here on the Parliament Street Branch, now the Sansad Marg Branch. I will not take names but at least, let us see what we can learn from it. Somebody called and Rs.60 lakh was transferred. What we can learn from it is that there was lack of good governance. There were no checks and balances. The bankers feared their political bosses. So, what we needed was regulation not merely nationalisation and political influence. But after that, to the abyss of the nineties, the entire nation was on the verge of bankruptcy due to political influence and the lack of checks and balance. In 1991, India faced the worst economic crisis on the brink of sovereign default. India's foreign exchanges were less than six billion dollars enough to meet two weeks of country's import. The Congress Government those days made the word 'Hindu' very, very popular all across the world. They made the word 'Hindu' very popular. Their effort to the Hindu rate of growth was in reference to the abysmally slow rate of economic growth in India. For the banking and the global economists, this was a popular term to refer to India. Everybody looked down upon India. But there was two or three per cent negative growth rate during the UPA time. There were two years negative growth rate. ? *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please address the Chair.

SHRI KONDA VISHWESHWAR REDDY: Now, our nation under Prime Minister Modi ji's leadership is looked upon for the highest growth rate among the large economies on the globe. We have seen pledging gold to shore up foreign reserve and all that. But the hon. Member Gaurav Gogoi ji also referred to devaluation of the Indian rupee.

During that time, in one week, two times devaluation happened. In total, more than 21 per cent devaluation was there. Economy is stable. The rupee is stabler than any currency in the world today. I am proud to say that it was P.V. Narasimha Rao, the then Prime Minister from the Congress Party, who is from my State, who steered the country through the mess and brought major reforms against nationalisation. And against the nationalisation policy, they brought in liberalisation and privatisation. But this is where it is. It is a directionless policy. Once they say nationalisation and once they say liberalisation, now, again, they

oppose many contemporary economic policies. Inconsistency and lack of direction were the hallmark of the UPA Governments, and this led to a tumultuous situation in the banks. But even after the reforms of 1990, the things were not so well.

Sir, we all actually appreciate it regardless of whichever Party was there. There was a huge growth rate in the subsequent UPA Government. But actually, what was hidden was all the NPAs amounted to lakhs of crores. They were unrecoverable loans hidden under different classification of NPAs. Sir, Kalyan Banerjee has just mentioned about jugglery of words. The jugglery of words and terminologies were done during the Congress Government. They were unrecoverable loans hidden under different classification of NPAs and everybody knew about it. The bankers knew it. The officials knew about it, and of course, the Ministry knew about it. But nobody had the courage to tell us that the banks were totally bankrupt. It is like a story: 'The Emperor's New Clothes'. Nobody had the courage to say that the emperor is totally naked and the banks are totally bankrupt. It is after the Modi Government that we recognised this problem and we pointed it out. Why was this problem? It was due to the stressed asset, including aggressive lending practices, wilful defaults, loan frauds, corruption, and also, another valid reason is economic slowdown. But under the UPA Government, the banks were heavily influenced by political interest and they extended loans to borrowers who had little intention of paying back.

Sir, in those days, I think, my colleague was referring to a phone banking. If you wanted a loan, you did not need to run to the bank or to the bank manager; you run to the MLA or an MP or the Minister to get the loan. After the NDA took office, Modi ji's Government recognised this problem and introduced the Bill called the Financial Resolution and Deposit Insurance (FRDI). There was a little opposition. So, they sent it to a Select Committee. I was in that Committee. And on this Committee, we were shocked to find that the so-called growing economy had so many skeletons hidden in the various reports. This is about banking. ? (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Member, please address the Chair. Please try to confine yourself within the scope of the Bill.

SHRI KONDA VISHWESHWAR REDDY: Yes, Sir, I am only talking about the banking in 1994. I am not talking about taxation, GST, Adani and all those things. I am only talking about banking. ? (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: No politics.

SHRI KONDA VISHWESHWAR REDDY: No politics and only banking. ? (*Interruptions*)
FRDI is banking. The Bill was later withdrawn because of many irrational as well as some rational reasons. Although we had a majority, we wanted to build a consensus. But nevertheless, the *aarop* on us is that we have a brute majority and we forced it through.

The FRDI Bill was a well-meaning Bill and we withdrew it. But it ended up with a series of reforms which transformed the banking sector. Today, the banks have not only turned around but thriving. The PSU banks' share prices increased to 200 to 300 per cent. In those days, if a small investor wanted to invest, he would invest in Wipro or TCS or Infosys. But now, if you invest in these, they double and triple the money in just two years. There is now 200-300 per cent return. And not only that, the McKinsey's Report praises us. There are many key legal provisions. I will not go through it because many speakers have already gone through it. But India's infrastructure requirement fund is about 10th of the GDP, and it is estimated that it needs about Rs. 1.43 lakh crore, and India depends on our banking sector to be healthy and thriving.

It is a miraculous turnaround. It is really miraculous and nobody believed in 2014 this would happen.

Many are asking, what about the poorer sections, what about the depressed sections? Lot of us completed our Disha meetings. That is our responsibility in our constituency. In the Disha meeting, we have a meeting with the Lead Bankers and we were shocked to find. If you compare from 2014 to now, in fact, in my district, it is unbelievable, the bankers target is Rs. 50,000 crore. Of course, they have not met but still it is almost 300 to 400 times what it was in 2014 and they are yet to meet the target. But whatever is there, they have amended that.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please conclude. ? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KONDA VISHWESHWAR REDDY: Sir, I will conclude but before I conclude, I will just convey two points.

We are talking about the middleclass and the household, disposable income. To me, the debt obligation is among the lowest in the world at 6.7 per cent. Yes, there is one more allegation, that of late, the deposits in the banks have reduced and that is because there are great opportunities for investment which this vibrant economy under Modi Ji has created. There are SIPs, systematic investment plans and mutual funds. Instead of putting a deposit in the State Bank of India, if you buy

the State Bank of India shares, you will make much more profits. And there are various avenues for investments that we have seen.

If you had gone to a village ten years ago, in 2014, there used to be ten motorcycles. If you go today in the same village, there are 300 to 400 motorcycles. There were 10 to 20 bank account holders. Now, there are 400 bank account holders.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please conclude.

SHRI KONDA VISHWESHWAR REDDY: I will conclude Sir. I have 20 minutes but I will conclude.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: One more speaker has to speak from your party.

SHRI KONDA VISHWESHWAR REDDY: Please give me two minutes.

So, it is the Antyodaya we are following and the hon. Member from Hyderabad asked a Starred Question about where the Mudra loans are going and what is happening. The maximum - I think, 300 per cent growth in the loans ? goes to the depressed classes. The Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana with bank accounts opening, Mudra Yojana, Stand Up India, Atmanirbhar, Street Vendors Programme, Vishvakarma Yojana - all these have really helped.

But I would conclude with one thing. There were policies that were directionless but this Government has a direction. But just a direction is not enough. We need a vector. Vector has both a direction and a magnitude. Even if you are going in the right direction, if you do not have magnitude, you will fall short. This Government, the vector, has the magnitude and direction and the trajectory is Viksit Bharat 2047.

Thank you, Sir.

श्री अरुण भारती (जमुई) : सभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया, इसके लिए धन्यवाद देता हूँ । मैं बैंकिंग लॉज (अमेंडमेंट) बिल, 2024 पर अपनी लोक जनशक्ति पार्टी (रामविलास) और अपने राष्ट्रीय अध्यक्ष श्री चिराग पासवान जी की तरफ से इस बिल के समर्थन में खड़ा हुआ हूँ ।

मैं इस बिल के लिए वित्त मंत्री जी और प्रधान मंत्री जी का भी अभिनंदन करना चाहूंगा । हमारी पार्टी की तरफ से पांच सुझाव हैं, जिनको मैं सदन में रखना चाहता हूँ और मैं चाहूंगा कि इन पर विचार हो । सबसे पहला विचार छोटे बैंकिंग कस्टमर्स और मार्जिनलाइज्ड लोगों के लिए है । बैंकों में मिनिमम बैंकिंग चार्जस 250 रुपये से लेकर लगभग 2500 रुपये तक प्राइवेट बैंक से लेकर सरकारी बैंकों में लगते हैं । मेरा सुझाव है कि उसके बारे में सोचा जाए, क्योंकि एक बड़ी आबादी है, जो इतने बड़े चार्जस को सहन नहीं कर सकती है । मान लीजिए अगर वे मंथली बैलेंस या क्वार्टर्ली बैलेंस मेन्टेन नहीं कर पाते हैं, तो उनकी सेवाओं में कमी की जाए, लेकिन उनसे यह

पीनल चार्ज नहीं लिया जाए । मैं बिहार से आता हूँ । मैं बिहार के परिप्रेक्ष्य में यह कहना चाहूंगा कि बिहार में रिटेल कस्टमर्स के द्वारा बैंकों में जो डिपॉजिट्स कलेक्ट किये जाते हैं, उनका लगभग 70 प्रतिशत हिस्सा बिहार से बाहर कर्ज के रूप में दिया जाता है । आपको पता है कि बिहार एक पिछड़ा राज्य है, लेकिन उसके बाद भी 60-70 प्रतिशत कर्ज के रूप में दिया जाएगा तो बिहार जैसे पिछड़े राज्य के लोगों को रोजगार और शिक्षा के लिए जो लोन की जरूरत है, वह कैसे पूरी हो पाएगी? इसी कारण से लोन महंगे होते हैं । मैं तीसरे सुझाव पर आता हूँ कि एजुकेशन लोन को सस्ता करने के बारे में सोचा जाए । इस पर जो इंटरेस्ट लगता है उसको कम करने के बारे में सोचा जाए । इसको कोलेट्रल फ्री किया जाए । सीईजीएसएससी या सीजीटीएमएसई के द्वारा या फिर जो इंटरेस्ट पेमेंट है, उसको सबवेंशन या फिर सब्सिडी के रूप में देने के बारे में सोचा जाए ।

सर, अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति समाज, जिस समाज से मैं आता हूँ, उस समाज में कर्ज को लेकर जागृति नहीं है और कर्ज लेने की प्रवृत्ति नहीं है और बहुत कम कर्ज हमारे लोग ले पाते हैं । इसीलिए, पूर्व वित्त मंत्री श्री अरुण जेटली जी द्वारा एक योजना शुरू की गयी थी- Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Caste. सर, यह एक बहुत ही अनोखा फंड है, जिससे अनुसूचित जाति और जनजाति के लोगों को बहुत ही सस्ते दर पर कर्ज मिल पाता है । लेकिन यह अभी तक सिर्फ एक एग्ज़िक््यूटिव ऑर्डर है, इसको संवैधानिक जामा पहनाया जाए और इसे कानून के रूप में लाया जाए ।

सर, मेरा अंतिम सुझाव यह है कि बहुत सारी बैंकिंग सर्विसेस के चार्जिस लगते हैं । एसएमएस के चार्जिस हैं, चैक बुक इश्यु करने के चार्जिस हैं । कोर्ट ने भी कई बार टिप्पणियां की हैं कि बैंक इन सारे चार्जिस को अपने कस्टमर्स पर न लगाएं, लेकिन इसके बावजूद भी बैंक इस तरह के चार्जिस कस्टमर्स पर लगाता रहा है और कोर्ट की टिप्पणियों की अवहेलना करता रहा है ।

लास्ट में मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि मैं माननीय सदस्य श्री संबित पात्रा जी की इस बात से सहमत हूँ कि माइक्रो पेमेंट्स के लिए सरकार ने यूपीआई या आईएमपीएस की सुविधा बनायी है, उससे रिटेल इन्वेस्टर्स को बहुत फायदा हुआ है और यही फर्क यूपीए और यूपीआई में है ।

SHRI P. V. MIDHUN REDDY (RAJAMPET): Thank you, Sir. The banking sector is growing at a phenomenal pace and hopefully, these changes, these amendments what the hon. Finance Minister has brought, will help us keep up the pace.

She has brought some key positive reforms, firstly, on auditor accountability and then on simplified reporting, advocating a uniform filing schedule on 15th and the last day of every month etc. This will reduce a lot of administrative bottlenecks and then provide flexibility for depositors and also broader credit access in raising the threshold for substantial interest from Rs.5 lakh to Rs.2 crore. Actually, we should say that all these will help our banking sector. I have a few suggestions to make.

One is regarding the farmers and the other is the MSME sector. Nearly 62 per cent of the people of our country are dependent on agriculture and the farmers are very important for the prosperity of our country. A lot has been said about the farmers and there have been so many schemes where they have been given loans with

credit waiver, subsidies and even collateral free loans etc. But much is not happening on the ground.

We have to create more jobs in the MSME sector. The MSME sector has to be supported in a proper way. If we can provide incentives to commercial banks in the form of tax rebates or refunds for diversified credits to selected MSME sectors, low-scale farmers, etc., this might help the credit supply at the banking end and it will help both the farming community and the MSME sector.

One more important issue I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister is that if you see student loans, they contribute to the highest portion of non-performing loans as of this year as per RBI's financial stability report, July, 2024. This is because we have not structured education loans in a proper way and we are giving them as personal loans. We, as a country, have the highest percentage of youth compared to any other country in the world. Without proper education to our children, our country is not going to go in the right direction. So, I request the hon. Finance Minister to create a structure so that all these NPAs are taken care of and the students get the flexibility of repayment without having the pressure of being NPA accounts.

Sir, I would like to talk about Andhra Pradesh Government's agreement with SECI in power sector. There is a Telugu saying where one person said a bull or ox has given birth to a calf, the other person said go with the tide without even applying his mind. Same is happening here. The Andhra Pradesh Government has made a contract with SECI, and it was not done with any private player like Adani or anybody else. I want to bring this to the notice of the House. SECI is a Central Government organisation. SECI has not only made an agreement with Andhra Pradesh but with also many other States whether they are NDA-ruled States or INDIA alliance-ruled States. How can there be a misdoing, and that too at the cost of power which was agreed to be given at Rs. 2.49? It was done in 2021, and now it is 2024.

I would like to bring to the notice of the House the latest auctions which have happened and in the biddings various players have participated. In case of NTPC, in May, 2024, the cost of power was Rs. 2.69 paise. If you see, in May, 2024, in case of SECI, even in case of SECI, which has signed with various people who have participated in the bidding, it is Rs. 2.57 paise. In all the bids which have been done in 2024, the costs were more than Rs. 2.49 paise. Over the years, the cost of panels is also coming down. We got a better rate in 2021. This has been propagated badly

by selected media houses and so-called pseudo intellectuals, which is not good. Through you, I would like to bring this to the attention of everybody in this House. This is a contract between the Central Government organisation and the State Government with the lowest rate. When the average cost of power was Rs. 5.90 paise, even then it did happen. The average cost of solar power before 2019 was Rs. 5.90 paise which came down to Rs. 2.49 paise. Not only Andhra Pradesh but all our neighbouring States have signed contracts with SECI for more than Rs. 2.49 paise. The State of Andhra Pradesh had the facility of waiver of inter-state transmission charges.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Member, though your point is not connected with the Bill, you have made your point. Please come to some other issue.

SHRI P. V. MIDHUN REDDY: Sir, if you see, on GITAM, the cost of solar power is Rs. 3, plus two per cent commission for energy exchange, plus IST charges, plus 3-4 per cent loses. It is way above what we have signed. I want them to apply their minds and not be biased.

Thank you very much.

श्री सुधाकर सिंह (बक्सर) : माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं बैंकिंग कानून (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2024 का विरोध करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ, क्योंकि ये नियम बैंकों को कमजोर बना सकते हैं और आम लोगों के हितों को नुकसान पहुंचा सकते हैं। भले ही इन नियमों का कहना है कि ये बैंकों को और बेहतर बनाएंगे, लेकिन ये नियम बड़े लोगों को और ज्यादा ताकत दे सकते हैं और आम लोगों की आवाज को दबा सकते हैं। मुझे डर है कि इन नियमों की वजह से बैंक पारदर्शी नहीं रहेंगे और लोग अपने पैसे को लेकर सुरक्षित महसूस नहीं करेंगे।

इसमें एक विषय है कि सहकारी बैंकों के बैंकिंग विनियमन अधिनियम, 1949 की धारा 10 ए के तहत सहकारी बैंकों में निदेशकों का कार्यकाल 8 साल से बढ़ाकर 10 साल करने का प्रस्ताव लोकतांत्रिक कार्यप्रणाली को कमजोर करता है। अगर इन लोगों का कार्यकाल बढ़ा दिया जाता है तो ये लोग बहुत लंबे समय तक बैंक पर राज करेंगे और हो सकता है कि वे अपने निजी फायदे के लिए काम करें, न कि आम लोगों के हित में काम करें।

दूसरा, इसमें यह विषय है कि बैंकों में जो जमाकर्ता है, उसके संरक्षण का कानून कमजोर पड़ेगा। पहले यह नियम था कि अगर किसी व्यक्ति के पास किसी कंपनी के 5 लाख रुपये से ज्यादा के शेयर हैं, तो वह उस कंपनी के फैसलों पर बहुत ज्यादा प्रभाव डाल सकता है। इसलिए उस पर नज़र रखी जाती थी। लेकिन अब यह सीमा पांच लाख रुपये से बढ़ाकर दो करोड़ रुपये कर दी गई है। इसका मतलब है कि अब बहुत अमीर लोग बैंकों पर बहुत ज्यादा प्रभाव डाल सकते हैं और हो सकता है कि वे बैंकों का निजी इस्तेमाल अपने निजी हित में करें। इस कानून से सरकारी बैंकों पर नज़र रखने और उन्हें जवाबदेह बनाने की क्षमता कमजोर होगी। जहां विधेयक सार्वजनिक क्षेत्रों के बैंकों को लेखा परीक्षक पारिश्रमिक निर्धारित करने में विवेक प्रदान करता है, भारतीय स्टेट बैंक अधिनियम, 1955 की धारा 41, यह कदम लेखापरीक्षक की स्वतंत्रता से समझौता कर सकता है, जोड़-तोड़ के लिए अवसर पैदा कर सकता है और सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के बैंक संचालन में पारदर्शिता को कम कर सकता है।

इसमें चौथा विषय है कि जमाकर्ता शिक्षा और संरक्षण कोष के उपयोग के निर्धारण में बहुत अस्पष्टता उभर कर आएगी। जो कोष बनेगा, उस कोष में जो पैसे होंगे, उसका क्या इस्तेमाल किया जाएगा? यह डर है कि इस तरह के पैसे का इस्तेमाल दूसरे कार्यों में होगा।

ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों की जो वाजिब चिंताएं थीं, उनको इसमें नज़रअंदाज़ किया गया है। विधेयक शहरी-केन्द्रित सुधारों पर असमान रूप से केंद्रित प्रतीत होता है। क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंकों और सहकारी बैंकों द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली अनूठी चुनौतियों की उपेक्षा करता है, जो हाशिए के समुदायों के लिए वित्तीय जीवन रेखा के रूप में काम करते हैं। इन संस्थाओं को व्यापक जनोमुखी संशोधनों के बजाय अधिक समर्थन और अनुकूलित नीतियों की आवश्यकता है। खास तौर से हमारे ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में रहने वाले लोग, छोटे कारोबारियों को ऋण देने के लिए जो सार्वजनिक बैंक थे, धीरे-धीरे वे अपना अधिकार लगभग एनबीएफसी को ट्रांसफर कर रहे हैं और एनबीएफसी कठोर तरीके से ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में कारोबार कर रही है। बिहार के बांका की घटना एक उदाहरण है, जहां चार लोगों ने मात्र 20 लाख रुपए ऋण लिए थे, लेकिन उसे नहीं चुका पाने के कारण चार लोगों ने आत्महत्या कर ली। यह पता चला कि ज्यादातर ऋण एनबीएफसी के जरिए लिए गए थे। ये परिस्थितियां बहुत विकट होती जा रही हैं।

वित्तीय समावेशन में अनसुलझी चुनौतियों पर भी ध्यान देना होगा। भारत में बहुत से लोग अभी भी बैंकिंग सुविधाओं का इस्तेमाल नहीं कर पाते हैं। खासतौर से गांव के गरीब लोग, इस कानून में इन लोगों की समस्याओं को हल करने के लिए कोई ठोस कदम नहीं उठाए गए हैं। इसके बजाय, इस कानून में बैंकों के काम करने के तरीके को बदलने पर ज्यादा जोर दिया गया है, जो कि इन लोगों के लिए बहुत फायदेमंद नहीं होगा।

माननीय सभापति महोदय, बैंकिंग कानून में बदलाव लाने वाला नया कानून, जो हाल ही में पेश किया गया है, केवल बड़े लोगों के फायदे के लिए बनाया गया है और आम लोगों की चिंताओं को पूरी तरह से नजरअंदाज़ करता है। यह कानून कुछ बड़े लोगों को और ज्यादा ताकत देगा और छोटे बैंकों और आम लोगों की बात को कम महत्व देता है, खासकर गांवों में रहने वाले लोगों की।

मैं सरकार से गुजारिश करता हूं कि वह इस कानून पर दोबारा सोचे और इसमें कुछ बदलाव करे ताकि हर किसी को बराबर का हक मिले और बैंकों को लोगों के पैसे के बारे में जवाबदेह होना पड़े। बैंक लोगों के विश्वास पर चलते हैं और हमें ऐसे कानून बनाने चाहिए जो इस विश्वास को और मजबूत करे।

यह नया कानून सिर्फ कहता है कि हम कुछ सुधार कर रहे हैं, लेकिन जिस तरीके से इसे बनाया जा रहा है और लागू किया जाएगा, वह देश के हित में नहीं है। अगर सरकार सच में चाहती है कि हर किसी के पास बैंक का खाता हो और लोगों का पैसा सुरक्षित रहे, तो उसे आम लोगों की समस्याओं पर ध्यान देना होगा। संसद सिर्फ कानून बनाने की जगह नहीं है, बल्कि लोगों की आवाज सुनने और उन पर भरोसा करने की जगह भी है। धन्यवाद।

SHRI KARTI P. CHIDAMBARAM (SIVAGANGA): Sir, the Indian rupee against the US dollar today is at Rs. 84.73. The growth rate in this last quarter is 5.4 per cent, which is the lowest in seven quarters, and inflation is at 6.21 per cent. Whenever inflation is greater than the economic growth, and if that continues, it will lead to stagflation. In this backdrop, this Government has brought about the Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024.

When the hon. Prime Minister, was parroting the slogan, '400 Paar?', he held a Cabinet Meeting in March, where he said that when he comes back to power, he will have a 100-day agenda where they will bring about majestic reforms. I am sorry to say that if these are the reforms which the Government talks about, this is hardly majestic. This is merely tinkering on the margins, and innocuous changes which they have brought about.

I will talk about one or two changes they have brought about, and what they have missed out in this Bill. They have said that now, you can nominate people successively or simultaneously for bank lockers and for deposits. I hope they clarify the rules clearly. If there is a certain amount of jewellery in a bank deposit, and they say that simultaneously it will be given to many people, the person who is opening the locker must clearly specify which jewel will go to which person.

Otherwise, what will happen is, if there is no clarity, the bank will say that there is no clarity and will confiscate or not give the jewel to anybody. It will lead to lots of confusion. In successive nominations, what will happen is, if A nominates B, and after B it is X, Y and Z, and if for some reason A passes away and then B also passes away, it is very likely that the bank will ask Mr. X to bring the death certificates of Mr. B and Mr. A, where he might not even know Mr. B. So, there can be lots of administrative confusions in the successive and simultaneous nominations. The Government and, hopefully, the Minister must clarify the procedure through which successive and simultaneous nominations will be done.

The other point is with regard to the unclaimed dividend. They said that unclaimed dividends will be sent to the Investor Education and Protection Fund. The Minister must clarify how much fund is already existing in the Investor Education and Protection Fund, and what that fund is doing in terms of educating people about dubious public issues which are still coming up today and about the financial fraud which is happening in the banking sector. There is no point in creating a fund and adding more and more money to it, if you do not know what that fund is doing, and how the fund in that corpus is being spent.

Sir, this Bill has missed out on many things. They could have brought about some monumental changes in ease of doing business. As you know, so much cyber fraud is happening there. What is the Government doing to stop cyber fraud? The Government must bring about a clear policy to stop cyber frauds.

Then, the tyranny of KYC is happening. I am sure, you also have a bank account which is linked to some phone number. I am sure they are calling you all the time and asking you to update KYC. I think we should stop this tyranny of KYC when nothing has changed. Your name has not changed, your parents name has not changed, your address has not changed, nothing has changed but the bank is calling you millions of times in a year asking you to update your KYC, and it is a serious harassment because they are outsourcing the KYC process to some third-party agency, and that agency has to make these calls to harass you. In order to make life easier for the customer, the Government must simplify and mandate that if there is no change, there is no reason to update your KYC multiple times in a year.

Sir, another thing that I would like to bring to your kind notice is with regard to CIBIL. Like Chitragupta makes accounts of all our activities in this world to Yamadarma, there is this agency called CIBIL, which is making a record of all our transactions. If you want to take a car loan, if the Finance Minister of this country wants to take a house loan, everything depends on the CIBIL score. But nobody knows how the CIBIL organization works. It is actually a private company called TransUnion. This is the company which is rating every one of us based on our credit history. But we do not know whether they are updating our credit history properly. There is no transparency. There is no way for us to appeal. There is a complete asymmetry between the company which is rating us and us. There is no redressal at all. Every time we go tell a bank, I have paid my loan on time, they will say no your CIBIL score is bad. So, we do not know how to approach CIBIL. The farmers who get subsidy from the Government, when they use the subsidy to repay the loan, CIBIL does not update it. If you go for a settlement with an ARC, CIBIL does not update it. So, there must be greater transparency.

Sir, the Government has missed out an opportunity to make life easier by reforming these things instead of just tinkering in the margins. This Government has been a Government which has been very pro-corporate. I will give you a list of companies, which include Karaikal Port Private Limited, Korba West Power, Essar Power Madhya Pradesh Ltd, Radius Estates and Developers Ltd., Dighi Port Ltd., Aditya Estates, etc. These are all distressed sale of assets which went to ?A? Corporate. Instead of focusing on corporates, this Government should focus on writing off the student loans, which is only Rs.90,000 crore. So, instead of giving haircuts to corporates and being pro-corporate, you could have easily written off the student loans.

Sir, this Bill is nothing majestic, it is an innocuous Bill. It has nothing to make life easier. It is completely anti-consumer and anti-middle class. This Bill must be withdrawn, and a reformist Bill must be brought forward. Thank you very much, Sir.

SHRI E. T. MOHAMMED BASHEER (MALAPPURAM): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, as far as India is concerned, we are having a very strong banking system. As far as the proposals in this Bill are concerned, there are glimpses of some good suggestions.

The Bill seeks to improve governance standards, provide consistency in reporting by banks to the Reserve Bank of India, ensure better protection for depositors and investors, improve audit quality in public sector banks, bring customer convenience in respect of nominations and to provide for increase in the tenure of Directors in cooperative banks. All these things are meant to bring improvement in the banking system, to increase trustworthiness of the depositor and improve his confidence in the banking system. That is a very important thing. Trustworthiness is the most important capital of a bank ? trust between the customer and the bank. There are certain proposals and they are effective also.

As far as nomination facility is concerned, that is okay. Instead of one, it is going to be four. This seems to be a practical thing.

I would like to mention about the tenure of the Director of cooperative banks. People have mentioned about other points also. The tenure of the Director of a cooperative bank is extended up to 10 years instead of up to eight years. I do not find much logic in that. I hope that the Minister will explain what benefit she is expecting from such a change. I feel that it is better to maintain the old system because there is not much meaning in the new system. It is better to continue with the existing tenure of eight years.

Regarding the unclaimed funds, Mr. Chidambaram was speaking. Anyhow, that also seems to be a practical thing. Instead of keeping the funds idle, they will be transferred to the IEPF which will also be used for the welfare of the members of the system. The affected people can still claim their money later. This seems to avoid further complications.

Regarding auditors, the banks will now decide how much to pay to their auditors instead of RBI. What needs to be discussed is whether it is feasible or not.

Sir, the strength of our banking system is the widespread network we are having. Diversified portfolio is another plus point for the Indian banking system.

Towards the end, I would like to say, like other Members have said, something about the bank frauds. We have to address this problem properly. Until and unless we address that, we will be failing in our duty.

Sir, we all know of the challenges. There is a regulatory mechanism. I would like to suggest to the hon. Finance Minister to examine whether our system is perfect or not and whether in the light of new challenges, we should reform and revamp our system of regulatory mechanism.

Sir, in the end, I would say something about the education loans given to students. It is a cumbersome process. I humbly appeal to the Government to ensure the speedy disposal of such loan applications. The Government should take this matter also with seriousness.

Thank you very much.

SHRI SACHITHANANTHAM R. (DINDIGUL): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, the Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024 seeks to amend the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, the State Bank of India Act, 1955, Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and 1980. On behalf of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), I propose some amendments to the amendments which the hon. Finance Minister has proposed.

Sir, it seeks to increase the substantial interest from five lakhs of rupees to two crores of rupees. It is on the higher side. Compared to the price rise and taking other things into consideration, it can at best be increased to Rs. 50 lakh.

It seeks to amend the tenure of Directors in the cooperative banks from eight years to ten years. In our opinion, the increase in tenure will lead to vested interests. So, instead the tenure could be reduced to five years.

It seeks to amend the reporting dates. That is fine. The reporting dates can be amended.

It seeks to amend the nomination rules. For a locker, instead of a single nominee or a joint nominee, it provides for four nominees, one after another. It is a welcome move.

There is another amendment with regard to transfer of dividends, shares, and interest or redemption of bonds to the Investor Education and Protection Fund. We have to ensure that the claims after transfer are made hassle free. Then it can be

allowed. The amount that is transferred must also be properly utilised to not only educate the banking clients but also to prevent the cybercrimes which are increasingly very alarming now-a-days. It is again seeking to amend the provisions to provide discretion to public sector banks in the matter of remuneration of auditors. Again, this will create vested interest to the top management of the public sector banks. This aspect need not be amended. It should be continued as it is in the present system. Thousands of employees in the public sector banks fear job insecurity due to privatization. This Bill does little to address their concerns. Why is the Government not prioritizing employment stability, especially in the time of rising unemployment? This Bill is yet another example of the Government prioritizing privatization under corporate interests over the welfare of the common people. It jeopardizes the stability of the banking sector, compromises financial inclusion, and creates opportunities to misuse the system.

I urge the Government to reconsider its approach and prioritize strengthening our public banking system. Let us not sacrifice the nation's financial stability at the altar of privatization.

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, Sir, for providing me this opportunity to intervene in this debate. I have already given notices of more than 10 amendments. I will not speak at the time of moving amendments. So, I may be provided with a little bit of bonus time.

Sir, the Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024 is against the basic principles of legislative process. At the time of introduction of the Bill itself, I have made my opposition. It is because the distinct provisions of different Bills proposed to be amended put together for attaining different aims and objects is not a fair legislative practice for which distinct and separate Bills have to be brought in the House so as to make amendments. In this case, five legislations are to be amended. I am not going into the details of that. The hon. Member from the other side has said that they are consequential amendments. These are all not consequential amendments. One is regarding the Cooperative Board Director, the other one is regarding the threshold, and another one is entirely different. So, different Acts for different purposes clubbed together and coming as a consolidated law means this is not a fair legislative practice. That is my technical objection regarding this Bill that I have made at the time of the introduction of the Bill also.

Sir, coming to the contents of the Bill, I support the Bill with some reservations. The recent reports relating to the Indian banking sector shows that Indian banks are more vibrant and resilient and key banking indicators, namely, credit growth, net profit, GNPA ratio, NNPA ratio, and PCR are in good condition. I do admit. I would like to know this from the hon. Finance Minister. At the same time, when you are making a rosy picture of the financial and fiscal health of the Indian banks, what is the amount written off during the last three financial years?

It is learned that the last quarterly profit of SBI is Rs. 18,000 crore. It means per day SBI is making a profit of Rs. 200 crore. I would like to know this from the hon. Minister. In the recent reply on 25th November, 2024 given by the hon. Minister to Question No. 144, it was mentioned that for the industry alone, Rs. 1,80,500 crore are written off in the financial year 2023-24. As far as the retail loans are concerned, Rs. 90,000 crore have been waived off. So, this is the way by which the banks are functioning. I would like to know the clear picture regarding this.

Mr. Karti Chidambaram was talking about the educational loans. The SARFAESI Act has become a big phenomenon and it has become a big issue. As far as the single house loan borrowers and the small and micro enterprises loans are concerned, I suggest to the hon. Minister that when it becomes an NPA, an opportunity may be provided to the small and micro enterprises.

It is because small and micro enterprises loans are 80 per cent of the MSME or 95 per cent of the MSME. They should be given an opportunity to restructure the loans instead of stamping it as an NPA. This has to be taken into consideration for which the Government of India has to discuss with the Reserve Bank of India so as to have an amicable solution to help and protect the small and micro enterprises.

I am coming to the issue of cashew industry in my Constituency in the State of Kerala. Not only in the State of Kerala, but throughout the country 95 per cent of the cashew workers are poor women belonging to the very downtrodden people. The Chief Minister of the State has convened a meeting of all the banks in the SLBC and decided to have a one-time settlement. But unfortunately, the banks are not honouring and complying with the commitment given at the time of SLBC. This issue has to be looked into.

Coming to the Clauses of the Bill, Section 45ZA, that is Clause 10 of the Bill says that the Banking Regulation has to be amended to give effect to provide nomination for not more than four persons either successively or simultaneously. Mr. Karti

Chidambaram has made a very vital point. Successive and simultaneous nomination is more problematic for the existing provisions of the law. I will explain it. ? (*Interruptions*)

Sir, I am purely within the Bill.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Yes, I know it. Time constraint is there. The Minister has to give the reply.

? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Sir, Madam is ready to hear. Madam will reply after 10-15 minutes.

Sir, I am fully confining to the Bill. Another important amendment is that the proposed amendments give provision for proportionate allocation for nominees. This is successive and simultaneous nomination. There is a restriction of nominees to four. My first question is this. Is it in consonance with the Succession Act? I am asking this because a nominee is only entitled to collect the money. He is legally not entitled to get the money. A nominee means he is only entitled to receive the money. Suppose, I am having five sons and I want to give five persons as nominees, why should we restrict the number of nominees to four instead of having the number of legal heirs among which I want to allocate the money?

I would like to reiterate the second point that he has raised about Investor Education and Protection Fund. By virtue of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act of 1976 as well as 1980, it provides for transferring unpaid or unclaimed dividend to an unpaid dividend account. If the money in the unclaimed dividend account is not paid or not claimed within seven years, then it will be transferred to Investor Education and Protection Fund and they can claim from that fund. It is reliably learnt that as on 31/10/2022, the total balance amount in IEPF is around Rs. 5,539.25 crore. How is this money being utilized? A huge amount of money is locked up as unclaimed deposits. About Rs. 78,000 crore are lying with the RBI in the Depositor Education and Awareness Fund. Similarly, a huge amount is locked up as unclaimed amount under insurance policies that will come to around Rs. 22,000 crore. Similarly, unclaimed amount of interest warrant and dividend warrant will be equal to Rs. 80,000 crore. Most of the amount is due to be paid to the legal heirs, but due to the difficult procedure it is very difficult to get it back.

A recent Report prepared by the Money Life Foundation suggested to simplify the standard of procedures and rules so that the legal heirs can avail the benefits. So, I would urge upon the hon. Minister that the RBI has to simplify the procedure duly guarding against fraudulent claims so that the bank officials can also settle the claim and protect the interest of the claimants.

With these words, I conclude. Thank you very much, Sir.

श्री सुदामा प्रसाद (आरा) : सभापति जी, अदम गोंडवी जी की एक कविता है कि ?

?तुम्हारी फाइलों में गांव का मौसम गुलाबी है,

मगर ये आंकड़े झूठे हैं, ये दावा किताबी है,

तुम्हारी मेज चांदी की, तुम्हारे जाम सोने के,

यहां जुम्न के घर में आज भी फूटी रकाबी है ।?

महोदय, हमने सोचा था कि बैंकों के लेन-देन के मामले में कोई अहम बदलाव इस बिल में आएगा, लेकिन वह कहीं दिखाई नहीं पड़ा ।

महोदय, हमारे एक माननीय सदस्य ने सदन को यह बताया कि पिछले वर्षों में बैंकों के 10 लाख करोड़ रुपये वसूल किए गए । मैं यह भी एक आंकड़ा जानना चाहता हूं कि पिछले 11 वर्षों में कितने लोगों के बैंक कर्ज़ माफ किए गए । यह आंकड़ा आना चाहिए । कर्ज़ वसूला गया आम आदमी से, आम किसानों से, छोटे-मझोले दुकानदारों और कारखानेदारों से, और कर्ज़ माफ किया गया अडाणी, अम्बानी सरीखे कॉर्पोरेट घरानों के । बैंकों की पूंजी का प्रवाह कॉर्पोरेट घरानों की तरफ है, आम आदमी की तरफ नहीं है । आम आदमी को लोन नहीं मिलता है । अगर एक साधारण किसान 50,000 रुपये के लोन को समय पर जमा नहीं करता है तो उसकी कमर में रस्सा बांध कर उसे घुमाते हुए गिरफ्तार किया जाता है, जेल ले जाया जाता है । मुझे लगता है कि बैंकों की दिशा और उसकी पूंजी का प्रवाह आम आदमी की तरफ किया जाना चाहिए ।

महोदय, यह कहा गया कि भारत देश दुनिया की चौथी सबसे बड़ी अर्थव्यवस्था है और कुछ वर्षों में हमारी अर्थव्यवस्था दुनिया की तीसरी सबसे बड़ी अर्थव्यवस्था हो जाएगी । जब देश में अब तक की सबसे ज्यादा बेरोजगारी हो, महंगाई हो, विकास दर तेजी से घट रहा हो, किसानों की खेती भयानक रूप से घाटे का शिकार हो, छोटे-मझोले दुकानदारों और कारखानेदारों का व्यवसाय चौपट हो रहा हो, आम आदमी की आमदनी घट रही हो, तो फिर हम दुनिया की चौथी बड़ी अर्थव्यवस्था कैसे हैं? सर, एक साल में एक तिमाही में विकास दर दो प्रतिशत घटा है और ये मजबूती के दावे कर रहे हैं ।

SHRI K. E. PRAKASH (ERODE): Hon. Chairman Sir, Vanakkam. I thank hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu for giving me this opportunity to speak in the discussion on Banking Laws Amendment Bill, 2024. The State Bank of India has identified as many as 40000 mule accounts or fake accounts. Punjab National Bank has identified 10000 such accounts and Canara Bank 7000 mule accounts. Data says

that this is the amount of fraud. Even Mahindra Bank has 6000 mule accounts. In such a fashion, there are several number of mule accounts in different Banks. For example, I am a Member of Parliament from Tamil Nadu. Hon. Finance Minister is also from Tamil Nadu. In my personal account almost Rs. 10,640 has been debited in one year. I am unable to understand how it was deducted. I think and feel that it has been a loot made in my personal bank account. I want to share the details. On 1.1.2024, the opening balance in my current account was Rs. 25,374. I will share every entry in my passbook.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon Member please make it brief. Just say how much you lost from your Bank Account.

SHRI K. E. PRAKASH: Sir, I will be brief. Rs. 10,640 was deducted. This amount has been taken away by bank even though I maintained minimum balance in my account. There may be lakhs and lakhs of such accounts of common people. If there is misuse of money by Bank as regards the MP's account what can we say amount common man or an ordinary citizen. Through restricting the number of ATM transactions and insisting to maintain the minimum balance, as much as Rs. 38,587 crore was collected as fine by the Union Government. My demand to the Union Government is that KYC compliance should be made mandatory and every account should be verified. As many as 13,563 accounts are linked with court cases. Similarly, as many as 70000 such accounts are in bad condition. This shows the need of addressing the shortcomings of the banking System. You should take forward making KYC norms mandatory and fake accounts should be removed. You should understand the gravity of the issue as even MPs are loosing money in such situation of malpractices. For example, the Tamil Nadu Government is providing financial assistance of Rs. 1000 each to the families in Tamil Nadu. There are problems faced by people as regards bank accounts.

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18.00 hrs

HON. CHAIRPERSON : Hon. Member, please wait. Hon. Members, the time is already six o'clock. A few more Members are going to speak. Thereafter, the Minister has to give her reply. I want to know the sense of the House to extend the time. If it is possible, it can be extended up to seven o'clock.

SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL: It is better to postpone it for the next day, Sir.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: No, the Minister has to give the reply.

? (Interruptions)

SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL: My request to the Government is to postpone it for tomorrow.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: No, the Minister has to reply today. I think the time may be extended up to seven o'clock.

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: Sir, we requested in the BAC also that single-party MPs should be given a chance.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: We are giving. See, I am having a list. Gogoi ji, I am having a list. I want to accommodate. In spite of that, time has to be extended. Since it is already six o'clock, let it be extended up to seven o'clock.

Hon. Member, please continue. Time is extended till seven o'clock. Please continue.

SHRI K. E. PRAKASH (ERODE): The money that has been taken away or looted from the Accounts of each citizen should be returned back safely. Hon Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has provided Rs. 1000 as monthly financial assistance under a Scheme to each and every household of Tamil Nadu. Union Government has taken away this Rs 1000 from each person in a peculiar manner claiming that they had not maintained minimum balance in their respective accounts. We think that the money paid by us, the State Government of Tamil Nadu is taken away by Union Government. I request hon. Finance Minister to bring an amendment on banking services to rectify this. People who are engaged in small businesses are very much affected. I urge that they should be protected. I urge that you will complete our demands and fulfil our requests. Thank you.

ADV. FRANCIS GEORGE (KOTTAYAM): Sir, the Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024, as has been said by many of our colleagues earlier, tries to amend five Acts. In fact, all these issues are important. I would not discount. I would not say that these are not important. But I think, one particular area, which the Minister and the Government should have concentrated on, is the application of the SARFAESI Act and the high-handed and unilateral actions taken by the banks especially with regard to the MSMEs in our country.

There are six crore enterprises under this particular category of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. It generates employment. It brings in innovation in the

industrial and manufacturing sector. So, even the Supreme Court is on record saying that. The Supreme Court has decided that banks or creditors must find early signs of trouble in MSME accounts before they become non-performing assets. The focus is on a notification called Instructions for the Framework for Revival and Rehabilitation of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises issued on May 29, 2015. This notification was updated by the RBI in March, 2016. These updates were made using the powers given by Sections 29 and 35A of the Banking Regulation Act. The Court said that the May 2015 notification has statutory force, meaning it is legally binding on all scheduled commercial banks licenced by the RBI. So, according to the Court, the banks must follow the process outlined in the Framework to help MSMEs before their accounts are labelled as NPAs. But in the actual situation, what is happening?

Sir, the Government brought these laws, these instructions, and these Acts, plus, there is a framework for the revival of the MSMEs. The RBI guidelines are strengthened under Section 21 and 35A of the Banking Regulation Act. But Sir, the banks are violating these RBI guidelines and the provisions of the MSME Act. They are misusing the SARFAESI Act. Most of the MSME owners cannot afford legal recourse leading to closure of their companies, which causes loss of livelihoods and economic distress.

Sir, I would like to cite one case in particular that has happened in Kerala. A Kerala-based commercial bank has acted so high handedly that the hon. Minister should take particular note of this. About Rs. 77 crore was availed by two companies. They paid back Rs. 101 crore as capital and interest. Out of Rs. 77 crore, they paid back Rs. 101 crore as capital and interest. But the bank authority has auctioned their properties and the building. Even their non-mortgaged property was auctioned under the SARFAESI Act. Only the valuable property and the factory were auctioned, and the machinery was left out.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please conclude.

ADV. FRANCIS GEORGE: The machinery became a heap of scrap. Sir, please understand. The hon. Minister should kindly take a note of it. The banks unilaterally have raised the interest. They have raised the interest from 18 per cent to 20 per cent. How can a small, medium and micro industry survive at the rate of 18 to 20 per cent of interest? The bank auctioned the property and building for Rs. 4.65 crore, which is valued at Rs. 17 crore.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please wind up. I will be confined to call other Members.

ADV. FRANCIS GEORGE: I am concluding. Sir, 5.45 acres of land plus 47,169 square feet of building were auctioned off at Rs. 4.65 crore. The property itself was valued at Rs. 17 crore. This is the way the banks are active. When we attempt to amend the banking laws, we have to really address these kinds of issues. I do not say that the amendments, which are being made, are not important. But the real issue is faced by the industrial sector, manufacturing sector, and micro, small and medium sector. That is to be addressed.

I hope the hon. Minister will pay particular heed to this particular aspect.

Thank you, Sir.

श्री तनुज पुनिया (बाराबंकी) : सभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे अपनी बात रखने का मौका दिया, इसके लिए बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद ।

महोदय, आज हम यहां बैंककारी विधियां (संशोधन) विधेयक के ऊपर चर्चा करने आए हैं । इसके साथ ही कुछ और भी अमेंडमेंट्स हैं, जिन पर यहां चर्चा हो रही है । आम आदमी की सुविधा के लिए जब वर्ष 1969 में बैंकों का राष्ट्रीयकरण किया गया था तो उसका लक्ष्य था कि हम ज्यादा से ज्यादा लोगों तक, दूर-दराज के क्षेत्र में अपनी बैंकिंग की सुविधाएं आम आदमी और गरीब से गरीब आदमी तक पहुंचा सकें । इसमें नफा-नुकसान नहीं देखा गया था । इसमें एक सामाजिक लक्ष्य था कि ज्यादा से ज्यादा लोगों तक हमारी पहुंच हो । मौजूदा सरकार में पिछले दस साल से निजीकरण की नीति आ रही है । सबकी अपनी-अपनी विचारधारा होती है, सबके अपने-अपने तरीके होते हैं । लेकिन, वर्ष 2021-22 के बजट भाषण में माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने आईडीबीआई बैंक के साथ-साथ दो और बैंकों के निजीकरण की बात की थी । लेकिन, अभी तक इस बिल में उसका कोई उल्लेख नहीं किया गया है । उनका भविष्य क्या होगा, आगे उसके बारे में क्या होना है? उनका भविष्य अभी हवा में है । इस पर मैं आपका ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूं । ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में कोऑपरेटिव बैंक की स्थापना हुई थी । इसका मुख्य उद्देश्य यह था कि बिचौलिये और साहूकारों को खत्म कर दिया जाए । उनके शोषण से समाज को राहत मिले और कम दरों पर ऋण उपलब्ध कराया जाए । आज की सच्चाई यह है कि अगर आप बैंकिंग सेवा लेने के लिए कोऑपरेटिव बैंक में जाते हैं तो आपको टेबल से टेबल इतना घुमाया जाता है कि धरती पर जो धूल है, उस पर इमरतियाँ बन जाती हैं । वहां बाहर खड़े मक्खियों की तरह भिनभिनाते बिचौलिये मौजूद होते हैं । अगर आप बिचौलियों का सहारा लेंगे, तो आप उनको 25 से 50 परसेंट तक कमीशन देते हुए अपना काम बड़ी आसानी से करा सकते हैं । अगर आप उनका सहारा नहीं लेते हैं तो फिर वापस उन्हीं साहूकारों के पास चले जाते हैं ।? (व्यवधान) बस मैं अपनी छोटी सी बात रखना चाहता हूं ।

इसमें आम आदमी की बातें हैं । जो आम आदमी है, आम किसान है, गरीब व्यक्ति है, उसकी सुविधा के लिए जो बातें होनी चाहिए थीं, जिस उम्मीद से जनता सरकार की तरफ रिफॉर्म्स के लिए देख रही थी, वह उद्देश्य पूरा नहीं हुआ है । चिदंबरम जी बता रहे थे कि मार्च में माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने वादे किए थे । कानूनी साइमलटेनियस नॉमिनेशन्स की बात सभी ने कह दी है तो मैं दोबारा उस पर नहीं जाऊंगा । उसमें पर्याप्त स्पष्टता प्रदान नहीं की गई है, इस बात को मैं माननीय वित्त मंत्री के सामने लाना चाहता हूं ।

महोदय, केसीसी की बड़ी समस्या है ।

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Punia Ji, please wind up. The Minister has to reply.

? (Interruptions)

श्री तनुज पुनिया: मेरा यह कहना है कि आम आदमी को बहुत समस्या है । उसको भागदौड़ करनी पड़ती है, चाहे वह केसीसी के ऋण की बात हो या उसको रिन्यू कराने की बात हो या फिर बीमा पाने की बात हो । इन सारी बातों के प्रोसीजर को आसान करना चाहिए । इसी उम्मीद से आम आदमी आपकी तरफ देख रहे थे । टेन्योर की बात भी लोगों ने कह दी है, तो मैं दोबारा नहीं कहूंगा ।

आखिर में, मैं बस इतना कहना चाहता हूँ कि आम आदमी पर विशेष ध्यान दें । आगे बहुत उम्मीद से माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी की तरफ हम लोग फिर एक उम्मीद करेंगे ।

श्री छोटेलाल (राबर्ट्सगंज) : महोदय, आपकी अनुमति से एवं समाजवादी पीडीए के मसीहा माननीय अखिलेश यादव जी की अनुमति से मुझे बैंककारी विधियां (संशोधन) विधेयक पर बोलने की अनुमति प्रदान की गई है । बैंक के निजीकरण के कारण मौजूदा समय में कर्मचारियों के साथ-साथ ग्राहकों को भी बहुत परेशानी होती है । 70 प्रतिशत लोग ग्रामीण क्षेत्र में रहते हैं । संविदा कर्मचारियों की सीधी भर्ती के कारण युवाओं में रोष है । आरक्षण समाप्त कर सीधे भर्ती करना, नियम विरुद्ध है । इससे देश का युवा पीड़ित और परेशान है । उसके पास कोई नौकरी नहीं है । उसे आसानी से लोन नहीं मिलता है । इसमें सुधार की जरूरत है । लोन कैसे मिलता है? बैंक का चार महीने चक्कर लगाते-लगाते लोग परेशान हो जाते हैं । आप अपने क्षेत्र के लोगों से अगर आप पूछेंगे, जनता-जनार्दन से पूछेंगे तो वे बताते हैं कि आसानी से लोन मिलने वाला नहीं है । जितनी आसानी आप सोच रहे हैं, उतनी आसानी नहीं होती है । आसानी से गरीबों को, आदिवासियों को, सबको लोन मिलना चाहिए और मध्य वर्ग को भी लोन मिलना चाहिए । देश की अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति मध्य वर्ग के सभी गरीबों को सस्ता लोन मिलना चाहिए और 50 पर्सेंट सब्सिडी पर भी लोन मिलना चाहिए । देश का पैसा जो सभी बैंकों में जाता है, लेकिन अभी तक सुधार नहीं हो पाया कि सस्ता लोन देकर गरीबों का उत्थान किया जाए । यह अभी तक नहीं हो पाया है ।

महोदय, मेरा आपसे निवेदन है कि किसानों का कर्ज माफ किया जाए । किसान का कर्ज माफ नहीं हुआ है । मैं सदन के माध्यम से कहना चाहता हूँ कि

?गरीबों को सस्ता लोन दिलाना पड़ेगा,

जैसे पहले लोन मिलता था, बकरी, भेड़, गाय-भैंस इत्यादि का लोन कराना पड़ेगा ।

अगर चाहिए गरीब आदिवासियों के साथ न्याय

तो बैंक से पैसा दिलवाना पड़ेगा ।?

श्री विशालदादा प्रकाशबापू पाटील (सांगली) : सभापति महोदय, मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि आपने मुझे बैंककारी विधियां (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2024 पर बोलने का मौका दिया । I really want to support this Bill. I believe it is with good intention. I believe there is a massive opportunity lost which I just want to bring in and I will be very short with my issues.

One is about tenure. I think it is brilliant that they brought in the five years tenure for cooperative societies because generally, in cooperative societies, the election is for five years. Therefore, eight-year period was a problem. Though I think there is an opportunity lost because the cooperative societies, especially यूसीबीज़, जो ग्रामीण और शहर में छोटे-छोटे बैंक्स चलते हैं, उनका फेस बहुत इंपोर्टेंट होता है । जो डायरेक्टर होते हैं, उनका चेहरा देखकर लोग वहां डिपॉजिट रखा करते हैं और विश्वास पर बैंक चलती है । अगर 10 साल तक आप इनको सीमित रखते हैं, तो बहुत मुश्किल आएगी कि कल शायद ये जब संचालक, डायरेक्टर बैंक के पद से हटेंगे तो शायद डिपॉजिट्स का विदड्रॉल शुरू हो जाएगा । That is something which we should consider. डीसीसीबी और स्टेट बैंक का आपने इश्यू निकाला, उसमें एक और छोटा सा चेंज कर देते । मैं डीसीसीबी बैंक के बारे में मंत्री जी को बताना चाहता हूं, डीसीसीबी बैंक में जो डायरेक्टर होते हैं, वे किसी यूसीसी में डायरेक्टर होते हैं, वहीं से वे चुनाव लड़ कर डीसीसीबी में आ जाते हैं । So, there was also a provision, that a cooperative UCB Director could also be a Director in a DCC bank.

Sir, about the nominations, I want to bring a very small issue. जो नामिनेशन अभी एग्जिस्टिंग में है, कोई बुजुर्ग आदमी का बेटा उसको संभालता नहीं है, पड़ोस का एक लड़का उसको संभाल रहा था, उसके मरने के बाद नॉमिनेशन पड़ोस के आदमी को दे दी, लेकिन उसको पैसा नहीं मिला क्योंकि लीगल इश्यू आ जाता है । So, if this Act overrides the legal rights of the son and allowed the nomination to continue, it would be great. There is also a major issue of cooperative banks where the DCC banks have a lot of money. Hundreds of crores of rupees are stuck in the denotification. They have not been replaced and that is a case even that is going on in the Supreme Court. I really urge the Government that this is a good opportunity for you to come up and do it. 81 परसेंट राइट ऑफ किए गए जो लोन्स हैं, उनकी भी आज तक रिकवरी नहीं हो पायी है । That is something that they could do.

एआई के बारे में इस लॉ में करेक्शन आ जाता है तो अच्छा हो जाता । प्राइरिटी सेक्टर लेंडिंग में थोड़ी इस एक्ट में थोड़ा बदलाव लेकर आते तो बहुत अच्छा होता । किसानों को आज भी सस्ते में कर्ज नहीं मिल रहा है, जो सस्ता लोन आ रहा है वह भी गवर्नमेंट की सब्सिडी की वजह से आ रहा है । That is all I wanted to say. Thank you.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE; AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): Thank you very much, Sir. I am indeed grateful to all the Members. I think about 28 of them have spoken, subject to correction if there is any change in number. As much as possible, I have been physically here to hear them. I will take more of my time to respond to each of their comments, rather than get into the details of the amendments which the Bill is bringing in.

I think even in my opening statement, I have explained the details of what the amendments are aimed at; how many amendments are there, and also as to why

these many amendments are being brought in in one go. I will certainly elaborate a bit more to explain to hon. Member, Shri N. K. Premachandran who normally gets into a lot of details about the parliamentary proceedings and so on. So, I always ardently listen to him.

In this case, I will certainly give the details to explain why his apprehensions are not well founded. His apprehensions are, I would think, apprehensions only. I can explain as to why they are not well founded. I would, as much as possible, try to go in the same order in which most of the MPs have spoken.

But broadly, I want to say that there has been a lot of general comments about India's banking system, the solutions that you have offered etc. You have also said that, maybe, the banks are doing alright but then you have NPAs. So, there is a lot of, I may be allowed to say, mixing of political details rather than what the reality of Indian banks is.

18.18 hrs (Hon. Speaker *in the Chair*)

Let me take a sense of confidence with which I would want to say. I am indeed very happy that India and its banking system is where it is today. Being a part of this Government and also as a citizen of this country, I would appeal to all hon. Members, through you, Speaker Sir, to just look at the world around us. Where are their banking systems? Many countries have lost their banks; many of their banks have really got collapsed. We would think in countries where the regulatory mechanisms are very sound, in such countries too, the banks have failed and failed miserably.

In fact, I can even quote a case. Overnight, over a weekend, the Government had to burn the midnight oil and give some kind of a salvaging package because from Monday morning there was no run on the bank. That was the situation just one-and-a-half or two years ago and that too in a very developed country. All of us must have read it in the newspapers.

That was the case about one bank in one western corner of that country, which was very much prominent because of the closeness to Silicon Valley. Overnight, they had to flush in money to say that there is no run on and we will have to take care of saving the bank.

I heard a lot of voice which said, why this happened for Yes Bank and not for PMC. I request the honourable members to only go into the details of what is the nature

of bank we are talking about. Can a treatment be similarly given? So, India's banking sector, irrespective of politics, is critical to this nation. We cannot afford to have any one of our banks struggling or on the crevice that they may fall off. I must credit the RBI and the Ministry of Finance, not because I am there, but truly.

Since 2014, we have been extremely cautious that banks remain stable. Do you know the state of affairs when in 2014 PM Modi had come? My learned friend Sambit Patra and many others also spoke about the 4Rs with which we have tried resolving the crisis in the banks. So, the intention is to keep our banks safe, stable, healthy, and in the 10 years, you have seen the outcome. It is benefiting the economy. So, I would appeal to the honourable members that India should take pride in the fact that today the banks are up to a lot of good. They are being professionally managed. They are absolutely professionally managed.

I could not just recollect the name of the honourable member who said: "What is your attitude about recapitalization of banks?" I am proud to say today the banks do not come to the Government for their recapitalisation. It is because today they are professionally run. Their metrics are healthy. They can go to the market and raise loans, raise bonds, and run their business accordingly. That relationship of Government and the bank as *mai baap* is changed. It is not that they can go to the Ministry, take money, and run my bank despite all the negatives. It does not prevail any longer. We do not entertain such things because banks do not need to be entertained for it. They are professionally run today. Therefore, I would want honestly, all of us to take immense pride in this. It is a national achievement. I have done about 8 or 9 reviews personally, not sitting in Delhi, but going to each of the States, and each of the zones.

As far as RRBs are concerned, there were also concerns about it. Some Members have said: "Nationalization was done because we wanted to have more branches, more banks going into the rural areas, and include people." Our RRBs are doing the very same thing. I am proud to say today they are mobile banking facilitated. They are internet banking facilitated. They are healthy in their deposits. The sponsor banks are doing so much to keep them absolutely active and on their toes. They are available in Arunachal Pradesh. They are available in Assam. They are available in far flung areas of Rajasthan.

There was a very valid question. I do not know if it was being asked by Member Supriya Sule, who asked about the NBFCs and the banks. The Member said that the NBFCs are giving away their duty and passing it on to the NBFCs. NBFCs are raising

the rate at which they are extending loans. There can be problems there. But, the NBFCs have the advantage of going the last mile, which public sector banks, at one stage, did not have the methodology. But, now they have come up with Bank Mitras with which they are providing all the banking facility. Using that as an argument, I want to answer several of the concerns which very many Members of Parliament raised.

The nationalization was done because we wanted the branches to be available in rural areas. I will tell you what the progress is between 2014 and today. The total number of branches of all scheduled commercial banks have increased by 3,792 in a year to reach 1,65,501 in September 2014. That many branches are there in India. Out of this, 85,116 branches are of public sector banks. They are also going to the rural areas or providing within five kilometres radius a touch point. It could be an ATM, it could be a Bank Mitra, it could be the brick-and-mortar branch, or it could be any other association with a small finance branch there. So, within five kilometres, I am mapping it, wherever or in whichever State I go, I look at the map of where the bank presence is, particularly, the rural branches. There were 1,17,990 branches in March 2014. Today, 1,65,501 bank branches of all the scheduled commercial banks are there. As far as rural branches are concerned, they were 41,855 in March 2014. As of September 2024, there are 55,372 rural branches, brick and mortar branches.

Then, there were 32,504 semi-urban branches in March 2014 but now, there are 45,314 branches. In urban areas, there were only 21,007 branches in March 2014 but now, there are 29,276 branches.

Sir, there was also a concern whether we cover the poor; whether we cover the women. I am just giving you the data, to start with. First is, percentage of women covered under PM Mudra. About 68 per cent of all the PM Mudra benefits goes to women. Talking about PM SVANidhi, about 44 per cent of all the SVANidhi loans go to women. They are collateral-free, without security, which are given to small people who are having street-end shops or push carts. So, about 44 per cent of the loans are going to women through PM SVANidhi.

Talking about the number of women bank Mudras, these are not the customers but the women who are performing the banking function in the rural areas so that people are given the connect. There are 12 lakh bank Mudras out of which more than one lakh are women. This has become a very, very happy augury for them also, because they are able to earn a lot more by being active in the rural areas.

Now, coming to the total deposits in PM Jan-Dhan Yojana, I will also address some of the concerns some hon. Members raised about charges being levied to small accounts. I will come to that. What is the total deposit in PM Jan-Dhan accounts? It is a very important number. There are 53 crore PM Jan-Dhan accounts. Our population is 1.41 crore out of which 53 crore people are having PM Jan-Dhan accounts.

I never get tired of saying this, I repeat it. At the time in 2014, when I had the honour of serving under the hon. Prime Minister and under Shri Arun Jaitley ji as an MoS in Finance, when it was launched, there was a lot of heckling where it was said ? ?Oh, you are starting it for people with zero balance account. They cannot even keep their balance. What will happen to the service charge? They will not be in a position to pay, and this is a useless exercise.? All this was said at that time. I told you the number of people who have got PM Jan-Dhan accounts today. Are these zero balance accounts? No! Today, we have a total of Rs. 2.37 lakh crore in those accounts. The amount is Rs. 2.37 lakh crore. Talking about the average balance, this is a very important metric that we have to keep in mind. The average balance of PM Jan-Dhan accounts has increased. In a single account, Rs. 1,065 was the average. Today, Rs. 4,397 is the average balance in the account. A PM Jan-Dhan account had Rs. 1,000 only as the average balance, as on March 2015. Today, in those accounts, the minimum balance on an average is Rs. 4,397. That is why, the total amount in these PM Jan-Dhan accounts is Rs. 2.37 lakh crore. So, the intent of nationalisation of banks was to reach all people, go to the rural areas, and open branches. Since then to 2014, I gave you the numbers.

After Jan Dhan Yojana came in, what is the number? Within 10 years actually the original objective of nationalization has been far better achieved now by including both the poorest of the poor, with women particularly in rural areas and in other areas. I want to assure the hon. Members that under Prime Minister Modi, the twin balancesheet problem which festered banks has been resolved, and the health of Indian banks, being what it was in 2013-14, has been improved. That is why, if I may recall, before 2024 Lok Sabha elections, during the Vote on Account in the last Budget Session, we came up with a White Paper, which pointedly said what the reason was for us to get the White Paper at that time about the Indian banking system and not in 2014. If we had come out with a true story, as we did in the White Paper at that time, the confidence on the Indian economy would have been shattered. You would not have had anybody coming into India; you would not have had our banks being touched with the barge pole, and our own depositors would

have lost confidence. So, it was an easy temptation to release a White Paper at that time which we did not, and I am so happy that the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister at that time did not fall into that temptation. It would have given us a mileage for saying this is what we have inherited. But today giving it after restoring the banks to some level actually tells the true story. So, even after 50 years of nationalization you leave a twin balancesheet problem for us to clear, and we stand up now with great sense of responsibility towards this country showing how we have fulfilled that objective.

Sir, I am very tempted to give the performance index of Indian banks. The highest ever net profit of Rs.1.41 lakh crore in 2023-24 and Rs.85,520 crore in the first half year of 2024-25 has been achieved with all the public sector banks turning profitable. Today, I can say with happiness that all the public sector banks are turning profitable. As a sector, the profitability of all scheduled commercial banks is at a decadal high. You see this really reaching that level with a return on assets at 1.3 per cent and return on equity at 13.8 per cent in decades. The Gross NPA, the Net NPA ? all of that has been spoken about. I would just briefly mention that Gross NPA is reducing from 14.58 per cent to 7.97 per cent in March 2018 to 3.12 per cent and 0.63 per cent in September 2024. These are not data that you can just say no.

Then, Sir, there were concerns about what happened to our MSMEs. Are you dealing with them, are they getting assistance from the banks as many of them suffer? I would like to highlight the fact and this has been said earlier also. I am still not coming to the amendments in this Bill but very quickly I will move to that. In the Budget in July 2024, the Modi Government has announced at least five different schemes for them. For the first time ever in the history of Indian banking, we have given them collateral free, security free, and term loans to buy machine and plants. Plant and machinery loan was never given to MSMEs. We have provided it. Prime Minister Modi said that you will not charge any security for them or collateral from them, and will still extend the loan. We have extended that and I am now going to all the MSME clusters to build awareness among MSMEs, asking them to please utilize this. I want you all to go to the banks and take that credit.

I have gone to Udaipur. I have gone to MSME clusters. I have also gone to Pina in Bangalore which is closer to Bangalore. I will be moving from one cluster to another, and I am grateful that the hon. Minister for MSME, Shri Jitan Ram Manjhi has also been accompanying me. We are going from cluster to cluster to say that these are the five facilities we have given, please come and take it. This kind of a

push is there towards facilitating MSMEs. Hon. Speaker, Sir, as you are aware, this is like the Emergency Credit Liquidity Guarantee Scheme, which stood by MSMEs during the COVID-19 period. So, MSME has never been forgotten by Prime Minister Modi, and I want to underline that all attention is being given to them.

Sir, there is on other point on the MSME. I have set a target of an additional MSME lending of ? (Interruptions)

श्री सुदामा प्रसाद : अध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ?* का पुलिंदा पढ़ रही हैं, इसलिए मैं यहां से जा रहा हूं । ? (व्यवधान)

18.35 hrs

At this stage, Shri Sudama Prasad left the House.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, the hon. Member is saying something. I do not want to undermine him, but is ? parliamentary language? I am sure, people here can look at it. ? (Interruptions)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : उनकी कोई भी बात रिकॉर्ड में नहीं जाएगी । आप उनके प्रश्न का जवाब मत दो ।

? (व्यवधान)

श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण : महोदय, मैं इनके एक प्रश्न का जवाब जरूर दूंगी, क्योंकि उन्होंने मुझ पर ?का आरोप लगाया है । मैं बात न बोलते हुए, आपके आरोप का खंडन करती हूं कि वह ? है । ?(व्यवधान)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : अध्यक्ष महोदय, हम सब कभी भी सत्ता पक्ष का अनादर नहीं करते हैं ।?(व्यवधान)

श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण : महोदय, मैं गोगोई जी के हर एक प्वाइंट का जवाब दे रही हूं ।?(व्यवधान) माननीय सदस्य गोगोई जी के हर एक प्वाइंट का मैं जवाब दे रही हूं, क्योंकि वह सदस्य बोलकर चले गए हैं, मगर उनके समर्थन में दूसरे माननीय सदस्य खड़े हो रहे हैं । मुझे तो अपना डिफेंस करना ही चाहिए ।?(व्यवधान)

महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य राजीव राय जी के विषय पर बोलना नहीं चाहती थी, because I thought I will go by some sequence. ? (Interruptions)

DR. MOHAMMAD JAWED: Is it chronology or sequence?

श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण : आपके मन में क्रोनोलॉजी या सीक्वेंस जो भी आता है, आप कहिए । मगर मैं एक मिनट के लिए मेरी क्रोनोलॉजी और सीक्वेंस को बदल रही हूं ।?(व्यवधान)

महोदय, माननीय सदस्य राजीव राय जी ने बताया कि मुझे दुख के साथ कहना पड़ रहा है, उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने मुझे चिट्ठी लिखी थी, लेकिन आपकी तरफ से जवाब नहीं आया ।?(व्यवधान)

Whatever, my Hindi being what it is.

You are a professor. You can correct somebody's English. You can correct my Hindi. But I will have to remind you that your political philosophy may not be correct.

महोदय, माननीय सदस्य चिट्ठी लिखे हैं, लिखी है, लुखा है, आई डोन्ट माइंड । आप मेरी बात समझ रहे हैं ।?
(व्यवधान)

डॉ. मोहम्मद जावेद : आप हिन्दी का मजाक न उड़ाइए ।

श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण : मैं मेरी हिन्दी का मजाक उड़ा रही हूँ, क्योंकि मैं एक ऐसे राज्य से आती हूँ, भाईसाहब, आप उनके पक्ष में बोल रहे हैं, आप जरूर पूछिए । मैं ऐसे राज्य से आती हूँ, जहां हिन्दी पढ़ना गुनाह है, इसीलिए मुझे बचपन से हिन्दी पढ़ने से रोका गया है । आप उधर झगड़ा करिए, मुझसे नहीं । आपका झगड़ा उनसे होना चाहिए, जो हिन्दी पढ़ने को आपत्ति मानते हैं । आप उनसे झगड़ा करिए । मुझसे झगड़ा क्यों कर रहे हैं?...
(व्यवधान) जल्दी से उठना नहीं है, जबकि आपके मित्र पक्ष के लोग राजनैतिक हिन्दी विरोध को नहीं समझते हैं ।?
(व्यवधान)

श्री गौरव गोगोई : महोदय, क्या लुखा पार्लियामेंट्री शब्द है?...
(व्यवधान)

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: I did not use any such word. What is *lukha*? ?
(Interruptions) Who used it? I have not used it at all. ? (Interruptions)

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: I am not a *Hindibhashi*. ? (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: I am not a *Hindibhashi* either. ? (Interruptions)

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: *Lukha* sounds unparliamentary.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, I have not used it. ? (Interruptions)
Whoever used it, I have not used it. I am sorry.

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: You only used the word *lukha*.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: I have not used that word. I do not even know that word. What are you throwing at me? Probably, you hear it in Assamese. ?
(Interruptions)

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: Madam, you read the record.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: I have not used that word. ? (Interruptions) I have not used that word because I do not know it. ? (Interruptions)

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: If I have lied, I will come and apologise. ? (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: There is no lie or ? (Interruptions)

I am saying that I have not used it. I have not said that you are lying. I am not here to argue on that. I argue on merit. If I have not used it, why will I admit it?

First of all, my Hindi is not so rich for me to use abuses. मैं बोल-चाल में मुश्किल से हिन्दी के 10 शब्दों का इस्तेमाल करती हूँ । If only my vocabulary was rich, I will know which is abuse and which is not.

Sir, this is a digression from the main point which Rajeev Rai ji threw at me. He said, ?A letter was written you. You did not reply.? I am telling you. A letter dated 9.11.2024 was received on 23.11.2024. The letter pertains to an issue being faced by Bank Mitras with a request to constitute a Committee to examine their grievance. That was the matter he wrote. ? (Interruptions) That was your letter. Which is the letter you are talking about? ? (Interruptions) I will get back with the details. ? (Interruptions) एक्सक्यूज मी, भाई साहब, वह पूर्ण सशक्त हैं । वह हमारे साथ बोलेंगे । ? (व्यवधान)

श्री राजीव राय : आपने बोला है कि मैंने ?* बोला है । मैंने 15 सितम्बर को चिट्ठी लिखी है ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आपको अलाऊ नहीं किया है ।

श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण : मैं इनकी नवंबर की चिट्ठी का विवरण दे रही हूँ । अभी वह दूसरी डेट बोल रहे हैं । मैं उसकी भी डिटेल निकलवाकर देती हूँ । सर, मैं आपके सामने बोल रही हूँ । मेरे द्वारा नवंबर की चिट्ठी का जवाब मेन्डेटरी 15 दिन के अंदर उनके पास एक्नॉलेजमेंट गया है । उसके बाद इस मामले में हमारी तरफ से डिटेल्ड रिप्लाय भी चला गया है । अगर उनके पास दूसरे अन्य मामले हैं, मैं उनका भी जवाब दे दूंगी । ? (व्यवधान)

श्री राजीव राय : वह 15 सितंबर की चिट्ठी है ।

श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण : ठीक है । आप अभी इसके बारे में बोल रहे हैं । ? (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : सांसद महोदय, हरेक सांसद महोदय का पत्र जाता है । जब मंत्री जी बिल पर रिप्लाय करेंगी, तो हरेक पत्र को लेकर थोड़े ही आएंगी । यह संभव नहीं है ।

? (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : यह संभव नहीं है । अनप्राैक्टिकल चीज है । आपने चिट्ठी लिखी और मंत्री जी ने चिट्ठी का जवाब दे दिया, लेकिन बिल के जवाब के समय आपकी हर चिट्ठी का जवाब?

? (व्यवधान)

श्री राजीव राय : मैं 15 सितंबर की चिट्ठी के बारे में कह रहा हूँ ।

श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण : आप डिटेल दे दीजिए । मैं उसका भी विवरण देती हूँ । अगर मेरी तरफ से जवाब नहीं आता है तो मैं लिखित में माफी भी लिखती हूँ । मैं ऐसी-वैसी आदमी नहीं हूँ । मगर, आप स्पीकर के सामने दूसरों के साथ मिलकर मेरे ऊपर आरोप लगाते हो, I will not sit quiet. ? (*Interruptions*)

प्रो. सौगत राय : आप आदमी नहीं हैं । आप औरत हैं ।

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Thank you. Rejoice yourself by correcting my Hindi. But you should also hold a complaint against them for not allowing us to learn Hindi in Tamil Nadu. ? (*Interruptions*)

Sir, regarding the matter raised by Shri Gaurav Gogoi, I want to get into the details. ? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI T. M. SELVAGANAPATHI (SALEM): We are not against anybody learning Hindi. ? (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Thank you, for clarifying that. ? (*Interruptions*)

Sir, since there is so much of heat on this, let me take one minute on that. I appreciate the hon. Member getting up to say, ?We are not opposed to many things but we are opposed to only imposition of Hindi?. I want to just give a clarification. ? (*Interruptions*) It is not the core part of the Bill. I agree. But if there are Members from your side rising at me, I would like to also answer that with the permission of the Chair. ? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI T. M. SELVAGANAPATHI: You took up the matter.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Of course, I will take up the matter. ? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI T. M. SELVAGANAPATHI: You made a wrong statement, hon. Minister. We are not against learning Hindi. We are only opposing the imposition of Hindi.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Thank you for that, Sir. But now let me say my words. ? (*Interruptions*)

Sir, I would like to just take a minute more on that.

They are opposed to imposing Hindi. Very well! I appreciate that. No one should impose anything on anybody. Nobody should impose on anybody and that is why the hon. Prime Minister talks about ?Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat? and encourages every State to have their own language, and that is why hon. Prime Minister was

the first Prime Minister in this country who said higher education -- whether it is in engineering, medical -- should also happen in regional languages. Hence, I am happy to say that Tamil Nadu today has the opportunity to have medical education also in Hindi, in Tamil. Oh! Sorry, how dare I say that? ? *(Interruptions)*

That is right. You go on imposing on me, right? Hindi comes out of my mouth. I am telling in favour of your Tamil, my Tamil. All right? ? *(Interruptions)* Your Tamil and my Tamil, it means our Tamil. Do not argue on small things. But the larger message is that when I say that the environment was not conducive, in fact I speak from my lived experience in Tamil Nadu. I speak from my lived experience when even going to learn Hindi aside from my school I was mocked in the streets. I was mocked by saying : ?So, you want to learn Hindi. You live in Tamil Nadu. You eat the salt of this country, and you want to learn Hindi that North Indian?s bhasha?. These are words ringing in my ears. This is my lived experience. ? *(Interruptions)*

Who does that? It is because of the political support which is being given in that State. Learning Hindi and Sanskrit are treated and perceived as learning some other fellows? language, and the words that they use are ?people who have come over to this land?. Is Tamil Nadu not part of India? So, what is wrong if I learn Hindi? ? *(Interruptions)*

They used the word ?vandheri?. ? *(Interruptions)* I am using it in Tamil now. ? *(Interruptions)* They call us that. ? *(Interruptions)* Why is it so? ? *(Interruptions)* Is that not part of the political strategy there? ? *(Interruptions)* Therefore, I have lived experience of Tamil Nadu?s imposing on me not to learn Hindi. ? *(Interruptions)* Is that not imposition on me? ? *(Interruptions)* As an individual, I learnt the language I want. ? *(Interruptions)* So, what is the harm? ? *(Interruptions)* I will also quote from Purananuru and I will quote from Thiruvalluvar. ? *(Interruptions)* My love for Tamil is as much as I want to learn any other language. ? *(Interruptions)* So, it is all right to say that we do not want imposition of Hindi. ? *(Interruptions)* We do not want to impose Hindi. ? *(Interruptions)* But why did they impose on me not to learn Hindi? ? *(Interruptions)* I want to ask this. ? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: Sir, Rule 94. ? *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, hon. Member Gogoi raised a few more things. ? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI T. M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Do not mislead the House. ? *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Thank you very much. ? (*Interruptions*) The Hindi Prachar Sabha was burnt down in Chennai. ? (*Interruptions*) हिंदी प्रचार सभा को तमिलनाडु में आग लगा दी गयी । ? (व्यवधान) Who burnt it? ? (*Interruptions*) और हिंदी की बात करते हैं । ? (व्यवधान)

Sir, sorry. ? (*Interruptions*) I will go on with this. ? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI D. M. KATHIR ANAND: Madam, you are misleading the House. ? (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: You are imposing on me denying my fundamental right to learn whichever language I want to learn. ? (*Interruptions*)

Sir, I am coming back to this one. ? (*Interruptions*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : मुझे कई माननीय सदस्यों ने कहा, मैं आसन से बोल रहा हूँ लेकिन अनआफिशियली कहा, कि हमें दूसरी लैंग्वेज भी सीखनी है । सबको सब लैंग्वेज आए तो यह अच्छा है । जितनी ज्यादा लैंग्वेज आए, जितनी ज्यादा भाषा आए, यह उतना ही अच्छा है ।

SHRI T. M. SELVAGANAPATHI : She is misleading the House. ? (*Interruptions*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : हाउस को कौन मिसलीड कर रहा है?

? (व्यवधान)

SHRI T. M. SELVAGANAPATHI: The Minister's statement is completely distorted. ? (*Interruptions*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आपकी बात रिकॉर्ड में नहीं जा रही है । आप आपस में डिबेट कर रहे हैं, लेकिन वह रिकॉर्ड में नहीं जा रहा है ।

? (व्यवधान)? *

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, this is imposition on me as a citizen of this country.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप सुनिए, वे अपनी जिंदगी की कहानियां बता रही हैं ।

? (व्यवधान)

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: I am glad that the MP is talking about it. Tell me one Prime Minister who has taken Tamil to the UN. It is Narendra Modi. Tell me one Prime Minister who quotes Tamil repeatedly, because he respects that language.? (*Interruptions*) Tell me one Prime Minister with whom DMK has been in

alliance, where the Prime Minister quoted Tamil. It is our Prime Minister who quoted Tamil. That is the respect we give for the sentiment of all of us Tamilians? (Interruptions) Sir, if they want that from me, I am also that Tamil who suffered this. Eight crore people have been shown what love the Prime Minister has for Tamil? (Interruptions)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : कल्याण बनर्जी जी, अभी पश्चिम बंगाल का झगड़ा नहीं है । आप बैठ जाइए ।

? (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : यह आपके प्रदेश की बात नहीं है । ये एक प्रदेश के माननीय सदस्य हैं ।

? (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : माननीय सदस्य, आप प्लीज बैठ जाइए ।

? (व्यवधान)

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, I did already speak about the MUDRA loan and rural bank presence. I have sort of addressed so many questions asked by the hon. Member, Gaurav Gogoi. But one particular thing on which many Members spoke was student loans and education loans.

I just want to dispel the doubt that many Members had in their minds. The total education loan outstanding has increased from Rs. 71,000 crore in 2017-18 to Rs. 1.04 lakh crore in 2023-24. Loans are actually increasing and student loans are increasing. There has been an increase also to Rs. 1.3 lakh crore as on October 2024, which is an increase of 17.6 per cent over October 2023. The model loan education scheme has also been launched by the Government of India, where loans up to Rs. 7.5 lakh are given without requirement of any collateral or any margin money. The repayment period is also 15 long years. Further, the scheme is also backed by credit guarantee to the extent of Rs. 3,500 crore. So, the Government is giving credit guarantee and we have allocated money for the guarantee purpose which is Rs. 3,500.

Now, recently, the Government has also brought out Pradhan Mantri Vidyalakshmi Scheme for financial support to meritorious students. I just want to highlight what this meritorious students loan scheme is. On 6th November 2024, Pradhan Mantri Vidyalakshmi Scheme was approved by the Cabinet and there are broad contours of this loan scheme. Because it is about students loan, many people were rightly concerned. I just want to put before them what this loan scheme is. Up to Rs. 7.5

lakh loans will be provided under 75 per cent credit guarantee by the Government of India, and that is the National Credit Guarantee Corporation, which will support it. For quality higher education, we are willing to give beyond Rs. 7.5 lakh for students. Now, these loans are given not to very upper middle class or middle class, or even higher income class, but these are students with annual family income up to Rs. 8 lakh. The Scheme will also provide three per cent interest subvention for loans up to Rs. 10 lakh. So, it is interest subvention, collateral free, and for families with very low income. In addition to a scheme which is already existing, there is a full interest subvention given to students with annual family income up to Rs. 4.5 lakh. It is not Rs. 8 lakh, but even lesser. It is full interest subvention.

So, the scheme is applicable and it is provided by all scheduled commercial banks, regional rural banks and cooperative banks also. Three per cent interest subvention will be paid to one lakh eligible students and will be enabled through the Central Bank digital currency process through Canara Bank. This facility is expected to be ready by the second week of February. That is the target date. So, the PM Vidyalaxmi scheme is something on which the poorer students, low-income class students will get interest subvention and also collateral free loans.

Kalyan Banerjee ji raised a few issues which I just want to clarify. He was speaking elaborately on the nomination issue. I want to clarify on that. At the moment, the provisions allow only for the nomination of one person for the payment of depositors' money, articles kept in safe custody and also for safety lockers, and so on. The proposed amendment will enable individuals to nominate up to four persons for these facilities with the options for either, successive or simultaneous nominations. I just want to draw the difference between where it is successive and where it will be simultaneous. That will be the first explanation I want to give to the hon. Member Kalyan Banerjee. Depositors will have the option for successive or simultaneous and not "and". If I heard the hon. Member right, he said "successive and". No, it is going to be this or that. For instance, for deposits, option for either successive or simultaneous nominations are available, whereas for articles kept in safe custody or in safety lockers, only successive nominations will be allowed. Successive nominations ensure that if the first nominee is unavailable, the next nominee in line will become operative maintaining continuity and reducing complications of legal heirs. Additionally, what it does? Section 45ZG is inserted to establish the priority of successive nominations ensuring clear guidelines for activation of subsequent nominees. If one is not there, then another can be there.

Why at all we need to bring this? This also partly answers Shri N.K. Premachandran's concerns about why we are doing all this.

Before I come to the next point on the directors, the difference between where the successive and where the multiple nominations are applicable, there is a differentiated treatment between deposits and also the securities. Kalyan Banerjee ji, N.K. Premachandran, Supriya Sule and also, I think, many others raised this issue of cooperative bank directors. The current provisions today specify an eight-year tenure for directors excluding the Chairman and the whole-time director in a banking company. The proposed amendment aims to extend the tenure of directors excluding the Chairman and the whole-time director in cooperative banks to 10 years. What is the rationale? The 97th amendment to the Constitution specifies that the term of elected members of the Board and its office-bearers in cooperative societies shall be five years from the date of election. This provision is consistent with most cooperative laws which also stipulate a five-year term of office for directors with no restriction on re-election. The current Banking Regulation Act imposes an eight-year cap on tenure of directors. So, that and the constitutional provision are not in alignment. So, this creates practical difficulties as directors serving the maximum term under cooperative laws are required to resign in the middle of their second term to comply with the Banking Regulation Act. To resolve this challenge and align it with the Banking Regulation Act, it is proposed therefore, to extend it to the maximum continuous tenure for directors from eight years to 10 years.

19.00 hrs

This will, therefore, harmonise it with the current governing practices that exist. ?
(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SADANAND SULE: Will it be prospective under the Companies Act? Will it be same?

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: At the moment, we have not. But you have given us a thought. I will have to think about it. And I am not giving an assurance. But I will certainly have to? (Interruptions)

Sir, there was also this concern about cyber frauds. There are a lot of activities and initiatives being taken by the Government of India. I will just highlight some of them. I know even on a daily basis, there are a lot of calls which come to us saying ? I have lost this much amount of money because of people who fraudulently called

me saying that they are CBI Director, IB Chief or whatever?. They gave their entire details, and their money has been siphoned off. In many cases, very educated and very experienced Government and private company top executives are losing money. But at this stage, I can only say that we are taking efforts and we are trying to do it as much as possible.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : माननीय मंत्री जी, एक मिनट रुकिये ।

माननीय सदस्यों, अगर सभा की सहमति हो तो इस विधेयक की समाप्ति तक सभा की कार्यवाही का समय बढ़ा दिया जाए?

अनेक माननीय सदस्य : जी हां ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : माननीय मंत्री जी ।

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, at the moment, Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre, which we call as I4C under the Ministry of Home Affairs, serves as a national nodal point for coordinated effort in tackling cybercrimes. The Cyber Fraud Mitigation Centre operates in collaboration with major banks, payment intermediaries, telecom service providers, law enforcement agencies and so on. The National Cyber Crime Helpline (1930) is also operational 24/7 across all the States and UTs for immediate reporting and redressal. I have broadly given an indication of the kind of steps that the Government of India is taking on this. But I understand that there is a rampant occurrence on which we need to have a very quick redressal mechanism. The Department and I4C are all working together to come up with some concrete plans.

Sir, hon. Member Dr. Rani Srikumar had raised this issue which is very important. So, I thought that I should specifically say that the minimum bank savings deposit that people hold are also being charged with penalties and so on. I want to assure hon. Member Dr. Rani Srikumar that none of the basic account holders -- 65 crore basic saving bank deposit holders or the 54 crore Jan Dhan account holders who are absolutely on the bottom rung -- are penalised for not maintaining a minimum balance. It is a written order. No bank can charge on them. In fact, these accounts are also given overdraft facility of Rs. 10,000, which is extended to all these basic account and Jan Dhan accounts. And besides that, the Jan Dhan account holders are also given Rs. 2 lakh as accident insurance and also, a RuPAY card with no additional charge for them to use the card. So, I just want to assure the Member that we do not charge anything for services for these accounts.

Finally, Shri N.K. Premachandran ji raised the issue of write-off of loans. So, this is a repeated point of concern which many hon. Members spoke about ? write off, waive off, etc. When the write-offs happen, the banks make a certain provision. And the loans, which are defaulted and after a certain level, are then given to the National Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (NARCL), which then finds buyers and spruces up that. After the buyers come and take it, the due amount to the bank comes back. So, this was very nicely and legislatively created and that is why, the NARCL is actively working to take away these accounts after certain amount which they can take over. For lesser amount defaults, the usual and local redressal mechanisms, DRTs, SARFAESI and all of them, come into play.

No write off is left without pursuing from the defaulter the total amount that he owes to the system and therefore, there were quite a few Members of Parliament who spoke from this side saying how much has been obtained from defaulters, how much has been given back? Restitution to the banks have happened. Restitution alone is above Rs. 15,000 crore. So, this is an ongoing process. It is not going to be for just one day. But I repeat this line. Write off is not waive off. The banks are pursuing them. So, with that, I think mostly, I have addressed many of the Members concerns.

There was one important point. I think again it was Dr. Rani Srikumar who spoke about amalgamation. Many other Members also spoke about banks. Many banks have lost their employees. I would like to tell this House from the time amalgamation till today, on account of the amalgamation, not one employee has been removed from the banks. Therefore, I want to be very clear.

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE: Madam, I have given you statistics.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: No, you may give. Fine. But they have not been removed is the point. I want to say this. I will look into what you have given.

Sir, this EPS 95 is very sensitive topic. Hon. Member Supriya Sule raised it. This scheme is administered by the Ministry of Labour and Employment. And the Finance Ministry has no record of any approval or assurance which Shri Arun Jaitley has given on this matter. We do not have any record. ? (*Interruptions*) That is fine. I take that point but then no assurance was given by the hon. Finance Minister at that time.

One liner might help a bit more to explain the point that hon. Member Supriya Sule raised. There are no re-election restriction on the Directors. If that helps in

explaining the situation, the prospective aspect is different. I am sure you are aware of it. ? (Interruptions)

So, that is largely the response I wanted to give. Thank you for giving me this opportunity.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रश्न यह है:

?कि भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक अधिनियम, 1934, बैंककारी विनियमन अधिनियम, 1949, भारतीय स्टेट बैंक अधिनियम, 1955, बैंककारी कम्पनी (उपक्रमों का अर्जन और अन्तरण) अधिनियम, 1970 और बैंककारी कम्पनी (उपक्रमों का अर्जन और अन्तरण) अधिनियम, 1980 का और संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक पर विचार किया जाए ।?

प्रस्ताव स्वीकृत हुआ ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : अब सभा विधेयक पर खंडवार विचार करेगी ।

Clause 2 Amendment of Section 42

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रो. सौगत राय जी क्या आप संशोधन संख्या 1 प्रस्तुत करना चाहते हैं?

PROF. SOUGATA RAY (DUM DUM): Sir, I am moving amendment No. 1 to Clause 2.

Page 2, for lines 9 to 11,-

substitute ?(b)"fortnight" means the period from the first day to the fourteenth day of each calendar month or fifteenth day to the last day of each calendar month, both days inclusive;??. (1)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : अब मैं प्रो. सौगत राय द्वारा खंड 2 में प्रस्तुत संशोधन संख्या 1 को सभा के समक्ष मतदान के लिए रखता हूँ ।

संशोधन मतदान के लिए रखा गया तथा अस्वीकृत हुआ ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री एन.के. प्रेमचन्द्रन जी क्या आप संशोधन संख्या 13 प्रस्तुत करना चाहते हैं?

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Sir, I am moving the amendment.

Page 2, line 16, -

for ?five days?

substitute ?three days?. (13)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : अब मैं श्री एन.के. प्रेमचन्द्रन द्वारा खंड 2 में प्रस्तुत संशोधन संख्या 13 को सभा के समक्ष मतदान के लिए रखता हूँ ।

संशोधन मतदान के लिए रखा गया तथा अस्वीकृत हुआ ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रश्न यह है:

?कि खंड 2 विधेयक का अंग बने ।?

प्रस्ताव स्वीकृत हुआ ।

खंड 2 विधेयक में जोड़ दिया गया ।

Clause 3 Amendment of Section 5

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रो. सौगत राय क्या आप संशोधन संख्या 21 प्रस्तुत करना चाहते हैं?

PROF. SOUGATA RAY (DUM DUM): Sir, I am moving the amendment.

Page 2, line 29,-

for ?two crore?

substitute ?one crore?. (21)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : अब मैं प्रो. सौगत राय द्वारा खंड 3 में प्रस्तुत संशोधन संख्या 21 को सभा के समक्ष मतदान के लिए रखता हूँ ।

संशोधन मतदान के लिए रखा गया तथा अस्वीकृत हुआ ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रश्न यह है:

?कि खंड 3 विधेयक का अंग बने ।?

प्रस्ताव स्वीकृत हुआ ।

खंड 3 विधेयक में जोड़ दिया गया ।

Clause 4 Amendment of Section 10A

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री एन. के. प्रेमचन्द्रन जी, क्या आप संशोधन संख्या 14 प्रस्तुत करना चाहते हैं?

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Sir, I beg to move:

Page 2, line 33,-

for ?ten years?

substitute ?five years?. (14)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : अब मैं श्री एन. के. प्रेमचन्द्रन जी द्वारा खंड 4 में प्रस्तुत संशोधन संख्या 14 को सभा के समक्ष मतदान के लिए रखता हूँ ।

संशोधन मतदान के लिए रखा गया तथा अस्वीकृत हुआ ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रो. सौगत राय जी, क्या आप संशोधन संख्या 22 प्रस्तुत करना चाहते हैं?

PROF. SOUGATA RAY (DUM DUM): I want to move the amendment. In this context, I want to mention that there is a controversy between the Reserve Bank and the Government. It seems that the Reserve Bank does not want to increase the repo rate and the Government is saying that it will reduce the repo rate so that the rate of growth which has fallen may rise.

I beg to move:

Page 2, line 33,-

for ?ten years?

substitute ?twelve years?. (22)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : अब मैं प्रो. सौगत राय जी द्वारा खंड 4 में प्रस्तुत संशोधन संख्या 22 को सभा के समक्ष मतदान के लिए रखता हूँ ।

संशोधन मतदान के लिए रखा गया तथा अस्वीकृत हुआ ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रश्न यह है:

?कि खंड 4 विधेयक का अंग बने ।?

प्रस्ताव स्वीकृत हुआ ।

खंड 4 विधेयक में जोड़ दिया गया ।

Clause 5 Amendment of Section 16

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री एन. के. प्रेमचन्द्रन जी, क्या आप संशोधन संख्या 15 प्रस्तुत करना चाहते हैं?

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Sir, I am moving amendment no. 15 in which it is proposed that a Director of the Central Cooperative Bank, elected to the State Cooperative Bank, should be a member for a maximum period of six months. it is a harmless amendment. Madam, it may be accepted. I beg to move:

Page 2, line 38,-

after ?member?

insert ?for a maximum period of six months?. (15)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : अब मैं श्री एन. के. प्रेमचन्द्रन जी द्वारा खंड 5 में प्रस्तुत संशोधन संख्या 15 को सभा के समक्ष मतदान के लिए रखता हूँ ।

संशोधन मतदान के लिए रखा गया तथा अस्वीकृत हुआ ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रश्न यह है:

?कि खंड 5 विधेयक का अंग बने ।?

प्रस्ताव स्वीकृत हुआ ।

खंड 5 विधेयक में जोड़ दिया गया ।

Clause 6 Amendment of Section 18

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रो. सौगत राय जी, क्या आप संशोधन संख्या 2 प्रस्तुत करना चाहते हैं?

PROF. SOUGATA RAY (DUM DUM): I want to move the amendment. सर, मैं इस सिलसिले में केवल एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ । स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया एक्ट का अमेंडमेंट है । यह स्टेट बैंक है, जिसके चेयरमैन एक प्राइवेट कंपनी की कोल माइन खरीदने के लिए ऑस्ट्रेलिया गए थे । बैंक के बारे में ये क्या बोल रहे हैं? ? (व्यवधान) I beg to move:

Page 3, line 2,-

for ?the last day of the fortnight or if the last day of any such fortnight?

substitute ?the last working day of the fortnight or if the last working day of any such fortnight?. (2)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : अब मैं प्रो. सौगत राय जी द्वारा खंड 6 में प्रस्तुत संशोधन संख्या 2 को सभा के समक्ष मतदान के लिए रखता हूँ ।

संशोधन मतदान के लिए रखा गया तथा अस्वीकृत हुआ ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रश्न यह है:

?कि खंड 6 विधेयक का अंग बने ।?

प्रस्ताव स्वीकृत हुआ ।

खंड 6 विधेयक में जोड़ दिया गया ।

Clause 7 Amendment of Section 24

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री एन. के. प्रेमचन्द्रन जी, क्या आप संशोधन संख्या 16 प्रस्तुत करना चाहते हैं?

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): No, I am not moving.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रश्न यह है:

?कि खंड 7 विधेयक का अंग बने ।?

प्रस्ताव स्वीकृत हुआ ।

खंड 7 विधेयक में जोड़ दिया गया ।

खंड 8 और 9 विधेयक में जोड़ दिए गए ।

Clause 10 Amendment of Section 45ZA

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री एन. के. प्रेमचन्द्रन जी, क्या आप संशोधन संख्या 17 और 18 प्रस्तुत करना चाहते हैं?

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Sir, it is an important amendment which I would like to propose. Why should we restrict the number of nominees to four? If I want to nominate more than four persons, why should I be restricted? Proportionate allocation of the assets which are in the deposits or in the bank, has to be distributed among themselves. So, why should we restrict the number of nominees to four? Let it be unlimited. That is my amendment. Madam, kindly consider the amendment.

I beg to move:

Page 3, line 48,-

omit ?not exceeding four?. (17)

Page 4, *omit* lines 11 and 12. (18)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : अब मैं श्री एन. के. प्रेमचन्द्रन जी द्वारा खंड 10 में प्रस्तुत संशोधन संख्या 17 और 18 को सभा के समक्ष मतदान के लिए रखता हूँ ।

संशोधन मतदान के लिए रखे गए तथा अस्वीकृत हुए ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रश्न यह है:

?कि खंड 10 विधेयक का अंग बने ।?

प्रस्ताव स्वीकृत हुआ ।

खंड 10 विधेयक में जोड़ दिया गया ।

Clause 11 Amendment of Section 45ZC

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री एन.के.प्रेमचन्द्रन जी, क्या आप संशोधन संख्या 3 प्रस्तुत करना चाहते हैं?

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Sir, it is the same amendment ?not exceeding four?. It has already been negatived. So, I am not moving my Amendment No. 3.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रश्न यह है:

?कि खंड 11 विधेयक का अंग बने ।?

प्रस्ताव स्वीकृत हुआ ।

खंड 11 विधेयक में जोड़ दिया गया ।

Clause 12 Amendment of Section 45ZE

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री एन.के.प्रेमचन्द्रन जी, क्या आप संशोधन संख्या 4 प्रस्तुत करना चाहते हैं?

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Sir, it is the same amendment ?not exceeding four?. So, I am not moving my Amendment No. 4.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रश्न यह है:

?कि खंड 12 विधेयक का अंग बने ।?

प्रस्ताव स्वीकृत हुआ ।

खंड 12 विधेयक में जोड़ दिया गया ।

खंड 13 और 14 विधेयक में जोड़ दिए गए ।

Clause 15 Amendment of Section 38A

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रो. सौगत राय जी, क्या आप संशोधन संख्या 5, 6 और 7 प्रस्तुत करना चाहते हैं?

PROF. SOUGATA RAY (DUM DUM): Sir, I beg to move:

Page 5, line 39,-

for ?seven years?

substitute "five years". (5)

Page 5, line 42,-

for "seven consecutive years"

substitute "five consecutive years". (6)

Page 5, line 46,-

for "seven years"

substitute "five years". (7)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : अब मैं प्रो. सौगत राय द्वारा खंड 15 में प्रस्तुत संशोधन संख्या 5, 6 और 7 को सभा के समक्ष मतदान के लिए रखता हूँ ।

संशोधन मतदान के लिए रखे गए तथा अस्वीकृत हुए ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री एन.के. प्रेमचन्द्रन जी, क्या आप संशोधन संख्या 8 प्रस्तुत करना चाहते हैं?

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Sir, I am not moving my Amendment No. 8.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रो. सौगत राय जी, क्या आप संशोधन संख्या 24 प्रस्तुत करना चाहते हैं?

PROF. SOUGATA RAY (DUM DUM): Sir, in this context, I want to say that I am not very happy with the Investor Education and Protection Fund. I do not think that it is performing any function to recover one's hard-earned money.

I beg to move:

Page 6, line 3,-

for "shall be entitled?"

substitute "shall not be entitled". (24)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : अब मैं प्रो. सौगत राय द्वारा खंड 15 में प्रस्तुत संशोधन संख्या 24 को सभा के समक्ष मतदान के लिए रखता हूँ ।

संशोधन मतदान के लिए रखा गया तथा अस्वीकृत हुआ ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रश्न यह है:

?कि खंड 15 विधेयक का अंग बने ।?

प्रस्ताव स्वीकृत हुआ ।

खंड 15 विधेयक में जोड़ दिया गया ।

खंड 16 विधेयक में जोड़ दिया गया ।

Clause 17 Amendment of Section 10

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री एन.के.प्रेमचन्द्रन जी, क्या आप संशोधन संख्या 9 प्रस्तुत करना चाहते हैं?

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Sir, I am moving the amendment. It is also very important that ?corresponding new bank may fix?. I would like to substitute it with ?Reserve Bank may fix in consultation with Central Government or any higher remuneration the corresponding new bank may fix.? This is also good for the legislation. Kindly accept it or give me an assurance that in future you the Government would accept it so that I can withdraw it.

I beg to move:

Page 6, line 26,-

for "corresponding new bank may fix"

substitute "Reserve Bank may fix in consultation with Central Government or any higher remuneration the corresponding new bank may fix". (9)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : अब मैं श्री एन.के.प्रेमचन्द्रन जी द्वारा खंड 17 में प्रस्तुत संशोधन संख्या 9 को सभा के समक्ष मतदान के लिए रखता हूँ ।

संशोधन मतदान के लिए रखा गया तथा अस्वीकृत हुआ ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रश्न यह है:

?कि खंड 17 विधेयक का अंग बने ।?

प्रस्ताव स्वीकृत हुआ ।

खंड 17 विधेयक में जोड़ दिया गया ।

Clause 18 Amendment of Section 10B

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री एन.के.प्रेमचन्द्रन जी, क्या आप संशोधन संख्या 10 प्रस्तुत करना चाहते हैं?

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Sir, I am not moving my Amendment No. 10 to Clause 18, Amendment No. 11 to Clause 19, and Amendment No. 12 to Clause 20 because they have already been negated.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री विशालदादा प्रकाश बापू पाटील जी, क्या आप संशोधन संख्या 19 और 20 प्रस्तुत करना चाहते हैं?

श्री विशालदादा प्रकाशबापू पाटील (सांगली) : अध्यक्ष जी, मेरी शंका का समाधान हो गया है, इसलिए I am not moving my Amendment Nos. 19 and 20.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रो. सौगत राय जी, क्या आपकी भी किसी समस्या का समाधान हुआ? क्या आप संशोधन संख्या 26 और 27 प्रस्तुत करना चाहते हैं?

PROF. SOUGATA RAY (DUM DUM): Sir, I want to keep the Ministers on their toes which is why, I give these amendments so that they are aware of the Parliamentary procedure and give due importance to the voice of the Opposition.

I beg to move:

Page 6, line 38,-

for ?seven years?

substitute "ten years". (26)

Page 6, line 41,-

for ?seven consecutive years?

substitute "ten consecutive years". (27)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : अब मैं प्रो. सौगत राय द्वारा खंड 18 में प्रस्तुत संशोधन संख्या 26 और 27 को सभा के समक्ष मतदान के लिए रखता हूँ ।

संशोधन मतदान के लिए रखे गए तथा अस्वीकृत हुए ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रश्न यह है:

?कि खंड 18 विधेयक का अंग बने ।?

प्रस्ताव स्वीकृत हुआ ।

खंड 18 विधेयक में जोड़ दिया गया ।

Clause 19 Amendment of Section 10

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री एन. के. प्रेमचन्द्रन जी, क्या आप संशोधन संख्या 11 प्रस्तुत करना चाहते हैं?

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Sir, I am not moving the amendment.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रश्न यह है :

?कि खंड 19 विधेयक का अंग बने ।?

प्रस्ताव स्वीकृत हुआ ।

खंड 19 विधेयक में जोड़ दिया गया ।

Clause 20 Amendment of Section 10

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री एन. के. प्रेमचन्द्रन जी, क्या आप संशोधन संख्या 12 प्रस्तुत करना चाहते हैं?

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Sir, I am not moving the amendment.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रश्न यह है :

?कि खंड 20 विधेयक का अंग बने ।?

प्रस्ताव स्वीकृत हुआ ।

खंड 20 विधेयक में जोड़ दिया गया ।

खंड 1, अधिनियमन सूत्र और विधेयक का पूरा नाम विधेयक में जोड़ दिए गए ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : माननीय मंत्री जी, अब प्रस्ताव करें कि विधेयक को पारित किया जाए ।

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, I beg to move:

?That the Bill be passed.?

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रश्न यह है:

?कि विधेयक पारित किया जाए ।?

प्रस्ताव स्वीकृत हुआ ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : सभा की कार्यवाही बुधवार, दिनांक 4 दिसम्बर, 2024 को प्रातः 11 बजे तक के लिए स्थगित की जाती है ।

19.22 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock

on Wednesday, December 04, 2024/ Agrahayana 13, 1946 (Saka)

* Not recorded as ordered by the Chair.

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Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

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Not recorded.

* Not recorded.

* Not recorded.