

## **Demands For Supplementary Grants (2024-25)? First Batch- Passed -contd?**

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE; AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN):** Sir, thank you very much for the opportunity given to respond to the discussion on the Supplementary Demands for Grants. I understand that 43 Members had spoken on the discussion.

Sir, this is the first batch of supplementary and it covers over 83 demands and three appropriations. The appropriations include those for the President, the Supreme Court of India and the Union Public Service Commission. To make a beginning, I will repeat some of the things which are already mentioned in the Supplementary Demands for Grants, a copy of which all Members have seen. Through these demands and appropriations, we are seeking the authorisation of the Parliament for gross additional expenditure of Rs. 87,762.56 crore. The net cash outgo or cash supplementary is about Rs. 44,182.87 crore. The technical token supplementaries are also mentioned. Expenditure on capital account is something which I would like to take a minute to say that it is about Rs. 19,416.35 crore and the balance of Rs. 68,346.21 crore in the Supplementary Demands for Grants is on the revenue account. So, I am not going further into the details.

Sir, I am grateful that yesterday hon. Member, Jagdambika Pal ji had gone into the details of what this Supplementary Demand for Grant is all about, where money goes and why it is justified, and that this first supplementary has covered those amounts and the total is far less than what the first supplementary had in the last year.

**15.04 hrs** (Dr. Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar *in the Chair*)

He had rightly placed the emphasis, saying look at where the money is going. It is going for farmers; it is going for the revenue expenditure of Defence; but on farmers account again, it is going for fertilisers and so on. So, without spending more time on the details of those, I would like to go back to the discussion and respond to the Members' questions and give clarifications they had sought so that we focus on the debate straightaway.

Madam, there was a lot of interest on the economy-related issues. Hon. Members have asked questions about what it is about the economy that I can answer. They had asked questions and I will try to address some of them.

Madam, the real growth rate for quarter one and quarter two of this financial year has been 6.7 per cent and 5.4 per cent respectively. At 5.4 per cent, the Q2 rate is slower than expected. Many Members observed it, many Members commented on it, and many Members raised a doubt asking, 'is growth sustainable at all at the number that we projected in the BE?? I would like to touch upon some of the concerns. The quarter two of this financial year has been challenging quarter for India and for most of the economies of the world. In the last three years, India's GDP growth rate has averaged 8.3 per cent. This is outstanding. I do not want to judge myself; I do not want to judge the Ministry. But this is a number before us and this is a number which you can see and compare with the rest of the globe. This number is an outstanding number by global standards. India has been the fastest growing major economy in the world and the credit goes to the people of India, who are struggling and meeting their aspirations, thereby contributing to the economy, and with the leadership, which puts policy up front, it responds to people and their aspirations as well. So, the two wheels have moved adequately in synchrony as a result of which you see the growth numbers.

A different perspective for the same thing is something which I would like to put before you, Madam Chairperson. Out of the 12 quarters in the previous three years, the GDP growth rate was lower than 5.4 per cent in two quarters, that is, quarter four of 2021-22 and quarter three of 2022-23. It is important to understand that this drop happened in just two quarters in the last 12 quarters that we are talking about. So, let us not pick on that one and predict the future. This has been a steady growth and a steady sustained growth. So, I would like to place that perspective before you with the numbers before me.

The regular Union Budget was passed by the newly constituted Lok Sabha post-parliamentary elections in middle of August 2024. Effectively, the implementation of new announcements of this Government commenced after the Appropriation Act was passed by the Parliament in August 2024. Effectively, it is from August that we are starting to give emphasis to many of the things inclusive of capital expenditure. And therefore, we are now talking of 'within four months?', after the full regular Budget was presented in August. The situation is no different from one seen in earlier years when Parliament elections were conducted. So, that is a very

important consideration which I would like the hon. Members to take on board. When the annual Lok Sabha elections happen, those years do have a certain flow of resources and do have a certain ground-related expenditure happening. When it picks up, the growth rate also picks up. But the blip has got to be understood in the broader context.

Now, I will come to differences in alignments of festivities. This is an important consideration because even countries which annually are in a Christmas festival mood or any other festival mood, there is a rise and dip in consumption and expenditure. Between September and October in the previous and current year, particularly for India, it created a modest downward bias for the Q2 growth. I think it is because there was a 15-day period where the people do not spend and that period came very close to the Dussehra vacation also when people spend. As a result, that quarter got affected by good-spending fortnight and a not-so-good fortnight, both occurring during that quarter itself. So, the Government believes that the trend in quarter two of 2024-2025 is only a temporary blip and the economy will see healthy growth in the next quarter. Also, a generalised slowdown in manufacturing is not expected as it is restricted to a few sections only.

This is an important fact that I would like to place for the consideration of the hon. Members. Out of 23 manufacturing sectors, in the index of industrial production, about half of them remain strong even now. So, we need to put this in context. The capital expenditure of the Union Government has grown by 6.4 per cent year-on-year between July-October, 2024. So, I am very optimistic about improved performance going further and going forward.

This addresses a large section of the MPs who spoke. I name some of them, namely Shri K. C. Venugopal, Prof. Sougata Ray, Shri Anil Desai, Shri N. K. Premachandran, Shri Manish Tewari, Shri Lalji Verma, Sushri Sayani Ghosh, Shri Vishaldada Patil and Dr. Amar Singh. All of them, while mentioning different aspects of the economy, did raise these points. So, I thought that I should upfront start with this.

**PROF. SOUGATA RAY (DUM DUM):** We are all worried about the growth.

**SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN:** There was equally a lot of voice about inflation being very high. This was particularly raised by four Members who had also raised the previous issue. Retail inflation declined to 4.8 per cent between April to October, 2024-2025 compared to 5.4 per cent in 2023-2024. This is the lowest since the COVID-19 pandemic started. It was the lowest retail inflation. Core

inflation, which excludes volatile food and energy prices, remains at 3.6 and is at a decadal low. It is a very important data which we have to take on board. We, in the Union Government, remain committed to better managing of food inflation where volatility in specific food items is weather-driven.

Building buffers is one of the key performances, which I can place here for Members' consideration, particularly in key food items such as cereals, pulses, and distribution of food items like onions, rice, toor dal, wheat flour, gram and so on. So, these are happening through designated outlets at subsidised prices. I have spoken before on this. Bharat brand atta and Bharat brand dal are provided in essential commodities at an affordable price. The prices have been very reasonable and the uptake is also very considerable. Bharat dal is available at Rs. 60 per kg for one kg pack. Bharat atta costs Rs. 30 per kg and Bharat rice costs Rs. 34 per kg, and they are available through particular outlets.

The discussion, again, on the inflation is normally taken for the number that is revealed in the latest quarter. But I would again like to put a perspective before hon. Members. Most often, I have done this and I think that there is merit for us to look at it in this way because it is important to understand the context and also the perspective to keep it as wide as possible.

Madam, between 1999-2004, the headline inflation was controlled at 3.9 per cent. The reason why I am bringing this is something which I will explain a bit later, but I am laying the ground for that inference. The headline inflation was controlled at 3.9 per cent between 1999 and 2004, but between 2004 and 2009, the inflation surged to 5.6 per cent. Again, come over. You can compare it with 1999-2004, which I am talking about. But when you come to 2009-2014, it spiralled to 10.2 per cent representing a catastrophic failure to control rising prices. Come again to 2014-2024, the inflation was brought back to 5.1 per cent.

The pattern that is emerging, if you look at it, for the last 25 years, is that the inflation during NDA period is well under control, whereas during non-NDA, particularly during UPA period, it touched double digit inflation. So, let us not forget this pattern when we want to criticize one another about inflation and inflation control. The hon. Member can be similarly introspecting on the impact of COVID-19 and the wars which are happening now.

Madam, food inflation was a modest 2.2 per cent during 1999-2004. From 2004 to 2009, it reached 6.5 per cent; from 2009 to 2014, it reached 11 per cent; and from

2014 to 2024, it is back to 5.3 per cent. So, the pattern is consistent. You split 25 years between UPA or non-NDA and NDA, you will see that inflation is better controlled under the NDA regimes.

Madam, hon. Member, Manish Tewari, was talking about fuel inflation. I quite appreciate his concern because this can affect poor families as well. I want to place the data before. Under UPA-II, the fuel inflation was 8.9 per cent compared to the 10 years between 2014 and 2024, which is at 4.4 per cent. But I just want to highlight the fact for hon. Member, Manish Tiwari's question. He talked about the LPG cylinder and I am sure this is something which most of the hon. Members will be interested in knowing about. Under the Congress regime, the LPG cylinders were a privilege and scarce commodity. Before April 2014, nearly 45 per cent of the Indian households did not have access to clean cooking fuel. In contrast, the LPG coverage under the NDA regime has reached near saturation. The total number of domestic active LPG customers has more than doubled from 14.52 crores in April 2014 to 32.65 crores as of June 2024. I am not giving an exact number. The approximation is that there are 33 crore households in this country. Madam, 32.65 crore households have got LPG cylinder connection. It is near saturation in making sure that gas cylinders reach every household. So, I must credit the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for having taken this distribution of LPG to households. After Ujjwala came in, we have made sure that many of those families which gave up the extra cylinder on hon. PM's nudge that he gave, urging people to give up the subsidy who do not need it, many people gave it up, but Ujjwala grew as much as also the others who do not need Ujjwala. So, the total saturation is 32.65 crore households and from among this number, 10.33 crore Ujjwala beneficiaries are also there. So, these 32.65 crore households include Ujjwala 10.33 crore households. An Ujjwala-14.2 kg cylinder is given at an effective price of Rs. 503. I want to highlight the fact that if we are to compare India with its immediate neighbourhood, you will know that India's LPG cylinder is very reasonably priced for the Ujjwala consumers that I am talking about.

Madam, in the neighbouring countries, as on 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2024, the prices are like this. In Nepal, it is Rs.1,209.21. I am saying it in INR, Indian rupees. In Sri Lanka, it is Rs.1,211.24. In Pakistan, it is Rs.1095.41. For Ujjwala customers in India, it is Rs.503 only. The immediate question would be what about those non-Ujjwala customers because it is an essential thing for a household. The effective price of non-Ujjwala consumers ? and I am talking of New Delhi ? is Rs.803. So, I want a clear appreciation, not so much for appreciating but for recognition of the fact that

compared to the neighbourhood, India's LPG prices even for non-Ujjwala are far lesser than what it is like in our neighbourhood. That is essentially for Shri Manish Tewari's question.

There were concerns expressed also about unemployment being very high. Several Members raised questions on it, and I highlight some of the facts. The all-India annual unemployment rate has been declining according to the Periodic Labour Force Survey report. Beginning 2017-18, it has been falling from 6.0 per cent in 2017-18 to 3.2 per cent in 2023-24. Unemployment rate was six per cent in 2017-18. Today, it has come down to 3.2 per cent. This is accompanied by a rise in the labour force participation ratio and worker to population ratio figures as well. A very important factor is the gender component. The female labour force participation rate has been on the rise for the past six years from 24.5 per cent in 2018-19 to 41.7 per cent in 2023-24. We will be glad to know that this is largely driven by rising participation of rural women into the labour force. So, this is a very noteworthy transformation that we are seeing. I would like to put it before you, hon. Chairperson.

According to the latest payroll data of the EPFO, the cumulative net addition of EPF subscribers which very clearly shows the formal employment touched 91.1 lakhs in the first half of this year, that is 2024-25, which is nearly 29 per cent higher than the cumulative net additions of 70.5 lakhs in the same period last year. So, it is important and we are clearly talking about the net addition. It is not the numbers which have gone; we have ignored it, or anything like that. We are talking about net additions. Nearly two-thirds of the new subscribers in the EPFO payroll have been from the 18 to 28 years band. So, for all of us who rightly have concerns about the youth of India, I would like to show this figure that the net addition to the EPF subscribers number has two-thirds of them coming from those in the age group of 18 to 28. So, the youth of India are coming on board and getting into the EPF-related registers.

There was also a concern and a lot of discussion about the procedure not being followed in sanction of Contingency Fund advance. I think, it was Member N.K. Premachandran ji who raised this point. I would like to respond to him because I think he highlighted it. I appreciate the fact that N.K. Premachandran ji gets into a lot of granular details of the budget and also of the General Financial Rules. He said, and I quote:

?The procedure given in para 5 of Delegation of Financial Powers Rules regarding laying Statement by Ministers who are giving Contingency Fund Advance is not followed.?

That was his concern. I would like to remind the hon. Member, N. K. Premachandran ji that the procedural issue which you have raised is about the withdrawals of Contingency Fund and advance of Rs. 100 crore given to MNRE for the PM Surya Ghar. Am I right? Based on the request of the Ministry, the Contingency Fund Advances are normally given to various Ministries, and in this case, the Contingency Fund Advance of Rs. 100 crore was sanctioned on 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 at a time when the Parliament was not in session. This amount is being recouped -- and that you will see in the Supplementary Demands for Grants -- through the Supplementary Demand which we have placed now. So, the Ministry of Finance does not normally permit Consolidated Fund Advances when Parliament Session is underway. In the instant case that he is referring to, the Finance Ministry has not issued the sanction during the Parliament Session. I would just like to mention it very clearly for Shri N.K. Premachandran's consideration. If at all, the withdrawals of CF Advance have happened by any Ministry, the Minister concerned is required by a Rule to lay a paper in the House. And that is the extant procedure.

Madam, similarly, I think it was one of the Members, if I am right Lalji Verma ji, had mentioned that this Supplementary Demand for Grant is being presented within one month of the Budget. I am not sure whether Lalji Verma ji is here. This is the First Batch of the Supplementary Demands for Grants. And even as I opened my statement, I said that the regular Budget in this election year was presented in July, and now, we are into December. We are several months away from July, not one. So, that statement unfortunately does not seem to be correct. This has been reduced. The Supplementary Demand for Grant is the first one. I would like to definitely place on record that we have kept the Supplementary Demands for Grants. Normally, three are permitted. We have tried keeping it within two and never moving to the third except for one year when the third also had had to happen. So, the Supplementary Demands for Grants are not too many, not too frequent, and do not happen for simple and small reasons. So, I want to leave the data behind that this is the first one. In fact, I am very grateful that some of the hon. Members have mentioned about the amount that this time, the Supplementary Demand amount itself is far lesser than the last time, showing greater accuracy in the B.E. stage itself of Budget making. So, there is a greater and absolute targeting of what is the Budget Estimates ought to be, and there is not,

therefore, much of a requirement to come with huge Supplementary Demands, and not too many of them as well.

Madam, there has been a concern about sustaining the growth. I have broadly spoken about the growth and the growth-related figures earlier. But what are the specific steps that the Government has taken to push and to sustain growth? That was one of the questions. As much as private sector investments slow down and more investment on infrastructure ? all these have been points on which a lot of Members have raised their concerns. I would like to broadly say, and that even at the beginning we have said, that there has been a considerable emphasis on capital expenditure. Repeatedly, every year, our capital expenditure amounts are only growing, not in just actual numbers but in percentages as well.

This year, we allocated Rs. 11.11 lakh crore for capital expenditure. If we understand that together with the amounts that we have given to the States, this year particularly, we have given Rs. 1.50 lakh crore to the States as interest free 50 years? loan for capital assistance if effective capital expenditure of the Union Government is taken on board. And what is the effective capital expenditure? It includes budgeted capital outlay and grants in aid for capital creation. If these two are put together, you get the effective capital expenditure figure and while Rs. 11.11 lakh crore is the capital expenditure announced in the BE, effective capital expenditure inclusive of capital assistance to the States interest free, it is pegged at Rs. 15.02 lakh crore, one of the highest in Government of India?s history. This is the amount we are giving for capital expenditure which has given a big role also for the States to build their capital expenditure account and as a result, I think the steps that we are taking to push for growth and to sustain growth are going through this route of capital expenditure so that the multiplier effect which will spread through the economy and therefore, give a greater attraction and multiplier effect to the economy itself will be bigger because I think we have spoken about this as well which I would like to emphasize again that for every rupee spent on capital account, the multiplier effect that you get touches even 3.8 or sometimes 4.3. That is the kind of multiplier you get when you spend on capital account whereas if you spend on revenue account, for every one rupee, you would get only 0.98, less than 100 paise, which is one rupee. So, that is not going to benefit if we just spend money or put money in the hands of the people, promote immediate consumption so that people can go out in the market and buy the essentials. They are important but the multiplier that gives is far lesser than the multiplier that you would gain when people are given in situ jobs because projects are running, capital assets are



being built. We have gone through that route and this time, the effective capital expenditure of the Government of India is at Rs. 15.02 lakh crore.

What are the expenditure on which this amount is getting spent? Regional connectivity, robust highways, railways, coastal shipping, digital infrastructure and multimodal logistics are areas in which we are spending this money and also addressing skill deficit through package of five schemes which we have announced in this budget itself. And these have given results. So, it is not as if I have spent the money but we do not know what is the outcome. The results are there for everyone to see - increase in Gross Fixed Capital Formation to 30.8 per cent of the GDP in 2023-24 compared to an average of 28.9 per cent between 2014-15 and 2018-19, pre-pandemic years. So, pre-pandemic years, you had 28.9 per cent as Gross Fixed Capital Formation whereas now it has gone up to 30.8 per cent. Also, private investment by non-financial firms about 3200 firms, independent research looked into it and said 11.6 per cent is the growth in private investment by non-financial firms. That itself will explain it. I am talking not about the banks, not talking about the NBFCs but other firms which are in the private sector. And improvement in the ranking of the world bank logistic performance index from 54<sup>th</sup> place where we were in 2014 to 38<sup>th</sup> place in 2023 to 44<sup>th</sup> place in 2018 and 22<sup>nd</sup> place in 2023 particularly under international shipments category.

Madam, you probably are aware that in every session of the Budget, we have questions on tax devolution to Opposition ruled States. There are questions that they have been reduced particularly for Kerala, Karnataka, and Himachal Pradesh. Shri K.C. Venugopalji asked about it. I would like to again ? like the way I do in every Session ? answer this question. The tax devolution to States is based on the formulation and the recommendation given by the Finance Commission. Within first 45 months of the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission, the current Finance Commission, the tax devolution to these States is more than the total tax devolved to these States in the entire period of the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission, entire period of the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission, five full years, and you can take 45 months of the current Finance Commission, which is just about four years and three months. I am going by State by State.

The State of Karnataka, during the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission, between 2014 and 2019, had Rs. 1,35,044 crore devolved to it; and within the 45 months of the current Finance Commission they have received Rs. 1,41,937 crore, which is already much more than the entire five year period of the previous Finance Commission. The

State of Himachal Pradesh received Rs. 20,830 crore during the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission's entire period whereas what they have received in the first 45 months of the current Finance Commission is Rs. 32,087 crore. The State of Kerala received Rs. 71,713 crore during the earlier Finance Commission, during its entire period, whereas in the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission, which is the current Finance Commission, and in first 45 months received Rs. 75,171 crore. So, there is no question about anything. Everything is on-time, and much more, that is what is being devolved to all States, and there is no difference between which State is ruled by which party. Everybody gets what their due is. That is the principle with which Prime Minister Modi guides me, and that is what we do.

Madam, slow pace of expenditure from the budget 2024-25 is another question which N.K. Premachandranji asked. The Union Budget, the regular one, for 2024-25 was passed by the newly constituted Lok Sabha after the parliamentary election in August. I have already explained that subsequently when the money went to the States, and when States got on to the ground to do their expenditure almost two quarters were delayed. So, this situation is broadly similar to all other election years. However, the total expenditure up to October 2024 was Rs. 24.74 lakh crore. This is 51.3 per cent of BE which is broadly similar to pace of expenditure up to October 2023. So, it is not slow since the second quarter.

**SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM):** Madam, I fully appreciate the expenditure made by the Government during the six months, that is, 51.3 per cent of the total expenditure, more than that of the total Budget allocation.

My point was that the most labour-intensive sector is the MSME sector, and the Budget outlay was Rs. 22,137.95 crore. There is a revised outlay. I cannot understand what is the revised outlay at this juncture. Further, the expenditure till 2021-2024 is Rs. 992 crore, which is just lower than 15 per cent. When the total expenditure is more than 51.3 per cent, how can it be just less than 15 per cent in the MSME sector alone? That is my question.

**SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN:** Madam, I am thankful to the hon. Member for giving that clarification. I want to be sure that I do not repeat it, but I would like to emphasize on the point that this Budget gave five particular different schemes to enable the MSMEs to have greater liquidity in their hand, and greater access to credit like never before, and I say this in particular that MSMEs only had working capital given to them. Our Government has now made a provision for them to also have term loans for doing their business, which means they can take the loan from

the bank and invest in plant and machinery. But they are after all small firms. They will not have huge collateral to offer; they would not have security to give. So, I am grateful to the hon. Prime Minister who very clearly said, and we gave assistance for the small traders on the street ? PM SVANidhi; we gave assistance for women and small people who are doing their business ? PM MUDRA. All of them are sovereign guaranteed collateral free loans. Similarly, for the term loans that we are giving to the MSMEs, we have provided for sovereign guarantee. This is happening for the first time in this country.

So, hon. Member, Shri N.K. Premachandran be informed on this that MSMEs never had that provision in all of free India, 1947 onwards, for a term loan and a sovereign guaranteed term loan, we have given that this time. But on the specific point of why it is not spent or why it is not acquiring that much of traction within this year, the same is the case. If the Budget was passed in July and the Department had to do it all on the ground within the next four months, it will have its own difficulties. But that is not to say that this program will not continue. It will continue with the same gusto. So, I want the fact that this year has a peculiarity, Vote on Account, a regular Budget in July, and after which, when expenditure has to happen in all sectors with the same speed, some Ministries do take the time.

I am going around visiting MSME clusters, establishing SIDBI branches there, asking SIDBI to give more loans to the MSMEs under the newly designed post the regular Budget schemes. I appreciate your concern on MSMEs, but it is not being brought down.

Madam, like always in every Session, you yourself are from West Bengal, and I have heard Prof. Sougata Ray interrupting to say, ?Would you also speak on this?? So, I am speaking now. ?The Stare of West Bengal has been deprived of funds from the Central Government under MGNREGA and PM Awas Scheme?, was raised by Prof. Sougata Ray and Ms. Sayani Ghosh. I am not sure if she is here. ....  
*(Interruptions)*

Madam, through you, I would like to put the facts. Like every other year, the State PMAY Gramin Awas Yojana was being implemented in West Bengal since 2016-17. The Government had also released Rs.25,798 crore as the Central share to the State since 2016-17. However, complaints of irregularities in the implementation of PMAY Gramin, including a selection of ineligible households from the Awas Plus-2018 list, removal of eligible households and renaming of the scheme in the State as Bangla

Awas Yojana, have been received. The Ministry has sought an Action Taken Report from the State Government.

Similarly, Madam, and again I have said this even earlier in very many different Sessions, under MGNREGA complaints of misappropriation of funds have been received by the Government. Upon inquiry by Central teams, the complaints were proven to be correct. Madam, I may add that the Central team was accompanied by the State team as well when they went on inspection. The complaints were proven correct, and not following the rule was clearly established.

The Department of Rural Development had sought latest status of action taken report. Now, the State Government has submitted the ATRs which are being examined by the Ministry of Rural Development. That is the current position on the question which Prof. Sougata Ray had raised.

**SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (KOLKATA UTTAR):** Madam, what I want to suggest or submit is this. If any corruption happens in any part of the State, why is the total amount of money being stopped? Where the possibility of inquiry appears or the Central Team and the State Team jointly detected any such area, you should stop sending money over there. But for few places or for one or two places, you are blocking the total money. My request and suggestion to you is to release the amount to the State which has dues from the Centre of more than Rs. 1,00,000 crore as a whole. So, would you kindly take up these two issues ? MGNREGS and Awas Yojana?

I also want to request you that wherever reports of corruption are there, you should block money over there, but do not stop the full money as a whole for the total State.

**SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN:** But we have not stopped it on that ground only now.

Madam Chairperson, the hon. Member is putting forth a suggestion to stop it where the corruption has happened, but do not stop the entire money. We have not stopped it entirely for all over the country. We have stopped it where the corruption has happened. ? (*Interruptions*)

उनका सुझाव है कि मुझे पूरे देश में यह नहीं रोकना चाहिए, जहाँ करप्शन हुआ है, वहाँ रोका जाए । मैं वही तो कर रही हूँ । बंगाल में करप्शन हुआ, उसको रोकूँगी । ? (व्यवधान) क्या मैंने गलत समझा है? ? (व्यवधान)

**SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY :** No, Madam. I am talking about my own State.

श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण: जी हाँ, मैं आपके ओन स्टेट के विषय में ही बोल रही हूँ । ? (व्यवधान) Do you want English or my *tooti-footi* Hindi? ? (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY:** Where it has happened, you stop sending money for those portions, but the money for the whole State is being stopped.

**SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN:** You are saying that in the State of West Bengal, जहाँ करप्शन हुआ, वहाँ न दिया जाए, बाकी जगहों पर दिया जाए । लेकिन यह मैं कैसे तय करूँ? ? (व्यवधान)

Madam Chairperson, even when I do not stop, even when I do not delay or even when I give an advance payment ? when I have to give payment for one month and am giving for two months ? I am accused of differential treatment to different States.

करप्शन हुआ, यह साबित हो गया है । सेन्ट्रल की टीम और स्टेट की टीम साथ में गए । पेमेंट का रिक्लेम करो, ऐसा आदेश मिलने के बाद रिक्लेम न करते हुए, दोबारा ट्रेजरी से ही उसकी भरपाई कर रहे हैं, मतलब करप्शन हुआ । उसके बाद मैं कैसे डिफरेंशिएट करूँ कि पूर्व मेदिनीपुर में नहीं हुआ, नॉर्थ बंगाल में हुआ, 24 साउथ परगना में हुआ । मैडम, यह मैं कैसे तय करूँ? अगर मैं तय भी करती हूँ, तो किसकी मान्यता होगी? अगर बंगाल का चुपचाप मानते हैं तो भी बाकी स्टेट्स मुझ पर गुस्सा नहीं करेंगे कि यह करने के लिए आप कौन होती हैं? इसलिए पूरी तरह से इसको साफ करने के लिए मैं आपके माध्यम से बंगाल गवर्नमेंट से रिक्वेस्ट कर रही हूँ, इसको साफ करो । फिर आते हम । जितने भी प्रश्न उठाए गए, उनका स्पष्टीकरण दो, एक्शन में दिखाओ, उसके बाद आपके पैसे कौन रोकने वाला है? हम बिल्कुल आपके पैसे देंगे । ? (व्यवधान)

**SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY:** Madam, West Bengal is being targeted by the Centre. ? (*Interruptions*) आप कितने दिन तक यह करेंगी? Your purpose to make your party more influential in the State will never materialise. The result will always be 6-0. Give money to the State. Poor people are hungry. Take care of them. I request you with folded hands, all money must not be kept detained. It cannot happen for a particular State.

**SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN:** Madam Chairperson, I fully appreciate the concern. Our intention is not to put anybody to difficulty. Kindly allow me one minute of indulgence for the political observation which the hon. Member has made. आप जब तक ये करते रहेंगे, आपको बंगाल में सीट नहीं मिलेगी । ? (व्यवधान) मान लीजिए, यह सच है, फिर आपको क्या दिक्कत हो रही है? ? (व्यवधान) आप खुश रहो, सब जीतो । ? (व्यवधान) आराम से बैठो । नहीं, दिक्कत हो रही है । ? (व्यवधान) जनता देख रही है कि गरीब का पैसा किसके हाथ में जा रहा है? ? (व्यवधान) पार्टी वर्कर्स के हाथ में जा रहा है, यह अब खुलासा हो गया है, इसीलिए, उधर दिक्कत हो रही है । ? (व्यवधान)

जब हम उसके लिए तैयार हैं, आपके स्टेट में आते हैं, आपकी टीम के साथ ही जाते हैं, अकेले नहीं जाते हैं । ? (व्यवधान) आपकी टीम के साथ में रहने के बाद भी दिखता है कि घपला हुआ । ? (व्यवधान) उसको सही करने के लिए मौका भी देते हैं, फिर भी आप यही राजनीतिक भाषा बोलते हैं कि जब तक ये करोगे, बीजेपी नहीं आएगी? ? (व्यवधान) नहीं, देश अच्छा होना चाहिए, मोदी जी का संकल्प यही है । ? (व्यवधान) अच्छा, करप्शन रहित देश बने । गरीब का जो पैसा है, वह उसको मिलना चाहिए । ? (व्यवधान) जहां घपला होता है, वहां हम साथ नहीं रहने वाले हैं । ? (व्यवधान)

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

**PROF. SOUGATA RAY:** Centre and State should have an open relation.

**SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN:** I agree on that. Centre and State will have to work together. I agree on that.

माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, मैं सिर्फ दो विषयों पर स्पष्टीकरण दे देती हूं । ? (व्यवधान) माननीय सदस्य, श्री धर्मेन्द्र यादव जी दिखाई नहीं दे रहे हैं, लेकिन उन्होंने एक महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न पूछा था । ? (व्यवधान) वैसा ही प्रश्न श्रीमती सुप्रिया सुले जी ने भी पूछा था । ? (व्यवधान)

**SHRI GAURAV GOGOI (JORHAT):** The Congress Party raised the issue of SEBI.

**SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN:** All right, I am trying to answer as much as possible. ? (*Interruptions*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, मैं सिर्फ यह बोलना चाहती हूं कि प्रो. सौगत राय जी सिर्फ डिस्टर्बेंस करने की ही एक माइलपोस्ट रखते हैं । ? (व्यवधान) ठीक है, हम सबको आदत हो गई है । ? (व्यवधान) फिर वे एक विषय उठाते हैं, उसका मैंने पूरे विवरण के साथ जवाब दे दिया । ? (व्यवधान) अब दूसरा माइलपोस्ट रख दिया? ? (व्यवधान) क्या मुझे सिर्फ इनको ही अटेन्ड करते रहना चाहिए? ? (व्यवधान) किसी और माननीय सदस्य का जवाब मुझे नहीं देना है? ? (व्यवधान)

ऑनरेबल स्पीकर सर, ब्लैक मनी के ऊपर श्रीमती सुप्रिया जी और श्री धर्मेन्द्र यादव जी ने प्रश्न उठाया था । ? (व्यवधान) इस विषय पर सरकार ने बहुत सारे स्टेप्स उठाए हैं । ? (व्यवधान) Action has been taken on very many unaccounted, undisclosed foreign assets.

मैं इसको तीन कैटिगरीज़ में रख रही हूं । Investigation of HSBC, ICIJ Panama, Paradise, and Pandora leak related cases. In connection with all these, information has been received through various leaks, like Panama Papers leak, Paradise Papers leak, Pandora papers leak, HSBC, ICIJ. Intrusive actions were taken in 120 cases. Further, undisclosed income of Rs. 33,393 crore have been detected under 582 cases which have been taken up. A multi-agency group, consisting of representatives from various enforcement agencies, organisations has been set up by the Government

for expeditious and coordinated investigation of various categories of foreign assets such as Panama, Paradise, and Pandora papers leak.

The second thing that I want to highlight is the constitution of the SIT on black money. The Government, of course, has constituted a Special Investigation Team and that is working from 2014. Meetings of the SITs are regularly taken up and Action Taken Report is also reviewed, particularly cases involving undisclosed foreign assets and income have really been monitored.

As regards enactment of Black Money Act, 2015, the Government enacted a comprehensive and stringent new law, namely the Black Money (Undisclosed Foreign Income and Assets) and Imposition of Tax Act, 2015 that has come into force from July, 2015. The salient feature of this Black Money Act is that 30 per cent tax is imposed on any undisclosed foreign income or foreign assets and then a penalty of 90 per cent, three times the amount of the tax, is also imposed on them. Penalty for failure to furnish returns or undisclosed or inaccurate details of foreign assets are also levied a penalty of Rs. 10 lakh and so on. Then, there is a lot through the court action.

For the effective administration of the Black Money Act, 2015, the creation of a Foreign Assets Investigation Unit has been established. 29 Foreign Assets Investigation Units are set up under the Directors General of Income Tax for investigation all across the country. Proceedings under the Black Money Act, 2015, as of June 2024, in about 697 cases raising a demand of more than Rs. 17,520 crore, 163 prosecutions have been launched, and foreign asset schedule has been issued in the ITR.

This is a very interesting information. The number of taxpayers disclosing foreign assets were 60,467 in the year 2021-2022. Now, it is two lakh tax payers in 2024-2025. The Black Money Act is actually having a deterrent effect on a lot of taxpayers that today they come forward on their own to disclose their foreign assets. ?  
*(Interruptions)*

A very important data is that 82 cases till 30 June have been referred to the ED under the PMLA Act. ? *(Interruptions)* Specific numbers were asked. Total tax collected under the Black Money Act (BMA) is Rs. 2,655 crore as of June, 2024. It is the total money raised under the Black Money Act. The number of cases in which assessments have been passed are 697, demand raised is Rs. 17,520 crore, the number of cases in which penalty has been levied is 341, penalty levied in crores is

Rs. 9,971.47, prosecution launched is 163, number of cases where assessment is pending is 531, number of cases were penalty initiated and pending is 532. So, these are the actual figures to show that the PMLA and the Black Money Act are actually giving their due returns for all the taxpayer money which has got to be obtained for the sake of the country.

On the PMLA, ED has successfully restored property's value, at least Rs. 22,280 crore and I am only talking about the major cases. We all question about ED. The return and also the money, which have been claimed by the ED is this much.

### **16.00 hrs**

There are restored properties worth Rs. 22,280 crore in major cases and I would like to list the number of cases. In Vijay Mallya case, the attached properties worth Rs. 14,131.6 crore have been restored to the public sector banks. So, there is no way in which I can go on listening to very many Members who without the facts go on saying, "No haircut has happened. Big people are allowed to take the money, small people are being punished?". No way! We have not left anyone. Even if they fled the country, we have gone after them. The Enforcement Directorate has collected this money and given back to the public sector banks. The amount of Rs. 14,131.6 crore has been restored from Vijay Mallya only.

**SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE (BARAMATI):** Madam, I would like to know if he has returned all the money he owed to the banks.

**SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN:** I am talking about the attached properties. There can still be some more cases but attached properties and their monies have gone to the public sector banks and this is the money that is obtained from them.

In Nirav Modi case, Rs. 1,052.58 crore has been restored to the public and private banks. In National Spot Exchange Limited scam, Rs. 17.47 crore have been obtained and given to the banks. In SRS group case, which is the SRM groups, Pearl City and Prime Projects in Gurugram, the property worth Rs. 20.15 crore has been restored. In Rose Valley case, Rs. 19.40 crore have been restored. In Surya Pharmaceutical Limited case, Rs. 185.13 crore have been restored. In the case of Nowhera Shaik and others and in respect of the Heera Group, Rs. 226 crore have been restored. In the case of Amrutesh Reddy Naidu and others, Rs. 12.73 crore have been restored. In the case of Mehul Choksi and others, Rs. 2,565.90 crore have all been taken. Then the liquidators in the Gitanjali Group of Companies will carry out valuation and auction of the attached or seized properties worth Rs. 2,565 crore. That is also



happening. In the case of Nafisa Overseas and others, Rs. 25.38 crores have been restored. In the case of Bhushan Power and Steel Limited, the Supreme Court ordered restitution of assets worth Rs. 4,025 crore to JSW vide its 11<sup>th</sup> December orders. So, it is important to recognize that we have not left anybody in economic offences. We are after them. We will be making sure that money which has got to go back to the banks will go back.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : अनुदानों की अनुपूरक मांगों पर श्री सुधाकर सिंह द्वारा आठ प्रस्ताव प्रस्तुत किए गए हैं । अब मैं सभी कटौती प्रस्तावों को सभा के समक्ष मतदान हेतु रखता हूँ ।

कटौती प्रस्ताव मतदान के लिए रखे गए तथा अस्वीकृत हुए ।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : अब मैं वर्ष 2024-25 के लिए अनुदानों की अनुपूरक मांगों - प्रथम बैच को सभा के मतदान के लिए रखता हूँ ।

प्रश्न यह है:

?कि अनुदानों की अनुपूरक मांगों की सूची के स्तम्भ 2 में मांग संख्या 1 से 8, 10, 11, 13 से 21, 23 से 38, 43 से 54, 56, 57, 60 से 62, 65, 66, 68, 69, 71, 73, 74, 76 से 79, 81, 83, 85 से 87, 89 से 95 और 97 से 102 के सामने दर्शाये गए मांग शीर्षों के संबंध में 31 मार्च, 2025 को समाप्त होने वाले वर्ष के दौरान संदाय के क्रम में होने वाले खर्चों की अदायगी करने हेतु अनुदानों की अनुपूरक मांगों की सूची के स्तम्भ 3 में दर्शायी गयी राजस्व लेखा तथा पूंजी लेखा संबंधी राशियों से अनधिक संबंधित अनुपूरक राशियां भारत की संचित निधि में से राष्ट्रपति को दी जाएं । ?

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प्रस्ताव स्वीकृत हुआ

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**16.05 hrs**

