Title: Regarding need for creation of a separate State of Vidarbha – Laid.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (NAGPUR): Sir, since long there has been a genuine demand by the people of Vidarbha region for the creation of Vidarbha State.

It goes as long back as the formation of new State within the Indian Union. The State Re-Organisation Commission too considered this demand and recommended separate status to Vidarbha. According to the Commission, Vidarbha was an economically viable proposition apart from the cultural and historical factors which entitled the people of Vidarbha to a separate State.

The demand is based on geographical, administrative, political and economic viability of the region. In spite of the genuine efforts, Vidarbha has remained backward in development. There are no proper means to communication. People have to travel a long distance varying from 1000 to 1400 kms. to Mumbai for the redressal of their grievances. It has now become an absolute need of the hour that the feelings of the people should be taken care of. In support of demand the entire region observed unprecedented Bandh on 27th November, 2000, when all sections of the people came together to press their demand for separated state.

(ends)