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Title: Discussion on the Demand for Grant No. 24 under the control of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand No. 24 relating to the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region.

Hon. Member Shri Jitendra Choudhary whose cut motions to the Demand for Grant in respect of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region for the year 2016-17 have been circulated may, if he desires to move his cut motions, send slip to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions he would like to move. Only those cut motions, slip in respect of which is received at the Table within the stipulated time, will be treated as moved.

A list showing the serial numbers of cut motions treated as moved will be put up on the Notice Board shortly thereafter. In case the member finds any discrepancy in the list, he may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officer at the Table immediately.

Motion moved:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2017, in respect of the head of Demand entered in the Second column thereof against Demand No. 24 relating to the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region."

Demands for Grants (General), 2016-17 in respect of Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region submitted to the vote of Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demands for Grants on Account voted by the House on March 2016		Amount of Demands for Grants submitted to the vote of the House	
		3		4	
1	2	Revenue (Rs.)	Capital (Rs.)	Revenue (Rs.)	Capital (Rs.)
24	Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region	325,17,00,000	108,17,00,000	1625,84,00,000	540,83,00,000

DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA (INNER MANIPUR): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I rise to debate on the Demands for Grants, General Budget, 2016-17 under the control of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER).

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Since this deliberation, the Demands for Grants, is for the North East, the Chairman is also from the North East and the initiator of the Debate is also from North East.

DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA: Thank you for your kind interruption.

The Ministry of DoNER is responsible for the matters relating to planning, execution and monitoring of development schemes and projects in the North Eastern Region. Its vision is to accelerate the pace of socio-economic development of the Region so that it may enjoy growth parity with the rest of the country.

Sir, why and how the Ministry of DoNER came into being? I would like to go a little back to the history. Previously, the North Eastern Region comprised seven States. Now, we are eight States – Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura. They have special features. The seven States of the North Eastern Region barring Sikkim are linked to the rest of India through the 26 kilometres long Siliguri Corridor commonly known as Chicken's neck. They, therefore, form an integrated geographical unit.

Sikkim became officially a part of the North Eastern Region in 2002. Around 98 per cent of NER's border is bounded by India's international neighbours. The region offers great diversity of topography, climatic conditions, language, religion, ethnicity and yet has common developmental challenges. Barring Assam, the other States are hilly. Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Mizoram are overwhelmingly tribal. The other four States also have substantial tribal population. Infrastructure deficit in the region, particularly, connectivity in all forms is acute. Some States are yet to be connected by trains. The economy of the region is overwhelmingly agricultural. For the above reasons, the development challenges for these eight States require special attention.

Therefore, the Union Government had set up the Department of Development of North Eastern Region in September, 2001 and upgraded it to a Ministry in May, 2004. Since it has become a full-fledged Ministry, we wish that the Ministry of DoNER is to be headed by a Union Cabinet Minister.

The North Eastern Council consists of the Governors and the Chief Ministers of the region. When the North Eastern Council meet, the DoNER Minister, being the Chairperson of the Council, has to preside over the meeting. He is having some problems in taking decisions on certain points.

The Ministry of DoNER is a unique Ministry in the Union Government as its activities are regional and more importantly advocating the special needs of the region to the other Ministries.

Sir, let us also know as to what the North Eastern Council is and the North Eastern Council *vis-à-vis* the Ministry of DoNER. The North Eastern Council is the nodal agency for the economic and social development of the North Eastern Region. The North Eastern Council was constituted way back in 1971 by an Act of Parliament. The constitution of the Council has marked the beginning of a new chapter of concerted and planned endeavour for the rapid development of the region.

Over the last 45 years, NEC has been instrumental in setting in motion a new economic endeavour aimed at removing the basic handicaps that stood

in the way of normal development of the Region and has ushered in an era of new hope in this backward area full of great potentialities.

Sir, the budgetary allocation of this Ministry – with all humility I would say this – is not very encouraging. The amount of Demands for Grants submitted to the vote of the House stands at Rs.540.83 crore Capital as against Rs.1,625.84 crore Revenue.

Let us refer to the Budget at a Glance 2016-17. On page 14 under the Head 'Central Plan Outlay by Ministries/Departments', the figures indicate a mere routine type of budgetary allocation for the DoNER Ministry. The Actuals for 2014-15 was Rs.370 crore. The BE for 2015-16 was Rs.537 crore. The RE for 2015-16 was Rs.430 crore. The BE for 2016-17 is Rs.800 crore.

Again on page 18 at Sl. No. 24 under the Head 'State and UT Plan Outlay by Ministries/Departments' similar statistics have been provided for the Ministry of DoNER. The Actuals for 2014-15 was Rs.1,325 crore. The BE for 2015-16 was Rs.1,798 crore. The RE for 2015-16 was Rs.1,543 crore. Now, the BE for 2016-17 is only Rs.1,600 crore. I repeat that it is only Rs.1,600 crore.

So, again under the Head 'Major Programmes under Central Assistance for State Plans', the amount allocated under the Central Pool of Resources for the North Eastern Region stands at Rs.900 crore only.

The amount allocated under the Scheme for the North Eastern Council is less than Rs.800 crore, that is, Rs.795 crore to be exact. The amount allocated under the Border Area Development Programme is Rs.990 crore. The amount allocated under the Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for NER – this is very much important and I have mentioned already that there is no connectivity at all – stands at a mere Rs.5,000 crore.

Now, I come to the Schemes of North Eastern Council and NLCPR, Non Lapsable Central Pool of Resources. The fund allocation for these Schemes is too less. I am afraid that it may not be able to serve any purpose at all. It appears that this Government is not at all interested to develop the North Eastern Region.

The Ministry of DoNER and NLCPR have a long history. We have been given at least 10 per cent of the Gross Budgetary Support from 52 non-exempted Ministries. This 10 per cent is accumulating. Of course, they made another change in the NLCPR and they call it as the new NLCPR-Central. In that new NLCPR-Central, they deposit this money and use that. I wish that this money will be spent. While talking about spending money in that part of the country, there is always a problem. It has always been reported about the non submission of the Utilization Certificates. I do not know how we have to monitor it. Now, with the help of advanced technology, perhaps, we can monitor it through the electronic way, and we can always monitor it from here. So, seeing that, I think the Utilisation Certificates will not be a problem for spending money.

Coming to this important area of spending, there is another reason attached to it. It is about law and order situation. The law and order situation in that part of the country has been known to us for a long time. Particularly, I come from the State of Manipur. As you know, we became a Princely State when the British suzerainty lapsed.

There are many provisions in the Constitution of India relating to NER. I would refer to three Parts.

In Part IX of the Constitution of India, the Panchayats are being controlled under Article 243 wherein every village/rural area will be covered by the Panchayats.

In Part X, the Scheduled and Tribal areas are being controlled and protected under Article 244 and 244A of our Constitution.

In Part XXI, Temporary, Transitional and Special Provisions are there. Article 371A is for Nagaland; Article 371B is for Assam; Article 371C is for Manipur; Article 371F is for Sikkim, Article 371G is for Mizoram; and Article 371H is for Arunachal Pradesh.

These are the protections given under the Constitution of India

All the more, above this, there is the Sixth Schedule of Article 242(2) and Article 275(1) wherein the Administration of the tribal areas in the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram are controlled.

So, this is very interesting part. In some of the areas, there is Sixth Schedule and in other areas, there is no Sixth Schedule.

As I mentioned earlier, my State and the other parts of the North-Eastern Region of the country have been often in the news allegedly for wrong reasons. This is perhaps because of the fact that the history of the region has not been fully understood in this country. There is nothing wrong in it. Our looks are different, our traditions are different and our foods are very deliciously different.

When we describe our country, we often mention from Kashmir to Kanyakumari and from Gujarat to Bengal. Beyond Bengal now, it has been Bengal Eastern Frontier and still it is. Even the national anthem does mention only up to Banga, that is, Bengal. Now, I would humbly put in this House that Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur and Mizoram form the easternmost boundary of this country.

Sir, I would now confine myself to my State, Manipur because of the law and order problem. What is happening there, we have to go to the history, at least. I would not take more than five minutes in narrating the history.

My State was an independent kingdom till we lost our independence to the British in 1891 in our Anglo-Manipur War. After this, Manipur remained a Princely State. None of the freedom fighters including Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru did reach Manipur during the Freedom Struggle because we did have a regulatory system requiring outsiders to obtain a permit for entry into and exit from Manipur. This regulatory system was recognised by the then Government of India in 1948; and after Manipur was merged into the Union of India in 1949, this permit system was abolished by the then Chief Commissioner of Manipur in 1950. As a result, Manipur is now facing a huge demographic challenge, which is very, very important in understanding the law and order.

Sir, with the lapse of the British suzerainty following the adoption of the Indian Independence Act on August 15, 1947, Manipur regained its

sovereign independence. Manipur became independent legally and technically notwithstanding the signing of the Instrument of Accession and the Standstill Agreement on August 11, 1947.

Sir, during this transition period before the lapse of the British suzerainty, reacting to the changes in the world around him as well as developments in other Princely States in the Indian Subcontinent, the Maharaja of Manipur set up a Committee to draft a Constitution of a new Government in Manipur. This task was completed in 1947, and the Manipur State Constitution Act, 1947 was passed. The Manipur State Hill Peoples (Administration) Regulation, 1947 was made. The Rule for the Administration of the Manipur State, 1947 was promulgated; and it came into force from 1st July, 1947 overriding all previous laws and rules. In early 1948, the first election of the State of Manipur was held. Thus, Manipur had a State Assembly which was elected on the basis of adult franchise in 1948.

Our Maharaja was called to Shillong, the capital of Assam and made to sign the Manipur Merger Agreement on September, 21, 1949 to merge with the Union of India on 15th October 1949. On adoption of the constitution of India on 26th January, 1950, Manipur became a part C State and then a Chief Commissioner State under Union Territory (Laws) Act, 1950 assisted by a Council of Advisors with five members, three from the valley and two from the hill areas. This continued till the election of 30 members of the Territorial Council in 1957. The Territorial Council was later converted into the Territorial Legislative Assembly in 1963, consisting of 30 elected and two nominated members. The Assembly started functioning from 23rd July, 1963. Manipur had a Legislative Assembly consisting of 30 elected members under the Government of Union Territories Act, 1963.

Manipur became a full-fledged State on 21st January, 1972 by the North-Eastern (Reorganisation) Act, 1971. The structure of the State Legislature is unicameral. The State Legislative Assembly now consists of 60 members. Manipur has two Lok Sabha Members and one Rajya Sabha Member. Now, Mrs. Mary Kom is nominated to Rajya Sabha and she took oath yesterday as Rajya Sabha Member.

Manipur is credited with introducing polo to the world and also the famous Ras Leela of Manipur. The UNESCO recognized Nat Sankritana of Manipur. The freedom fighters like Bir Tikendrajit, Thangal General, Paona Brajabashi, Rani Gaidinlu to mention a few and of course, Olympic medallist Mary Kom.

I come to the most interesting part of Manipur history. That is, Manipur's position in the country vis-à-vis the constitution of India. We the people of Manipur feel that had Manipur been merged into the Union of India as a full-fledged State at the time of the merger in 1949, most of the problems the State is now facing might not have occurred.

I repeat again that had Manipur been merged into the Union of India as a full-fledged State at the time of the merger in 1949, most of the problems the State is now facing might not have occurred.

The fact that it remained a part-C State with an administrator till 1950, a Union Territory till 1956 and the Statehood has come really very late in 1972.

Sir, in 1963, when the erstwhile autonomous District of Naga Hills of Assam was granted Statehood, the two princely States of Manipur and Tripura could have been granted Statehood. Unfortunately, this did not happen. These demand driven actions of the Government of India do more harm than good.

We know that till Manipur attained Statehood, the people did not have any say whatsoever. But in 1972, when Manipur was granted full-fledged Statehood, all that Manipur had before its merger into the Union of India could have been restored to Manipur by the Union Government.

These include the protection of territorial integrity of the State, the regulatory system of entry into and exit from Manipur by outsiders, the Tribal status for all the indigenous people of the State, the redeeming and renewal of Rs. 500 tax/tribute for Kabaw Valley by the Burmese Government under the Treaty of Yandaboo. Unfortunately, these things did not happen. Even the merger agreement had not been implemented at all and had been completely forgotten. What a tragedy!

Sir, Article 371 C of the constitution of India pertaining to Manipur was also introduced through the 27th Constitution Amendment, 1971 and became effective only from 15th February, 1972 which is very late and insignificant.

The State of Manipur and other North Eastern States had been facing a serious insurgent movement around the beginning of 1960s which in my opinion, requires a political solution. Instead, the Government of India promulgated Armed Forces (Special) Powers Act, 1958 (AFSPA).

During the promulgation of this Act, many lives were lost, many people disappeared, crimes against women including rape were rampant, and many women became widows. This AFSPA is really draconian and a black law.

Many committees, commissions, conferences including most recent Justice Verma Committee and UN agencies recommended repeal of the Act. In my State Manipur, one lady Irom Sharmila Devi has been on fast since 2002 demanding repeal of this AFSPA. Nothing concrete has come out so far except the fact that the Government of Manipur had lifted AFSPA in the seven Assembly segments in the capital Imphal of Manipur. I have been always urging the Government of India for the immediate repeal of AFSPA but of no avail till date.

In order to safeguard the territorial integrity of Manipur, I have moved a constitution amendment Bill twice to insert an extra Article 371 CC. The Article states that "Article 3 of the Constitution of India shall not apply in respect of the State of Manipur". Till now, this Bill does not get the space for consideration.

Sir, at the moment there have been three Bills passed by the Manipur Assembly and they are waiting for the assent of the President of India. These Bills are good Bills and will help protecting the indigenous people of Manipur for all times to come. I hope, very soon the President of India will give his assent.

We are all very serious for a peaceful settlement to the vexed Naga issues. Unfortunately, in 2001, the Indo-NSCN (IM) ceasefire agreement was

extended beyond territorial limits. Because of this, in June 2002 there was a huge upsurge/uprising in the State of Manipur. Sir, 18 innocent people died and the State Assembly building and many other Government offices were burnt down and this happened during the NDA regime.

Last year again on 3rd August, a framework agreement was signed between the Government of India and NSCN (IM). What was there in the framework, it appears, nobody knows. Manipur, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh Governments are demanding the details of the framework agreement without much success. Is it not something really very serious? It is because the NSCN (IM) does speak, among others, of including the demand of some sort of integration of Naga people of the neighbouring States by expanding their territory and also of shared democracy with the Government of India. Solution of Naga problem should never be against the interest of the neighbouring States.

Sir, considering all these aspects, I do urge upon the Union Government to take all possible steps within the framework of the Constitution of India to meet the aspiration of the people of Manipur, the erstwhile princely State, at the time of its merger with the Union of India in the best interest of all concerned. Thank you very much.

CUT MOTIONS

(TOKEN)

SHRI JITENDRA CHAUDHURY (TRIPURA EAST): I beg to move :

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (PAGE 116) BE REDUCED BY RS. 100.

Need to allocate adequate funds under the Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR) for speedy development of North-Eastern Region. (1)

Need to set up more 'Border Haats' at the Indo-Bangla and Indo-Myanmar borders. (2)

Need to set up 'Border Haats' at Indo-China Border. (3)

Need to allocate adequate funds to augment the infrastructure of all Land Custom Stations on the international borders. (4)

Need to set up an Integrated Check Post (ICP) at Sabroom on Indo-Bangla border. (5)

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY (GUWAHATI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, according to my opinion, concept of the country is not the boundary of the country alone or its landmass. India has got 32,87,263 square kilometres of landmass and we have a population of nearly 128 crore in the country.

The Prime Minister, who cares for the people, is the best Prime Minister. So, in this regard I must say that the hon. Prime Minister is the best Prime Minister in the country. He cares for the nook and corner of the country, including the North-Eastern Region.

All the years after Independence till the NDA Government came to power, the North-Eastern Region was considered as a liability for the country. No successive Governments, I mean the Congress Government, never cared for the North-Eastern Region. Even you will be surprised to know that with regard to those officials who are transferred to the North-Eastern Region, their transfer is considered as punishment transfer. If they work in this way, then they never care for that region. They simply pass the days and after six months, they again come back to Delhi or to other good places.

The North-Eastern Region is connected by greater landmass of the country by only 22 kilometres. Only 22 kilometres of landmass joins the North-Eastern Region with the rest of the country. So, this transport bottleneck has created great hardship connectivity. As such, the entire North-Eastern Region remained an isolated one. It simply became a patch of land without people. I think, probably, the previous Congress Government thought so in that way. All these years, except during the NDA Government, this stark reality was slapped on the face of the North-Eastern Region due to utter negligence, absence of road network, only patch up of rail lines and absence of industry--small or big. No work cluster has been there. Absence of all these has resulted in a very weak economy of the region. Underdevelopment of education system and absence of sustainable and continuous growth left the region high and dry. Presently, there are more than a crore of unemployed people in the North-Eastern Region. In Assam alone, 75 lakh people are unemployed. These people have got no work at all. Every opportunity is there for these people that they may go astray; they may join anywhere; and they may create something which is not wanted, and that happened in the North-Eastern Region. Dangerously, a huge negligence by the previous successive Governments eats the very vitality of the region. What is not there? There are huge forest resources including hundreds of rivers, rare medicinal plants and rare species of animals. There is huge potentiality of development of tourism circuit. But nothing has been done.

The reality is that in 1962 during the Chinese aggression, NE region had been *bade adieu* by the then Prime Minister. Luckily, the Chinese troops had themselves retreated. Otherwise, I think, by this time, the North Eastern people have had to live under the Chinese clutches. Thus, this region had been taken for granted by the successive governments except NDA. Even the officers, as I mentioned earlier, when are transferred to NE region, think it as a punishment posting. That is why they never work as they should do when they are transferred there.

In the earlier part of the independence, lakhs of East Pakistanis, who are now known as Bangladeshis, had been inspired to enter the NE region to grow more food. I would repeat the words 'grow more food'. They were given land and citizenship rights with an eye on creating a huge vote bank. You may remember the famous saying by the then Congress President: 'So long Ali's are there, the Congress is safe'. Ali means the Muslim people. That is why I say again that the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunal) Act was imposed not to drive out infiltrators but to protect them. It is because of this heinous move by the Congress Government, the hills, the grazing lands, provincial grazing reserves (PGRs), riverine areas have been occupied by these people. Now, they are taking inroads into the city areas of the country. Because of the protective attitude of police and civil authorities, they are getting everything from the Government. Thus, there is a huge population imbalance in the region.

I must appreciate that the creation of DoNER Ministry under the leadership of Atal ji in the NDA Government came as a blessing for the region. After the NDA Government, ten years of UPA rule rendered this Ministry worthless. No visible project or work had been undertaken by this Ministry. It had become a skeleton Ministry because no proper fund was allocated, no project had been started and nothing had been created by the Ministry under the leadership of the previous Government. What I am saying is a fact. You cannot mention any major project that has been completed during the leadership of Shri Manmohan Singh. This Ministry was created by Atal ji and is nursed to the full scope by our visionary and workaholic Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji.

The objective for creation of the DoNER is to ensure integrated socio-economic development of eight States of the NE region – Assam, Tripura, Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur, Sikkim, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh. It is the balance development of the region which is seriously wanted. The region as belongs to the eastern part of the country, it is said that सूर्य इधर से निकलता है। भारत वर्ष के पूर्व पंथ में सूर्य उगता देश, ऐसा कहते हैं।

Bhupen Hazarika, one of the famous singers says: "*Asom amar rupahi Gunoru naai xexh. Bharatore purba dixor xurya uthaa dexh.*" Sun rises in the East but because of the previous Government, there is no brightness on the faces of the youth as no development has taken place.

Our Prime Minister has inspired all the Ministries – not only the DoNER Ministry – to work utmost in this region by allotting their part of fund for it. Only a *deshbhakt*, a genuine lover of the country, who loves the people of the country by heart, can think in this way for the development of each nook and corner of the country.

The present DoNER Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh, visited North-Eastern Region almost once a week to monitor the schemes and to push forward each and every project so that due to negligence, these projects do not get stalled. ...(*Interruptions*) I am not talking about Assam. Just now, hon. Member from the Manipur spoke. He should demand here to bring back the Kabaw Valley, the famous beautiful valley of Manipur – probably you know it – which the then Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had donated to the Burmese Prime Minister, U Nu. It was I who demanded in this House that this Kabaw Valley should be brought back to the Manipur, to the country because a Prime Minister cannot gift away a piece of land.

Hon. Prime Minister knew it very well that for a highly neglected North-East, it is high time to grow first the economic activity by timely completion of each and every work and project there because timely completion of the projects is the best way for the development of the North-Eastern Region. A sound road network, rail network, electricity, drinking water and water for agriculture, education and brisk industrialization only can bring North-Eastern Region back on the road of development.

It is heartening that scheme-wise, Rs. 33,097 crore have been allocated by the DoNER Ministry. I am grateful to hon. Jitendraji who has really given largesse to the North-Eastern Region. The Budget has restored 90:10 funding pattern for schemes.

A new industrial policy is in the offing and it is coming. I think this policy will help there to establish more industries so that people and youths are able to get jobs and get into different services.

Apart from these, for the overall benefit of the North-East farmers, Organic Farming Mission has been created. It is not only for Sikkim, but for the entire North-Eastern Region. With the introduction of organic farming, people will be benefited. They will not only be able to sell their farm produce at a better price, but they will also be able to export their goods. In the process, they will gain economically also.

According to the hon. Minister for DoNER, under NLCPR, 183 projects have been completed at the cost of Rs. 188 crore and another 54 projects are going on. Similarly, under NEC, 54 ongoing projects are there worth Rs. 722 crore.

For the first time, a green airport is coming up at Pakyong which is the highest place in the country. It will be completed within two to three years. This is a landmark success on the part of the DoNER Minister and on the part of our respected Prime Minister.

Another landmark achievement is a 45 kilometre Savok-Rangpo railway line. There will be 14 tunnels and more than 28 bridges in that area.

Besides, the DoNER Ministry has given emphasis on the skill development and road sector. Hon. Dr. Jitendra Singh has taken a huge initiative on Act East Policy, not only Look East Policy. I think, if proper activities are done, then only the North-Eastern Region can grow properly.

Moreover, a sum of Rs. 33,097 crore has been allocated for NE Region under 56 Ministries. Every Ministry has given the required funds to North-Eastern Region for different projects in different areas.

In Assam, there is already an imbalance so far as population is concerned. Already there are topographical concerns in the country because of the huge number of infiltrations taking place. The Assam Government is not taking any steps to drive out the infiltrators even from the heart of the city of Guwahati. I have trust on my part that the hon. Minister for DoNER, Dr. Jitendra Singhji, will surely take care of it and have a thorough record of the infiltrators who are intruding into the North-Eastern Region, especially in Assam. I think, it is high time to do so. Otherwise, there will be no place like Assam, no place like North-Eastern Region. कांग्रेस के कारण इतना बढ़ गया कि मैं क्या कहूँ? उसे कहने की कोई भाषा नहीं है।

Sir, I am just concluding. In spite of the fact that the hon. Prime Minister asked all the Ministers to visit the North Eastern Region for speedy development of projects, even then, a strong mechanism for reviewing and hard initiatives are necessary. Else, the habit of delay will cripple those who are at the helm of affairs.

Even the explanation statement has not been submitted by the concerned Minister in Assam. Hence, it is very difficult for the hon. Minister of DoNER and the other Ministers to give sanction for different projects. There is a lack of commitment there on the part of the Ministry of North Eastern Region and as a result 17 major projects have got delayed. I hope that the hon. Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh, at the behest of the hon. Prime Minister is moving very fast and surely the North Eastern Region will wipe out the shameful feeling of neglect and there will be full-fledged development in every aspect of the human life in the North Eastern Region.

Large planned investment and focus on infrastructure development will surely help the overall growth of the region. I am grateful to the hon. Prime Minister and hon. Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh, who is bringing back hope for the people. I hope that every youth will get job; every girl who is working here in Delhi and other places will be safe; and there would be a bright smile on each and every face of the youth. It will happen and you will see it because just like our Prime Minister, our respected hon. Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh, has a smiling face and this smile will get reflected in each and every face of the North Eastern Region. Thank you very much.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY (DHENKANAL): Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on a very vulnerable and critical part of the Union of India that has been historically neglected and the apathy of the Union Governments over the decades has been very very bad.

Sir, I would like to just start with what the Department concerning the development of North Eastern Region has said that this year an overall amount of Rs. 33,097 crore has been allocated across 56 account heads over last year's Rs. 29,087 crore. The Ministry has said that this is a quantum jump. But Sir, as you know, the total amount that has been increased is a mere Rs. 4,010 crore divided by eight States and it comes to around Rs. 500 crore per State for such a neglected area. So, calling / naming / terming this as a quantum jump is very far from the mark and it is a pity that we even think of saying this. It should be taken back.

The Seven States -- I will not count in Sikkim right now -- or the Seven Sisters of the North East sadly remain united with India only on pen and paper and only on the map. It is necessary for us that we make extra and sincere efforts to culturally integrate the youth of that Region with the rest of the country. While saying this, I have read a few books on the North East because the North East interests me. I have traveled to a few places and not being a military person I am a little scared now. You know, Sir, that if you say something in the House, suddenly somebody will get up and say भारत माता की जय and boom, you are off with your head. If you have read *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, the Queen used to say, "Off with your heads!" Now, we have come to that stage where every slight comment or an opinion that you cite, if it is not approved, it is "Off with your heads!" There is no other punishment.

This is a book that I thought would be appropriate to quote. I am not going to quote, but I have marked out some pages in this book "*Blood on My Hands: Confessions of Staged Encounters*" by a writer called Kishalay Bhattacharjee, who is a North Easterner himself, and I guess he is from one of those States, Tripura or somewhere. There are numerous books like this, and I have read about three or four books which are actually eye-openers. Far from Delhi, it seems that the area has become 'out of sight, out of mind'. It is one of the most beautiful places that you have in India. The people are very advanced, very articulate, very sensitive, but extremely poor, except a few who are extremely rich as is everywhere else in every State in India. The people in general are very poor. They have been kept 'out of sight and out of our mind'.

What has happened is when you go to many States in the North East, people ask you "Are you from India?" This pains me a lot because it is not their fault; it is not something that we can look down upon them for -- it is us, we who sit in this House. Governments come, Governments go; parties change, but our attitude towards the North East has been very convoluted, very perverted over a long period of time. Historically, if you see from Sher Shah Suri's time, Mughal times, the border of India ended at Bengal. Beyond Bengal, there was no vision. If the British would not have come here, I guess the North East would not have possibly been a part of India; it could have been a part of maybe China, Burma or some other country.

So, we are lucky in a way that colonialism gave us such a beautiful part of the world and yet we are unlucky because we have not had the courage, we have not had the vision to appreciate those people, appreciate that terrain, that geography and to invest there in such a way that development at the ground level is visible. As you are aware, road conditions are very bad in the North East.

Two things that bother me -- and I will end up before you can ring the bell -- one is for 50 long years, and here *Bharat Mata* can probably intervene, we have clamped the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) in that area. Our forces have killed 50,000 plus civilians in the North East. These are all statistics. ...(*Interruptions*)

श्री पृथ्वी सिंह पटेल (दमोह) : मणिपुर जैसे राज्य में सरकारी कार्यक्रम या स्कूलों में राष्ट्रीय गीत नहीं होता है, फिर आप इसे भी कहिए।

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Sir, if that be the case, if you would have seen, recently, a lady Chief Minister was sworn in, and while swearing in, there were two flags flying at the back -- one was the Indian Flag, and another was a State Flag, which Assam does not have; which Odisha does not have; which Bihar does not have; which Karnataka does not have and nobody else has it. Even Maharashtra does not have it; they simply say *Jai Maharashtra* because they do not have a flag. We are Indians. So, raising this point is probably not relevant.

AFSPA has been the biggest deterrent for integrating the youth of the North East with the rest of India. You have records of what has happened in the last ten years. Probably in the past ten years, I have read in the newspapers how BSF and Army trucks -- again *Bharat Mata* should not jump in here -- have been seized in Bihar, have been seized in UP travelling from the North East with opiums and opiates carrying drugs. What do they give in exchange? They give sleeping tablets, timber as *quid pro quo*, as payment which goes to Burma, which is Myanmar and which is used to produce other kinds of drugs. This is the form of payment. It is all barter system. I am not condemning our security forces. Their sacrifices, their devotion to this country is unimaginable. But there is always a small bunch in every group including people here, we have people whom we may not like to be associated with. Similarly the security forces also have such people. Otherwise, why do they have a court martial system? Why do they punish their own members? So, there have been people who have created a nexus.... *

It is there on record. That is the sort of income that happens. But not everyone is corrupt. Our Army is one of the best armies in the world. It is a devoted Army; it is an Army that loves its country; it is an Army where the common jawan lays down his life for this nation. It is not the

common jawan that we are blaming. It is a few people only. It is our responsibility as guardians of this country to ensure that the morale of the Army is kept very high. We have to ensure that. Till 2008, if you would have checked the names of the Governors of the North Eastern States, most of them were from armed forces. It is only after 2008 that a qualitative change has taken place.

I would like to quote the name of Irom Sharmila here. I personally feel that she deserves to be given a Padma Award. If you sit and analyse the Padma awardees of this year, I do not think how she in any way is inferior to any of them. Her sacrifice, her perseverance of 16 years of hunger strike is something that she is somebody to be admired. I admire her personally. I have never met her but I admire her personally. She is a young woman with so much perseverance. Is it not our duty to change our attitude to the North East? How can we do it?

This money should not be spent across 56 account heads. This money should be focused. What do you want to do? You want to integrate the North East. Build up the infrastructure. They have some 23 or 27 airports, airstrips and aerodromes. Build them up. Give Instrument Landing System. Except Guwahati, there are six or seven other airports which have Instrument Landing System (ILF) where aircrafts can land at night. All of them open after 10 a.m. and shut by 4.00 p.m. That means that passenger flights are not possible. The beauty from Arunachal in the North to Mizoram in the South is amazing. Can we not build up tourism there? Can we not give better air connectivity? Can we not think like this? In Assam, there is Manas, there is Kaziranga. Kaziranga was affected negatively because of the Bodo agitation. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY : It was not because of the Bodo agitation. It was because of the Bangladeshi infiltration. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: O.K. it was not because of the Bodo agitation. I am sorry. I take back whatever I said. I express my regret. I am withdrawing all that I said about Kaziranga. You are right and I am wrong.

What I am trying to say is that Kaziranga went down the hills because of various factors. I am not naming any factors. You would know and she would know better. But there are so many beautiful places. The plant life and the animal life in Arunachal is there; the trout fishing in Arunachal is there. We have such a young Minister.

15.00 hours

He is such a bright man. These people are being wasted. Their talents are being wasted. You see people from the North-East coming here and working only as waiters and waitresses. Why cannot we have a bunch of educational institutes coming up in the North-East? Why not make doctors, lawyers, engineers, entrepreneurs, all from the North-East? In a very concerted move, why not encourage MSMEs in the North-East?

The first thing is connectivity. I talk about air connectivity because it is easier. ...(*Interruptions*) Our Governor is from the North-East and he is a wonderful person although I have never ever had the good opportunity, the lucky feeling of ever having met him. But he is a wonderful person. That is our connectivity with your region.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): With East also North-East is disconnected.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: The Minister has never bothered to take a group of MPs and show the beauty of the North-East. Unless our eyes are opened by the hon. Minister of State for Home Affairs and the hon. Minister Mr. Singh, how will we expect Indians to know what the North-East is? It is a part of this country. How will we assimilate with them? They should be brought in larger numbers into our States and we should be facilitated to go to those States.

A system of building up airports and building up tourism alone can change the North-East. And it is time, Sir, historical mistakes are ignored. We cannot blame each other. You cannot blame the Congress, the Congress should not blame the BJP. It is time we thought of India as a whole. The North-East is an integral part of this Union. And it is time AFSPA is removed without any conditionalities. Insurgency is dying out a natural death, which the Home Minister will also agree. The young in the North-East would rather speak Korean, they would rather sing the blues and rock and roll than go and tote a weapon and hide in a jungle and shoot their own brethren. They do not wish to do that.

We have to rethink, we have to change our attitudes sitting in this House. What is required to integrate the North-East with the rest of the country is a change in political will and a change in political thinking. It is not the Army which is to be faulted, it is not the BSF whom you offer lucrative postings making money that are to be faulted, it is these politicians who are at fault.

Before sitting down, Sir, I would thank you that you have given so much time to me. I hope that you as a leader of that region will take concrete steps, with Madam here and everybody here, and we will join you because we are from the South-East. With my able leader Shri Mahtabji we will join you in your fight, we will go to the Prime Minister with you. Let us withdraw AFSPA. Let us build up the tourism industry. Let us build up MSMEs there. And let us help them come up with educational institutions, better roads, better irrigation projects and drinking water projects so that they have a respectable life. They love India and they feel that they are Indians and we are not asked, 'Are you from India?'

Thank you, Sir.

15.04 hours (Shri Hukmdeo Narayan in the Chair)

श्री राम मोहन नायडू किंजरापु (श्रीकाकुलम) : माननीय सभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया है, इसके लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

मुझे बड़ा गर्व महसूस होता है कि एक दक्षिण भारतीय होते हुए मैं उत्तर-पूर्वी क्षेत्र के बारे में बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। उत्तर-पूर्वी क्षेत्र भारत का एक अहम हिस्सा है। यदि मैं चाहता हूँ कि भारत का विकास हो, तो मेरी जिम्मेदारी यह भी बनती है कि भारत के हर कोने का विकास हो और उसके लिए आज उत्तर-पूर्वी क्षेत्र से संबंधित जो छोटे-छोटे विषय मेरी नज़र में हैं, उनको मैं सरकार की दृष्टि में लाना चाहता हूँ।

To start with, the northeast region has been a huge victim of lot of different things, starting from bad governance, bad policy making, and bad political will. उसके आगे अगर देखा जाए तो वहां पर एवट्रीमिज्म, ट्राइबल क्लवर्स के साथ यूनिफाई करना आदि बहुत सी ऐसी चीजें थीं, जिनकी वजह से विकास की दृष्टि से आगे बढ़ने के लिए बहुत सी रुकावटें लगी थीं, इसलिए एक बहुत ही मुश्किल स्थिति का वहां सामना करना पड़ा था। मैं उसको आपके माध्यम से सरकार की दृष्टि में लाना चाहता हूँ। But I would like to give complete credit to today's Government and the Prime Minister of today Shri Narendra Modi for taking excellent steps for having the mission and the vision to develop as a very integral part of this country. Some of the steps that have been taken by this Government are really very very appreciative. Nobody has spoken it till now, but the steps that have been taken towards Naga Peace Accord and in realizing the potential of organic farming in Sikkim and making it spread throughout the north-eastern region or helping the youth in giving sufficient skills so that they can advance in their lives and they can make a livelihood for themselves. So, there are different streams.

Other than that, there are some of the problems that the region has been facing which I want to bring to the notice of this Government. One of the major things about the place is about the DoNER Ministry. डोनर मिनिस्ट्री का डेडवार्टर अभी दिल्ली है।... (व्यवधान)

श्रीमती विजया चक्रवर्ती : डोनर मिनिस्ट्री का सेक्रेटैरिएट अभी नॉर्थ ईस्ट में असम में है।

श्री राम मोहन नायडू किजगापु : जी, ठीक है। डोनर के सभी डिपार्टमेंट्स वहां होने चाहिए। All the important people have to sit in the northeast. मैं उस क्षेत्र से आता हूँ जो कोस्टल रीजन है। मेरे क्षेत्र में बहुत से फिशरमेन हैं। I see that the fisheries board is sitting in Hyderabad which is an overnight journey from there. हमारे फिशरमेन के पास उतने पैसे और ऐसी सोच नहीं रहती है कि वहां तक जाए और उस बारे में बात करें। I see a similar situation happening in north east also. अगर उनको कुछ प्रब्लम होती है, अगर उनको किसी से बातचीत करनी हो तो यह नहीं होना चाहिए कि उनको दिल्ली आना पड़े। इतनी सुविधा होनी चाहिए कि जो भी ऑफिसर्स इसमें काम करते हैं, वे सभी ऑनलाइन या ऑनसाइट वहीं पर अवेलेबल होने चाहिए और इसके लिए अच्छे स्टेप्स इस सरकार को लेने होंगे। As the Madam had earlier spoken, one of the issues that she has raised is that if someone underperforms or is suspended or if you have to punish them, they are sent to north east. But that is an ideology which has to change now. जो भी ऑफिसर वहां काम करने जाते हैं, ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिए कि वे कोई एहसान कर रहे हैं, उनको जिम्मेदारी से वहां काम करना पड़ेगा। यह सरकार वहां पर डेवलपमेंट के लिए जो भी कदम लेती है, पूरी तरह से जिम्मेदारी के साथ उनको काम करना पड़ेगा। जिस प्रकार से यूटिलाइजेशन सर्टिफिकेट्स में डिले हो जाता है या फिर सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट या स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स के बीच कम्युनिकेशन में जो डिले हो जाता है। इतने साल हो गया डोनर मिनिस्ट्री बने, हमारे पास इतने एक्सपीरियेंस एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव ऑफिसर्स हैं। All these little factors which are trying to pose like bottlenecks in this system have to be over come and this is the right time to be thinking over that. I would like to say that the officers have to take utmost responsibility in dealing with these issues.

Comparing the disparity of the northeast region with the rest of India, we see that the *per capita* income of the people in the northeast is Rs 6,600 whereas the national average is about Rs 10,000. The BPL per cent in northeast is around 35 but the national average is 26 per cent. So, there is a lot of disparity happening and there are a lot of things that the Government has to do in minimizing the disparity between the mainland and also the northeast region. अगर मैं तथागत जी की बात दोहराऊं, मैं उनसे पूरी तरह से सहमत हूँ, जो वहां के लोग हैं, विशेषकर जो नौजवान हैं, they certainly feel that they are someone different from India. The question has been asked many times when people travel from mainland to the northeast कि क्या आप इंडिया से आए हैं? We have to keep in mind that these kinds of questions cannot be solved with only a political mindset but we need much more than that.

We have to go deeper into the culture and look at a wide variety of things to deal with this problem. For that, education needs to be targeted and connectivity to the place – road connectivity, air connectivity and also telecommunication connectivity – needs to be targeted. All of them have to be improved. There are a lot of projects which have been going on for fifteen to twenty years. It is time they are all funded very well.

All these eight State have been given special category status. मुझे जब भी इस सदन में बोलने का मौका मिला है, मैंने हर बार आंध्र प्रदेश के लिए स्पेशल स्टेटस की मांग सरकार के सामने रखी है। But I see that इतने सालों से इनके पास स्पेशल कैटेगिरी स्टेटस है। अगर पूरे आठ राज्यों को आप मिलाने हैं तो उनका पॉपुलेशन आंध्र प्रदेश जितना ही है। लेकिन वहां अभी तक कितना विकास हुआ है। अगर वह बेकवर्ड हैं तो सरकार से उनके पास पैसा चला जाता है। But the equation should not just stop there.

उसके पास जितना पैसा गया है, वह कितना डेवलपमेंट में कनवर्ट हुआ है, इस फेक्टर को भी हमें देखना होगा। हम हजारों करोड़ रुपये नॉर्थ ईस्ट में खर्च कर रहे हैं। But how much of that money is being reflected in terms of development. That is the factor we are missing in the whole equation. In terms of development, there has to be proper accountability so that when we ask for Special Status we will have accountability.

अगर हमें भी दिया जाता है तो हमारे यहां भी उसके हिसाब से अकाउंटैबिलिटी हो... (व्यवधान)

SHRI VINCENT H. PALA (SHILLONG): There is no Special Category Status to the North-East. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI KIREN RIJJU: Shri Naidu, you are right.

श्री राम मोहन नायडू किजगापु : अभी वह चल रहा है। नये स्टेट को नहीं दे रहे हैं।

I would request that Andhra Pradesh also should be given Special Status. आंध्र प्रदेश को भी स्पेशल स्टेटस चाहिए। पॉपुलेशन बिलकुल येम है और कुछ ढक तक हमारे यहां भी बेकवर्ड रीजन है। There has to be the accountability factor which should relate in terms of development to the funds that are sanctioned.

Other than that, you see that Sikkim has become the first organic farming State in the country. From this House, all of us should together really thank the Government and appreciate the efforts taken by the people of Sikkim, the farmers of Sikkim. I also see that the Government has put it on a priority that organic farming should be taken up by other States of the North-East also. अगर देखा जाए तो भारत सरकार ने अभी आठ राज्यों के लिए 115 करोड़ रुपये दिए हैं। This works out to Rs. 14 crore per State which is very minimal. I wish the Government increased the funding at least in terms of organic farming in all these States.

Another request from me would be the restoration of the North-East Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy. यह वर्ष 2007 में शुरू हुआ और इसमें 30 परसेंट केपिटल इनवेस्टमेंट सब्सिडी होती है, three per cent interest subsidy and reimbursement of insurance premium. These are some of the benefits which the people of the North-East would have enjoyed if this Policy had continued. This has stopped. There is a lot of request from the people of the North-East to re-start this Policy. So, I would request through you, hon. Chairman Sir, that the Government of India should think about re-starting this Policy.

Whenever we talk about the North-East we have to remember the great leader Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee who wanted ten per cent from each Ministry to be set aside for spending for the North-Eastern region. It has been a very great move. Here also, if you see, from 1997 to 1998, Rs. 1,400 crore per year have been spent. Till now, only Rs. 10,000 crore have been spent and an amount of Rs. 15,000 crore are still lying there in the

Consolidated Fund of India. इसको खर्च की योजनाएं भी हमें लानी होंगी। इसमें बहुत देरी हो रही है। जितना हम खर्च करते हैं, उससे ज्यादा कंसोलिडेटेड फण्ड में चला जाता है। So, there has to be a proper utilisation of these funds also in the North-Eastern region.

If you see the tourism potential, the human resource potential and the natural resource potential in the North-East, it is not just a pride for India but also the whole world. Some of the benefits that we have like the Buddhist tourist circuit are not just helping India but all the Buddhists across the globe. If you see the natural beauty there, all tourists across the world can come and enjoy the scenic beauty that is available there. For that, a lot of steps need to be taken. The right people need to be connected with the right things so that the true potential of the North-East is visible not just for Indians but also for the rest of the world. If we have to do that, the youths of the place have to be skilled. I see that a lot of people from the North-East speak English very fluently. If you look at the other developed States, sometimes it is very hard to find people who speak English. They have to be rightly skilled so that they are placed in the right jobs.

At present, they are in the hospitality sector, air sector but there is a lot of potential for them to go into better jobs had the right skills been given to them. For that I would just like to point out that Rs.233 crore has been provided for livelihood and skill development in the Northeastern region. It is just Rs.28 crore per State. That also needs to be increased so that the youth can be better skilled in future and can be related to the development of the Northeastern region.

I would like to say that there has been a lot of problem in Northeast. There is collusion between the tribal culture and the extremism. When we talk of development, it is our responsibility to look at these two things also. As Tathagata Ji and other Members have mentioned, the AFSPA needs to be given a rethink in terms of the development and also the Central Government has to keep in mind the sensitivity of the issue. It can take the opinion of all the leaders who come from that region, have different kinds of discussion and do what is best and necessary.

Another historic move of this Government being taken by Shrimati Sushma Swaraj was with regard to land swapping that happened between Bangladesh and India. We can take a step ahead. States like Mizoram, Manipur and all the lower lying States across Bangladesh can get some kind of benefit from Bangladesh on mutual exchange basis. We are doing good in terms of having international discussion with them. If they want some kind of connectivity, let it be a road, rail or mobile connectivity, we can take help from that country on business level. Those kinds of discussions can also be initiated as we have already done a historic deal with them. We can take that ahead in terms of providing benefits to the four corner States in the Northeastern region.

Over all, I think, at the Centre we not just have people from northeastern States but also people from different States are here. Everyone should take the responsibility in giving good treatment to people coming from Northeast to our States, to work in our conditions, as it is our responsibility to make them feel like they are at home, in India so that they can reciprocate it. When they go back to their own regions, they can say that they had been to the best part of India. That is the responsibility of the people coming from different States over here. I hope that they take it in a good way. The discussion that we are having here should not just be a good discussion for integrating Northeast with India but also for integrating different backward regions in India and putting them into an integral part of the country. Thank you so much, Sir.

श्री अरविंद सावंत (मुम्बई दक्षिण) : सभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे एक महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर बोलने का अवसर दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ। इस देश का अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण भाग नार्थ-ईस्ट है। आज आसाम में बाढ़ आई है और ऐसी स्थिति में हम नार्थ-ईस्ट रीजन के डेवलपमेंट पर चर्चा कर रहे हैं, उसकी ग्रांट पर चर्चा कर रहे हैं। हम जब वहां घूमते हैं तो वे वादियां, वे फिजाएं बुला रही हैं हमें, ऐसे नजारे वहां देखने को मिलते हैं। वहां सारा हिंदी एरिया मिलता है, चाहे अरुणाचल प्रदेश हो, मेघालय हो या शिलांग हो। जब हम उसके डेवलपमेंट की बात करते हैं, वहां हमारे जो सहयोगी संसद सदस्य हैं, सभी ने इनके बारे में बात कही है। इन्हें पहले सैविन सिस्टर्स कहते थे, लेकिन अब वे आठ हो गये हैं। वे आठ राज्य हैं, इन आठ राज्यों में असम, मणिपुर, अरुणाचल प्रदेश, मेघालय, मिजोरम, नागालैंड, सिक्किम और त्रिपुरा हैं। वहां जो चर्चा हो रही है, उस चर्चा में मुझे जो खास मुद्दा लग रहा है, वह यह है कि अरुणाचल प्रदेश की सीमा चीन को लगती है। चीन अपनी सीमा में सारे रास्ते बना रहा है और सीमा के आखिर तक उनके सारे रास्ते सीमेंट, कंक्रीट के पक्के बन गये हैं। यदि कल को कुछ हुआ तो हमारी फौज वहां तुरंत नहीं पहुंच सकती, क्योंकि हमारे रास्ते अब भी नहीं बन पाये हैं। हम इस बात पर नहीं जाना चाहते कि पहले की सरकारों ने क्या किया और अब की सरकार क्या कर रही है। उल्टा मैं सराहना करूंगा कि हमारी सरकार आने के बाद वह नार्थ-ईस्ट रीजन के डेवलपमेंट को ध्यान में रखकर कार्य कर रही है, उतना पूर्व सरकार उसकी तरफ नहीं देखती थी, वह राजनीतिक तौर से देखती थी। आज हम उसके विकास की तरफ देख रहे हैं। चीन के जो बॉर्डर हैं, वहां रास्ते इसलिए बन रहे हैं कि वे सही समय पर पैसा दे रहे हैं। मैं यह नहीं कहता हूँ कि हमारी सरकार ने पैसा नहीं दिया है। सरकार ने पिछले बजट में दिया, इस बजट में भी दिया है और दे रहे हैं लेकिन उसका आउटकम क्या है? वह नहीं पता चल रहा है। किसी की जिम्मेदारी फिक्स की है? समय की पाबंदी डाली? रास्ते होने की पाबंदी डाली कि कितने समय में पूरा करेंगे यह बताया? नहीं बताया, इसलिए एक मॉनिटरिंग डोनी चाहिए, वह सबसे ज्यादा महत्वपूर्ण लगता है। हम पैसा दे रहे हैं, लेकिन उस पैसे का विनियोग कैसे हो रहा है, वह जानकारी भी हमें मिलनी चाहिए। These are valleys.

आज हम देखते हैं कि अगर हमें एक राज्य से दूसरे राज्य में जाना हो तो वाया असम जाना पड़ता है। एक राज्य से दूसरे राज्य में जो वैली के थू रास्ते बनने चाहिए, वे आज भी नहीं हैं। ध्यान वहां आकर्षित कीजिए कि हमारे रास्ते वहां से जाएं। खास कर जो बॉर्डर रोड टारक फोस मिलिटी ने बनाया हुआ है, डिफेंस के साथ बात करेंगे तो पता चलेगा कि वहां के रास्ते बनाने में वे कितने समय से प्रयास कर रहे हैं, नहीं हो रहे हैं, आज भी नहीं हो रहे हैं। हमने हाल ही में बांग्लादेश और अपने देश की सीमाएं तय कर ली हैं। वहां के गांव छोड़ दिए हैं, वहां के गांव ले लिए हैं। पिछले 20-25 सालों से सीमा पर फेंसिंग डालने का काम चालू है। सरकार से मेरी प्रार्थना है कि अगर प्रायोरिटी पर कुछ करो तो पहले फेंसिंग का काम करो। अगर फेंसिंग नहीं है तो इन्फिल्ट्रेशन होगा। मुसपैठिए आ रहे हैं। अब मुसपैठिए रोड़ी-रोटी के लिए आते हैं, ऐसा मैं समझ लूँ, लेकिन आसाम की स्थिति क्या है, दक्षिण असम में जो सारे बांग्लादेशी घुस कर आए हैं, आज वह लड़ाई जो चल रही है, बांग्लादेशी लोग वहां आए हैं, इसलिए लड़ाई हो रही है। अब तो घुस ही गए हैं, उनको राशन कार्ड मिल गया है, इस देश के नागरिक बन गए हैं। वह जो संघर्ष हो रहा है, वह पहले घुसपैठ की वजह से होता है। सीमा पर जो वीएसएफ है, उनकी ताकत बढ़ाओ, उन पर विश्वास बढ़ाओ, लेकिन उनको भी अकाउंटेबल करो कि कैसे अंदर आते हैं, कहां से अंदर आते हैं। जानते नहीं हैं? सरकार भी जानती है, पुलिस भी जानती है, वीएसएफ भी जानती है। इतना होने के बावजूद देश के अंतर्गत सुरक्षा का मामला है। नॉर्थ-ईस्ट रीजन की डेवलपमेंट अंतर्गत सुरक्षा के साथ जाती है। जब अंतर्गत सुरक्षा न हो तो विकास नहीं होगा।

अभी मैंने बाढ़ की बात की। कितनी सुबसूत नदियां वहां हैं, जो आने चल कर ब्रह्मपुत्र बनती हैं। हम इतने सालों से ड्रेजिंग नहीं कर पाए। बाढ़ क्यों आती है? हमने ड्रेजिंग नहीं की, मिट्टी नहीं निकाली। अगर वह नहीं करेंगे तो नदी का पानी गहरा कैसे हो जाएगा, कैसे रुकेगा। मेरी आपसे मांग है कि जो कुछ हमारी सरकार कर रही है, वह जो अरुणाचल खोस, जो वैली के रास्ते हैं, पहले उनको बनाओ। असम से जाने वाले रास्ते की बजाय एक प्रांत से दूसरे प्रांत में जाने के लिए थू वैलीज रास्ते होने चाहिए। इंटर वैली रोड डोनी चाहिए। मैं तो कहता हूँ कि रक्षा संबंधी स्थायी समिति एक बार जाए तो पता चलेगा कि वहां क्या हो रहा है। आने चल कर रेलवे लाइन की बता आती है। लोहित, सिओग, तवांग, सुभमसरी, ये सारी जो वैलीज हैं, यहीं से नदियां निकलती हैं, जो आने चल कर ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी बनती हैं। इनको ले कर हमें ड्रेजिंग करनी है। वॉटर ट्रांसपोर्ट करना है, इसके ऊपर के ब्रिजिस आज भी नहीं बन रहे हैं। आज भी कितने सालों से ब्रिजिस नहीं बने हैं। हमारी सरकार तो बनाना शुरू कर चुकी है। लेकिन मेरी मांग है कि let us do it in a time-bound manner. We have to do it. Unless we do it on time, the development will not occur. क्या चाहिए, विकास का मतलब क्या है?

मैं तो सिक्किम राज्य की बहुत सराहना करता हूँ, अभिनंदन करता हूँ कि दुनिया कैमिकल फर्टिलाइज़र्स के लिए जा रही है, वहीं हमारा एक पूरा राज्य ऑर्गेनिक फार्मिंग करता है। सारे देश को

बताता है कि क्या करना चाहिए। कल यहीं पर हमारे दुष्टतंत्र चौटाला जी बैठे थे, वे कहने लगे कि कैमिकल्स फर्टिलाइज़र्स और जो इनोवेशंस आ रहे हैं, उसमें बीटी कॉटन की सीड निकाली है। शुरू में तो बीटी कॉटन अच्छा आया। जब कुछ रोग आ गया, उसका प्रभाव जब हुआ तो बीटी कॉटन जिंदा नहीं रहा। हमारी जो पुरानी गाँव वाली खेती की स्टाइल थी, वह जिंदा रही। गोबर की खेती, जानवर कहाँ हैं? गोबर कहाँ से मिलेगा? कभी-कभी तो लगता है कि बाद में बच्चों को बताना पड़ेगा कि इसको बैल कहते हैं, इसको गाय कहते हैं। सब तरफ मशीनों का ही जोर है, एंकर कहाँ हैं, उनको पता ही नहीं चलता। जब डेवलपमेंट की बात आती है या आर्गेनिक फार्मिंग कर रहे हैं, जमीन, पानी, बारिश का पानी और टेक्नॉलाजी, जिसके बारे में मेरे दोस्त रामनाथडू ने कहा, बीएसएनएल के टावरर्स, मैं तो कहता हूँ कि नॉन लैप्सेबल सेंटर पूल ऑफ रिसोर्सेज स्कीम जो है उसमें से पैसा दीजिए, बीएसएनएल वालों के पास पैसा नहीं है, हाल ही में बहुत बुई हालत से वे बाहर आ रहे हैं, तो टॉवरर्स के लिए आप पैसा दे दीजिए। मैंने देखा है कि बहुत पैसा है, बहुत प्रोविजन है, मैं आँकड़ों में नहीं जा रहा हूँ, तो आप टावरर्स के लिए पैसे दे दीजिए। हमारी 4 जी सर्विस शुरू करो। कभी किसी का इशतेहार हम देखते हैं कि इनकी सर्विस आती है, हम लोग भी अच्छा कर सकते हैं। इस पर ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है।

सभापति जी, मैंने ड्रेजिंग की बात की, उसी तरह से इनफिल्ट्रेशन के बारे में भी बात की है। ये जो मुसपैठिए आते हैं, उनके साथ में ड्रग्स, जाली नोट, शस्त्र, बम इत्यादि जो सारी चीजें चाहिए, वे उन्हें लेकर अंदर आ रहे हैं। भारत की चाइना और बांग्लादेश की सीमा सील करने का प्रावधान पहले करें। सबसे टॉप प्रायोरिटी पर इस काम को करें। वाटर ट्रांसपोर्ट ब्रिज, ये सारी चीजें हम करते रहेंगे।

मैं एक और मॉडल करता हूँ। हम यूनिवर्सिटीज बनाते हैं, मैरीकॉम वहाँ से आती हैं, हम वहाँ एक स्पोर्ट यूनिवर्सिटी तैयार करें। वहाँ हॉकी, फुटबाल, बाँक्सिंग अच्छा खेलते हैं, ये वहाँ के प्रिय खेल क्रिकेट के अलावा हैं। हम क्यों न सोचें कि एक स्पोर्ट्स यूनिवर्सिटी तैयार करें, ताकि नार्थ-ईस्ट के हमारे बच्चे, खास तौर से आर्सेरी, तीर-कमान चलाने में वे मास्टर हों, अगर इसकी ओर हम ध्यान दें, WE should create a Sport University in the North-Eastern Region so that the children from the North-Eastern Region will get a chance. टूरिज्म के बारे में सभी माननीय सदस्यों ने कहा। हम भी यही कह रहे हैं। वहाँ 13 मानेरस्ट्रीज हैं। Around 13 big monasteries are there in the North-Eastern region. These can be used for the purposes of tourism. People from all over the world will come to see them.

मैं सरकार से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि इन चीजों की तरफ शीघ्र ध्यान दें। जो साय पैसा आप नार्थ-ईस्ट को दे रहे हैं, मेरी प्रार्थना है कि उसका विनियोग सही समय पर अगर करेंगे, खास तौर से इनफिल्ट्रेशन की जो मैं बात कर रहा हूँ, बांग्लादेशी माओइस्ट की बात की ओर आपका ध्यान आकृष्ट कर रहा हूँ। जय हिन्द।

SHRI RAMEN DEKA (MANGALDAI): Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. At the outset I would like to correct my learned friend Shri Tathagata Satpathy that the undivided Assam was not a gift of colonial regime. Rather, our great Saint Sankardeva visited Lord Jagannath 540 years ago. So, there is a cultural relation between the State of Assam and the rest of India.

Secondly, we felt alienated for many years. We were the fourth developed State during the British era and even after our Independence. But now we are at number four from the bottom. So, we feel alienated. Our great leader Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee thought about the people of the North-Eastern region and found this Ministry of DoNER. During the regime of the last two successive Governments we have seen nothing has percolated to the people of this region. Now, under the leadership of hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister-in-Charge, Dr. Jitendra Singh, things are percolating down to the ground level. But there are many more things which have to be done by this Ministry, especially, the monitoring of the schemes. It is because the different States are not executing the projects as desired and as per the monitoring of the schemes. It is because the different States are not executing the projects as desired and as per the schemes. I would like to ask the Government to increase the Budgetary provisions for this Ministry so that the under-developed States can be at par with the other States of the country. We should insist on the development and completion of the micro level projects and not macro level projects.

There are other Departments who will look after the macro level projects. The basic mandate of DoNER is to develop community-oriented projects by which the community will be benefited by way of interconnectivity of backward regions with the States. We have got the Ministry of Water Resources. The Ministry of DoNER says that they will not take up erosion projects. Why will they not take up erosion projects? We have many rivers and erosion is a major cause of loss of land. I would like to request the hon. Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh, to take up erosion projects. He may take up small erosion projects and not big projects like the Brahmaputra project. Different tributaries are there. My friend is sitting here who worked in my constituency. He saw the situation when floods were there and how erosion took place. He was a Minister and he himself saw these things.

So, I would like to request the hon. Minister to take up small projects which can result in development at a micro level. Especially the north bank of Brahmaputra is not developed. A very few projects have been taken up by the Ministry DoNER in the north bank of Brahmaputra. North bank is connected with Arunachal Pradesh and it is a very strategic point. Congress has said good bye to us in 1962. I would like to request for the connectivity of the North-East by focusing on the north bank of Brahmaputra through Arunachal Pradesh so that small roads may be built by which villagers can travel. Shri Pala is present here. There are many difficulties in connectivity of Khasi Hills also. But we are not focusing on that type of roads. We are focusing on big projects. For doing those big projects, PMGSY and CRF are there. But the main mandate or the focus point of the Ministry of DoNER should be on the micro projects.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): Sir, with your permission, I would like to speak on the Demands for Grants (2016-17) of the Ministry of Development of the North-Eastern Region.

We are from West Bengal and West Bengal is the gateway to the whole of the North-East. We are concerned with what happens in the North-East. North-East is essentially our eastern international border. Sikkim has a border with China. Nagaland, Manipur and Mizoram have a border with Myanmar. Arunachal Pradesh has a border both with China and Myanmar. Tripura is surrounded on all sides by Bangladesh. Assam has a long riverine border with Bangladesh. So, development of North-Eastern Region is very strategic in maintenance of the internal security of the country.

As you know from history, there has been a tradition of militancy in the North-East. In the North-East, the Naga rebels fought with the Indian Army for a long time. We first had a Shillong Accord with Naga rebels in 1975. Recently, the Government of India had a new Accord with the NSCN (Issac-Muivah group) who have been staying in Lodhi Estate for a long time. Earlier, they used to meet the Indian interlocutors in Holland. They now prefer Lodhi Estate to Holland.

Under Laldenga, in 1965, Mizoram was taken over by the rebels. But Rajiv Gandhi was able to achieve peace with Mizo rebels. Tripura had a tradition of militancy. But during Rajiv Gandhi's Prime Ministership this militancy was resolved. Now, Tripura is one of the stable and peaceful parts of the country. Manipur, where our Professor who initiated the debate comes from, has a different sort of militancy, that is militancy in the plains and militancy in the hills. We have militancy among Meitei people. We have also militancy in the hilly areas of Churachandpur where the Kuki rebels

create problems. So, in the North-East, Sikkim is the only peaceful State where there has never been any militancy. Meghalaya has been a relatively peaceful State, but recently some Garo boys have gone in for militancy. So, this is an area which needs to be looked at with all attention by the Government.

That is why it was a very good idea to start the Ministry of DoNER, which was done in 2001 during Vajpayee ji's Prime Ministership. The first important step was taken by Indira Gandhi when she gave statehood to all these seven sisters, like Mizoram, Manipur, Arunachal, Tripura. All of them got their statehood during Indira Gandhi's time. Vajpayee ji took an important step in setting up the Ministry of DoNER.

मैं नहीं जानता कि आपने एक्सटेंसिवली ट्रैवल किया है कि नहीं, मैं तो नोर्थ ईस्ट से हूँ। मैं शिलांग में पैदा हुआ था और मैंने अपना बचपन वहीं हमारे विन्संट पाला जी की कांस्टीट्यूट में बिताया। हम लोग जो ईस्ट बंगाल से आये हैं, part of our population has settled in North-East, in Tripura, in Meghalaya, and, of course, in Assam and in other places.

The major problem is the lack of economic development. The other major problem is lack of connectivity. I went to Arunachal Pradesh some years back. I went to Itanagar. I wanted to go to Pasighat from there. They said you cannot go to Pasighat as there is no straight road. You have to go down to Lilabari, then you go to Dibrugarh, then you cross the river and then you reach Pasighat. So, road communication is a big problem.

The main highway to Assam passes through West Bengal, NH 31 and NH 34. But not enough development has taken place in terms of road connectivity. Now, what I want to say is that, in spite of formation of Ministry of DoNER and of the North-Eastern Council, there has not been a holistic development of North-East.

The money you give for the Ministry of DoNER is not sufficient to any extent. Last year, the Budget Estimate was Rs. 2,334 crore and the Revised Estimate was Rs. 1,973 crore. That means you could not spend the full plan estimates last year. Again you have given a Budget Estimate of the same amount. Now, the Government is not able to spend the money allotted to it. Without that, how will development take place?

In Public Undertakings Committee, we took up these two public sector undertakings, which are under the Ministry of DoNER. They both are in a pathetic condition. There is a North-East Development and Finance Corporation and there is some Agricultural Handicraft and Handloom Development Corporation.

There is a NERMARK which is supposed to develop agricultural product marketing. They are in a pathetic condition. We gave a Report from the Public Undertakings Committee but nobody is giving enough attention to revive this organisation. There is tremendous potential in the area which has not been properly harnessed. Leave aside Assam; Assam is a big State; Assam has large tea garden; Assam has timber but Assam has the sorrow of being flooded by Brahmaputra every year. So far in 69 years of Independence, we have not been able to do anything to control floods in Brahmaputra. But in spite of that, Assam has good agricultural production; Assam has good tea production.

Look at Meghalaya where Mr. Pala comes from. Meghalaya has two distinct parts – the Khasi and Jaintia Hills and the Garo Hills. They are not connected though they have a road now. Khasi Hills has got coal and uranium; it has also got limestone. You know from Khasi Hill limestone near Dauki they are making cement in Chatak in Bangladesh. We have not been able to develop that.

Look at Arunachal Pradesh. Arunachal Pradesh has five times as much hydroelectric potential as Switzerland but how much have we been able to harness the hydroelectric potential of Arunachal Pradesh? You look at Mizoram and all these States, they produce a lot of bamboos - but how much of the total bamboo production has been productively used in this country? Now, you are trying to develop Tripura, which has access to gas from Bangladesh. It has been marked as the gateway for Internet connections from the Chittagong port. The main thing is connectivity. For that, two things have to be done.

Firstly, we have to have a trade and transit treaty with Bangladesh so that you can go straight from Kolkata to Agartala. Secondly, in the olden days, there used to be a riverine service from Kolkata to Karimganj in Assam through the river Kushiara, that has been now stopped and disbanded. No serious effort is being made to revive all this. The Government and the Department is sluggish.

सर, हमारी जो स्टैंडिंग कमेटी है, उसकी रिपोर्ट को पढ़िए। The Committee finds allocation under SID a classic example of *ad hocism* in budgeting and role of the Ministry in dealing with this fund is very casual. This is what the Standing Committee has said. The Committee learnt that the Ministry has asked for around Rs.3,850 crore and was given only Rs.2,400 crore. So you are not even giving the money required for developing this area. Then, they say that we are not getting the UCs. The Committee has also advised that the Ministry must continually exhort States to ensure timely submission of UCs, requisite documents for timely release of funds for the projects.

सर, हमारी कमेटी ने यह कहा है। मिनिस्ट्री उस पर कुछ रिस्पॉन्स नहीं करती है। मैं जानता हूँ कि डॉ. जितेन्द्र सिंह अभी उसके इंचार्ज हैं। वे प्रधान मंत्री के भी साइट हैंड हैं। He is the Minister of State in the Prime Minister Office. He replies to all questions on nuclear energy but I feel the DoNER needs a dedicated Minister, who would spend seven days in a month in the North-East, go to all these States, and see that the budget allocations are utilised, and then improved so that the public sector undertakings under the Ministry is made up.

Sir, these hill people are very peaceful. They are nice people. But the need of the hour is development so as to bring them into the national mainstream. That approach is not there. My friend from BJP was saying that under Prime Minister Narendra Modi we have done this, we have done that etc. All you have done is to topple the Government in Arunachal Pradesh. Northeast is not the place for political manipulation. You have to deal with it in a sensitive way so that the people of the Northeast feel that they are not ruled from Delhi and they have some say in what is happening in Delhi.

With these words, I conclude.

श्री कामाख्या प्रसाद तामा (जोरहाट) : सर, अभी नार्थ-ईस्ट डोनर मिनिस्ट्री के ऊपर चर्चा हुई। सब एमपी लोगों की तरफ से, नार्थ ईस्ट के लोगों की तरफ सबको मैं धन्यवाद दे रहा हूँ। मिनिस्टर डोनर, जितेन्द्र जी जो यहाँ उपस्थित हैं, उनको भी हम लोगों की तरफ से बधाई है। खास तौर से प्रूडम मिनिस्टर नरेन्द्र मोदी जी को हम लोग धन्यवाद देते हैं, क्योंकि इस टाइम में, जब हम लोगों की गवर्नमेंट हुई है, तब तक 210 बार सेंटर मिनिस्टर ने नार्थ-ईस्ट विजिट किया है। नॉर्थ-ईस्ट 210 बार विजिट करने के बाद असम गवर्नमेंट में, वहाँ पर डोरिडिंग लगाया है, बोला है कि वयों आ रहे हैं

210 बार, क्या काम है नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में आने का? असम गवर्नमेंट ने यह डोईंग लगाया है। मतलब ऐसा है कि जो अभी ऑनरेबल एमपीज बोल रहे हैं, विजया बहन भी बोल रही हैं, मतलब है कि वहाँ पर कोई नहीं जाना चाहिए। नहीं जाना चाहिए मतलब नॉर्थ-ईस्ट को सेप्रेट करके रखना चाहिए, यही मतलब है। हम लोगों को आप देखिए, नॉर्थ-ईस्ट से, असम से प्राइम मिनिस्टर हम लोग चुने थे। राज्य सभा से डॉ० मनमोहन सिंह प्राइम मिनिस्टर थे। वे प्राइम मिनिस्टर दस साल रहे थे। दस साल रहने के बाद अभी डोनर मिनिस्ट्री के ऊपर चर्चा हो रही है। जब अटल जी ने डिपार्टमेंट का फॉर्मेशन किया, उसके 15 साल के बाद आज पार्टियामेंट में यह बात आ रही है, मैं सबको धन्यवाद दे रहा हूँ। नरेन्द्र मोदी जी फॉरेन में भी नॉर्थ-ईस्ट की बात बोलते हैं, उसका जिक्र करते हैं तो ऐसा लगता है कि कांग्रेस के जमाने में हम लोगों को दबाकर रखा गया। हमने जब से जाना है, जब से हम स्कूल से आए हैं, तब असम एजिटेशन हुआ, असम एजिटेशन के बाद अल्फा आया, अल्फा के बाद नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में इनसर्जेंट गुप्त आए। वे इनसर्जेंट गुप्त नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में क्यों आए? इसको देखना चाहिए। नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में इसीलिए आए, क्योंकि नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में डेवलपमेंट की जो बात थी, वह नहीं हुई। अभी कांग्रेस के माननीय सदस्य मेन्या साहब बोल रहे थे कि अभी चर्चा करने का क्या मतलब है? मतलब ऐसा है कि नॉर्थ-ईस्ट को पूरा मेन लैंड इंडिया से कट ऑफ करके रखा गया है।

अभी नागालैंड के एक्स चीफ मिनिस्टर भी बैठे हुए हैं, एम पी रिओ साहब को भी पता है कि नागालैंड को क्या बोला था प्राइम मिनिस्टर जवाहर लाल नेहरू जी ने। जब चाइना एजिटेशन हुआ, तब के ऑनरेबल प्राइम मिनिस्टर जवाहर लाल नेहरू जी ने बोला था, my heart goes out to the people of the Northeast. एन्जैवटली विजया मैडम ने भी बोला कि नॉर्थ-ईस्ट को बहुत नेगलेक्ट किया गया। नॉर्थ-ईस्ट का डेवलपमेंट जो नेचुरल रिजोर्सेज से भरा हुआ है, नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में पानी है, टी है, कोल है, ऑयल है, इसके बावजूद, जहाँ खेत की इतनी संभावना है, डबल क्रॉपिंग की संभावना है, उसको पूरी तरह से दबाकर रखा है। त्रिपुरा की आज क्या हालत है? आप देखिए। हम लोगों के यहाँ सिविकम ने थोड़ा तस्वीर किया। इसके बाद हम लोग पूरी तरह से सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट के ऊपर डिपेंडेंट हैं। इसलिए डोनर मिनिस्ट्री का बहुत महत्व है। अटल जी को धन्यवाद।

नरेन्द्र मोदी जी बहुत बार नॉर्थ ईस्ट गए। हम लोगों को अभी तवैधन कर रहे हैं कि आप लोगों की गवर्नमेंट क्या दे रही है? कांग्रेस के मैक्सिमम लोग, जो असम गवर्नमेंट है, असम गवर्नमेंट के मिनिस्टर लोग, कांग्रेस के एमएलए लोग बोल रहे हैं कि आपके मिनिस्टर यहाँ आ रहे हैं। हम लोगों के मिनिस्टर, इन्वर्स्टिंग डोनर मिनिस्टर, एग्जीक्यूटिव मिनिस्टर, उसको देखने के लिए जा रहे हैं। सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट को फंड यूटिलाइजेशन सर्टिफिकेशन नहीं देने की वजह से आज ऐसी हालत है। अभी हम लोगों के यहाँ इसीलिए अच्छा लग रहा है कि नॉर्थ-ईस्ट से दो-दो मिनिस्टर्स हैं। डोम मिनिस्टर हैं, स्पोर्ट्स मिनिस्टर भी हैं और यहाँ वेयर पर जब नॉर्थ-ईस्ट का कोई बैठता है, रमन डेका जी जब बैठते हैं तब अच्छा लगता है। नॉर्थ-ईस्ट को ऐसा महसूस होता है, मन में इतना ज्यादा रीजनलिज्म पैदा हुआ है, क्योंकि यह मेन लैंड से कटा हुआ है। अभी एक माननीय सदस्य ने कहा है ... (व्यवधान) हमने उनको वहाँ घर बसाने के लिए कहा है गुवाहाटी में। वे बोलते हैं कि हम कश्मीर में जाएंगे। हमने कई बार रिविस्ट भी किया है। प्राइम मिनिस्टर के सामने भी बोला है कि यहाँ पर घर बना लीजिए। जैसे मनमोहन जी भाड़ा घर में रहते थे, आप तो थोड़ा परमानेंट घर वहाँ पर बना लीजिए। मनमोहन जी तो वहाँ पर कभी गए नहीं।

हमें क्विंटिसाइज करने के पीछे यही बात है कि कितने रंग लड़के मर गये, यह पता नहीं है। कितने को गोली मार कर मारा गया, वहाँ पर बहुत हालत खराब है, अभी भी इंसर्जेंट गुप्त वहाँ पर है, क्योंकि वहाँ पर दिल्ली से जो पैसा जाता है, उसका सही से वहाँ पर इस्तेमाल नहीं हो रहा है। वहाँ पर असम-बांग्लादेश सीमा ओपन है। यह दुःख की बात है कि इंटरस्टेट कॉन्फ्लिक्ट बहुत ज्यादा है। वहाँ पर इंटरस्टेट कॉन्फ्लिक्ट क्यों आ गया? नागालैंड से हम लोगों की क्या दुश्मनी है, अरुणाचल प्रदेश से क्या दुश्मनी है? अभी इंटरस्टेट पॉलिटिक्स इतना क्यों हो गया, वह क्यों किया? हम लोगों ने तो वहाँ पर कभी रूल नहीं किया, वहाँ पर क्यों ऐसी स्थिति पैदा हो गयी, उसका क्या कारण है? बॉर्डर एरिया में जितना डेवलपमेंट होना चाहिए, वह नहीं हुआ। वहाँ पर आपको लगना कि आप इंडिया में हैं या कहां है, यह पता नहीं है? असम पानी में डूबा हुआ है, वहाँ पर पानी 45 डिग्री में बह रहा है लेकिन वहाँ पर शांत है।

वहाँ पर प्राकृतिक संपदा बहुत ज्यादा है, सेल्फ इम्प्लॉयमेंट के लिए भी काम करने का एक माहौल था। वहाँ पर टूरिज्म की बहुत संभावना है। शायद सावंत जी को पता नहीं है कि वहाँ पर गवर्नमेंट ने स्पोर्ट्स यूनिवर्सिटी डिवलप किया, अभी मैरी कॉम जी को राज्य सभा का मੈम्बर भी बनाया गया है, ऐसे काम करते हुए, अटल जी ने हम लोगों के लिए जो इनिशिएटिव लिये थे, उसको अभी इस समय वे कर रहे हैं। इसका मतलब है कि 15 साल पहले कांग्रेस के जमाने में बहुत हालत खराब करके रखा है, डोनर को स्पेशल इनिशिएटिव लेना बहुत जरूरी है।

अभी डोनर मिनिस्टर यहाँ पर बैठे हुये हैं, उनसे मैं निवेदन करूँगा कि वहाँ पर जो रोड कनेक्टिविटी है, जो प्लाइट कनेक्टिविटी है, माननीय पी.ए. संगमा साहब के नेतृत्व में, हम लोगों ने नॉर्थ-ईस्ट फोरम में 10 प्वाइंट्स तय किये हैं, जिसके बारे में पी.डी. राय साहब शायद बोलेंगे। वहाँ पर रोड इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर, स्मॉल इंडस्ट्री की बहुत संभावना है। इसमें डोनर का डायरेक्टली फंडिंग बहुत जरूरी है। अगर डायरेक्ट फंडिंग नहीं होता है, नाइटी-टैन में रूक जायेगा, स्टेट गवर्नमेंट 10 प्रतिशत नहीं दे रही है। इसलिए बहुत प्रोजेक्ट्स वहाँ पर रूक गये हैं। बड़े-बड़े प्रोजेक्ट के लिए फिजिबल जो काम हैं, उनको करना चाहिए। नॉर्थ-ईस्ट काउंसिल का भी शेल है, ज्यादा पैसे का एलोकेशन होना चाहिए। लैंड कटाई बहुत ज्यादा है, इनप्लिटेशन बहुत ज्यादा है और बेरोजगारी की समस्या बहुत बढ़ गयी है, इसके कारण हम लोगों की चिंता है कि शायद वहाँ पर माओइस्ट एक्टिविटी और बढ़े। असम में डी कशीब 25 लाख बेरोजगार लोग हैं। सत्पथी जी ने ठीक कहा है कि वहाँ का ग्रेजुएट लड़का वहाँ पर आकर पेट्रोल पंप पर काम कर रहा है, कोई गैरिज में काम कर रहा है, कोई नौकर जैसा काम कर रहा है। उन लोगों को वापस असम बुला कर एक ह्यूमन रिजोर्सेज हब बनाना बहुत जरूरी है। हमने मिनिस्टर से बहुत बार रिविस्ट किया है, उन्होंने भी वह रिविस्ट माना है। जो 30 हजार करोड़ रु. या 50 हजार करोड़ रुपये दिये गये हैं, उसका यूटिलाइजेशन कैसा है? हमने डोनर मिनिस्ट्री के कंसल्टिंग कमेटी की मीटिंग में बोला भी है कि यूटिलाइजेशन को देखना चाहिए। डोनर का पैसा कहां गया, नॉर्थ-ईस्ट का पैसा कहां गया, क्यों अरुणाचल प्रदेश की हालत ऐसी है, क्यों रोड कनेक्टिविटी वहाँ पर नहीं है, क्यों नागालैंड में पहाड़ के ऊपर रहने वाले लोगों को पानी नहीं मिल रहा है, वहाँ पर सोलर सिस्टम क्यों नहीं गया? इन सब चीजों को देखना बहुत जरूरी है। असम तो थोड़ा डेवलप हुआ है, बाकी जो नॉर्थ-ईस्ट स्टेट है, वहाँ हालत बहुत खराब है। वहाँ की स्थिति को सुधारने के लिए डोनर मिनिस्ट्री का बहुत बड़ा शेल है, जो शेल उसे प्ले करना चाहिए।

मैं माननीय मिनिस्टर से निवेदन करूँगा कि अभी जो दीनदयाल उपाध्याय बिजली योजना वहाँ पर हम लोगों को दी गयी है, उसको भी देखना चाहिए। डोनर मिनिस्ट्री केवल को फंडिंग एजेंसी बन कर नहीं रहना चाहिए। डोनर मिनिस्ट्री को वहाँ पर फुल प्लेज काम करना चाहिए। इसको जो थोड़ा पैरालिसिस किया गया था उसको थोड़ा जागृत करना चाहिए। प्राइम मिनिस्टर के निर्देश से जब दो से दस बार मिनिस्टर वहाँ गये, उसके बाद हम लोगों को पता चला कि गवर्नमेंट बहुत गंभीर है। नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के सभी माननीय सांसद बैठे हुये हैं, वे लोग बोलते हैं कि कामाख्या मां की जब दर्शन करने जाते हैं तो ऐसा लगता है कि एयरपोर्ट पर पहुंचने के बाद सब भूल जाते हैं। अभी प्रह्लाद जी यहाँ पर बैठे हुये हैं, मणिपुर जाते समय एयरपोर्ट पर सात घंटे बैठे थे। प्राइवेट एयर एजेंसी की व्यवस्था ऐसी है कि वह प्लानेट नहीं चलाता है। सबसे दुर्भाग्य की बात है कि एयर इंडिया ने भी नॉर्थ-ईस्ट को छोड़ दिया। हैंडिंग एजेंट उसे वापिस लेकर सिर्फ गुवाहाटी तक उनकी प्लाइट पहुंचती है। ऐसी दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण स्थिति नहीं होनी चाहिए। वहाँ अनइम्प्लॉयड यूथ बहुत दुखी है। एनरेग्ना का भी इम्प्लीकेशन बहुत खराब है। अगर एनरेग्ना का इम्प्लीकेशन अच्छा होता तो बहुत डेवलपमेंट होता। यह डिमांड्स फॉर ग्रॉन्स की बात है। मैं सरकार को सपोर्ट करता हूँ। मैं श्री जितेन्द्र जी, माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी और वित्त मंत्री जी से रिविस्ट करता हूँ कि वहाँ डोनर मिनिस्ट्री को ज्यादा से ज्यादा पैसा दें। पैसे के लिए यहाँ से डायरेक्ट मॉनीट्रिंग की व्यवस्था की जाए। पहले ऐसा था कि डोनर मिनिस्ट्री मतलब करप्टेड मिनिस्ट्री। यहाँ 10 प्रतिशत नहीं देने से पैसा नहीं जाता, ऐसा एक भाव था। इसलिए पहले मंत्री जनरल सिंह साहब ने वहाँ एक पैसा भी नहीं छोड़ा था। हमने उनसे काफी रिविस्ट की, लेकिन उन्होंने कहा कि आपके वहाँ पैसे खा जाते हैं, सब लोग करप्टेड हैं। उन्होंने इस धारणा को लेकर वहाँ पैसे नहीं छोड़े। हमने उनके पैर पकड़े। उन्होंने कहा कि नहीं, पैसे खा जाएंगे, आपको पैसे नहीं देंगे। पहले यूटिलाइजेशन सर्टिफिकेट दे दीजिए। अभी जितनी मर्जी करे, हम इतना ऑयलिंग करते हैं, फिर वह हंसते हैं। वह देंगे, हमने सोचा है, मेरा भी वहाँ बहुत काम है। मेरे क्षेत्र में चीफ मिनिस्टर हैं। चीफ मिनिस्टर इतनी बात बोलते हैं। जब मोदी जी वहाँ जाते हैं तो असम के चीफ मिनिस्टर मोदी जी का इतना ढोल बजाते हैं, यहाँ आकर फूल देते हैं। ऐसे नहीं होना चाहिए। एक कोऑपरेटिव मूड में सरकार किसकी है, वह पता लगे। राज्य में किसकी गवर्नमेंट है, वह अलग है, लेकिन सेंट्र के साथ तालमेल करके चलना चाहिए। मैं डोनर मिनिस्टर से रिविस्ट करता हूँ कि एनडीए सरकार नॉर्थ ईस्ट के लिए ज्यादा से ज्यादा पैसे दे। धन्यवाद।

SHRI JITENDRA CHAUDHURY (TRIPURA EAST): Sir, first of all, I would like to thank all my colleagues from various parts of the country who have spoken on this issue. Their contribution and observation is really very constructive. This attitude will definitely sustain.

मैं एनडीए सरकार को जरूर बधाई दूँगा क्योंकि यह मिनिस्ट्री वर्ष 2001 में बनी। लेकिन साथ ही यह भी बोलना चाहूँगा, जब मिनिस्ट्री बनी तो बोला गया कि 10 per cent fund of each and every Ministry will be allocated to it. But there are some Ministries which do not have any operation in North East like the Ministry of Ocean Development. If we go by the allocation of this year, it comes to about Rs. 33, 097 crore from 56 ministries. If we see the plan allocation of this year, it is Rs. 5, 50,010 crore. If we see, 10 per cent of Rs. 5,50,000 crore is Rs. 55,000 crore. Even after 15 years of the formation of Ministry of DoNER, that commitment is not fulfilled. Even this commitment is not fulfilled by this Government this year also. This year's allocation altogether is

Rs. 33,000 crore.

15.59 hours (Shri K.H. Muniyappa *in the Chair*)

Now, I am coming to the allocation of the Ministry of DoNER for this year which is around Rs. 2,400 crore. I am not talking about the allocation. I would like to know as to why the North Eastern Region is lagging behind. Why is there backwardness? आज यहां किसी साथी ने कहा नार्थ ईस्ट, अल्फा, सल्फा, एनएससीएन, टीएनवी आदि बहुत कुछ। हां, यह जरूर है। लेकिन ऐसा नहीं थी। एक साथी तासा जी ने भी कहा। नार्थ ईस्ट की आबादी, आदिवासी हो, जो समतल में रहते हैं, वे हों, आप हिस्ट्री में जाइए, कभी भी ऐसा नहीं था। They are law-abiding people. They are very much faithful to their religion also.

16.00 hours

In their culture, there has never been such हिंसा और कुछ नहीं था, लेकिन it has dragged them to this situation today because of their backwardness, under-development and neglect since Independence. It is very unfortunate. That is why, the total attitude has to be changed. Of course, flow of fund is definitely a vital issue but flow of fund is not the only issue. The attitude has to be changed. Unless the policy and programmes are prepared together along with new attitude, the desired goal will never be achieved, and it is not possible to achieve that.

यहां पर श्री तथागत सतपथी जी नहीं हैं। मैं उन्हें बताना चाहूंगा, उनकी यह एप्रीडेंशन है कि बंगाल में मुगलों का राज खत्म हो गया और हिन्दुस्तान की आजादी बात यहां नहीं पहुंचती, यहां आई.एन.ए. नहीं पहुंचती है, इसलिए यह चीन और म्यानमार का हिस्सा हो सकता था, यह बिल्कुल गलत बात है।

Every Indian knows that the first Indian flag was hoisted in Imphal, which is a part of the North East, under the leadership of Shri Subash Chandra Bose and INA. Definitely, INA is not alone. The Nagas, Kukis, Manipuris and tribals all joined together, fought and laid down their lives, and they hoisted the tricolour first in that part of the country. There are a number of ethnic groups. They were never against India. They were never against the *Bharat Mata*. For having showed this commitment and loyalty, they should have been paid back with certain positive responses.

Before going to the negative perspectives that have been given, I am giving some other facts also. Sir, now I come to the potentialities of the North East. यहां पर दूसरे हिस्से के जो क्लैम्स हैं, जब यह डोनर मंत्रालय बना, तो किसी को ऐसा शक हो सकता है कि यहां पर कुछ नहीं है।

The North East comprises eight per cent of the total landmass of India. Population-wise, it is four per cent. In that way also, we have potentialities. Secondly, North East is one of the 12 richest biodiversities of the world. In all 12 months of the year, North East is green. Our forests, mountains, rivers and hills are full of flora and fauna. We have wild animals, flowers and everything. Then, you know, we have discovered minerals; we have oil; we have coal, uranium and natural gas. There are many things which are untapped and unexplored.

Now, I come to our Zone. North East is one of the richest agri-climatic Zones. Though monsoon is there only for two months, for almost eight months, the rain is spread over. So, a number of crops can be grown. If you go to West, South and everywhere, you will find rocky soil. In the North-East, 98 per cent of our surface soil is soft and very fertile.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please conclude, now

SHRI JITENDRA CHAUDHURY : Sir, I am from the North-East. Please give me some time. I think, I have not spoken even for two minutes.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please try to conclude.

SHRI JITENDRA CHAUDHURY: Sir, we have the mighty Brahmaputra River in the North-East. In China, Yang Tse Kiang once was the tear of China, sorrow of China; and now, it has been turned into the happiness of China. Similarly, Brahmaputra also could irrigate almost half of the North-East if a similar kind of project is taken up here.

Sir, you are from Karnataka. I am from Tripura. My State of Tripura, Assam and other North-Eastern States are growing rubber. Tripura has become now the second largest rubber producer in our country.

Then, Sir, there are huge potentialities for tourism in the North-East including eco-tourism, religious tourism and cultural tourism. There are many Hindu shrines. Out of 51 Pithas, there is one Kamakhya Temple in Assam. There is Tripureswari Temple in Tripura. We have the diverse culture, diverse language. Every State, every District of the North-East has its own variety.

Sir, as has already been said, there is huge potentiality of hydropower generation. Arunachal alone can feed almost the eastern part of the country. According to the estimation of different experts, there is a potentiality to generate more than 1,00,000 MW of hydropower in the North-East.

Sir, literacy-wise also, North-East is ahead of many States. Now, Tripura is number one State in the country in terms of literacy. There is 97 per cent literacy rate in Tripura. Similarly, Mizoram, Nagaland and Manipur are also having high literacy rate.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Jitendra Chaudhary, you have not come to the point as to what exactly you want.

SHRI JITENDRA CHAUDHURY : Sir, I am coming to that.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please conclude as the time is very short.

SHRI JITENDRA CHAUDHURY : Sir, in regard to production, everything by default is organic in the North-East. All these potentialities and resources are there. There is MDONER. There is NEC. But why is that they are not yielding the desired results? It is all because of so many constraints there. It is mainly because of the absence of the policies. I am not blaming the present Government alone; I am blaming the previous Governments also.

All that has been done for the North-East is just tokenism. Nobody went deep and took the initiative to prepare the Long Term Perspective Plan. In 1980, the Shukla Commission was constituted, which categorically recommended so many things. Then, during the UPA-I, under the leadership of Mani Shankar Aiyar, one Mission 2020 was prepared. That Mission has prepared vision document, which are available. But that plan is absent.

So, Sir, I would like to suggest as to what should be done. The communication is a big handicap in the North-East, which has to be improved. There is a problem of connectivity, which has to be improved. We have the NEC, which was formed long back. But what is it doing? My suggestion is that either it should be scrapped or it should be upgraded.

I am not undermining the hon. Minister Jintendra Singh Ji. He is the Chairman of the North-Eastern Council. But the Members are the Governors and the Chief Ministers. So, under the Chairmanship of a MoS at the Centre, how will the NEC meet? The Prime Minister should chair the NEC.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please conclude.

SHRI JITENDRA CHAUDHURY: The MoS should be upgraded.

Bamboo is another resource. China's resource and India's resource is same, and India is also having the similar amount of resources, what China has. According to the information, China is making more than one thousand billion dollars out of the bamboo industry. But our stake is less than two per cent. Still today in India, bamboo is put sometimes in the Horticulture Ministry, sometimes in the Agriculture Ministry and sometimes in the Afforestation Ministry.

On 1st December, 2014, the North-Eastern Industrial Infrastructure Policy Promotion was suspended. I am just asking my BJP colleagues. They are saying, all right we are doing and our Prime Minister is very kind. There was this policy and it has now been suspended for the last more than one year. This aspect has to be taken care of. Only by spending some money, nothing will happen. My categorical suggestion is that the North-Eastern Council should be upgraded and a long perspective plan should be drawn up by the Ministry.

SHRI VARAPRASAD RAO VELAGAPALLI (TIRUPATI): I am grateful to the Chair.

Sir, the earlier speakers have very clearly mentioned that it is an extremely sensitive issue both from the racial and location point of view. For more than one reason, the North-Eastern region is extremely sensitive area. It deserves all the care that the Government could give to it. During the last sixty years, I am of the opinion that the due care that it deserves has not been given. At least in future, for more than one reason, particularly from the security point of view, due care has to be given. The sooner we realize this, the better it is.

Recently, I have visited those places. There is a lot of unrest amongst the people for more than one reason. Therefore, the sooner we realize this, the better it is for the country. The funds are inadequate. We have not considered them adequately for the last 60 – 70 years. So, either it is Kashmir or the North-East, the fund allocation should be drastically improved. They deserve much better improvements in our own interests and in the country's interest and it should be done. A lot of projects are pending to my knowledge. The roads, infrastructure, power projects - all are half-way done. Not much interest is being taken to get environmental clearance and all that. During my Parliamentary Committee visit, we had interacted with quite a few local people. So, enough thrust is not being given to implement the projects that are pending for quite some time.

The earlier speakers have mentioned about the great potential that the North East has as far as tourism is concerned. Bio-diversity is extremely high.

From child to old man, from educated to uneducated, man and woman - all kinds of people could survive. It has wonderful products. Therefore, the focus could be made on tourism so that the area could be developed fast.

It also has a lot of beauty. At least to my knowledge, the three natural beauty spots in India are the Andamans, the North-East and Kashmir. In fact, unfortunately, all the three places are getting lesser attention than what they deserve.

Culturally also, they need to have their own identity because their social life is different. They are fun loving people. They are not as serious as the other people who are here. Therefore, we have to accept that and see that how this cultural life of theirs is to be improved.

As many Members have said, road connectivity and telecommunication connectivity really deserve attention. It is extremely poor. From village to village, there is no proper road. Therefore, the Government should really step into that, allocate more funds and take care of that.

Coming to youth, there is lot of unemployment. Therefore, the Government should take some initiatives. Perhaps, what it can do is, a particular percentage of reservation could be given on the mainland so that the people from the North-East could also have employment on the mainland and also vice-versa. Some special grades could be given for the people who are going to work in the North-East. That way it will be extremely helpful.

As I was mentioning, we should take enough care to bring the people onto the mainstream. Already about 60-70 years back, in fact, the extremism and insurgency started there. Although to a vast extent by force we are able to control but not by the will of the people. Therefore, the Government's will is required to take the people into confidence to bring them onto the mainstream.

The Tribal land is another extremely sensitive issue. Their lands have to be protected. Their rights have to be protected. At the same time, there is a lot of potential for the lands to be developed. In fact, if the Government is able to do it in a big way, then there is a lot of scope as far as organic agriculture is concerned. There is a lot of scope for this. The Government of India could step in a big way for the development of organic agriculture there. Similarly, it has a lot of scope for horticulture, handicrafts, bamboos, timber, tea and minerals. Therefore, what they can do is, in the interests of the country itself, if proper attention is given I am sure it will help in a big way.

There is one more important thing that we are coming across. I come from Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, in the sense I have worked in Tamil Nadu as an IAS officer for too long. Since there is no adequate health facilities, hospitals and all that, the North-East people are coming in a large scale to Chennai and also to Hyderabad. So, it is affecting them in two ways. One is, it is extremely far away. It is almost 3,000 kilometres away. The expenditure is too high. The culture is different. The language is different. They are coming in a large way. I see it in Apollo hospital. It is flooded with North-East people and people from West Bengal. Of course, West Bengal is a separate part. So, unless we adequately improve the

facility of education as well as health, I think we have to go a long way. It will be extremely difficult later. In the case of education also, it is the same problem. We also see stray incidents in Bengaluru and Delhi. Whenever the North-East students come here, they are not able to get adequate protection and all that. So, it shows that still they are not able to join the mainstream. So, the Government has to take some initiative to ensure that they are also part of us and they should be given adequate facilities, protection, development and all that. Thank you so much, Sir.

SHRI RAM PRASAD SARMAH (TEZPUR): Sir, thank you for allowing me to speak on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of DoNER today.

The Ministry of DoNER was conceptualized and created in 2001 by our NDA Government led by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ji. It is designed to develop the North-East which remained neglected for more than seven decades primarily under the Congress rule. Even the All-India Service officers deputed from here and working there would not look into the interests of the North-East. They would rather look into their own interest and that has become a sort of imposition of colonial rule in the North-East. There is a lot of work to be undertaken.

Connectivity is a major factor. In respect of rail connectivity, we still do not have double track. Still we do not have electrification on the railway tracks. The trains are not that better. The coaches are old and dilapidated. Even the Rajdhani Express does not fulfill that category for the North-East. There is no air connectivity to most parts of the North-East.

Even in my constituency, Tezpur, there is no direct connectivity from Delhi or other places of India. Water connectivity, which used to be one of the most important medium for transportation of goods and services many years back, is now an abandoned project. The new Government under the leadership of our beloved Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has taken up various schemes for development of the North East. Double tracking of rail lines has now been sanctioned; air connectivity has been upgraded and enhanced. So also, for water transportation system, Shri Nitin Gadkari has already earmarked a plan to start water ships, hovercrafts and other modes of water transport and navigation. Road connectivity has now been taken up. We have started constructing four-lane roads in my constituency including other parts of North East.

North East is a potential reservoir and power house for the entire country. If you want to see Switzerland, go to Tawang. If you want to see Scotland, go to Shillong. If you want to see Prairies of America, go to Meghalaya. It is the most beautiful place. I must confess before you that I have never desired to travel outside India because my country, India has all the beauties of the world. We have got Himalayas, mountains, oceans, jungles, deserts, biodiversity centres and everything what the other parts of the world would show us. Go to Nagaland, it is very beautiful. Go to Kohima, you can see the entire plains of other parts of the State. Go to Tripura, it is the most peaceful State in India. It is the most developed and corruption free State in India with very high literacy rate. This is the potential of the North East.

What the Congress Government did in the last 70 years is the total neglect and Cinderella like treatment, which has led to the youth of the North East to take up arms. Almost every community has a feeling of neglect and has started taking up arms. It has become a sort of industry now and is beyond the control. The Government of India is trying its best to control the insurgency in the North East.

I am happy that our beloved Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has sent saffron from Kashmir in the form of Dr. Jitendra Singh to energise the North East and I am hopeful that he would certainly energise the North East and bring it in the developed map of India. We have 52 rivers flowing in Assam. Water is in abundance. We have 200 rivers and streams flowing there. We have 200 communities in the North East. Assam alone has 58 communities. We do not walk there, we dance. We do not talk, we sing. That is the culture of the North East. We have 200 types of dialects, 200 types of dresses and customs, 200 hundred types of food habits and 200 types of cultures. This is our North East. But it was forlorn and forgotten for about seven decades. Now, it is getting a new life.

The NEC was hub of corruption till now. But gradually it is taking up development works. Road development should be the prime objective of the NEC. Corruption should be totally rooted out. I would request the hon. Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi ji to upgrade the post of MoS to the post of Cabinet Minister so that he can participate in the Cabinet meetings. Since he will become the Cabinet Minister, the Governor and the Chief Minister forming part of the NEC would also be under him. Otherwise, they think that MoS cannot lead us and cannot preside over a meeting. That is a feeling among the Governors and Chief Ministers of North-Eastern States.

Then, we have got problems of navigation also. We can transport many things from Dhaka to other parts of the North-East and that connectivity should be developed.

Air connectivity to the North-East must be developed because tourism has great potential in the North-East. If you want any kind of tourism - religious tourism, biodiversity tourism, adventure tourism, water tourism, wildlife tourism - it is there in the North-East. Kaziranga National Park, the centre for one-horned rhino, is facing a threat. It is the only such centre in the world. It is an old heritage centre. It must be protected. The Government of Assam, the State's Minister of Forest Department was involved in poaching of rhinos and cutting of trees, leading to destruction of forest.

Sir, I would request the hon. Prime Minister of India as well as Dr. Jitendra Singh to seriously take up the issue of NEC so that the NEC does its work and augments inter-State water connectivity. Roads in Assam are in a very bad shape. In the entire North-East, village roads are worst maintained, and corruption is the root of all causes, all cancers in the North-East.

Sir, I am thankful to you and other hon. Members who have participated in the debate and spoke about the problems of the North-East.

Thank you.

श्री जय प्रकाश नारायण यादव (बाँका) : सभापति महोदय, मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि वर्ष 2016-17 के लिए नॉर्थ ईस्ट क्षेत्रीय विकास मंत्रालय की अनुदान की मांगों पर मुझे बोलने का अवसर दिया। नॉर्थ ईस्ट में मुख्यतः असम, अरुणाचल प्रदेश, मेघालय, मणिपुर, नागालैण्ड, मिजोरम, त्रिपुरा और सिक्किम हैं, ये अति पिछड़े क्षेत्र हैं और वहां आबादी जंगल, पहाड़ और प्रकृति की गोद में पलती है, बसती है; भारत को सोने की चिड़िया कहा गया है, यह सवाल तब आता है जब नॉर्थ ईस्ट की बात आती है, बिहार आता है, कश्मीर आता है; इसीलिए भारत को सोने की चिड़िया कहा

गया है। आजादी के बाद विकास की रोटी हर जगह पहुंचनी चाहिए थी, लेकिन वह रोटी नहीं पहुंच पाई। वह रोटी पहुंची नहीं, बल्कि जली। विकास का घोड़ा जिस तेज रफतार से आगे बढ़ना चाहिए था, नॉर्थ ईस्ट क्षेत्र में और बिहार जैसे सूबे में नहीं बढ़ा। उसमें कमियां आईं, लेकिन किसी एक सरकार पर आरोप लगाने का सवाल नहीं है। हमें अपने दर्पण में झांकना है, भारत की इस तस्वीर में सबकी तकदीर कैसे बनाएं, इसे देखना है। इसलिए आज हमें इस क्षेत्र को विकास की मुख्यधारा से जोड़ना है।

यदि हम यह कहें तो अतिशयोक्ति नहीं होगी, कहा जाता है कि अगर धरती पर स्वर्ण देखना है तो कश्मीर को देखिए और कहा जाता है कि कश्मीर हमारे कलेजे का टुकड़ा है। इसी तरह से नॉर्थ ईस्ट भी हमारे कलेजे का टुकड़ा है। इसका सम्मान और विकास ही हमारा विकास है। इसलिए इसका विकास करना हम सभी का दायित्व है। माननीय मंत्री जी बैठे हैं, स्वाभाविक है कि सभी की अपेक्षाएं हैं, विकास की रोशनी सब तक पहुंचे, जो हमारा शान का झण्डा है, वह सीमावर्ती इलाके हैं। जब हम तवांग के इलाके में या सिविकम के इलाके में जाते हैं तो चीन का बॉर्डर दिखाई पड़ता है, वहां दोनों तरफ के जवान खड़े रहते हैं। कभी-कभी हम कमेटी के साथ गए हैं तो हम लोगों को सीमा पर तैनात जवानों से हाथ मिलाने का मौका मिला है। उस बर्फीले इलाके में प्रकृति ने हमें अपार सम्पदा दी है, सुन्दरता दी है। प्रकृति की गोद में हंसता हुआ हमारा चमन, हमारा बगीचा है, हमारी खूबसूरत महकती हुई फुलवारी नॉर्थ ईस्ट है। नॉर्थ ईस्ट का सम्मान काम से होगा, इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर के विकास से होगा, इसलिए आज हमें सीमा पर मजबूती से खड़े रहना है। सीमा की सुरक्षा करनी है, वहीं उसके सम्मान और विकास को भी आगे बढ़ाने का काम करना है।

महोदय, इसके साथ-साथ आर्थिक विकास, सामाजिक विकास के मामले में हमें ज्यादा ध्यान देना पड़ेगा। जो हमारा पिछड़ा इलाका है, जो हमारा बैंक बैचर इलाका है जिसे हमें मुख्यधारा में जोड़ना है। इसके साथ ही बिहार है। जैसे ही हम किशनगंज जाते हैं हम सिलिगुड़ी पार करते हैं तो सिविकम पहुंच जाते हैं। डेढ़ घंटे के पहाड़ों के रास्ते में बर्फीला इलाका आता है, वहां लोग कैसे जीते हैं? मॉ है, बहन है, बेटा है, बेटी है वहां सभी लोग रहते हैं इसलिए वहां शिक्षा का विकास हो, वहां का आर्थिक विकास हो, वहां उनके स्वास्थ्य के लिए अस्पताल खोलें जाएं, देश की रफतार के साथ नार्थ-ईस्ट का विकास होना चाहिए। सरकारें आती जाती हैं।

किसी पर आरोप नहीं लगा रहा हूँ, लेकिन यह बात सही है कि नार्थ-ईस्ट के साथ भेदभाव हुआ है और बिहार के साथ भी भेदभाव हुआ है। आप नार्थ-ईस्ट को विशेष दर्जा दीजिए, ताकत दीजिए। हम मांग करते हैं कि नार्थ-ईस्ट के साथ इंसाफ किया जाए और बिहार के साथ भी किया जाए। यह लड़ाई जारी रहेगी, जब तक इस जंग में हम लोगों की जीत नहीं होगी यह लड़ाई जारी रहेगी। माननीय मंत्री जी हंस रहे हैं, इसलिए लगता है कि मेरा सस्ता ठीक है। वहां बेहतर सड़कें होनी चाहिए, आवागमन की सुविधाएं होनी चाहिए, सिंचाई का प्रबंध होना चाहिए, लिफ्ट इन्फ्रिगेशन का प्रबंध होना चाहिए तभी नार्थ-ईस्ट का सम्मान बढ़ेगा, तभी उसका विकास होगा।

असम में बाढ़ आती है, वह सारा इलाका बाढ़ या सूखे से प्रभावित रहता है। वहां स्वच्छ पेयजल नहीं मिलता है, पर्यटन का क्षेत्र वहां विकसित किया जा सकता है, वहां कई धार्मिक स्थलों को विकसित किया जा सकता है, वहां उच्च उद्योग कुटीर उद्योग खोले जा सकते हैं। वहां मत्स्य पालन किया जा सकता है, खेती को बढ़ावा देना है, जैविक खेती को बढ़ावा देना है। रेल के इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर को बढ़ाना है। सुरक्षा और संरक्षा पर ध्यान देना है। भाषा और संस्कृति की वहां की जो विरासत है, उसे हमें बढ़ाना है और उस इलाके में हमारी जो फौज है, पर्यटन है, सीमा पर सुरक्षा करते हैं उनकी सुरक्षा को बढ़ाना है। नार्थ-ईस्ट के विकास का सम्मान करना हमारा धर्म है। इसके साथ-साथ बगल में जो दिल का टुकड़ा बिहार है, उसे भी विकास की धारा से जोड़ना है।

यही कहते हुए मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करूंगा कि नार्थ-ईस्ट की विकास की धारा को तेज करना है। सरकार कहती है सबका साथ, सबका विकास। सबका साथ मतलब नॉर्थ-ईस्ट को बढ़ाओ, नॉर्थ-ईस्ट को बनाओ। स्टार्ट अप इंडिया सब जगह हो, लेकिन नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में विकास का इंजन पहले जाना चाहिए और लोगों को लगना चाहिए कि हम पहले स्टार्ट अप वहां से कर रहे हैं। " मेक इन इंडिया ", तो वह भी वहां से बनेगा। हम यह नहीं कहते हैं कि किसी एक जगह से बनेगा, हमारी कोई धरती कमजोर है, लेकिन जो अछूता है, उसको आगे बढ़ाओ। इसी तरह से रिक्ल इंडिया है, वह भी वहीं से बनेगा। हमारी जो वेशभूषा है, भाषा है, रहन-सहन है, इसीलिए बिहार को स्पेशल राज्य का दर्जा दो, नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में विकास की धारा को तेज करो, इन्हीं बातों के साथ अपनी बातों को हम विराम देते हैं। धन्यवाद।

डॉ. अरुण कुमार (जहानाबाद) : महोदय, उत्तर-पूर्वी क्षेत्र विकास मंत्रालय के नियंत्रणाधीन अनुदानों की मांगों की चर्चा पर बोलने के लिए आपने वक्त दिया, इसके लिए बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

महोदय, कई माननीय सदस्यों ने यहां अपनी बात रखी है और माननीय सदस्य चौधरी जी और अन्य साथियों ने भी बड़े विस्तार से नॉर्थ-ईस्ट पर चर्चा की है।

महोदय, नॉर्थ-ईस्ट भारत का मरिनाटक है और निश्चित तौर से आजादी के लड़ाई और खास कर सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के नेतृत्व में नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के राज्यों से काफी बल मिला और आजादी की लड़ाई में इनकी काफी भूमिका रही। आजादी के बाद केन्द्र में जितनी भी सरकारें रहीं उन्होंने केवल राज्यों पर रूल करने का तरीका जाना। वैंताफेयर स्टेट न समझकर उसे रूनिंग स्टेट बनाया, वहां एडहॉक गवर्नमेंट चर्क करती रही। किस तरीके से यहां से धन गया, किस तरीके से धन ले जाकर वहां कैसे कामज पर चीजों को खड़ा किया गया, नतीजा यह हुआ कि पिछले 25-30 वर्षों में नार्थ-ईस्टर्न स्टेट्स में आम जनता विकास से महरूम रही, जिसकी वजह से इस देश में जो केन्द्र सरकार रही, उसके प्रति एक अविश्वास का वातावरण बना। पैसे की तूट हुई, विकास अवरुद्ध हुआ। लेकिन एनडीए-1 में श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी के नेतृत्व में नार्थ-ईस्ट के बारे में चिंता व्यक्त की गई और एक कमिटेड पहल की गई, लेकिन बीच में जो सरकार आई, फिर उसी एडहॉक रूल की पुनरावृत्ति हुई।

महोदय, 1996 में जार्ज फर्नांडीज के नेतृत्व में मैं बर्मा बार्डर पर मोरे में गया। मोरे में पूरे देश से लगभग तीन हजार समाजवादी श्री जार्ज फर्नांडीज के नेतृत्व में इकट्ठा हुए थे। जिस तरीके से एंटी ड्रम ट्रैफिकिंग और बर्मा में डेमोक्रेसी के रेस्टोरेशन पर विचार-विमर्श चल रहा था, जिस तरीके से वहां के युवाओं को लोग मदद दव्यों में डाल रहे थे, उसके व्यापार में डालकर, उसके इस्तेमाल में डालकर जिस तरीके से युवा शक्ति का शोषण करने में हमारी सरकारों का हाथ रहा है और विदेशी शक्तियों का हाथ रहा है, उसके कारण नार्थ-ईस्टर्न स्टेट की सारी सामाजिक संरचना, सांस्कृतिक, राजनीतिक विरासत बिल्कुल ध्वस्त हुई है।

महोदय, डा.तोडिया कहा करते थे कि भारत को असली सतस नार्थ-ईस्ट के बार्डर से है और सैंकेन्डरी जम्मू-कश्मीर के बार्डर पाकिस्तान से है। इसलिए तोडिया जी के कार्यकाल में निश्चित रूप से उनके मानने वाले लोग, समाजवादी लोग नार्थ-ईस्ट के विकास पर चिंतित रहते थे। आज जयपूकाश जी वहां के बारे में चर्चा कर रहे थे, लेकिन जो नार्थ ईस्ट के नाशक तत्व थे, उन्हीं के साथ इन्होंने हाथ मिला लिया, अब इन्हें पीढ़ा हो रही है। लेकिन सही बात यह है कि जार्ज फर्नांडीज, डा.तोडिया ने वहां जो अभियान चलाया, उस अभियान के तहत निश्चित तौर से आज भारत के प्रधान मंत्री, श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी के नेतृत्व में आगे बढ़ाने का काम हुआ है। जो तोडिया के मानने वाले लोग थे, गैर कांग्रेसवाद चलाने वाले लोग थे, सत्ता को केन्द्र में रखकर सिर्फ सत्ता के लिए समझौता किया और जो 1974 आंदोलन के प्रणेता थे, उन लोगों ने भी आज सत्ता के लिए सारे सिद्धांतों को दफन कर दिया। इसलिए जो आज एक काज के लिए एक डेडिकेटेड मिनिस्टर, माननीय जीतेन्द्र सिंह जी को वहां लगाया गया है। मुझे पूरा भरोसा है कि प्रधान मंत्री के नेतृत्व में राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा की दृष्टि से, विकास की दृष्टि से और नार्थ-ईस्ट को मुख्य धारा में लाने के लिए एक संकल्पित सारी संरचना और विकास के रास्ते को प्रशस्त करने की जरूरत है। जब हम मोरे से लौट रहे थे और कोडिमा में रात में ठहरे थे तो मुझे ऐसा लगा कि सचमुच स्वर्ण यक्षी है। इसलिए नार्थ-ईस्ट की जो प्राकृतिक छटा है और जो प्राकृतिक भू-सम्पदा है, जो संसाधनों का दोहन प्राकृतिक दृष्टि से आवश्यक है, वह करके नौजवानों को मुख्य धारा में लाकर हम राष्ट्र को एक बड़ी शक्ति दे सकते हैं और यह अत्यंत आवश्यक है। इसलिए नार्थ-ईस्ट के प्रति प्रधान मंत्री जी की प्रगतिशील सोच और राष्ट्रीय सोच के साथ आज पूरा देश उनके साथ खड़ा है और हम इसके लिए सरकार को बधाई देते हैं। धन्यवाद।

श्री बदरुद्दीन अजमल (धुबरी) : सभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे नॉर्थ ईस्ट के अहम इश्यु पर बोलने का मौका दिया, उसके लिए मैं आपका धन्यवाद करता हूँ। मैं मंत्री जी का भी आभारी हूँ कि बहुत ही ध्यान से वे इस चर्चा को सुन रहे हैं। मैं पूरे सदन का आभारी हूँ कि सभी सदस्यों ने दिल खोल कर नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के मामले को सीरियसली लिया है और वाकई लेने की जरूरत है। मंत्री जी इस बीच में कई मर्तबा असम जा चुके हैं। मैं इनसे दरखवास्त करूंगा कि और बहुत जाने की जरूरत है। इस क्षेत्र को सैवन सिस्टर्स कहा जाता है और सिर्फ पहाड़ियों का इलाका है, आप देश चुके हैं, इसलिए वहां और ज्यादा जाने की जरूरत है। हम वहां के सिर्फ इश्युज की बात करते हैं। आपने जो कदम भी उठाया है, वह अच्छा है, उसको आगे बढ़ाइए और ज्यादा बढ़ाने की जरूरत है। नॉर्थ-ईस्ट का मामला जब आता है तो उसकी तरफकी में सबसे पहले हम देखते हैं कि सबसे बड़ी रूकावट पलड और इरोज़न है। ब्रह्मपुत्र का मामला मैं इससे पहले भी कई मर्तबा पार्लियामेंट में उठा चुका हूँ कि जब तक इस ब्रह्मपुत्र की तीव्रता को काबू नहीं किया जाएगा, नॉर्थ-ईस्ट का कोई भी विकास नामुमकिन है क्योंकि हर साल हजारों बीघा जमीन टूट कर बर्बाद हो जाती है और हजारों लोग घर से बर्बाद हो जाते हैं।

आज इसी वजह से नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के बच्चे को 65 से 85 परसेंट तक, गवर्मेंट की रिपोर्ट के हिसाब से उच्च शिक्षा के लिए बाहर जाना पड़ता है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहूंगा कि वे स्कूल और कॉलेजों के ऊपर

ध्यान दें। हमारे राज्यों की जो बर्तियां पढ़ने के लिए बाहर जाती हैं, उनके साथ अन्य राज्यों में, पूरे हिंदुस्तान में, कहीं भी वे जाती हैं, दिल्ली में तो साल में दस-बारह घटनाएं लड़कियों के साथ हो जाती हैं जो बड़े अफसोस की बात हैं। अगर ये सब चीजें उनको वहीं अपने प्रदेश में मिलने लगे तो उनको बाहर न आना पड़े। प्लाड और इरोज़न को जब तक आप नैशनल वर्तौमिटी डिवलेयर नहीं कराएंगे, तब तक नॉर्थ-ईस्ट का विकास नामुमकिन है। नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के मामले में सबसे बड़ी बात आती है कि सभी लोगों ने इसकी चिंता जाहिर की है कि घुसपैठ का मुद्दा बहुत बड़ा मुद्दा है, इसके बारे में मैं हकीकत यह बताना चाहूंगा कि हमारी पार्टी एआईयूडीएफ की पॉलिसी है कि 25 मार्च, 1971 को असम एक्टर्ड हुआ, उसके एक दिन बाद कोई भी आया हो, he should be treated as a foreigner. मैं मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा। उनको विलयस्ली बोलना चाहिए कि वे बाहर के हैं। उनको आप बॉर्डर पर ले जाओ, गोली मारो, हमको कोई ऑब्जेक्शन नहीं है। उनको जेलों में डालो, उनको डिटेंशन कैंप में डालो, हमें उससे कोई मतलब नहीं है। लेकिन एक टेसी नागरिक को, जो बाप-दादा के जमाने से, सौ-डेढ़ सौ सालों से रह रहे हैं, उनको विदेशी बोल कर मारा जाए, उनको पीटा जाए, उनके साथ जुल्म हो, यह नहीं होना चाहिए। इसकी हकीकत है कि एक गवर्नर साहब आते हैं, वे कहते हैं कि 70 लाख बंगलादेशी आ गए। एक आते हैं, कहते हैं कि 50 लाख हो गए।

मैं आपको असेंबली की रिपोर्ट देता हूँ, आप रिपोर्ट मंगवा लीजिएगा, मैं भी असेंबली में था। वहां यह हुआ कि in this connection, let me give an example of foreigners in Goalpara. यह डीवोटर्स का मामला है। 95 से ज्यादा केसेज हैं। जिसको लोगों ने लड़ लिया, वे विलय हो गए। जो गरीबी की वजह से नहीं लड़े या बिहार में बंगाल में दिल्ली में, लखनऊ में, हर जगह वे काम कर रहे हैं, जो गरीब लोग होते हैं, वे पढ़ना नहीं पाते हैं, वे कोर्ट में हाजिर नहीं हो पाते हैं तो वो बेचारे डिवलेयर हो जाते हैं कि वे बंगलादेशी हैं। लेकिन यह हकीकत है कि अगर वे लड़ सकें, एक भी बंगलादेशी असम में रहे, पूरी इंडिया में रहे, हमारी पार्टी इसके पक्ष में नहीं है। हम लोग इसके घोर विरोधी हैं। उनको वापस भेजा जाए और उनके साथ कोई नरमी न बरती जाए। इसकी वजह से हमारे मुल्क के हजारों मसाइल पैदा होते हैं। आज सिक्किम का मसला है जो हमारे लिए पैदा हो रहा है। लेकिन मैं सिर्फ एक चीज़ को कोट करूंगा, आप इसको नोट करें कि जो एजीपी इस वक्त आपके साथ अलाइंस में हैं, मैं मिनिस्टर साहब का ध्यान चाहूंगा, एजीपी पार्टी की जब सरकार आई तो उस वक्त हमारे आडवाणी जी होम मिनिस्टर थे, वे उनको पार्टी में लाए और बकायदा उनसे हुकूमत बनी और दस साल उन्होंने हुकूमत किया। उनका मेन इश्यु विदेशियों का इश्यु था। घुसपैठ को बंद करना है और बाहर के घुसपैठियों को निकालना है। रियल फैक्ट यह है कि दस साल में उनको मौका मिला, रूढ़ी जी आप ध्यान दीजिए कि In the ten year long span of time, they also identified only 6,724 people and deported only 521 people. During 1985-90 and in its second term period of 1996-2000, they had identified only 902 people and deported only 102 people.

सर, यह असेंबली की रिपोर्ट है, अगर वे लाखों लोग हैं, आप उनको पकड़िए, ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिए कि जब इलेक्शन आया तो यह सबसे बड़ा इश्यू बने। अगर वे वाकई गैर-कानूनी लोग हैं, इनको निकालिए, इनको भेजिए। मैंने यहाँ कहा कि हमारे माथे से यह कलंक धो दीजिए। हम चाहते हैं कि इस मसले को सॉल्व किया जाए। यह हमारा विलय कहना है और हम आपके साथ हैं, इस मामले में जहाँ जाना हो, जिसको पकड़ना हो, क्योंकि कोई बांग्लादेशी अगर घुसेगा तो वह रहेगा तो किसी मुसलमान के घर में रहेगा। हम पकड़कर देंगे आपको, आप हमारा सहयोग लीजिए। हम इससे आगे बढ़ते हैं।

अब मैं दूसरी बात करता हूँ। हमारे असम का सबसे बड़ा मसला कूड ऑयल है, यह हमारी आमदनी का सबसे बड़ा जरिया है। आपके ध्यान में कहीं तक यह बात आई है, हमें नहीं मालूम। असम का कूड ऑयल, सौ साल पहले डिम्बोई में इसका उत्पादन हुआ, उसके बाद अब जो हो रहा है, दो हजार किलोमीटर पाइप लाइन लगाकर इसको ओडिशा में ले जाया जाता है। असम की इनकम को दूसरी जगह ले जाया जाता है।

श्री तथागत सत्पथी: ओडिशा से कोई लेना-देना नहीं है। ओडिशा में पाइप लाइन नहीं जाता है।

श्री बदरुद्दीन अजमल: कहीं जाता है?

श्री तथागत सत्पथी: बिहार आदि में जाता है।

श्री बदरुद्दीन अजमल: सॉरी। बिहार में जाता है। दो हजार किलोमीटर पाइप लाइन से ले जाते हैं। सॉरी, आप वापस कर दीजिए, कोई बात नहीं, हम बिहार में ले लेते हैं। यह बहुत सीरियस इश्यू है। यह असम की इनकम का सबसे बड़ा स्रोत है और लोगों का सेन्टिमेंट उसके साथ जुड़ा हुआ है। उसको आप असम में कराइए, उसके प्रोडक्शन को बढ़ाइए और जितना ज्यादा से ज्यादा बढ़ाएंगे, असम के लोग खुश होंगे, आपके साथ रहेंगे और आपको दुआएं देंगे।

दूसरी बात टी इंडस्ट्री की है, यह असम की सबसे बड़ी इंडस्ट्री है। आज टी इंडस्ट्री दिन-ब-दिन मरती जा रही है। रोजाना एक-एक टी इंडस्ट्री बन्द होती जा रही है। उसका कोई प्यूतर नजर नहीं आ रहा है। पूरे असम के लोगों का सेन्टिमेंट कूड ऑयल के साथ है और असम टी इंडस्ट्री के साथ है। इसी तरीके से इंडस्ट्रियल डेवलपमेंट, मैं असम असेंबली में था, मैंने सवाल किया, पत्थर पर यह जवाब दिया गया, यह अफसोस की बात है, पूरे हिंदुस्तान में हर रोज दस-बीस-पचास-सौ इंडस्ट्रीज डेवलप होती हैं, लेकिन अफसोस की बात है कि असम में हर रोज दो-चार-पाँच-दस इंडस्ट्रीज बन्द होती हैं। उसके वजूदात बहुत हैं, टाइम नहीं है, नहीं तो हम उसकी डिटेल्स में जाते। इंडस्ट्रियल डेवलपमेंट, बाहर के जो इंडस्ट्रियलिस्ट्स हैं, बड़ी-बड़ी इंडस्ट्रियल फैमिली हैं, जब तक आप उनको इन्वाइट नहीं करेंगे, उनको सेपटी, सिक्किम नहीं देंगे, तब तक असम तरक्की नहीं कर सकता है। आज 35 लाख से ज्यादा वहाँ अनइम्प्लॉयमेंट की प्रॉब्लम है। जब तक यह सॉल्व नहीं होगा तब तक वहाँ के मसाइल सॉल्व नहीं हो सकते हैं।

इसी तरीके से हमारे कई भाइयों ने टयूरिज्म के बारे में कहा। असम वाकई में एक जन्नत है, आप तो खुद गए हैं, आपने देखा होगा, वह कश्मीर के बाद एक जन्नत का टुकड़ा है। वह बहुत खूबसूरत जगह है, लेकिन उसे प्रमोट नहीं किया जा रहा है। जब तक उसे प्रमोट नहीं किया जाएगा, बेरोजगारी बढ़ेगी। इसलिए उसे प्रमोट किया जाए, जिससे बाहर के लोग आएंगे, पूरी दुनिया में आपका नाम जाएगा, आपकी इज्जत बढ़ेगी, इसलिए टयूरिज्म इंडस्ट्री के ऊपर आप जरूर ध्यान दें।

असम के अन्दर यूनिवर्सिटीज, मेडिकल कॉलेज और ज्यादा से ज्यादा कॉलेजेज होने चाहिए। वहाँ बच्चे 87 परसेंट, 90 परसेंट, 95 परसेंट तक मॉवर्स लाते हैं, आपको ताज्जुब होगा, येना पड़ता है कि असम में कोई ऐसे कॉलेजेज, यूनिवर्सिटी नहीं है, जिनमें ये बच्चे जाकर पढ़ें। हजारों बच्चों को दिल्ली, मुम्बई, चेन्नई, बेंगलुरु आदि में जाना पड़ता है। लोगों की फाइनेंशियल स्ट्रेंथ नहीं है और इस वजह से बहुत से लोगों को अपनी एजुकेशन को डिस्कनेक्ट करना पड़ता है। लड़कियों का मसला इस मामले में सबसे ज्यादा गम्भीर है।

असम में एक बहुत बड़ी प्रॉब्लम है, असम में नाइट में प्लाइट लैंडिंग की परमीशन नहीं है। नाइट लैंडिंग की परमीशन न होने की समस्या के बारे में हमारे कई और साथियों ने भी कहा है। इसकी वजह से भी हमारे यहाँ बहुत बड़ी प्रॉब्लम है। ओवरऑल सारे लोगों को लेकर, एक खूबसूरत बनीवा है असम, बहुत से लोगों ने शायरी के अल्फाज में कहा, मेरे पास इतने शायरी के अल्फाज नहीं हैं, इससे पहले आर.पी.सिंह जी ने भी कहा, यादव साहब ने भी कहा, मेरे पास अगर वह ताकत होती या मैं देखकर आया होता तो बहुत अच्छी शायरी करता। लेकिन डॉ. साहब से मुझे बड़ी उम्मीद है कि आप शायरी के हिसाब से नहीं, प्रैक्टिकली नॉर्थ ईस्ट के मसले को देखेंगे। ... (व्यवधान)

SHRI VINCENT H. PALA (SHILLONG): Hon. Chairperson, thank you for allowing me to speak on the Demand for Grant No. 34 on the Ministry of the Development of the North Eastern Region. When we talk about the north-eastern regions, we talk about the strategic location, we talk about the tourism, we talk about the culture of the people, we talk about the richness in minerals, and we talk about the rich biodiversity and everything.

Before saying all this, I would like to first emphasize how the present Government has tried to totally desert the people of northeast. The first one who has done it is the Department itself. Firstly, what they have done is that after they have come to power, they have degraded the position of the Minister from the Cabinet level. Since the inception of the Ministry, there has always been a Minister of Cabinet rank. For a small time, when the Minister was not well, the Minister of State was in charge. Secondly, this is the only Ministry where you see that five Secretaries have been transferred in a span of two years. Thirdly, when the Prime Minister was in Manipur, he was giving a lecture about the Vastu that South means not very good luck, West means not very good luck, only northeast is supposed to be the best and most lucky place. At eleven of the clock, he was giving

a lecture and at one of the clock, they issued notification to withdraw the Northeast Industrial Promotion Policy. Right from 2007, this policy has continued but they have withdrawn it.

On one hand, they are promoting northeast, on the other hand, they have withdrawn all the incentives for the industries in the northeast. Another thing is that in the northeast, we have special category status and we get 90 per cent share from the Centre and 10 per cent from the State. This 90:10 share is there but they have withdrawn the special category status for the people of the northeast. They have done many things, but since they are good in marketing, I don't know whether the people of northeast will be voting for them or not.

If you look at the utilization of fund, in 2013-14 during the Congress time, there was 89 per cent of utilization of fund and in 2013-14 it was 90 per cent. But the moment they came to power, in 2014-15 it became 76 per cent and in 2015-16 it was 78 per cent. I think at present, it will be less than 70 per cent.

These are few things which the Department has systematically demolished and they have deserted the people of the northeast. Look at the delay in the works, whether it is because of the terrain or because of the climatic conditions. Then there is the system of processing of files in the Department. First, the State has to give a proposal and it goes to the Ministry of Development of the North Eastern Region. From the Ministry of Development of the North Eastern Region, it goes to the aligned Ministry, from the aligned Ministry it comes back to the Ministry of Development of the North Eastern Region and from there it goes to the State. The system is so complicated that they can't utilize the fund properly. So, I request the hon. Minister to simplify the system so that they can utilize the fund.

Another thing is that a majority of works especially in road construction is most difficult in two things. One is the environmental clearance and the second is the land tenure system. In tribal areas, the land cannot be acquired easily. It has to be done through a proper system. It has to be done in a quite sensitive manner. Since the majority of northeast States are full of forests, we should not apply the same law in the northeast which is applicable in Delhi. So, I request the hon. Minister to simplify the system of environmental clearance.

The choice of the contractor is another thing. I think, the Ministry should spend more money on training or skill development so that the contractor could be skilled and the work could be allotted. What we have seen is that people who come from outside find a different culture and a lot of difficulties and therefore surrender the work. So, I request the Minister to simplify some of the conditions.

When we talk about the North-East, we have lack of connectivity be it digital connectivity, air, connectivity, road connectivity, or rail connectivity. I request the Minister to work on the Comprehensive Telecom Plan for the North-East Region. I am told, the fibre network augmentation has been started. I think, we will get it *via* Tripura and that would boost the connectivity of the rest of the North-East. I request the Minister to connect through fibre all the States so that we can get the connectivity because nowadays Internet connection is very important.

When we talk about extremism in the North-East, we should understand that it is a strategic location where 90 per cent of the area is surrounded by international boundaries. There might be influence from the outside also. But we should congratulate the Congress Government under Shri Tarun Gogoi. They have signed the agreement. I am happy that the ULFA man who was in the jungle for many years is now witting with us because of the Congress Government.

They are talking about the Naga Accord. This is not the first time they have signed a Naga Accord. There was a Shillong Accord earlier; many other accords have also been signed. But whatever accords have been signed for the first three or four times have failed because of various problems. They have signed only the framework. The details are yet to be worked out. I request them to work seriously. If Assam and Nagaland are peaceful, the rest of the North-East will be peaceful.

With these words, I thank you for giving me time. I hope, under the present Minister, we will move forward.

श्री कौशलेन्द्र कुमार (नालंदा) : सभापति महोदय, उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र विकास मंत्रालय के नियंत्रणाधीन अनुदानों की मांगों पर आपने चर्चा में भाग लेने का मौका दिया, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

सरकार उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र के विकास के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है, यह अच्छी बात है। उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र काफी संवेदनशील इलाका है, स्थानीय उन्नाव से ग्रसित है, वहां संसाधनों की कमी है, खास करके खेती-बाड़ी उपजाऊ नहीं है, गरीबी भी काफी है, बेरोजगारी है, जो भी बुनियादी समस्याएं हैं, स्कूल-कातेज नहीं हैं, अच्छा मैडीकल कातेज नहीं है, इंजीनियरिंग कातेज नहीं है, अच्छी यूनिवर्सिटी नहीं है, ये तमाम जो बुनियादी समस्याएं हैं, आज उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र के विकास के लिए जो सरकार ने पहल की है, यह स्वागतयोग्य है, मैं इसका स्वागत करता हूं। लेकिन अभी सत्पथी महाराज का जब मैं भाषण सुन रहा था, उनका काफी अध्ययन है, मैं समझता हूं कि उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र के कई कितानों को पढ़कर, अध्ययन करके वे यहां पर बात को रख रहे थे। उससे लगता है कि जो वहां पर आजादी के इतने दिनों के बाद विकास नहीं हुआ है तो कहीं न कहीं जो पैसा जा रहा है और उसे खर्च करने का जो तौर-तरीका होना चाहिए, उसकी भी कमी रही है। मैं किसी सरकार पर दोष नहीं देना चाहता, पहले कांग्रेस पार्टी की भी सरकार रही है, एन.डी.ए. की भी सरकार रही है, ऐसा नहीं है, लेकिन खास करके पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र का जो इलाका है, जो आठ राज्य हैं, असम छोड़कर लगभग सभी राज्य पहाड़ी हैं और वहां काफी सम्भावनाएं हैं। वहां कई तरह की सम्पदा है, काफी पेड़-पौधे हैं, पहाड़ी इलाका है, प्राकृतिक सौन्दर्य वहां है तो वहां पर्यटन की भी सम्भावना बनती है। मैं समझता हूं कि अभी सभी प्रदेशों से माननीय सदस्यों ने जो बात रखी है, मैं भी उसमें सहयोग करते हुए चाहूंगा कि चाहे सड़क का सवाल हो, उसको आप बढ़िया से बनाने की जरूरत है। रेल सेवा बढ़िया करने की जरूरत है, ढलाई याता की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए, जहां से लोग आवागमन कर सकें।

16.59 hours (Shri Anand Rao Adsul in the Chair)

वहां के जो बच्चे हैं, जो अशिक्षित हैं, अशिक्षित होने का मतलब ही है कि वहां के बच्चे बाहर जाकर कमाई कर रहे हैं, उसके चलते भी वहां का जो विकास है, वह रुक रहा है।

17.00hours

मेरा उसके लिए भी अनुरोध होगा। माननीय मंत्री जी यहां बैठे हुए हैं। उनकी जो सोच है और पूर्वोत्तर इलाके के विकास के लिए उन्होंने जो धनराशि दी है, वह निश्चित रूप से स्वागतयोग्य है। लेकिन, उस पैसे के खर्च और उसके रख-रखाव पर भी उन्हें ध्यान देने की जरूरत है।

महोदय, मैं बिहार से आता हूं। बिहार में विकास की चर्चा आज पूरे देश में हो रही है। चाहे बिहार हो, ओडिशा हो, या बिहार के बगल में झारखण्ड राज्य हो, इन पिछड़े राज्यों पर भी ध्यान देने की जरूरत है। हमारे नेता नीतीश कुमार जी लगातार वर्ष 2006 से बिहार को विशेष राज्य का दर्जा देने के सवाल पर लड़ाई लड़ते रहे हैं। इस देश के जो प्रधान मंत्री हैं, उनकी भी यह सोच थी। उन्होंने भी अपने भाषण में कहा था कि देश की तरक्की तभी हो सकती है, जब हर राज्य की तरक्की हो। पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों का विकास होना चाहिए, पर उसके साथ-साथ जो भी पिछड़े राज्य हैं, चाहे बिहार हो,

ओडिशा हो या झारखण्ड हो, उनका भी विकास होना चाहिए। माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने कहा था कि अगर उनकी सरकार बनी तो वे बिहार को विशेष राज्य का दर्जा देंगे। इसलिए माननीय मंत्री जी से मैं अनुरोध करूंगा कि बिहार पर भी ध्यान रखें। बिहार के हम तमाम सांसदगण इससे अलग होकर नहीं जा सकते हैं। जब बिहार की तरक्की होगी, तभी हम लोगों की तरक्की होगी। आने वाला जो कल है, वह हम तमाम लोगों का है। बिहार की तरक्की और पूर्वोत्तर की तरक्की से देश की तरक्की होगी। यही कह कर मैं अपनी बात को समाप्त करता हूं।

बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI NEIPHU RIO (NAGALAND): Thank you, Sir, for giving me time to participate in this discussion.

Sir, you are aware that Northeast is rich in resources but we remained poor because the resources are not exploited and potentials are not being pursued for economic progress. I am from Nagaland State and am a lone Member. Nagaland is a problematic State. It is known for the longest and the oldest model of insurgency in Asia. Nagaland had not participated in two General Elections; 1952 and 1957, which means we missed two plan periods. Therefore, while the Northeast remains as very backward and less developed, Nagaland remains more backward.

Sir, you are aware that because of insurgency we have faced all the problems and we could not take up developmental activities. After signing 16-Point Agreement in 1960, the Statehood was created in 1963, development of the State started but till today, after 53 years of Statehood, there is no tangible development in the State of Nagaland. There is no medical college, no engineering college and no national or regional institute worth the name and that is why all further educations are pursued outside the State.

Like the Northeastern States, only 2 per cent of the land area is connected to the mainland and 98 per cent lies along the international borders. This is a very peculiar feature. Today, when we are discussing about the Demands for DoNER Ministry and development of Northeastern region, I am delighted that many Members, not only Northeastern Members, have participated in the discussion very keenly. We have to see why DoNER Ministry was established.

It was set up under an Act of Parliament in 1971 and it was established as a statutory body to endeavor rapid economic development of the region. However, over the years the NEC budget is virtually declining and the DoNER budget is also stagnant at Rs.2400 crore for the eight States including Sikkim. So, it is a matter of concern that while we talk about the infrastructure development and of bringing these States at par with national level, I think the fund allocation should not be stagnant and it should not be declining.

When you specifically look at the North-East Council budgets – I will not go into details – over ten five year plans as regards approval and shortfall, the shortfall percentage is 28.24 per cent. Now in the Eleventh Five Year Plan also, the shortfall percentage is 56.07 per cent and in 12th Five Year Plan, the shortfall remains 53.80 per cent. I think it is a serious concern and therefore, I want to appeal that the Ministry of DoNER and NEC are taken good care. I know the policies and intention of the NDA Government led by hon. Prime Minister, Modiji. Much has been said but we have to be very serious on the implementation part.

Fifty-six Ministries have Rs.33000 crore and if you look at the Ministry of Coal, the budget provision was kept at Rs.30 crore but the utilisation was zero. In the year 2016-17, the budget provision has been brought down to Rs.15 crore. Now this is a mineral rich area but small amount of money has not been utilised and the budget has been reduced also. It is a matter of concern.

I also want to mention that national average of CD ratio is 70 per cent but for north-east, it is below 40 per cent. Let me cite one example. The Bharatiya Mahila Bank is a women bank. It was implemented through an Act of Parliament all over the country except Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh. Only four States were left out. I would request the hon. Minister as also the Minister of State for Finance that it should cover the whole country. Why have you left out the four States in the north-east? The Bharatiya Mahila Bank should be opened in these four States also which have been left out. The seed money was Rs.1000 crore. Since women are more sincere and committed, they have made a profit of Rs. 30 crore in two years. Therefore, I feel that we should encourage it and initially we should put in more money. Mere slogans will not do. We have to implement the vision and promise of our hon. Prime Minister.

श्री राजेश रेज्ज (मधेपुरा) : सभापति जी, मैं विनोबा भावे जी की उस ताइन से शुरू करूंगा, जिसमें उन्होंने स्पष्ट रूप से कहा था कि अंग्रेजों ने जो स्वतंत्रता दी, वह उनके पॉकेट में ही रही। आचार्य ने यह बात आजाद भारत की विषमताओं को लेकर और राजनीतिक इच्छाशक्ति के अभाव में समुचित दोहन को लेकर कही थी। मैं बहुत ही दिल से कहना चाहूंगा कि मैं भी उस इलाके के प्रत्येक राज्य में प्रकृति को देखने के रूखा से लंबे समय से बचपन से जाता रहा हूं। लेकिन लगता है कि भारत के भीतर एक दूसरा देश बसता है। चीन की संस्कृति से प्रभावित खानपान, प्राकृतिक विविधताएं, नदी में लिपटा संसार, सबसे लंबा द्वीप, कंचनजंघा की बर्फीली पहाड़ी, सर्पिले रास्ते, दुनिया का सबसे नम स्थान, घने मनोहारी जंगल, मूसलाधार बारिश, चाय के बाग, सौंदर्य बिखरेता परम्परागत आवास और जंगलों में गेंडिया याक - ऐसी स्थिति, परमात्मा और प्रकृति पर अध्यात्म का संगम है नार्थ-ईस्ट।

हमारे इतिहासकारों ने इसे बड़े हृदय से, दिल से मन से, कर्म से स्वीकार किया और हमेशा कहते रहे। कभी-कभी एक बात आती है कि पहले अंडा या पहले मुर्गी, पहले मुर्गी या पहले अंडा, यह सवाल नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के साथ राजनीतिज्ञों ने और राजनीतिक व्यवस्था ने लगातार खाड़ा किया। मैं मानता हूं कि देश की कोई भी समस्या राजनीतिज्ञों की सबसे बड़ी उपज है और राजनीतिक व्यवस्था की सबसे बड़ी देन है। हमारे ही भारत के लोगों के द्वारा नॉर्थ-ईस्ट का जिस तरह से शोषण किया गया, आज नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में भूख, गोती, नशा और नफरत की स्थिति है, उन्हें पैदा करने में राजनीतिक व्यवस्था ने जो लगातार प्रयास किया है, उसको भुलाया नहीं जा सकता है।

जितेन्द्र जी, आपको आश्चर्य होगा कि अन्याय और शोषण इस कदर संगठित करके उस इलाके में जुलम किया है, इसलिए हम जुलमे, मुहावरा और किताबों से अलग दृष्ट कर नॉर्थ-ईस्ट को देखने के लिए आपसे आग्रह कर रहे हैं। किताबों के पन्नों से विकास तब होगा, जब शांति और अमन की बात आप करेंगे। विकास तब होगा, जब नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के लोगों के भीतर से असुरक्षा की भावना को खत्म करेंगे। यदि मैं बी.पी. मेनन या अन्य लोगों का नाम लूं, जिस तरीके से राष्ट्रीयता और उप-राष्ट्रीयता में नॉर्थ-ईस्ट को बांटा गया, भारत के ही लोग और राजनीतिक लोगों ने उप-राष्ट्रीयता में नॉर्थ-ईस्ट को और राष्ट्रियता में अपने को बांटा है, जिसको देखिए, चीनी और नेपाली, आप जिस भाषा का प्रयोग करते हैं, तनता है कि हमारे ही आवरण, व्यवहार और तरीके के कारण, उनके भीतर आज भी संशय और असुरक्षा की भावना बनी हुई है। चाहे नागा राष्ट्रवाद की बात हो, चाहे साठ के दशक में मिजो शस्त्र विद्रोही का सवाल हो, चाहे सिविकम का दर्जा, वर्ष 1947 भारत का सवाल हो या कुकी जनजाती पर जुलम का सवाल हो, आप इन चीजों को समाप्त किये? स्वाधिनता और स्वायत्ता का जुनून उस इलाके में है।

मान्यवर, हमें किसी सॉल्यूशन में नहीं जाना है। सभी लोगों ने, खास तौर से हमारे अजमल जी और हमारे नागालैंड के मित्र ने जो बातें विकास के बारे में कही हैं, मैं सबसे पहले विकास के मामले में आग्रह करना चाहूंगा। वहां के नेचर को आप किसी रूप में अपने जीवन में उतार लीजिए। वहां प्रकृति संसाधन इतना है कि भारत सरकार को कोई संसाधन देने की जरूरत नहीं है, नियत ठीक कर लेने की जरूरत है, नॉर्थ-ईस्ट दुनिया का सबसे बेहतरीन राज्य हो सकता है, इलाका हो सकता है, हम को संसाधन देने की जरूरत नहीं है, लेकिन उसमें एक बात याद रखनी पड़ेगी - कथनी और करनी, कठौती में गंवा तो मन करे वंगा। अंग्रेज जितना भारत को दूसरे देश से तूटा, उतना भारत के राजनीतिज्ञों ने नॉर्थ-ईस्ट को दोषम दर्जा के रूप में देखने की कोशिश की। वह भारत का

एकल दर्जा नहीं है। हमने नॉर्थ-ईस्ट को दोयम दर्जे के रूप में देखा। इसलिए वाटर की बात हो रही है, सबसे पहले अजमल जी ने नदी के बारे में जो कहा, आज सत्ताई है।... (व्यवधान) मैं तीन-चार प्वाइंट के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ, एक तो वहाँ विशेष सुविधा दी जाये।

आपसे आग्रह करेंगे कि टूरिज्म के साथ, वायु वागान में जिस तरह मातृक और दलालों का शोषण होता है, उसे प्राथमिकता से ध्यान में रखिए। अंग्रेजों के समय से शोषण की प्रक्रिया चली आ रही है। ऊर्जा - वहाँ की नदी, पानी और नालों को ऊर्जा के रूप में करके पूरे देश को ऊर्जा में सज्जत कर सकते हैं और आर्थिक रूप से मजबूत कर सकते हैं, हम ऐसा मानते हैं। ... (व्यवधान) बोडो और राजवंशी जैसी कुछ जातियाँ असम और दूसरी जगह हैं। ऐसी जातियाँ जो हिन्दुस्तान में दलित से भी ज्यादा परेशान हैं, आपसे कई बार आग्रह किया है कि हमें अनुसूचित जाति में लिया जाए। उस इलाके के राजवंशी, बोडो, खास तौर पर राजवंशी जाति को अनुसूचित जाति में लेने की व्यवस्था की जाए।... (व्यवधान) प्लड का सौल्यूशन - यदि आप सबसे पहले कुछ कर सकते हैं तो उस इलाके में प्लड और लगातार पहाड़ टूटने और ढहने की जो व्यवस्था है, उसके बारे में कुछ करना होगा। ... (व्यवधान)

माननीय सभापति: कृपया समाप्त कीजिए।

â€¦! (व्यवधान)

श्री राजेश रंजन: उग्रवादी टापू के जितने संगठन हैं जो असुरक्षा के कारण अलग-थलग पड़े हैं, उनसे वार्ता करके उन्हें बताना होगा कि वे भारतीय हैं।... (व्यवधान)

माननीय सभापति : श्री ओवैसी, आप शुरू कीजिए।

â€¦! (व्यवधान)

श्री राजेश रंजन: भारत उनके सम्मान, आर्थिक सुरक्षा की व्यवस्था करने के लिए तैयार है। उनके भीतर असुरक्षा की भावना खत्म करनी होगी। ... (व्यवधान)

माननीय सभापति : राजेश जी, आपकी बात रिकार्ड में नहीं जा रही है। आप उन्हें बोलने दीजिए।

...(Interruptions)â€¦! *

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI (HYDERABAD): Sir, at the outset, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether his Minister is a coordinating Ministry or an implementing Ministry.

My second question is, why has this Government suspended NEIIP under which you have suspended registration of all new schemes thereby hampering the business potential of the North-East.

My third question is about NLCPR. Between 1998-99 and 2012-13, Rs. 23,211 crore had accrued in NLCPR out of which only Rs. 10,412 crore have been utilized. Will the Government allow the remaining Rs. 11,000 crore also to be utilized?

My fourth question to the hon. Minister is like this. In the last few years, the actual expenditure in NLCPR has been lower than the budget estimates. For example, in 2013-14, 112 projects were sanctioned, the cost of the projects was Rs. 1583 crore and funds released were only Rs. 619 crore. I can go on narrating such examples but these are the figures which I am quoting to the hon. Minister.

My fifth question is about the delay in implementing the projects in NLCPR. In Assam, 32 projects are pending for the last one year and 583 projects are pending for the last five years and for more than five years, 61 projects have been pending. So, 176 projects are pending. The cost of the delayed projects in Assam has now gone up to Rs. 1341 crore. I know that you are in power for two years. But there is a list of projects which are pending. About 49 projects are pending for the last five years in Arunachal Pradesh. In Manipur, 54 projects are pending. Meghalaya and Mizoram has 35 and 33 pending projects respectively. Sikkim and Tripura have 29 and 25 pending projects respectively. There are a huge number of projects pending in North-Eastern States. The highest number is in Assam and then the second position is Arunachal Pradesh. Is the hon. Minister willing to examine whether the State Governments have the capacity to really make all the investigations, reports, etc. which lead to cost of escalation of projects and delay? I know that the Government has said that they have simplified the procedure. But can more be done to ensure that these projects are taken off from the ground and something worthwhile is done?

We see that many youths from the North East migrate to other States because of lack of educational facilities there. But what is this Government going to do to establish more universities, apart from one IIT and one IIM which are there? This focus only on transport, communication, power, renewal energy is not going to help though it is good. More needs to be done on the education front. Will this Government focus more on education to ensure that these funds are utilised?

My next issue is about the river projects in the North-East. China has started Zhangmu hydro power. We know that under this doctrine of prior appropriation, the first use of water will accrue to China. We have awarded 14 hydro power projects. Out of that only one has got environment clearance. From 2008 to 2010, 25 projects were putting on bidding block. Out of that only 14 were given clearance by the Central Electricity Authority. It went to CWC. The CWC gave financial approval to one. By that time, you have run out of money. Now, what are we going to do to protect our rights because China is hell-bent on creating that Zhangmu project? So, what steps is this Government going to take?

My next question to the Minister is regarding de voters. In Assam you have 1,36,448 de voters. Surprisingly, 62 per cent are women. This Government has decided to give citizenship to all the Hindus who are there. The remaining names of Muslims are reflected in 1951 NRC. Why is this disparity? Why is this dual application? As I said, 62 per cent are women. As per Section 4 of the Foreign Tribunal Act, any one who does not appear in front of them, *ex parte* judgement is given. Will the Central Government take a definite look into it and ensure that these 1,36,448 cases are dealt with quickly and clearly? Thank you.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, those who want to lay their written speeches on the Table can do so. It will be treated as part of the proceedings.

SHRI PREM DAS RAI (SIKKIM): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you. I rise to speak on the Demands for Grants 2016-17 of the Ministry of Development of the North East Region.

We have heard many Members speaking on this subject across the board and we have already discussed it for more than three and half hours. The sense that prevails in the discussions that have ensued is that the potential of the Ministry of DoNER has not fulfilled the aspiration or the vision which our then hon. Prime Minister, Shri Vajpayee ji had had when this particular Ministry was formed in 2001.

There are just three more years left for the Government in this term to realise that particular potential. That potential really has been articulated by Members from all sides of this House. Under the leadership of our Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi ji, this impetus for looking at the North East from different perspectives, especially from the development perspective is right now on. But let us look at just one issue which will tell us what is the real difference. Say, for instance, today there are floods in Assam. There are landslides happening in different parts of North East because of torrential rain that is happening over there.

On the one hand, rest of the country is reeling under 40 degrees plus. On the other hand, we actually have a train carrying water from different parts of the country to a place like Latur. What will it then take for the North-East to be actually delivering the water, which is in excess, to the rest of the country? This is just a point; not that it will get done but perhaps the difference is so stark. The North-East is blessed with a lot of water but if the railway lines, communications, road networks, pipelines do not exist, how will that really happen? This is just to show you that there is this particular difference.

There is another thing which we must credit the NDA Government with, and that is the reduction in the kind of atrocities that have plagued New Delhi for the North-Eastern students and the North-Eastern community in general. I think, steps have been taken both by the Delhi Government and the Home Ministry, especially Shri Kiren Rijiju, who is there from the North-East. This matter has not been reflected in this House today, and it shows that there has been a substantial decrease in that. We do hope that the mechanisms that have been set up will actually fructify further gains in this direction.

Let me get on with the task of actually stating that the DoNER, as I have already started saying, has not realised its potential. I will conclude, Sir.

Sikkim is the State for organic farming. As many of the previous speakers have already said that the amount that has been given or allocated to the Ministry in general and to the NEC is very poor. If I am not mistaken, we have been talking about this, especially a presentation has been given to the hon. Prime Minister from the North-East MPs Forum in which we had actually articulated how is it possible to now rise the level of development or accelerate it to a level so that we will be able to achieve visible and credible progress within the next three years. The crux of the matter today is as to how we are going to reach that. Some of the mentions made by different colleagues in this House are there. But I would like to touch one or two aspects.

One is an issue related to bamboo. Bamboo is such an important resource; it is a renewable resource; and it is also a resource where the carbon sequestration is the highest. We are able to utilise it for a variety of purposes. It is well known. We are not able to do that for the simple reason that the Ministry of Environment & Forests will not remove it from the Act; definition of it has to be changed from a 'tree' to a 'grass'. I would request the hon. Minister, through you, that you need to do that.

Finally, let me make one other point related to DoNER, which is related to organic farming. Organic farming is there in Sikkim across the board. Sikkim has already got the branding, thanks to the Prime Minister, who came on the 18th of January, 2016 to celebrate with us the formation and declaration of Sikkim as an organic State. This has been received with great interest right across the North-East. I think, the DoNER can do a lot by way of supporting this venture. Thank you very much, Sir.

***श्री अजय मिश्रा टैनी (स्वीयी)** : भारत एक बहु सांस्कृतिक देश है तथा विभिन्न भाषा व सांस्कृतिक देश है तथा विभिन्न भाषा व संस्कृति से समृद्ध देश है। देश का उत्तर-पूर्व क्षेत्र भी संस्कृति व सभ्यता से परिपूर्ण भारत का एक महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा है। परंतु यह सत्य है व स्वीकार भी करना चाहिए कि इस क्षेत्र के लोग राजनैतिक, शैक्षिक व आर्थिक रूप से पिछड़े गये हैं तथा पूर्व की केन्द्र सरकारों द्वारा ध्यान न देने के कारण यहां सड़कें, परिवहन के साधन, चिकित्सा व विद्युतीकरण का अभाव होने के कारण यह क्षेत्र भी पिछड़ा गया है। जिसका प्रभाव उत्तर-पूर्व के क्षेत्र के लोगों की मनःस्थिति पर भी पड़ा है जिसके कारण कहीं-कहीं पर लोगों में असंतोष भी है सरकार के प्रति भी असंतोष रहा है।

जबसे एनडीए की सरकार बनी है, सरकार ने उत्तर-पूर्व क्षेत्र को अपने कार्यक्रमों में प्राथमिकता दी है तथा देश की सरकार ने उत्तर पूर्व क्षेत्र के विकास के लिए बजट में 5000 करोड़ रुपये की व्यवस्था की है तथा क्षेत्र के लोगों को शिक्षा, चिकित्सा सड़क व कनेक्टिविटी तथा रोजगार के अवसर उत्पन्न करके क्षेत्र तथा क्षेत्र के लोगों को देश की मुख्य धारा में लाने को यह सरकार गंभीर व प्रतिबद्ध है। निश्चित ही सरकार के प्रयास से यह क्षेत्र विकसित होगा।

***PROF. RICHARD HAY (NOMINATED)**: At the outset, I support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Development of the North Eastern Region. The Government of India led by a charismatic leader, Shri Narendra Modiji who stands for inclusive growth. Hence, the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region have come out with a bevy of well conceived projects that would definitely result in the balanced development of this important region, which is strategically and resource wise so important. Lot of solid measures have been projected for not only for capacity building, but also to bring this beautiful necklace of eight States into the mainstream.

North-east is blessed abundantly by nature. It can be showcased as one of the brightest spots of tourism in the world. In fact, once you travel in North-East one can easily understand that the real potentials of North-East tourism has not been explored at all. There is tremendous scope for Nature, Culture, Wildlife and river tourism even rain tourism.

North-East is famous for its well flavoured tea, spices. Tea tourism is yet another area which could be promoted with other area of strength.

The beauty of North-East lies in its confluence of civilization- Indian, Tibetan, Burmese and others. The culture is unique and varied with 220 tribes, now co-existing in harmony. The festivals are fabulous indeed, the Hornbill festival, the pride of its place. The bio-diversity of the area, the flora and fauna of the area are great treasures of India.

There is lot of scope to make the region an international hub of orchids, after Holland. The National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education & Research has been established.

Once the road connectivity is made possible, the inflow of tourists will increase and result in considerable economic development.

North-East has a high reputation for its pillars of strength- education. The missionaries have established high class and renowned educational institutions. By the way, our new Member of Parliament Mary Kom – you are most welcome in this temple of democracy. There is lot of scope for establishing a world class sports university and other specialized centres in North-East in all fields of learning.

The Tri-lateral highway connecting North-east India, Myanmar and Thailand will be commissioned soon. This will bring in a quantum jump in economic progress. The Minister of Transport and Highways has already announced Rs 20,000 crore Road projects including inland waterways.

It is for the first time that the Government of India has come forward to make North-East region as a key destination for socio-economic development. From its age old pathetic condition, North-East states are going to be revived, revitalized and recharged to be a hub of economic activities. A big leap for North-East indeed.

When North-East develops, it throws up a lot of opportunities for giving expression to the 'Look East' policy of the Government of India.

So, a neglected area for sixty years is now being taken care of by the Hon'ble Prime Minister by putting his heart and soul to provide the best to the people for all possible opportunities to grow and excel. Now, let us integrate mainstream and fuse together. North-East hill states have ample scope for exporting organic farming products by a G.I. method which I always profess. Tea, spices, vegetables of North-east are all famous. Bio-technology centres would be an asset.

Infrastructure development is being given a lot of emphasis. This is a pragmatic step that would ensure growth. There are two prominent Ministers from the North-east, now the DONER Minister is playing a key role for development of North-east.

I will wind up on a personal note. When I was a young college lecturer I visited Assam and was enamoured by the beauty of place. But once dusk came, heavy rains thudded on the roof of the hotel, where I stayed which caused fear in me. But the beauty of these States and the gracious hospitality of the people are ever remembered by me.

Let these eight sisters flourish under the chairmanship of our Hon'ble Prime Minister and the people of North-East, our brothers and sisters.

As a member of a minority community, I place on record my deep appreciation of the commitment of the people of North-East who are yearning for development and prosperity. It is my privilege and honour to support this important Demand for Grants of the Ministry of North-East region.

* **श्री शरद त्रिपाठी (संत कबीर नगर):**पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों की बात जब आती है तो अपना सीना गर्व से उठ जाता है चाहे सिक्किम हो, मेघालय हो, असम हो, त्रिपुरा या नागालैंड। इन राज्यों में जाने के बाद यह महसूस होता है कि प्रकृति ने इन राज्यों को फुर्सत के क्षणों में बनाने का कार्य किया है। इन राज्यों को देखकर जब विश्व के देशों के बारे में सोचा जाये तो लगता है कि अकेले ये पूर्वोत्तर राज्य विश्व के कई देशों की प्राकृतिक विशेषताओं का अहसास कराते हैं। किन्तु आजादी के बाद सबसे अधिक दिनों तक देश में कांग्रेस की ही सरकार रही फिर भी इन राज्यों को अपेक्षित ही रखा गया है जबकि पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों का इतिहास आजादी के आंदोलन में भी अद्वितीय रहा। चाहे नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस की आजाद हिन्द फौज जो असम के रास्ते प्रवेश कर सबसे पहले विश्व के कई देशों द्वारा आजाद भारत के पहले राष्ट्रपति पद की मान्यता प्राप्त करने में सफल रहे।

आज पानी की बात को लेकर हाहाकार मचा हुआ है इसमें भी पूर्वोत्तर राज्य भाग्यशाली है कि जहां चेरापुंजी नामक स्थान विश्व में सबसे अधिक वर्षा वाला स्थान है। इन सारी विशेषताओं को देखते हुये हमारी सरकार के मुखिया श्री नरेन्द्र भाई मोदी ने आजादी के बाद पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों के लिये रेल लाइन का विशेष तोहफा दिया तथा वहां की उत्पादित आयुर्वेदिक औषधियों के संरक्षण के लिये विशेष योजना बनाने का कार्य किया। मैं बधाई दूंगा कि आज की वर्तमान सरकार के मुखिया को कि उन्होंने पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों के लिये विशेष रूप से बजट में ध्यान दिया, पूर्वोत्तर की नई ब्रह्मपुत्र की महिमा का गुणगान शारंगों में भी किया गया है। गंगा, सिन्धु, कावेरी, यमुना व सरस्वती, रेवा, महानदी गोदा "ब्रह्मपुत्र" पुनातुमाम।

***SHRI D. K. SURESH (BANGALORE RURAL):** India's North East, also known as the land of the seven sisters, comprises the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura, which collectively account for about 8 per cent of the country's geographical area and roughly 4 per cent of its population. The region is known for its ethnic, linguistic, cultural, religious and physiographical diversity. The British administration initially treated the hill areas as 'Non-Regulated Areas', then declared them a 'Backward Tract' and, eventually categorized them as 'Excluded Areas' and 'Partially Excluded Areas'.

India's growth can be expedited only when all the regions of the country are brought on the track of development. Whether it may be social development, infrastructure and economic development. Various projects and schemes for the development of North Eastern region is not reaching real beneficiaries. The beauty of India lies in its diversity in terms of language, culture, lifestyle of the people of various parts of the country. However, the country's north east has been experiencing a comparatively slower pace of industrialization and socio-economic growth. Though the region is blessed with abundant natural resources for industrial development and social development, they have not been utilized to their full potential. The region has certain distinct advantages. It is strategically located with access to the traditional domestic market of eastern India, along with proximity to the major states in the east and adjacent countries such as Bangladesh and Myanmar. The region is also a vantage entry point for the South East Asian markets.

The resource-rich north east with its expanses of fertile farmland and a huge talent pool could turn into one of India's most prosperous regions. Though, it has all these advantages due to its unique challenges, like issues related to poor infrastructure and connectivity, unemployment and low economic development, it has not seen the overall development. Hence the government should take the lead in providing solutions to these problems. More reform need to be initiated in a range of areas, such as investment in agriculture, hydel power, infrastructure as well as in creating new avenues of growth through the development of vertically integrated food processing chains, market-linked skill development and cross-border trade. As multiple avenues for growth and development emerge, it is of paramount importance that the region, as a collective identity, embarks on a vibrant journey to realize the dreams of a better future. This vision can be realized only through the combined effort of all stakeholders.

Various schemes for the development of infrastructure and economy of the North East region have been formulated by the previous UPA governments. The schemes include the formation of the North East Council, Hill Area Development Projects and Sub-plans, Tribal Area Sub-plan, and Tribal Development Agency Projects to name only a few. In addition, these seven states have been declared as Special Category States: this entitles them to get 90 percent of Central Assistance as a grant and just 10 per cent as Loan. Some public sector units have also been set up in the region. The policies of industrial licensing, concessional finance and investment subsidy, growth centers, as well as freight equalization of some major industrial inputs have also been used to promote economic development.

The region remains isolated from the rest of the country. It has not been able to attract investors or to produce skilled labour and entrepreneurial resources, and has failed to transform the primitive agricultural practices of the region into modern commercial agriculture. More importantly, the existing policy framework has also become one of the important factors that has contributed to the emergence and continuance of insurgency in the region. In a nutshell, this complete policy framework has outlived its utility. The political economy approach has inordinately relied on the capacity of the state and its bureaucratic arrangements for economic development, and the approach has manifestly failed.

I shall request the Government to consider the serious issue of insurgency. A thorough background check of all insurgents groups should be carried out before the central Government enters into any Ceasefire or Suspension of Operations Agreements with the insurgents. Political solutions to the Assam problem should be discussed openly as widely as possible to avoid backlash from the tribal and the minority population of the state. At present, the central Government is concentrating only in mega projects, which causes huge differences to the development of the region. A pragmatic land use policy should be formulated for attracting industries in the region. Niche tourism or high end tourism should be encouraged. Kindly consider all the seven states as a single economic unit without disturbing the political boundaries of the states and to formulate an exclusive Five Year Plan for the North East focusing on development of infrastructure. A proper monitoring system should be established to track the development work fund utilization in the North Eastern States.

श्री रामेश्वर तेजी (डिब्रूगढ़) : माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं इस ग्रंट के समर्थन में कुछ बातें कहने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। मैं असम के डिब्रूगढ़ लोक सभा क्षेत्र से आता हूँ। भारत के पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी जी ने वर्ष 2001 में डोनर डिपार्टमेंट बनाया था। उन्होंने देखा कि नॉर्थ-ईस्ट का डवलपमेंट नहीं हो रहा है, इसका डवलपमेंट होना चाहिए, इसलिए उन्होंने डोनर डिपार्टमेंट बनाया।

अभी हमारे प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी भी नॉर्थ-ईस्ट पर बहुत ध्यान दे रहे हैं। हमारे साथी श्री कामाख्या प्रसाद तासा जी ने कहा कि हरेक मिनिस्टर को कहा गया है कि नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में जाना चाहिए। हरेक मिनिस्टर नॉर्थ-ईस्ट जा रहे हैं और वहाँ की समस्याएँ समझ रहे हैं तथा उन समस्याओं का कैसे समाधान किया जाए, उस पर भी पूरा ध्यान दे रहे हैं। कुछ दिन पहले हमारे हेल्थ मिनिस्टर श्री जयप्रकाश नड्डा जी नॉर्थ-ईस्ट गये थे। उन्होंने मद्सूस किया कि असम के नौजवान पढ़ने में बहुत डोनहार हैं, लेकिन उनको मेडिकल की सीट पाने में बहुत ही मुश्किल होती है। इसलिए असम में तीन मेडिकल कॉलेजों की घोषणा की गयी है। मैं इस सदन के माध्यम से यह बात पूरे भारत को बताना चाहता हूँ।

उसी प्रकार से, श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने सोचा कि असम या नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के लोगों को दिल्ली के एम्स में ज्यादा न आना पड़े, इसलिए गुवाहाटी में एक एम्स की स्थापना का निर्णय भी लिया गया है। बहुत जल्द ही इसका शिलान्यास भी किया जाएगा।

भारत को स्वाधीन हुए 60 वर्षों से अधिक हो चुके हैं, लेकिन इतने वर्षों में कांग्रेस की सरकार ने ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी के ऊपर पॉप पुल बनाये। हमारे प्रधानमंत्री जी ने कहा है कि हम पॉप साल में पॉप पुल बनाएँगे और उनकी घोषणा कर दी गयी है। इसलिए नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के संबंध में बहुत ही ध्यान दिया गया है।

इससे पहले जब दस वर्षों तक कांग्रेस की सरकार थी, तब डॉ. मनमोहन सिंह जी असम से राज्य सभा के मेम्बर बनकर आये थे और भारत के प्रधानमंत्री बने थे। हम लोग बहुत आशा करते थे कि डॉ. मनमोहन सिंह जी असम से चुनकर आए हैं, इसलिए असम को बहुत कुछ मिलेगा। लेकिन कुछ भी नहीं मिला। जब श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी जी ने फोर लेन की शुरुआत की थी, तो उसकी शुरुआत असम से हुई थी। हम लोग भी आशा करते थे कि डॉ. मनमोहन सिंह जी भारत के प्रधानमंत्री बने हैं, तो यह फोर लेन डिब्लूड तक जाएगी। लेकिन पिछले दस वर्षों में फोर लेन का काम शुरू नहीं हुआ। अभी हमारे प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने इसके लिए प्रयास किया और अभी कुछ दिन पहले श्री नितिन गडकरी जी ने फोर लेन को डिब्लूड तक बनाने की शुरुआत की है। श्री नितिन गडकरी जी कुछ दिन पहले असम गये थे और उन्होंने वहाँ तीन-चार मार्गों को नैशनल हाइवे में कन्वर्ट करने की घोषणा की है। नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के मार्गों की हालत बहुत ही खराब है। इसे देखते हुए श्री गडकरी जी ने वहाँ के मार्गों को डवलप करने के लिए एक नॉर्थ-ईस्ट कारपोरेशन बनाया है। इसके लिए 33 करोड़ रुपये की राशि भी आवंटित की गयी है। इस प्रकार से नॉर्थ-ईस्ट पर ध्यान दिया गया है।

श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने नॉर्थ-ईस्ट पर और किन-किन क्षेत्रों में ध्यान दिया है, उन सभी के बारे में मैं चर्चा करूँ, तो बहुत समय लगेगा। इसलिए मैं ज्यादा समय नहीं लेना चाहता हूँ। अभी हमारे मंत्री जी भी उतर देने वाले हैं। डोनर विभाग के मंत्री श्री जितेन्द्र सिंह जी भी बहुत बार असम गये हैं। मैं उनसे एक अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि मेरे डिब्लूड लोक सभा क्षेत्र में डिम्बोई एक जगह है, जैसा कि श्री बदरुद्दीन साहब कह रहे थे कि वहाँ एक रिफाइनरी है, उस विधान सभा क्षेत्र में पानी की बड़ी समस्या है। वहाँ का एक प्रोजेक्ट बहुत दिनों से डोनर डिपार्टमेंट में लंबित है। मैं उनसे उस प्रोजेक्ट को सेंशन करने के लिए रिक्वेस्ट करता हूँ।

अरुणाचल प्रदेश के बारे में भी मैं एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ। वहाँ के तोहित जिला में परशुराम कुंड नामक एक स्थान है, जहाँ देश-विदेश के सभी हिन्दू लोग मकर संक्रांति के अवसर पर स्थान करने जाते हैं। इसलिए मैं मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि उस स्थान को डवलप करने के लिए डोनर डिपार्टमेंट से कुछ फण्ड की व्यवस्था की जाए। इसी के साथ मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ।

***SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL (BIKANER):** Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam took his last breath in the campus of IIM Shillong, the capital of Meghalaya. It is requested and demanded by some section of the society that IIM Shillong should be named after Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam IIM Shillong. Kindly accept the demand.

श्री प्रहलाद सिंह पटेल (दमोह) : सभापति महोदय, अनुदान मांगों पर हो रही चर्चा में आपने मुझे बोलने के लिए समय दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ। यह अनुदान मांगों पर चर्चा है, उत्तर पूर्व के बारे में तमाम लोगों ने अपनी बातें कही हैं, मैं यही आग्रह करूँगा कि सब कुछ अच्छा हुआ है, इस समय अटल जी को स्मरण करना और उनको धन्यवाद देना हमारा कर्तव्य भी है। एक दूरदर्शी राजनेता ही ऐसा काम कर सकता है।

जब आज धन है, इस पर चर्चा होती है कोई कहता है कि ज्यादा मिलना चाहिए, लेकिन अगर धन हो और वातावरण न हो तो उस धन का कोई औचित्य नहीं होता है। इसी तरह से धन है, लेकिन उसके वितरण की प्रक्रिया ठीक नहीं है, तो आपके माध्यम से मेरा सरकार से आग्रह है कि इस वित्त प्रबंधन को बदलना चाहिए। इस फण्डिंग पैटर्न को चेंज करने की जरूरत नॉर्थ ईस्ट में है। अगर आप वास्तव में नॉर्थ ईस्ट की समस्याओं का समाधान चाहते हैं, त्वरित समाधान चाहते हैं तो फण्डिंग पैटर्न में परिवर्तन करना होगा। डोनर मिनिस्ट्री अपनी प्राथमिकताएं तय करके अगर उस पूरे धन को खर्च करेगी तो मैं समझता हूँ कि जो लक्ष्य हम चाहेंगे, एक समय सीमा के भीतर वे परिणाम हमें प्राप्त होंगे। शायद यही एक बड़ी तकलीफ है। मणिपुर में अभी मेरा लगातार जाना हुआ है। अब वहां पर जो निर्वाचित निकाय हैं, जो जिला परिषदें हैं, खासकर पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों में, उनके पास केन्द्र से पैसा जाता है, लेकिन राज्य सरकार सीधे पैसा देती है और उनको कोई प्रोग्राम बनाने का मौका नहीं देती है। यह एक उदाहरण मैंने आपको दिया है।

पूरे नॉर्थ ईस्ट में अच्छाइयां हैं - वहां पर खेती अच्छी है, संतुलित तापमान है, प्रकृति की खूब संभावनाएं हैं, पर्याप्त वर्षा है, कृमिक वर्षा होती रहती है, प्लांट वेराइटी हैं, बायो डायवर्सिटी है, अच्छी नदियां हैं, अच्छे खेल हैं, अच्छे खिलाड़ी हैं, इन सबके बावजूद भी समस्या कहां पर है? समस्या यह है कि जमीन तो है, लेकिन वहां कभी उन्नत खेती के बारे में विचार नहीं किया गया। वहां पर संतुलित तापमान है, लेकिन इनसर्जेंसी के कारण कोई जाना नहीं चाहता है। यह दो बातों पर अलग-अलग विचार करना पड़ेगा कि विकास किस कॉन्स्ट पर होगा? वहां पर अभी तक जिन नीतियों का

अनुपालन हुआ है, वहां जो पिछली सरकारें रही हैं, अगर आज मैं मणिपुर का जिक्र करूं तो मैं पांच घटनाएं बताता हूँ। जब कांग्रेस के हमारे मित्र ने इस चर्चा को शुरू किया था, अच्छा होता कि सदन के सामने उन बातों को बताया गया होता। आपने मणिपुर का इतिहास बताया, लेकिन आपको यह भी बताना चाहिए कि जब से आतंकवाद है, किसी भी शासकीय कार्यक्रम में, किसी भी विद्यालय और महाविद्यालय में जन गण मन का गान नहीं हो सकता। मणिपुर में ऐसी हालत पैदा करने वाला कौन है? सरकार आपकी है। इसमें आपको क्या तकलीफ है? मुझे लगता है कि वातावरण बनाने के लिए पहले प्रयास होना चाहिए।

दूसरी बात आती है कि अभी महासम्मेलन राष्ट्रपति जी गए थे, आपने वर्ष 1891 का जिक्र किया है जो अंग्रेजों के खिलाफ मणिपुर की आजादी की अंतिम लड़ाई थी, वहां के स्मारक का राष्ट्रपति जी ने उद्घाटन किया और दो घण्टे के बाद वह पत्थर गिर गया। आप इसे किस दृष्टि से देखते हैं? क्या आप मानते हैं कि यह उन सेनानियों का अपमान नहीं है? क्या यह राष्ट्रपति जी का अपमान नहीं है? लेकिन इस पर कभी चर्चा नहीं होगी क्योंकि मुझे लगता है कि यह तापवादी और भ्रष्टाचार है। अगर हम इस पर चर्चा नहीं करेंगे तो इमानदारी के साथ इस पर विचार नहीं कर पाएंगे।

आपने इस बात का जिक्र नहीं किया कि 294 दिन से ज्यादा हो गए हैं, मणिपुर के एक जिले में नौ नौजवानों की लाश रखी है। किसी मुद्दे पर मतभेद हो सकता है, लेकिन सम्मान के साथ क्या उनकी अंत्येष्टि नहीं होनी चाहिए? यह वातावरण बिगाड़ने का काम किसने किया? हम इस पर खुले मन से सदन में चर्चा नहीं करते, इसलिए मैं इसके विस्तार में नहीं जाना चाहता क्योंकि वहां जो समस्याएं हैं, उनके स्वरूप अलग-अलग हैं। वहां धन जिस प्रकार से आता है, आप इन तकरीबों को नकार नहीं सकते, आप घुसपैठ को नकार नहीं सकते, आप आईएसआई की कार्यवाहियों को नकार नहीं सकते। वहां पर जो वामपंथी उग्रवाद है, वह हथियार पड़वाकर, दूसरे गुणों को हथियार देकर अपने से अपने ही लोगों को मरवाने का काम करता है। क्या इस पर सदन में चर्चा नहीं होनी चाहिए?

मैं अरुणाचल प्रदेश के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ कि १९९०-1 और १९९०-2, यहां पर नॉर्थ ईस्ट के सदस्यगण बैठे हैं, उसको किसने रोका? गोहाटी के पास आंदोलन होता है और लगभग साढ़े तीन साल से १९९०-1 और १९९०-2 परियोजनाएं पूरी नहीं हो पाई हैं। अगर ये परियोजनाएं पूरी हो जाएं तो अरुणाचल प्रदेश के 70 फीसदी हिस्से को पानी मिलेगा। इतनी बड़ी परियोजनाओं पर क्या सदन को विन्यास नहीं करनी चाहिए? आज हम डोनर मिनिस्ट्री के बारे में बात कर रहे हैं, लेकिन अगर हम सकारात्मक तरीके से बात नहीं करेंगे तो मुझे नहीं लगता कि कोई सस्ता निकल सकता है।

बीजू जनता दल के जो मेरे मित्र भाषण कर रहे थे, वह अभी यहां नहीं हैं, मैं उनसे बड़ी विनम्रता से कहना चाहता हूँ कि पुरतकों को पढ़ने से, पुरतकों वहां लिखवाई गयी हैं, वहां इतिहास को पलटा गया है। अगर आप मणिपुर को देखें, वहां पर राजस्व के तीन कानून हैं - नागाओं के अलग हैं, कुकीज के अलग हैं और वैली का कानून अलग है। वहां के राजा के बारे में आज तक सरकार तय नहीं कर पाई कि वह एससी है, एसटी है या सामान्य है। अंग्रेज कह कर चले गए और हमने मान लिया। आज वह आतंकवाद का कारण बन गया है। मुझे लगता है कि यह ऐसे सवाल हैं, जिनकी चर्चा किए बगैर सस्ता नहीं निकल सकता है।

महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से कहना चाहता हूँ कि ईटा नगर तक रेलवे लाइन गयी, जिसकी शुरूआत अटल जी ने की थी, वह आज पहुंच चुकी है। मणिपुर में एक साल के भीतर रेलवे लाइन प्रारम्भ हो सकती है। अभी गडकरी जी ने कहा कि सिलचर से लेकर इम्फाल और इम्फाल से लेकर मोरांग तक का सड़क मार्ग पूरा हो सकता है।

श्री महिलकाजुन स्वइंगे (गुतबर्गा) : आपने वहां जाकर केवल बटन दबाया है।

श्री प्रह्लाद सिंह पटेल : मुझे लगता है कि यह आपको भी पता है, क्योंकि आप रेल मंत्री रहे हैं। इसलिए मुझे लगता है कि कुछ चीजों को आपको इमानदारी से स्वीकार करना चाहिए।

श्री महिलकाजुन स्वइंगे : हमारी भी इसमें कोशिश रही है अरुणाचल से मणिपुर तक पहुंचाने में, आप थोड़ी तो इमानदारी की बात करो।

श्री प्रह्लाद सिंह पटेल : महोदय, मैं स्वइंगे जी को धन्यवाद दूंगा। इन्हीं कोशिशों और रफतारों पर विचार होना चाहिए कि नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के साथ क्या हुआ है? मुझे लगता है कि इसी गति का परिणाम है, जिसकी आप चर्चा कर रहे हैं और नॉर्थ-ईस्ट की दुर्गति पर आज चर्चा हो रही है। आज अगर डोनर मिनिस्ट्री बनाने की जरूरत पड़ी है तो शायद इसी रफतार का परिणाम है। यह बात मैं बड़ी जिम्मेदारी के साथ कहना चाहता हूँ।

महोदय, मणिपुर एक ऐसा राज्य है जहां नॉर्थ-ईस्ट की पहली हवाई पट्टी थी। दूसरा विश्व युद्ध वहां से लड़ा गया और उसके बाद उसकी हालत आज क्या है? क्या उसके लिए हम लोग जिम्मेदार हैं? इसके लिए कौन लोग जिम्मेदार हैं, इस बात को आज कहने की मुझे जरूरत नहीं है।

महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से अंतिम बात कहना चाहता हूँ कि वहां कम से कम नाइट लैंडिंग गुवाहटी में होनी चाहिए। मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार को बर्खास्त देता हूँ और डोनर मिनिस्ट्री की उपयोगिता को सार्थक बनाने के लिए फण्डिंग पैटर्न में परिवर्तन कीजिए। वहां की नीतियों के बारे में भी इस सदन को चर्चा करनी चाहिए कि अगर वातावरण वहां ठीक नहीं हुआ तो इस पैसे का वहां जाने का कोई लाभ नहीं होगा। मैं श्रद्धेय अटल जी का और सरकार का धन्यवाद करता हूँ कि उन्होंने जो आंदोलन शुरू किया था, वह निश्चित रूप से पूरा होगा, यही कहते हुए मैं इस मांग का समर्थन करता हूँ।

श्री अश्विनी कुमार (करनाल) : सभापति महोदय, मैं आपका आभारी हूँ कि आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया।

महोदय, भारत का नॉर्थ-ईस्ट जो सेवन सिस्टर्स हैं, जिसमें असम, मेघालय, अरुणाचल प्रदेश, सिक्किम, मणिपुर, त्रिपुरा, मिजोरम और नगालैण्ड हैं। यहां हिन्दुज्जम, किश्चियनीट, इस्लाम और बुद्धिज्जम सभ्यताओं, विभिन्न भाषाओं और वेशभूषाओं का अनोखा संगम देखने को मिलता है जो हमारे लोकतंत्र तथा पूजातंत्र प्रणाली की एकता का जीता-जागता का प्रमाण है। स्वतंत्रता के बाद इन राज्यों की उन्नति के लिए वर्ष 2001 में डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ नॉर्थ-ईस्ट रीजन का गठन किया और इकोनॉमिक और सोशल डेवलपमेंट के लिए नॉर्थ-ईस्ट काउंसिल की स्थापना की थी। भारत सरकार ने वर्ष 2016-17 के अपने बजट में इन राज्यों के लिए 33097.2 करोड़ रुपये का प्रावधान रखा है, जो पिछले बजट से ज्यादा है। नॉर्थ-ईस्ट काउंसिल स्कीम के अंतर्गत सात सौ करोड़ से बढ़ा कर 795 करोड़ रुपये कर दिया गया। हमें जरूरत है नॉर्थ-ईस्ट राज्यों की तरक्की और सुखहाली हो। मैं इस बारे में सरकार को कुछ सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ। नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के सभी राज्य रेल, रोड और हवाई व्यवस्था से जोड़े जाएं, ग्रीनफील्ड एयरपोर्ट्स का निर्माण किया जाए, वहां स्मॉल और मिनी हाइडल प्रोजेक्ट्स बनाए जाएं। प्रधानमंत्री जी ने सिक्किम में ऑर्गेनिक फार्मिंग मिशन का हाल ही में शुभारम्भ किया है, इस तरह से वहां के अन्य सभी राज्यों में भी किया जाना चाहिए। सुपर फास्ट ट्रेन्स यदि देश के अन्य भागों में चल सकती हैं, तो उनको नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में चलाने के लिए और देश से उसको जोड़ने के लिए वहां सुपर फास्ट ट्रेन्स चलाने का प्रावधान किया जाना चाहिए। नॉर्थ-ईस्ट की पहचान चाय बागानों से है। चाय बागानों के मजदूरों के हितों की रक्षा के लिए जरूरी कदम उठाए जाने चाहिए। नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के विद्यार्थियों के लिए दिल्ली में सेपरेट होस्टल का जो प्रबंध किया गया है, मैं समझता हूँ कि यह बहुत ही सहायनीय कदम है।

महोदय, मैं नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में टूरिज्म की बात करना चाहता हूँ। इस समय नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में विदेशी पर्यटकों की संख्या केवल एक प्रतिशत है। वहां टूरिज्म की आधार संभावनाएं हैं। जैसे कि मेरे से पूर्व माननीय सदस्यों ने कहा कि वह जन्नत है और बहुत सुंदर स्थान है। वहां सूलेस्को के द्वारा घोषित वर्ल्ड हेरीटेज साइट्स भी हैं। भारत सरकार को प्रदेश राज्यों के सहयोग से इन राज्यों में टूरिज्म को बढ़ावा देने के लिए गम्भीरता से सोचना चाहिए। इस बारे में वहां स्कुली बच्चों का टूर बनाकर ले जाना चाहिए। यहां के लोगों को वहां के लोगों से जाकर मिलना चाहिए।

महोदय, अब मैं इसके दूसरे पहलू की तरफ आपका ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ। हमें अपने इन सूबसूत राज्यों को दुश्मनों की बुरी नजरों से बचाना है। महोदय, अभी तक जितने भी लोग बोले हैं, उन्होंने शायद इस पहलू को टच नहीं किया है और अगर किया है तो थोड़ा किया है, लेकिन मैं इसे ज्यादा टच करूंगा। हमारे पड़ोस में बैठा चीन जो साम्यवाद का दम भरता है, वह विस्तारवादी नीति पर चल पड़ा है और उसने अपनी निद्र नजरे हमारे अरुणाचल प्रदेश पर गड़ाई हुई हैं। जो नार्थ-ईस्ट के एम.पीज. यहां बैठे हैं, उन्हें इस बात का पता है। चीन की विस्तारवादी नीति इतनी गंदी हो चुकी है कि जो हमारा पाकिस्तान के कब्जे में कश्मीर है, उसमें उसने चीन को घुसेड़ दिया है। मैं बता रहा हूँ कि हमें चारों तरफ से चीन घेर रहा है और खास तौर पर नार्थ-ईस्ट की जितनी स्टेट्स हैं, किसी दिन वह उन्हें भी हड़प सकता है। 1962 के युद्ध में वह तेजपुर तक पहुंच गया था। ... (व्यवधान) मैं दो बातें कहूंगा, चीन के बारे में एक बार नेपोलियन ने कहा था... (व्यवधान)

श्री महिलकाजुन स्वइंगे : आप एक अच्छे एडिटर हैं, पंजाब केसरी के एडिटर हैं, आप उसमें बहुत से कालम लिखते हैं, लेकिन आप हमारा पाकिस्तान बोल रहे हो, पाकिस्तान कब से हमारा हो गया।

श्री अश्विनी कुमार : गलती हो गई, मुंह से निकल गया, हमारा कश्मीर कहना था।

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खड़गे: हमारा पाकिस्तान, हमारा चीन मत बोलो।

श्री अश्विनी कुमार: हम एक दिन उसे भी लेकर छोड़ेंगे। वह भी हमारा ही होगा, आप याद रखना। एक दिन हम यहां पर अखंड भारत बनायेंगे।

माननीय सभापति: प्लीज, टोका-टाकी मत कीजिए, सत्यपाल सिंह जी, आप बोलिये।

श्री अश्विनी कुमार: सर, मैं दो मिनट में खत्म कर रहा हूँ। चीन के बारे में नेपोलियन का एक कोटेशन याद आता है - "Let China sleep, for when she wakes she will move the world."

आज चीन की विस्तारवादी नीति हमें चारों तरफ से घेर रही है और मैं खड़गे जी को कहना चाहता हूँ कि सिर्फ आप अकेले नहीं मैं अपनी पार्टी को भी कहता हूँ, अंत में सदन को यह शेर सुनाना चाहता हूँ-

"वतन की फिक्र करना नादां, मुसीबत आने वाली है,

तेरी बर्बादियों के चरों हैं आसमानों में।"

इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ।

डॉ. सत्यपाल सिंह (बागपत) : सभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे बोलने का अवसर दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ। मैं अपनी बातें दो-तीन मिनट में खत्म करूँगा, मैं केवल मुख्य-मुख्य बिन्दु लेने वाला हूँ। मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि महाभारत के जमाने से उतर पूर्व जिसे भारत का मेन लैंड कहते हैं, उससे इसका संबंध रहा और जिन लोगों ने महाभारत पढ़ी होगी, आदरणीय तथागत जी बोल रहे थे, इसलिए मैं बोलना चाहता हूँ कि अर्जुन का विवाह चित्तौंगदा से मणिपुर से हुआ था और वह वहां काफी दिन रहे थे। उसके बाद वे जो नाम अरूणावत, मणिपुर, मेघालय, त्रिपुरा, ब्रह्मपुत्र आदि हैं, ये नाम बताते हैं कि कल्चरली, सांस्कृतिक रूप से पहले से ही यह भारत का एक अभिन्न अंग रहा है। यह बात जरूर है कि 1937 तक बर्मा भी ब्रिटिश एम्पायर का एक भाग रहा है। इसलिए 60-65 वर्षों में वहां अलगवादा की भावना पनपती रही, उसके बहुत कारण हैं, मैं उन कारणों में नहीं जाना चाहता। लेकिन मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि हम सब लोगों को आदरणीय अलत जी का धन्यवाद करना चाहिए कि अक्टूबर, 1996 में उन्होंने यह व्यवस्था की कि प्रत्येक मिनिस्ट्री का जो बजट होगा, उसका टेन परसेंट वे नार्थ-ईस्ट के लिए खर्च करेंगे। हमें उनका अभिन्नतन करना चाहिए कि उनके कारण यह शुरूआत हुई है।

इसके अलावा आज अगर हम असम को छोड़ दें तो पूरा का पूरा रीजन जिसे मोस्ट एड्युकेटेड रीजन अपने देश में माना जाता है। मुझे लगता है कि इनफेन्ट मोर्टैलिटी रेट भी उस क्षेत्र में सबसे कम है।

जब से माननीय मोदी जी इस देश के प्रधान मंत्री बने हैं, तब से प्रत्येक मिनिस्टर कम से कम 15 दिन में एक बार उतर पूर्व का दौरा करता है। यह आज तक पहले कभी नहीं हुआ है। इस प्रकार से 2016-17 के अंदर 33 हजार करोड़ से ज्यादा ग्रैंट उतर पूर्व भारत के लिए की है, मैं उसका विशेष रूप से समर्थन करता हूँ। कुछ मुद्दे हैं, जिनको मैं हाऊस के सामने रखना चाहता हूँ। एक तो नॉन लैप्सेबल सैंट्रल पूल ऑफ रिसोर्सिज़ है, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से भी यह निवेदन करूँगा कि उसकी ठीक से मॉनिटरिंग की जाए। उसका जो पैसा है, वह पूल में तो चला जाता है, लेकिन वह पैसा ठीक से उपयोग हो रहा है या नहीं। ... (व्यवधान) दूसरा कंप्यूटर एण्ड ऑडिटर जनरल को स्पेशली बोलना चाहिए कि नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में जितना पैसा दिया जा रहा है, उसका ठीक से ऑडिट किया जाए कि वह पैसा वास्तव में कहां लग रहा है, कहां नहीं लग रहा है। पहले मैंने सीबीआई में काम किया है, मैं उस राज्य का नाम न लेते हुए कहना चाहूँगा कि भारत के उतर-पूर्व के राज्य में जब मैं गया तो पता लगा कि सन् 1948 से ले कर वहां पर विजिलेंस डिपार्टमेंट है, लेकिन आज तक, अभी दो-चार साल का तो मातृम नहीं है, लेकिन एक भी विजिलेंस इन्वैस्टिगेशन वहां के विजिलेंस विभाग ने कभी नहीं की कि पैसा जाता है तो कहां जाता है, पैसा वास्तव में खर्च होता है या कुछ लोगों के पास चला जाता है।

सन् 2007 में सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कहा कि इंटेलिगल इमिग्रेशन, बांग्लादेशियों का जो मामला है, it is a virtual external aggression on India. उसके बारे में हमें ज्यादा ध्यान देने की जरूरत है। वहां आईएसआई की एक्टिविटीज़ हैं, माओवादियों की एक्टिविटी भी वहां पर बढ़ रही है। यह किस प्रकार से अपने देश को नुकसान करेगा, इसके बारे में बहुत गंभीरता से विचार करने की जरूरत है। ड्रग्स और नार्कोटिक्स अगर बाहर से आ सकते हैं या हमारे देश से उधर जा सकते हैं, तो इथियार और एक्प्लोज़िव भी वहां से आ सकते हैं क्योंकि वहां पर इस प्रकार की नैटवर्किंग चल रही है। इस पर ध्यान देने की जरूरत है। उतर-पूर्व भारत को इंटिग्रेट करने के लिए इस बात की जरूरत है कि इंजिनियरिंग कॉलेजों, मैनिकल कॉलेजों एवं मैनेजमेंट कॉलेजों में भी 50 परसेंट मेन लैंड के बच्चे वहां जा कर पढ़ सकें और आपस में मिल सकें। इसी प्रकार से वहां के बच्चों को और ज्यादा सीट्स मेनलैण्ड में दी जाएं। इंफ्रस्ट्रक्चर के बारे में सब लोगों ने बात की है, चाहे एयरपोर्ट की बात हो, रेललाइन की बात हो, रोड की बात हो। ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी के बारे में मैं कहना चाहूँगा कि इस नदी का इतना पानी बहता है कि हमें यह सोचना चाहिए कि उस पानी को किस तरह से हम ठीक से सूज कर सकें और बाढ़ के विनाश से उस क्षेत्र को कैसे बचा सकते हैं। अगर हम लोगों ने यह किया तो निश्चित रूप से उतर पूर्व भारत का विकास ठीक से होगा।

***श्रीमती दर्शना विक्रम जरदोश (सूरत) :** 2016-17 के लिए उतर-पूर्व क्षेत्र विकास मंत्रालय के नियंत्रणाधीन अनुदानों की मांगों के समर्थन में मैं अपनी बात रखती हूँ। हम भारतमाता की पूजा करते हैं। बाजपेई जी ने जब इस मंत्रालय की स्थापना की तब ये सोचा था कि भारतमाता की ये नार्थ-ईस्ट वाली भुजा भी मजबूत होनी चाहिये। पूरे भारत में सबसे अच्छी प्राकृतिक संपदा वाले राज्यों में ये सात राज्य हैं। जिसमें रोड, ड्रेनेज, रेलवे कनेक्टिविटी, ब्रिज, हेल्थ के लिए हॉस्पिटल, टेलीफोन और आईटी क्षेत्र के विकास के लिए प्राथमिकता देनी चाहिए।

एनडीए की सरकार में माननीय प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्रभाई की सरकार ने ये सात राज्यों की प्राथमिकता तय करके अपनी सभ मिनिस्ट्री को भी ये सूचना व सुझाव दिए जिसकी वजह से नार्थ-ईस्ट के क्षेत्रों में बहुत उत्साह है। पिछली सरकार ने अपनी जिम्मेदारी ठीक से नहीं निभाई। लेकिन आज हमने अपनी जिम्मेदारी निभाते हुए जो फंड मंत्रालय को दिया है। उनकी निगरानी रखते हुए सामाजिक समरसता के साथ सभी राशि का उचित उपयोग करके, विकास की शुरूआत करके सब का साथ सबका विकास का मंत्र चरितार्थ करते हुए नार्थ-ईस्ट को मेन स्ट्रीम की तरह काम होना चाहिए। जैसे असम, मणिपुर में राजकीय हालात हैं उसकी वातावरण को ठीक करके फंडिंग पैटर्न को वेंज करके जिस तरह से सिफरिश नरेन्द्र भाई ने ऑरगेनिक स्टेट डिवलपमेंट किया है इसके लिए मैं सरकार को धन्यवाद देती हूँ। प्राकृतिक संपदा का अनुचित उपयोग करके विदेशियों को टूरिज्म के लिए प्रोत्साहित करके ज्यादा कनेक्टिविटी करके ये क्षेत्रों को बढ़ावा देना चाहिए। मैं इसका समर्थन करके मंत्रालय को धन्यवाद देती हूँ।

***श्री भैरो प्रसाद मिश्र (बांदा) :** मैं सदन में प्रस्तुत पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र विकास मंत्रालय की अनुदानों की मांगों का समर्थन करता हूँ। हमारी सरकार ने वर्षों से उपेक्षित पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र के विकास के लिए विशेष विन्यास की है, इसके लिए इस क्षेत्र के लोग माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी के विशेष आभारी हैं। माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी ने सिविकम को भारत का पहला जैविक राज्य घोषित किया है। सरकार ने पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र को जैविक स्रोती के लिए एक डब बनाने का निर्णय लिया है। आर्गेनिक वैल्यू चेन विकास योजना इस क्षेत्र की तस्वीर बदलने का कार्य करेगी। इस वर्ष पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र के विकास के लिए बजट में उल्लेखनीय बढ़ोतरी की गई है। 56 मंत्रालयों में इस क्षेत्र के विकास के लिए 33097 करोड़ रूपए आवंटित किया गया है। सड़क विकास के लिए अलग से 150 करोड़ रूपए दिए गए हैं। जैविक स्रोती के प्रोत्साहन हेतु 115 करोड़ रूपए दिए गए हैं। पूर्वोत्तर विकास वित्त निगम को 30 करोड़ से बढ़ाकर 75 करोड़ रूपए दिया गया है, जो स्वागत योग्य है। सरकार ने इस क्षेत्र में रेल सुविधाएं बढ़ाने में विशेष ध्यान दिया है। सभी प्रमुख क्षेत्रों को मेन लाइन से जोड़ने हेतु रेलवे लाइनों का निर्माण तथा गेज परिवर्तन किया जा रहा है। बहुप्रांशिक्षित बड़ी लाइन लमडिंग-सिल्टर खंड

को खोल दिया गया है। बराक घाटी को देश के विभिन्न हिस्सों से जोड़ा गया है। हमारी सरकार ने इस क्षेत्र को "सेवेन सिस्टर्स" के रूप में विकसित कर हर प्रकार से सजाने व सवारने की योजना बनाई है। इससे इस क्षेत्र में पर्यटन को बढ़ावा मिलेगा इससे जो अलगाववादी इस क्षेत्र में सक्रिय हैं उनका मनोबल टूटेगा। शेष भारत के साथ इस क्षेत्र का विशेष लगाव बढ़ेगा और भारत की राष्ट्रीय एकता मजबूत होगी।

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): Hon. Chairperson, I have very carefully listened to all the 23 hon. Members who participated in the debate. I shall try to respond to whichever exclusive points have been made.

At the outset, I would like to submit that whatever be the observations, nobody can deny that in the last two years under the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, there has been a special focus on the North-East; and it is not because I am a Member of the Government saying so, it is being said all across -- across the cross-sections of society as well as in the media in the North-East.

The hon. Prime Minister has made more than half a dozen visits in the North-East. In the first six months, he was there inaugurating the first ever rail line which hon. Khargeji had constructed but left the button to us. But nevertheless we did not lose any time to press the button...(*Interruptions*) But we are very quick to seize the opportunity.

The other issues of connectivity and organic farming have come, which have been high on the priority of the Government. There has been repeated reference to North-East sought to be brought closer to the rest of the country and an expression often used is mainland India and mainstream India.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: It is mainstream, not mainland.

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Yes, somebody has used mainland. I have taken down notes. You said mainstream and somebody said mainland. Eversince I have been in this Ministry for the last one and a half years or so, I have tried to study as much I could learn about it. I think this expression itself is a misnomer. Every part of India is a part of mainstream India and as long as we call it North-East and mainstream India, we are by implication accepting knowingly or unknowingly that this is something different from India. So, we have to come out of this mindset. I agree with the hon. Members that there is a problem of mindset also. In the first few weeks that I took over this Ministry, the first thing that occurred to my mind is that if India is known as a country of unity in diversity, here you had the best example of diversity within diversity. As was being pointed out by the hon. Member, you have 200 tribes, 200 languages and 200 dances and yet they live in an atmosphere of mutual coexistence which is something remarkable and which rest of India should learn and in fact, the rest of India has much to learn. The literacy rate as was being pointed out is much higher in some of the States compared to other States. For example, very few of us may be aware that a small State like Mizoram with a population of just seven lakh has a literacy rate of 92 or 93 per cent. So also is the Manipur which, I think, is next only to Kerala which has a tradition of a high literacy rate right from the British Raj and Mizoram was born only in 1980s. Similarly, we have growth rate which is higher than many other States. For example, Sikkim has two digit growth rate. We are yet to achieve at the national level. First of all, we must send out this message and clear our mindset that North-East is contributing hugely to the literacy and the growth of the country. It is just as was being rightly pointed out by Members across both sides how best to use its potentials.

One more thing which I would not be modest in taking credit is that when I got into this Ministry, I realized that very few people were actually aware that there was something called Ministry of DoNER even in North-East. So, I started an experiment which has proved to be quite successful. We started holding camp secretariat offices in each of the State by rotation. For example, we began with Manipur, then Tripura, then Mizoram. So, every month the officers of the DoNER Ministry are setting up a camp secretariat in one or the other State and I thought the most befitting name to give it would be DoNER at doorstep so that a message goes out that for the redressal of each grievance, a citizen from North-East need not necessarily travel to Delhi, DoNER can also travel to doorstep. This was the pattern which was being followed even in the larger provinces as Prof. Saugata Roy knows better when we had the undivided Bengal, we had the Central Provinces, we had the undivided Punjab with Capital in Lahore and they would go to Simla or undivided Bombay. So, this is one new initiative that has been taken because I am pointedly referring to these so that the impression should go out that we have been very passionately following the subject. Eight Union Ministers are visiting North-East now every 15 days. So, under the directions of the hon. Prime Minister, this roster was made beginning from January last year. So, you have one Minister in each of the States. It offers them an opportunity to have assessment of their ministerial work. It also gives them a ground reality experience and also offers them an opportunity to meet the representatives there. All the Ministers sitting over here have been repeatedly visiting even recently.

There has been a reference to Rani Gaidinlu. We actually celebrated the centenary last year. Somebody referred to Mary Kom. She is already there in the Upper House.

Kharge Ji is an experienced Member. He can also educate us. Owaisi Ji has gone out. One thing I would just like to humbly clear is that whether this Ministry is an implementing Ministry or a coordinating Ministry. I would come to these points. Basically, the Development of North-East Region Ministry was constituted primarily with the object of development, be it in the form of NLCP Projects, be it in the form of roads, bridges but nevertheless, we are also trying to coordinate with the other Ministries, which was not happening in an institutionalized manner. In the last one year, we have constituted inter-ministerial committees.

18.00hours

For example, it is with the Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Civil Aviation so that we can have regular meeting at Joint Secretary level and Secretary level because a lot many things can be done. So, we are also acting as a liaison Ministry because what happens is, we are Ministry for Development of North-Eastern Region. Somehow, the impression goes that it is the Ministry for North-East. But we are proud of that.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, it is six o' clock. The time of the House may be extended till this Demand for Grants is disposed of. I think the House agrees.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: But we are proud to be known like that and that we take upon ourselves the responsibility of coordinating and doing the liaison. In fact, the hon. Member was referring to Manipur. I was there in Manipur four times in one month—once during floods; other time when there was a violent incident; third time when there was an earthquake; and fourth time when there was Naga accord and some kind of apprehension. So, we have tried to go beyond the mandate. Sometimes, it is not understood easily. When a Minister from the State Government comes, he says, donate and give us more money. So, I tell them humorously, it is DoNER, and not donor. It is not that we are sitting there just to donate. But what I am trying to say is that we are certainly going beyond.

There was a reference to certain insurgency problems and certain law and order issues. I shall not go into that in detail because actually that pertains to the Ministry of Home Affairs. But I certainly believe that peace and development have a reciprocal relationship. If peace does not exist, development does not move out in the expected ways. If the development does not take place, it leads to unrest and disturbance of peace. Therefore, all of us have to work in tandem.

As far as the Act East Policy is concerned, it is not strictly within the mandate of the DoNER but yes, I personally believe that if you have to actually act beyond the borders and if the Ministry of External Affairs also has to effectively act beyond the borders, we will first have to act proximal to the borders. For example, there is a small instance. If you have to do trade with Myanmar, you have to sell goods produced in the North-Eastern States. You cannot carry groundnuts or *rajmas* from another State and sell it with Myanmar. So, it has to grow. In order to facilitate even the Act East Policy, we have gone beyond the mandate. The youth culture wing has been told that I will go some time.

Before I go to the pointed references, as I was saying, we have gone beyond the mandate. Only in the last six months, realizing that the incidence of cancer and the prevalence of cancer in the North-Eastern States was higher than most of the other States of the country—now this was not the responsibility of the DoNER Ministry or the DoNER Minister—but you know, out of my passion to try to prove my worth, I studied that and we engaged in a kind of an understanding with Adayar Cancer Institute in Chennai, which is the oldest cancer institute of India.

Beginning from January this year, they have agreed to train our doctors in cancer surgery and cancer medicine for a six-month short-term training. All the liabilities would be borne partly by the DoNER Ministry and partly by the Adayar Cancer Institute. The State Governments will only have to give us leave and that training has already started. Meanwhile, since I had the advantage, as Prof. Saugata Roy said about right hand and left hand, of also looking after atomic energy, there I learnt, which was not known widely, that under atomic energy we have a deemed institute, called Bhabha National Institute. At the same time, in North-East, we have Barooah Cancer Institute. So, I thought why not we try and start some degree courses in cancer itself in the Barooah Cancer Institute, and that is being processed. Barooah Cancer Institute is there in Guwahati. The team is right now there. Bhabha National Institute is a deemed university. It is known only in the Atomic Energy Department but we operate through Tata Memorial Cancer Centre. So, we are trying to do that also.

The requirement of a Sports University was being referred to. A Sports University was one of the first announcements made by the present Government, by the hon. Prime Minister himself at none other than Manipur. There has been the issue of land transfer. Repeatedly, our teams are going. We are also trying to approach the Sports Ministry because they have to do that. Now we are not directly going to do it. Somebody has to do it for us. So, the Sports Ministry is facing some problem of land issue. And, AIIMS, as was said, is coming up. Then, again for the first time in 10 years, we have a huge beautiful complex of North-East Council in Shillong, the capital of undivided Assam. For the first time in 10 years a meeting of the North East Council was conducted there and a Minister visited there. I do not know whether I deserve credit for that. But it was done. It was possible because I personally approached and all the hon. Chief Ministers, all the hon. Governors. The time from North East point of view was a little odd, it was 2nd – 3rd January, soon in the hangover of the New Year, but they obliged. So, we are actually proceeding very seriously.

Now, coming specifically, Mr. Meinya referred to topographic strategy points. Yes, these are issues and we are aware of it. It is not often understood, for example, that the same budget which is required for construction of 10 kilometres of road in Delhi would construct only 4-5 kilometres there. Then, you have insurgency problems also. But that itself is a challenge which all of us have to meet together.

Budget allocation is not enough – has been pointed out by one hon. Member. I agree with him. We approached the Finance Ministry this year. There has been a hike to an extent. Actually the 55 non-exempted Ministries contribute 10 per cent. The catch here is – Prof. Saugata Roy and another hon. Member was also pointing out – that this does not go directly into the DoNER kitty. If a given Ministry has not allocated upto 10 per cent, the remaining amount is earmarked for North East and that remains with the Finance Ministry. Then, the papers have to be processed from the respective State and the money is released. We have right now about Rs.33,000 crore which is with the Finance Ministry.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE : But they do not release it. We have to pursue for it. You see that because of 10 per cent you cannot hold 90 per cent.

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: That is well taken.

So, we have Rs.33,000 crore right now which includes Rs.2400 crore, which is of the DoNER Ministry *per se*. Last year it was Rs.20,000 crore. We requested the hon. Finance Minister and they made an increase in this. Last year the NEC Budget was Rs.7000 crore, we approached the Finance Ministry and they increase it. In addition, we have the Railway Budget of Rs.5380 crore. As you were rightly pointing out, for eight States we do not have even Rs.100 crore, they have made it almost Rs.800 crore. Certainly they have responded positively to our request.

Then, the issue of DPR was very rightly pointed out by Shri Meinya. I would say that that is the cause of delay also. I think in the spirit of cooperative federalism we are asking the States to send it. If the DoNER has to decide, then it will not be in that spirit and the States will object. So, what is happening is that the States send the DPR which gets delayed. By the time the process starts, the money gets stuck up and by the time the work starts, the actual cost goes up.

Then, the problem comes of the Utilisation Certificate. After the release of the first installment, the UC is expected for release of subsequent installments. Many of the State Governments do not find it necessary to send the UCs. They are contended with the first installment and in the

meanwhile they ask for the second one. At my own level, whatever was my jurisdiction, I have tried to make two amendments. But, with the consensus of the House we can further improve upon it.

One is that we would ask the State Governments to prepare the DPR and directly discuss it with the Ministry concerned. For Example, if it is Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways, let them sort it out with them and be answerable for the delay. We do not come in between. We will be there for funding and monitoring. We are working on that because that was in the purview of the DoNER Ministry.

Second, as far as UC is concerned, since I was also looking after Space, it occurred to my mind that we could use the satellite imaging because sometimes the complaints came that UC was also fabricated.

श्री महिलकार्जुन खड़गे: काम ही नहीं होता तो यू.सी. कैसे आएगा।

डॉ. जितेन्द्र सिंह: ठीक है, आप बिल्कुल ठीक कह रहे हैं। ऐसी शिकायत आई कि सड़क का फोटो तो कोई और था। So, we thought to use the satellite imaging provision as the Space Department has the facility. It can directly take the photo with exact latitude and longitude.

We also have North Eastern Space Applications Centre in Shillong called NESAC which was also not being fully utilised. We have sought their services. It is being coordinated by the NEC.

As far as AFSPA and ILP are concerned, I will not take the risk of getting into that. It is a controversial issue related to the Ministry of Home Affairs. I would rather say that I am not qualified to answer about AFSPA. This is best left to the security agencies in the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Shrimati Bijoyaji said that officers take it as a punishment going to the North-East. We have tried to bring in some facilitatory provisions. For example, an officer, who is there in the North-East, will have a residential accommodation in Delhi. He might feel tempted. Particularly an officer with his children at class tenth or twelfth level will feel tempted to have his family here so that his children could join coaching centres etc. So, we are working on that.

Another initiative which we have taken exclusively is with respect to unemployment which has been wittily pointed out by Bijoyaji. The point is that we have Start Up India - Stand Up India, an ambitious programme launched by the Prime Minister. Now notwithstanding all the other provisions which exist in that programme – the Finance Minister is also here – you have the exit period of three months, you have tax-free facility, from DoNER Ministry's side, we thought that we could also contribute something. So, we have contemplated floating a venture fund for those of the youths who decide to start an entrepreneurship or a start-up in the North-East. I agree that the potentials are so vast that you do not need to go anywhere out and if the potentials are fully exploited and if we succeed in this venture, we would have all the youths from all over the country making a beeline for the North-East and the North-East will become the favourite destination for future entrepreneurs.

The North-East Industry Policy has been referred to. It falls under the Ministry of Commerce. There was some thought of giving away with it, then of transferring it to the DoNER Ministry. As of now, they have agreed to carry on for the next one year and then, they will take over.

There has been reference to connectivity which is a huge issue, but in the last one-and-a-half years, we have given an impetus to a number of airports. Not only the connectivity of the North-East with the rest of the country, but the connectivity within the North-East is also the worst. So, more than inter-connectivity, the issue is intra-connectivity. From Guwahati, it is easier to travel to Kolkata, Bengaluru, Jaipur and New Delhi because you have direct flights, but you cannot travel to Shillong. That is an issue which has also been picked up which was not pointed out earlier.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: You can go to Shillong only by helicopter.

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Yes. So, I took up this issue and placed a suggestion before the Civil Aviation Ministry and also some of the helicopter running firms that if Guwahati could be cultivated as a hub, from there, we could have a civil commercial chopper service as long as we are not able to bring up the airport.

Meanwhile, airport at Sikkim had been held up for a long time and we have been given to understand that by 2017, it will become operational. Shillong is another place. Itanagar Airport got stuck up because of the land issues. The Chief Minister was not convinced with the land which had been selected.

What I am trying to say is that there are a number of issues, which I do not wish to get into, which are beyond our control because we have to carry all the eight States and eight dispensations with us, but as I said, we liaison also.

Shri Tathagata Satpathy has gone out of the House. I think, somebody will tell him that in his enthusiasm to guard us against saying 'Bharat Mata ki Jai', he said it almost six times. Each time he will say now somebody would jump with 'Bharat Mata ki Jai'. So, it was nobody from this side. Nevertheless, his suggestions are well taken. As he mentioned about the cultural integration of the North-East, we have already started interacting with the youth. From time to time, we are already celebrating their festivals in Delhi and at different places.

The DoNER headquarters is in New Delhi, but the NEC is there in Shillong. As far as the education is concerned, in Guwahati University, the DoNER Ministry has taken a decision to fund the Brahmaputra Study Centre. The Vice Chancellor is quite enthusiastic about the issue. The hon. Chief Minister and the Government was having certain reservations. I hope, the hon. Members from Assam will pursue it. We will have an exclusive centre which will be funded by us.

I am not going to talk about the Arunachal border with China because that goes beyond my purview.

About the towers, the Telecom Ministry has informed us that Rs.5336 crore has been earmarked this year. I think we have a reason to wait and see the result.

Shri Ramen Deka ji certainly said that there was more to do. He also mentioned certain micro projects. Yes, the Secretary, North East Council has the jurisdiction to fund projects up to Rs.50,000 crore and beyond that it is the jurisdiction of the DoNER Ministry. But overall, the money kitty is

less, which I humbly admit. The problem comes there. Otherwise, it is a good idea and we could do that.

Prof. Saugata Roy also referred to the insufficiency of funds. You will be glad to know that very soon we are going to have a train to Bangladesh via Tripura and a road also.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: Is it final?

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Yes. Already it has been finalized. Once you have the road, you can reach Bangladesh from Agartala in just about one and a half hours or so. So, that has also been facilitated by this Indo-Bangla Exchange of Conclave which had been waiting for 40 years.

Prof. Saugata Roy, I would like to share with you about the waterways. We have actively pursued with the MORTH about the waterways. There are about 17 waterways which have been planned for the North-East. We can start from the top Brahmaputra and going on to the Bay of Bengal. The advantage will be two-fold. Firstly, it will provide an alternative method of transport when the roads are blocked due to rain or where there is no air connectivity. Secondly, the cost is almost one-fourth compared to the fuel cost by train or by road.

Shri Tasaji has rightly mentioned that 210 Ministers visited there. But I would clarify that that happened only up to October. Since then another 200 might have visited. He has also said that there should be a probe to find out कि पैसा कहाँ गया? I wish it was. But, it is beyond my control to do that probe. But certainly, all of us should hold ourselves accountable.

Shri Jitendra Chaudhury referred to rubber growth. This Government has set out a different scheme for rubber.

As far as bamboo is concerned, we recently had a three-day International Conclave to explore the possibilities of bamboo utility.

SHRI JITENDRA CHAUDHURY: I was talking about Bamboo Board.

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: I agree. In various spheres you can use bamboo. This Conclave was held ironically not in North-East but in Indore -- the reason being that that Government came forward to host it and it was explained that Madhya Pradesh has a huge bamboo forest. Rather, I would like each of the North-Eastern State to be known by its own unique identity. Instead of calling it 'North-East State', why can we not call it a 'Bamboo State'? We call Mizoram as a Bamboo State. We can call Manipur a Bamboo State. So, we do not call Punjab as a North Indian State; we do not call Tamil Nadu as a South Indian State. That will also help us improve our way of looking at it. We will have an identity for each of the State. But certainly, we are looking into it.

Dr. Rajeshji has rightly pointed out that there is a huge exodus of patients who are mostly going to Vellore. Somewhere, the CMC, Vellore has gained popularity. There are a number of institutes on the way also. But somehow it has become known among patients. Three medical colleges have already been announced as has been mentioned by the hon. Member Shri Tasa. At the same time, there were demands from other States. For example, in Nagaland, there is no medical college and also there was a demand from the Meghalaya Chief Minister. I said that if we wait for the Government to give us a medical college, it might take long. Nowadays, we have a trend of PPP. At my own level, I engage myself in discussion with some of the corporate sectors. I am now arranging their meetings. So, the arrangement would be that they would give the land and some kind of set up would be established by these corporate hospitals. Dr. R.P. Sarmaji from Tezpur, he is not here now, spoke about connectivity. I have to compliment him as today he set an example by coming on a horseback to the Parliament. ...(*Interruptions*)

श्री अर्जुन राम मेघवाल: वह ऑड-इवेन के चक्कर के कारण घोड़े पर आये। ... (व्यवधान)

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Vincent Pala sahab spoke about special status. For the time being they have continued it, they have yet to take last decision. Meanwhile the problem is that demands have started coming more from the developed States that they should also be included. So, I do not know what will be the final call that the Government will take. Ajmal sahab made a very good point about the educational institutions and universities. He would have been happy to know that IIT Guwahati has been rated among the first ten engineering institutes of the country.

One more issue which we would like to bring to the notice of HRD and others concerned is that it is not *per se* the quantitative part of the educational institutes. We have a number of institutions. For example in Assam we have nearly 15 or more universities. The point is that we have to now shift our focus to quality education because the entire milieu has shifted. Now the young boys and girls go for these corporate jobs, placement jobs. And they are not given placement if their profile is not impressive enough to convince the employer. Earlier on, the only employer was government and so things were going on.

श्री अर्जुन राम मेघवाल: मंत्री जी, ए. पी. जे. अब्दुल कलाम साहब ने आईआईएम सिलॉन में लास्ट भाषण डिलिवर किया था तो क्या हम आईआईएम सिलॉन का ए.पी.जे. अब्दुल कलाम साहब के नाम पर रख सकते हैं। यह बहुत अच्छा सुझाव है। यह होना चाहिए।

माननीय सभापति: सभी चाहेंगे तो यह नाम रख सकते हैं, यह क्यों नहीं रख सकते हैं?

श्री अर्जुन राम मेघवाल: अगर मंत्री जी ऐसा कुछ घोषणा करेंगे तो बेटर होगा।

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: I have put this view forward. What we have to ask ourselves is that even if you have so many engineering colleges, actually we are looking at our education system from the mindset of 1947 when the problem was quantity. I came from a village where there was not even a middle school. So, people traveled to Lahore. Now the problem is different. Earlier the employer was government and anybody with a BA degree would get a job. It is not so now. So, in spite of universities being there, boys and girls are coming from there to Delhi, Bengaluru, Pune for studies because they get easy placements. And there is no campus placement in many of the universities. So, we will have to look into that, improving the standards part.

On our part what we could do is that we have started the exercise of setting up hostels for these boys and girls who are studying outside North-East. We have already acquired land in the JNU and we are also trying for land in Delhi University. In Bengaluru we have already acquired land and the next place will be Pune. Otherwise, staying as paying guests is quite difficult for them. Ajmal sahab also referred to crude oil industry and tourism. Reference to Nagaland Medical College was made and I have answered it. पप्पू यादव जी चले गये, उनका उल्लेख बड़ा कवितामय था। But I appreciate

किये जाने/रखे जाने के पूर्व उसके मुद्रण, प्रकाशन और परिचालन की अनुमति दी।

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