

C O N T E N T S

**Fifteenth Series, Vol.XXI, Ninth Session, 2011/1933 (Saka)
No.12, Friday, December 9, 2011/ Agrahayana 18, 1933(Saka)**

| <u>S U B J E C T</u> | <u>P A G E S</u> |
|---|------------------|
| REFERENCE BY THE SPEAKER | 2 |
| Massive Fire at AMRI hospital in South Kolkata on 9th December, 2011 | |
| WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS | |
| *Starred Question Nos.221 to 240 | 4-81 |
| Unstarred Question Nos.2531 to 2760 | 82-545 |

* Due to continuous interruptions in the House, Starred questions could not be taken up for oral answers. Therefore, these starred questions were treated as unstarred questions.

| | |
|---|----------------|
| FELICITATION BY THE SPEAKER | 546 |
| Congratulations to Virender Sehwag on creating world record in one day international cricket | |
| PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE | 547-554 |
| MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA AND BILL AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA | 555 |
| STANDING COMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES, LAW AND JUSTICE | |
| (i) 48 th Report | 556 |
| (ii) Evidence | 556 |
| STATEMENT BY MINISTER | |
| Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 9 th Report of the Standing Committee on Coal and Steel on Demands for Grants (2009-10), pertaining to the Ministry of Mines | |
| Shri Dinsha Patel | 557 |
| BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE | 558-561 |
| DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193 | 562-578 |
| Inflation situation in India | |
| Shri Pralhad Joshi | 562-564 |
| Shri Pranab Mukherjee | 565-577 |
| <u>ANNEXURE – I</u> | |
| Member-wise Index to Starred Questions | 582 |
| Member-wise Index to Unstarred Questions | 583-588 |
| <u>ANNEXURE – II</u> | |
| Ministry-wise Index to Starred Questions | 589 |
| Ministry-wise Index to Unstarred Questions | 590 |

OFFICERS OF LOK SABHA

THE SPEAKER

Shrimati Meira Kumar

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Shri Karia Munda

PANEL OF CHAIRMEN

Shri Basu Deb Acharia

Shri P.C. Chacko

Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan

Shri Inder Singh Namdhari

Shri Francisco Cosme Sardinha

Shri Arjun Charan Sethi

Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh

Dr. M. Thambidurai

Dr. Girija Vyas

Shri Satpal Maharaj

SECRETARY GENERAL

Shri T.K. Viswanathan

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, December 9, 2011/ Agrahayana 18, 1933(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MADAM SPEAKER in the Chair]

REFERENCE BY THE SPEAKER

Massive Fire at AMRI hospital in South Kolkata on 9th December, 2011

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, in a massive fire that broke out today at about 3.00 am at AMRI hospital in south Kolkata, several persons are reported to have died and many others injured. Rescue operations to evacuate persons feared to be trapped in the fire are still on.

I am sure the House would join me in empathizing in this hour of grief with the members of the families who became victims of this unfortunate accident.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.

11.01 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while

MADAM SPEAKER: We will take up Question Hour.

MADAM SPEAKER: Q. No.221, Shri N. Cheluvarya Swamy.

... (*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down. Please go back.

... (*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

(*Interruptions*) ...*

11.02 hrs

At this stage, Shri Anant Kumar Hegde and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table

... (*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 12 noon.

11.03 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Twelve of the Clock.

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* Not recorded.

12.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Twelve of the Clock

(Madam Speaker in the Chair)

FELICITATION BY THE SPEAKER

Congratulations to Virender Sehwag on creating world record in one day international cricket

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I am sure, all of you will join me in conveying our heartiest congratulations to Shri Virender Sehwag for scoring 219 runs in one day international cricket which is a world record.

The dashing opener achieved this laudable feat during the fourth one day match against the West Indies at Indore yesterday. This exceptional achievement is a matter of national pride and is a source of inspiration for budding cricketers of our country.

We convey our best wishes to Shri Virender Sehwag for his future endeavours.

Let us also congratulate Indian Cricket Team for their tremendous performance.

12.01 hrs**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

MADAM SPEAKER: Papers to be laid on the Table.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Madam Speaker, with your permission, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Mid-Year Analysis (Hindi and English versions)- 2011-2012 under sub-section (1) of Section 7 of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5437/15/11)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): Madam Speaker , I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited, Nagpur, for the year 2010-2011.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited, Nagpur, for the year 2010-2011, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5438/15/11)

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Gold Mines Limited, Kolar Gold Field, for the year 2010-2011.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Gold Mines Limited, Kolar Gold Field, for the year 2010-2011, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5439/15/11)

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Centre, Nagpur, for the year 2010-2011, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Centre, Nagpur, for the year 2010-2011.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5440/15/11)

- (3) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 778(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st October, 2011 reservation of an area in the North Eastern Block Range, Sandur Taluk, Bellary District, Karnataka for iron ore in favour of Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Plant under Steel Authority of India Limited under sub-section (1) of Section 28 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5441/15/11)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): Madam Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Adoption Resource Authority, New Delhi, for the years 2008-2009 and 2009-2010, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (2) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5442/15/11)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): Madam Speaker, on behalf of Shri S.S. Palanimanickam, I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Insurance Company Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2010-2011.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Insurance Company Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2010-2011, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5443/15/11)

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the New India Assurance Company Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2010-2011.
- (ii) Annual Report of the New India Assurance Company Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2010-2011, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5444/15/11)

- (c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Oriental Insurance Company Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2010-2011.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Oriental Insurance Company Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2010-2011, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5445/15/11)

- (d) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the General Insurance Company Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2010-2011.
- (ii) Annual Report of the General Insurance Company Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2010-2011, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5446/15/11)

- (e) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the United India Insurance Company Limited, Chennai, for the year 2010-2011.
- (ii) Annual Report of the United India Insurance Company Limited, Chennai, for the year 2010-2011, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5447/15/11)

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 31 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992:-

- (i) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Mutual Funds) (Amendment) Regulations, 2011 published in the Notification No. F. No. LAD-NRO/GN/2011-12/22/27668 in Gazette of India dated the 30th August, 2011.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5448/15/11)

- (ii) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Stock Brokers and Sub-Brokers) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2011 published in the Notification No. F. No. LAD-NRO/GN/2011-12/19/26273 in Gazette of India dated the 17th August, 2011.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5449/15/11)

- (iii) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Prohibition of Insider Trading) (Amendment) Regulations, 2011 published in the Notification No. F. No. LAD-NRO/GN/2011-12/16/26150 in Gazette of India dated the 16th August, 2011.
- (iv) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Registrars to an Issue and Share Transfer Agents) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2011 published in the Notification No. F. No. LAD-NRO/GN/2011-12/18/26148 in Gazette of India dated the 16th August, 2011.
- (v) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Merchant Bankers) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2011 published in the Notification No. F. No. LAD-NRO/GN/2011-12/17/26149 in Gazette of India dated the 16th August, 2011.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5450/15/11)

(3) A copy of the Service Tax (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 2011 (Hindi and English versions) published in the Notification No. G.S.R. 771(E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st October, 2011 under sub-section (4) of Section 94 of the Finance Act, 1994, together with an explanatory memorandum.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5451/15/11)

(4) A copy of the Notification No. S.O.2045(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th September, 2011, together with an explanatory memorandum specifying the allowances and perquisites of serving as well as retired Chairman and Members of UPSC for the purposes of clause 45 of Section 10 of the Income-tax Act, 1961, issued under Section 10 of the said Act.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5452/15/11)

(5) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:-

- (i) G.S.R. 712(E) published in Gazette of India dated 22nd September, 2011, together with an explanatory memorandum notifying the All Industry Rates of Duty Drawback for the year 2011-2012.
- (ii) G.S.R. 787(E) published in Gazette of India dated 28th October, 2011, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 68/2011-Cus., (N.T.) dated 22nd September, 2011.
- (iii) The Customs, Central Excise Duties and Service Tax Drawback (Amendment) Rules, 2011 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 713(E) in Gazette of India dated 22nd September, 2011 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (iv) S.O. 2270(E) published in Gazette of India dated 30th September, 2011, together with an explanatory memorandum revising Tariff Value on Brass Scrap (all grades) and Poppy Seeds, based on international prices.
- (v) S.O. 2364(E) published in Gazette of India dated 14th September, 2011, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 36/2001-Cus.(N.T.) dated 3rd August, 2001.
- (vi) S.O. 2444(E) published in Gazette of India dated 27th October, 2011, together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa* for the purpose of assessment of imported and export goods.
- (vii) S.O. 2470(E) published in Gazette of India dated 31st October, 2011, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain

amendments in the Notification No. 36/2001-Cus.(N.T.) dated 3rd August, 2001.

(viii) S.O. 2579(E) published in Gazette of India dated 15th November, 2011, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 36/2001-Cus.(N.T.) dated 3rd August, 2001.

(ix) S.O. 2244(E) published in Gazette of India dated 28th September, 2011, together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of imported and export goods.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5453/15/11)

(6) A copy of the Allahabad Bank (Officers') Service (Amendment) Regulations, 2010 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. HO/Admn./F-49/3241 in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 2011 under sub-section (4) of Section 19 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970, together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. 181 dated 3rd November, 2011.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5454/15/11)

(7) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excise Act, 1944:-

(i) G.S.R.676(E) published in Gazette of India dated 13th September, 2011, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 16/2011-CE (N.T.) dated 18th July, 2011.

- (ii) The Central Excise (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 2011 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 677(E) in Gazette of India dated 14th September, 2011, together with an explanatory memorandum.
 - (iii) The CENVAT Credit (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 2011 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 678(E) in Gazette of India dated 14th September, 2011, together with an explanatory memorandum.
(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5455/15/11)
- (8) A copy of the Life Insurance Corporation of India, Class III and Class IV Employees (Promotion) Amendment Rules, 2011 (Hindi and English versions) published in the Notification No. G.S.R. 779(E) in Gazette of India dated 21st October, 2011 under sub-section (3) of Section 48 of the Life Insurance Corporation of India Act, 1956.
(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5456/15/11)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): Madam Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (1) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the NHPC Limited, Faridabad, for the year 2010-2011.
- (ii) Annual Report of the NHPC Limited, Faridabad, for the year 2010-2011, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5457/15/11)

- (2) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the THDC India Limited, Rishikesh, for the year 2010-2011.
- (ii) Annual Report of the THDC India Limited, Rishikesh, for the year 2010-2011, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5458/15/11)

- (3) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the SJVN Limited, Shimla, for the year 2010-2011.
- (ii) Annual Report of the SJVN Limited, Shimla, for the year 2010-2011, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5459/15/11)

- (4) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the NHDC Limited, Bhopal, for the year 2010-2011.
- (ii) Annual Report of the NHDC Limited, Bhopal, for the year 2010-2011, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5460/15/11)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY): Madam Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 93 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006:-

- (i) The Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011 published in Notification No. F. No. 2-15015/30/2010 in Gazette of India dated 1st August, 2011.
- (ii) The Food Safety and Standards (contaminants, toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011 published in Notification No. F. No. 2-15015/30/2010 in Gazette of India dated 1st August, 2011.
- (iii) The Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and labelling) Regulations, 2011 published in Notification No. F. No. 2-15015/30/2010 in Gazette of India dated 1st August, 2011.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5461/15/11)

- (iv) The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (Procedure for Transaction of Business of the Central Advisory Committee) Regulations, 2010 published in Notification No. F. No. 1-61/FSSA/2009-DFQC in Gazette of India dated 10th March, 2011.
- (v) The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (Procedure for Scientific Committee and Scientific Panels) Regulations, 2010 published in Notification No. F. No. 1-61/FSSA/2009-DFQC in Gazette of India dated 10th March, 2011.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at item No. (v) of (1) above.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5462/15/11)

(3) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi, New Delhi, for the year 2009-2010, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 5463/15/11)

12.03 hrs.

**MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA
AND
BILL AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA***

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Madam Speaker, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

“In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Amendment Bill, 2011 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 8th December, 2011”

2. Madam Speaker, I lay on the Table the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Amendment Bill, 2011 as passed by the Rajya Sabha on the 8th December, 2011.”

* Laid on the Table.

12.03 ½ hrs.**STANDING COMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES,
LAW AND JUSTICE****(i) 48th Report**

SHRI PINAKI MISRA (PURI): Madam Speaker, I beg to lay the Forty-eighth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice on the Lokpal Bill, 2011.

(ii) Evidence

SHRI PINAKI MISRA (PURI): Madam Speaker, I beg to lay the Evidence tendered before the Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice on the Lokpal Bill, 2011.

12.03 ¼ hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 9th Report of the Standing Committee on Coal and Steel on Demands for Grants (2009-10), pertaining to the Ministry of Mines*

खान मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री दिनशा पटेल): मैं, माननीय अध्यक्ष, लोक सभा के निर्देश के अनुसार खान मंत्रालय से संबंधित कोयला और इस्पात संबंधी स्थायी समिति की 9वीं रिपोर्ट में निहित सिफारिशों के कार्यान्वयन पर यह विवरण दे रहा हूँ।

कोयला और इस्पात संबंधी स्थायी समिति की 9वीं रिपोर्ट 7.12.2010 को लोक सभा में प्रस्तुत की गई जो वर्ष 2009-10 के लिए खान मंत्रालय की अनुदान मांगों के लिए थी। इस पर की गई कार्रवाई 25.5.2011 को समिति कार्यालय भेज दी गई है। समिति की 9वीं रिपोर्ट में पांच सिफारिशें थीं जिन पर सरकार की ओर से कार्रवाई अपेक्षित थी।

कार्यान्वयन की स्थिति मेरे विवरण के अनुलग्नक-1 में दी गई है जो कि सदन के पटल पर रखा गया है। अनुलग्नक पढ़ने में सदन का बहुमूल्य समय न लेकर मैं अनुरोध करूंगा कि इसे पढ़ा हुआ मान लिया जाए।

* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 5464/15/11.

12.04 hrs

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing Monday, the 12th of December, 2011, will consist of :-

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order paper.
2. Consideration and passing of the following Bills:-
 - (a) The Constitution (One Hundred and Eleventh Amendment) Bill, 2010;
 - (b) The Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2011;
and
 - (c) The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority Bill, 2011.
3. Discussion and Voting on Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2011-12 and introduction, consideration and passing of the related Appropriation Bill.
4. Consideration and passing of the following Bills after they are passed by Rajya Sabha:
 - (a) The Chartered Accountants (Amendment) Bill, 2010;
 - (b) The Cost and Works Accountants (Amendment) Bill, 2010;
and
 - (c) The Company Secretaries (Amendment) Bill, 2010.
5. Consideration and passing of the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Amendment Bill, 2010, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, submission by Members.

Dr. P.L. Punia - Not Present.

SK. SAIDUL HAQUE (BARDHMAN-DURGAPUR): Madam Speaker, I request that the following items may be included in next week's agenda:

(a) Need to install escalators at Durgapur Railway Station for the convenience of the railway passengers. Lakhs of daily commuters use the Durgapur Railway Station which includes a large number of aged and physically challenged persons. Hence I urge upon the Railways to install escalators at Durgapur Railway Station urgently.

(b) Need to give stoppage of one Rajdhani Express at Burdwan Railway Junction because of the importance of the location. It connects not only bordering three districts but also is the centre of learning having one University, one Medical College and one University Institute of Technology.

श्री जयवंत गंगाराम आवले (लातूर): अध्यक्ष महोदया, निम्नलिखित विषय को अति महत्वपूर्ण कार्यसूची में सम्मिलित करने का कष्ट करें:-

- 1- कोल्हापुर-पूणे हाई-स्पीड इंटरसिटी एक्सप्रेस प्रातः छः बजे से चलाई जाए।
- 2- हातकनगले रेलवे स्टेशन पर सर्व सुविधाएं वेटिंग रूम एवं पुरुष-महिला के प्रसाधन गृह की व्यवस्था जरूरी है।

श्री हंसराज गं. अहीर (चन्द्रपुर): अध्यक्ष महोदया, आगामी सप्ताह की कार्यसूची में निम्नलिखित विषय को सम्मिलित किया जाए :-

- 1- लागत मूल्य के अनुसार न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य नहीं मिलने से बदहाली झेल रहे कपास उत्पादक किसानों को कम से कम छः हजार रुपए न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य देने के लिए सरकार तत्काल घोषणा करे।

- 2- वन बहुल क्षेत्रों में सिंचाई परियोजनाओं के प्रस्तावों के निवल वर्तमान मूल्य (एनपीवी) तथा पर्यावरण स्वीकृति तत्काल नहीं मिलने से मूल्यवर्धित सिंचाई परियोजनाओं को पूरा करने के लिए केन्द्र सरकार विशेष पैकेज के अंतर्गत धनराशि का एकमुश्त आवंटन सुनिश्चित करे।

श्री महेन्द्रसिंह पी. चौहाण (साबरकांठा): अध्यक्ष महोदया, कृपया अगले सप्ताह की कार्यवाही के दौरान मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र से संबंधित निम्नलिखित विषय को शामिल करने हेतु अनुमति प्रदान करने की कृपा करें :-

- 1- मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र साबरकांठा के मोडासा रेलवे स्टेशन पर गुड्स रेक प्वाइंट सुविधा तत्काल उपलब्ध कराई जाए।
- 2- अहमदाबाद से उदयपुर के बीच स्वीकृत अमान परिवर्तन (ब्रॉडगेज़) की योजनाओं को प्राथमिकता देकर तथा उसमें आवश्यक व्यय राशि को तुरंत जारी करके अमान परिवर्तन का कार्य तत्काल शुरू किया जाए।

श्री दिनेश चन्द्र यादव (खगड़िया): अध्यक्ष महोदया, लोक सभा की आगामी सप्ताह की कार्यसूची में निम्नलिखित विषय को जोड़ा जाए:-

- 1- पूर्व मध्य रेलवे हाजीपुर अंतर्गत सिमरी बख्तियारपुर-सोनवर्षा कचहरी के बीच रेलवे ढाला संख्या-17 सी, एन.एच.-107 पर रेलवे ओवर ब्रिज का निर्माण कराया जाए।
- 2- पूर्व मध्य रेलवे हाजीपुर अंतर्गत खगड़िया-उमेशनगर के बीच रेलवे ढाला संख्या-24 बी. पर रेल ओवर ब्रिज का निर्माण कराया जाए।

श्री रवीन्द्र कुमार पाण्डेय (गिरिडीह): अध्यक्ष महोदया, निम्नलिखित विषयों को अगले सप्ताह की कार्यसूची में शामिल किए जाने की व्यवस्था की जाए :-

- 1- मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र गिरिडीह में स्थित चन्द्रपुरा जंक्शन का समपार धनबाद डी.आर.एम. द्वारा बंद करा दिया गया है। इस पर लगभग तीस वर्षों से आम जनता का आवागमन था एवं इससे करीब 40 हजार जनता प्रभावित है। अतः इसे अतिशीघ्र चालू कराने हेतु आवश्यक निर्देश जारी किए जाएं।
- 2- मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र गिरिडीह में स्थित पूर्व मध्य रेलवे के फुसरो रेलवे क्रॉसिंग को बंद कर दिया गया है, जिससे आम जनता को काफी परेशानी हो रही है एवं धनबाद रेलवे स्टेशन की वी.आई.पी. पार्किंग बंद है। इन दोनों को अतिशीघ्र चालू कराने हेतु आवश्यक निर्देश जारी किए जाएं।

श्री मकनसिंह सोलंकी (खरगौन): महोदया, कृपया आगामी सप्ताह की कार्य-सूची में निम्न विषयों को सम्मिलित किया जाये:

1. मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र खरगौन (बड़वानी), जो कि एक आदिवासी क्षेत्र है, में प्रधानमंत्री ग्राम सड़क योजना के अन्तर्गत बनने वाली सड़कों में हो रहे भारी भ्रष्टाचार की उच्च-स्तरीय जांच कराने तथा इस आदिवासी क्षेत्र की अधूरी एवं टूटी सड़कों के पुनः निर्माण के लिए शीघ्र आवश्यक धनराशि आबंटित किए जाने की आवश्यकता।

2. मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र खरगौन-बड़वानी जिलों में खाद की भारी कमी के कारण किसानों में व्याप्त भारी रोष को देखते हुए केन्द्र द्वारा उक्त जिलों के लिए तुरन्त 3500 टन खाद की आपूर्ति किए जाने तथा उन जिलों में मिल रही नकली खाद पर रोक लगाये जाने तथा उसकी जांच कराये जाने की आवश्यकता।

डॉ. किरीट प्रेमजीभाई सोलंकी (अहमदाबाद पश्चिम): महोदया, कृपया लोक सभा की आगामी सप्ताह की कार्य-सूची में निम्नलिखित विषय को शामिल करने की कृपा करें:

भारत-रत्न बाबासाहेब अम्बेडकर ने जहां अन्तिम सांस ली, उस 26, अलीपुर रोड, नई दिल्ली को एन.डी.ए. सरकार ने राष्ट्रीय स्मारक घोषित किया था। मैं वर्तमान केन्द्र सरकार से अनुरोध करता हूं कि इस पवित्र स्थल को राष्ट्रीय स्मारक मानते हुए उसके निर्माण हेतु कार्रवाई सुनिश्चित करे।

12.12 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Inflation situation in India

MADAM SPEAKER: The House will now take up Item No. 15.

*SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI (DHARWAD): Today, we are adding to the series one more debate on price rise and food inflation. Debate on debates have been recorded every session. This Govt. is listening to the speeches of opposition, the anger and emotions and the discard and disgusts shown on this issue have failed utterly to wake up this Govt. which is constantly in deep slumber or on pretending to be in slumber. This Govt. has lost all its sensitivity to such burning issue which every common man is being tormented.

This is not the first time the Indian masses feeling the brunt of price rise of food grains and other essential commodities. During the last year almost this time the prices of foodgrains sky rocketed and inflation in foods reaching a double digit like 18% to 20% the price of rice reaching Rs.40 kg and Dal Rs.100 Kg even the poor man's foodgrain like jawar and ragi in my state going beyond the reach. Even the poor man's food rice and Dal have become a luxury for him.

The Govt. far from getting to tackle this burning issue has been taking shelter under the argument the rising inflation and price rise is an international situation, the global melt down etc. Our economist Prime Minister went on saying that the country which is fast growing and achieving economic growth year by year his bound to feel the price rise, and inflation is an inevitable feature in a growing economy. But who is to buy his words of solace. What kind of growth he is talking about. Is he talking about that growth which is adding privilege on privilege to privileged class in our country leaving the unprivileged to their fate just showering upon them heaps of assurances that they will be very soon heroes

* Speech was laid on the Table.

of growth story which the Govt. is scripting only to be felt that it is not a growth story but a tragedy of poverty as the fruits of this growth or so called inclusive growth reaped by our rich only.

Yesterday our Finance Minister interrupting our opposition leader Smt. Sushmaji in the debate rose and said loudly that the food inflation has come down considerably from 9% to 6.80 % and there is no food inflation. But in a common consumers understanding inflation is one thing but actually sensing the downward tendency of essential goods and commodities and services another thing. I feel the problem of this Govt. is that it always takes solace and senses the economy on statistics and rest relieved that prices have come down. I suggest Hon'ble Minister a simple thing to go to market as a common consumer with the statistics of food inflation in one hand and list of essentials like groceries in another hand and try to sense whether this 6.8% inflation rate has any impact on prices in the market. As is rightly pointed out by many speakers it is only a seasonal respite in simple economic term.

So let the Govt. stop in taking satisfaction of decreasing inflation and focus more on actually tackling price rise problem more with practical approach. According to me the Govt. should have a approach of tackling price issue as calamity or catastrophe because in my opinion price rise is really a menace a calamity for any economy. It is as simple as understanding a simple thing like demand and supply theory. Admittedly India is a growing economy per-capita income has increased considerably year by year we are recording growth of 8 or 9 %. Though agricultural output is not up to the expectation but still we are growing sufficient food for domestic consumption. We are said to have a bumper crops despite foods and droughts in some parts of the country. Govt. foodgrain procurement has reached its targets. Our FCI godowns are packed our industrial growth is maintaining its growth, we have a well organized transport system both on land and Railways. The Railways are maintaining a well balanced freight rates, even at a high operating ratio. The infrastructure is developing.

Then where does the problem lie. A very last person of the set up puts a simple question then with all this flourishment why the goods and commodities, the foodgrains and other essential items are still beyond their reach. Now, the turn is of the Govt. to reply this common man or Aam Adami's question.

Now, I urge this Govt. to come out of this rhetoric's of growth and downward tendency of inflation etc. and get to the business of streamlining PDS all over the country without saying it is for the state Govts. to do. Dismantle the vicious network of black marketers and hoarders. Keep a vigilant check on middle men in the movement of foodgrains from the farmers to the consumers. Call Chief Ministers of all states if felt necessary. Review all those wrong exports import policies. Stop all those reformist moves because reforms are not in the interest of domestic economy let the only agenda at the moment be of providing well organized and cheaper domestic market to the under privileged section of our society.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Madam Speaker, first of all, I would like to express my appreciation to all the hon. Members who have participated in this discussion.

This House passed a resolution unanimously asking the Government to take effective steps to contain the inflationary pressure and as per directions, on the very first day of the House, beginning of the Winter Session, I prepared myself to make a Statement on the floor of the House as I considered it my responsibility to the House to respond to the collective wishes of the House which were reflected in the resolution. Unfortunately, because of the practices now-a-days we have, I could not make the Statement and I had to place it on the Table of the House. After that, it was decided to have a discussion on it under Rule 193 and hon. Member, Shri Gurudas Dasgupta, raised that discussion and a large number of Members participated in it.

At the very beginning, I would like to point out that discussions on price rise in any developing economy in the parliamentary forum is most common because inflation is also a common factor in all developing countries. I do not remember a single Session of Parliament when we did not discuss the inflationary pressure.

Various points have emerged and surely in the course of my responses I will try to address those points and give the Government's version. But, before that, I would like to appeal to the hon. Members, through you, Madam, to keep in mind, when we are discussing the inflationary pressure, the price rise, not only the state of economy of the country but we shall have to keep in mind the state of the world economy. Somebody may cynically observe as to what we have to do with the world economy. Simply because of the fact that no country today lives in isolation, what happens in a small country, or a small event in any part of the country can convert itself into a major international crisis. What happened actually in 2008? Some banking institutions in some corner of USA, in order to have extra profit, made misjudgement in sub prime lending of the housing sector.

Sooner than later it engulfed itself into an international financial crisis which, the experts described, was almost equal to that of the Great Depression of the last century, of 1930s Depression. Therefore, in that context, today when we are discussing in this Parliament, in the Parliament of the fourth largest economy of the world, in the Parliament of 1.2 billion plus population, in the Parliament of a country having an economy of 1.8 trillion US dollars, we cannot simply shut our eyes to the developments which are taking place around us in other parts of the world. When the world economy started growing very modestly, suddenly we found that again there has been a turmoil. Eurozone crisis is obstinately continuing. Directly we do not have any relation with the high sovereign debt of Greece or Spain or Portugal, surely. Even our banks do not have that much of exposure to these countries. But if it rattles the entire eurozone, the most powerful economy, when their Government bonds are under-priced, we cannot ignore the adverse impact of it. When despite major efforts by US economy, as per the latest forecast of Morgan Stanley, even for the first three quarters of the calendar year, hardly there is any possibility of recovery of either European economy or of US economy. Therefore, in that context, we shall have to discuss the overall situation. I am referring to it not merely in the context of containing inflation but in tackling the major economic crisis with which all the countries are confronted today to face that challenges with collective wisdom of this House. This House need to take concerted efforts cutting across the party lines. Wherever we sit, whether this side of the Chair or that side of the Chair, it is not very material. What is material is the interest of the country and in the interest of the people and that ought to be protected. Yes, there may be divergence of views of the source; divergence of views of the approach but the collective desire and will is to resolve the problem and to take this country move forward from poverty, illiteracy, deprivation and disease. There are no two opinions on this and there are no divergence of views.

Having said that I come to the specifics. When we talk of the international situation we are almost in a cynical way dismissed. Even the Leader of the

Opposition has done it. I always admire her eloquence and command over language and sometimes I am fed by that though I do not know Hindi much. But even she said, “How does it matter? Except oil prices, which other prices of international commodities have increased with which we are concerned?” I will just give her only a few items with which we are vitally interested. If the international prices increase, it affects our economy. It has an adverse impact on inflationary pressure. Take the case of DAP. We do not produce DAP. Almost one hundred per cent DAP is imported. It has increased in one year from 525 million dollars per tonne to 642 million dollars per tonne. In spite of importing DAP one hundred per cent, there is no impact on Indian economy. In case of urea, it is increased from 315 million dollars per tonne to 503 million dollars per tonne but there is no impact.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (AHMEDABAD EAST): It must be in metric tonnes.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I am sorry. Not million tonnes, it is metric tonnes.

We improve substantially in palm oil. The palm oil prices have increased from 912 dollars per tonne to 1068 dollars per tonne. Important metals like steel, it is increased from 235 dollars per tonnes to 271 dollars per tonnes; steel rebars, from 530 dollars per tonne to 640 dollars per tonne and steel wire rods, from 670 dollars per tonne to 790 dollars per tonne. I am not talking of the prices of the crude oil.

I, sometimes, envy Mr. Yashwant Sinha because when he became Finance Minister he started with importing oil around 24 and 25 dollars per barrel and at the end of his tenure it reached to 36 and 37 dollars per barrel. Any Indian Finance Minister will feel comfortable when the international oil prices come down because huge oil bill is to be provided either at the cost of the upstream oil companies or by providing subsidies.

Therefore, the international developments have its impact.



Now, I come to the question as to what steps we have taken. Inflationary pressure is mounted because of various reasons apart from the mismatch of demand and supply. The current strength of the inflationary pressure was substantial because of the constraints in the supply chain of the agricultural products. Therefore, it is more important to look at what steps we have taken to improve the production of agricultural products and to ensure what the outcome of that exercise is.

It has been stated that the growth in agriculture is coming down. Yes, it is correct. For quite some time, the growth in agriculture was slow. But it has started improving. In the Tenth Plan, it was 2.5 per cent. In the Eleventh Plan, it came down to 2.4 per cent. In the first four years of the Eleventh Plan, it has improved to 3.2 per cent. In 2010-11, agricultural and allied sectors have achieved 6.6 per cent growth. It is not coming down, and it is little going up.

It has been stated that everybody is starving and there is no food. नमक लेकर रोटी खाने से भी, नमक नहीं है, रोटी नहीं है, महंगाई हो गई। I will come to the point as to how much it has increased. But talking of the production, if there was no growth, no investment, and no support price was provided to the farmers, agricultural growth has taken place automatically! The production of our total food grains had increased from 198 million tonnes in 2004-05 – here it is not metric tonnes, it is million tonnes – to 241.56 million tonnes. It was achieved without any effort and without any exercise! Therefore, you may claim ... (*Interruptions*) I listened to everybody silently.

My most respectful submission is this. You can always claim and say: “Mr. Finance Minister, it is not enough. Mr. Agriculture Minister, produce more.” We will accept it humbly. But please do not say that nothing has happened. One senior Member said: “All-time low”. It is good but we are not entering into a school debate. When a senior parliamentarian talks of seven per cent GDP growth as ‘all-time low’, may I most respectfully ask as to when did India achieve seven per cent GDP growth? During the period 1951 to 1979, the annual average of

GDP growth was 3.5 per cent. In the whole of 1980s, we entered into a higher growth of five per cent.

I have the figures of the three years' period when you were in power. Later on, when you were in power for six years, we have the figures. Then, In 1990s, it was 5.6 per cent.

Yes, again I congratulate Shri Yashwant Sinha or maybe Shri Jaswant Singh, in 2003-04 we entered into a higher growth path of around nine per cent, and we continued that growth till the financial crisis in 2007-08. Therefore, if you point out that seven per cent growth is bad I would accept it. Yes, 7.3 or 7.6 per cent growth is bad and not adequate for the country. I surely accept it. But if you start by saying that it is an all time low, facts do not speak of that. This is my most respectful submission.

It was said: "What did you do for the inflation?" Yes, I have been criticised. Cynical observations have been made like फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर के पास जादू की छड़ी नहीं है, बिल्कुल। I do not have any magic wand. But at the same time, if I most respectfully submit, that from February, 2010, when the food inflation reached the peak of 22 per cent, has come down to 6.6 per cent on 25th November, 2011. Yes, it has taken almost two years. But it has been possible to bring it down to 6.6 per cent. I am talking of food inflation only. I am not talking of the overall inflation. Overall inflation is perilously close to double digits, which we shall have to bring down. But I am not happy. We shall have to bring it back at a much lower level; and we shall have to settle it on a sustainable basis at around five to six per cent. You are speaking as if we have not seen high inflationary regime. I was advised in an earlier debate: "Mr. Finance Minister, your problem is that you are too obsessed with growth that you are neglecting inflationary pressure. What should we do with growth? We are not going to eat growth." Correct, we are not going to eat growth.

श्री शरद यादव (मधेपुरा): यह जो 6.6 परसेंट महंगाई दर आयी है, उसके पीछे सबसे बड़ा कारण यह है कि इस समय फसल आयी हुई है और डिस्ट्रैस सेल इतने बड़े पैमाने पर हो रहा है कि महंगाई दर जो नीचे आयी है, वह केवल मौसमी है। यह दर फिर से बढ़ेगी। अभी खेत में फसल आयी है, इसलिए सस्ता है। यही हमारा दुर्भाग्य है और इसी के चलते देश भर में ... (व्यवधान)

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I admit that there is a seasonal factor. But there is equally a seasonal adverse factor. You cannot run with the hare and hunt with the hounds. When it is a seasonal factor where the prices have been depressed, there are seasonal factors, which enhance the price. Therefore, you shall have to take an overall view. My short point which I was trying to make is that there is no coordination between the growth and inflation. It is because even in the lower growth rate, we have seen high inflation. Take the case of 1974-75. At that time, the rate of inflation was 25.6 per cent, and the GDP growth was 1.2 per cent. During 1979-80, there was a first non-Congress Government from 1977 to 1980, the rate of inflation was 17 per cent and the GDP growth was (-) 5.2 per cent. Yes it was my Government' performance for those three years. When Janata Party came to power in 1976-77, India witnessed one of the lowest inflation, which was 2.5 per cent. We inherited 16 per cent to 17 per cent inflation. In 1981-82, when Mr. Venkatraman was the Finance Minister, the rate of inflation became 2.5 per cent.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: The rate of inflation was very low at that point in time.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Of course, it was low as it cannot be, it should be reasonably high. That is why, my short point is, do not mix it up. We are sacrificing growth. We are sacrificing inflation. At the cost of inflation we are indulging in growth, it is not like that. The short point which I am trying to drive at is that we shall have to contain inflation. We shall have to go for higher growth. That is my point. Exactly, if you take a little longer period, then you will find that in 2010-11 surely, the inflation was 9.6 per cent but the growth was 8.5 per cent.

Now, I am coming to the question, "What are we doing for agriculture?" It has been suggested that we have a huge surplus of food stock. Why are you not

distributing it? Now, you see, what we are distributing. We have already distributed 25 lakh tonnes of wheat and 10 lakh tonnes of rice under OMSSA for the period from October 2011 to September, 2012. This is in addition to the normal allocation. Madam, 25 lakh tonnes of food grains have been allocated on 6.1.2011 to all the States and UTs for BPL families at BPL issue prices for distribution up to 30th September as anti-inflationary measure because if we cannot contain inflation, then, at least, we can try to insulate and protect the vulnerable sections of the society by providing them subsidized food grains through the Public Distribution System. And, there is the most crucial issue, effective Public Distribution System, through which we can reach essential commodities to the more vulnerable sections of the people even today.

When I am talking to you right now, I am not going into the question of the number of BPL families, whether the Tendulkar Committee is correct or 'x' is correct or 'y' is correct. But on the basis of the number on which we are distributing food grains, assuming as per the 1993-94 poverty estimates with 2,000 population, current BPL families are 6.52 crores. Of that, 2.44 crore families are AAY. They are entitled to have a total of 35 kgs wheat at Rs.2 per kg and rice at Rs.3 per kg. But how would you ensure that these commodities reach them in 6,00,000 plus villages plus 8,000 cities? For that, the wide network of Public Distribution System is necessary. We are emphasizing on it. We are not passing on the buck to them.

We have told them that, yes, try to build it up; we are ready to help you; and tell us what you want. Under the APMC, the farmers can sell directly to the retailers. Who can amend the APMC Act? Can Parliament pass that Act? If the State Governments do not take initiative, can we do it? I know the infrastructure which is to be built up. But when I am accused, I really feel the pain that the Government de-hired the godown bases. The Government has storing facilities. The Government has godowns but they de-hired it and thereafter we had to make serious efforts to build up the storing capacity and it has taken time. It cannot be

built up overnight. The capacity of the Food Corporation of India as on 1.4. 2002 was 279 lakh tonnes. It came down to 236 lakh tonnes on 01-04-2004 because 33 lakh tonnes of the godown space was de-hired. Then, we have to build up again. We started doing that. Since 01-04-2004, FCI has added 47.85 lakh tonnes of covered storage capacity taking the total storage capacity to 298.38 lakh tonnes as on 01-01-2011. This is very important because we want storing facility to prevent the products of the farmers from being wasted.

एक माननीय सदस्य: यह गांव में जाकर बोलिए।

श्री प्रणब मुखर्जी : मैं गांव से ही आता हूं। मेरा संसदीय क्षेत्र भी गांव ही है। मैं आपको इन्चाइट करता हूं कि मेरे गांव आइए। For five to six years, I travelled five kilometre on foot in the fields to go to High School. Do not teach me what a village is. When many a people living in a totally different atmosphere speak off, I simply laugh at it. It is because I know as to what a village is. I come from a village. I am a village boy. Up to my Graduation, I stayed in the village and not in Cannought Place. Therefore, I know it... (*Interruptions*). Yes, 'global village' because the whole world is going to be converted into a village. I believe that prosperity and development go together and not in isolation. I read Rabindranath, please remember one line.... (*Interruptions*). It is not from Gitanjali. You have heard only of Gitanjali. While talking on untouchability, "if you keep somebody behind you, don't forget that he will drag you to his level. You cannot move upward when you keep someone behind you." Therefore, I believe that we should prosper together, develop together, go together and for that I request all of you to come together because otherwise I do not believe that this major economic crisis can be resolved. Today, what is coming?

You said that if you cannot do it, you leave it. Neither I am to leave it nor to accept it. It is for the people of this country. I know you are impatient. But, why do you not wait for two and a half years more? What prevents you? We have not come here on our own. In almost 40 years of my parliamentary life, I have spent more than half of that sitting on the other side. Therefore, there is no need of

telling these things in a parliamentary system. If we convert the Parliament, the highest and sovereign legislature into a demonstrating platform, do you expect that anybody would have confidence in the system of this country? Can you tell me a single Session, from the 14th Lok Sabha till this Session, that has gone on undisturbed? Therefore, you are desperate. It is because nowadays we have developed a strategy of not only discussion, but discussion on a subject that we want under a particular rule, on a particular motion. Discussion is immaterial here, whether it will be Adjournment Motion or not. It is because of obvious reasons, Adjournment has its own rules. These rules are not made by anybody else but by ourselves. Umpteen number of times I told you to change the rules. You are the masters. Sit in the Rules Committee and change the rule. If it is a lively issue that can be brought under an Adjournment Motion, the House will be conducted like that. On an Adjournment Motion, the Government is always reluctant. That is why, you will notice from the record of not only this Lok Sabha, but even in the Fifteenth Lok Sabha, not a single Adjournment Motion has been carried though umpteen number of Adjournment Motions have been moved. It is not that always there have been majority governments. But, Adjournment Motions have not been moved because Members decided that if we want to throw the Government, we should go straight through the No-Confidence Motion and not through a surreptitious manner by bringing an Adjournment Motion when people are not ready or prepared and censure the Government. That should be done as per rules. There is no problem if rules allow it. Therefore, my point is that we are trying to address these issues.

Coming to oil prices, somebody suggested as to why we do not give up our taxations. What is the tax that we collect from the oil sector? All the taxes levied by the Central Government on various petroleum products taken together, though I have given up 5 per cent Excise Duty and brought down the Customs Duty to zero and lost about Rs.34,000 crore as revenue from June onwards, if we take the example of the year 2011-12, we have collected around Rs.1,36,000 crore. All the

28 State Governments taken together have imposed taxes on the oil sector to the tune of Rs.89,000 crore. But, as per the 13th Finance Commission's recommendations, out of this Rs.1,36,000 crore, one-third, that is, 32 per cent which comes to almost Rs.31,000 crore, will be transferred to the States and the net result would be that out of the total taxation on the oil sector – Rs.1,36,000 crore plus Rs.89,000 crore which come to Rs.2,25,000 crore – States will get Rs.1,21,000 crore and the Centre will get Rs.1,04,000 crore. Can you permit the States to forego it? All of us are coming from States.

Somebody asked me as to why we do not advise the States so that the oil prices come down. How can I advise the States? From where the States will get revenue? Am I in a position to compensate them for this Rs.1,21,000 crore? If not, how can I advise them? Tell me how can oil prices be reduced? Tell me how can it be tackled? I am ready to accept your suggestions. Should we wind up our public sector oil companies? Rs.1,32,000 crore would be the under-recovery with the present rate of the blend crude prices. At the rate of 107 dollars per barrel Rs.1,32,000 crore would be the under-recovery. Therefore, partly it will be met through subsidies. Subsidies will have to be given. But, many a time we have said that let this House discuss and debate and give concrete suggestions.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL (MEERUT): Bring back black money.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: When we discuss the issue of black money, I will reply. Do not worry.

Therefore, if we want to address the issue of subsidy really, why we do not sit together and find out that subsidies could be given to certain sectors. Why are we demanding subsidies? Some others will demand interest subventions. Everywhere we will demand subsidies. Then, from where will developmental resources come? Wherefrom will expenditure for other important works come? These are the issues on which I wish Parliament should collectively decide. We have the fora. Standing Committee can make recommendations and give suggestions. Other forums are also there.

Now, I am coming to the issue of what would be the final picture as it is emerging today. If the international situation was conducive, perhaps, we could have stated with greater confidence that we shall have to ensure that we can provide more subsidies and we can provide more support to reduce that adverse impact of the inflationary pressures. But still I am hopeful that if this trend continues and if it is not really seasonal and fluctuating, then the food inflation would be moderated. Why I am saying so? It is because I have noticed the figures of seven consecutive weeks, and there has been some declining trend.

Questions have been raised that the Government's revenue is coming down. Today, there was a Question in the Lok Sabha, and you will find that in its reply it is stated that the Government's revenue is not coming down despite slow growth up to now. I do not know what would happen in November, December and January. I am not an astrologer, but up to now the direct taxes revenue growth is around 22 per cent and indirect taxes is a little less than that. But as regards direct taxes, I think that we have taken the correct decisions.

My net has become less because we have up-fronted the refund. Various Parliamentary Committees have stated this, and the C&AG have also made recommendations that :

“You Income Tax people are funny. You are collecting tax from us, but what is not due to you, which should be refunded, you are holding it unnecessarily and depriving me of my money, which I have given to you in good faith as Income Tax. But that is not your due because my tax is much less.”

Therefore, I have decided that we will up-front the refund. As a result of this, last year, we refunded around Rs. 27,000 crore indirect taxes during this period. This year, we have to do Rs. 68,000 crore, and we have decided to have it up-front. This created some cash management problem for me and I had to borrow some money.

Shrimati Sushma Swaraj raised this question. Why have you taken Rs. 53,000 crore today from market? It is because substantially, if I would have retained that money at the cost of tax payers, then I need not have gone to the market. But I wanted to do it, and it will be squared up. But the problem, which you have apprehended, may come if the manufacturing sector's growth does not pick up from 8 per cent to 10 per cent or 10 per cent to 12 per cent. Now, it is low. Growth in the manufacturing sector is needed. It is well below this, and for this we shall have to create confidence. To my mind, confidence can be created collectively by us to allow the institutions to function and to create a conducive atmosphere where investments come.

I am repeating something, which I had said in the last debate also, but I think that it is worth repeating. Shri Yashwant Sinha showed me the picture of *India Today's* cover story that some of the top Indian industrialists are saying "Goodbye India, hello world." So, jokingly, I told him that we can change this picture if you and me -- I mean, all political parties and not individuals -- can collectively work together and create confidence that whatever be our divergence of views, on major economic issues -- which will benefit the country -- we will work together and you will see the confidence will come back, and those very people will say : "Tata world, home sweet home", and they will come back to India.

Yes, inflationary pressure is there. We were able to tackle 25 per cent rate of inflation. When Doctor Sahib took over for the first time as the Finance Minister in 1991, he knew how terrible the situation was. However, we were able to overcome it because of the collective determination of the nation, and with the cooperation of all concerned. Here, with the leaders who represent 1.2 billion people, who are elected leaders of the people, much depends on how we respond to this situation, the impending crisis, and how we take our country out of that.

Madam Speaker, with these words, I conclude, and I thank all the hon. Members.

... (Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Let us now take up the 'Zero Hour'.

... (Interruptions)

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज (विदिशा): अध्यक्ष महोदया, मैंने कल डिबेट शुरू की थी। आप मुझे बोलने दें, मंत्री जी यहां बैठे हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदया : हां, आप बोलिये।

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : मैं यह कह रही थी कि कल जिस समय मैं बोल रही थी तो...(व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदया : आप लोग बैठ जाइये, लीडर ऑफ अपोजीशन बोल रही हैं।

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : कल जिस समय मैं बोल रही थी तो प्रणव दा ने कहा कि मैं यही भाषण बार-बार सुन चुका हूं।...(व्यवधान)

श्री शैलेन्द्र कुमार (कौशाम्बी): हम वित्त मंत्री जी के उत्तर से संतुष्ट नहीं हैं, इसलिए हम सदन से वाक-आउट कर रहे हैं।

12.56 hrs.

Shri Shailendra Kumar and some other hon. Members then left the House

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): On the issue of universalisation of PDS, in protest, we are walking out.

12.56 ½ hrs

At this stage, Shri Basu Deb Acharia, Shri Gurudas Dasgupta and some other hon. Members left the House

... (Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seat, the Leader of the Opposition is speaking.

... (Interruptions)

DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI (BHUBANESWAR): Madam, we are walking out in protest.

12.57 hrs.

At this stage, Dr. Prasanna Kumar Patasani and some other hon. Members left the House

... (Interruptions)

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज (विदिशा): कल जिस समय मैं बोल रही थी तो प्रणव दा ने कहा कि मैं यही भाषण बार-बार सुन चुका हूँ तो हमें आज यह उम्मीद थी कि प्रणव दा अपने उत्तर में कुछ नई बात कहेंगे, तरोताजा बात कहेंगे और आम आदमी को राहत देने वाली बात कहेंगे। लेकिन मुझे इस बात का दुख है कि उन्होंने अपना वही बासी, उबाऊ और पुराना भाषण दे डाला, वही घिसे-पिटे तर्क दिये, ग्रोथ और इंप्लेशन की वही उलझी हुई कहानी दोबारा कह दी। आम आदमी को उनके आज के भाषण से कोई राहत नहीं मिली, इसलिए असंतुष्ट होकर हम सदन का बहिष्कार करते हैं।

12.58 hrs.

Shrimati Sushma Swaraj and some other hon. Members then left the House.

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Mithilesh Kumar – not present;

Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh Naik – not present;

Shri S.S. Ramasubbu.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU (TIRUNELVELI): I wish to raise the following matter of urgent public importance during the 'Zero Hour'. ... (*Interruptions*)

अध्यक्ष महोदया : अभी शून्य प्रहर शुरू हो गया है।

... (व्यवधान)

श्री मिथिलेश कुमार (शाहजहांपुर): माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, मैं शून्य काल में अपने संसदीय क्षेत्र शाहजहांपुर की महत्वपूर्ण बात उठाना चाहता हूँ। ... (व्यवधान) में बोल रहा हूँ। मैं अपनी सीट पर हूँ। ... (व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदया : बैठ जाइये।

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (BANGALORE SOUTH): Madam, we have raised the issue of Shri S.M. Krishna. An FIR has been filed against Shri S.M. Krishna. ... (*Interruptions*) We have walked out against price rise. The hon. Prime Minister is here. We demand that the External Affairs Minister ... (*Interruptions*)

अध्यक्ष महोदया : कृपया बैठ जाइये।

... (*Interruptions*)

12.58 ½ hrs.

At this stage Shri Shivkumar Udasi and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table

... (*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record, and only the statement of Shri S.S. Ramasubbu will go on record.

(*Interruptions*) ... *

अध्यक्ष महोदया : आप जीरो ऑवर चलने दीजिए।

* Not recorded.

... (व्यवधान)

SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU (TIRUNELVELI): Madam, the farm-gate prices of DAP and MOP have shot up by nearly 50 per cent in the past two quarters on the back of an increase in prices of phosphoric acid, a key raw-material and also due to depreciation of rupee value. The price which was Rs. 12,500 a tonne in the first quarter shot up to around Rs. 18,000 to Rs. 19,000 a tonne now. Phosphoric acid prices which were ruling at US \$ 980 a tonne in the first quarter of the current fiscal has moved up to US \$ 1080. In general, the prices of DAP, MOP and Complex Fertilizers have nearly doubled in comparison with last year's prices.

13.00 hrs.

However, the high prices have not led to any drop in demand and the farmers are left with no option but forced to buy at higher prices. The demand continues to be strong but supplies are quite tight. Though sales volume of non-urea fertilizers has declined, the reason attributed is mainly due to supply side constraints. The main concern of the farmers is that the fertilizers are not easily available even at these high prices. Adequate monsoon during the year has also not brought cheers to the farmers, as they are forced to shell out more for di-ammonium phosphate (DAP), Potash (MOP) and other complex fertilizers.... (Interruptions)

अध्यक्ष महोदया : बैठ जाइए।

... (व्यवधान)

SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU : I shall urge upon the Union Government to take necessary steps to contain steep hike in the prices of DAP and other fertilizers and to protect the farming community who is the backbone of our country in producing the food materials. ... (Interruptions)

अध्यक्ष महोदया : आपकी बात पूरी हो गई है, अब बैठ जाइए।

... (व्यवधान)

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri P.T. Thomas is allowed to associate with the issue raised by Shri S.S. Ramasubbu.

.... (Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet at 1100 a.m. on Monday, the 12th December, 2011.

13.01 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, December 12, 2011/Agrahayana 21,1933(Saka).

