Sixteenth Series, Vol. XVIII No 4 Thursday, July 21, 2016
Ashadha 30, 1938 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Ninth Session

(Sixteenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XVIII Contains Nos.1 to 10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

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CONTENTS

Sixteenth Series, Vol. XVIII, Ninth Session, 2016/1938 (Saka)

No. 4, Thursday, July 21, 2016/ Ashadha 30, 1938 (Saka)

SUBJECT	PAGES
ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	
*Starred Question Nos. 61 to 63 and 73	19-64
WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	65
Starred Question Nos. 64 to 72 and 74 to 80	
Unstarred Question Nos. 691 to 920	

* The sign + marked above the name of a Member indicates that the Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE 66-72

STATEMENTS BY THE MINISTER

Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 7th and 11th Reports of the Standing Committee on Coal and Steel

Shri Piyush Goyal 75-76

ELECTION TO COMMITTEES 77-85

(i) Committee on Estimates 77-78

(ii) Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes 79-80

(iii) Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes 81-82

(iv) Committee on Welfare of Other Backward Classes 83

(v) Committee on Welfare of Other Backward Classes 84-85

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Situation arising out of recent violence in Kashmir Valley resulting in threat to peace and security of people of the State

Shri Rajnath Singh 87-114

SUBMISSION BY MEMBER

Re: Disparaging remarks made by BJP State Vice- President, U.P. against BSP Leader 115-160

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to ensure regular meeting of district committees for monitoring the progress of rural electrification in the States particularly in Sant Kabir Nagar district, Uttar Pradesh

Shri Sharad Tripathi 162

(ii) Need to implement scheme of labour - material ratio to 49:51 under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and also

include fencing work in the list of works approved under MGNREGS

Shri Om Birla 163-164

(iii) Need to appoint teachers in 'Zila School' - the alma mater of the first President of India in Chhapra district of Bihar and develop it as a model school

Shri Om Prakash Yadav 165

(iv) Need to introduce online system of booking appointment with doctors and also provide online medical facilities in state and district hospitals

Dr. Manoj Rajoria 166-167

(v) Need to run Muzaffarpur - Anand Vihar Garib Rath Express train on daily basis

Shri Satish Chandra Dubey 168-169

(vi) Need to impress upon Government of Uttar

Pradesh to provide irrigation facilities to farmers in Nanauta block in Saharanpur district of the State

Shri Raghav Lakhanpal 170-171

(vii) Need to ensure payment of compensation to farmers who lost their crops to hailstorms and excess rain in Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh particularly in Jalaun parliamentary constituency

Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma 172-173

(viii) Need to provide clean and safe drinking water to people in Kairana parliamentary constituency, Uttar Pradesh

Shri Hukum Singh 174-175

(ix) Need to set up a procurement centre of FCI at Farrukhabad in Uttar Pradesh

Shri Mukesh Rajput 176

(x) Need to frame a comprehensive policy for education and rehabilitation of child labour in the country

Dr. Virendra Kumar 177

(xi) Need to launch a special drive for recruitment of youth of Jammu and Kashmir in Defence and para-military forces of the country

Shri Jugal Kishore 178-179

(xii) Need to extend Shivganga express upto Singrauli via Robertsganj and Prayagraj Express upto Daltonganj

Shri Chhote Lal 180-181

(xiii) Need to provide compensation to farmers who lost their crops to drought in Uttar Pradesh

Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra 182

(xiv) Need to solve the problems relating to establishment of Railway Junction at Oorukere in Tumakuru taluk of Karnataka

Shri S.P. Muddahanume Gowda 183-184

(xv) Need to establish a Division Level Post Office at Chamarajanagar district headquarters in Karnataka

Shri R. Dhruvanarayana 185-186

(xvi) Need to construct a new dam at the site of Mullaperiyar dam

Shri Anto Antony 187

(xvii) Need to ensure adequate availability of water in Palar River in Tamil Nadu and also expedite Pennayar - Palar Link Canal Project

Shri B. Senguttuvan 188-189

(xviii) Regarding holding of Jallikattu events

in Tamil Nadu

Shri R. Parthipan 190-191

(xix) Regarding evolving a mechanism for sharing cess on coal with the coal bearing State

Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab 192-193

(xx) Need to look into the implementation of Modified Flexible Complementing Scheme in Indian Meteorological Department

Shri Arvind Sawant 194-196

(xxi) Need to honour K.D. Jadhav, the renowned Olympic wrestler with Padma Award

Shri Raju Shetti 197-198

186-308

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF TECHNOLOGY, SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH (AMENDMENT)BILL, 2016 199-378

Motion to Consider 199

Shri Prakash Javadekar 199-205, 357-378

Dr. Shashi Tharoor 206-218

Dr. Kambhampati Haribabu 220-225

Shri S. Selvakumara Chinnaiyan 226-229

Prof. Sugata Bose 230-236

Shri Baijayant Jay Panda 237-244

Shri Muthamsetti Srinivasa Rao(Avanthi) 245-254

Shri Chandrakant Khaire 255-259

Shri Konda Vishweshwar Reddy 260-263

Shri P. K. Biju 264-270

Shrimati Butta Renuka	271-275
Shri Jai Prakash Narayan Yadav	276-280
Shri Ninong Ering	281-285
Dr. Udit Raj	286-290
Shri Prem Das Rai	291-293
Dr. Arun Kumar	294-297
Shri Badruddin Ajmal	298-300
Shri Rattan Lal Kataria	301-304
Shri Santosh Kumar	305-307
Shri Dushyant Chautala	308-311
Shri Rajesh Ranjan	312-316
Shri Hukum Singh	317-321
Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury	325-329
Dr. Kirit P. Solanki	330-335

Shri N.K. Premachandran 336-356

Clauses 2 and 1 376

Motion to Pass 378

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, July 21, 2016/Ashadha 30, 1938 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[**HON. SPEAKER** *in the Chair*]

... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

DR. P. VENUGOPAL (TIRUVALLUR): Madam we have given notice… *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: I know it. I will allow everybody to speak during 'Zero Hour'.

... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: You will get a chance in zero hour.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Everyone will get a chance in zero hour.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI (SOUTH DELHI): Madam, it is a very sensitive issue concerning Delhi.... *(Interruptions)* There is an anarchic government in Delhi... *(Interruptions)* Cases of harassment of women have been registered against the AAP MLAs of Delhi... *(Interruptions)* A woman committed suicide the day before yesterday... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Please sit down. I will give you a chance in the Zero Hour. Now you please sit down.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: I will give you a chance in Zero Hour.

... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Now, Question Hour.

... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: You please, sit down. You will get a chance in Zero Hour.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Question No. 61, Shri Harish Meena ji.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: I will also give you a chance; your issue is on price-rise; Mayawati ji is saying something.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: You sit down. It's not going on record yet. You speak in Zero Hour. If you speak now, it will not go on record.

... (Interruptions)...[*]

[*] Not recorded.

11.01 hours

*ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Question No. 61, Shri Harish Meena.

(Q.61)

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH MEENA: Madam, I thank you for giving me a chance to raise important question about the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. When this scheme was formulated, it aimed at raising the living standard of the poor and the farmers in the villages so that they could get facilities. I have gone through the reply given by the Minister wherein he has given details of kilometres of road built and funds spent thereon under the scheme.

Madam, it is ok that funds have been spent and utilised but I have not got any details whether it has been utilised properly or it has been misused. It has been said that thousands of kilometres of road have been built. But there is no mention

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* **For Questions, please visit** https://sansad.in/ls/questions/questions-and-answers.

whether these roads have been built as per the requirements of the villagers or these have been built to facilitate someone else. My question to the Minister is that when the roads are constructed, the objective is that the village should get the facility of a school and the nearest higher secondary school should be connected by the road; the nearest primary health centre should be connected by the road; the national highways that are passing through the villages should be connected to small villages. I want to know whether the Minister proposes to fix any criteria under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana or not in this regard? Thank you.

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SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Madam, the Hon. Member has expressed concern, especially about connecting the remote areas of the village under the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana. The prime objective of Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana is to make concerted efforts for raising the ~~standard of~~ living standard of people in the villages by connecting roads, and allocating funds for this purpose under ~~the~~ an action plan ~~for~~ under Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana.

I have given ~~my reply~~a detailed reply about the programmes run under Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana so far; I do not want to repeat it.

Madam, through you, I would like to ~~request~~ tell the Hon. Member that he has raised a ~~the~~ concern ~~that you have shown~~ as to what is the basic objective of the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana, and ~~then~~ I have also discussed the ~~basic~~ prime objective of the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana. Apart from connecting the roads with the village level, ~~you~~ he has ~~have~~ expressed a concern about connecting the panchayat buildings, community buildings, sports centres, crematoriums, and school buildings in the villages. I assure the Hon. Member through you that through the advisory issued in the recent past it has been said that in the last mile of the village, whether it is a school building, a panchayat building, a building for Anganwadi workers, a crematorium or a health centre, ~~directives~~ all are proposed to be connected by ~~have been issued to connect all~~ the roads. Now, I want to assure the Hon. Member that if ~~you~~ he feels that a particular project is in ~~your~~ his area, then ~~you~~ he should share it with ~~me~~give ~~it~~. I will try to connect it.

SHRI HARISH MEENA: Madam, I come from Rajasthan. The density of the population of Rajasthan is less than that of the other states. ~~In this~~Under the scheme , the criteria has been laid down ~~decided~~ that it will be implemented in the villages having population of 500 or above as per the report of the census of 2011 which has also come out . Now so for ~~the~~as the population of our Rajasthan is concerned ~~, like us,~~ it will take time for our population to increase. Roads will be built faster in those areas which are premium and where the ~~increase of~~ population is ~~more.~~increasing. In Rajasthan there is no system of villages; there is a system of hamlets. Everyone lives in their fields. There are no big villages.

I would request the Minister to kindly give some relaxation ~~for~~ to Rajasthan so that we also can get the benefit of this ~~development~~scheme.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Hon. Speaker ,madam ~~I would request the Minister to kindly give some relaxation for Rajasthan so that we also can get the benefit of this Speaker Madam~~, I ~~will~~ want to apprise the Hon. Member that in the first phase of the roads which ~~has~~ have been constructed based on

the 2001 Census, so far there are 351 such projects in Rajasthan for which DPRs ~~has not come~~have not been prepared. The concern that he has expressed is that if the population is increasing, then the problem will also definitely increase. And I agree with that.... *(Interruptions)* I think I have ~~about the~~understood the concern raised by the Hon. Member.~~;~~ However, roads are being constructed as per the guidelines. A ~~lot~~ large amounts of ~~money~~ funds ~~has also gone to~~have been spent ~~Rajasthan~~in Rajasthan, and a ~~lot~~ large number of of roads have also been constructed.

I would like to tell ~~you~~ him that there are some national guidelines, and Rajasthan is also ~~included in~~covered under it. We are giving priority ~~to~~ in the selection of some roads. There are 15 such districts and 89 blocks in Rajasthan where schemes are proposed to be implemented for the construction of roads under PMGSY in 89 blocks with a population of 250 to 499 under the DPP scheme. DPR is being prepared for that. Not only this, under the DDP scheme, the blocks that I am discussing have 14 blocks of Bikaner, 11 of Nagaur, 10 of Jodhpur, 10 of Pali, 8 of Sikar, and 8 blocks of Jalore and the population therein

are proposed to be connected with roads. Guidelines have been issued in this regard. DPRs are being sought. As soon as the DPR is done, the amount will be sanctioned, and the work of connecting those villages with the roads will be started.

SHRI PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA: Speaker Madam, the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana was launched by our former Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji for which we are grateful to him because under the scheme connecting villages with cities promotes agriculture, which was very much needed at that time. I would like to request of the hon. minister through you that there are some practical shortcomings in the scheme. As the road width of ten metres has been laid down under the scheme, there are many states, like Punjab, in which no road is more than eight metres wide. If we cannot acquire land there, then we cannot build roads there. Similarly, for repair, it was reported in the newspapers that 70% of PMGSY roads are in bad condition. These roads have potholes. These cannot be repaired by the state government. Similarly, unused land is not being put to use. I want to know from the hon. minister, through you, whether any change can be brought in the

guidelines so that the practical shortcomings could be done away with under the scheme. When Chaudhary Devi Lal ji was the Chief Minister of Haryana, promised to give 50 per cent of trees lining in the fields to the farmers as agriculture was livelihood for the farmers. So, it is better if the width of road is changed to 8 metres.

HON. SPEAKER: Please ask your question.

SHRI PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA: Madam, our Punjab Government has sent a proposal which can be implemented all over the country. If the banks of the canals are paved, then canals can be saved and land can also be protected. Similarly, our new proposals for road construction up to two thousand kilometres in the states like border states should be considered. Through you, I want to know from the hon. minister whether the Government is preparing any new guidelines to overcome the practical problems that are being faced under the scheme so that the people could be befitted?

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Hon, Speaker madam, through you, I want to assure the Hon. Member that according to the guidelines, we have allocated more funds for the construction of

roads than before.... *(Interruptions)* Madam, according to the guidelines framed from time to time, adequate funds are being given in for the construction of roads. Certainly, it is the priority of the government that, according to the earlier parameters, if there is any hurdle in the road construction, if any proposal comes through the Hon. Member or through the state government there, and if it is worth considering as per our guidelines, we will definitely consider it.

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): Speaker Madam, Chandumajra ji has definitely mentioned about a major practical problem. I think most of the Members of the House know that when this scheme was started in the year 2000 during the stint of Vajpayee ji, the main objective was to connect settlements with tarred roads. Be it a settlement of a thousand plus, a settlement of five hundred plus, or villages of up to two hundred and fifty in population in a particular area, they are all covered under this scheme. Under that scheme, the work is going on in full swing

all over the country. It has benefitted the lives of the entire country. Wherever the roads have been constructed, the standard of living of the people has also undergone a sea change. A large number of roads have also been constructed in Punjab. Works worth Rs 781 crore are still going on in the state of Punjab. In the second phase of PMGSY, some norms have been laid down and the roads will be built as per the needs of the state, the district and the region. The Government of India has decided to construct fifty thousand kilometres of new roads. I think this will solve the issue raised by Chandumajra ji.

HON. SPEAKER: R. Dhruvanarayana ji, ask the question in short. A lot of Members would like to ask their questions on it.

[English]

SHRI R. DHRUVANARAYANA: The hon. minister in the reply has given the details of the State-wise allocation. The State of Karnataka is facing shortage of funds. In the current year, the Government has allocated only a sum of Rs. 333 crore as against a requirement of Rs. 552 crore. Government has accorded a total sanction of Rs. 1117 crore, but they have not released the money.

So, my question to the hon. minister is this. What is the action that the Government is taking for releasing the money, especially to the State of Karnataka? We are facing severe problems. Even for the on-going projects, money has not been released by the Government of India.

[Translation]

SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR: Hon. Speaker Madam, the Union Government considers the projects received from the State Governments as per the norms fixed in this regard and releases the entire amount on time. There are many states which have a huge amount of unutilised money. We ensure that the unused amount is also utilised, and their work is not affected because of it. But there is no such problem with the State of Karnataka. I would like to assure the Hon. Member.

SHRI ANUP MISRA: Speaker Madam, this is a multi-faceted project that was started by revered Atal ji. There was some problem in between, and its norms related to load-bearing capacity and monitoring of roads were changed. In the last ten years of UPA government regime, the quality of roads deteriorated. Due to this, the condition of roads in the state also

deteriorated. At that time, the construction work of some roads which were to be built for a settlement of one thousand population was abandoned. Those roads are still not being taken up for construction, considering that the mistake has been made. Now how do we rectify it? I request that there are many roads in Madhya Pradesh where there is a settlement of more than one thousand. Despite that, according to Census, those roads are yet to be connected. There are some roads where construction was poor in quality. There were discussions about them again and again, but there was some relaxation in the norms at that time. I want to know what relaxation was given. Secondly, the roads that were covered under norms based on habitation at that time are left out. Will those roads be taken up for construction again?

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Madam, through you, I would like to assure the Hon. Member that the Government of India has a three-tier monitoring mechanism to ensure quality. The first PIU – that laboratory is formed permanently. Under this, a person goes on the site. The quality of it is monitored and checked. Secondly, there is a provision to monitor the schemes at the state level. Thirdly, surprise inspection is done by

NRRDA at the national level. Then a person is appointed for national quality monitoring. Strict action is taken based on the report. The government is of firm view that we will not compromise on quality. If in a particular situation, the Hon. Members will discuss or explain any particular scheme, then we will get it investigated at our level. If you have any such plan, please let us know. If a road with a thousand plus habitation has been left out, then give a list to us. We will approve all of them... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN: Madam Speaker, I thank you for giving me this chance to put an important question.

From the reply of the Hon. Minister, I find that Rs. 2,623 crore has been allotted to West Bengal for implementation of PMGSY but it is a matter of great regret that neither a single rupee has been allotted to my constituency for the implementation of the programme nor has anybody consulted me in this regard. Nobody consulted me for the implementation of the programme in my constituency. I have written two letters

to the Hon. Minister of the Government of India. I have requested the District Magistrate for it. I have raised this question in the general meeting of the Zila Parishad also but nothing has been done for the last two years. Two years have passed.

My straight question is this. Who will protect our democratic right and in what way will it be protected? I want to know this from the Hon. Minister.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Speaker Madam, ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: If you want, you can have a half-an-hour discussion or something like that. *[Translation]* But today it is not going to be possible. Please sit down.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Speaker Madam, I would like to assure the Hon. Member that if he has any grievance regarding the quality of a road... *(Interruptions)* We will

consider that, as I said earlier, there will be no compromise on the quality... *(Interruptions)* This is the priority of our government.... *(Interruptions)* I want to assure the Hon..... *(Interruptions)* We are ready to solve your problem and it will be definitely solved

HON. SPEAKER: They say that Members should also be taken into confidence. Please listen.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR: Speaker Madam, through you, I would like to request the Members to ask questions calmly; we are ready to reply, but the question should be properly asked ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Dr. Heena Vijaykumar Gavit Ji

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Badaruddoza Khan asked the question about the role of a Member of Parliament in it.

SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR: Ram Kripal ji was replying to the question asked by the Hon. Member.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: No, this is not the way; please sit down. I am asking you to sit down. So please sit down.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR: Adhir Ranjan, please listen. Whatever point was raised by the Hon. Member, it was for getting information about his role in it. It is fact that the Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojana is a centrally sponsored scheme, and hence an MP has an important role in it right from the beginning. If in any state... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: It does not happen like that, they will not come to your house to ask. You have to give your suggestion. Adhir Ranjan Ji, please sit down.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

… (Interruptions)...[*]

HON. SPEAKER: I will name Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury. Write his name.

---

[*] Not recorded.

… *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Please, please, sit down.

… *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR: There is already a provision under PMGSY regarding the role of an MP that ….. *(Interruptions)* Just listen to this: you have been in the government for the last ten years. We have come to power recently; so, we are informing you about the first provision... *(Interruptions)*.

HON. SPEAKER: Adhir Ranjan ji, please sit down. No, this is not the way.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR: Speaker Madam, I would like to submit, through you, that there is a provision in the Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojana that in the state where this scheme is underway, the superintendent engineer-level officers of that area will approach the MP and take the MP along and conduct an inspection.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: If it is not happening, the government will look into it; many people are complaining against it.

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister, please sit down; everyone is raising their hands from all sides. The point is that though there are instructions under the scheme, but somewhere there is a gap in their implementation; you can see that. Nowhere are the meetings of Vigilance Committees held. So, you just promise that you will look into it.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR: Hon. Speaker madam, even I am an elected MP and therefore I am very well aware of the problems faced by an MP. If there are provisions that are not being followed properly in the states, then the Union Government will ensure that they are followed by the states.

[English]

DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT: I represent Nandurbar constituency, which is a tribal and hilly area. Even I had received many complaints of poor-quality roads built under

PMGSY. When we actually did a field visit, we found that roads were not only of poor quality but also the length of the road constructed was way less than what was sanctioned. I would like to mention an example. The road that I saw, which was sanctioned for 10 km but the actual construction was only of four km and we could not find 10 km road.

There are few roads like SH3 Shirve-Aalivihir-Khurchimal-Nendvan, which is in Taluka Akalkuan. This road was shown completed on record in 2012. A sum of Rs.10 crore was spent on construction of this road, but the road is not yet constructed.

Also, there is a road – MDR 11- to Khumbri, which is in Taluka Dhadgaon, which is completely in a hilly area. Even this road was shown completed on record in 2009 but only WBM work was done.

Madam, in my constituency, out of 216 roads and bridges, there are 33 roads which are not constructed according to the length sanctioned. They were way less than the sanctioned length. Also, there are 28 roads, which despite of spending crores of rupees, which are of substandard quality.

Through you, Madam, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to why such type of serious complaints are there and also what action the Hon. Minister will initiate. Is he going to fix the time frame for taking action on these complaints?

[Translation]

SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR: Speaker Madam, The Hon. Member has spoken a lot about her constituency, but through you, I want to apprise the Member and the House that roads are being constructed all over the country under 'Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana'. Efforts are made to ensure that not only the quality of the roads built is maintained as per the norms but also the roads are built strictly as per the sanctioned length.

Madam, there is a three-tier monitoring system to check the quality. It is monitored at the district and PIO levels. The state quality monitor monitors it, and national quality monitors also monitor it. Recently, when I was handling the work of the Ministry in the last few days, I observed that there are some roads which were sanctioned to be built up to 10 kilometres, but these have been built up to 9 Km only. I don't know under what circumstances these roads have been built like this. The Ministry has identified such roads by seeking information. In this regard, we are considering the fact that if a kilometre road has not been built, then we should recover money. From the issue raised by

the Hon. member and the way she has put it across, it seems that there is some irregularity in the scheme in her area. If she has some definite complaint in this regard and if she shares it with us, we will definitely get it investigated.

HON. SPEAKER: A lot of people want to ask questions on this issue. If you give half an hour's notice or notice under any other similar rule, we will have a detailed discussion on this subject in the House. If you want, we can also discuss under rule 193.

Right now, on this question I have given half an hour time to ask about of supplementary questions. Many Hon. Members are raising their hands to ask supplementary questions, and I have a long list of those who ask supplementary questions on this question, but I will not be able to give more time to ask this question and supplementary question. You should make a request for discussion on this. A detailed discussion can be done on this. You people, please sit down.

I also have many years of experience. I would like to share one thing with the Hon. Members from my experience. I was the Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee of the Rural Development. What you are saying happens in many places, but we have a vigilance committee. It is expected that the Vigilance

Committee should meet every three months. The MP has to hold meeting with them. You may be holding meetings, but the number of meetings that should be held are not being held. I am only informing you. In that meeting, you can sit with the officers to discuss the issue, and through this you can send across your point of view to the state and the centre. You should use this devise effectively.

PMGY should definitely be discussed; if you all want a discussion on it, please give notice on this matter. We will have a good discussion on it, and our hon. minister is an experienced and nice person. He is a person who works seriously. He will definitely take your sentiments into consideration.

HON. SPEAKER: Question No.62, Shri Sushil Kumar Singh.

(Q.62)

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH: Hon. Speaker, the Minister has admitted in the reply that the schemes sanctioned in the 11th and 12th Five-Year Plans under the flood management programme in the country, a total of 519 projects have been approved so far, out of which only 297 schemes have been completed. the flood-prone area in the country has been estimated at 45.5 lakh hectares. Even after 70 years of independence, the tragic situation is that the governments have made arrangements to provide protection against floods in only up to 19.59 lakh hectares so far; this situation is unsatisfactory. In 1954, the first committee was formed, then the Rangachari Committee was formed, the reports of all the committees had concluded that instead of spending money on development of permanent projects for protection against floods, the system of information dissemination should be developed, people should be warned. There is a flood, there is a loss of government and private properties, and everything is washed away by the flood water. Neither is the water utilised properly afterwards, nor can we save or store it so that it can be used for drinking or

irrigation later. The situation so far is not satisfactory. Whenever there is heavy rain in Nepal, Bihar is affected. The Minister has also admitted that talks are going on with the Government of Nepal. The situation so far is not satisfactory.

Madam, the flood-prone area in the country has been estimated at 45.5 lakh hectares. I would like to know from the hon. minister through you whether he will take some concrete steps under an action plan within a definite timeline during this Five-Year Plan. If so, by when?

DR. SANJEEV BALYAN: Hon. Speaker, it is true that this project is long pending. The kind of allocation of funds which should have been there in the 11th and 12th Plans has not been made. Due to the non-allocation of funds, these projects were not completed on time.

As far as Bihar is concerned, talks with Nepal are going on. A joint inspection team has been formed, and talks are on with Nepal to build a dam on Saptakoshi. Pancheshwar Development Authority, has been constituted jointly by India and Nepal. The dam will be constructed there; it is a project of about Rs 30,000 crore which will generate 5040 MW of power.

Indeed, there are not enough resources and money to complete all the plans at the same time, and that is why the plans are progressing slowly. A decision will be taken in due course. As soon as the funds are allocated, a decision will be taken accordingly.

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH: Hon. Speaker, if he spends money on control and management of a flood, then it will be utilised very well because government assets and private properties will be saved. I request that the government allocate more funds for flood control and protection against flood.

I want to tell the Minister that Madarauni village in Rangra Chowk block of Bhagalpur district of Bihar is on the banks of the Kosi River. There are railway lines on both sides of the village. One rail line runs from Patna to Guwahati; the other line is defunct, which used to be there earlier. Between the two railway lines, there lies this village on the banks of the Kosi River, which is on the verge of extinction. Given the situation, it will no longer be there in the village in a few years. One hundred crore rupees were spent once or twice in the previous years.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Please do not elaborate and ask particular questions.

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH: I am asking particular questions only. ...*(Interruptions)* Currently, the road connectivity of this village has been cut off. Boulder pitching work was done and Rs. 14 crore was spent thereon, but the village could not be saved.

Speaker Madam, today's newspaper has reported that a boat was carrying the passengers more than its capacity. I would like to know whether there is any mechanism for monitoring the funds given by the Union Government for protection against flood. Along with this, will the Union Government give any advice or direction to the State Government to save the village of Madroni?

DR. SANJEEV BALYAN: Speaker Madam, no one from the Union Government goes to save a village.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: What is the need of an order to save the village? It has to be saved any way.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH: This is the responsibility of the State Government to save it. If floods happen, then surely the villages which are on the banks of the rivers will face problems somewhere. If you put embankments in one place, the problem will arise from the other end. It is the duty of the Centre to timely inform that there could be floods. This is our major responsibility. Since the entire matter of floods belongs to the state government or the National Disaster under the Home Ministry. Our job is to first manage it and give information.

Speaker Madam, as far as some projects are concerned, particularly, the Centre is monitoring it. What the Member has conveyed is that Rs.14 crore has been spent; then all the information about that project will be collected and provided to the Member.

SHRI TAMRADHWAJ SAHU: Speaker Madam, I would like to enlighten the Hon. Minister that two steps are taken under flood disaster management. First is to protect the crop from flood damage and second is to protect the villages from soil erosion caused by the flood. As our members were saying and the Minister was replying that some rivers stay up to the village, the step under flood management is

taken to prevent the erosion of coastal villages. There are big rivers like Tandula, Kharakhara, Shivnath, etc., in the state of Chhattisgarh. There is such a situation that a man is going and an animal is coming from the other side; then he cannot go forward, which means there has been so much erosion up to the township. The Chhattisgarh government used to get funds from the Union Government to stop erosion. Now they say that after deciding the budget, we send the proposal to the centre, but the amount is not received from the centre. We will undertake embankment construction or flood control only after getting the funds from the Centre.

Speaker Madam, in the written reply given by the hon. minister to the question, the three works proposals are pending in Annexures 1 and 2. Similarly, in annexure three, 21 projects were submitted to the government, which were returned by the government without approval.

Speaker Madam, I want to ask the Minister they will approve the cases that come from our state to save the settlement which is on the verge of submergence from the embankment. If yes, then we will provide you with the list. ...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: You have asked your question, so please sit down.

DR. SANJEEV BALYAN: Speaker Madam, the budget allocation under the flood management programme has been reduced this time as compared to earlier allocation, as the recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission had to be implemented. As far as returning of the project proposals is concerned, yes this has been done. If the CWC, the nodal agency that looks into it, feels that the proposals sent by the state government are not in order or money that is going to be spent there, is not going to be utilised, then only those proposals are returned. Some proposals have been returned, which had some technical or such shortcomings. Some proposals have been passed, and some have been returned. If the Hon. Member wants to know about a particular proposal, he should tell me. I will definitely look into it.

[English]

SHRIMATI K. MARAGATHAM: Madam, the better solution for the flood management is the interlinking of rivers so that water resources of the country can be optimally utilized. Our

Hon. Chief Minister, Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has been urging the Government to implement the interlinking of the Mahanadi-Godavari-Krishna-Pennar-Cauvery-Vaigai rivers with the Gundar river and also the diversion of surplus waters of the west flowing Pamaba and Achankovil rivers to Vaippar in Tamil Nadu… *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: No, Madam… *(Interruptions)*

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: No… *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI K. MARAGATHAM: Therefore, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister about the action taken by the Government based on the proposal of our Hon. Chief Minister, Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma… *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Let her say something.

… *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: State disputes like this should not brought here. Please, you all sit down.

... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please cooperate. Let the Minister answer.

… *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister, you may put your point of view.

... *(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SUSHRI UMA BHARTI): Hon. Speaker Madam, Hon. Member from Tamil Nadu has …*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: You people, please sit down. Why do you people fight among yourselves? Are you people going to decide this way? The Minister is saying something; listen to him.

SUSHRI UMA BHARTI: Hon. Speaker Madam, the Hon. Member from Tamil Nadu has asked a question about a very important national issue. The Hon. Supreme Court in its observation on river interlinking, has said that these schemes are

in the national interest. Tamil Nadu has always has always supported in this regard. The State of Kerala has been objecting to this scheme for some reasons. The Hon. Prime Minister has instructed us that these projects are not be considered in the case of the States which have objections on it. Therefore, we are considering implementation of river interlinking projects only in those states which have agreed to it. So, first of all, I want to say to the Hon. Members from the State of Kerala that we will not consider the implementation of interlinking of rivers in Kerala unless they agree upon because this is the direction of the Prime Minister. Secondly, we do not have to touch the international boundaries. So, we are taking precautions in this regard as well.

The best solution to the problem of floods in Tamil Nadu and the whole country is the interlinking of rivers. Around Rs 5000 crore has been spent on flood management now, but the fact is that floods always cause extensive damage to this country. This is the money that we spend on flood management. But the flood causes a lot of damage. Some compensation may be given for financial loss, but loss of life cannot be compensated. So, the best solution for the problem is what the

Hon. Member has suggested. The extra water, which is monsoon water, turns into floods. So, we should use that water under our river interlinking projects. Now we have proposed 31 links. On one side of the country, there is a flood, and on the other side, there is drought. This is the pattern, and we have proposed all these 31 links accordingly *(Interruptions)* Our Government is committed to this cause; it was mentioned in our manifesto as well as the President's address, and it is one of the priority flagship schemes of our ministry. We will complete these 31 links. The real solution to the country's floods is going to be the river management, and we will make it happen. This will irrigate 33 million hectares of land and generate 34,000 MW of electricity. With this, the flood will also come under control, the country's GDP will increase, and at the same time, there will be power generation in this country.... *(Interruptions)* Through you, I request the leaders of the main opposition party Congress here with folded hands that one of our schemes, Ken-Betwa Link, is going to start at any point in time, but we have five other schemes, including Pancheshwar, Damanganga-Pinjal, and Par-Tapi-Narmada. An agreement on Par-Tapi-Narmada is to be

reached between Maharashtra and Gujarat; the two state governments are in talks at an official level. My request through you is that due to the propaganda campaign launched by Congress in Maharashtra about the Par-Tapi-Narmada project, the Damanganga-Pinjal project is also facing problems. If we can complete the Damanganga-Pinjal project, the problem of drinking water will not arise in the city of Mumbai till the year 2060. We can start it at any time; we need the cooperation of the entire House and all political parties in it. The real solution to the flood is the interlinking of rivers, and we will continue to implement it. Our government is committed to this.

[English]

SHRI FEROZE VARUN GANDHI: Madam, only 18 per cent of rainwater in our country is harvested and 48 per cent of rainwater enters the rivers and through then goes to the oceans. My question is very straightforward. Have flood management projects been devised in such a way that rain water can be harvested more efficiently? I read in a newspaper in the morning that in Maharashtra, which is extremely water starved, 22,000 cusecs of water have been released into the Godavari River

simply because of lack of storage capacity. So, for my question, which has already been answered partially by the Hon. Minister, I just want a more detailed answer.

[Translation]

SUSHRI UMA BHARTI: Hon. Speaker, this is a very serious question that the Hon. Member has asked. Through you, I would like to inform the Hon. Member and other Members of the Hon. Houses who are interested in this matter that for groundwater recharge management, first, we are doing aquifer mapping of the aquifers in the entire country; after that, we will recharge them and take the water to the groundwater reservoir. Apart from this, we have shortlisted 99 projects across the country to irrigate one crore hectares of land. Some of them were half completed, and some were 75 per cent completed. We have decided that in the years 2017, 2018, and 2020 we will complete those projects and we will be able to store a large amount of rainwater. Apart from this, there is also an idea going on within our department regarding the rivers, and that is the idea of floodplain zoning. We have found that the reason for the loss of life and property today in the floodplains is that settlements have been allowed in

the floodplains of the rivers. The State Governments and persons engaged in administrative arrangements did not warn the people before settling down and saw the consequences of the same due to floods in Kedarnath. The result is the same, which happens in many States. For this, the states have also agreed to bring a bill of floodplain zoning, and if everyone agrees to it, then we will be able to stop both loss of life and property. But there are many types of measure to store rainwater, and Tamil Nadu has also used one. There is a measure to store the rainwater even inside the ground: by completing the project of a dam, there is a measure to stop it by completing the irrigation projects. There is also a solution for river interlinking. I had written a letter to all the Hon. Chief Ministers of the country that by any means the rainwater should be taken to the groundwater. For that, all the Chief Ministers have said that they will work on our schemes in this way. I would also like to request the Hon. Members that they should adopt all possible methods of rainwater harvesting from their MPLAD development fund and also guide us as to how we can do it. Apart from that, our efforts are already being made on this subject, and we will definitely do it.

HON. SPEAKER: The answer has been given in detail.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Hon. Speaker, I am only advising. You are making good efforts, but there is only one way to store water. There's no better way than that. Large ponds should be dug in villages, and the water level will not go down due to digging ponds... *(Interruptions)* I have tried this in U.P. You all know that several ponds have been dug. Large ponds should be dug in every village; if water is stored in them, the water level will not go down, and the water problem of every village will be solved by this... *(Interruptions)*

SUSHRI UMA BHARATHI: Madam Speaker, there is also a question in what the Hon. Member has given as a suggestion. Mulayam Singh ji is the senior Member, I respect him. If I get your permission, I would like to bring one thing to his notice: there is a huge shortage of water in Ganga, so to find out how we can bring floodwater and rainwater into Ganga, an experiment was conducted in Kunda, Pratapgarh, which is called Naddhtal. It is for storing the rainwater, and when the non-monsoon period comes, the channel of that water is opened towards the Ganges so that the water of the Ganga is not

reduced. We have written to the government of Uttar Pradesh to give us the list of all such old nadhtaals so that we can repair them, and we can increase water in the Ganges. I would request the Hon. Member to talk to the Chief Minister of the state in this regard because we have not yet received that list.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Hon. Speaker, ponds should be dug in every village. Those people dig drains here and there and go away. If that water is stored, it will be fine. At the time, when I was Chief Minister, experts had held meetings and consulted a lot of people, and the best solution was that there should be ponds in every village... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEKAER: You both talk about it later.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: We are clubbing question No. 63 and question No. 73 as subjects of both question are the same.

(Q.63 & 73)

[English]

SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE: My first supplementary question is this. I want to know whether the Government has reviewed the financing structure and performance of the Mumbai International Airport Private Limited to examine the project cost of development, upgradation work of terminal which is reported to be doubled due to inordinate delays, funding gap and recovery of such extra cost in the form of levying development fee on passengers. If so, the details and outcome therefore and if not, the reasons for this.

SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU: There has been a delay in Chatrapati Shivaji Airport in Mumbai and there are a lot of reasons for delay. We have continuously interacted with everybody and tried to overcome these delays. We can always gather the details and reach out to the Hon. Member. This whole question is over-encompassing. So, it becomes a little difficult to give an immediate answer on individual airports.

SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE: Madam Speaker, my second supplementary question is, whether it is a fact that the

Government has not monitored the public private partnership project effectively leading to undue benefit of at least Rs. 5,087 crore to the Mumbai International Airport Private Limited during the modernization and upgradation of the Mumbai Airport that started in 2006. If so, give the details therefor along with the reaction of the Government for this delay.

SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU: There was a delay in the Mumbai project. In fact, even the Public Accounts Committee has also gone into all these things. It is also a fact that the Government monitors these regularly. It is not left unmonitored. It is monitored and attention is being given and no person will be allowed to loot the State.

[Translation]

SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE: Hon. Speaker, I welcome the objective set by Hon. Minister of Finance Arun Jaitley ji to modernise 160 airports in the budget for the current financial year. I also welcome the announcement made by the Hon. Minister of Civil Aviation in the last month for starting air travel in small and medium airports . Along with this, I would like to draw his attention to the fact that for the development of Akola

airport, which was built in 1943 before independence, the Government of Maharashtra has also transferred 60 hectares of land for its development. I would like to know from the hon. minister as to whether any steps are being taken to modernise Akola airport and the air service which was there 30 years ago and whether it will be started again? Because you also came to Akola many times and Hon. Nitin ji comes to Akola once in two or three months, there is also an agriculture university. Thank you.

[English]

SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU: In Annexure II and Annexure III, the details have been given as to what is happening in the country. With regard to Akola, the runway belongs to AAI. The dimensions are 1400 x 45 metres, runway with base strip of 75 metres on either side of the runway suitable for operation of ATR 42 type of aircraft with VF car operations.

At present, no scheduled flights are operating from the Akola Airport. AAI has requested the State Government for 174.67 acres of land for upgradation of the Akola Airport. The State Government has handed over 149.95 acres of land on

23.05.2016. However, it is found that the land handed over by the State Government is excess land at some location in comparison to the request made by AAI whereas certain pockets of land necessary to meet the DGCA's car requirements of 300 metres, basic strip for IA car operations, is yet to be acquired, and handed over to AAI. AAI has further informed the State Government for acquisition of balance of 34.10 hectares of land to AAI to meet the basic requirements. The AAI is initiating the process of surveying the acquired land and surveying to identify the obstruction limited surfaces for planning of runway expansion work, construction of boundary wall etc. This is the status of Akola airport.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Balbhadra Majhi – not present.

Shri R. Dhruvanarayana.

SHRI R. DHRUVANARAYANA: Madam, the Government of India has spent crores of rupees to construct an airport at Mysore. But Mysore airport is not operational. Madam, you know Mysore city is a cultural and heritage city. It is also a clean city. The airport is not operational. Now, my question to

the Hon. Minister is this. What steps have you taken to make it operational?

SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU: Madam, we have about 31-32 airports which are not operational. The infrastructure is readily available. The Hon. Members are agitated that these things should be connected. We consistently put it to the airlines. The airlines are like a horse. We can take it to water. We cannot make it drink. So, similarly, we motivate the airlines and if these two get together, we are hopeful that Mysore, which is a beautiful city about which India is very proud, will get connected shortly.

SHRI DEEPENDER SINGH HOODA: Madam, I thank the Minister for laying a detailed statement on all the airports which are under consideration for modernization and upgradation. My question pertains to three proposed upgradations and a construction of Greenfield airport in Haryana, which is under active consideration of the Ministry and the status of those.

The first two are upgradation of existing airstrips at Hisar and Karnal into low-cost domestic airports. This was approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in

August, 2013. Subsequently, a joint feasibility study by the Airport Authority of India and Government of India conducted in 2012 provided the approval for this airport. Then, the Haryana Government offered to provide the land, and, subsequently, an MoU was signed. Now, my question is, what is the status of this as well as the status of the proposed Greenfield international cargo airport at Meham in Rohtak for which the Airport Authority of India has conducted a feasibility study? The feasibility study came out positive, and an NOC was also provided by the Ministry of Defence because this airport is close to Delhi. So, the Air Force and the Ministry of Defence were also asked to provide an NOC and that NOC has also been provided.

My point is that Haryana remains one State in the country, which does not have a single airport, either domestic or international, on its own. We are relying on the Delhi airport and the Chandigarh airport. Within Haryana there is not a single airport. So, what is the status of these three proposed airports?

SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU: Madam, I can do one thing. I can gather that information and reach it out to the Hon. Member.

HON. SPEAKER: All right.

SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU: Our effort is to increase the number of airports and to provide regional connectivity throughout our country.

[Translation]

SHRI AJAY MISRA TENI: To provide good and time-bound services due to competition in inter-state and international aviation services in the country, the need for modernisation of airports as well as trained and knowledgeable manpower is being felt. A large number of youth are unemployed despite being trained in maintenance and operation.

Hon. Speaker, through you, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister that given the increase of more than 20 per cent in the aviation sector, has the Government assessed the need for trained manpower in this field, and if so, whether the

Government has formulated or proposed to employ such trained youths?

[English]

SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU: Madam, there are lots of mismatches in the aviation sector, particularly in skills.

HON. SPEAKER: I know.

SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU: We are addressing ourselves to that. In fact, the Ministry of Skill Development in-charge of skilling has also made reference to us. We are working in close coordination with them, and we intend to provide skilled manpower because we have the highest growth in the world. So, we need skilled manpower if we have to sustain it and the Government is at it.

12.00 hours

[Translation]

SHRIMATI DARSHANA VIKRAM JARDOSH: Madam Speaker, a very meagre amount has been allocated several times for the expansion of the airport. Surat is a city that has developed the airport on a PPP model. We have also provided

funds for the facilities provided at the airport in collaboration with the Corporation and the local service providers because the Corporation has saved Rs. 4 crore for the Airport Authority. There is also a mention of cable connection in this. A committee has also been formed for this purpose.

I want to ask the Minister whether Surat should get such permission on the PPP model, where we can complete the airport expansion plan without your money.

[English]

SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU: Expansion and upgradation of equipment is a continuous process at all airports. As traffic increases, these are done. Surat is no exception. It is a good town; it is a commercial town and it deserves better. We are working on it.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: The Question Hour is over.

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*WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Starred Question Nos. 64 to 72 and 74 to 80

Unstarred Question Nos. 691 to 920

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* **For Questions, please visit** https://sansad.in/ls/questions/questions-and-answers.

12.01 hours

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Papers to be laid on the Table. Dr. Sanjeev Balyan.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (DR. SANJEEV BALYAN): On behalf of Dr. Mahesh Sharma, I beg to lay on the Table: -

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council of Science Museums, Kolkata, for the year 2014-2015, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Council of Science Museums, Kolkata, for the year 2014-2015.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4892/16/16]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Allahabad Museum, Allahabad, for the year 2014-2015,

alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Allahabad Museum, Allahabad, for the year 2014-2015.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4893/16/16]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): I beg to lay: -

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 50 of the Control of National Highways (Land and Traffic) Act, 2002: -

(i) S.O.375(E) to S.O. 380(E) published in Gazette of India dated 5th February, 2016, regarding delegation of powers of Highway Administration to the officials, mentioned therein.

(ii) S.O.486(E) to S.O.494(E) published in Gazette of India dated 16th February, 2016, regarding delegation of powers of Highway Administration to the officials, mentioned therein.

(iii) S.O.1301(E) and S.O.1302(E) published in Gazette of India dated 4th April, 2016, regarding delegation of powers of Highway Administration to the officials, mentioned therein.

(iv) S.O.574(E) published in Gazette of India dated 24th February, 2016, appointing the Executive Engineers of State Public Works Department and Project Directors of National Highways Authority of India to exercise the powers and functions under Sections 24, 25, 26, 27 and 43

of the said Act.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4894/16/16]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 10 of the National Highways Act, 1956: -

(i) S.O.3200(E) published in Gazette of India dated 30th November, 2015, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1096(E) dated 4th August, 2005.

(ii) S.O.3382(E) published in Gazette of India dated 15th December, 2015, containing corrigendum to the Notification No. S.O. 3162(E) dated 12th December, 2014.

(iii) S.O. 3383(E) published in Gazette of India dated 15th December, 2015, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 976(E) dated 9th April, 2015.

(iv) S.O. 3384(E) published in Gazette of India dated 15th December, 2015, making certain amendments

in the Notification No. S.O. 1096(E) dated 4th August, 2005.

(v) S.O.3554(E) published in Gazette of India dated 31st December, 2015, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 539(E) dated 17th February, 2015.

(vi) S.O.3555(E) published in Gazette of India dated 31st December, 2015, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1096(E) dated 4th August, 2005.

(vii) S.O.183(E) published in Gazette of India dated 20th January, 2016, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 689(E) dated 4th April, 2011.

(viii) S.O.184(E) published in Gazette of India dated 20th January, 2016, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1096(E) dated 4th August, 2005.

(ix) S.O.186(E) published in Gazette of India dated 20th January, 2016, making certain amendments in the

Notification No. S.O. 1096(E) dated 4th August, 2005.

(x) S.O.188(E) published in Gazette of India dated 20th January, 2016, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1096(E) dated 4th August, 2005.

(xi) S.O.413(E) to S.O.415(E) published in Gazette of India dated 9th February, 2016, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1096(E) dated 4th August, 2005.

(xii) S.O.417(E) published in Gazette of India dated 9th February, 2016, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1096(E) dated 4th August, 2005.

(xiii) S.O.418(E) published in Gazette of India dated 9th February, 2016, declaring highways, mentioned therein, as new National Highways.

(xiv) S.O.419(E) published in Gazette of India dated 9th February, 2016, making certain amendments in the

Notification No. S.O. 1096(E) dated 4th August, 2005.

(xv) S.O.420(E) published in Gazette of India dated 9th February, 2016, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 689(E) dated 4th April, 2011.

(xvi) S.O.641(E) published in Gazette of India dated 2nd March, 2016, declaring highways, mentioned therein, as new National Highways.

(xvii) S.O.1098(E) published in Gazette of India dated 15th March, 2016, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1096(E) dated 4th August, 2005.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4895/16/16]

(3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 37 of the National Highways Authority of India Act, 1988: -

(i) S.O. 185(E) published in Gazette of India dated 20th January, 2016, entrusting Highway Nos. 82 and 102 in

the State of Bihar to National Highway Authority of India.

(ii) S.O. 187(E) published in Gazette of India dated 20th January, 2016, rescinding Notification No. S.O.94(E) dated 31st January, 2007.

(iii) S.O. 416(E) published in Gazette of India dated 9th February, 2016, entrusting Highway No. 202 (Yadgiri-Warangal) in the State of Telengana to National Highway Authority of India.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4896/16/16]

(4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of Section 458 Merchant Shipping Act, 1958: -

(i) G.S.R.455(E) in Gazette of India dated 27th April, 2016 rescinding the Lifeboatmen's (Qualification and Certificates) Rules, 1963.

(ii) G.S.R.456(E) in Gazette of India dated 27th April, 2016 rescinding the Merchant Shipping (Distress Messages and Navigational Warnings) Rules, 1964.

(iii) G.S.R.457(E) in Gazette of India dated 27th April, 2016 rescinding the Merchant Shipping (Pilot Ladder) Rules, 1967.

(iv) G.S.R.458(E) in Gazette of India dated 27th April, 2016 rescinding the Merchant Shipping (Musters) Rules, 1968.

(v) G.S.R.459(E) in Gazette of India dated 27th April, 2016 rescinding the Merchant Shipping (Safety Convention Certificates) Rules, 1968.

(vi) G.S.R.460(E) in Gazette of India dated 27th April, 2016 rescinding the Merchant Shipping (Radio Direction Finders) Rules, 1968.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4897/16/16]

12.02 hours

STATEMENTS BY MINISTER

Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 7th and 11th Reports of the Standing Committee on Coal and Steel*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): I beg to lay the following statements regarding the: -

(1) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 7th Report of the Standing Committee on Coal and Steel on Demands for Grants (2015-16), pertaining to the Ministry of Coal.

(2) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 11th Report of the Standing Committee on Coal and

* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 4898/16/16 and LT 4899/16/16 respectively

Steel on `Prevention of Illegal coal mining and theft', pertaining to the Ministry of Coal.

12.03 hours

ELECTION TO COMMITTEES

(i) Committee on Estimates

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (KANPUR): Madam, I beg to move:

" That the Members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (3) of Rule 254 read with sub-rule (1) of Rule 311 of the Rules of Procedure & Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, one Member from among themselves to serve as a Member of the Committee on Estimates for the un-expired portion of the term of the Committee vice Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal appointed as Minister."

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (3) of Rule 254 read with sub-rule (1) of Rule 311 of the Rules of Procedure & Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, one Member from among

themselves to serve as a Member of the Committee on Estimates for the un-expired portion of the term of the Committee vice Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal appointed as Minister."

The motion was adopted.

(ii) Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

[Translation]

DR. KIRIT P SOLANKI (AHMEDABAD): Madam, I beg to move:

" That the Members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (3) of Rule 254 read with sub-rule (1) of Rule 331B of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, three Members from amongst themselves to serve as Members of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the un-expired portion of the term of the Committee vice Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste, Shri Ramesh C. Jigajinagi and Ajay Tamta appointed as Ministers."

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (3) of Rule 254 read with sub-rule (1) of Rule 331B of the Rules of Procedure and

Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, three Members from amongst themselves to serve as Members of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the un-expired portion of the term of the Committee vice Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste, Shri Ramesh C. Jigajinagi and Ajay Tamta appointed as Ministers."

The motion was adopted.

(iii) Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

[Translation]

DR KIRIT P SOLANKI (AHMEDABAD): Madam, I beg to move:

> "That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate two Members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of this House for the un-expired portion of the term of the Committee *vice* Shri Ramdas Athawale appointed as Minister and Shrimati Vijaylaxmi Sadho retired from Rajya Sabha and do communicate to this House the names of the Members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: The question is:

> "That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate two Members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on the Welfare of

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of this House for the un-expired portion of the term of the Committee *vice* Shri Ramdas Athawale appointed as Minister and Shrimati Vijaylaxmi Sadho retired from Rajya Sabha and do communicate to this House the names of the Members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

The motion was adopted.

(iv) Committee on Welfare of Other Backward Classes

[Translation]

SHRI GANESH SINGH (SATNA): Hon. Speaker Madam, I beg to move:

> "That the Members of this House do proceed to elect under sub-rule (3) of Rule 254, three Members from amongst themselves to serve as Members of the Committee on Welfare of Other Backward Classes for the un-expired portion of the term of the Committee vice Shri Rajen Gohain, Shrimati Anupriya Patel and Dr. Subhash Ramrao Bhamre appointed as Ministers."

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: The question is:

> “That the Members of this House do proceed to elect under sub-rule (3) of Rule 254, three Members from amongst themselves to serve as Members of the Committee on Welfare of Other Backward Classes for the un-expired portion of the term of the Committee vice Shri Rajen Gohain, Shrimati Anupriya Patel and Dr. Subhash Ramrao Bhamre appointed as Ministers.”

The motion was adopted.

(v) Committee on Welfare of Other Backward Classes

[Translation]

SHRI GANESH SINGH (SATNA): Hon. Speaker Madam, beg to move:

> "That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate four Members from Rajya Sabha to join the Committee on Welfare of Other Backward Classes of this House for the un-expired portion of the term of the Committee vice Shri V. Hanumantha Rao, Shri Ashk Ali Tak, Shri Bishamber Prasad Nishad and Shri Rajpal Singh Saini retired from Rajya Sabha and do communicate to this House the names of the Members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: The question is:

> "That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate four Members from Rajya Sabha to join the Committee on Welfare of Other

Backward Classes of this House for the un-expired portion of the term of the Committee vice Shri V. Hanumantha Rao, Shri Ashk Ali Tak, Shri Bishamber Prasad Nishad and Shri Rajpal Singh Saini retired from Rajya Sabha and do communicate to this House the names of the Members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have received notices of Adjournment Motion on various subjects from Sarvashri Adv. Jose George, K. Suresh, Jayaprakash Narayan Yadav, N. K. Premachandran, P. Karunakaran, Dushyant Chautala, Jyotiraditya Scindia, KC Venugopal, Tariq Anwar, Gaurav Gogoi, G. Hari, B. Senguttuvan and Bhagwant Mann.

The matters, though important, do not warrant interruption of Business of the Day. The matters can be raised through other opportunities. I have, therefore, disallowed all the notices of Adjournment Motion.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Rajnath Singh Ji.

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: I will allow you to speak after the reply of Hon. Minister, not now.

… (Interruptions)

12.07 hours

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193..Contd.

Situation arising out of recent violence in Kashmir Valley resulting in threat to peace and security of people of the State

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): Hon. Speaker Madam, we discussed the current situation in Kashmir yesterday. I am happy that 28 Members of this House participated in this discussion. The Members who took part in the discussion on the issue of Kashmir in this House, I would like to mention their names here. They are Jyotiraditya Scindia, Anurag Singh Thakur, A. Anwar Raja, Kalyan Banerjee, Tathagata Satpathy, Mulayam Singh Yadav, Arvind Ganpat Sawant, Thota Narasimham, Dr. Boora Narasaiah Goud, Mohammed Salim, Varaprasad Rao Velagapalli, Tariq Anwar, Prem Singh Chandumajra, M.J. Akbar, Jaiprakash Narayan Yadav, Bhagwant Mann, Dr. Arun Kumar, Muzaffar Hussain Baig, Badruddin Ajmal, Dushyant Chautala, Kaushalendra

Kumar, E.T. Mohammed Bashir, C.K. Sangma, Asaduddin Owaisi, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, Jugal Kishore Sharma, N.K. Premachandran, Prof. Sugata Bose and Rajesh Ranjan.

Madam, I would like to say that, first of all, I would like to express my gratitude to the Hon. Members who have expressed their views on this subject. Earlier, the situation in Kashmir was also discussed in the Rajya Sabha. I felt very happy about the discussion that has taken place in the Lok Sabha on this issue after the discussion in the Rajya Sabha. I can say that my faith and trust have strengthened. Whenever there is a big challenge before our country, people will stand united to face that challenge by forgetting all their differences. This faith and trust have been created in me. A belief and trust have been created in me. I know that everyone is feeling pain due to the current situation in Kashmir. I want to associate myself with the pain of everyone.

As far as our Prime Minister is concerned, during the discussion yesterday, it came out that our Prime Minister was on a foreign trip at that time. But I want to inform the House that despite being on a foreign visit, the Prime Minister was in

constant touch with me. He got information from me about the situation in Kashmir, and he kept giving necessary suggestions to improve the situation there. I felt that even inside him, there was a lot of pain about the current situation in Kashmir, and he was worried about it. He returned from abroad on the 12th, and the first meeting that our Prime Minister held was to review the situation in Kashmir. He has discussed all these questions in detail as what we all should do.

Madam, whatever has come out in the discussion, I would not like to go into detail about all those things, but I would like to say that India has a distinct character, and India has that distinctive character, 'unity in diversity'. Whether it is Rajya Sabha or Lok Sabha or whether it is our country, people speaking different types of languages, people following different religions, people speaking different kinds of dialects, and people eating different types of food are present in India, and we all are here in the Parliament of India as public representative. But when there is a crisis in the country, Madam Speaker, I would like to say that by forgetting all the discrimination, the whole country stands united to fight it. At

the same time, despite differing views of all of us, our entire Parliament also stands united.

Madam, as far as Jammu and Kashmir is concerned, we believe that Jammu and Kashmir is the crown of India. Regarding Jammu and Kashmir, I would like to mention here a couplet from Amir Khusrao Saheb. He had said that if there is indeed a place on the land of this world like heaven, then the name of that place is Kashmir. He had said:

‘Gar Firdaus bar-roo-e-zameen ast,

Hamin ast-o, hamin ast-o hamin ast-o’

That is, if there is indeed a place on earth like heaven, then it is the land of Kashmir. Amir Khusaro Saheb has said this.

Speaker Madam, no one can deny the fact that one of our neighbours has cast an evil eye on our Kashmir which is like heaven. But I am fully confident after seeing the mood of Hon. Members of both Houses of Parliament that we will surely succeed in restoring the pride and glory of our Kashmir, which has been a fame of Kashmir.

No one can deny the fact that if anyone has an important role in spoiling the situation in Kashmir today, then it is surely our neighbour. Our neighbour was separated from India in the name of religion. At that time, we knew that the demand for the partition of India was being made in the name of religion; When India was partitioned on the basis of religion, it was thought that everyone would live their life in their way, and whatever country they got, they would do whatever possible for the development of that country. By the way, I know that the majority of India at that time did not want this partition to take place, but India was divided after all. But despite that, what kind of nefarious activities is our neighbouring country doing today? They are trying to destabilise India. Without mincing my words, I would like to say that if there is terrorism in India, it is the terrorism sponsored by Pakistan. Pakistan, which was formed in the name of religion, was separated from us and could not even put people of its religion together, and that Pakistan was divided into two parts. Today the condition of Pakistan is such that there is constant fighting among organisations in every area. Instead of improving its situation today, Pakistan is trying

to destabilise India. Perhaps they are trying to divert the attention of the whole world towards its failures.

I want to tell you that our Muslim brothers who live in India and who believe in Islam, Pakistan does not need to worry about them. I can say that whenever there is an hour of crisis, whether it is Hindu, Muslim, Christian, or Sikh, all have stood up to fight it unitedly, and they have also succeeded. I have said earlier also that India is the only country in the world where there are 72 sects of Islam. If all these 72 sects are found in any one country of the world, then it is our fortunate country, India, where all 72 out of 72 sects are found. I understand that no country in the world should claim to protect the people who believe in Islam of India; I also want to tell my neighbour. I want to remind the House of a poem by Atal ji – "Chingari ka khel bura hota hai,auron ke ghar mein aag lagaane ka sapna apne hi ghar mein aksar khara hota hai .chingari ke khel bura hota hai". This was said by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji.

I would like to say with all seriousness that we are all deeply sorry for the people who have lost their lives or who have been injured in Kashmir. Respected Atal Bihari Vajpayee

ji gave three points about this Kashmir: "Kashmiriyat, Jamhuriyat and Insaniyat. These three points were given by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji. But what is happening today? If anyone can have a place in the Jamhuriyat of Kashmiriyat, then it can be of Insaniyat . There can never be any place for brutality in the democracy of Kashmir. But today, sometimes something like this happens: if the jawans of our security forces are killed, then some people celebrate it. Could this be called humanity? If this is not brutality, what else should it be called?

Madam, I believe that our youth living in Kashmir are also patriots. Some people have tried to mislead the youth of our Kashmir. But it is our responsibility that we should wean away those youth from the those who have tried to mislead them in Kashmir. Because I don't want to have any doubts about their nationalism and patriotism. It is kind of a mentality which brainwash our youth with an unnecessary and baseless outrage against the India and keeps on misleading them. Not only Kashmir, but I also want to discuss here Chhattisgarh that the same thing happens there. Be it Bastar or Dantewada, there are some other areas in India where there are people with such a

distorted mentality who celebrate when people of security forces die. I think that there are misguided people, whose mentality has been distorted to such an extent that even if a terrorist is convicted by the court and even after that if he dies, they term it as judicial killing. Such people are also present here.

Speaker Madam, I must say this much: this distorted mentality of our youth today has to be changed; it has to be set right, so we all have to collectively set right it. The government alone cannot do the work of improving the situation in Kashmir. Everyone needs to work collectively to improve the situation in Kashmir. I feel like this because I know that ever since Kashmir has been made, there has been a government and there has been a Prime Minister. I do not want to blame him for working to spoil the situation in Kashmir. Everybody has tried their best to improve the situation in Kashmir. All are on the same view. But can anyone say that if you try continuously, you will achieve success? I can say with confidence that we will be successful in improving the situation in Kashmir. I have full

faith and full confidence, no matter how many nefarious acts our neighbour keeps indulging in.

Speaker Madam, what an irony it is that if a terrorist is killed here, then our neighbour Pakistan celebrates Black Day over it. What right does it have to interfere in India's internal affairs?

Speaker Madam, whatever incident has happened in Jammu and Kashmir, it is necessary to briefly inform the House about it. Pakistan is trying its best to speed up infiltration in Kashmir. But I am proud of our forces. I also want to salute their bravery and the manner in which the security forces have retaliated this bid of infiltration. As a result of which, 86 terrorists have been neutralised. I am giving you this year's information. Intelligence input was received about the presence of three terrorists in Kokranag, Anantnag, on July 8, 2016. Security forces cordoned off the area based on this input. Three terrorists were neutralised during the encounter. After identification, it was revealed that these were the notorious terrorists of Hizbul Mujahideen, namely Burhan Muzaffar Wani , Sartaz Ahmed Sheikh, and Parvez Ahmed Dar. As far as

Burhan Wani is concerned, he was the commander of Hizbul Mujahideen, a notorious terrorist organisation; there is no doubt that it is the most important part of the Pakistan-based United Jihad Council. The United Jihad Council is a united group of various terrorist outfits, such as the Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed, which carry out terrorist incidents in India on the instructions of Pakistan. Hizbul Mujahideen has its headquarters in Islamabad, Pakistan. It is headed by Syed Salahuddin. Its base camp is located in Muzaffarabad, Pakistan. Burhan Wani was a notorious terrorist of Hizbul Mujahideen and commander of Hizbul Mujahideen in South Kashmir. There are 15 cases against him for murder, attempted murder, causing grievous injuries to the locals, snatching arms and ammunition from the security forces, possession of illegal arms and ammunition, and several such serious charges, and a FIR has also been registered against him. A total of about 15 such cases are registered against him. Certainly, he is a tech-savvy person who is radicalising the new generation and motivating them towards terrorist activities. He used to instigate youngsters to take up arms by regularly issuing

statements and uploading statements, video messages, and pictures on social media such as Facebook, Twitter, and WhatsApp. The news of the killing of these terrorists, including Burhan Wani, has spread on social media.

Madam, I also want to inform the House that recently Hafiz Saeed, a notorious terrorist in Pakistan, also said that a few days ago he had a conversation with Burhan Wani. He also discussed it. Now security forces had received intelligence input; this type of operation was done by the security forces based on that intelligence input. After that, whatever situation arose in Kashmir, many people came out on the streets, and stone pelting took place. As far as the security forces are concerned, I had also given clear instructions; and even the Prime Minister had given clear instructions that the security forces should carry out maximum restraint exercises that can be done. This was also said by our Prime Minister and I repeatedly told this to the senior officers of the security forces themselves. I want to inform you about whatever happened within four days. Around 576 law and order related incidents occurred across Kashmir and the number of civilians killed in

these incidents was 38. The number of civilians injured is 2,180. 2,055 civilians have been discharged from the hospital and for those still receiving treatment in the hospital, the number of such civilians is 125.Regarding the casualties in security forces, one has died, and it is also true that the number of our security forces officers and soldiers who have been injured is no less; their number is 1,739. Despite the injuries of so many security forces personnel, the maximum patience that was possible was kept by the security forces. Maybe somewhere someone might have made a mistake; this truth cannot be denied.

During the discussion, it came out that the pallet gun was used. I believe that non-lethal weapons should be used first to stop the crowd, and this has been the practice in our country. It was reported that many people were injured by non-lethal weapons. This is true; I would also like to mention that number here. People were injured; there are no two opinions on this, but the number of deaths that have occurred through non-lethal weapons is only one, and the injured who have been hurt in their eyes, their number is about 53, out of which 23 people have

sustained injuries in one eye. This is not the first time this pallet gun has been used. Even before this, pellet guns have been used to stop the crowd. This happened in the year 2010. I do not want to accuse any government, but at that time also it was used. The death that occurred at that time was 6 deaths, and 98 people suffered deep injuries in their eyes. Five people have been completely blinded by it. This happened in the year 2010. I would like to tell the House that as far as non-lethal weapons are concerned, we believe that as far as possible, tear gas should be used to stop the crowd, and as far as possible, we should try to stop the crowd with water cannons. By the way, the category of non-lethal weapons also includes paintball guns. I have concluded that I will form a committee of experts, which will see that if the paintball gun is used as a non-lethal weapon, what can its other alternatives be? What could be its other options so that if there is a crowd somewhere and we want to stop it, then an alternative to it, which could be a non-lethal weapon of this non-pellet gun, we can do it through that? So we have decided that we will form an expert committee, which will give its

report in this regard within two months so that such incidents do not recur in future.

I would also like to mention some terrorist incidents in Jammu and Kashmir because yesterday it came up; many Hon. Members raised a question that terrorist incidents have increased. But I would also like to place its figures before the House. As far as incidents are concerned, the 220 terrorist incidents took place in the year 2012. In the year 2015, 208 incidents happened, and after that, 152 terror incidents have taken place so far. Civilians who died in the year 2012 numbered 15; in the year 2014, they were 28; in the year 2015, they were 17; and after that, the number of civilians who were killed was 5. I am telling you about the terrorist incidents that happened before this incident. The militants who have been killed so far – about 72 militants – have been killed in the year 2012. I would also like to inform you that in the year 2015, there 108 militants have been killed and after that, in 2016, 86 militants have been killed so far.

Our Hon. Member Kalyan Banerjee, who is probably not here now, had also said that a lot of militants also enter through

Bangladesh and come to West Bengal. This is true. As far as the boundary of Indo-Bangladesh is concerned, it is 4,096.7 kilometres. The riverine border is about 930 km long. The land boundary is 3,166.7 kilometres. About 2727 km of fencing has been completed. The 400 km boundary is such that the fencing has not yet been done. The reason for that is that the land acquisition for fencing that should have been carried out ,it has not been done in many areas. We had also requested the State Government. But I am very happy to inform the House that now the matter is sorted out and we will complete the fencing on the remaining part of Indo-Bangladesh soon.

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY (BAHARAMPUR): Hon. Minister, just think about the maritime boundary of Indo-Bangladesh. It is not properly guarded.

SHRI RAJNATH SINGH: We are also looking into that matter.

SHRI MOHAMMAD SALIM (RAIGANJ): You did not talk about smuggling.

SHRI RAJNATH SINGH: We will not discuss smuggling and everything now, because a Kashmir-specific discussion is going on here.

Madam, I want to say that sometimes there was a mention of conducting referendum. Yesterday, Jyotiraditya spoke about plebiscite. I didn't understand what this plebiscite is for.

HON. SPEAKER: No, they have changed the word. He spoke about discussion and dialogue.

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA (GUNA): Speaker Madam, I have given you the clarification. I have spoken about dialogue and discussion, not plebiscite.

SHRI RAJNATH SINGH: Very good. Thank you. All these things are completely outdated and irrelevant.

Some Hon. Members said that a parliamentary team should be sent there so that it could communicate with the people there and make efforts to normalise the situation there. I want to inform the House that we have also held talks with Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Mehbooba ji in this regard. She has said that as situation is normal a bit, she will come to Delhi and hold

talks in this regard, as I myself had also expressed a wish that I wanted to come to Kashmir, and I will not stop in the Governor's House in Kashmir, but by staying in a guest house, I will have a direct dialogue with the people of Kashmir. I expressed this wish of mine to her. But she requested that she was coming to Delhi for holding talks on this issue after a few days and it would be better for me to come to Kashmir and have a dialogue with the people after the meeting. I think she should come within two or three days. Today, the All-Party Meeting has been called in Kashmir. The situation is slowly getting back to normal.

Some people said that the essential commodities which should be available to the people during the curfew are not available; it needs to be sorted out. As soon as this curfew started, I spoke to the Chief Minister there. She had also ordered relaxation in the curfew during evening and night hours at that time, and the curfew is being relaxed now. In some places, essential commodities are also being made available to the people by the government.

A question of restriction on the press was raised during the discussion. I think everyone must have got the information about it. The Chief Minister there had said that there was no such restriction on our behalf on the press, but for a short time, things like the internet, etc., were blocked due to the situation there, but whatever little bit of restriction was there has been removed. This information has been given to me.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY (DHENKANAL): Today the internet is still not running.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJNATH SINGH: The government has not shut it down. It was also said that a lot of things are being posted on the internet at this time. There was a discussion that a policeman was thrashing a boy with his feet, hitting him, beating him, so I took one out and saw it. Now, to what extent it is true and to what extent it is wrong, I cannot say. But this is a photograph of the incident in Uttar Pradesh. Efforts are being made to create a frenzy among the people by making it viral there. This is an incident long ago; it belongs to him because I am well aware of that concerned officer as well. This incident has taken place there. People are trying to mislead the youth by spreading

rumours. I want to assure the House that with the cooperation of all of you, we will succeed in normalising the situation in Jammu and Kashmir, and I want to assure again that we will get the cooperation of all of you in normalising the situation there.

Thank you very much for these very words.

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Now, 'Zero Hour'.

… *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Karunakaran ji.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI (SOUTH DELHI): Madam Speaker, ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: No questions. He has replied. It is okay.

… *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Now Zero Hour.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Now no question again.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Now it's done, right? It has not been discussed.

... *(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANTKUMAR): This is not the tradition of the House.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: You sit.

... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Hari wants to say something.

… *(Interruptions)*

SHRI G. HARI (ARAKKONAM): It is about the construction of a check dam in the Palar River. … *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (KASARGOD): Madam, I would like to raise a very serious issue. … *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: What is it?

… *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: I have given notice for Adjournment Motion but the Chair has allowed me to raise it in 'Zero Hour'. It is a very important matter. … *(Interruptions)*

The Government has decided to bring in 100 per cent FDI in the defence sector. We see that as a news item in every newspaper and also in the electronic media but the Government is not responsible enough to report all these issues in this House. … *(Interruptions)* Of course, they have the majority. At the same time, they can report this issue and have the expression of our views in this issue. … *(Interruptions)* It is not only in the defence sector but in the retail sector also the Government has changed the FDI percentage. … *(Interruptions)* In the medical sector, we know that the prices of medicines have gone up.

At the same time, the Government has not taken any decision to control the price rise. The Government is interested

to allow more and more FDI in Defence, retail and medicine sectors of the country. I would like to know the reason for taking such a decision. This decision has to be withdrawn.

HON. SPEAKER: S/Shri Mullapally Ramachandran, M.B. Rajesh, P.K. Biju and Adv. Joice George is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri P. Karunakaran.

SHRI G. HARI: Hon. Speaker, Madam, the Government of Andhra Pradesh is attempting to increase the height of the check dam.… *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI: Hon. Speaker Madam, I may also be allowed to speak.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: I will give you a chance to speak later.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Only after one Member has spoken, another Member will speak.

... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI G. HARI: The Government of Andhra Pradesh is attempting to increase the height of the check dam from the existing height of 5 feet to 12 feet across Palar river at Perumballam village, in Chittoor district near Andhra Pradesh-Tamil Nadu border. As per Clause II of Madras-Mysore Agreement, 1892, the upstream States should not build any dam or structure to obstruct, divert or store waters of the river without previous consent of the downstream State of Tamil Nadu.

The Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has taken up the matter with the Andhra Pradesh Government seeking reduction of the level of the check dam to its original level and not to store water additionally and ensure natural flows to Tamil Nadu.

Palar river is an inter-State river flowing through the States of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. Palar river supports an ayacut of about 4.2 lakh acres in Tamil Nadu. Farmers in the Northern Districts of Tamil Nadu, particularly the districts of Vellore, Kanchipuram and Tiruvallur solely depend

upon this river for irrigation. Palar river with its sand strata is the only major source of drinking water supply to several towns and villages in the Northern districts of Tamil Nadu. Further, water from Palar is also supplied to the Atomic Power Station at Kalpakkam near Chennai.

Palar river is already deficient and the farmers in the lower riparian State of Tamil Nadu are dependent on it. Every drop of water from that river is absolutely important and thus cannot be compromised under any circumstances.

Considering the seriousness of the issue, I urge upon the Union Government to immediately intervene in this matter and safeguard the interest of Tamil Nadu.

HON. SPEAKER: S/Shri B. Senguttuvan, V. Elumalai, J.J.T Natterjee, K. Parasuraman, K. Ashok Kumar, P. Nagarajan, R.K. Bharathi Mohan, Shrimati V. Sathyabama and Dr. K. Kamraj are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri G. Hari.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI MEENAKSHI LEKHI (NEW DELHI): Hon. Speaker Madam, I want to raise a very important issue before

you. A woman worker of the Aam Aadmi Party has committed suicide. The reason behind her suicide was that first this woman had got an FIR registered against a person and in her FIR, she had stated that there was a case of exploitation. When that person got bail, he said that someone was planning to eliminate her at the bottom level. There is a special line in the statement of that person which goes ‘You have been liked by someone; someone wants you’. By making such a statement about a woman, a party is defaming a common man. This woman has explained in her FIR what the condition of a common woman in political parties is. When it comes to sexual harassment in the workplace, Parliament has enacted a law on it. But despite the enactment of that law, a political party whose workers are doing less political work and more work on procuring women for their bosses, such political parties should be derecognised by the Election Commission.

When this woman meets the Chief Minister, a pressure is created on her to compromise. She fears for her daughter's and her own life. Due to depression, the woman posted a message on WhatsApp. The biggest thing that has come to light is that SMSs

were sent to the woman from the mobile phone of the MLA's wife. But the wife was not sending these messages. The three workers working under this MLA were involved in these activities in which the name of the state president of Delhi and the name of the local MLA came up, and the three people were pressurising her to compromise. Just see the language used in pressuring her. She was told that if she had to move forward in politics, then she had to compromise with the country.

I want to say that this matter is not just about exploitation of a woman; it is about creating a structure where women are being exploited. It is all happening within a party. Hence, the Election Commission should take cognisance of this and derecognize that party.... *(Interruptions)* This case has been registered under 506 and 509 sections. Now this amount to be a case of abatement to suicide. So, a case of abatement to suicide should be registered against the Chief Minister, MLA and three others on the basis of recorded statement.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Shri Nishikant Dubey, Shri Prahlad Joshi, Shri Alok Sanjar, Shri Devji M Patel, Shri Sudheer Gupta, Shri Rodmal Nagar, Shri

Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Shrimati Jyoti Dhurve, Kumari Shobha Karandlaje, Shri Shivkumar Udasi, Shri Pratap Simha, Shri Nalin Kumar Katil, Shrimati Darshana Vikram Jardosh, Shrimati Jayshreeben Patel, Shri Rajesh Ranjan, Shri Raghav Lakhanpal, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Shri Mahesh Giri, Shri Manoj Tiwari, Shri Lakhan Lal Sahu and Shri Abhishek Singh are granted permission to associate with the issue raised by Shrimati Meenakshi Lekhi.

You all can associate. You all give your names.

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: I understand; I understand it better than you.

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Anurag Ji, please sit down. You people associate. This is not the way. She has raised this issue very well.

Nothing will go on record.

… (Interruptions)...[*]

HON. SPEAKER: You associate; I am not stopping.

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[*] Not recorded.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Why are you shouting? I don’t understand anything. Please sit down.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Whatever topic you want to raise, please do raise in decent language; don't make allegations or shout. Meenakshi Lekhi ji raised it very well.

12.37 hours

SUBMISSION BY MEMBER

Re: Disparaging remarks made by BJP State Vice-President, U.P. against BSP Leader

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA (GUNA): Speaker Madam, in the last two years, so many incidents against Dalits have happened in this country, be it in Haryana, Gujarat, or Una, be it in Rohith Vemula's case or in Mumbai. Women have a respectable place in this country, like goddess Saraswati and goddess Durga and hence it should be the duty of every citizen of the country to respect them, but when responsible people of the government make irresponsible comments about women and no action is taken against them, then nothing worse than this can happen in this country. Dayanand Singh ji is the Deputy Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, and the kind of words he used against Mayawati ji. …*(Interruptions)* Mayawati ji has been the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh for four terms. She is also an MP in Parliament. I cannot read out the words that have been used against her. He

should not just be condemned and sacked, but legal action should also be taken against him. Only then will we be able to say that Dalits get justice. Even though this government is running by taking the resolution of Baba Saheb Ambedkar. But in reality, this government wants a Dalit-free India.

A legal action should be taken against that person so that Dalits can get justice in this country. I demand it from the government and also from the Minister. …*(Interruptions)* We want the answer. A resolution should be passed by the house that legal action should be taken by the Government against such comments.

HON. SPEAKER: Adv. Joyce George, Shri N.K. Premachandran, Shri D.K. Suresh, and Shri Rajesh Ranjan are granted permission to associate with the issue raised by Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao Scindia.

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANTKUMAR): Speaker madam, we have strongly condemned the remarks made against Kumari Mayawati ji, and we have expressed the regret in the other House as well. One

who has made such remarks, we have taken action against him, and the remaining action will be taken care of by the law and administration there. I believe that the public discourse, debates, and dialogues should not stoop to such an extent. We all should try to maintain certain decorum in this regard.

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[English]

HON. SPEAKER: It cannot happen something like that. Please take your seat.

Shri Subhash Chandra Baheria.

… (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Let me complete the list now. I am sorry.

… (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Nothing, except the statement of Shri Subhash Chandra Baheria, will go on record.

...(Interruptions)...[*]

[*] Not recorded.

HON. SPEAKER: I have taken his name. This is not the way.

… (Interruptions)

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Madam Speaker, we are walking out.

12.51 hours

(At this stage, Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia and some other hon. Members left the House.)

[Translation]

SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BAHEDIA (BHILWADA): Speaker Madam, I would like to raise a very important matter in the House and inform the House, through you about the problem of non-availability of the broadband facility in the rural post offices of Rajasthan. In our area, Rajasthan, broadband facility is not available in 94 post offices, and the reason for this is the agreement between Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited and post offices under which broadband will be provided to the post offices through copper media only, and the strength of the copper media is three kilometres. If a post office is more than three kilometres away from the telephone

exchange, it cannot get broadband through that media. In such a situation, if a post office wants a broadband facility, then it will require fibre media.

Speaker Madam, I request the Government through you that, with immediate effect, permission should be given to the rural post offices to get connectivity through the fibre media also so that the broadband facility can be made available directly in rural post offices. Thank you.

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Devji Patel, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Shri Rodmal Nagar, Dr. Manoj Rajoria, and Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Subhash Chandra Baheria.

SHRI B.S. YEDIYURAPPA (SHIMOGA): Madam Speaker, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. In the State of Karnataka, there a feeling amongst the Government officials that they are not safe in the State. There is a sense of anarchy prevailing in the minds of the bureaucrats. The police officers are being subjected to insult, humiliation and ill-treatment and frequent transfers are also being affected. Two police officers in

Karnataka of the rank of DOSP, *have committed suicide. Before committing suicide DOSP ... *had given interview to a TV channel and he named... *1** the ex-Cabinet Minister of Karnataka and two other higher officials as responsible if anything happened to him. ... * was a young police officer but he committed suicide because he was suspended… *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Please do not take names.

SHRI B.S. YEDIYURAPPA: One lady officer ... * DOSP resigned in disgust due to harassment and ill-treatment by the Minister in charge. She was fighting against the *mafias.*

HON. SPEAKER: Names will not go on record.

SHRI B.S. YEDIYURAPPA: One officer ... * tendered resignation due to repeated transfers.

HON. SPEAKER: Names will not go on record.

* Not recorded.

12.53 hours

(*At this stage, Shri R. Dhruvanarayana and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.*)

SHRI B.S. YEDIYURAPPA: One lady officer, namely, Ms. Reshmi Mahesh was assaulted in Mysore. An IAS officer... *was assaulted, humiliated and insulted by ... * a close confidant of the... *. The Collector lodged a police complaint. The District Court rejected the bail application but still he is not arrested. One ... * Assistant Commissioner was transferred 24 times in three years. Now he is thinking of taking VRS. Day before yesterday a lady ... * attempted suicide in police station due to threat from senior officials.

HON. SPEAKER: Names are not going on record.

SHRI B.S. YEDIYURAPPA: This shows that the Government of Karnataka does not want efficient, honest and sincere officers to function. I would like the Union Government to issue necessary instructions to safeguard the interest of the officials and handover the suicide cases of ... * to the CBI for enquiry.

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* Not recorded.

[*]**..... **Madam Speaker, on 4th of July 2015... * Dy. Superintendent of Police committed suicide at Madikeri. Prior to that in an interview to a television channel, he talked about his trauma leading to mental stress and persons responsible for the same. However, the Hon. Home Minister of Karnataka in his statement on the floor of the House in the Karnataka Legislative Assembly mentioned that the internal disputes in the family was reason for his death.... * was very much hurt by such a statement and wrote to the Hon. Prime Minister seeking CBI enquiry into the suicide of her husband ... *. Although... * committed suicide at 5.00 PM, the information was not made known to anyone except to his father till 8 PM. In the meantime, the police recorded the statement of his father and thereafter the news of... * suicide was made available to the world. Besides this, there was one more police officer in the same rank, ... *committed suicide at Chikmagalur on 5th July 2015. Apart from these two police officers resigned namely ... * IPS officer and... * DSP, who joined the service just one and half years ago.... * IAS

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[*] Not recorded.

[**]…..** English translation of this part of the speech was originally delivered in Kannada

[*] Not recorded.

officer belonging to Scheduled Caste community, was threatened and harassed by a close confidant of the Hon. Chief Minister of Karnataka. There are number of such incidents taking place in the state.

Therefore, I request the Union Government to order CBI enquiry into these incidents. I would like to bring to the notice of the Union Government the law and order in the State of Karnataka is completely derailed. I have also brought this to the notice of the Hon. Prime Minister and the Hon. Home Minister. Let the truth come out from an appropriate enquiry by the CBI. I once again urge upon the Union Government to do justice to the bereaved families of the police officers, who committed suicide in Karnataka by handing over the cases to CBI. Thanking you.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Shri Shivkumar Udasi, Kumari Shobha Karandlaje, Shri P.C. Mohan, Shri Pratap Simha, Shri Bhagwanth Khuba and Shri Pralhad Joshi are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri B.S. Yediyurappa.

… (Interruptions)

12.56 hours

(At this stage, Shri R. Dhruvanarayana and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.)

DR. P. VENUGOPAL (TIRUVALLUR): Madam, please allow me to speak.… *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: You can associate. You can give your name for it. You cannot speak on it.

… *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: According to rule, you have to give your name to associate. Now Mohammed. Faizal may speak.

MOHAMMED FAIZAL (LAKSHADWEEP): Madam, the one and only established passage to Lakshadweep is through ship and the sea, except Agatti Island where an air strip is there. I would say that Lakshadweep is the most unsafe area in our country for embarkation and disembarkation on ship. It becomes very worse and it is at its maximum during the monsoon season. We have the history of losing our lives. Some people have permanently become disabled due to unsafe embarkation and

disembarkation. I am particularly talking about developing infrastructure for embarkation and disembarkation of passengers to the ship and to the shore.

Taking into consideration this problem, the Administration of Lakshadweep has proposed for construction of eastern jetties and break waters, deepening and widening of entrance channels. All those things are in place.

My only request to the Government, specially to the Ministry of Shipping, is this. Those areas where we have constructed eastern side jetties are not in operation full time because it is in the open sea. The Government has to come out with some solution for effective utilization of these eastern side jetties. Only then people will be able to embark and disembark properly.

Secondly, we can have deepening and widening of entrance channels. This is also a big concern for the islanders where ship can enter inside and berth alongside.

Thirdly, I have a video clip in my mobile, which I can show you, Madam, displaying the hardship when I traveled with my

family to attend this Monsoon Session. The people of Lakshadweep are still facing such a hardship.

There is a proposal for construction of break waters in my own island, Androtт, which is of 700 meters and which costs around Rs. 660 crore. This project has been put on the back seat only because of shortage of funds. Now that cost may escalate to Rs. 1000 crore.

If the Government values the lives of the people rather than money, they should take immediate steps in this regard. By God's mercy, I am standing here today. Madam, I will show you the video clipping, if you permit me, in your cabin.

The point is, the break water is the only solution for the people of Androtт to travel to the mainland. If the Government sanctions some additional fund for the construction of break waters and other infrastructure which I have mentioned, it will be very great of the Government.

HON. SPEAKER: Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Mohammed Faizal.

13.00 hours

SHRIMATI MAUSAM NOOR (MALDAHA): I would like to draw your kind attention to a very tragic incident in which eight labourers belonging to my constituency in Maldaha, West Bengal were washed away and one labourer was severely injured which they were working on the Amochu bailey suspension bridge over Amochu river in Bhutan and which suddenly collapsed.

The deceased labourers were very young. They had gone all the way to Bhutan in search of employment to sustain their poor families. I visited the homes of the deceased and I am a loss of words in expressing the dismal condition of the families. They are totally shattered by their loss and their future is in peril since the deceased were the sole bread earners of the families

The Royal Government of Bhutan has announced an *ex-gratia* payment of Bhutanese Ngultrum 10,000 to the family of each deceased worker.

Through you, I urge upon the Government of India to help the families of the deceased labourers by providing monetary help and also their next of kin with a permanent job so that the

future of the family is sound and their children can look forward to a promising life ahead. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is allowed to associate with the issue raised by Shrimati Mausam Noor.

SHRIMATI V. SATHYABAMA (TIRUPPUR): Hon. Speaker, I seek your permission to speak from this seat.

HON. SPEAKER: All right.

SHRIMATI V. SATHYABAMA: Madam, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government the crisis being faced by the garment/dyeing industry of Tirupur in Tamil Nadu where the livelihood of more than five lakh workers is at stake, for it to be remedied.

The CETPs, that is Common Effluent Treatment Plants, of Tirupur are under threat of closure because of the actions taken under SARFAESI Act, whereby all the CETP accounts are classified as NPA.

Having understood this crisis, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Hon. Amma had represented this issue to the Hon. Prime

Minister of India twice. We have been requesting the Centre to sanction a special grant of Rs. 200 crore to settle the bank dues and also to complete the ZLD project. Even after repeated requests made by the State Government of Tamil Nadu, this request has not found favour with the Centre.

Our proposal was first sent to the Ministry of Textiles which sent it to the Ministry of finance with very strong recommendations, which found its way to NITI Aayog. … *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Please put your demand. Do not read out all these things.

SHRIMATI V. SATHYABAMA: I will take only half a minute Madam.

After studying the proposal, it also made strong recommendations and sent it to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry for sanction of grant. But ultimately the Ministry of Commerce and Industry sent it back saying ‘insufficient funds to consider the proposal favourably’.

If this proposal is not considered favourably and if there is a delay of one more month to sanction Rs. 200 crore, then the assets of CETPs will be taken over by the banks under the SARFAESI Act, and the dyeing industries will face closure and the livelihood of five lakh workers will be affected.

So, I would request the Government of India to consider this and immediately sanction Rs. 200 crore for reviving this industry from the prospect of imminent closure. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI R.K. SINGH (ARA): Hon. Speaker Madam, thank you very much for allowing me to raise an important matter in the House. I want to raise a very serious issue which concerns all of us. Everyone will agree with me that due to money power and criminalisation, the democratic system has now collapsed.

Recently, Panchayat elections were held in Bihar. Each Mukhiya spent Rs. 15 lakh to Rs. 20 lakh in the election. Voters were given money to buy votes there. Even before the MLC elections were held, we saw that votes were bought from the voters.

Speaker Madam, in the same way, money power is rampant in every election. The condition of criminalisation is that people with criminal backgrounds are found in almost all the houses. The reason for this is that our judicial system has collapsed. There are 15-20 criminal cases against people, but they keep moving freely. With time they become MPs and MLAs, and the day is not far when they will also become ministers.

HON. SPEAKER: It is a matter of electoral reform.

SHRI R.K. SINGH: Speaker Madam, people's faith in democracy is coming to an end due to criminalisation and money power. People have lost faith in leaders. We all should understand this thing, and if we do not fix it, then this system cannot last long.

I request all parties to sit together and consider this. Consider removing money-power, corruption, and criminalisation from politics.

HON. SPEAKER: Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Shri Anoop Mishra, Shri Alok Sanjar, Shri Rodmal Nagar, Shri Sudheer Gupta, Shri Sharad Tripathi,

Dr Manoj Rajoria, Shri Balbhadra Majhi and Shri Ravindra Kumar Jena are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri R.K. Singh.

Shrimati Riti Pathak, have you given any notice?

SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK (SIDHI): No, madam.

HON. SPEKAER: Don't you know? Ok. Leave it.

Anyway who puts your Zero Hour notice?

Dr. J. Jayavardhan.

[English]

DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN (CHENNAI SOUTH): Hon. Speaker, the Sri Lankan Government continues to infringe upon the historically enjoyed rights of our fishermen to fish in the traditional waters of the Palk Bay. The Sri Lankan Navy has escalated the frequency and magnitude of incidents of abduction of our fishermen and seizure of boats and fishing equipments, which are going on undeterred in recent days. Our Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, *Puratchi Thalaiva Amma* had requested the Hon. Prime Minister to direct the Ministry of External Affairs to take up this matter with the concerned authorities in

Sri Lanka and bring an immediate halt to the apprehension of Tamil Nadu fishermen, and ensure immediate release of precarious boats, which continue to suffer great damage, and secure the immediate release of our 77 fishermen and 102 fishing boats. Unabated apprehension of Tamil Nadu fishermen and seizure of their fishing boats should be brought to an end. Our Katchatheevu Island should be retrieved, which would resolve this vexatious issue.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra and Shrimati V. Sathyabama are granted permission to associate with the issue raised by Dr. J. Jayavardhan.

Hon. Members, you can take one or two minutes only. I will not allow you to read the whole thing. You have to raise the issue. That is all.

SHRIMATI RAKSHATAI KHADSE (RAVER): The Railway Board has constituted a committee to formulate the policy for recruitment of Course Completed Act Apprentices (CCAA) in Railways. The Committee has recently forwarded its recommendations and accordingly, the Railway Board has decided to provide 20 per cent reservations for these candidates

in all the recruitment drives in the respective discipline and Zones of Railways in the open market in Pay Band 1.

These candidates have completed the course in accordance with the Apprentice Act; trained in various establishments of Railways; appeared for the examinations granted by the National Council of Vocational Training (NCVT); and possesses National Apprenticeship Certificate.

Whenever there is a recruitment drive in the said Pay Band of Railways from open market, these candidates have to appear for the examination again and get qualified to be engaged under the preference reservation of 20 per cent. As many such issues of apprenticeship has been handled prior to this notification, there is a need to go for direct recruitment of all the willing candidates who have completed the said Course with the discretion of the General Manager of the respective Zones of Railways.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Tell me what the suggestion is.

[English]

SHRIMATI RAKSHATAI KHADSE: I would take only a couple of minutes more, Madam.

It is a fact that in the Western Railways there are many such Course Completed Apprentices waiting for engagement from batches passed out in the year 2010 onwards.

As these candidates have already cleared and passed out the course and trained in Railways own establishments, it is needless to ask them to appear for the examinations for their own reserved and preference quota of recruitment 20 per cent.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Okay, you have said it.

I'm not going to allow reading of speech. Zero Hour means raising your main problem. Don't read long speeches. Now it has been two years for everyone.

[English]

SHRIMATI RAKSHATAI KHADSE: Through you, Madam, I would like to request the Hon. Minister to recruit these candidates as per their merit granted by the NCVT for the

National Apprentice Certificate. I would also request the Hon. Minister to increase the preference reservation to 40 per cent instead of 20 per cent so that many of the Apprentices, who complete the course, will be engaged in the Railway Service before they cross the age fixed for recruitment. Also on the same grounds, 40 per cent preferential reservation may be provided for the Ordnance Factory.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Sharad Tripathi and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shrimati Rakshatai Khadse.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA SINGH BHOLE (AKBARPUR): Speaker Madam, I would like to apprise you through the House that high momentum is being provided to the development of India under the leadership of Hon. Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji, but with regret I have to inform you that even though a scheme has been announced by the Hon. Prime Minister to provide electricity to every village by the year 2018 , gross negligence is being committed by the Uttar Pradesh government as so far, only 25 per cent of the villages have been electrified; for

example, only 255 villages out of 1792 villages in our Kanpur city and 336 villages in Kanpur Dehat have been electrified.

Apart from this, I have to say with regret that its deadline is 1st October 2016. Hence it should be completed by 1st October 2016. The timeline from September 2014 to October 2016 has been given for this purpose. However, the departmental officials are committing negligence. The local contractors engaged in providing electricity are forced to carry poles for electricity by government officers which results in a scuffle and under which two people died in Brihar village of the village development block within our two development blocks, and three people from Kalyanpur development block have died. It is a matter of regret that so far nothing has been given to them by the State Government except the Family Benefit Scheme. Therefore, I demand through you that an amount of ten lakh rupees should be provided to the families of the deceased and arrangements should be made for the early completion of the work. Departmental action should also be taken against the negligent employees.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, and Shri Mukesh Rajput are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Devendra Singh 'Bhole'.

DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA (MUMBAI NORTH EAST): Hon. Speaker, few days ago there was an incident of killings of people by the terrorists in Dhaka. Dr. Zakir Naik, a preacher of Mumbai tops the list of those involved therein. His speeches are broadcast through illegal Peace TV channel. What is the effect of his speeches? Many questions have been raised in this regard. The state government of Maharashtra and the Centre are investigating the matter. The I&B Ministry has taken some action. I will request through you to the Government to apprise the house about the status of Dr. Zakir Naik as what kind of speech he makes and whether the youth of India are motivated towards terrorism by his speeches? The status of investigation going on against him should be placed before the House.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Shri Sudheer Gupta, Shri Rajendra

Agrawal, Shri Rodmal Nagar and Shri Alok Sanjar are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Dr. Kirit Somaiya.

[English]

SHRI MUTHAMSETTI SRINIVASA RAO (AVANTHI) (ANAKAPALLI): Madam Speaker, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to raise a matter of urgent public importance.

Madam, after the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act was enacted by Parliament in 2014, the previous UPA Government had promised to grant Special Category Status to Andhra Pradesh State for five years to offset losses it could suffer because of the State's bifurcation. On the floor of the House the former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh gave the promise. So I request the present Government to please grant Special Category Status to Andhra Pradesh because if the Prime Minister says something, people believe that, either former Prime Minister or the present Prime Minister. All the political parties, including the BJP, supported granting Special Category Status to Andhra Pradesh. As the House knows, the Seemandhra regions vehemently opposed the split and punished the Congress

Party in the General Election as well as in the State Election held simultaneously in Andhra Pradesh.

Madam, the BJP was kind enough to demand in Parliament that Special Category Status should be given to Seemandhra for 10 to 15 years. Already there is unrest among the people of Andhra Pradesh for not getting Special Category Status. If the decision is delayed further, then it becomes difficult for elected representatives to convince the people. The Central financial assistance to a Special Category Status is calculated in such a manner that 90 per cent of it is deemed as grant and the remaining 10 per cent is considered as loan.

With bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh, Seemandhra has suffered huge financial losses. IT industry, infrastructure industries, educational institutions and public sector undertakings are concentrated only in Telangana State. We have to build everything from scratch. In spite of financial constraints, our Hon. Chief Minister Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu has embarked on an ambitious programme of building the new Capital City, inviting FDIs and creating infrastructure. It is a humungous task. If Special Category Status is given to

Seemandhra, then these things can be implemented in a smooth way.

There is a demand for grant of a special package for seven districts in Andhra Pradesh. The Government of India had given Rs. 50 crore. It is not enough. We request that the Government of India should give Rs. 200 crore for each district. … *(Interruptions)*

Therefore, through this House, I urge upon the NDA Government to grant Special Category Status to Andhra Pradesh at the earliest.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Muthamsetti Srinivasa Rao (Avanthi).

[Translation]

SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV (BULDHANA): Speaker Madam, I would like to inform the House through you that in the financial year 2015-16, a provision was made to construct a 162-kilometre broad gauge line between Jalna and Khamgaon, and it was proposed to be constructed under a public-private

partnership. This proposed railway line was welcomed by the people of Marathwada and Vidarbha. With the construction of this railway line, Vidarbha and Marathwada can be connected. Hence there was a ray of hope of getting a new railway network in Maharashtra; now it has been one year, but there is no trace of this railway line. The above railway line was a new beginning to develop the backward areas of Vidarbha and Marathwada. There is a lot of anger among the public due to work not being started on this railway line, there is a lot of resentment among the public, and opposition against the government is growing. Some organisations are thinking of agitating against it. The demand to lay a railway line between Jalna and Khamgaon is about 100 years old.

Speaker Madam, I request the Government through the House to expedite the work of constructing a new broad gauge railway line between Khamgaon and Jalna as per the provision made in the railway budget and also apprise the House of the current status of the proposed railway line. Thank you.

DR. MANOJ RAJORIA (KARAULI-DHOLPUR): Speaker Madam, through you, I would like to draw attention of the house

towards the challenges being faced in the execution of works related to providing information and technology communication facilities in rural areas in Rajasthan.

Madam, very good works are being done by the Department of Information and Technology on the instructions of the Prime Minister, and the aim of the Prime Minister is that the people of remote villages should also get the benefit of information and technology. For this purpose, he has built various types of portals, created apps, and worked to benefit the facilities of the government to the people of the village through IT and to benefit farmers and students through education, but it is a matter of misfortune that the work being done by the IT Department in Rajasthan, especially the 'Digital Literacy Program', is very slow. Today the Prime Minister's dream is to provide broadband facilities in every Gram Panchayat.

Speaker Madam, I would like to remind you that the broadband facility which should be provided in every Gram Panchayat of Rajasthan, especially in my parliamentary constituency of Karauli-Dholpur, has not yet been provided; its

work is very slow. I request you do that work at a faster pace so that the public can get benefits.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Dr. Manoj Rajoria.

SHRI SANTOKH SINGH CHAUDHARY (JALANDHAR): Speaker Madam, as per the Constitution of India, our country is a secular country; all religions are respected here, but sadly, for a long time, sacrilege of our great Guru Granth Sahib in Punjab has been taking place. Last year, Guru Granth Sahib was desecrated in Moga, Faridkot, and Tarn Taran; there were protests and many deaths also occurred, but now it has started again. The leaders of the Aam Aadmi Party and its people have made their election manifesto, in which they have put the picture of Darbar Sahib and have put a broom as their election symbol. Due to this, there is a huge anger among the people of our Sikh caste, who believe in the Guru Granth Sahib; their sentiments have been hurt.

Apart from this, there has been another big incident. Right now there was a mention of Kashmir. Malerkotla is a city in

Punjab, where all the population is of the Muslim brotherhood, and there has always been peace. Even when the country was divided, the city remained calm, and there was no incident in it, but sadly, the Quran Sharif was desecrated there, and three culprits were caught. One of the culprits made a statement that it had been given one crore rupees by the MLA of the Mehrauli Legislative Assembly constituency of Delhi to do this work. I believe that there cannot be a more serious matter than a Member of the Legislative Assembly of a party paying Rs. 1 crore to desecrate the Holy Quran. This has caused a huge uproar in the Muslim Brotherhood in Punjab and the surrounding areas. The law and order and peace situation in Punjab is already very weak. More than 300 gangsters are operating their gangs. If such incidents happen at such times, there will be a huge threat to peace in Punjab. I request that the Government of India intervene in the Malerkotla incident, the CBI be investigated, and action be taken immediately against those who are guilty.

HON. SPEAKER: Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Santokh Singh Chaudhary.

SHRI RAM CHARITRA NISHAD (MACHHLISHAHAR): Madam, I would like to draw your attention to the subject related to compensation for farmers' land in my Lok Sabha constituency, Machhlishahr and seek assistance in this regard. The Government of Uttar Pradesh is going to construct two new roads from Varanasi to Sultanpur and Varanasi to Azamgarh in our Lok Sabha constituency. The Government of India Transport Ministry has given money to the State Government. Land acquisition was done in the year 2011, but to date, farmers are protesting on the road in Chandwak Market of Karakat Legislative Assembly constituency in our Lok Sabha. Since the Azamgarh area is the area of the chief minister's father, the rates demanded by the farmers were given to them, but with that, our Lok Sabha constituency, to date, farmers are not getting fair price compensation even after holding dharna daily.

Through you, I request that the farmers of my Lok Sabha Constituency should be given compensation on the lines of the farmers of Azamgarh and Sultanpur.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Ram Charitra Nishad.

SHRI RAVNEET SINGH (LUDHIANA): Madam, Chaudhary Saheb has also raised similar issue. I also want to say that there is nothing more for us than religion and gurus. One party used to say that religion will be kept separate from politics, and caste and creed will be kept separate. There is such a rush among them how to loot Punjab. Since elections are going to be held in Punjab, they are wondering how to capture Punjab. They say something new every day. I won't name anyone. That Chief Minister looks for excuses that he should keep saying something or other. He either gets tired of working from here and wants to spend holidays in Punjab or go for a religious tour. He sometimes carries clean utensils with him and starts Sewa in the Darbar Sahib. There are many Gurudwaras in Delhi where Sewa

can be done. Sewa is not done in front of a video camera or by calling a journalist.

Speaker Madam, the biggest thing is that lakhs of people in the country and abroad who wake up every morning to take darshan of Darbar Sahib on TV channels have shown a broom in front of Darbar Sahib. What could be a bigger insult than this, especially for the Punjabis and those who take the name of Guru Nanak? It is a youth manifesto. It would have been better if this youth manifesto had a photo of the soldiers, a photo of the players from Punjab, and a photo of the boys of the college. I don't know under what conspiracy they have deliberately kept a broom in front of Darbar Sahib. I would like to say that here also there are the Members of Parliament of that party. Both those Members should apologise in the House and apologise to the Punjabis and Sikhs, as it is a very wrong thing.

Madam, through you, I would request the Government that their party be banned by the Election Commission. The CM of this place goes to Punjab and instigates riots; the Home Ministry should stop them, and he should not go there. He can instigate some religious sentiment in Punjab. These are ignorant people

who want to do everything as a joke. These funny people, who are not serious, and these rejected people should be stopped. Punjab is a very sensitive state.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are granted permission to associate with the issue raised by Shri Ravneet Singh.

[English]

SHRIMATI R. VANAROJA (TIRUVANNAMALAI): Respected Madam, Tamil Nadu under the dynamic leadership of Hon. Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma is one of the best performing States under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana since its inception. Tamil Nadu State has so far completed 6,284 road works covering a length of 13,018 kms. at a cost of Rs. 2,925 crore. The State has completed more than 90 per cent of the works sanctioned by the Government of India.

Tamil Nadu has submitted a proposal under PMGSY Phase X for taking up 595 road and bridge works at an estimated cost of Rs. 795.01 crore to the Ministry of Rural Development. The Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchi Thalaivi Amma in the memorandum submitted personally to the Hon. Prime

Minister has requested him to direct the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India to accord early approval for these proposals under PMGSY.

I urge the Union Government to approve and expedite the sanction of Rs. 795.01 crore for the PMGSY Phase X in Tamil Nadu.

Thank you, Madam.

HON. SPEAKER: Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shrimati R. Vanaroja.

[Translation]

SHRI GANESH SINGH (SATNA): Hon. Speaker Madam, through you, I would like to thank the Hon. Prime Minister, who launched the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana given the crops being destroyed by the frequent natural calamities of farmers. This has caused great enthusiasm among the farmers. Farmers have no complaints even about the premium amount that has been fixed for this. But the premium amount is being deposited by the insurance companies based on cost

expenditure, whereas this requirement should be based on the total production of the crop. Recently, the amount of relief in natural calamities from the Union Government has increased by one and a half times. Several state governments, including Madhya Pradesh, have also increased the relief amount by amending the RBC Act, which used to compensate for some kind of relief in case of loss of cost to farmers. If the benefit of the new crop insurance scheme is to provide 100 per cent to the farmers, then along with the provision of cost expenditure insurance, it is necessary to provide for the total produced crop insurance; only then can the crop loss of the farmers be correctly compensated?

HON. SPEAKER: Sarvashri Alok Sanjar, Anoop Mishra, Rodmal Nagar, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, and Bhairon Prasad Mishra are granted permission to associate with the issue raised by Shri Ganesh Singh.

[English]

SHRIMATI BUTTA RENUKA (KURNOOL): Madam Speaker, I would like to draw the attention of the august House

to the matter of payment of wages issue of Union Government's flagship programme MGNREGA.

This ambitious programme of Government of India is lacking proper implementation. The funds are not reaching the targeted workers. It is inflicted with mismanagement and delayed payments. Third party involvement is at its height. This is causing migration from rural area in search of wages.

For instance, in my Parliamentary Constituency Kurnool, the workers are not getting 100-150 days of employment as per the norms of the Act. There are many irregularities surfaced in disbursement of wages of the workers. Pattikonda, Krishnagiri, Maddikera villages are mostly affected with wrongdoing, middlemen and mismanagement in payment of wages.

I raised the matter in the District level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee meeting, and it was accepted by the officials.

Keeping in view of the above, I urge upon the Hon. Minister for Rural Development, Government of India to take concrete measures to plug the loopholes in the system with

regard to payment of wages and providing 150 days employment as per the norms to achieve its desired results.

Thank you, Madam.

HON. SPEAKER: Mohammed Faizal and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shrimati Butta Renuka.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL (MEERUT): Madam, as per the standard of the Medical Council of India, there should be at least two C-arm machines in the bone ward urgently ascertaining the correct condition of the bones in the body. One of these machines should be kept in the elective OT and the other in the emergency ward.

In my area Meerut, the orthopaedic ward of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Hospital attached to Lala Lajpat Rai Medical College has been facing problems in performing major operations due to the C-Arm machine being out of order for the last year. As a result of this, some patients have to undergo surgery at a much higher cost outside the private hospitals, while

the poor patients are being operated on with the old method. In the absence of a C-arm machine, there is a risk of cutting nerves and causing disability to the patient. As per the MCI norms, it is also necessary to have a CT scan in the emergency ward, but it is not available there.

I request the Government, through you, to take cognisance of the problem faced by the common people due to the failure of this essential C-Arm machine and the non-availability of resources in the hospital and direct the authorities responsible for the smooth functioning of the hospital procedures immediately and also make arrangements to ensure that the common man does not have to bear the brunt of administrative negligence and mutual coordination.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are granted permission to associate with the issue raised by Shri Rajendra Agrawal.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV (BANKA): Speaker Madam, thank you very much for allowing me to speak. The matter of providing Special Category Status to Bihar has always been raised. Demand is being raised from

Bihar; this demand is being raised by the state government of Bihar; the demand is being raised by our party; and funds should be given for the consolidated development of the economically backward area, and the pace of development should increase further. That is why we demand that Bihar should be given special status. On the contrary, the central amount to be given there is being cut, funds are not being given to centre-sponsored projects, funds are being withheld and the state government is working on its strength. The Hon. Prime Minister had talked about giving a package of Rs. 1 lakh 67 thousand crore, but there is no account of what work will be done with that package. We have the world-famous Kamariya Mela, which is 107 kilometres long and goes through Banka and Sultanganj. This is a wonderful fair for which 50 crore was said to be earmarked. 50 crores were said to be spent on the development of the Mandar tourist area, which is in the Banka area. At the same time, it was also said to develop Bhagalpur, Munger, and Jammui as tourism sectors. Therefore, I demand from the Centre that Bihar should be given Special Category

Status and the package announced should be implemented at the earliest. Thank you.

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN (SUPAUL): Thank you, Hon. Speaker, I have been trying to raise this matter for the last two days because there has been a flood in my area itself. The Kosi River passes through my area. As a supplementary question, I wanted to know about this from Hon. Uma Bharti ji.

Madam, in my area there is a lot of flood water in Marouna, Supol, and Bhabhatiahi, and about two hundred families have been rescued. The state is doing whatever work it can, but I want to raise this issue here because every year we are facing this problem.We want three solutions to be there in the dam between the east and west, which is an area of eight kilometres. When NH-57 was being built, there was a safety dam; it should have been built about 10 to 15 km east and west, but it was left only 750 metres. The reason why the villages are currently submerged in Rogadia, Marauna, Sisoni, and Bella is that the security dam has not been built there in a proper way. When your team also went there, Gadkari Sahab said that now irrigation will be taken care of not by Gammon but by Uma

Bharti ji. I request the government that there are three problems there. One, there is a need to construct the safety dam for about 10-12 kilometres in the east-west, which will increase the safety of the dam and double the dam. Secondly, the Kosi River brings sand with it. Siltation is a major problem. We visited all of Nepal, and the dam's point is number 2688. The Kusa dam had broken in the year 2008, due to which massive floods occurred and lakhs of people were displaced from there. There the river is again touching the dam; work is going on, but if the water level rises, then the dam is at the mercy of God. The river does not touch the dam, but due to silting, the water takes its edge on one side, due to which there is repeated erosion in the Kosi River. We have to find out - One, a permanent solution to erosion; second, a permanent solution to silting; and third, a security dam, which you only have to do. I had also asked the Railway Minister about Veerpur-Pratapganj and Veerpur-Bhatnaha. *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Your statement has come on record.

Ashwini Kumar Choubey.

SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY (BUXAR): Speaker Madam, I would like to thank you very much.

Madam, on 15th July 2016, some anti-national forces crossed three police stations for three hours with Pakistani flags and raised anti-national slogans in a procession like Pakistan Zindabad, -Hindustan Murdabad. Instead of stopping the anti-national procession, the State Government and the local police administration sat idle becoming mute spectators, and allowed it to pass openly on the road like a stray bull. These slogans were being raised in front of the local police administration by a handful of traitors in support of Zakir Naik, Owaisi, and Pakistan by taking out a procession under the banner of Popular Front of India. It's very shameful and condemnable. Seeing this, people's blood was boiling. There could have been a very violent incident. But people showed restraint. This incident did not happen suddenly but is nothing but the attack on the government of Mahagathbandhan... * in power in Bihar under the leadership of Shri Nitish Kumar... * and on the opposition power... * in

* Not recorded.

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*Not recorded

Bihar under his leadership.

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: I am sorry. No allegation will go on record.

...(Interruptions)...[*]

[Translation]

SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY: As a result of the Head of the State Government embracing Kanhaiya of JNU and of such people calling Ishrat Jahan the daughter of Bihar, all these heinous incidents are taking place.

Therefore, I urge the Union Government and His Excellency the President to immediately impose a ban on such anti-national organisations like the Popular Front of India and the Momin Front, arrest all of them on charges of sedition, and summon the State Government to take strict action. Thank you.

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[*] Not recorded.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey.

[English]

The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.35 p.m.

13.36 hours

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Thirty Five Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.35 hours

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Thirty-Five Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

(Hon. Deputy-Speaker *in the Chair*)

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377 *

[English]

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the Matters under Rule 377 shall be laid on the Table of the House. Members, who have been permitted to raise Matters under Rule 377 today and are desirous of laying them, may personally hand over slips at the Table of the House immediately. Only those matters shall be treated as laid for which slips have been received at the Table within the stipulated time. The rest will be treated as lapsed.

* Treated as laid on the Table.

(i) Need to ensure regular meeting of district committees for monitoring the progress of rural electrification in the States particularly in Sant Kabir Nagar district, Uttar Pradesh.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD TRIPATHI (SANT KABIR NAGAR): No proper information on the progress of works being done under rural electrification under Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana is being provided to the MPs. For this, no initiative is being taken by the Power Distribution Corporations, which is a matter of great concern. It is imperative to mention here that the Member of Parliament is the Chairman of the District Electrification Committee, but sorry to say, no meeting of the Electrification Committee of Sant Kabir Nagar district of my area has been convened, whereas the reality is that till now twenty crore rupees have been allocated by the Union Government to the districts, but as MP, no progress related to this has been reported. In this regard, I demand that the Government ensure that there is a regular meeting of the District Electrification Committee and that a monthly report be sent to the MPs.

(ii) Need to implement scheme of labour-material ratio to 49:51 under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and also include fencing work in the list of works approved under MGNREGS.

SHRI OM BIRLA (KOTA): I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister of Rural Development towards the announcement of implementing the scheme of labour -material ratio to 49:51 under MNREGA by the then Minister of Rural Development in the House on 30th July 2014. There is a need to effectively implement the decision on changing the labour -material ratio to 49:51 at district level under MNREGA which is an important scheme concerning agriculture and employment in rural areas of the country. Due to opposition from many labour unions, this policy has not been implemented till now. With the implementation of this policy, assets will be created, which will lead to the development of rural infrastructure. I urge the Hon. Minister to implement this policy in the country at the earliest.

Apart from this, to protect the crops from wild animals, the work of stone casting has been allowed under the head of

agricultural activities under MNREGA. I request the government to include the work of fencing/wire fencing in the individual items of agricultural works under MNREGA.

(iii) Need to appoint teachers in 'Zila School'- the alma mater of the first President of India in Chapra district of Bihar and develop it as a model school.

SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV (SIWAN): The 'District School' located in the Chhapra district of Bihar has a glorious history. This school gave the country its first president. Dr Rajendra Prasad studied ninth and tenth grades at this school. But today the condition of this school is pathetic. Today there is no teacher in this school to teach in the classes. Therefore, I demand that the Union Government give necessary guidelines to the State Government so that required teachers can be posted in this school. I also demand Central assistance to make this school a model school. I demand that the Hon. Human Resource Development Minister spare the time and visit this school and provide them with necessary financial support.

(iv) Need to introduce online system of booking appointment with doctors and also provide online medical facilites in state and district hospitals.

DR. MANOJ RAJORIA (KARAULI-DHOLPUR): We have recently seen that the Union Government has started an online appointment system at AIIMS Hospital in Delhi so that the patient can book his appointment sitting at home and also find out the availability of a doctor. Similarly, an online appointment should also be made in the state hospitals and district hospitals of the country. For this, there should be a 'Mobile App' of a hospital in which the patient can know the appointment and availability of a doctor as soon as he or she feeds their information. In this mobile app, information on medicines should also be available so that the patient can find out the availability by entering the necessary medicines. This will save patients from the hassle of long queues, and also the medicines being given free of cost will be monitored. Recently, some irregularities in the availability of medicines have come to light., and there have been instances of sales in open markets also. The

online system will be effective in preventing this.Apart from this, the incidents of the doctor not visiting the hospital and not being present will also decrease. This will make our Hon. Prime Minister's dream of 'Digital India' come true, and it will be easy for the patients also. This tracking the medicines will save the unnecessary expenses of the Government.

Therefore, I request the Union Government to start such a facility at the earliest in all the State hospitals and district hospitals of the country.

(v) Need to run-Muzaffarpur-Anand Vihar Garib Rath Express train on daily basis.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA DUBEY (BALMIKI NAGAR): I would like to sincerely thank the Hon. Minister of Railways for accepting my demand for providing a stoppage of the Garib Rath Train at Bagaha station in my parliamentary constituency. But I also want to bring it to the notice of the Minister that this train runs only on one day a week. There is a severe shortage of trains from our area to Delhi. Only Satyagraha Express and Saptakranti are the trains that run daily, in which people can never get seats. Throughout the year, there is either no room or long waiting in these two trains due to which people have to face a lot of difficulties. Students of our parliamentary constituency Valmiki Nagar come to Delhi for studies, sick people for treatment and people from the business class come to Delhi regularly. But due to fewer trains, they have to face serious problems.

Therefore, I would like to request the Railway Minister that keeping in mind the problems and, in the public interest of our

parliamentary constituency, to operate the Muzaffarpur-Anand Vihar Garib Rath every day instead of one day a week, along with changes in its time so that people can get rid of the problems.

(vi) Need to impress upon Government of Uttar Pradesh to provide irrigation facilities to farmers in Nanauta block in Saharanpur disrict of the state.

SHRI RAGHAV LAKHANPAL (SAHARANPUR): I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the problem of irrigation being faced by the farmers of dozens of villages in the Nanota Vikas Khand area in the Saharanpur district of Uttar Pradesh.

A canal passing through East Yamuna Nagar in Saharanpur district goes to dozens of villages like Balu Majra, Umri Mazrata, Jarauda Panda, Kishanpur, Sherpur, Jayapur, Naya Gaon, Sisouni, Maura, etc., but not even a single of water from this canal not reach these villages, due to which the agricultural land of thousands of farmers in this region is deprived of irrigation.

All the affected farmers have been trying for the last so many years to solve this burning problem. There has been a constant request at various levels in the Irrigation Department of Uttar Pradesh and also in the Government of Uttar Pradesh at

various levels, but regrettably, the agony of these farmers was not heard, and these completely hopeless farmers expressed their anger by boycotting the voting in the recently held Deoband Assembly by-elections.

Therefore, I demand from the Union Government to direct the State Government of Uttar Pradesh to address the problems being faced by these thousands of farmers and ensure availability of water in adequate quantity in the said canal through its irrigation department.

(vii)Need to ensure payment of compensation to farmers who lost their crops to hailstroms and excess rain in Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh particularly in Jalaun Parliamentary Constituency.

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA (JALAUN): The compensation sent by the Union Government for the crops devastated by hailstorms and torrential rains in Jalaun Garautha Bhognipur under my parliamentary constituency has not yet reached the farmers. Apart from this, due to the negligence of the administration in Konch tehsil of my parliamentary constituency, an amount of about Rs.30 lakh for compensation of farmers was deposited in benami accounts through fake cheques while the eligible farmers are still making rounds of departments to get the assistance.

Agriculture is the main profession of most of the residents of Bundelkhand, and the farmers of Bundelkhand have been suffering huge losses due to natural calamities for the last several years. The irregularities committed in the amount of compensation at such a time are a serious offence. If there are

such big irregularities in a small tehsil, what will this figure be in the entire Bundelkhand?

Therefore, I demand that the irregularities in the allocation of the funds sent to the farmers of Bundelkhand in the year 2015 be investigated by constituting a Central Inquiry Committee and a web portal be launched to help the farmers who have not yet received the compensation and through this portal, their compensation should be directly transferred to their account.

(viii) Need to provide clean and safe drinking water to people in Kairana Parliamentary Constistuency, Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI HUKUM SINGH (KAIRANA): The number of patients in all major hospitals of the country's capital, Delhi, has increased so much that no hospital is able to provide proper treatment. Similar is the case with hospitals in various parts of the country. Due to the use of adulterated food and contaminated drinking water, serious diseases like hepatitis B and C, cancer, and kidney and heart disease are increasing. Whether it is the major rivers or the local reservoirs, all the water has become completely poisonous. Toxic chemicals are also being released directly into the rivers by industries. The upper level of water available through private taps has been completely contaminated with toxic chemicals. In my Lok Sabha constituency Kairana, Shamli district, there are 3 Assembly constituencies in Shamli district and 2 Assembly constituencies (Nakhur and Gangoh) in Saharanpur district. Diseases have assumed pandemic proportions in these five legislative assemblies, especially in

rural areas, due to a lack of clean water. There is not a single village where there are no cancer, hepatitis C, or heart disease patients, and the number of such patients is increasing. The condition of the village Bhaneda Khemchand, situated on the banks of the river Krishna near Nanauta Development Block in Saharanpur district, has come to light: as a result of river pollution, dozens of people in the village have died from cancer and other diseases. The condition of the river is such that it is not possible for a normal person to even stand on the bank. Despite continuous efforts at the local level, no solution has been found so far.

I demand from the Government that a water tank should be set up as a top priority to provide safe drinking water to these five legislative assemblies, and strict action should be taken against all industrial establishments polluting the river.

(ix) Need to set up a procurement centre of FCI at Farrukhabad in Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI MUKESH RAJUT (FARRUKHABAD): I would like to draw the attention of the Government to Farrukhabad Lok Sabha Constituency of Madhya Uttar Pradesh. This area is rich in agricultural products, and there is an urgent need for an FCI-supported procurement centre. In the absence of this, the farmers who take their goods to the market are forced to sell their crops at throwaway prices due to vicious trap of the middlemen. Due to this, they cannot get a fair price for the crop, and if the farmer takes his produce to other mandis in the country, then the local market officials exploit it, do not allow it to go, and keep the tractor halted, due to which the agricultural produce sometimes gets spoilt.

I request the Government to set up an FCI-supported Agricultural Produce Procurement Centre at Farrukhabad soon so that farmers get fair prices for their crops.

(x) Need to frame a comprehensive policy for education and rehabilitation of child labour in the country.

DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR (TIKAMGARH): According to the Right to Education Act 2009 of the country, there is a complete ban on any type of child labour by children till the children complete their education within the prescribed age limit. But despite this, innumerable children in the country are forced to take up child labour due to reasons like poverty, illiteracy, etc. As per the provisions of the Juvenile Justice Act of 2000, children should be kept away from any kind of hazardous and unhealthy industry and production process. Given the above laws, such a comprehensive and national action plan should be implemented for the education and rehabilitation of child labourers, and the process of monitoring and time-bound accountability should be ensured for its implementation.

(xi)Need to launch a special drive for recruitment of youth of Jammu and Kashmir in Defence and para-military forces of the country.

SHRI JUGAL KISHORE (JAMMU): I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the State of Jammu and Kashmir, the place where the India-Pakistan border is located. Indians living on the border face a lot of problems due to daily shelling there. A large number of people and animals lose their lives due to which the people there have to migrate again and again. It has a bad effect directly on the education of their children. Due to this, both the land and crops of the Indian farmers on the border get damaged.

Despite this, the patriotism of these people does not diminish. Without any weapons, these people stand with and are on the lookout for border security with the Indian Army.

I would like to ask the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Government that under the special recruitment scheme for Indians living on the border, the youth should be recruited to our Indian Army/Paramilitary forces so that these people can get

permanent employment and support their families and their spirit of patriotism remains intact and their morale is uplifted.

(xii)Need to extend Shivganga Express upto Singrauli via Robertsganj and Prayagraj express upto Daltonganj.

SHRI CHOTELLAL (RABARTSGANJ): There is only one parliamentary constituency in Purvanchal of Uttar Pradesh where the borders of four states – Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, and Bihar – are located. In my parliamentary constituency, there are railway stations like Robertsganj, Chopan, Obera, Renukoot, etc. Many Mail Express trains pass through these stations. But no train stoppage is there at these stations, due to which lakhs of people from nearby villages and cities have to face problems. Prayagraj Express and Shivganga Express run up to Allahabad and Varanasi. Shivaganga Express should be extended from Varanasi to Robertsganj, and if Prayagraj Express is run from Robertsganj, Chopan, Obra, Renugoot, Shatinagar, and Vindhamganj to Garhwa and Daltonganj,it will provide convenience to the general public there. A local passenger train from Varanasi should run from all stations of Sonbhadra to Vindhamganj. This is a very serious matter. Sonbhadra is a very backward area.

Therefore, I demand that the railway minister take appropriate action, keeping in view the above-mentioned things.

(xiii)Need to provide compensation to farmers who lost their crops to drought in Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI BHAIRON PRASAD MISHRA (BANDA): Under my parliamentary constituency, a large number of farmers in Banda and Chitrakoot districts have not received even a single instalment of drought relief amount. The same is the case with Banda district. State ministers and district officials cite a lack of funds as the reason for this. Farmers are very disappointed and disheartened. Their condition is very bad due to consecutive years of drought. Farmers have no money for clothes and medicines. There is also discrimination in the distribution of food grains. The Government is requested to take necessary action on this matter at the earliest.

(xiv) Need to solve the problems relating to establishment of Railway Junction at Oorukere in Tumakuru taluk of Karnataka

[English]

SHRI S.P. MUDDAHANUME GOWDA (TUMKUR): Indian Railways process a lot of landed properties which is required for development of railway projects. Tumakuru-Rayadurga railway project in Karnataka is an ongoing project connecting both Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. Acquisition of land for the purpose of laying Railway line as well as creating junction is in process.

Process has been made for the purpose of a Railway Junction near Ooruker in Tumakuru taluk in Karnataka under the Tumakuru-Rayadurga Railway Project. This junction is very important since it is proposed at Chennai-Bangalore industrial Corridor and Tumakuru-Davanagere Railway line. It is also abutting N.H.-4 running between Bangalore-Mumbai. Today 171.93 acres of land have been acquired for this purpose. At this stage allegedly some vested interested are making attempts to get these lands denotified to the tune of 144.31 acres out of

171.93 acres of lands acquired for the porpose of Railway Junction at Oorukere in Tumakuru taluk, Karnataka. It is astonishing that the denotification attempt is not at the request of the original land owners but at the behest of real estate persons. It is very unfortunate that South Western Railway has recommended for denotification of land stating that the land is not required for Railway Junction.

I urge the Hon. Minister of Railways to take immediate steps to desist from denotifying any land acquired at Oorukere and other villages in Tumakuru taluk and to establish the Railway Junction at Oorukere in Tumakuru taluk which is very essential in the interest of general public.

(xv) Need to establish a Division Level Post Office at Chamarajanagar district headquarters in Karnataka

SHRI R. DHRUVANARAYANA (CHAMARAJANAGAR): I would like to bring the kind attention of the Government that as per guidelines, Division Level Post Office should be established at District Headquarters only. In Karnataka all District Headquarters are having "Divisional Level Post Office" except Davanagere and Chamarajanagar Districts which are newly formed Districts. Chamarajanagar District Headquarters is in my Lok Sabha Constituency and this District was bifurcated from Mysore District and declared as "New District" during 1997. Previously Division Level Post Office was established at Nanjangud Taluk Headqurters (Mysore District) and since inception it has continued there only. For the last 19 years, no action has been taken to establish Division Level Post Office at Chamarajanagar District Headquarters.

Chamarajanagar District have four Taluks and there are 23 Sub Post-Office, 13 Branch Post Office and 12 GDs. At present in Chamarajanagar District Headquarters Post Office Only 6

persons are working out of 10 sanctioned posts whereas in Nanjangud Divisional Post Office 24 persons are working.

Hence for the purpose of having easy transaction and to facilitate the use of Post Office schemes to the people of Chamarajanagar District, I hereby urge the Union Government to establish Division Level Post Office at Chamarajanagar District Headquarters immediately.

(xvi) Need to construct a new dam at the site of Mullaperiyar dam

SHRI ANTO ANTONY (PATHANAMTHITTA): I request the Government to save the lives of 35 lakh people in Kerala who are in fear of the impending burst of 121-year-old Mullaperiyar Dam. The Mullaperiyar Dam was built by the British in 1895 and at present is operated by the Government of Tamil Nadu, based on a 999-year lease agreement. The Dam has developed many cracks and leaks due to seismic activities since 2000. According to the experts, the area where Mullaperiyar Dam is located comes in Zone 3 seismic category, therefore, vulnerable to earthquakes of magnitude upto six on the Richer scale. Experts also warn that even a mild tremor within a radius of 16 km of the Dam may burst it. Kerala is not against ceding water to Tamil Nadu but our concern is about the safety of people in case of the collapse of the Mullaperiyar Dam. Therefore, I request the Government to kindly take urgent steps to build a new dam at the site of Mullaperiyar Dam.

(xvii) Need to ensure adequate availability of water in Palar River in Tamil Nadu and also expedite Pennayar - Palar Link Canal Project

SHRI B. SENGUTTUVAN (VELLORE): River Palar, an inter-State river, originating in Karnataka, runs to a distance of 53 kms in Karnataka, 30 kms in Andhra Pradesh and 222 kms in Tamil Nadu. The river is covered under Schedule-A of the Madras-Mysore Agreement. As per Clause II of Agreement upstream State cannot construct any dam or reservoir without consent of the downstream State. During the monsoons, where adequate rainfall is received, the waters of the river replenish more than one thousand tanks, ponds and lakes on either side of its banks, which are the sources of water of drinking and irrigation in Vellore and Kancheepuram Districts. The Palar ayacut supports cultivation of roughly 4.2 lakh acres of lands. However, due to the construction of Check-dams across the river by neighbouring States of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, the water flow in the river has completely ceased leaving the land patched, dry and drought-stricken. To compound the problems,

the Andhra Pradesh Government is raising the height of check dam in Perumpallam village on the very border of Tamil Nadu State to a height of 12 feet and more with a view to converting it into a reservoir. This would seriously impede water flow in the Palar and deprive Tamil Nadu of the much-needed Palar water. In order to protect the ayacutdars, the inter-state Palar River has to be nationalised removing all dams and barriers constructed across it and the 52 km long Pennayar-Palar Link Canal Project has to be implemented expeditiously. Our Hon. Chief Minister has already voiced her opinion regarding interlinking of rivers and nationalisation of interstate rivers which alone would assure equitable distribution of scarce water resources to all stakeholders. I call on the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation to take all steps to rejuvenate Palar River.

(xviii) Regarding holding of Jallikattu events in Tamil Nadu

SHRI R. PARTHIPAN (THENI): Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu in January, 2015, had requested the Union Government to enable to State of hold Jallikattu events in Tamil Nadu by denotifying bulls from the list of performing animals and had requested to lift the ban on Jallikattu. In December, 2015, she had again requested the promulgation an Ordinance to enable to the holding of Jallikattu during Pongal Festival.

Based on the request, the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change had issued a Notification, but the Supreme Court of India issued an interim stay on 12.01.2016 on the notification and as a result Jallikattu could not be conducted during Pongal 2016. On 12.01.2016, the Chief Minister had strongly reiterated her requests to the Government of India to promulgate an Ordinace to enable the holding of Jallikattu.

The Government of India has filed a common counter affidavit before the Supreme Court of India on 8.3.2016 indicating the historical, cultural and religious significance for

the holding of Jallikattu. I request he Government of India to strongly support the Government of Tamil Nadu's stand which would eventually pave the way for holding of Jallikattu events in Tamil Nadu in the coming years during Pongal festival.

(xix) Regarding evolving a mechanism for sharing cess on coal with the coal bearing State

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): The Union Government has enhanced the levy of 'Clean Environment Cess' on coal from Rs. 200 per tonne to Rs. 400 per tonne in the Union Budget 2016-17 despite the fact that the rate of royalty on coal remained unrevised for more than four years. As a result, the coal bearing States are not getting adequate revenue contribution from coal mining sector which they deserve on account of adverse effects of mining such as displacement of people, reduction in forest area, greater risks of environmental pollution and strain on water resources and infrastructure. Thus, the Government of Odisha has requested the Union Government time and again for sharing of at least sixty per cent cess on coal with the coal bearing States. Further, the Government of Odisha has also requested the Union Government that the contribution to District Mineral Foundations (DMF) for coal should be made payable w.e.f 12th January, 2015, the date of enforcement of MMDR Amendment Act, 2015 instead of 20th October, 2015 to

ensure that coal bearing States realise full benefits of DMF contribution. I, therefore, urge the Union Government to evolve a mechanism for sharing cess on coal with the coal bearing States to make good their losses on account of adverse effects from the mining sector.

(xx) Need to look into the implementation of Modified Flexible Complementing Scheme in Indian Meteorological Department

SHRI ARVIND SAWANT (MUMBAI SOUTH): I would like to bring the kind notice of the Government to the gross misuse of the administrative and discretionary power vested with the officers of Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) administration.

To facilitate the officers for innovation and invention and to dedicate their services for the research, Modified Flexible Complementing Scheme (MFCS) was brought. This scheme was amended by 6th CPC to facilitate the scientist of the nation and to remove frustration that was building due to lack of promotional avenues.

Unfortunately, not a single officer in IMD till date has come up with any invention. In IMD 90% of the scientists were involved in arranging duty roasters, administrative work, purchasing and installation of instruments and in real time forecasting using the tools developed by other agencies.

Therefore, they do not qualify as per the guidelines framed by DOP&T for modified flexible complementing scheme (MECS), however being at the policy makers position they have allegedly misused the powers conferred by the Government and amended the recruitment rules and corresponding designations to fit themselves within the guidelines of MFCS and enjoy the benefits of time bound promotions. FCS rules clearly mention that Group A Officers with degrees such as M.Sc (Mathematics and Statistics) are not eligible for MFCS mode of promotion. Still MFCS mode of promotion is extended to all. The FCS rules also mention that those involved in the administrative work too are not eligible for FCS benefits. In IMD officers from the post of Scientist C to Scientist G are by and large involved only in administrative work.

For example, the satellites are made, launched and maintained by ISRO, however it is used by IMD to read the product and interpret the product. Similarly, the weather radars are purchased from the market and installed at various centers. They too are used by IMD for interpretation.

It is noticed that Group A officers are holding double nomenclature, one for promotional avenues (Scientist) and second for administrative and financial powers (Director, Deputy Director General etc.). Hardly any group A is undertaking the research work in its true spirit. Most of the Group A officers are involved in issuing forecast and maintenance of instruments which cannot be classified as scientific and drawing the huge salaries and promotion, causing huge expenditure to the tune of crores of rupees to the exchequer of the IMD. I therefore request the Hon. Minister to investigate the matter promptly and appoint true researchers of IMD and prevent misuse of Government money.

(xxi) Need to honour K.D. Jadhav, the renowned Olympic wrestler with Padma Award.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJU SHETTI (HATKANANGLE): It is a matter of pride for every Indian to be conferred the Padma Award of the country. But there would be many people who did good work for the country and brought glory to the country across the world. But after the completion of the important work done in the interest of our country, very few of these people will try to include their name in the list of Padma Awards by submitting applications to the government. But it is not only the duty of the government but of every Indian to give due respect to these people for their dedication towards the country. Sometimes such a person is not awarded throughout his life, and unfortunately, the new generation forgets his incredible work. Therefore, it is the responsibility of this Parliament to posthumously confer the Padma Award upon such great personalities whom we could not reward for their noble deeds. According to the rules made for the Padma Awards, the Padma Award is given posthumously only to those whose family or public representative informs the

government within one year before the announcement of the Padma Award. It is written that only they can be considered. But in this selection process, the name of the industrialist Late Dhirubhai Ambani ji was included for the Padma award in the current year. We are all proud of his work, but at the same time, in this regard, the country's renowned wrestler, son of Maharashtra’s late K.D. (Khashaba) Jadhav, who got India's first bronze medal in Helsinki in 1952 for wrestling, should also be honoured with the Padma Award posthumously, I request the Union Government.

14.38 hours

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF TECHNOLOGY, SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2016

[English]

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, we will take up Item No.11.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): I beg to move:

> "That the Bill further to amend the National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research Act, 2007, be taken into consideration."

I want to give a brief outline of what the bill is. *[Translation]* Everyone has faith in education in the country. From this side of the House to here, if everyone is interested in one subject, it is education, because education is a subject which touches every home, every person. Therefore, the Prime

Minister's policy is that everyone should get education and good education *[English]* that is, education accessibility, quality, affordability and accountability – all four. *[Translation]* For that, there is a huge demand for national institutes. *[English]* They represent everything, all that we stand for. They are quality educational institutes. They are regarded as the best. The result is 100 per cent placement. Not only that, it is affordable also. *[Translation]* Actually, everyone wants one to get such affordable education, but our country is also big, so private institutes and fee structures also come into play.

[English]

Today, what we are introducing is an amendment to the National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research Act, 2007 in which 20 institutes were recognised as National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research. All these three things are important things – technology, science education and research. We cannot just create only technocrats with application sciences. We must learn basic science also. We must also promote research.

Sir, may I mention where India lacks? It lacks in innovation. *[Translation]* It is because we do not allow inquisitiveness from childhood. We tell children in school to sit quietly and not ask questions. *[English]* Actually he or she should ask question. When they ask a question, they are challenging what is there and then only, they can find something new. So, innovation is the product of research. Therefore, the basic sciences and basic research has to be the thrust of higher education. These national institutes – they are popularly called NITs – like IITs and ISCERs have all become institutes of national importance and national excellence. That is what we have created through last 70 years. These kinds of institutes actually make the country a prosperous country.

Countries can prosper by four ways. One such way is the European way, the way they prospered through colonial exploitation. It was one part of the story. The second way is like that of the Middle East. They have been given tremendous natural bounties. Anywhere you dig and you have the oil. That is another way. The third way is what India and China adopted. They mastered in adaptation, reverse engineering and cost

competitiveness, and they flourished. But the real prosperity comes through innovation.

We have a mobile with us, whatever brand it may be of. As a Chairman of IT Task Force of my State, I was with Steve Jobs for two days. At that time, in 1998, iPhone was not there. He was telling us about his dream project of iPhone where he would put all utilities, all applications in a hand-held device. Earlier, computers used to be so big and people were using different applications. For different utilities, different applications were being used. But he combined all into one. That is the power of innovation. That is the way to wealth creation as well. The cost of the material which goes into it may be Rs. 5,000, but it becomes worth Rs. 50,000 because of the innovation put into it. So, we must promote innovation, we must promote research. That is a major task of, and challenge before, our higher education system. Therefore, these national institutes are really important.

Today, what I am bringing to you is, in a way, a part of completion of an assurance which was given to the newly carved out State of Andhra Pradesh because an NIT was already there

in the erstwhile Andhra Pradesh, which is now a part of Telangana. The new State of Andhra Pradesh also requires an NIT. That was our promise. We are fulfilling it through this Bill.

The Bill, when it was envisaged in 2007, had 20 national institutes; then in 2012, five Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISERs); and 10 new NITs were added to it. In 2014, there was one amendment for one institute, namely, the Bengal Engineering Science University, Shibpur and that was added to it. So, they became 36, and today, we are adding one more and that makes it 37 national important universities out of which 31 will be NITs; five will be IISERs; and one will be the Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, Shibpur. So, all this is put together.

In a way, this NIT is already operational, but it is working in the campus of Sri Vasavi Engineering College in Tadepalligudem in West Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh. Already there are 900 students, which are part of the story as this is the second year. But now after there is a four year course, it will be a big institute of 2,000. We will have a separate campus for it where 140 acres of land has already been handed

over by the Andhra Pradesh State Government and the DPR is in finalisation stage. We have already budgeted Rs. 40 crore. Shri Haribabu is here and he has been following it. In two months time we will come to a decision on that DPR and we will release the sanctioned funds. Already, we have released Rs. 10 crore, but we will release Rs. 40 crore. Let me assure at this point of time that there will be no dearth of expenditure or funds for this programme because this is a very prestigious programme. Therefore, we will do it.

When Andhra Pradesh and Telangana were formed, the Government led by Shri Narendra Modi ji has taken many decisions. I was till two weeks ago heading the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change. There was an issue of formation of the State Capital for the new State of Andhra Pradesh. They have decided to form it at Amravati, which is a place between Vijayawada and Guntur where forest land was involved. Our Forest Diversion Act says that you cannot divert forest land for any non-forest purpose, which is not site-specific. But we took a policy decision and not an arbitrary action. We took a policy decision that for a newly carved-out State if the

Capital is to be created because that is an important issue, then we must give land there and they are giving additional compensatory land. I must compliment the Andhra Pradesh Government that they have offered alternative land for afforestation in the Tiger Corridor area. This is also one important environmental aspect. Therefore, the Government is committed to fulfil all promises given to both the new States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. This is in continuation of that mission to fulfil the promises that this Bill of instituting National Institute of Technology at Tadepalligudem in West Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh has been brought. Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

> "That the Bill further to amend the National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research Act, 2007, be taken into consideration."

DR. SHASHI THAROOR (THIRUVANANTHAPURAM): Sir, I may be permitted to speak from this place.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay, go ahead.

DR. SHASHI THAROOR: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is always very encouraging for us when new institutions of higher education are established in our country to cater to the growing aspirations, the tremendous potential and the vast needs of our youthful population. The future is theirs and it is for us to help shape it through creating quality institutions such as the IITs and the NITs. To this extent, the amendment to the National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research Bill, 2016 to add the NIT in Andhra Pradesh to the schedule of the parent Act of 2007 is something we welcome as a Party, and if I may say so in my personal capacity as a former MoS in Shri Javadekar's Ministry of Human Resource Development.

However, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is also my duty as a parliamentarian to bring to the attention of this House the complete disregard of this Government for the principle of quality in its quest for mere quantity. What, for instance, is the current state of this very NIT in Andhra Pradesh that we are

discussing here today? The NIT with 900 students already, as the Minister told us, functions out of a temporary campus. There are no laboratories; there are no libraries; there are no high-quality IT or engineering tools for training. Can you imagine an engineering college without a functioning laboratory or library books? The fact is there is an acute shortage of infrastructure in terms of accommodation as well. We have a situation where we have created an institution which was not ready to be launched, but in a haste to put the foundation-stone as announced, they have gone ahead. The result is, even to stay, there is a girls' hostel functioning, but the boys are accommodated in a village somewhere else.

The NIT has been permitted to commence activities, but do we want shells of institutions, Mr. Minister, or path-breaking resource centres that would truly make a difference? I want to contrast this to what we have just seen in my constituency two weeks ago, when a fully functioning Central Polytechnic, the best known in Kerala, established in 1949, was derecognized by the AICTE in your Ministry for not fulfilling a list of conditions that they deemed had to be fulfilled. If that same list were

applied to the new NIT in Andhra Pradesh, it would have been derecognized by the same AICTE.

So, the problem in our system is that our higher education – I said this when I was a Minister as well – is overregulated and under-governed. We really need to focus on what the purpose of education is, how we bring about learning outcomes for our children and not focus irrelevantly on excessive regulation.

There is a larger problem that is hidden behind this Bill, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir. Even our premier IITs are facing today a shortage of trained faculty. According to the Government's own figures, it is about 42 per cent in the IITs, but in the NITs, the shortage is now in the glaring vicinity of 50 per cent of the authorised faculty. There are no teachers, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, and students are being herded into half-built campuses with half the faculty strength to receive an education that can only be called half-baked. Frankly, this is inadequate. We cannot run education like this.

On top of that, employers across the board are complaining about the unemployability of Indian graduates. A recent FICCI survey shows a figure of 62 per cent of employers are

dissatisfied with the quality of our engineering graduates. This is a fact. In fact, I have spoken to many CEOs, as I am sure you have done. Infosys and Tatas and so on have set up their own campuses to train the people they have already hired after an engineering degree, not for on-the-job training, but to make up for the deficiencies of the education we are giving them in our engineering colleges. They are getting nine months to one year of new education because our education is not good enough. Of course, they are paying teachers better. So, many teachers are leaving and going to Tatas and Infosys and companies like that, rather than staying in the NITs and coming to the IITs.

Yes, we are proud of our IITs, which is the next Bill that you are bringing up. There is no problem there but these are largely islands of excellence floating in a sea of mediocrity. The truth is we have to be conscious that NITs live up to the standard that their name 'National Institute of Technology' implies. The fact is that in our haste to add more on paper, we must not lose sight of the fact that these institutions are meant to set new and higher standards. If your walls are not solid, and you have no teachers to set the right intellectual standards, it will collapse. It

is not just the building that will collapse, but also it will take with it the future and the prospects of the bright young people who are going to build the India of tomorrow.

I looked at your own Ministry's documentation, Javadekar Sahab. A UGC survey of 1471 colleges and 11 universities have found that 73 per cent of the colleges and 68 per cent of the universities have a quality that the HRD/UGC considers to be medium or low quality. Yet, what are we spending in the latest Budget of this Government – 1.2 per cent of our GDP on higher education. Frankly, that compares with 3.1 per cent in the US. Okay, we are not the US. But take South Korea which is not far away. It is 2.4 per cent -- double of what we are spending.

Since we are talking about the NITs, let me stress that a Working Paper on the Quality of Engineering Education in BRICS countries has been released. As you know, India is now going to host the BRICS Summit and all the BRICS Conferences this year. According to that, average spending per year in engineering education is the lowest in India among the BRICS countries. We are spending 1300 dollars a year; China spends 4300 dollars a year per capita; and Brazil spends 5000

dollars a year. Even our fellow BRICS Members, companions in the developing world, are leaving us behind. They have policies that focus rightly on quality and not just quantity. While we are on BRICS, let me mention that in terms of higher education and training, Russia is 47th amongst the 148 countries surveyed in the world. We are ranked only at 91. We do not even have complete campuses, like the NIT that we are just approving today. It is no wonder that statistics are stacked against us. Though I am not going to speak on the next Bill on the IITs, let me again remind you about the Kakodkar Committee reforms. Really, we ought to take those into account and implement them. They have been sitting with your Government for two years on the IITs.

In global ranking, we know our IITs will feature in the top two hundred. When we come to the NITs, they do not feature anywhere in the top 500. Why is this the case? Why is it that we are so insistent on increasing the numbers of our institutions without a corresponding interest in ensuring that we improve the quality of our institutions? Governments can exploit sheer numbers for public relations purposes. But what about the

hundreds of students who enter these institutions each year in the hope of getting a decent education but are told, upon graduation, that they are unemployable and they need to be trained all over again. The quantum of support that our Government is granting to higher education institutions is simply insignificant in comparison to funding that other countries and other Governments are giving.

I think, Harvard University's research and development funds alone exceed that of the entire HRD Budget that Shri Jaitley has given. All the UGC, all the agencies including the UGC put together will come under one university in America. There are, of course, structural and financial differences between us and the Harvard. I am not comparing them. But the point is this. Can we make fuller, better and wiser use of our resources instead of fragmenting them by spreading them right across this horizon of mediocrity that I described? We should be building big ships that can withstand the ocean and not boats that will capsize at the first wave.

You mentioned, Mr. Minister, in your remarks, the importance of innovation. I agree with you one hundred per

cent. When I was there, I would make the same point. But look at what we are doing. India today has 17 per cent of the world's brains, because we have 17 per cent of the world's people. But we are only producing 3.5 per cent of the world's global research output. There is something wrong there. What are we doing to tap the possibilities of industry-academia collaboration? My Government had accepted the report given by Shri Narayana Murthy to promote more academia-industry interface. I would suggest – I had respectfully suggested when I was there earlier – that we could, for example, allow companies to come directly to our IITs and NITs and say: "here is a research project; if you have students who are prepared to research on this, whatever comes up, we will have an agreement. We will innovate something together and NIT can share the profits with the private companies." It happens very commonly in the West. But we need a policy decision from you that will allow the NITs and other institutions to have this kind of relationship with companies.

Similarly, why can we not get more private sector money into this? You admit that you do not have enough money in your

Budget. Look at the OECD countries. About 75 per cent of research and development funding in the OECD countries comes from the private sector. In our case, it is only 15 per cent from the private sector. Why is everything dependent upon the Government? Having heard our Prime Minister's speeches, we should expect that this Government should be reaching out much more to infuse more funding into our NITs and IITs. Pending, when we lost our position in the Government, was our Research and Innovation Bill which would have allowed the setting up of some 14 universities purely for research and innovation, including in the private sector or funding on a PPP mode, or even on a sole ownership mode.

15.00 hours

Please look at that Bill again and see if we would like to revive it. The honest truth is, your diagnosis is right that we need more innovation, we need more research, but we are yet to see a convincing prescription for that diagnosis. You also need to prescribe a solution that takes into account these ideas.

Considering that the NIT in Andhra Pradesh has already been functioning for one year, I have to say to you, Mr.

Minister, that even its website does not inspire confidence. Please have a look at it. For example, the section on faculty has just two lines which I now quote. “Faculty for the new Institute will be taken initially under *ad hoc* basis. Some senior faculty Members superannuated from IITs and NITs also will be taken. In addition to this, faculty Members from the mentoring institute NIT Warangal will be taking classes, both theory and lab, on a regular basis”. This is the entire website listing on faculty at NIT that you have just asked us to approve. This, Hon. Deputy Speaker, is where our children’s future is being crafted! This is where tomorrow’s leaders are being told to dream their dreams!

I ask you Mr. Minister, are we doing them justice? Is it any wonder that 82 per cent of our country’s engineering graduates are ending up in professions that do not require an engineering degree? What is the Government doing to align the establishment of educational institutions like this NIT that we are approving today with market research so that we know what employers are looking for before we push our children through an engineering degree? Let us see what they want? Where is the need? What kind of engineers do we want in India, or what do

employers want, what does the government want, what does the future want? Is the Government creating NITs within a framework that aligns education with employment and both with the country's needs? Where is our value addition? What can we do that others are not doing better than us, and with more money than us?

What is happening to our engineering graduates, Sir? Hon. Deputy Speaker, I must tell you, last month the Madhya Pradesh Police Department advertised 14,000 Constable posts. Nine lakh candidates applied for these Madhya Pradesh Police Department posts of which there were 10,000 engineering graduates, a dozen Ph.D. holders, plus another 90,000 graduates and 15,000 postgraduates. They want to be Constables in Madhya Pradesh. Because the fact is we are releasing graduates into an ecosystem that does not know how to use them. We have talent in our country but we do not know how to mould it, how to put it forward.

We need to change the ecosystem and that includes, Mr. Minister, providing innovation, including incentives. I was very interested to learn from Prof. Mashelkar that he is now giving

out of his own money, Government is not doing it, an annual prize for innovation. I know you know him well. Find out about this. The prize in the first year was won by a young man who actually targeted a real need in our country. As you know, we have something like 15 million people who go blind because of preventable blindness. Most of this could be prevented by a simple eye test for glaucoma early on so that they can catch in time. For that you need drops which will dilate your eyes and you cannot see clearly for the rest of the day or for several hours.

Most of these poor Indians are daily wage workers, they cannot afford to lose a day's wage. So, they avoid the test because they cannot afford not to have their eyesight for a day. So, this man invented a test for glaucoma that does not require dilation of the eyes and now poor people can go for the test. Mashelkar sahib said this is where we should give prizes for innovation, innovation that is targeting the needs of our country's people. And I would urge you, Mr. Minister, that the Ministry itself should come up with a national level incentive

like this to encourage more innovation in the NITs, IITs and elsewhere.

Finally, Hon. Deputy Speaker, I am not opposing this, Bill. My party and I want more higher education institutions to open their door to India's young people who are hungry for education. But we all want these additional institutions to be solid, to be well equipped with teachers and resources, and to produce quality learning outcomes so that their graduates can go confidently into the world where their skills can command good prospects in the employment market. Can we truly say that that is the case today, Mr. Minister? I think in all honesty, even though we are not here to oppose this Bill, we want you to think very seriously about these larger issues that I have raised.

With these words, Hon. Deputy Speaker, let us by all means declare this NIT to be an institution of national importance, but let us also make it an institution of truly national importance. Thank you, Hon. Deputy Speaker.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: As Hon. Member spoke, we need more NITs. That is all right. But at the same time, we need more

fund allocation. Without funds, we cannot do anything. That is the problem the Ministry is facing. That is very important. That is why they are running institutions on *ad hoc* basis.

… *(Interruptions)*

DR. KAMBHAMPATI HARIBABU (VISAKHAPATNAM): Hon. Deputy Speaker, thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this very important Bill concerning the State of Andhra Pradesh. The National Institute of Technology, Science Education and Research (Amendment) Bill 2016 is primarily to include National Institute of Technology, Andhra Pradesh in the list of institutions of national importance. This NIT is situated in Tadepalligudem in the State of Andhra Pradesh. My friend Shri Shashi Tharoor mentioned that it is a hasty decision to start this institution in temporary campus. But I wish to bring to your kind notice that this is not a hasty decision. The State of Andhra Pradesh was divided in 2014 and the feelings of the people of Andhra Pradesh were severely hurt.

When the State was divided, there was not even a single institution of national importance left in the State of divided Andhra Pradesh. The Andhra Pradesh Re-organization Bill also states the establishment of about 11 institutions in Andhra Pradesh. Therefore, to instill the confidence among the people of Andhra Pradesh, the NDA Government led by Shri Narendra Modi has taken a decision to start nine out 11 institutions that

are mentioned in the Andhra Pradesh Re-organization Act and assured the people of Andhra Pradesh that the NDA Government is with them. As part of the assurances given, the NDA Government has taken steps to start the National Institute of Technology in the State of Andhra Pradesh under mentorship of National Institute of Technology in Warangal. NIT, Warangal is a very reputed institution and they are taking all steps to see that this institution also gets national importance in providing quality education in all engineering branches.

When the State was divided, we were not left with any IIT, IIM or even a single NIT or IISER. Therefore, the NDA Government has taken a decision to start NIT, IIM, IIT and IISER etc. I compliment the Government for taking such a bold decision to start nine institutions out of 11 promised in a span of 20 months of time. I think that since the Independence of our country in 1947, no Union Government has done to any particular State what the NDA Government has done to Andhra Pradesh during the last 20 months.

I also compliment the Minister for providing 480 seats in the very first year of establishment of NIT. Wherever they have

started, they have given 240. Since 50 per cent of the seats are meant for domicile students, to safeguard the interest of the students from Andhra Pradesh the number of seats is being given as 480 so that 240 Andhra students can get opportunity. That is a magnanimous decision taken by the Government. The funds were allocated. All steps are being taken to provide basic infrastructure that is required for the NIT established at Tadepalligudem at Andhra Pradesh. Land was identified and handed over to the Government of India for taking up construction of the building. I request the Hon. Minister to take steps to see that the construction of the buildings is taken up immediately and finished expeditiously.

Nowadays, when the contract is being given, the construction work is being delayed due to cash flow problems. I have a suggestion for the Hon. Minister to consider. There are foreign financial institutions which are coming forward to finance for the projects at LIBOR interest rates or at lesser rates. Therefore, the Ministry of Human Resource Development's contractor who is going to implement the project, the State Government and also the financial institutions can have some

sort of a memorandum of understanding and the cash flow problems could be sorted out by taking assistance from the financial institutions and the money taken for construction could be repaid in instalments in three to four years. I would request the Hon. Minister to consider this suggestion.

Out of eleven institutions that were promised for Andhra Pradesh in the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, nine have been established; only two are left over for establishment in Andhra Pradesh: one is the Central University and the other is the Tribal University. These two universities are to be considered for establishment in Andhra Pradesh at the earliest. For that, there is a requirement of passing a Bill or making an Act in Parliament. I would request the Hon. Minister to take steps so that those two institutions can also be started during this academic year or in next academic year and the people of Andhra Pradesh will be thankful and grateful to the Government led by Shri Narendra Modi.

I have two suggestions – one is encouraging quality in education and the other is innovation. I think, the Government led by Shri Narendra Modi is laying emphasis on skill

development and innovation. Therefore, every institute of national importance should have a skill development centre and also an innovation centre so that people could be encouraged to improve their skills in these institutions.

I would also like to bring to your kind notice that in engineering education there are four or five tiers of institutions. The first is the Indian Institutes of Technology; the second is the National Institutes of Technology; the third is the engineering colleges organised by the universities or university engineering colleges; and the fourth is the engineering colleges in the private sector, of good quality and also of poor quality. Therefore, I have a request to the Government of India. Since the State Governments are not in a position to deploy more funds for undertaking infrastructure development in the State university colleges, I request the Hon. Minister to consider how these university colleges can also be brought on par with NITs and other institutions. I think, if we can take steps for this, the quality of engineering education can improve. There is no doubt that engineering graduates coming out of many of the private poor quality engineering colleges are not having the necessary

skills to be employed. I think, we should take care of those people who are coming out of engineering colleges, to impart more skills so that they could be employed by the industries and various organisations.

Thank you very much.

SHRI S. SELVAKUMARA CHINNAIYAN (ERODE): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to our beloved leader Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchi Thalaivi Amma for giving me an opportunity to speak on this Bill.

The National Institutes of Technology are a group of premier public institutes in India. These institutes of national importance receive special recognition and funding from the Government of India.

Tamil Nadu, under the dynamic leadership of Hon. Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has been the education hub in the country. The National Institute of Technology at Tiruchirappalli, popularly called REC Trichy in earlier days, has produced great personalities who have occupied top positions in Government, public and private sector companies in the past and present. Many of them have reached the pinnacle of success in socio economic world.

On their inception decades ago, all NITs were referred to as Regional Engineering Colleges and were governed by the respective State Governments. In 2002, the then HRD Minister,

Shri Murli Manohar Joshi, decided to upgrade all RECs to National Institutes of Technology. The upgrade was designed along the lines of the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology. NITs were found to be promoting regional diversity and multi-cultural understanding in India. Comprising 31 autonomous institutes, each of them is located in one major State or Union Territory of India. In 2007, the Indian Government declared these schools as institutes of national importance.

The NIT Council is the supreme governing body of India's 31 National Institutes of Technology system. Admission to the under-graduate course B.Tech in NITs is through the highly competitive Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) Mains. From 2015, the Joint Seat Allocation Authority conducts common counselling and allocates seats jointly for all the Indian Institutes of Technology, National Institutes of Technology and Indian Institutes of Information Technology. In 2015, over 13 lakh candidates appeared for the JEE for admission to 28,000 undergraduate engineering seats in 68 centrally-funded technical institutes, that include all 19 IITs (10,000 seats), 31 NITs (15,500 seats) and 18 IIITs (2,500 seats). All NITs are

autonomous which enables them to set up their own curriculum. I would request the Government to provide certain number of seats for poor and deserving students recommended by the respective State Governments.

NIT Andhra Pradesh has been set up to cater to the needs of the State of Andhra Pradesh which did not have NITs. NIT, Andhra Pradesh will benefit the State of Andhra Pradesh specifically and the whole country in general. NIT, Andhra Pradesh will be covered under the National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research Act, 2007. Declaring it as an institution of national importance, it will ultimately help in addressing the aspirations of people in the main stream of technical education. NIT Andhra Pradesh was established at the temporary campus of West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has also provided a land for NIT Andhra Pradesh at West Godavari district.

I would also request the Union Government to allocate more funds for such highly commendable and performing NITs in the country, like the NIT Tiruchirappalli and also suggest to

the Government to encourage and generate financial support from the most successful people and form a corpus fund for all the NITs in the country.

Thank you.

PROF. SUGATA BOSE (JADAVPUR): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, may I at the outset express my appreciation to our new Hon. Minister for Human Resource Development for felicitating all the teacher MPs on the occasion of 'Guru Purnima' a couple of days ago? That was a very fine symbolic gesture on his part and we on our part wish him all the best in discharging the onerous responsibility that he has been given to improve our educational system for our younger generation.

On the face of it, this is a very simple and straightforward amendment to the NIT Act. It only adds one more NIT in Andhra Pradesh consequent on the bifurcation of the old State between Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. But this apparently small amendment raises some very deep questions about our educational policy and the future direction of the younger generation in our country.

Some of the concerns that I had wished to express have already been anticipated by my colleague, Shri Shashi Tharoor, who, by virtue of belonging to a marginally larger party in this Lok Sabha, has the right to speak before me. I wish he had

stayed to listen to at least the next speaker who had his views to express on this important subject.

I agree with many of the concerns about quality that had been expressed by my good friend, Shri Shashi Tharoor, but I think he made one very unfair comparison. Harvard University is a private university in the world and its endowment is larger than the GDP of many countries in this world. So, that comparison should not really be made.

Now what are these National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research? We started out with eight regional engineering colleges and now, we have many more but 20 of them are upgradations from the status of regional engineering colleges. Subsequently, 10 more NITs have been added and today, we are about to welcome in this Parliament the birth of a new NIT in Andhra Pradesh. We will, of course, support that move and we wish the people of Andhra Pradesh all the best for the future.

I would, however, like to raise some questions about the kind of education that we wish to give to our younger generation. Shri Javadekar was absolutely right in saying that

even in the nomenclature of these institutes, we have the word ‘technology’ but also the phrases ‘science education and research’.

Now we must have a fine balance between teaching and research in all of our educational institutes including our universities, both central and State, in addition to the IITs, the NITs and the IISERs. Unfortunately, the NIT in Andhra Pradesh and also some of the new NITs that have been approved by this Parliament do not have capacity for carrying out the kind of cutting-edge research and innovation that we need in this country.

When we go ahead and announce the establishment of new institutions, first of all, it takes a lot of time to build a new campus. Even this NIT is currently functioning out of a temporary campus but at least when it comes to physical infrastructure, when it comes to bricks and mortar, for a number of years after the announcement of these new institutes, money is spent and many contractors make money but do we give adequate attention to human resources? Do we actually anticipate the faculty requirements for these new institutes? Do

we actually make sure that the students who will join these new institutes will, in fact, get the best instruction possible? I think we need to pay very close attention to these issues.

I would also like to add that we have a large number of institutes of national importance which are devoted to technology of one kind or another. The IITs, the NITs and also the Institutes of Information Technology run into scores in terms of the numbers of Institutes of Technology of one kind or another that we have. But do we pay adequate attention to institutes for the Humanities and the Arts? What is happening in our Institutes of Technology, particularly the NITs is that we are not producing well-rounded citizens. Even in Institutes of Technology there should be arrangements to teach subjects in the field of Arts and Humanities. If you consider the best Institute of Technology in the world today, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology has a very fine Philosophy Department. It has a superb History Department. They are small but the students who are training to be engineers are given an opportunity to also study the Arts and the Humanities. Otherwise, in this craze for Information Technology in

particular, we will be creating very one-dimensional young citizens of India.

Now, a couple of years ago Shri Anil Madhav Dave had asked a very pertinent question from the Ministry of Human Resource Development. He had asked whether the condition of learning in the subjects of Humanities and Arts is poor and he had also asked whether the Government is making any action plan for new institutes and incentives in the field of Arts, Commerce, Culture and Humanities. I am sorry to have to say that in the written reply that was provided by the Ministry of Human Resource Development there were very misleading statements. I will you why. It was stated that up to 2011 there were 4677 institutions only for science and technology and there were 4315 institutions offering courses only on Arts and Humanities in that same year. But that was not the question. The question was how many institutes of national importance we have in the field of humanities compared to the number of institutes of national importance in the field of science and technology. Two years ago, in his Budget Speech, Shri Arun Jaitley had announced that there was going to be a national

institute of Humanities named after none other than our great iconic leader, the late Jaiprakash Narain, in Madhya Pradesh. But this Parliament and the general public in India have not heard very much more since then about the progress in the creation of this one national institute for the Humanities that had been announced by this Government more than two years ago. Even if we are not able to set up very many institutes of national importance in the field of Humanities and Arts, there are other ways in which Humanities and Arts can be supported in our universities and colleges. For example, in the United States of America there is a National Endowment for the Humanities and National Endowment for the Arts which provide funding for the finest research and new innovation and creativity in the field of Humanities and Arts. So, there are ways in which we can provide a more balanced education for our younger generation.

Sir, there are a few more things to be said about our Educational Policy, but today as you can see, we are rather diminished in terms of the benches on this side of the House because in West Bengal we are observing Martyrs Day. Twenty-three years ago, 13 young men had been killed in police firing

while our leader Ms. Mamata Banerjee led a demonstration for the restoration of democratic rights for the people of West Bengal. I will have an opportunity to speak once more when the Indian Institute of Technology (Amendment) Bill is brought before us.

I will not extend my discourse any further at the moment excepting to say that when this Parliament which has the sole prerogative to assign the nomenclature institutes of national importance takes this momentous decision, let us make sure that these institutes are truly of national importance. Let us set ourselves a goal that in the foreseeable future, say, within the next three to five years, at least a few of our National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research will be able to break into the top 500 of world rankings because we should not be satisfied with rankings within our own country. We have a global role to play. We must compete with the rest of the world and make sure that our students and younger generation are getting the best education possible whether in the field of science education or in the field of arts and humanities.

Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir.

SHRI BAIJAYANT JAY PANDA (KENDRAPARA): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this important Bill.

First of all, let me welcome this Bill that is introduced by the Hon. Minister for HRD and compliment him as well for bringing the same energy for which he has recently been elevated to this very important Ministry.

Sir, as some of my colleagues have already mentioned, this and the forthcoming Bill on amending the IIT Act will also introduce new institutions in Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Karnataka, Jammu and Kashmir and there will also be an upgradation of another institute in Bihar.

I want to touch upon one issue which has been touched upon by a couple of my colleagues and extend the argument that what we are looking is just not extending the quantity of NITs and IITs throughout the country but also the quality. The issue of teacher shortage which some of my colleagues have already referred to is extremely crucial. Sir, this is not that a few of us here are speaking about it. Let me refer you to the last time that the NIT Bill was amended a couple of years ago.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The shortage is not only in appointments but most of the teachers are going away on some other assignments. If you see the roll of registers, you may find the position of staff recruitment. You may note that most of the teachers are going away abroad on some other assignments or on some other subjects. Therefore, they have to fill up these posts immediately. That is one problem which most of the Government institutions is facing.

SHRI BAIJAYANT JAY PANDA: Sir, I thank you for pointing that out. I will also touch upon it. It is not that just a few Members are mentioning it. I would like to bring to the attention of the Hon. Minister's that a couple of years ago, the last time when the NIT Bill was amended, it was to take an institute in West Bengal and upgrade it much like the earlier NITs were upgraded. Now also, in Dhanbad, the Indian Institute of Mines is going to be upgraded to an IIT. Our Parliamentary Committee which looked into it made the exact comment and pointed out that there is a tremendous dearth of teachers which is going to affect the quality.

Sir, regarding the statistics cited by my Hon. colleague from Kerala who is not present in the House just now, I have a little difference in it because I have taken it from the Ministry's website. But even the Ministry's own website points out that in the IITs, there is 39 per cent shortage of teaching staff. In the NITs, shortage is 29 per cent and in the IIITs, shortage is 36 per cent. These are slightly different than what Dr. Tharoor had pointed out. But I have taken your own statistics. So, you cannot quibble with this and as the Hon. Deputy-Speaker has pointed out, this must be number one on your agenda to make sure that recruitment of teachers and instructors for these institutes is of utmost priority.

The irony is this that the number of public engineering institutions, including the IITs and NITs, are dwarfed by the number of private institutions that have come up in the whole country. There are between 1.5 and 2 million engineering graduates that are produced every year, but employability is very low. Recently, a Delhi based employment solutions organisation called Aspiring Minds did a survey of 1,50,000 engineering graduates and they found barely seven per cent were employable

in core engineering jobs. This should not come as a surprise to us. It is not just some agency that has done a survey.

I would like to cite, perhaps the most famous engineer today living in India, Shri E. Sreedharan, who has built the Delhi Metro among many other projects. He blames the abysmal quality of engineers on the unbridled growth of private engineering colleges with no regulation. The numbers are quite astounding. The number of private engineering colleges in Andhra Pradesh alone where this new Institute is being opened is more than 700. There is something like 5,000 such institutes altogether.

SHRI MUTHAMSETTI SRINIVASA RAO (AVANTHI) (ANAKAPALLI): That was for the united Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI BAIJAYANT JAY PANDA: I stand corrected. That was before bifurcation. But I think the point is made.

Out of the total number of about 5,000 engineering colleges in both public and private sector, barely 1,500 are in the public sector. Let me point out why the public sector, the NITs and the IITs, are important. I am not against the private sector. I am a great votary of encouraging the private sector in many fields of

commerce and our economy. But the greatest institutes in the world are those that do not treat teaching as a profitable entity. We have had references to Harvard and other universities of world repute. Some of us had opportunities to visit Yale University, one of the best-known universities in the world. We were impressed to learn that although Yale's fee that they charge the students is quite high, it only represents 14 per cent of the actual cost of teaching. Why is it? That is because 86 per cent of the cost of teaching at Yale is subsidised from the endowments.

The Hon. colleague was just talking about the very large endowments that Harvard has and that their endowments are larger than the GDP of many countries. This is the reason why our private institutions which are churning out, like an assembly line, lakhs and millions of engineering graduates who are mostly not employable, have to be seen as something of serious concern. This is why the public institutes are very important. Right from the days of our early Republic, from the days of Nehru ji, we gave importance to the highest teaching standards at some of these institutions. But we have actually not kept up.

We have actually been left behind as some of our colleagues have pointed out.

Let me point out, in the top 200 universities and institutes in the world, only two of our Indian institutes rank. These two are Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru at 47th rank and Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi at 197th rank, out of the top 200 in the world. If we look at the other countries, in the top 200 universities of the world, the United States has 49 universities; the UK has 30 universities; the Netherlands has 12 universities; and China has seven universities.

The point that I was trying to make is that while the private engineering institutes treat it like a commodity – they churn out like an assembly line, all these so-called engineering graduates, who mostly are not employable – the difficulty is that because they are treating it with profit motive, they are not investing in research. The name of this Bill is the National Institutes of Technology, Science, Education and Research (Amendment) Bill. The private engineering institutes are doing a much lesser job of providing the opportunities for research because it is not

profitable. Research is going to take many years, maybe decades, to pay off and they are not investing in that.

It is clearly evident in the number of Ph.D.s that we have. Let us have a look at some of the statistics. In India, as per the last provisional survey in 2014-15, about 1,13,000 students were registered for Ph.D. study. It sounds like a lot, but it is not. It is only 0.34 per cent of all the students registered only for higher education. I am not counting school students and all. One-third of one per cent of all our students in higher education is registered for Ph.Ds. Let me cite something which is even more worrisome because there are Ph.Ds. and there are Ph.Ds. One of the important criteria we should be looking at how many Ph.Ds. are working in science and technology-related fields because while we must encourage the arts, as Hon. Member from West Bengal has pointed out, we do need to provide a well-rounded education at the Bachelor's level, at the highest levels of research, if our country is to go forward, we must invest in research. That is what this Bill is all about.

If you look at Ph.D. students in India, less than 20 per cent are enrolled in scientific and technological areas, the rest are all

in areas that are of the arts, or arts-related areas. Compared to that, I am sure the Hon. Minister is aware of this, 75 per cent of all the Ph.D. students enrolled are in sciences and technology. Compared to that, China has 41 per cent of all the Ph.D. students are doing research in science and technology-related areas. In our case, it is 19-point odd per cent, less than 20 per cent. This is what needs to change dramatically if the quality of our higher education particularly related to NITs, IITs is to improve and not just the quantity.

I think, the subject has been touched by many of my colleagues, I am sure, the Hon. Minister is aware of all these issues. But I think it is important for us, as the temple of democracy in this country, to highlight these issues so that they do not get left behind in the other urgencies that the Government has to deal with. This is very important.

I do support this Bill with the caveats that I have pointed out, and I wish the Hon. Minister all the best in all his endeavours to take our higher education in technology to higher levels.

SHRI MUTHAMSETTI SRINIVASA RAO (AVANTHI) (ANAKAPALLI): Madam Speaker, thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research (NITSER) (Amendment) Bill, 2016. I rise to support the Bill.

Thanks to the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, on 25th May, 2016 granted *ex-post facto* approval for establishment of NIT, Andhra Pradesh, registered as a Society under the Andhra Pradesh Societies Registration Act, 2001 with effect from 20th August, 2015.

The Bill seeks to amend the National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research Act, 2007 for inclusion of the NIT, Andhra Pradesh in its First Schedule.

The Bill recognizes NIT, Andhra Pradesh as a society under the Societies Registration Act, 2001 and gives a legal entity to it.

As a matter of fact, the bifurcation of State of Andhra Pradesh had an adverse impact on education sector of both the regions. On the one hand, Telangana got three Central Universities, on the other hand, Andhra Pradesh had none.

As per policy of the Government, 50 per cent of the seats in NITs are earmarked for the eligible domicile students of States/districts where the NITs are situated. Sir, NIT, Andhra Pradesh will ensure that the students of Andhra Pradesh will get adequate opportunities to pursue research at undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral levels, in an inter-disciplinary knowledge regime and research environment. I thank the NDA Government for providing 50 per cent of the seats for domicile students.

15.43 hours (Shri Hukmdeo Narayan Yadav *in the Chair*)

NIT, Andhra Pradesh was established at a temporary campus of West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has also provided land for NIT-Andhra Pradesh at West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh. NIT, Warangal would function as the parent college that would look after the functioning of the university.

My friend, Dr. Shashi Tharoor said that the college is situated at a temporary location. For the information of the

august House, not only the college, after the bifurcation of our State, but our Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu is also staying in a temporary accommodation. He is functioning in a temporary office accommodation and all our Ministers are functioning from a temporary accommodation. Everything is temporary because of the unscientific bifurcation done by the earlier UPA Government. Due to this, five crore people of Andhra Pradesh are suffering a lot.

But at the same time, in the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act many things are mentioned. I thank the former HRD Minister Smriti Iraniji and Prime Minister Narendra Modiji as they have given permission to start nine institutions out of 11. It is a historical step after independence of this country. Now, I would also like to congratulate Javadekarji and I request him to extend all the support. He is giving Rs. 40 crore for this institute. We all know very well as to how much money is required to build a National Institute of Technology. Of course, for the time being, this institute is being run from a temporary location. But I would request the Hon. HRD Minister to create the entire

infrastructure for the National Institute of Technology, Tadepalligudem before the completion of the first batch and see that the first batch students do not feel inferior as compared to the students of other NITs in the country.

Sir, everybody is speaking about foreign universities and our universities. They are making a comparison. I am very sorry for that. If we see, our great former Prime Ministers Vajpayeeji, P.V. Narasimha Raoji and the present Prime Minister Narendra Modji are not from any foreign university. In fact, our former Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Raoji was responsible for bringing in liberalisation, privatisation and globalisation.

Many of our Members are speaking about engineering graduates and employment. One of our earlier speakers Shri Haribabu also said that we have four categories of engineering colleges, namely IITs, NITs, University engineering colleges and private engineering colleges. Here, I would like to request the Government of India to provide more and more funds to higher education in our country because providing education is the responsibility of the Government. Even though we are having a lot of private colleges, as one of our friends said, at

present there is shortage of teachers in IITs and NITs. There is not only shortage of teachers and also shortage of funds, but I would also request all the political parties that we have to reduce political interference in our higher educational institutions, particularly in Central Universities, IITs and NITs. Due to political interference, many teachers are not willing to work in higher educational institutions like Central Universities, IITs and NITs. Recently we have seen the episode of Hyderabad Central University.

Secondly, even at the University level it is very unfortunate that our post graduate students and research students are quarrelling with each other on issues of caste, religion, local students and non-local students. So, I would request the Hon. HRD Minister to focus on this issue; whether this party is in power or that party is in power, we have to reduce the socio-economic imbalances among students.

As far as employment is concerned, our country is a growing country. We have a population of 125 crore people in this country. This country needs a lot more educational institution. I am not telling this. Our former Prime Minister P.V.

Narasimha Raoji said that we need more and more educational institutions because of liberalisation, privatisation and globalisation. He was the man responsible for starting of more and more private educational institutions in this country. Our Hon. Chief Minister Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu implemented economic reformed in the then unified State of Andhra Pradesh. Due to the efforts made by our Hon. Chief Minister Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu, a lot of IT and other engineering graduates are working in US and in other countries.

Thirdly, the most important thing is research. Unfortunately, many of our educational institutions, both in the private sector and in the public sector, are failing to get good results in the field of research because our teachers, our government and our society are not focussing on research. We are always crazy and passionate about the higher education and research in other countries. As we all know very well, once upon a time we had a great history on higher education.

Many students from foreign countries used to visit our country to get education specially from Nalanda, Takshashila and Magadha in ancient days. Our HRD Minister, Shri

Javadekarji is a visionary person. I wish that during his tenure itself, he should be in a position to place our higher education system on par to compete with the global education system. For that, we would have to create a world-calls environment in our educational institutions. Then only, we would be able to attract students around the globe to come to India and get higher education.

Sir, I would give you one small example. In Hyderabad, we have very good hospital and medical facilities. We are attracting a large number of patients and medical students from the Middle East countries to Hyderabad. In a similar way, we can create world class facilities in our education institutions also. If we reduce the political interference and if we reduce socio-economic imbalances, we would definitely be in a position to attract world-class students into our country to get education.

Sir, in India, there is no dearth of intelligence and intellect. The only problem is in coordination and commitment. But I am very much sure that Javadekar Saheb would bring about positive changes in this regard. I am also sure that he would bring the NIT, Tadepalligudem up to the national level.

Sir, we are simply naming the national institutions. I do not know why we are failing to provide the nationality integrity to our students. If you talk to any students or teachers, first, they would tell their surname, and then, caste, religion and region, etc. Nobody would speak about nationality first; nobody would say that they are Indians first. So, I wish a day will come soon when all our 125 crore Indians will say that they are Indians first; and their name, surname, caste, etc., will come later.

Sir, even the NIT, Warangal, which is one of the famous institutions, now, in Telangana, once upon a time had a severe problem of extremism. Now, they are doing extremely good. Why I am telling all these things is that the educational institutions are like temple, church and *masjid*. So, we should maintain the holistic atmosphere in our educational institutions. Then only, we would be able to provide quality education to our students. Actually, we are building the nation by way of giving quality education to our students. Instead of simply giving a textbook knowledge, teachers and people working in the educational institutions should provide knowledge beyond the textbooks and beyond the classrooms. Then only, our students

would be able to face the global competition; then only, we would be in a position to put our educational institutions in the world ranking.

Sir, we have several engineering colleges, and as some of our friends have also said, due to bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh State, some of these institutions are not doing well. Some had to be shut down owing to low student turnouts and quality considerations. The other reason for their getting shut down is that we are merely increasing the number of educational institutions, we are merely increasing the number of students, but industrialization is not increasing on par with education. Just because of this reason, many of the engineering graduates and general graduates are not getting jobs. That is why, I would request that we should concentrate more in bringing industrialization on par with education. Then only, we would be in position to provide more and more jobs to our engineering graduates and other graduates.

Sir, on behalf of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, I convey my sincere thanks to the NDA Government and to our HRD Minister for giving nine institutions in a span of two years. At the same time, I would also request the Hon. Minister to increase the budgetary allocation in this regard. Then only, we would be able to create more and more quality institutions.

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

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (AURANGABAD): Hon. Chairperson Sir, the National Institute of Technology Education and Research (Amendment) Bill, 2016, has been introduced in the House. I rise to support it. At present, there are 29 States and 7 union territories in India. 31 National Technical Institutions, NITs, have been opened so far, and some UTs have been joined for NITs with States.

The National Institute of Technology, NIT, is an institution of national importance that imparts education in technology, management, science, and other subjects related to it. Right now there are 31 NITs in the country, and it has a total of 15500 seats. I believe that the number of seats in NITs should be increased. I would request the Minister that this is a very good means of education, and more and more children can study here because there are guest houses, etc., and all other facilities. More children can come there and enhance their knowledge. In big states where the population is high, there should be two or more NITs as per the population. For students to get a quality

education and standards of engineering, you should make changes to it.

I would like to give an example. The population of Goa is less than that of my district, and there is one NIT. The population of Maharashtra is above 11 crores, and there is also a single NIT, which is the oldest; it is in Nagpur. Right now, the Hon. Chief Minister will not take it to Nagpur, so you opened an NIT in the Marathwada region; now it is in Vidarbha. I request you to arrange an NIT for Marathwada since you are also from Maharashtra, so it is possible. Our region is the capital of Marathwada. All the education centres are there. The industrial hub is there. All the industries are also coming there. DMIC is also there. Therefore, it should have a branch here. There is already one in Vidarbha; there should be one in Marathwada also. The number of engineering colleges run by the government is limited. The total number of seats in all colleges is 35 thousand. The government has proposed to open six new IITs. This is a welcome step, but I will request you to increase the number of NITs based on population.

I would request the Hon. Minister to take immediate cognisance of the above matter in the interest of students and take adequate steps to open a sufficient number of NITs in big states because nowadays children are taking more interest in engineering and other higher education. In this regard, I would say that the situation of NIT in the North-East is becoming very difficult. The number of students is also decreasing. There you have to make improvements so that the children there can study even further. It is a good institution, but it is placed at the bottom in terms of ranking . Among the good NIT institutes, the top ones are in Tiruchi, Warangal, Surathkal, Allahabad and Calicut. These are the top five NITs. There is competition among students in getting admission in these NITs. Based on the marks obtained in the competition, students have to go anywhere, as has happened in NEET now. That's why I would say that North-East NIT should also improve their faculty for the students.

The board has decided to increase the admission fee in NITs from this year. There has been a proposal to increase the fee from Rs.70 thousand to Rs. one lakh twenty-five

thousand. Not everyone can pay one lakh twenty-five thousand rupees. In this regard, you should give some facility to the economically backward class, etc. Because a lot of children are brilliant, but they have nothing in their homes, they can do nothing. They can be helped through you. Therefore, the fee should be kept suitable.

I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister towards the increasing number of suicide cases of students in the coaching centres of Kota. This is a very serious matter. Whatever suicides incidents are happening in Kota, the Union Government Department should also look into the reasons why this is happening. This business of running coaching centres and classes for engineering and medical entrance is worth more than Rs 1 lakh crore.

16.00 hours

The pressure on the students is very high, due to which they are forced to commit suicide. This problem must be solved, I request you. While supporting this bill, I would request the Hon. Minister to accept my request. Currently, NITs are only in 31 places, in states where the number of students is high. As

Maharashtra has one in Vidarbha, there should be one NIT at Sambhaji Nagar Aurangabad in the Marathwada region of Maharashtra. I request you to do so and support the bill. Thank you.

[English]

SHRI KONDA VISHWESHWAR REDDY (CHEVELLA): Thank you, Sir, for the opportunity. As per the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014, the Government of India shall take steps to establish institutions of national importance in the 12th and 13th Plan periods in the successor State of Andhra Pradesh. Based on it, the HRD Ministry has decided to set up an NIT. It is a welcome step for Andhra Pradesh, for the country and also for all the people of Telangana. It is because, we want our neighbouring States to prosper and we do not want the poor students there to suffer.

The NIT has been set up to cater to the needs of the State of Andhra Pradesh which does not have NIT. The State of Telangana has an NIT now after the bifurcation. So, it is only fair that Andhra Pradesh does have an NIT. But, not only NIT, I think it should have IITs; it should have AIIMS and it should have IIITs. It is because, when our neighbouring States prosper, the country prospers and we prosper. But, the rich people of Andhra Pradesh can go to Mumbai, Delhi or Hyderabad for higher education. Hon. Minister Javadekar *ji* also mentioned that

everybody has a right for education right from this end of the House to that end, and here from this end of the House to that end. They have the right for education. So, definitely, this is very much required. Just as NIT is required, IITs, AIIMS and research institutions are required, I think, they also require a High Court. For education, people have to travel very far. The Rich people can travel; the poor people of Andhra Pradesh cannot travel far for education. Similarly, the poor people of Andhra Pradesh cannot travel all the way to Hyderabad for justice also. Only the rich who have interest in Hyderabad can come to Hyderabad for justice but the poor in Andhra Pradesh cannot go all the way to Hyderabad for justice. So, I think, I want you to take cognizance of that. It is very well needed.

Not only just to establish NIT, we also want the Union Government to provide us adequate funds. Especially since there is no building, I think, all the required funds should be provided. But, the National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research Act does not define what is an institute of national importance. Do they get more money? If so, how much money do they get? Do they get more land or do they have more posts?

That is very important. Just like announcing an institution is not sufficient and just naming it an institute of national importance is not sufficient, we have to articulate what exactly construes an institute of national importance and provide the entire wherewithal to the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Sir, I do not have too much to say about this because everybody in the House, so far, has agreed to this. I am actually going to close hoping you will give more time for my next speech on the IIITs because we are going to discuss deeper aspects of technical education in India which is really falling down. But I would like to take this opportunity to bring it to the attention of the Ministry, just like NIT is very important for Andhra Pradesh, a tribal university in Telangana also is very important. I think, without any delay, you should establish the tribal university in Telangana. The number of seats for the locals also can be considered to be increased because in Telangana we have IIITs, NITs and IITs. So, you can even consider it; I do not think anyone in the House will actually go against it.

I would like to end my speech by just touching upon this. When we were young, if we got admission to an engineering

college, our life was set. But today, if you get admission in an engineering college, I think 90 per cent of them are unemployable and if you get into engineering with computer science, then definitely, you are going to be 99 per cent unemployable. We need to dwell a little deeper into it when we discuss about IITs. Thank you for the opportunity.

SHRI P.K. BIJU (ALATHUR): Sir, this seems to be a small Bill in the vision but it has far reached implications for our country. This Bill is to amend the 2007 Act in its first schedule and to incorporate the National Institute of Technology, Andhra Pradesh in place of that.

The financial memorandum of this Bill says:

> "For the current financial year, an amount of Rs. 40 crore has been allocated for establishment of National Institute of Technology, Andhra Pradesh. An outlay of Rs. 226 crore (Rs. 94.73 crore as non-recurring towards capital expenditure, Rs. 114.32 crore as recurring expenditure and Rs. 16.72 crore as contingency expenditure) has been made over a period of three years with the stipulatin that sanction of funds would be on incremental basis after assessing the requirement as part of the annual budgetary exercise."

I want to know after three years, who will take the responsibility of this institute? Will the Union Government again fund it to establish some of our new goals that we have to

achieve? Or will the State Government give some share for the further development of such institution?

We are closely associated with Standing Committee on HRD from 2009 -2014. Since that time, itself, in 2013, the same Bill was amended and we have thoroughly discussed it in the Standing Committee meeting and submitted that Standing Committee Report before the Parliament. So, I would request the Minister to go through that Report. We have given so many suggestions. If one institution from the State is getting the benefit of institution of National importance, what is the reservation policy of that institution? If you have any reservation in the State, are the existing reservation norms in our country be applicable to that institution also? But that is not clear. We have suggested our Standing Committee Report itself to take care of the State reservation in such institutions who got the status of institution of national level.

In this discussion, I would like to raise some other questions. Our colleagues have already mentioned some important aspects of the higher education of our country. We are

spending merely two per cent of our Annual Budget for the development of higher education.

From 2009, I have got chance to speak on this particular subject of higher education. I have mentioned this thing to increase our higher education expenditure.

Our neighbouring country, China, is spending more than what our country is. I am not talking of USA, UK, Canada or about capitalist countries. They have spent much more than us. We have established our CSIR laboratory in our country before China. But China established their CSIR laboratory after we established it. But now, they are producing more Ph.Ds than what our country is producing. How can they provide such an atmosphere, like infrastructural facility, in their own country? We are lagging behind. I have raised this matter in Parliament.

What is happening in our institutions of national importance, Central Universities and IITs? We have witnessed one of the things in our Standing Committee meeting itself. The Hon. Minister was also there in that Committee. One of the Delhi students approached the Standing Committee Members and even the Chairman of the Standing Committee also. He is

from Delhi IIT. They have published a number of papers. They have got national and international credit for that. But even now the faculties in the IIT, Delhi are not ready to sanction and allow him to submit his Ph.D. He belongs to the Dalit community. So, after the intervention of the Standing Committee, finally, they have allowed him to submit his Ph.D.

Sir, I will mention one more thing in this discussion. The Ministry of Human Resource Development has announced to increase the annual fees of IITs from Rs.90,000 to Rs.2 lakh. The previous Government increased it from Rs.50,000 first to Rs.80,000 and then to Rs.90,000. Yesterday, our Hon. Minister replied to one of the queries raised on the floor of this House. He replied that the SC/ST and OBC students have got reservation and concession of fees. But the SC/ST students get only 50 per cent concession. You have increased the fees from Rs.90,000 to Rs.2 lakh. That means, they have to pay Rs.1 lakh. How is it possible? What is happening is that even for getting the fee concession, these students from the deprived section have to deposit the fee at the time of admission and that will be reimbursed later.

I am a victim of this practice. I was a student. I had completed my pre-degree. I joined one degree college. I had got the admission but I could not pay the fees at that time. They had given me one more day. But how can I pay? Today I am coming to Parliament and speaking for the downtrodden people because whatever your Ministry may be, your bureaucrat says, do not do; do not implement it at such level. The students from the deprived section do not have to pay that much of amount from the beginning of their studies. What is going on in the national institutes, in the IITs and in our Central Universities? Some students are getting admission and then they drop out starting from the next year onwards. I have got representation from the students of Roorkee, IIT. Sir, 18 students were disqualified after one year. They have not reached up to the mark. Who will decide the criteria? Who will decide the norms? It is not from your Ministry. It is by some of the faculties.

The Hon. Deputy Speaker intervened in some of the matters, especially on the shortage of faculties. We have thoroughly discussed it. This is not only because of some people going abroad, and that is why, the vacancies are still continuing.

No. The vacancy of SC/ST teaching faculties is because they are not ready to fill up. I have raised this issue. I have sent a letter to the Ministry of HRD. But till today our higher educational institutions are trying to create their institutions as elite institutions. They are not ready to implement the regulation of this country. They are not implementing the reservation norms we are practising in our country. The intention is not to fill up those vacancies. I am ready to accept it. Some of our eminent scholars have got opportunities from the USA, UK and abroad. Some of the institutions have given them more than what we give. They have got opportunities. But we have to select some of the good faculty Members, give them good salary and good atmosphere for their research and other studies.

Sir, I think the present Minister will take care of these things because he has a lot of ideas in this regard. We have worked together. We just changed the name. That will not resolve the whole issue. We have to reframe and change the entire system. In two days, yesterday and today, we have got a lot of inputs from the Members.

Lakhs of engineering seats are lying vacant in this country. Why is this happening? On the one hand, a lot of students are searching for admission and on the other lakhs of seats are lying vacant. It is because they do not have money to pay what they ask for. That is why these seats are vacant. A huge amount of money is needed for getting admission in the private self-financing institutions. I think that the Government institutes can definitely play a significant role in this regard in our country. In think the Hon. HRD Minister will look into this important matter. With these words, I conclude. Thank you very much.

SHRIMATI BUTTA RENUKA (KURNOOL): Thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to speak on the National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research (Amendment) Bill, 2016.

I welcome that this Government is fulfilling some of the commitments made at the time of bifurcation of the State of Andhra Pradesh. This Bill is a part of one such provision in the Andhra Pradesh Re-organization Act, 2014, which stipulated that a National Institute of Technology will be set up in the newly created State of Andhra Pradesh. I am happy that it has already been set up and is functional. This is a welcome step in the right direction.

Sir, these institutions have been declared as institutes of national importance alongside the Indian Institutes of Technology. The main objective is to make available facilities for higher education, research and training in various fields of science and technology. Although we can boast of a long history of scientific excellence, science education needs to be implemented across all layers of society and the benefits should be made accessible to the large population of this country.

Despite our impressive economic growth, scientific research continues to lag behind. Our investment in scientific research is very low compared to other developed countries. This must increase for the benefits to reach the poor and the downtrodden. Insufficient scientific research in India's private sector seems to be a part of the problem. The large pharmaceutical sector, for example, remains dominated with the generic products rather than original formations.

Sir, during the last few decades India's large population started benefiting and enjoying the outcome of the progress in technology. Space technology has played a significant role in this regard. It is not an exaggeration to say that there is no household in India which does not have a mobile phone or a television.

The vision of institutes like NITs and IITs is creation of research centres of the highest calibre in which teaching and education in basic sciences will be totally integrated with state-of-the-art research. These institutions are devoted to undergraduate and postgraduate teaching in technology and

make education a career in basic sciences more attractive by providing opportunities in integrated teaching and learning.

Sir, the contribution of technology and science institutions is very significant and the students passed out of these institutions are making their presence felt not only in India but also across the globe. We are proud that many of our Indians are heading global organisations. Thus, we have made progress in setting up institutions of higher learning. They are not able to cope up with the growing population. Through their centralised entrance exam, the NITs and IITs recruit students through a rigorous screening process and these students are educated to a very high standard. However, to be able to lift a population of more than 600 million of poverty and to have them participated in the country's economic development, higher education needs to be a priority. This is where this kind of institutions could have an increasingly important role.

Science in India still has significant potential for further development. Although scientists from the Subcontinent excel on an international level, the huge potential offered by the country's young population is far from being fully leveraged.

Sir, I welcome this Bill considering the fact that it pertains to my State and is a fulfilment of the commitment made at the time of bifurcation. With the bifurcation of the State, the people of Andhra Pradesh have lost many things. Many institutions of national and even global importance - like CCMB, NGRI, Hyderabad Central University, ISB, Survey of India, Nuclear Fuel Complex, ECIL, ICRISAT, NIRD to name a few – have been set up in the erstwhile Andhra Pradesh and they have all been set up in Hyderabad which has gone to Telangana. So, the people of newly created Andhra Pradesh are deprived of the development that has taken place and concentrated in Hyderabad over a period of nearly 60 years when they were united. However, we have not lost hope. We will continue to strive and work hard to regain a position of eminence and recognition to the newly created State of Andhra Pradesh.

Sir, we only seek the support and guidance from the Union Government. I request the Hon. Prime Minister to honour all the commitments made by his predecessor in Parliament, including the special status to the State of Andhra Pradesh, and support the people at this juncture and bring us all out of depression and

despondency. I am sure that the Hon. Prime Minister will be sympathetic to this cause.

Sir, I sincerely thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this important Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV (BANKA): Hon. Chairperson, sir The National Institute of Technology Science, Education and Research (Amendment) Bill,2016 has been brought for consideration and passing. I rise to speak about this bill.

First of all, we congratulate Javadekar Saheb Hon. Minister who is charge of the Ministry of Human Resource Development,. The Bill, which is being debated, is related to Andhra Pradesh, in whose favour we all stand. New big institutions should be opened, and they should get more and more resources so that the education can have a better impact. We should promote higher education. Knowledge is just like a full moon while without knowledge, it is a dark moon which symbolizes illiteracy; therefore, the more there is development in technology, the more there is development in knowledge, and the more there is development in the National Institute of Technology NEET, the better it is.

Nalanda University once existed in the history of Bihar, which is still remembered, and its excellence is a subject of

discussion even today. Vikramshila University was also established in Bihar. That is also discussed. National Institutes of Technology have been opened in various parts of the country. The National Institute of Technology at Patna in Bihar has been established by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India; this is the 18th National Institute, whose new name is Bihar Engineering College Patna. I would like to request the Hon. Minister to pay special attention to Bihar. We keep raising questions that give special status to Bihar and give maximum resources to Bihar, not in one case, but it should be for its all-round development; it is continuously being discussed.

The population of Bihar is about eight and a half to nine per cent of the total population. Educational Institutions should be allocated as per the population, not the basis of states. We are demanding our rights. We are making our demands regarding Bihar in the biggest temple of democracy. Based on the population of Bihar, there should be engineering colleges; there should be five, according to the population. The area I come from is the area of Banka, the area of Bhagalpur, and technology

institutes were opened there, like Munger and Jamui; our fellow MPs come from Nalanda and other areas. The rural population is suppressed due to the urban population; it is not ash, but when the ash is removed, the fire of knowledge will ignite from there. The rural population gets suppressed due to the urban population.

Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas were opened. Today, when Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas have opened, its impact is felt by the children of the local village schools; it is impacting their culture, it is impacting their values, and it is impacting their attire. It is impacting their studies. We will open it anywhere our brothers go, but we should not keep an eye on the city. When we talk about villages, when the village is built, only then will India be made, and our prestige in the field of knowledge will increase in the world. I have always believed that by building a village, only then will the country be made. Therefore, to stop the pressure of the urban population, one should go towards the villages. There should be good quality of education and also quantity. There are poor people in the villages; there are farmers. Boys from Bihar go outside for studies. A large number of

people go there, leading to wastage of time and wastage of money, and there are lot of discussions on migration.

I demand from the Hon. Minister Prakash Javadekar Sahib that the students of Bihar should not go out of Bihar; hence, in the case of technical education, more and more institutes should be given in Bihar, and the number should be increased. Along with this, you should also think about the non-technical institutes, unskilled farmers, labourers, poor people, village people and people from backward communities. They too have talent; their artistic work too is amazing; they too have the knowledge; they too have the capability; they too have ability , but to show that ability, those farmers' sons and the people living in that region should also be empowered so that their strength can be built and they can be modernised. Similarly, those who do traditional work can be further encouraged. The money of the students of Bihar or the students of another state should not be wasted. There should be coordination between the Centre and the State. This should be discussed and considered. Action should be taken to open more and more NITs in Bihar. There is technical education, and the education of skill

development should be expanded more. We want our demands to be fulfilled. Hence, we are discussing it. There are many institutions which can be opened in large numbers. New engineering colleges and technical institutes should be opened for skill development and to promote regional capacity. How will we increase human power and human energy in the field of knowledge, connect it to various schemes, connect it to various areas and work to increase it further?

We request the Hon. Minister to fulfil our demand of opening of five new technology institutes and other institutes in Bihar. I conclude with these words.

[English]

SHRI NINONG ERING (ARUNACHAL EAST): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would really thank you and also our Party leader for giving me a chance to speak on this very important Bill – the National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research (Amendment) Bill, 2016. While congratulating my very esteemed friend, Mr. Javadekar Ji, I wish to state that he has taken the previous Department leaving aside all party matters and really doing his job. I had an interaction when you were with GLOBE and with other Committees that we had. I know that in this higher education field also, you will stick to your job and will take it to new heights.

Who had started the information technology is what I would like to bring to the attention of this august House. The first Prime Minister of India, the late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, with his new vision, had brought up all these institutes and he had a vision that one day India would stand as it is of today. This was followed up, and all of you will know how the mobile came to India and how the information technology came to India. We are now in the Opposition, but at that time we were in

the ruling, even then also you have to admit that this was the vision of our great visionary leader, the late Rajiv Gandhi Ji, who took us to the new heights in the field of information technology and research.

I know that I do not have much to say. The previous speakers like Dr. Shashi Tharoor, Dr. Bose and my very good friend, Shri Jay Panda, have already taken up the issues which we really wanted to take up. Already, as you know, we are speaking on the same subject. The people of Andhra Pradesh expect it. I know that most of the students, especially from the North East, go and study in South. We are grateful to them, to the people of Tamil Nadu, Bengaluru (Karnataka) and Andhra Pradesh because most of our children from the North East go and study there. It is like a brain drain that comes out from the North East. Here, in the case of Andhra also, as the previous speaker had spoken, there are so many engineering colleges, but the main issue is we need quality and not just the quantity.

16.32 hours (Hon. Deputy-Speaker *in the Chair*)

Of course, our Hon. Deputy-Speaker was also supporting this cause that it is the quality that we need, and what kind of support we can give to these institutions so that we can make them into state-of-the-art institutions or institutions of national importance. How can we support these institutions?

The NIT, Andhra Pradesh, was established and covered under the National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research Act, 2007, to declare it as an institution of national importance, which will ultimately help in addressing the aspirations of the people, and also of the poor students, who are particularly from Andhra Pradesh. It is a very big help. The institution is already there, but because of bifurcation, it is just a formality or legality which is why we have to pass this legislation.

I would also like to put in a point. We were discussing about the important faculties that are to be taken up. There are already subjects like Computer Science, Electrical, etc., but I would demand that subjects like Environment engineering, Climate Change, which is very important now, Eco-System Studies, Agricultural Engineering, Avionics, and there are

various other subjects which we have to ponder over and include them in the courses. I would request the Hon. Minister to incorporate these subjects not only in Andhra, but in all the other NITs. We were discussing this issue and Mr. Panda was also saying that for 10,000 police posts, so many students, including engineering graduates, are coming forward to apply for the post of a policeman. We have to create avenues for them. Just having in quantity is not the thing of the day. We have to concentrate on the quality education so that the brain drain that is taking place from India to every part of the world is stopped. We would like that these children should come back and they should stay in India so that we can take our country forward in a better way.

I would really congratulate the people of Andhra. We wish them all the luck. We hope that the students there will get this benefit from NIT.

I would also request for one thing. My constituency is spread over 4000 square kilometres in area. I think, no one has such a big constituency. We need more educational institutions like that in Arunachal Pradesh. I would request you to at least take names of places like Tezu, Namsai, Passighat and Roing

where these types of establishments are required. It is a peace-loving State. I am sure, you would look into it.

Thank you, Sir.

[Translation]

DR. UDIT RAJ (NORTH-WEST DELHI): Hon. Deputy Speaker, I thank the HRD Minister for moving the National Institute of Technology, Science Education and Research (Amendment) Bill, 2016 in the House today. It is amended after 2007.

The biggest concern in our country is in the field of research. The research is of very poor quality. It is not that the students are not good or the teachers are not good, but all those who are in IITs or NIITs run towards either civil services or multinational companies. They feel that doing research will not give them power, nor will they get dignity and money. There are three factors, which we call PDM: power, dignity and money. They become deprived because research in our country is not of good quality. If China has made progress, then universities and institutions have played a big role in this direction. They duplicated rapid outdoor technology and modified it in their own way. However, we use 50 per cent of the technology we are using as it is, modify about 45 per cent of the technology and invent only about five per cent of the

technology, not more than that. It is a matter of great sadness; there should be a long discussion in this session on what are the reasons for such situation.

We spend so many billions of dollars on arms purchases. The reason for this is that we could not develop technology. We have never been able to make aircraft and cannot make radars, bombs, etc. If our research had been good, we could have made them. We buy arms from countries like Israel, America, etc., and pay thousands of lakhs of crores of rupees. We could have saved it and made the country progress. Just now Bose Ji said about the Corpus, Harvard's Corpus was created by the private sector there. Our private sector does not do this. From where should we bring generous persons like Bill Gates and Warren Buffett in our case? Our corporate sector is engaged in making profits. Bill Gates gave about $30 billion in profits, and Warren Buffett about $35 billion for charities, for education. I think about two billion dollars is invested in India. But if that generousity is not in our people, what can be done? This should be discussed in the South as to why the role of the private sector is not coming into this.

The private sector has a huge role in setting up of Centres of Excellence there. The private sector has no role to play here at all. Technology has to be brought from outside only. Whatever the government invents, the only motive is to make a profit by making a product from it. I think they also need to sensitise their private sector.

Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister why is it not hopping? I would like to say one more thing: we have five thousand engineering institutes, out of which about 1400 or 1500 institutions are under the control of the government. The institutions that are in the private sector take the approval of the seats. All these institutions used to approach me that by giving so much money, we would increase these many seats; that is, they first buy seats and then sell them. Today, the students are not getting monthly job of five thousand rupees or ten thousand rupees. In a way, the problem lies with these science and engineering institutions. Something should be done in this regard otherwise deterioration will continue. We do not have a practical orientation of that. There is more focus on pure science here. Just like we go to

foreign countries, we try to go to the campus there and see it. Last time I went to Indiana University. This time I saw at Yale University that a lot of practical science education is given. Now, due to education being practical, only those people who have an interest in science, technology, and computers come there. People come here because of work. What is worse?

When I was preparing for civil services at JNU, the aspirants of IIT Delhi located nearby came here to do research, but they were also preparing for civil services. Whenever we had craving for tea, we used to go to tea Dhaba in IIT which remained open round the clock. The entire hostel was preparing for civil services. Everyone's first preference was to become a civil servant first. If it does not materialise, then one will move to the corporate sector. Along with this, admission in MTech is taken by those other than BTech graduates. BTech people go abroad or go to civil services. People from other universities come there and are admitted to MTech, due to which the quality of research is very poor. The ratio states that our research is much lower as compared to China and other countries. There is a need to have a long discussion on it. Since it is also associated

with GDP, it is also linked to growth. We keep on borrowing the technology from the world and this should come an end. This could be the end. I am sure it will start, but it is not an opportunity that should be discussed. Now whether our government, or the earlier government, all the governments blame previous governments for the mess in education. The Government cannot force the students to do research. Now, the environment is such that the people engaged in this field do not have power. For example, even the professors do not enjoy power and dignity they should. Even in terms of money, they do not get much money either. These are all factors that we need to look at.

In the end, I thank the Minister again for giving a very good gift to Andhra Pradesh. Thank you.

[English]

SHRI PREM DAS RAI (SIKKIM): Thank you, Deputy Speaker, Sir, for allowing me to participate in this debate on the National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research (Amendment) Bill, 2016.Sir, a lot has already been said on the issues related to our institutes of technology and I do not want to flag those issues all over again. They are related to resource, human resource, faculty, research orientation, etc. I will take just five minutes.

What I would like to say is that today we require multi-disciplinary kind of education and what I find is that we are creating more and more IITs and NITs. The question is whether we are looking into a holistic multi-disciplinary education. Therefore, I think it has been in our scheme of things to create more and more engineers because this great nation requires many more engineers. But are those engineers being trained in social sciences, for instance, or in understanding the history of our country or for that matter in communication? Today, we all know that the cutting edge of science and research is in artificial intelligence or it is in gene splicing or it is in nano-technology

and finding solutions for humankind. We are in the forefront even in space science. But wherever human beings are needed, there is a need to understand the holistic way, the way in which society is built, the way in which humans interact with machines or for that matter how our society is built.

Somehow, we have to find a pathway to bring NITs into building better universities. For instance, IITs can also at some stage become greater institutions of higher learning in the university format and this is something which the Hon. Minister may like to think about. This is where we need to spend a lot more time thinking. It is because frankly we have seen many of these Bills which were there in 15th Lok Sabha and there is nothing that has changed in terms of thinking when an amendment Bill of this kind comes in the 16th Lok Sabha. Where is the extra thinking that we are doing is the question I would like to pose before the Government.

Having said that, there is a National Institute of Technology even in Sikkim. I am thankful and grateful that we have one such institution in our State. Our Government has also allocated the space but I think we have to request the Director of NIT

there to accept the space that we have given. The land that we have given is very close to the new airport that is coming up. So, the faculty can come in and go out and anyone visiting the NIT can come in and go out of the airport. I was talking to the Civil Aviation Minister yesterday and he hopes to complete it within this year. This is something which I would like to bring to your notice.

Research relevant to Sikkim or relevant to that area needs to be done. For instance, NIT can be tasked with the research on mountain railways. We do have a need for building mountain railways, especially if you are taking railways right up to the Nathu La Pass which is almost 14,000 feet. So, they can do the relevant kind of research in places like NIT.

With that, I again support this Bill but with the rider that I think there is a lot more thinking that we need to do to fashion out a much more multi-disciplinary approach in our education process. Of course, the issues of faculty not being there or funds not being there have already been said by previous speakers. So, I do not want to go into those areas. Thank you for allowing me to participate in this debate.

[Translation]

DR. ARUN KUMAR (JEHANABAD): Hon. Deputy Speaker, supporting this Bill of National Institute of Science Education 2016, I would like to draw the attention of Hon. Human Resource Development Minister to 2-3 points. Certainly, there has been a huge decline in the education sector during the last 25-30 years in the country, and education now has more to do with livelihood, whereas education has been associated with gaining knowledge in this country for thousands of years. I would like to tell the Hon. Minister that there is a need for a basic change in education. Now what are the dimensions in it, due to which such an atmosphere has been created? We believe that the respect of teachers has fallen from rural areas to capital in the country, and teachers are the nation builders. The quality that should go into every field of life is possible only if the teachers have ideas to bring this quality and a resolve to build the nation. Whether it is in the field of science or the field of politics, whether it is in the field of human questions-sensitivity, or any area of life, without a resolute teacher, it is not possible.

With the formation of the new state of Andhra Pradesh, you have given a gift to higher education. I would like to congratulate you on this, but at the same time, I would like to say that earlier the National Institutes, Sainik Schools, etc., were such institutions where children from rural backgrounds and children from lower middle-income groups who had meritorious records were protected. Fees were charged according to their income.

So, whether it is primary education, secondary education, or higher education, we have made progress in the field of education due to which we have contributed to the country and to the world. Vashisht Narayan Singh made a big contribution in the field of mathematics. This is known by the people of the world. Even today, be it the late Kalpana Chawla, Rakesh Sharma, or Dr. Khurana, I want to say that there is no shortage of talents in our country. Today, Anand Kumar, the son of a fourth-grade employee born in a simple household, has become a mathematical wizard only on the strength of his passion and struggle and is known as a founder of Super 30. He educates poor children and those children whose fathers sell eggs and pull

rickshaws; he produces 30 such brilliant IITians every year. There is a small Patwa group in Gaya, Bihar, where ten years ago one could not find a person who had passed Matriculation. In the last ten years, 500 IITians have been produced there, and this has been possible due to the determination of some children. Even in poverty, people are finding a way to struggle.

Therefore, we would like to submit that somewhere down the line our education system is going in a wrong direction and there is a decline in the esteem held for teachers. We should give respect to the teacher and we should also recognise the meritorious students who come from rural areas and who take take degrees from these colleges. The Hon. Member rightly said there are 5000 engineering colleges, and the children who receive education from these colleges are paid less than that of even a labourer. This is a condition prevailing at present. So, we should move in the direction with a resolution to ensure that education is not just connected with employment but also connected with knowledge, which once established us as Vishwa Guru, and even today, even in these adverse

circumstances, India is known for its talents in the entire world; it has happened in 25-30 years. When our government has resolved to build a new India, then surely with the creation of an educational environment, all dimensions of development will be opened. There is only one key, from which all the locks can be opened, so a special initiative needs to be taken in this direction.

With this, I support this Bill and thank the Hon. Deputy Speaker.

SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL (DHUBRI): Sir, first of all, I thank you for allowing me to speak on this important bill. I rise to speak in support of it. This is a very much required for the country, and Andhra Pradesh should get it; I support it as well. It should progress; I also support it, and it should be promoted. I also support it.

Sir, with this we have to say that we are superficially talking on the issue. Right now, our colleagues were saying that there are the children in the villages, the children of the poor, whose parents do not have money to pay them fees and cannot afford the fees, so these brilliant children drop out or leave education. We have to see how we can help those brilliant children realise their potential and progress and also how much we and the government can contribute to this, and how many sacrifices can the government make in this regard? Our farmers' children come from villages; the attachment to the village is emotional. Unless we raise the children of the village and help those children, they will not go forward. They are our precious diamonds. If we carve out those precious diamonds, they can be truly valuable for the country and become examples for the

whole world, which my esteemed colleague has just stated. But with this, we have to say that we need to pay attention to those children.

Many of our colleagues have discussed about fees. Let us not assume that the children who join NIIT belong to affluent families only. As far as it is possible, education should be free or it should be education friendly. We should spend on education more than what we are spending on the Defence budget because if our children progress educationally, then perhaps they can protect the country in a better way. It is right that we need to spend on the defence sector, and we need to spend on weapons as well, but if the people of our country become educated and aware, then perhaps we will have to spend less in this regard. We should try to raise manpower, because we need it very much.

I would like to talk about the Northeast: you gave two NIITs to the Northeast. For this, we are thankful to the previous government, and we are thankful to you as well. At least I am very hopeful because I have a personal relationship with you. Therefore, I would like our Silchar NIITs and Guwahati...

(Interruptions) It is a relationship as one between the younger brother and the elder brother. And I have a relationship with you too. I have worked under you, so I would like to tell you about both NIITs of Guwahati and Silchar in the North-East. Just now, I said that this should happen in Arunachal Pradesh, but for both of these, you should visit there yourself and see the problems there; it is lagging behind in many things. Anyway, fewer children are coming to the North-East, so I request you to pay special attention to it. Insha Allah, you allowed me to speak on this matter. Especially, I pray, I wish Javadekar Saheb makes progress and reaches new heights and take these things forward; this is my hope. Thank you very much.

17.00 hours

SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA (AMBALA): Sir, I rise to support this Bill brought by respected Javadekar ji. After a few days, the country will be celebrating the 70th anniversary of its independence, and in these 70 years, we have come a lot. Whereas in the year 1955, we started with only 8 regional NITs, and in the year 1991, when an era of globalisation and liberalisation started inside India, we were able to introduce 17 NITs. After this, there came the era of revered Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji who established new records in the progress of India and also set up new institutions in India in terms of quality education. Today, again, revolutionary decisions are being taken and work is being done day and night under the leadership of shri Narendra Modi, a leader of the masses and a son of the soil to strengthen the position of India in the international fora., and the bill of NIT coming in Andhra Pradesh is also a step in that direction.

Sir, today, in this august house, a discussion is underway on the issue of high-quality education in the country. Somewhere it is also being discussed as what we found and what we lost in these last 70 years. It is also being stated that there are shortcomings in

our system. It is also coming to light that today our engineer is forced to work for eight to nine thousand rupees a month. Along with this, another scenario is also being seen in the country: our technology, our NIT centres, have also produced such talented people who have given mobile phones even into the hands of a fisherman inside India today, and that a fisherman can do marketing of his goods in the sea and call whom he has to sell goods and ask what kind of fish should be sent today, shrimp fishing or salmon fishing. Today even a three-wheeler driver is able to contact his customer with the help of mobile phone as to where the latter is waiting for the ride. This information and technology are happening in our country, and we need to move forward in this direction. We also have other challenges.

Today we are talking in the House that quality is not coming; this is the situation when, without quality, our youth have carved a niche in the entire world in such a manner that even Barack Obama is forced to go to an American university and tell his students to start studying otherwise, the students of India will snatch away all the jobs in the coming times. This kind of atmosphere is also visible in the world today. We indeed

look a little weaker than China. What has emerged in the field of research, we need to take it more seriously, and there is an atmosphere of fear within China that the way our children learn English is not seen in China. Though they are trying their best to teach English to their children, Indian children are catching the English language very fast in comparison to Chinese children.

I would like to pray to the Hon. Minister that there is a need to promote our talented children by opening more centres for excellence in the country. I would also like to request the Minister that Hon. Narendra Modi ji has made a scheme for start-ups and stand up for the Dalits of the country, women of the country, for which a provision of Rs. 10 thousand crore has also been made. The women and Dalits of the country will not be able to avail the scheme until they get better opportunities to get education first.

I would like to request the Hon. Minister that the women and Dalits of the country will not be able to avail the scheme until they get better opportunities to get education first and unless their children get the amount of scholarship on time.... *(Interruptions)* Chautala ji, I have been working as a worker for

50 years and I want to say that the kind of respect that Hon. Shri Narendra Modi ji, the leader of masses has given to Babasaheb Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar ji, that respect has not been given to him in India to date.

Today NIT is being talked about. I would also like to request the Minister that I come from the Ambala Lok Sabha constituency of Haryana state, which is a reserved area and is adjacent to the mountains. The area of 175 km is surrounded by the mountains. Today, this nation is celebrating the 125th birth anniversary of Baba Saheb Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar Ji. The Bill regarding the establishment of the NIT centre in Andhra Pradesh today is going to be passed. The respected Minister is also a very old friend of mine and we have been friends for the last about 40 years. He has seen that area of ours under what kind of circumstances we live there in the middle of Dalit settlements. Therefore, I request the Hon. Minister to open a similar institution of the national level in my Lok Sabha constituency. With this, I support this, Bill.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR (PURNIA): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the National Institute of Technology, Science Education and Research (Amendment) Bill, 2016.

Sir, the Government is going to provide legal recognition to NIT, Andhra Pradesh, which is already established through this Bill, with effect from August 2015. Provision will also be made to include it in the first list. It's a good thing. This legal validity will also ensure a high level of accountability and participation of all stakeholders in the administrative and academic activities of the institute toward the public. In this institution, 50 per cent of seats will be reserved for students of the state, and only half the seats will be available for students from other states. This will benefit the state immensely.

I come from Bihar. This state is in the category of the most backward states in the country. While keeping in mind NITs established in proportion to the population of the other states, the government should work towards setting up at least five additional NITs in Bihar so that local students of Bihar can get educational benefits. I want to know what justice is the

Government doing to a highly backward State like Bihar when it is approving at least one NIT in all other States? There is a shortage of higher educational institutions in Bihar, due to which lakhs of students from the state are forced to migrate to other states every year. Further, the students whose family financial condition is sound, they get education in another state, but has the government ever thought about the poor students how they are going to get good education in their state? Children, especially from Dalit, OBC, and minority communities, are very talented, but their economic condition is so poor that they cannot even think of pursuing higher education. As far as I am aware, the Government of Bihar has been making efforts for the establishment of NIT in Bihar for the last several years, and the state has sent a number of requests to the Centre, but the Union Government is indulging in political discrimination against the State, and as a result of this, there is a shortage of institutions like NIT in a thickly populated State like Bihar. There is a need to open at least five higher educational institutions like NITs in Bihar.

Therefore, I request the government that Bihar should be given its due and work should be done to establish five new NITs for bright students there to pursue higher education.

With these words, I conclude. Thank you.

SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA (HISAR): Thank you, Hon. Deputy Speaker, I rise to speak on *[English]* The National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research (Amendment) Bill, 2016.

[Translation]

Sir, when we talk about NIT, this is a very important part of the institutions of our country. After passing out of the institutions such as NITs, many talented persons of this country are bringing glory not only to the country but also in the entire world.

Sir, our Andhra Pradesh colleagues demanded this because when Telangana and Andhra Pradesh were separated, it was said that NIT should be opened in Andhra Pradesh also. It is very important that in every state of this country, whether it is our Seven Sisters States or islands like Lakshadweep and Andaman Nicobar, we need to open NITs, IITs, and IIM-level institutions so that they can equip our future generation with good education and technology.

Sir, we talk about creating new institutions on the one hand, but on the other hand, we have to think very seriously about whether we have educated, qualified and trained

professors today. Do we have such infrastructure that we can work to open such institutions in every state?

Sir, we have to invest in our future. The Prime Minister also talks about Make in India, Skill India, and different schemes. It has been more than two years since this Government came to power, but we are seeing that the children who are coming out of these institutions, in the past we got a chance to see the presentation of NIT, and it was revealed that even from inside the NIT institute, 62-63 per cent of children can get job placements. The top ten children don't like to do jobs in our country. It is very sad that in Silicon Valley, where our Prime Minister had the opportunity to visit America recently, you pick up any company and see who has the greatest contribution in creating and running that company, you will see that it is the professors and infrastructure of our country. Today, there is a brain drain as children are going abroad after studying at NITs and IITs. I would urge the Government to chalk out a scheme by clubbing the Skill India and Mudra Yojana so that the educated children from institutions like IITs and NITs can get loans at low interest. They should be motivated to work within the

country and create their means of employment here only. If they continue to go abroad for work and settle there with their focus on getting citizenship of America, Canada, Australia, and other countries, then it will not be beneficial for the country. We have seen doctors and scientists leaving this country. If engineers also leave this country for work, then it is certain that the development of this country will not be done so easily no matter we implement any scheme in this country.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, I would like to say that today the government has to keep its primary focus on these institutions, and then we will be able to give proper infrastructure to these institutions. I would also request the Hon. Minister to bring out the list of all the NITs of the country and find out that the biggest drawback that comes out there is that we are not able to fully provide the staff there. Non-teaching and teaching staff are also not fully available in NITs. There are several NITs with 50-60 bed capacity. We have to first develop those NITs, and when we have developed them, I can assure you that our institutions will be able to take this country forward.

Finally, I will make one more request. A historic NIT inside our state is situated on the sacred land of Kurukshetra. I would urge the Minister to pay some attention to its development as well by visiting Kurukshetra. Till date, if anyone has produced the best quality engineers and educated children in Northern India, then it has been done by the land of Kurukshetra. Just as IIT Roorkee is known, NIT Kurukshetra is also known in the same way. I would only request you to provide additional grants and additional funds for Kurukshetra so that NIT Kurukshetra can also be developed.

With this, I conclude by supporting the NIT Bill which has been presented in the House by the Minister today. Thank you.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN (MADHEPURA): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me time to speak on this important subject. Hon. Minister, I would like to draw your attention to some points. Today, education in this country means profits. Education does not mean a blend of knowledge, science, and spirituality. On the matter of education, I would like to say one thing that if the former President of our country and renowned scientist of the world, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam and Abdul Qadir in Pakistan are compared, we will find that while Abdul Kalam Saheb used knowledge-a blend of spirituality and science for humanity and paved the way for the human welfare of the whole world, which was a positive direction, on the other hand, Abdul Qadir's views in Pakistan did not have a mix of spirituality and science; there was no high moral value in his character, no ideal was there, and Abdul Qadir created worst thing in the world and was declared a 'Tankhaiyya' in his own house.

Sir, we have visited the NIT of Kashmir. When we go to any NIT, we find that there are 40 or 60 or 70 students in an NIT and we all know the quality and quantity of its teachers. I also

know that the students of the weaker sections who work hard are better than their teachers. They guide the teachers there. I have seen and felt it many times. The Minister has brought this bill for Andhra Pradesh. I congratulate you for this, and you have got a big responsibility. I also congratulate you for this responsibility. This provision for NITs should not be politicised. If you talk of politics, then Shri Rajiv Gandhi ji cannot be forgotten, Shri Atal Bihar Vajpayee ji cannot be forgotten, and other Prime Ministers of the country cannot be forgotten in this regard. The question is that unless you bring quality to the teaching faculty and prepare NITs for employment, there will be no benefit. You talk of Silicon Valley; the Prime Minister of our country goes there, and there is a buzz in the world.

But when I look and find these things in my country, I find nothing. Just now our younger brothers were speaking, and I was surprised if they talked about Babasaheb Ambedkar. They talked about Baba Saheb Ambedkar, but Baba Saheb Ambedkar talked about providing common and compulsory education. He was against the privatisation of education and giving it into the hands of the mafia. You should talk about Baba Saheb

Ambedkar only when you are aware of the atrocities being committed against Dalits. At Delhi University, you know that 1200, 1300 to 1400 children are not admitted. You know that in NITs, 800-900 students belonging to Dalits community, minorities, and weaker sections are not being admitted in Karnataka despite the reservation arrangement in place. After the admission of 200-300 students, 80 percent of Dalit students are deliberately failed while they reach third semester. In some way or the other, they are harassed. I would like to draw your attention to these things and want to know how you will end this exploitation in the society from NIT. Since the IIT Bill is not there yet, I will talk to you in detail about that. I request that there is a need to set up a NIT in one state, especially the North area, which is the area of our Kashmir, the where most of the people are going to militancy and where unemployment is high, you should concentrate on setting up NIT on that place. You should focus on Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Kohima, etc. You should focus on Jharkhand, you should focus on Odisha, you should focus on Bihar. You have given NIT to Bihar. But the population of Bihar is ten crore. After separation from

Jharkhand, the education growth in Bihar has come to standstill. The condition of education in Bihar is so bad that it is lagging behind in terms of education in the entire world. I urge you to provide least two more NITs in Bihar. Wherever you give, in whatever corner you are giving, whether you give an NIT in Magadha, whether you give an NIT in Kosi, Mithila, or Seemanchal, the point is that it should be provided. Where is the maximum migration on social grounds taking place? Where do the majority of students come from? If you look at the quota situation, 70 to 80 per cent of children are from Bihar. I request you to pay attention to the quality and quantity of NITs. We should focus on linking it with employment so that it has quality in India. This needs to be given utmost attention. I do not want any further political debate on NIT. We would like to have a blend of science and spirituality because only then we can have high moral education; without it, we cannot imagine India becoming the Vishav guru or beautiful India. Through NITs, if we can infuse a blend of fine scientific and spiritual qualities in people, then our country will also be strong, and surely the social system will also change. This is my request; there is no

need to say more than that today. I will talk to you again in detail on the next bill. But I would like you to focus on quantity and quality and focus on research.

My last point is that there is no focus on research in India. We should save education from power, glamour, and money. The appetite for glamour, power, and money should not be there among youth. Money is required to live life. The hunger for power and glamour is ruining the education. That is why the respect for engineers and teachers in the society has diminished. In the past, an engineer was respected; today there are thousands of engineers in the villages, but no one is ready to give him the same respect enjoyed by him earlier. No one is willing to marry a person from the family of a teacher. They say that that nobody is going to marry a person from teachers' family. The respect that farmers once had has diminished. No one wants to see his /her daughter or son married to someone from the family of a farmer. This is the situation in the country and it is important to understand how you are going to ensure that the due respect is given and India is made a great country. This is my request to you.

SHRI HUKUM SINGH (KAIRANA): Sir, thank you for allowing me to speak. I want to express my thoughts very concisely. When the discussion started, the first speaker was someone who is very knowledgeable; he has also experience of visiting foreign countries, and he also gave a lot of suggestions. After that, I was fortunate that Hon. Sugata Bose Saheb, who has a huge experience of his own. It is always a pleasure to listen to him. I also got a chance to listen to his suggestions. There were many other discussions. I was thinking that there are so many good suggestions, and if these people had the opportunity to be in power for ten years, why couldn't they take action according to those suggestions? What is the problem? Somewhere, when we know everything, we know these things. We also have the opportunity, but after getting the opportunity, if it is not followed and then when the opportunity is over, we start finding faults. This is beyond our understanding.

I would like to give only a few suggestions in a very brief manner because today I am sure the Hon. Minister who has held the responsibility also has the willpower and ability to fulfil it. I

am sure that certainly, he will be able to make best use of this opportunity. We want our institutions to go global. We have to look into the reasons as to why these institutions could not become world level institutions and how we can address the situation? Every kind of suggestion have been given, but I also want to give you a suggestion. Have we ever allowed those institutions to express what difficulties they are facing? Perhaps that gap of communication has always been there. We keep our views, think, and plan, but never do we allow them to see what is the problem with the institutions we want to raise and they are not able to rise. They have a complete research infrastructure or not, and if not, from where will it be completed? Whether they have the full manpower or not, and if not, from where will it be completed? The problems of the institution about which you have brought this bill today, it has also emerged that they are working on the campus, working in the camp, and they do not even have a proper building. If someone will not even have a proper building, the laboratory there will not have a building. Then from where will the research be done? Therefore, my suggestion is and I urge you that even if I do not have that great

experience and even if I have not been able to study abroad, because I have studied in a very ordinary village school. I got the experience that in my district there is neither any government engineering college nor any IIT, but I am proud to say that we have produced the largest number of engineers from that district, and they are dominating the field from the Chief Engineer to the bottom rank in our Uttar Pradesh. There was no facility, but there was willpower; they went out and studied there. Such as our youth, who got the facility here, they studied, went out; it shows, it gives evidence that they have talent and IQ, but we are not able to use that talent properly. We are not able to use it because I said that there is gap in communication somewhere.

Let me give you an example. I will take very little time. I went to an inter-college, which was the inter-college of the committee. I saw there that the water was dripping from above in the office of the Principal there. I asked him what will be the condition of your school when your office is dripping; he said that for the last two years, the administrator has been sitting here, and the administrator has only the power to pay our

salaries, and apart from that, not a penny of maintenance is received. If someone had gone and heard their plight, if this problem had been heard, then it would have been resolved two years ago, and I am telling the same situation. We have Allahabad University, which was renowned once; today it is the Central University. Is it possible for you to fix your target of five institutions in one year and fix the target so that I will take these five institutions globally within one year? I will also talk to them; I will also give them the facility they need, and if there is a need for a facility somewhere, I will also create a facility. You can't take everyone to the world level. In my opinion, we have never established either the tradition or the process here to sit face-to-face and talk to someone. Okay, there is a conference of the Vice- Chancellors, but it is formal; It is just a formality. How much time do they get to say, and how much time do you take to understand? Talk about face-to-face, and you choose five institutions from the whole country, choose from different corners of the country, and try to know what is lacking there. You will know that even the number of teachers in the institutions I am reviewing is not up to the required strength.

You will also note that the person who has been appointed as Vice-Chancellor does not even have any educational background. Someone retires from the police service and then becomes a Vice-Chancellor. He has no background in education, no such foundation. When this information comes before you, you too will feel that yes, there is indeed a deficiency and this deficiency must be removed. You will also see that salaries are not being paid in this institution. For how many days salaries have not been paid, building maintenance is not being carried out, and there is no attraction there for the students. The hostels are also not in good condition. If you go to the root of the problem, look at how zealously the management runs there and with how much zeal they work. I am sure that under your successful leadership, both you and your ministers will work together. You have got the blessings of Hon. Modi ji, and certainly you can do a lot for this country, and much more needs to be done. Perhaps the next time we meet, we will again congratulate you for fulfilling the promise you had made.

With these words, I congratulate you and take a break from my speech while fully supporting this, Bill.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury.

… *(Interruptions)*

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): Sir, the Business Advisory Committee has already allotted two hours for this Bill. There is another Bill also, which is listed in Today's List of Business. Many Hon. Members are prepared to speak on that Bill also. So, we would like to know whether the Government is going to pass this Bill today.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Even though we have allotted two hours, there are still some Members to speak on this Bill. First, let the list of speakers be exhausted.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: That is good. But we would like to know, as to what is the plan of the Government. Are they going to pass this Bill today? At what time are they going to take up the IIT Bill? That is what we would like to know.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Venugopalji, let the Members speak on this Bill. There are three-four Members yet to speak on this Bill. Let them complete. Then, we would see.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: That is the request...*

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, no. That is not the thing. Do not cast aspersion... * I am openly telling, that is ... * left to the House. Even now, if you want to take up the next Bill, I have no objection. But when I have still some Members in the list who are yet to speak, how can I bypass it without giving chance to those Members to speak?

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: We would like to know whether this Bill is getting passed today or not.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That I do not know.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: That has to be clarified by the Government.

* Not recorded.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): About the IIT Bill, may be, we will take it up tomorrow.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: At what time, Sir?

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: It may be after the Question Hour or Zero Hour.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Okay.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury.

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY (BAHARAMPUR): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this legislation wholeheartedly, which has been brought forward by the Hon. Minister, Shri Javadekarji.

In his initiation, the Hon. Minister had exhorted very nicely that we should grow our children with a virtue of inquisitiveness. I strongly support the view expressed by our Hon. Minister.

Sir, here, I would like to draw the attention of the House that the Gross Enrolment Ratio is considered as a parameter of growth in education. Mr. Minister, insofar as the GER is concerned, what is the present status of Gross Enrolment Ratio and what is your target? So far as my knowledge goes, now, it is 18 per cent; and you are trying to reach to 30 per cent.

I have also come to learn that RUSA, namely, Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan, is aimed to increase the Enrolment Ratio in higher education. On behalf of RUSA, Rs. 4,000 crore was sought after. But how much have you allotted to this RUSA scheme? Also, how much fund was sought after by the UGC and how much allocation was made by you? On each and every

aspect, you have been mercilessly slashing the funds that were sought for.

On the one hand you are loudly talking about the ambition of this Government but on the other hand to achieve this, the requisite fund is not being provided. So, it is an eloquent testimony of the dichotomy being persuaded by your Government.

Sir, I had brought forward one amendment and that this why, I got this opportunity to speak for a few minutes as the Minister was condescend enough to allow me to speak. Hon. Minister, so far as NIT is concerned, the projected demand was Rs. 3,000 crore, Rs. 2,000 crore for old institutions and Rs. 1,000 crore for new institutions. But here also you have slashed the funds to the tune of Rs. 1,444.90 crore. So, it is further evident that you are not serious enough in spite of no dearth of rhetoric.

So far as our problem in education is concerned, everybody here pointed out that there is a severe shortage of faculty. The sanctioned posts in various Central universities are 16,600 – 2,376 posts of Professor, 4,708 posts of Associate Professor and

9,521 posts of Assistant Professor. Out of which, 5,928 teaching posts are vacant. Around 1,277 posts of Professor and 2,173 posts of Associate Professor and 2478 Assistant Professor are vacant. So, this is seriously affecting the quality of our education. If the students, who are supposed to be taught, do not have the facility of faculty, then how can we imagine educating our students as we desire? Only six per cent our population between the age of 16 to 23 used to obtain the higher education in spite of the fact that we have developed a lot. In 1950, we did not have so many institutions. Since 1950, we have been able to increase the number our universities by 34 per cent. We have also increased the number of our colleges from 500 to more than 40,000. As my esteemed colleague Shashi Tharoorji has pointed out, still we are spending only 1.12 per cent of our GDP, on higher education however, our Parliamentary Panel on Higher Education has proposed to increase it to 1.5 per cent of the GDP.

We also need that our syllabus should be upgraded. I would also suggest you to explore a symbiotic relation between the production of our engineer or our MBA and their placement in various jobs. About 93 per cent of our Management Bachelors

are jobless and 80 per cent of our engineers are jobless. Even 16,000 engineers are jobless in the model State of Gujarat.

Hon. Minister, I know that you are exhausting all your resources in order to develop these institutions that have been entrusted upon you. You should remember that India still has failed to achieve the rank in the top 250 educational institutions in the world. So, if you want to turn our country into a global educational hub, you have to infuse more fund; you have to infuse more energy and innovation in this sector.

I am hailing from a backward district from west Bengal. That district is Murshidabad which is recognized as a district of highest concentration of Muslim population in our country. There is a technological college - Murshidabad Institute of Technology. I would urge upon the Hon. Minister that at least the institute that is situated in Murshidabad should be upgraded as a National Institute of Technology in view of the fact that the largest concentration of Muslim population belongs to that district. I hope that the Hon. Minister certainly will look into and consider my proposal sincerely. Tomorrow again, we will be meeting. *[Translation]* The Minister's name is Prakash

Javadekar. The entire house hails you, the Sangh Parivar hails you, but I advise you- *[English]* Do not saffronize the educational institutions in our country. Thank you.

[Translation]

DR. KIRIT P. SOLANKI (AHMEDABAD): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, you have allowed me to speak about the establishment of the National Institute of Technology in Andhra Pradesh. I thank you very much from the bottom of my heart. I express my gratitude to our Government and our illustrious Prime Minister Shri Narendra Bhai Modi ji for taking a decision to set up this institute in the Cabinet meeting, and because of this, this Bill was presented in the House today. I rise to support this bill in the House. I am happy that Members from all the parties in the House have supported it. I also congratulate our Human Resource Minister Shri Prakash Javadekar ji for bringing this Bill to this House.

The occasion of Guru Purnima has just passed. I want to apprise this House of the fact that Guru Purnima took place the day before yesterday and our Minister celebrated the festival of Guru Purnima by inviting all the people of both Houses who were in the field of education, professors, and teachers. Everyone was honoured with a Tulsi sapling. I think that's a big thing. The giving due respect to teachers and professors is

reflected in the approach of this government. I was also a part of it, so I express my heartfelt gratitude to Javadekar Ji for this.

If you look at the tradition of India, there was a time when people from different countries used to come to India to study in the field of education; they used to come to Nalanda, and they used come to the Takshila school. These schools were so famous that people from different countries of the whole world used to come to study in India. I want to tell this House that this country had the capability of becoming a Vishwa Guru, and the entire world was educated through this country's education. Education was not imparted in just one field but in different fields, and India was known for its education far and wide in the entire world. I'm proud of it. Today, in this era of competition, India is competing on the global stage. We have many big institutions built here. I come from Ahmedabad. The Indian Institute of Ahmedabad has recognition all over the world. There are institutions like this. But unfortunately, I also have to say that after India became independent, we had a lot of opportunities, but the speed at which we should have gone in education, we did not go ahead at that pace and speed. The way this decision has

been taken after the arrival of Narendra Bhai Modi Ji's government, I think in the coming times this government will accord a lot of primacy to education.

As far as our students are concerned, the students of India are proficient in every field. I would like to give you an example of our medical sector. Students study here and go abroad. There, Indian doctors are held in high esteem. As far as and knowing history, diagnosis and physical examination through clinical equipment by the doctors is concerned, Indian doctors are the number one in the whole world in this. This is the identity of Indian students. If you look at the engineering students, they do not get any opportunity here. When they got the opportunity abroad, they even secured a Nobel Prize. I mean to say that Indian students both boys and girls, have abundant potential. That is why Indian students are also very brilliant. If they get such opportunities in their country, they can carve a niche here as well.

Look at the example of ISRO today. The way ISRO is working, the way Indian scientists are making ISRO proud, I believe that if they get more encouragement, if they get backing

from the government, then they can make India proud in the entire world; they can create their own unique identity. So, I request the Minister that we should provide such facilities here. Our students are the wealth of knowledge which goes abroad. They should remain in their own country. If they get an opportunity, they can make a name in their respective fields.

As far as quality education is concerned, you are going to set up NITs; different institutions are going to be established in the coming time. I request that our syllabus, courses, and teaching pattern should be of an international standard. I don't mean to say that we only have to take from the Western world. If you see our different archaeological structures, you will find that the people of India had a lot of reserves. I request that Indianisation should also be included in our syllabus. If the people connected with this soil are also taken into account, then they will truly become good engineers, good technical persons, and good scientists. There will be a fragrance of Mother India. This is how our courses should be organised.

The soul of any institute is research, modification, and investigation. Therefore, I request the Minister that it should be

compulsory for our faculties and professors to do research, investigation, and modification. I want to tell you that in the coming times, every institution will make a distinct identity of its own. You are going to set up an institution. I would like to request the Minister through the Deputy Speaker that poor sections, especially Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, should be factored in for education; due to exorbitant fees, these people are not able to take admission in the technical education and arts institutions.

We should develop such a mechanism that if the government can help them regarding the fee structure, it should do it. If they arrange a loan free of cost from banks, then they will be able to qualify themselves. Those people have a lot of potential, but they are not given opportunities. Due to lack of opportunity, those people are not able to progress.

Nowadays, we see a situation like ragging in education. It is very painful when this is discussed in newspapers from time to time. Because of this, the mental tension of our young students increases a lot, due to which they sometimes even commit suicide. I request you that since we are going to set up

institutions of education, we should also pay attention to this so that the atmosphere of mental tension is not created among the students. Thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to express my views on this important Bill.

[English]

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Thank you Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to express my views on the Bill, that is, The National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research (Amendment) Bill, 2016.

Sir, at the beginning of the debate itself I have made a suggestion that another Bill which is pending before this House is very similar and identical. It is regarding institution or commencement of six IITs plus one IIT, total, seven IITs to be declared as institutions of national importance. That is another Bill. This is also more or less same because this is a National Institute of Technology, Science Education and Research (Amendment) Bill, and the other one is Indian Institutes of Technology Bill. So, these two Bills could be discussed together so as to save the time of this august House.

I would urge upon the Parliamentary Affairs Minister to please see the time of the House because yesterday also for the Indian Trusts (Amendment) Bill, you had allotted two hours for that Bill and we could pass that Bill very well, within 2-3

minutes, because it was passed by the Rajya Sabha. So many other vitals issues are pending. Even we are not getting sufficient time to present Matters under Rule 377 before the House because there is no time. But unfortunately, a lot of time—I am not saying it is being wasted—can be very well utilized for other subjects also. No Calling Attention is being allowed. No other Discussion under Rule 193 is being allowed. So, let the Parliamentary Affairs Minister be very serious about the allocation of time for the discussion on the Bills so that we will get an opportunity to submit more issues which are vital for the House.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Premachandran, this was discussed in the Business Advisory Committee. In that Committee, we decided to allocate two hours for this Bill and another two hours for that Bill. It was decided there. That is the decision of the Business Advisory Committee and that was also adopted by the House. Therefore, it is not necessary to go into that.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF

STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR): My dear friend, Mr. Premachandran is a very senior Member of the House. I think he knows and appreciates, as you rightly said, Sir, that the business is not allocated by the Parliamentary Affairs Minister. The Business is allocated by the BAC. Whatever other Businesses like Matters under Rule 377 or Calling Attention matter or Discussion under Rule 193—all these things are given and approved by the Hon. Chairperson of BAC, who is the Speaker of the House.

There was also a demand from all the leaders in the all-parties meeting that there should be a balance between the Government Business and the Business of the House. Therefore, we will facilitate that. But the onus is directly on BAC. BAC has allocated the time and we are proceeding accordingly.… *(Interruptions)*

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: BAC has allocated two hours' time for discussion on this Bill. … *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): Sir, the only thing is that they do not have Business. … *(Interruptions)* Sir, you tell us heartily, I will accept it. … *(Interruptions)*

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, it is not so.

… *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: When everybody wanted to discuss the MCI Bill, they said that it should be passed today only. There is no time. But what has happened today? Today, you have got two Bills.… *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANTHKUMAR: We are ready for it. We have listed both the Bills. There are enough Bills that are pending.… *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: They do not have any Business. That is why, they want to give it more time. Shri Premachandran can also speak as much as he wants. They will allow him. They are very liberal.… *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR (HAMIRPUR): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell the Hon. Shri

Mallikarjun Kharge Saheb that his party Members were also in BAC and they had agreed to the amount of time given for this Bill. You please ask your representative.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: First you go to your place and speak from there.

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: When the Deputy Speaker tells me, then I will go. You can't direct me to go to my place.... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Yes, I can point it out. When the Rule is there, I can point it out. If the Rule is not there, I cannot point out. … *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Just the first week of this session is going on.... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Sir, you know what happens in BAC. Whatever we say in BAC, they take it as a suggestion. They alter it as they want. They alter even subjects,

Calling Attention, Adjournment Motions under Rule 56 and other things.

Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, have you heard any Short Notice Question coming for discussion? Not a single one has come up. You yourself are an expert in that. Many a time you have put questions through that. It has not come only in this Session but in earlier sessions also it has not come. … *(Interruptions)* Anyway, we will cooperate with them. We are ready to do it. That is a different thing. But you should agree that you have ample time but no business.… *(Interruptions)*

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs has already assured that he is ready to take up any other Business also like Discussion Under Rule 193, Calling Attention or whatever. Whatever your request is, it will be considered and discussed once again in BAC and it can be taken up.

Shri Premachandran, please continue.

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Thank you, Deputy-Speaker, Sir. I am also thankful to the Hon. Minister for giving me an opportunity to speak on the National Institutes of

Technology, Science Education and Research (Amendment) Bill, 2016.

Sir, we are all bound by BAC but I would like to say only one point. … *(Interruptions)* I am not a Member of BAC. The House is bound by the BAC decision. I fully agree with it. … *(Interruptions)*

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please speak only about the Bill.

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: I am coming to the Bill.

The amendment to the present Bill is with the purpose to amend the National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research Act, 2007 so as to commence a National Institute of Technology in Andhra Pradesh due to the bifurcation of the State of Andhra Pradesh into Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

Sir, the first point which I would like to make is that the National Institute of Technology was established by virtue of an enactment of Parliament and it started in the year 2007. The Institute of Technology Act was enacted by Parliament in the year 1961. So, what is the difference between the National Institute of Technology, Science Education and Research and

the Institute of Technology and the Indian Institute of Technology? We are having multiplicity of organisations and academic councils and we are passing so many legislations.

According to my information and belief, syllabus and curriculum as well as level of standard is more or less same in respect of the National Institute of Technology and the Indian Institute of Technology. These centres have to be made as centres of excellence in professional education especially the technical education. These should be declared as centres of excellence.

Coming to the point of National Institute of Technology, I do agree with the Government that this new institute is being given to the State of Andhra Pradesh. Their emotions and genuine demand have been accepted by the Government. I fully agree with the Bill and there is nothing controversial in respect of this Bill.

18.00 hours

Coming to the issue of IIT, Sir, I am thankful to the Government for commencing an IIT in the Palakkad District of Kerala.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please stop for a minute.

Now, it is 6 o'clock. If the House decides, we can extend the time of the House by one hour. If the House agrees, the discussion may continue and the Bill may be passed.

If the Hon. Members want, after the discussion, the Minister may reply and we may pass the Bill. Therefore, we can extend. Otherwise, we will take it up tomorrow.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, let us pass the Bill today. Hon. Minister will give reply and the Bill may be passed.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Members may say what they want. If you want one hour extension, we may do it.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

PROF. SUGATA BOSE (JADAVPUR): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have had adequate discussion. I do not know how many speakers are left on your list, but if we can do this efficiently, it would be best to get this Bill passed today so that we can take up the IIT Bill tomorrow.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay. We extend the time of the House by one hour or till the Bill is passed.

Shri Premachandran, you continue now.

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Sir, we are thankful to the Government for having commenced an IIT in the State of Kerala. It was a long-pending dream of the people of Kerala to have an IIT in the State. We are thankful not only to this Government but also to the then Government which had tried its level best to commence an IIT in the State of Kerala. There was a big contradiction that a State, which is having 100 per cent literacy and is highly educated, did not have an IIT. Now, that contradiction has been resolved for which also I am thankful to the Government.

Sir, now I come to the objectives of the IITs and NITs. What are the main objectives of these enactments? According to me, our forefathers, even the Nehruvians, thought of starting in the sixties the IITs with an object. The IITs were created by way of a statute passed by Parliament. The establishment of IITs is given a statutory backing by means of a legislation. This means that it is a very important institution of national importance. The significance of an IIT or an NIT is that these are centres of excellence.

I think, there are three aims with which these highly esteemed institutions were established. The first aim was to bring out brilliant professionals in our country. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru at that time had stated that 'they will be the architects of our modern India' so that we produce brilliant professionals in the professional education who would be brought out through these centres of excellence. The second aim was to improve the quality of higher education in the country so that it would act as an encouragement to other engineering colleges and technology institutes as a result of which the academic standard and standard of education in other institutions will also rise.

Sir, the third aim is very important, but unfortunately, it is being ignored now-a-days. It was to ensure that poor and common people get an opportunity to have quality education in these centres of excellence. The third very important aim of commencing these high-level institutions is that the poor and common people of the country should have access to quality education either in IITs or in NITs. These institutions were started with a long-term perspective thinking that professional

education imparted in these IITs will be the better way to improve quality of our education.

Sir, even after 55 years of establishment of IITs and ten years of establishment of NITs, have we been able to achieve the goals enunciated in the Act of 1961 or in the Act of 2007? Some time back, Dr. Shashi Tharoor had pointed out about the global standards and the statistics of higher education. We are not even able to become one among the first 200 colleges of international standard in the world. That is the situation even after 55 years of IITs and ten years of NITs. We are not able to have a single college which will come up with and have the global or international standards in education. So, we have to review the position of our higher education.

The biggest challenge of Indian education is quality education, particularly, in the field of higher education. Former speakers, Dr. Shashi Tharoor and Prof. Sugata Bose, eminent personalities having international exposure have also expressed their concern in respect of the quality of education prevailing in our country. On this issue, we should rise above politics and join together to have a concerted effort to improve the quality of

higher education in our country. But unfortunately, narrow partisan party politics is a hurdle to achieve this objective.

Sir, I will cite recent examples or recent experiences. Firstly, I would like to mention regarding the National Eligibility Test (NET). The University Grants Commission (UGC) has stipulated a mandatory condition that in order to get the appointment of Assistant Professors in universities and colleges the essential required qualification was stipulated as NET and that is a standard test that is prevalent in our country during the last decade. It is a good test, which is well-accepted throughout the country. It is a standard certification, and it was considered as a major step towards bringing quality in the field of teaching and research. But it is now learnt that UGC is going to dilute this standard certification with a new change where a candidate is qualified if he has a Ph.D. qualification and two articles or two papers published in papers. According to me, this is dilution of higher education as quality of education is being compromised, which should never be allowed. This is being done on the ground that they are not getting sufficient qualified teachers of NET for thousands and thousands of vacancies of

Assistant Professors and Lecturers that are there in the universities and colleges, so they are diluting it. This is not a genuine ground for diluting the NET qualification or the Assistant Professor qualification. So, kindly review this decision.

As regards faculty, the quality of education is directly related to the faculty. If the faculty is not well-qualified and if there is no sufficient faculty to discharge higher education, then there is no meaning in starting higher educational institutions like NIT and IIT. So, the faculty qualification should be strict; NET qualification should be followed; and it should never be diluted. This is the first point that I would like to make before the Hon. Minister.

The second point is regarding the T. S. R. Subramanian Committee Report on Education Policy. We have heard about the T. S. R. Subramanian Committee Report on Education Policy that a Committee was appointed to make a draft document on education policy. I would like to know this from the Hon. Minister. What is the fate of this Report? It is being learnt from media / press reports that on 27 May 2016 Shri T. S.

R. Subramanian has submitted the 250-page Report to the Government. So far, the Government has not brought the document into the public domain whereas unverified versions of this T. S. R. Subramanian Committee recommendations have already come out in the Press. The then Minister, Shrimati Smriti Irani, has said that these are only recommendations and no policy document has been submitted by Shri T. S. R. Subramanian. So, it was said that they will entrust some other agency so as to make a draft document and that draft document will be brought in the public domain for a discussion to have an education policy.

I would like to know the factual position of the T. S. R. Subramanian Committee Report. Is the Government pursuing that Report? What is the opinion of the Government regarding the T. S. R. Subramanian Committee Report? I am asking this because quality of education is the biggest challenge that the country is facing in this era.

I am now coming to the third point regarding higher education. It is a big danger, which is going to happen, that is, the marginalised section of society is being denied best quality

education because the corporate and private agencies are now concentrating on higher education, especially, medical education, engineering education, technical education, business management, etc. Actually, the corporate entities are concentrating on higher education in almost all the sectors. As I have cited the day before yesterday, it is a lucrative business. Higher education is a very lucrative business. It is the best business which is available in our country. What happens to the school education in our country? The public education system has lost its significance because there is mushroom growth of unaided private institutions throughout the villages and towns, and the resulting effect is that poor students, common people, downtrodden people and marginalised sections of society are not getting good education, and the public education system itself is in a peril. The significance is lost. These private unaided educational institutions are growing like anything. That will be resulting in denial of education to the poor people of our country.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: They have already made 25 per cent reservation to take care of that aspect. For the self-financing

or private institutions, it is mandatory for them. They have to give 25 per cent of seats free to meritorious students. There is a provision. What you are pointing out is also correct, but there is also a provision.

SHRI P.K. BIJU (ALATHUR): They are charging lakhs of rupees. If you want to get reservation in private educational institutions, you have to pay that much fee. They have fixed that amount.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That is free and they cannot charge anything.

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: That also depends on the State legislation.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What you said is correct that because of privatization, charges or fees is very high, and only highly influential people or well-to-do people are going to those institutions. That is a fact and it is correct. But at the same time, there is a provision that these schools have to provide for 25 per cent reservation. That mandate is there. However, I do not know how they are implementing it.

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Sir, comparing it with the fee structure which is prevailing, even after this 25 per cent reservation, poor people are not able to go there because the system is entirely different. The private unaided educational system is different. My point is that the same is going to happen in higher educational system also. So, please be very careful. My point is the State shall never withdraw from the higher education. In these IITs and NITs, common people and poor people should also get an opportunity to have the best system of education, which is prevailing in our country.

Sir, considering the recent fee hike in IITs, it is also adversely affecting the common man. The recent fee hike in IITs is an abnormal fee hike. The last fee hike was from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 90,000. Now, it is enhanced to Rs. 2 lakh per annum per student, that is, 120 per cent of increase in the fees. This can never be justified. This is against the concept of the IITs and the National Institutes of Technology. What will be the resulting effect? The resulting effect will be that the National Institute of Technology and the Indian Institute of Technology, the premier educational institutions in the country will also be reserved or

will also be available only for the rich class of society. That will be the resulting effect of hike in the fees. I do agree that those who are having the income below one lakh of rupees, there is some concession. For SC/ST students, there is a concession. However, even the common, middle-class people will be suffering. Suppose a Non-Gazetted Officer, who is serving either in the State service or in the Central service, he will be earning above Rs. 1 lakh. Almost all the middle-class people will be earning above Rs. 1 lakh. So, a student from the middle-class has to pay Rs. 2 lakh per annum means it is unaffordable, and it is unjustifiable. I would urge upon the Government to review the unreasonable and unjust fee hike, which was enhanced recently.

The other point, which I have already cited, is the statutory recognition to all these institutions. I am concluding. The statutory recognition given to these institutes…

SHRI ANANTHKUMAR: Sir, my dear friend, Shri Premachandran, said that two hours was sufficient for this NIT Bill and we have taken four hours. We should have passed the Bill by now. Therefore, I was just calculating the time taken. If

we had taken only two hours or 120 minutes, my dear friend, Shri Premachandran's Party or he himself would have got three minutes. If we had debated the whole thing for four hours, he should have taken six minutes. I am just putting the timer that he has taken 31 minutes. Therefore, when one party Member takes 31 minutes and asks the ruling party and the Treasury Benches to conclude within two hours or four hours… *(Interruptions)*

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: That is because of you only. … *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANTHKUMAR: Shri Venugopalji, let us not go into this. He can conclude. He is a dear friend. He has made his point. He has spoken for 30 minutes and enlightened us.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That is left to him.

… *(Interruptions)*

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: That is totally misleading. The observation that I have made is that I am actually supporting to save the time. The day before yesterday also, two Statutory Resolutions were in my name. I had suggested to the Chair to have joint discussion so that we could save the time.

Today also, I have made an observation and a suggestion to discuss both the Bills together so that we can save the time. I have made a positive suggestion. The Hon. Minister has totally misled about the observation which I have made. Since the Minister has said that I have to conclude, I am concluding.

Thank you very much.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): Hon. Deputy Speaker, first of all, I would like to congratulate all the Hon. Members who participated in this discussion and who have listened to it carefully: - Shri Shashi Tharoor Ji, Dr Kambhampati Haribabu, Shri S. Selvakumar, Shri Sugata Bose, Shri Baijayant J. Panda, Shri Muthamsetty Srinivasa Rao, Shri Chandrakant Khaire, Shri Kunda Vishweshwar Reddy, Shri P.K. Biju, Shrimati Butta Renuka, Shri Jai Prakash Narayan, Shri Ninong Ering, Dr Udit Raj, Shri P.D. Rai, Dr. Arun Kumar, Shri Badruddin Ajmal, Shri Rattan Lal Kataria, Shri Santosh Kumar, Shri Dushyant Chautala, Shri Rajesh Ranjan, Shri Hukum Singh, Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, Dr Kirit P. Solanki and Shri N.K. Premachandran Ji.

[English]

My friends, I am very happy about it because one demand that has come out of it is that now we must give quality education. We have achieved expansion in the last seventy years. The credit for that goes to all the Governments who have

ruled this country. The Britishers created postal network; they created rail network, and they created some other systems. But education and taking the education to the last man was not their priority. This is the priority of the independent India. That is what we have achieved in numbers. Now it is the issue of quality. Therefore, our policy is *[Translation]* "Education to everyone, good education" *[English]* Therefore, after assuming charge, I first went to night schools because they are the deprived class. They need education. What are the aspirations of the poor people? *[Translation]* This means I have to say with sadness that even a poor man, after looking at the local conditions, after sacrificing his expenses, chooses other institutes for his child to get a good education, where there is no midday meal scheme, no uniform, no free books, and where a fee of Rs. 300 has to be paid. *[English]* But even the poorest of the poor want his kids to be educated well. That is the aspiration of the poor. Education is a national subject. Education is beyond politics. It is the concern of all of us; it is the duty of all of us. Therefore, we must resolve that we will work unitedly to

improve the quality of education. I think, that has emerged as a main point of this discussion.

[Translation]

You asked about draft education – *[English]* Shri Premachandran has raised this point. There were three questions in Rajya Sabha today and I have answered them. Let me tell you this thing. By Monday, you will receive some salient points and draft points on education policy, which are there in a policy format. They are available on the website. But for the convenience, we will deliver you all the 43 pages for your consideration. Earlier, the time limit was 31st July. As we are now giving you the hard copy, we will give you more time. By 15th of August, I want all Members to study that and come out with suggestions. That is how we can improve it.

I have found the same passion and the same urge in all the 25 speeches. So, the nation's will is on display today in the debate and I welcome that.

Let me now tell you what we are doing to improve quality. We must do much more, but we are doing some things. There is an initiative called the Technical Education Quality

Improvement for Rs.2600 crore which will now be implemented in 190 institutes over the next four years.

Many Hon. Members said that there needs to be immediate upgradation of infrastructure, particularly research infrastructure. That is really the need of the hour. Therefore, we are thinking of a Higher Education Funding Initiative which will go to the Cabinet. The central idea of the initiative is, as the Government has already indicated in the Budget, that we will invest Rs.1,000 crore, and there will be a bank or some other body which will monitor it. That will leverage the funds through market and can provide up to Rs.20,000 crore for the upgradation of all kinds of infrastructure. I have already mandated that 40 per cent of that money should be invested in improving the research infrastructure. It is not about roads, buildings and staff quarters; it is basically about improving the research infrastructure. That is what we are taking up.

There is the new IMPRINT India Initiative of the Government of India under the Prime Ministership of Narendra Modi-ji under which we are investing Rs.1,000 crore on Research Assistance. In another project on IIT campuses and

NIT campuses. Under this initiative, industry can ask for customised research solutions, there will be student-industry interaction, and that will promote research. There will be incubation centres also for young minds. Even after graduation they can come to the incubation centres and do more research because that is what is needed.

There is a big issue raised by many Hon. Members as regards the private engineering colleges and institutes. Some said that some institutes are getting closed and that is correct. What has changed in the last five years is this. Earlier, there used to be admissions in every engineering college all over the country. But now students are empowered with technology. They see the placement record of the institutes. If the placement record of the institute is good, they take admission. If the placement record is not good, they do not take admission. Therefore, there are closures of certain institutes. That is how the market operates. If you are not qualitatively good, you will have to face the music; and if you are qualitatively good, people will appreciate you more. That is how things happen. We want qualitative improvement in all respects. To improve quality, first

we must fill all the faculty posts. That gives rise to the question whether people are ready to become the faculty.

Last week I was in IIT Delhi interacting with about 200 Ph.D. students for about an hour on many issues. The first question I asked them was who wants to be a teacher, so that I could start a dialogue with them. To my surprise, more than 120 students raised their hands to say that they want to be faculty Members. That is the change in atmosphere that is happening and I am very happy with it.

I organised a programme called Gun Gaurav at my residence last Sunday. Many people talked about Guru Purnima. I felicitated all the teaching community in Parliament on that day. That was not a party programme but a national programme. What was this Gun Gaurav? It was for those students of Delhi who secured more than90 percent marks in their Plus-2 examination and secured admission in Delhi University in the first cut-off list in spite of adverse conditions like living in one-room accommodation in slum areas, being children of daily wagers, being a part of big families, etc. I felicitated those students at my house. Many TV channels have also shown it. I

interviewed every student. Many of them have said that they want to become teachers. That gives us great hope that the future generation is also motivated. We should not think that everything is gone. No. They are motivated and they want to become teachers. We have to give three things- dignity, compensation, freedom and we also have to introduce accountability. Then only we can have good teachers and good teachers should be appreciated. I will tell you one example. The village which I adopted in Bundelkhand near Chitrakoot is located on the border of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. *[Translation]* The name of the village is Paldev. *[English]* We went there and I first inspected the school. I talked to the students, I talked to the parents. Then I called teachers together. I asked them, "What is the result in 10th standard?" They said that it was 11 percent. I asked, "What is the result of 12th standard?" They said that it was 28 per cent. I asked them how many students were there. They told there were 350. I said this is a village of 3000 people; it means students are coming from outside the village also. They said students come from as far as four, six or eight kilometres. How do they come? The students,

including girls, come by cycles. If they are coming by cycles, it means they have the urge to learn. I said that we must now take up the challenge to improve the percentage and I gave them a target of 50 per cent up from 28 per cent.

I sat with them and organised a 10-day special programme for all teachers through DIET and they were sent to Satna and had very good 10-day training. Then we started remediation classes, we motivated students, teachers and the community. Everybody became involved in school education and in seven months, the result of 28 per cent became 82 per cent. That is how things can happen if teachers decide.

[Translation]

I saw there a live example of what miracles can happen if professors and teachers work with motivation. The same has happened this year as well; it was not just the revolution of that time. It wasn't just a one-year miracle. This year also, the Class 12 result of that school has been 78 per cent. *[English]* Now it has stabilised to the next level. *[Translation]* This can be done. After taking charge of this ministry, I went to Pune, and then all the workers said that we would welcome you. I said 'no.

The professor at my college was from Pune. I studied there for two years; before that, I had studied in the village. I said I would bow to my teachers. I performed the Guru Pranam programme there.

[English]

I am saluting even today all the teaching community because I believe that if they take up the cause, they can change the whole scenario. The basic quality at the primary level is where the real problem lies. The ASER report and other reports and even our own Government's report do not augur well for the quality of education at primary level. Students are ready and if we are not complementing, that is the real issue. Therefore, I appeal to all teachers that they can make a difference to the India story. We will give everything that is needed. Vacancies will be filled. There will be quality training. There will be in-service training and pre-service training; all will be there.

[Translation]

I noticed that the children in IIT have the aspiration to become teachers, so I loved it. *[English]* So, faculty and quality have a very important co-relation and we must understand it.

[Translation] Someone asked what GER is. It is not 19 per cent but is 24 per cent. Our goal is much higher. It is 50 per cent in the world's advanced countries; that is a long-term goal. Let us first reach at least up to 30 per cent. We have to improve it every year. *[English]* That is why we are going ahead with this programme.

[Translation]

I would like to cite an example. Many people have spoken about research and innovation, and this is true. If there is quality, there is research. If there is research, then there is innovation. *[English]* Kharge ji, in 2000 I was made the Chairman of Working Group on IT for Masses of the Government of India. At that time, I was heading IT Task Force of the Government of Maharashtra. Then we went to Massachusetts Institute of Technology and we negotiated successfully MIT Media Lab Asia project which was a good initiative. At that time, Atal ji was Prime Minister and he committed Rs 1,000 crore for that. After return, he asked me, “Why are we investing Rs 1,000 crore? What is that we are importing?" I said, “We are importing the research culture, research freedom, research value system,

and the big power of ideas. That is what we are importing." So, he said, "We also have many research institutes." I said, "Yes, we have and we are proud of our scientists but still when it becomes bureaucratic, it creates problems. It has to be a free and real research." That is what we now want to bring.

Hon. Members have talked about PhDs. In our country and in the best of the best countries, you are a PhD holder only if you add something new to the existing knowledge. Compilation does not become PhD. That is how PhDs come. We have taken two important initiatives under Shri Narendra Modi. Under IMPRINT, we are contemplating Rs. 1,000 crore investments. What is that investment for Research projects. In another scheme as I said industries will come up with customised demands for their research requirements. The IITs, NITs, IIMs and all other technical institutes will be involved in doing the research. There will be incubation centres also.

Over the last five years IITs have produced 3000 research reports and 10,000 are in progress. We must attract foreign students. *[Translation]* I am the product of the student movement. During Jayaprakash Narayan ji's agitation, many

foreign students used to come to Pune University. I have to check how many of them are there right now. But to *[English]* be a part of the whole global culture is education by itself. *[Translation]* My son has recently completed his Ph.D. There were 17 of them who stayed together for six years, and they had come from 12 different countries. Such an experience gives a person exposure to a diverse culture and a broader base. That is why India can attract foreign students. They used to come earlier, they come even today, but more can come, and they should. This exchange is very important. Innovation and industry interaction must increase; there will also be customisation and start-ups. But if we do not innovate, then, as I said at the beginning, unless there is innovation, we do not generate wealth, nor do we proceed on the path of real prosperity.

[English] Quality, good faculty, research facilities, and innovation are all linked in that scenario and that is the vision of the Government led by Shri Narendra Modi.

There were some issues raised about NITs. *[Translation]* Today there are 19 thousand students in NITs. It is not only in

two states of the Northeast; it is in eight states because the policy that has been there till now was also implemented by the previous government; we have continued it. Right now, there should be one NIT in every state. Since Andhra Pradesh has been reorganised, we are giving it to Andhra Pradesh. Some people said that there should be four NITs in Bihar. Chandrakant Khaire ji also said that there should be one in Maharashtra. Everyone wants that.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: They say that there should be one in Aurangabad.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: They ask for Shambhajinagar, not for Aurangabad.... *(Interruptions)* I tell you, everyone will get it. What I want to say is that everyone desires that we should have NIT here, this is our credibility. This is a testimony of quality that a good level of institution should come, and this is the wish of everyone. I would say, may your words come true soon, and may such a situation arise that every State is provided something more. It should indeed be so. But right now an NIT has been given to every state and fulfilled what was lacking in Andhra. It has a

hundred per cent funding. People said that the funding in this is low, but it has a hundred per cent funding. The reservation is also provided according to the respective state, which is given in Schedule Six, and 50 per cent reservation is given to the home state. In this, we have earmarked Rs 220 crore for modernisation. Pappu Yadav ji is not here yet. Dushyant ji has also spoken about this; he went to the NIT of Srinagar under the committee tour , so we have given Rs 100 crore immediately to improve the condition of NIT Srinagar. This higher education fund of Rs 20 thousand crore will be prepared, and that fund will remove the shortage of research abilities of all NITs and IITs and other infrastructure so that the institutions which are there can have expansion in them. Instead of opening new institutions every time, sometimes the optimum possibility of expansion should also be built up.

Chaudhary Ji said that the budget has been very low. The budget of NIT has increased by 23% in the year 2016-17 over the year 2013-14; I want to say this. Bose ji mentioned Jayaprakash Narayan ji that *[English]* 'Engineering is not about technology. Humanities and basic science research are very

important and I appreciate that.' *[Translation]* The National Institute of Humanities, named after Jayaprakash Narayan ji, will be in Madhya Pradesh, and its work will start from the year 2017-18. I want to announce that.

There is also talk of affordability. *[English]* Four corners of Education Policy have to be accessibility, quality, affordability, and accountability. We have to work within that parameter. *[Translation]* In affordability, everyone said that Rs 2 lakh was spent, but I want to say one thing: we spend Rs 6 lakh every year on an IIT student. The poor person whose child has never seen IIT also pays tax. The poor also need justice, for whom we have made four provisions, under which all fees are waived for those who have reservations quota of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Disabled. *[English]* I will take note of the issue raised by Biju ji. I will discuss it with my officers. *[Translation]* What can be done instead of paying the amount first and then reimbursing it? *[English]* We will definitely look into it. But, more importantly, *[Translation]* those whose income is less than one lakh rupees, who are very poor... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: IIMs and IITs have increased the fees enormously.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: IIM is different. I am talking about NITs. It is Rs.1.25 lakh for NIT but we are incurring Rs.2,75,000 expenditure per student. *[Translation]* We should also understand this; after all, we are representatives of the people of the country. *[English]* We must understand what the actual expenditure is; what is to be recorded and how to record. *[Translation]* We made a new decision, and it is very revolutionary. It is the inspiration of Modi ji that the poor do not have to be deprived of education. For those who have an annual income of up to nine lakhs, an education loan will also be available, and this loan will be interest-free for them. That is, if we look at the loan tenure of four years, we are giving more money than that loan in a way as interest-free, but this will always remain a matter of discussion. In technology, we want to do three things. First we want to ensure how those who have dropped out of school or college and those who live in remote areas can get education? For this, our initiative of open learning

is being tried through technology, through TV, through the internet as well, in the direction of anywhere education, any time education because education has to be made available to everyone, quality education has to be made available. There is a programme of Swayam Prabha, there is a programme of IIT Pal, and eight lakh, fifteen lakh children appear for JEE. We have to do it for them too. Everyone runs to Kota; lakhs of students go for tuition; they should also get good tuition, homework, and tutorials for free. We are preparing new initiatives to ensure that many children do not have to go to coaching centres.

Lastly, I would like to say that our colleague Jayaprakash Narayan ji said that we have such a huge heritage of Nalanda and Vikramshila University. The day before yesterday, UNESCO recognised Nalanda as the world's cultural heritage. I would just like to say that *[English]* yes, India is proud to be a great knowledge center in history and we will, all of us, again take pride in making this great nation a knowledge hub.

Thank you.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Sir, only one thing is that SC, ST and OBCs will get free seats. At the time of admission,

they have to pay the fees and the Government will reimburse them after 8-9 months. That is why many poor people will not be able to get admission. *[Translation]* Because, first of all, from where will they get two to two and a half lakh rupees? They cannot bring it. Therefore, you should give them admission and let the amount be reimbursed by the government. If a poor person cannot pay Rs 2 lakh, 2.5 lakh, or whatever amount you decide, he loses his admission, and later the same seat is given to general category candidates. *[English]* on the pretext that they have not taken admission and that is why it goes to general quota. *[Translation]* Therefore, it should not be kept on one side and taken out from the other side. You are putting in one pocket and taking out from the other pocket.

That is why I request that you give admission; you get it reimbursed by the government. *[English]* You can do it directly.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: As far as NIT and IITs are concerned, it is a fee waiver and not reimbursement. It is a complete fee waiver for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and persons with physical disability or as we call them Divyang and up to the income of Rs.5 lakh, there is two-third waiver. So, they

have to pay only Rs.60,000. So, we have graded it. It is a graded fee structure and not a uniform Rs.2 lakh effectively. So, there is no case of reimbursement. Mr. Biju for IIT and NIT, it is fee waiver.

SHRI MOHAMMAD SALIM (RAIGANJ): I am happy. There was a positive discussion and you have replied to that also. You have given much importance to research. Now most of the middle-class people refrain from going for research because the scholarship is not distributed on time. For example, Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan Research Scholarship for post-doctoral is stopped since March and only the day before yesterday, they received it. It is good. I have raised this matter time and again. I pointed it out to your predecessor also. All these scholarships for the research scholars – Ph.D. and post-doctoral – should be reimbursed timely. Otherwise, those who are going for jobs, are getting monthly salary and those who are going for research, get the money once in six months or one year. So, that backlog should not be there.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: I will definitely look into it.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research Act, 2007, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now we will take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2 Amendment of First Schedule to Act 29 of 2007

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury – not present.

The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 22nd July, 2016 at 11.00 a.m.

18.45 hours

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, July 22, 2016/Ashadha 31, 1938 (Saka).

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