

LOK SABHA

SYNOPSIS OF DEBATES
(Proceedings other than Questions & Answers)

Friday, February 4, 2022 / Magha 15, 1943 (Saka)

SUBMISSION BY MEMBERS

Re: Attack on the convoy of an hon. Member in Uttar Pradesh

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY; THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL) *responding to the issue raised by several hon. Members said :* The entire House is happy that our friend and hon. Member of the House came out from there safely. For this we thank God and pray to God for his long life so that he continues to serve the country and the society for a long time. The state government is seriously taking action in this regard. Hon. Home Minister will apprise the august House on this issue on Monday.

OBSERVATION BY SPEAKER

Re: Upholding the dignity of the Chair .

HON.SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the remarks made on the Chair inside and outside the House are not appropriate to the dignity of this august House. All the hon. Members respect the dignity of this House. The Chair remains impartial and conducts the House according to the rules. The Member presiding over the House enjoys all the constitutional rights vested in the Speaker. I urge that no one should make any kind of comments about the Chair inside or outside the House. That is the dignity of our

parliamentary democracy. I hope you all agree on that. I have especially taken cognizance of the incidents that have taken place in the past few days. I would like to specifically urge the hon. Members that it is not proper to comment on the Chair in social media and media, at least outside the House. You are Member of the House. Should you have any differences with the Chair, you can come and tell me in the Chamber. I give more time than the allotted time and try to ensure that everyone gets enough opportunity to speak. I also thank you for sitting in the House till late night in the freezing cold for discharging your constitutional obligations. If you agree, we should maintain dignity in the house and scrupulously comply with the same. One Member has written to me that when some Member speaks, some other Member passes in front of him and it comes in the video clipping. Hope you all will seriously reflect on this issue and tell whether the House has agreed?

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY: Hon. Speaker Sir, we all have a very good relationship with you. We all respect you. Whatever we demand or desire, we are able to present it to you quite openly. We will always cooperate with you.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: I fully share your sentiment wholeheartedly. We are certainly of the opinion that the prestige of the House should always be kept at a higher pedestal. We should all remain committed to the Chair.

SHRI ARVIND SAWANT: Members bow before the Chair to greet before taking their seats and also when leaving the House. Everything cannot be according to one's wishes. There is time constraint. But it is very important to respect the Chair. We should all see to it that the dignity of the House is maintained. I share your concern. I expect that in future everyone would follow the rules.

SHRI A. RAJA: I fully endorse the concerns expressed by the Chair. We have high regards for the Chair. Any inconvenience caused to the Chair by Hon. Members is not at all acceptable. On behalf of our party, we assure that we would cooperate with you to uphold the dignity of the House.

DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH: Sir, you are the master of the House. We look to you as the father of this House and we assure you that we will always respect the Chair. If we have made any mistake, please pardon us. We hope, we will always respect you and the Chair.

SHRI RITESH PANDEY: Our Party has always advised its members to behave in the House in a dignified manner. We always endeavour to ensure that we do not make any comment or behave in a manner which lowers the dignity of the Chair. I am sure, whatever happened here yesterday will never be repeated.

SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO: You have always accommodated everyone in the House. We should respect the Chair. We also observed what happened yesterday should not recur in future.

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SADANAND SULE: Today we stand here with a lot of pain and distress about what happened yesterday in Parliament. It is a very unfortunate incident. Rules are made to be followed and the rules are equal for every Member here. We commit to a good behavior. We all need to introspect and make sure that no such unruly behavior ever happens from any of us towards any member or the Chair.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: I stand here with full anguish. I was a witness to a number of incidents and also that of what happened yesterday. We all are governed by rules and regulations. It is good that most of us are opening up our mind here and this will be a lesson for everyone.

SHRI JAYADEV GALLA: I would like to echo the sentiments and the feelings that all of my colleagues have expressed today. I assure you that from our party's side, we will maintain our composure and will follow all the rules.

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: I, on behalf of my party and on my own behalf, fully endorse the views expressed by the hon. Speaker. Yesterday's incident is quite unfortunate. Questioning the authority of the Chair can never be allowed. We have to cooperate with the Chair. The entire House is endorsing the views and the anguish expressed by the hon. Speaker. Definitely, we will try our level best to conduct the proceedings in the best way possible so as to maintain the decorum of this House.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): Hon. Speaker Sir, the entire House shares your pain. The Chair plays an important role in the conduct of business of the Lok Sabha. The House functions according to rules of procedure. What happened yesterday is quite unfortunate. Democratic values should be followed inside as well as outside the House. On behalf of my party Members and my own behalf, I assure the House that we will do everything to ensure respect to the Chair.

*MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (1) **SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY** laid a statement regarding rejuvenation of Luni river in Rajasthan.

* Laid on the Table as directed by the Chair.

- (2) **SHRIMATI JASKAUR MEENA** laid a statement regarding water conservation measures to replenish ground water in Dausa Parliamentary Constituency, Rajasthan.
 - (3) **SHRIMATI RANJEETA KOLI** laid a statement regarding need to develop Chhokarwara to Bharatpur road in Rajasthan a four lane National Highway.
 - (4) **SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA** laid a statement regarding need to establish a Kendriya Vidyalaya at Amreli in Gujarat.
 - (5) **SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN** laid a statement regarding need to establish a Government Degree College in Kaimur district, Bihar.
 - (6) **SHRI KANAKMAL KATARA** laid a statement regarding conversion of tribal people to Christianity in the country.
 - (7) **DR. SUJAY VIKHE PATIL** laid a statement regarding need to establish a central university in Maharashtra.
 - (8) **SHRI RAMDAS TADAS** laid a statement regarding need to lower the age of administration of booster dose of Covid vaccine.
 - (9) **SHRI ABDUL KHALEQUE** laid a statement regarding establishment of a central univeristy in lower Assam region.
 - (10) **SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN** laid a statement regarding deputation of Cadre officers.
 - (11) **SHRI S. RAMALINGAM** laid a statement regarding need to include Irular and Narikuravar communities in the list of Scheduled Tribes.
 - (12) **SHRIMATI APARUPA PODDAR** laid a statement regarding booster shots to bankers.
 - (13) **SHRI E. T. MOHAMMED BASHEER** laid a statement regarding alleged increasing incidents of attack on minorities.
 - (14) **SHRI SUMEDHANAND SARASWATI** laid a statement regarding need to run MEMU trains on Sikar-Jaipur route and also provide stoppage of long distance trains at Sikar and Jaipur Railway stations.
 - (15) **SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO** laid a statement regarding construction of roads and bridges under Road Connectivity Project for LWE affected Areas in Jamshedpur Parliamentary Constituency, Jharkhand.
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MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS-Contd.

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY: In his Address, the hon. President has spelt out the programmes, the policies and the accomplishments of this Government in the previous years along with the impending policies and programmes. It has also been stated that this Government is celebrating the sacred occasions and anniversaries in memory of grand souls of India. In this regard, I would like to ask that should we confine ourselves to the celebration of such sacred occasions and anniversaries or should we inculcate the ideas preached by them and to imbibe the teachings of those great personalities to build the nation. So, whether we are persuading those great ideas or not, that needs to be considered. Here, you are talking about Subhash Chandra Bose ji. The entire country pays its regards, homage or tribute to the great soul of our country. Besides, I would also like to point out that the flame which was lit earlier at Amar Jawan Jyoti and War Memorial, at that time it was decided that if both the flame are lit, then there is no wrongdoing. I would also like to say that in this way the Government cannot tarnish anyone's image. So, we want all of us to learn from our history by keeping it in our minds.

Your Government intends to divide the country between 80 and 20 per cent. Hate is not a good thing. This country belongs to all. Therefore, save this country. 2019 election campaign marks a transition because electoral competition is no longer a level playing field, not only due to ruling party's financial resources but also of the role of media and the bias of the institution incharge of election process. Your Government enjoys full majority but still you run the government through Ordinances using them as a weapon. Our Constitution reflects the will of all the people and we strongly believe in the original spirit of our constitution. Someone feels that Hindus are in danger, other feels that Muslims are in danger but if you shed off the religious hangover, then our India is in danger. We all are with you to make our country strong. You did not inform the House that China has captured our land. Therefore, I say that if any mistake has occurred then, please correct it because the country has to be saved. You better leave the decisions to our armed forces and do not take any political decisions. The whole world is discussing that China has entered into our territory and Pentagon is also saying the same. I am not leveling any charges against you but this is a serious concern for all of us. We need to stabilize ourselves internally. As per the CMI report, there are as many as 53 million unemployed people in our country. India has been divided into two parts. Therefore, our leader had said that the gap between the poor and the rich is increasing. Your Government is weakening the institutions in the country and Pegasus has been used against us as a weapon. I would make a request that kindly provide funds under the SDRF so that *ex-gratia* amount could be paid to the dependents of those died of Covid.

Under this Government, India has slipped 10 places in the Rule of Law Index in 2021 to 79th place out of 139 countries. In terms of Civil Justice, India ranked 114 compared to 78 in 2020. Therefore, you should pay attention to all those things as this country has to be saved.

DR. (PROF.) KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI : In the battle fought against the Corona epidemic under the leadership of hon. Prime Minister, all of them, whether it is doctors, health workers, paramedical staff, nurses or scientists, all of them were encouraged. I would like to mention that on the call of the Prime Minister and our national president, our people, the party workers, without thinking about their lives, came forward to provide food to the corona patients and those who were hungry and with this joint effort, we have fought the battle of corona very successfully. Under the leadership of the Prime Minister of our country, the fight against Corona was fought very well in the entire country. Under the Corona protocol, wearing masks, following social distancing, etc., were also linked to public participation, which has given us a lot of success in the fight against Corona. In this battle against Corona, the biggest achievement of the Prime Minister is the vaccination programme. I am proud that under the leadership of the Prime Minister, the scientists of the country formulated two vaccines in the country. Today, by producing vaccines, India has shown the whole world what the new India is. The health workers of the country also went to inaccessible places and vaccinated the people. It is the world's largest vaccination programme. For this, the existing government deserves to be congratulated. In the first and second wave of Corona here, people were feeling very helpless. Then the Modi government delivered oxygen to hospitals, delivered ventilators, provided people with remdesivir and many other such injections. The country will be indebted to Modi government for all these things. In the third wave – omicron wave - the number of positive cases is very huge. But its severity and the intensity is very low because most of the people have been vaccinated. We can give credit for this to our vaccination drive. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the 'Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission'. Under Ayushman Bharat, 1,50,000 laboratories have been set up in the country. Our government had decided to set up 22 AIIMS in the country, out of which 7 AIIMS are functional today. The inclusive health model that the government has ensured is also going to greatly benefit the country. The Prime Minister had launched Jan-Dhanyojana in 2014. Many of our opposition friends did not know with what intention the Prime Minister had started the said scheme. Today, more than 70 crore people have opened free jan-dhan accounts. More than 200 different types of assistance, be it scholarships, whether it is fertilizer subsidy, whether it is any other subsidy, whether it is MGNREGA amount, these are transferred into those accounts through DBT. This is a great achievement of our

Government. BabasahebAmbedkar has given a robust Constitution to this country and democracy is flourishing in the country under this Constitution.

SHRI HANUMAN BENIWAL: The President's Address did not mention about the failure of the Government. The backward classes of the country, the poor, the Dalits, the minorities are still struggling for their rights. Everyone knows the condition of farmers. Even today, these people do not even know the meaning of freedom. Corona warriors have done a good job to save the country during the corona crisis and I thank those corona warriors and at the same time pay homage to those citizens who passed away in this crisis. The President's Address mentions about the health services of the country. But I would like to point out through you that according to a report by AIIMS, the arrangements to deal with the health emergency in the country were inadequate. My demand is that the shortage of human resources in hospitals should be met immediately. Modern resources should be made available inside hospitals as thousands of lives have been lost due to lack of oxygen, Remdesivir, ventilators and ICU wards. The reduction in Government jobs means the weakening of reservation and, thus, the Government is doing injustice to the disadvantaged sections. In Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and my state Rajasthan, many cases of atrocities against dalits are constantly reported, which is worrisome. In such a situation, the Governments need to take concrete measures. The plight of farmers in the country is not hidden from anyone. There was a huge farmers' movement within the country and more than 750 farmers sacrificed their lives. Later, the government also withdrew the three farm bills. I would like to remind the House that the same Government had set a target of doubling the income of farmers by the year 2022. But their promises and the ground realities doubled the crisis of India's farmers. In 2021, the prices of DAP were increased by 58 per cent. GST on tractors is 12 per cent, GST on plastic pipes is 18 per cent. GST on farm implements is currently 12 to 18 per cent. So much tax is reducing the agricultural income day by day. The data on MSP procurement of sugarcane, wheat and paddy is showing that the government has procured from about 34 lakh fewer farmers in 2021-22 as compared to the financial year 2020-21, that is, the number of beneficiary farmers has come down. Therefore, to empower the farmer, there is a need to make a policy to enact a law on MSP and to procure the entire produce of the farmer at MSP. Considering the geographical location of Rajasthan, it needs to be given special status. Recently, the youths who appeared for the railway recruitment exam staged protests in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. The employment situation in the country is such that 8.72 lakh posts are lying vacant at the Centre alone and about four lakh posts are lying vacant in central government universities, IIMs, IITs, PSU banks. The figures of unemployment among the youth at the national level in the country are very alarming. If I talk about Rajasthan, according to a newspaper report, every other graduate youth in

Rajasthan is unemployed. The youth of Rajasthan is agitated. It is the biggest betrayal of the youth coming from the middle class of our country that they are not being given any chance to get employed. There are huge irregularities in the recruitment in the state of Rajasthan. Every paper is being leaked. I would like to draw the attention of the government to the simmering resentment caused by this incident among the unemployed and thereby spoiling their future. The appointment of non-government official by the R.B.S.E to monitor the paper in the educational institution and the acquiescence by Rajasthan's investigating agency, SOG that the paper was leaked by the educational institution altogether indicates that this would not have been possible without the support of the ministers, officers and CMOs sitting in the Government of Rajasthan. I demand that the Central Government should intervene in this matter and cancel this 'REET'. At the same time, a C.B.I probe should be initiated in this entire episode.

***SHRI K. NAVASKANI :**

SHRIMATI APARUPA PODDAR: There is not a single sector which is not under stress because of the policies of the Government. But in the Presidential Address of this year the Government has tried to paint a rosy picture of the economy and the condition of the country. The Address has missed out several important issues which are plaguing the country today. There is no mention about the job losses, adverse impact of corona virus, migrant labour crisis, failing GDP, escalation on the border by China which is resulting in deaths of our soldiers, protests, deaths of our farmers and increasing inequality. India's wholesale inflation has risen at the fastest pace in three decades on input costs fuelled by high commodity prices and supply constraints. Unemployment rate has increased from six to seven per cent during COVID pandemic period. The total debt of the Government of India, which was Rs. 53 lakh crore in March 2014, would blow up to Rs. 136 lakh crore by March 2022.

SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHOUHAN: I rise to support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. For the first time, country's GDP is reaching to the level of 8.5 per cent during an epidemic like Corona in this country. I believe that the Hon'ble Prime Minister has strengthened the villages of the country and during the last seven years he has kept the entire country moving ahead on the growth trajectory. I would like to thank the Central Government for providing medical colleges in both the districts located in my parliamentary constituency. Today, none else but the Hon. Prime Minister of the country has provided houses to the poor who had no houses to live in. Moreover, I would like to request the Central Government to initiate a CBI probe into irregularities done in the

* Please see supplement.

REET examination in Rajasthan and cancel the said examination. I would also like to thank the government for making water accessible to each and every household in my parliamentary constituency under the JalJeevan Mission.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR: The Hon. President has clearly mentioned the detailed account of the work done by the Government and the future plan and its contour. He has made it clear that the Government of India is committed to the development of the country and the welfare of the common man. At the time of global pandemic, when the whole world was reeling under its impacts, people's jobs were being lost and laborers were not getting work, in such a situation, the government took care of them. For the first time in the country the Government of India is honoring farmers through 'PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana'. Due to this, about 11 crore farmers of the country are getting the benefit of Kisan Samman Nidhi. So far, about Rs. 1,80,000 crore has been given to the farmers. I demand from the Government that all the remaining BPL families should be linked with Ayushman Bharat Yojana as soon as possible. I demand for the State of Bihar and for my Parliamentary Constituency, Purniya that a survey should be conducted for Vidupur NH, Dalsinh sarai, Simari-Bhaktiyarpur, Udakishunganj, Purniya and Katihar NH-131A which are selected in Greenfield under Bharatmala Pariyojana. To connect purniya with the National Capital Delhi and State Capital Patna, operation of trains like Tejas and Vande Bharat should be restored. Bihar is a backward state and it should be given a special status.

SHRI RAMSHIROMANI VERMA: Hon. President in his Address did not mention about increasing unemployment, rising inflation and development works about SC/ST, backwards, poor and deprived sections of society and not even mentioned about any arrangement for these works. My Parliamentary Constituency, Shravasti district is most backward district and not connected with rail line even after 75 years of independence. World famous ancient Buddhist site is located here, where millions of followers and tourists visit every year from all over the world. An airport has been built here but no mention has been made about its commissioning. Instead of doubling the income of farmers, the Government is bent on eliminating them. I demand that the Rs. 20 lakh may be provided to the family of farmers who lost their lives in farmers movement and one government job to their family member.

SHRI INDRA HANG SUBBA: The State of Sikkim has been a forerunner in vaccination and most of the adult population in Sikkim has been vaccinated. In the last few years, the State of Sikkim has seen quite a bit of development in infrastructure sector like extension of highways, widening of highways and construction of bridges along the Indo-China border in North and East Sikkim. For this, I would like to thank the hon.

Defence Minister. Our State also has a long border in the Western part of the State which is the Indo-Nepal border. This border is still isolated and there is no road connectivity as well as there is no reliable mobile network. Therefore, I would like to request the Government to take this issue very seriously. The deplorable condition of NH-10 is known to the Government. I would like to extend my gratitude to the Government for providing us with a 'Khelo India Centre of Excellence' at Gangtok. We look forward to have more such centres so that athletes from a small State like Sikkim and other North-Eastern States get opportunity to participate more and grow the sports culture in our State. The State of Sikkim is already an organic State and I would like to request the Government to allocate more funds in production of organic manure, fertilizers and bio-fertilizers.

SHRI SANGAM LAL GUPTA: India has emerged as a strong nation in the world as setting a record by administering vaccines to more than 150 million in India during Corona-19 pandemic. A sense of security towards the government has increased among the citizens of India and the Government has done a lot for boosting their morale. I also thank hon. President's Address because 80 per cent of the countries farmers are small farmers and the government is fully committed to protect their interest. Rs. One lakh eighty thousand crore were given to more than 11 crore families of farmers through PM Kisan Samman Nidhi. Even after pandemic, our country did not look weak. The Khelo India Policy of the government and the dedication towards the youth was certainly commendable. I confident that in the fast emerging global environment, India has made its place as a strong nation in the world by improving its diplomatic relations. Our government is working with all determination for the security of the country and because of that the nation is moving towards self-reliance in defence sector, especially in defence production.

ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE: I would say that hon. President's Address became a political speech. It is quite unfortunate. What is the fuel price now-a-days? Is it because of the international market price? No. it is because of the tax exploitation. Government is imposing 27.9 rupees for petrol and 21.8 rupees for diesel as excise duty. Unscientific implementation of GST, demonetisation, COVID-19 pandemic severely affected and destroyed the livelihood of the common people. It has affected the small-scale merchants, small-scale traders, farmers. Everybody is suffering. So many people have committed suicide. In the last six months in my State Kerala, MGNREGA workers are waiting for their wages. It is not being disbursed . It is very shameful for the Central Government. The Government should attend that case specifically. I am coming from an area which has the maximum cultivation of cardamom, pepper and rubber. We want MSP for these

commodities. I demand that these commodities be included in the list of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices. I am representing a constituency which has the maximum number of plantation labourers. We expected a package for tea estate workers. Our tea estate workers are suffering very much. This issue should be addressed immediately. Therefore, we want a special package for the tea estate workers of Kerala.

SHRI PALLAB LOCHAN DAS: Our government believes that remembering the past and learning from it, is very important for the secure future of the country. After many years it has been decided to celebrate Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas on 15th November. The contribution of Birsa Munda in the freedom movement has been recognised. We have seen that the country is changing. The decision to celebrate Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas is a matter of satisfaction for all of us. Our resolution is 'Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas'. We have taken a resolution to involve everyone to make our country and we are working on that. The core of our Bharatiya Janata Party is that of Antyodaya. Earlier, North-East never got recognition, but now we got a chance to witness it for the first time on August 15, 2021, when no organization or militant group has declared a shutdown. This time we celebrated for the first time on 26 January also. Also, ours is the first Prime Minister who has visited North East 60 times. Even during the conferment of Padma awards, we saw that people from the underprivileged sections of the society were also honoured. After the formation of this party's government in 2014, Operation All out was declared and since then there is peace in Assam. Right now all of us are working unitedly in the North-East. For the first time, the people of North-East are feeling that we are also part of the mainstream country. Under the able leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister, North-East will prosper and a better North-East and Assam will be built.

KUMARI AGATHA K. SANGMA: In the Presidential Address, the President has mentioned about 50 years of statehood celebration that Meghalaya witnessed this year. So, I would like to thank the Government for helping the State of Meghalaya to build our infrastructure and the various developmental programmes that the Government has been assisting us with. I would also request the Government to continue giving us the support that it has been giving us. Since this is the 50th year of our Statehood, it would be a historic and symbolic gesture on behalf of the Government of India if it accepted the longstanding demand of the people of Meghalaya regarding inclusion of the Garo and Khasi language in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution. The President in his Presidential Address talked about air connectivity in North-East. In this regard, I would request you that the Baljek Airport needs to be started immediately. I would also request the Armed Forces Special Power Act (AFSPA) also be repealed, especially in connection with the North-Eastern States. Again, the forest cover in the North-East region is about 23 per cent

of the countries' forest cover. So, if we could focus on the forests of North-East, it would do a larger benefit. Besides, there was a mention regarding Khelo India Centres. In this regard I would request that a lot more focus be given to the North-Eastern States. Similarly, I urge upon the Government to continue Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana even beyond March, 2022.

The discussion was not concluded

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UTPAL KUMAR SINGH

Secretary General

** Supplement covering rest of the proceedings is being issued separately.

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NOTE: It is the verbatim Debates of the Lok Sabha and not the Synopsis that should be considered authoritative.

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