

LOK SABHA

SYNOPSIS OF DEBATES*
(Proceedings other than Questions & Answers)

Monday, June 24, 2019 / Ashadha 3, 1941 (Saka)

AADHAAR AND OTHER LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2019

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE; MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

moved the motion that leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 and further to amend the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and the Prevention of Money-laundering Act, 2002.

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN *opposing the introduction of the Bill said:* I rise to oppose the introduction of the Aadhaar and Other Laws (Amendment) Bill under Rule 72(2) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business on certain grounds. The first ground is that the Bill violates the Supreme Court judgement dated 26th April, 2018. The second ground is that the Bill allows

* Hon. Members may kindly let us know immediately the choice of language (Hindi or English) for obtaining Synopsis of Lok Sabha Debates.

private entities to hold Aadhaar data whereas the Supreme Court has specifically directed all Aadhaar agencies to delete Aadhaar identification data. The third objection is that it violates the fundamental rights, namely, the right to live, the right to livelihood and the right against discrimination. Clause 5 of the Amendment Bill proposes to amend Section 4 of the Aadhaar Act, 2016 to say that mandatory authentication of an Aadhaar number holder for the provision of any service shall take place if such authentication is required by a law made by Parliament. But the Supreme Court has very specifically directed in its judgement that Aadhaar can be implemented only where subsidies and some benefits are given to the people of India. Further, clause 24 of the Amendment Bill , which seeks to amend Section 4 of the Indian Telegraph Act, is allowing licensed telecom service provider to conduct Aadhaar-based authentication or offline verification. But the Supreme Court has given specific direction that the private entities have no authority to hold Aadhaar data for their own use. So, clause 24 of the Bill is also against the spirit of the Constitution. Clause 25 of the Bill seeks to insert a new section, Section 11A, in the Prevention of Money-Laundering Act, 2002, which allows the banking companies to conduct Aadhaar-based authentication or offline authentication. All these provisions violate the Fundamental Rights of the people of this country. Hence, I strongly oppose the introduction of this Bill.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: I would meet all the objections raised by the hon. Member. First of all, all the issues that he has raised have been dealt with elaborately by the hon. Supreme Court. Aadhaar is a valid law; Aadhaar is in national interest; and Aadhaar does not violate privacy. Now, I come to the second point about the Prevention of Money-Laundering Act and the Indian Telegraph Act. The Supreme Court has said not to come by a rule or a circular, come by law. Therefore, those two amendments are there. I want to just assure that there is no mandatory compliance. A SIM card can be taken either by Aadhaar or any other document. The same is the case with money-laundering. I would let this House know, with great respect, that today, 68 crore people have taken SIM cards through Aadhaar and 65 crore bank accounts are linked through Aadhaar. People of India are accepting Aadhaar. In this law, we have proposed that the child's consent will be taken after he becomes major. There is a provision for offline verification also. Just to allay the concerns of the hon. Member, I may tell you that if any other body seeks authentication, it will be allowed either if a law permits or if the UIDAI permits them, having due regard to security, privacy and any State interest. Therefore, all the Supreme Court directions have been complied with.

The Bill was introduced.

***MATTERS UNDER RULE 377**

1. **SHRI RAMDAS TADAS** laid a statement regarding water-shortage and inter-linking of rivers in Wardha Parliamentary Constituency, Maharashtra.
2. **SHRI BHAGIRATH CHAUDHARY** laid a statement regarding need to provide rail link between Merta and Pushkar in Rajasthan.
3. **SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH** laid a statement regarding setting up of a steel plant in Chatra Parliamentary Constituency, Jharkhand.
4. **SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO** laid a statement regarding need to establish Institute of Automotive Research Association of India in Adityapur in Jamshedpur Parliamentary Constituency, Jharkhand.
5. **SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA** laid a statement regarding need to confer legitimate civil rights to people belonging to Valmiki community in Jammu & Kashmir.
6. **DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY** laid a statement regarding inclusion of Khetauri, Ghatwal-Ghatwar and others in the list of Scheduled Tribes.
7. **SHRI TEJASVI SURYA** laid a statement regarding need to improve intra city mobility infrastructure in Bengaluru.

* Laid on the Table as directed by the Speaker.

8. **KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL** laid a statement regarding need to construct ROB on level crossings on NH 76 and 86 in Hamirpur Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh.
9. **SHRI RAHUL KASWAN** laid a statement regarding need to improve ground water level and green cover in Churu Parliamentary Constituency, Rajasthan.
10. **DR. KIRIT P. SOLANKI** laid a statement regarding filling up of vacant posts under reserved categories in Railways.
11. **DR VIRENDRA KUMAR** laid a statement regarding need to setup separate ministry for Senior Citizens.
12. **SHRI GANESH SINGH** laid a statement regarding need to develop Ramayana tourist circuit in Satna, Madhya Pradesh.
13. **SHRI DEVAJI PATEL** laid a statement regarding need to fix Minimum Support Price of Milk in the country.
14. **SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL** laid a statement regarding need to construct Kendriya Vidyalaya building in Maharajganj Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar.
15. **SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY** laid a statement regarding need to expedite construction work on National Highway No. 19 in Bihar.

16. **ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH** laid a statement regarding widening of Kazhakkuttam-Kadambattukonam stretch and construction of Attingal bypass on National Highway No. 66 in Kerala.
17. **SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY** laid a statement regarding need to expedite construction work on National Highway No. 34 in West Bengal.
18. **SHRI ANTO ANTONY** laid a statement regarding introduction of a Bill to overrule the judgement of Hon. Supreme Court on Sabarimala issue.
19. **PROF. SOUGATA RAY** laid a statement regarding violence in West Bengal.
20. **SHRI A GANESHAMURTHI** laid a statement regarding socio-environmental impact caused by Power Transmission Projects.
21. **SHRI KAUSHLENDRA KUMAR** laid a statement regarding need to rejuvenate old railway bridges on Bakhtiyarpur-Rajgir railway section in Bihar.
22. **SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SADANAND SULE** laid a statement regarding need to address water scarcity in Maharashtra.
23. **SHRI MOHAMMAD AZAM KHAN** laid a statement regarding eradication of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome in the country.

24. **SHRI M SELVARAJ** laid a statement regarding various railway related issues pertaining to Nagapattinam Parliamentary Constituency of Tamil Nadu.
25. **SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN** laid a statement regarding electrification of Kollam-Punalur-Schenkotta railway line.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES (SHRI PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI) *moving the motion said:*

I am grateful to hon. Speaker for giving me this opportunity and I offer my heartfelt gratitude to our Prime Minister also for giving me this rarest opportunity to speak on this Presidential Address as a first timer. My special thanks are also to the people who sent me to this august House. We are going to celebrate 75th year of new India in the year 2022 and I am sure that it would be an India, free from terrorism, communalism, casteism, corruption, nepotism, starvation and exploitation. This House has been shaping the destiny of our nation and

contributing significantly to the rebuilding of the nation. This Address of our Hon. President is a unique speech, a historical document, full of conviction, commitment, confidence and cooperation. This is a historical document which proves our achievements and our future roadmap and our vision. The divisive and appeasement politics have reached the expiry date. All efforts were made to show the negative image of a popular Government. But Hon. Prime Minister remained calm and undisturbed. Hon. Prime Minister has said that our Government is dedicated to the poor. For this he evolved a one line philosophy – ‘Sab Ka Saath, Sab Ka Vikas’. Hon. Prime Minister has evolved a unique method of governance and that method is public participation. He has gained the confidence of the people and has made them an integral part of every scheme. Today, 98 per cent target pertaining to construction of toilets has been achieved in our country. Similarly, 100 per cent villages have been provided electricity. More than 34 crore bank accounts have been opened during the last one and a half years under the Jan Dhan Yojana. Today, poor people are getting direct benefit through Pension Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Jivan Jyoti Bima Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, Atal Pension Yojana, Beti Bachao-Beti Padao Yojana and other such schemes. Moreover, Ayushman Bharat Yojana has been implemented for providing free medical treatment to the 50 crore poor people of this country. Apart from that, 1.5 crore houses have been built. Similarly, historic decision of fixing

Minimum Support Price at 1.5 times of the cost of production for 22 crops has been taken by the Government. Again, without disturbing the existing provision of reservation, the Government has provided 10 per cent reservation to the economically weaker section. Today, 1,16,000 village panchayats are connected with optical fiber and about 40,000 village panchayats have been provided with Wi-Fi Hot Spots. Solar power generation has also gone up from 2.6 gigawatts to 25 gigawatts in the country. Moreover, number of airports has gone up from 65 to 101. Similarly, our Government has revived the Ganga River under Namami Gange project. We are proud that our Government has displayed a steely resolve to take terrorism head-on and to eliminate it right from its sources. Similarly, the befitting reply to the Pulwama attack through the air strike was a reflection of the firm political willpower. This Government has made every Indian proud by conducting surgical strike on Pakistan and air strike on Myanmar. The valour, the strength, the might and the majesty of mother India has increased million times under the able-leadership of hon. Prime Minister. I would also like to say that India's reputation has acquired a new height at international level. Similarly, whole world has accepted India's spiritual leadership as various international universities across the globe have included Yoga in their curriculum. India has showed global statesmanship while dealing with the issues related to climate change and the whole world is looking up to India's leadership. Our Government endeavour is to

usher in an era of harmonious and collaborative Centre-State relationship. It is a firm belief of the Government that the Centre and States are all partners in the task of nation building. We will work 24x7 in services of all sections. Our goal is to serve our people and make India a great nation.

DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT *seconding the motion said:* India is a young nation and more than two-third of the population is less than the age of 35 years. As a young aspirational member of my community, I represent my society's aspiration to rise and participate in the *vikas yatra* of the nation. This re-election of BJP Government by even a bigger mandate is a mark of approval of our hon. Prime Minister's leadership, work and commitment to the people of the nation, especially the poor and the downtrodden. Malnutrition keeps us behind in the race and reduces our productivity and immunity. The Prime Minister has ensured food security for more than 80 crore people in the country. In all the 36 States and Union Territories, Right to Food has been implemented by this Government. My district Nandurbar is one of the most backward districts in the country. For development of such backward districts, the Prime Minister framed a new programme called 'Aspirational Districts'. Today, 2.5 crore households have got free electricity connections under Pradhan Mantri Sowbagya Yojana, 12 crore gas connections have been given over the last five years, 38 per cent was the sanitation level in 2014 in rural areas and now it has increased to 99 per cent in 2019. During

the period from 2014 to 2018, more than 1.5 crore houses have been constructed under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. In my constituency, I have personally handed over 1.5 lakh women beneficiaries Ujjwala gas connections. Our party was termed as anti-dalit but I would like to tell them that if you cast a look at the election outcome of the year 2014 and 2019, our party has surged ahead on all the reserved seats. The number of such seats we won in 2014, has increased in the year 2019. This time, all sections of society have voted for our hon. Prime Minister in large numbers. This is a positive vote, pro-incumbency vote and this has also ushered in a politics of performance. The country has put a premium on the honesty. People have rejected the caste syndicates and have again re-elected the unblemished government. This election has demolished all the myths of political pundits. Under Modi's leadership, women's development has changed to women-led development and this time, out of 78 women Members of Parliament in this Lok Sabha, 42 women MPs are from the BJP and this is the proof of women development. It was a priority of the Modi Government to construct toilets and give dignity to women. Over 9.7 crore toilets have been built. Harnessing Yuva Shakti was again a priority of our Government. Seven IITs, seven IIMs, 14 IIITs, 103 Kendriya Vidyalayas and Eklavya Model Residential Schools for Tribal Children have all been established for the education of the youth. 2,500 new players will be trained each year under the 'Khelo India' Programme. The security

of the country is above all. Under the leadership of Modi ji, this government has demolished the terror factories across the border. Therefore, the people of the country have given a historic mandate to Modi ji to make a new, competent and golden India.

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY: All are well-aware that the contents of the Presidential Address is prepared or drafted by the Ruling Party. We can say that in our Parliamentary democracy the document of Presidential Address has been the expression of intention of the Government and the policy and programme they want to pursue. We are all hearing with rapt attention the speeches delivered by the hon. Minister and an hon. Member. We want that the government should implement the laws strictly. This government must tell the people as to what it has done to those people whom it declared as corrupt. Why are they still sitting in this august House? Hon. Prime Minister is a good salesman and he ought to be. I praise him for it. We lost the elections because we were not able to sell our product. We have proposed a number of amendments to the Presidential Address. However, I must say that the Congress Party does not want to criticize hon. Rashtrapati ji. However, we would lambast the government for its failure and its indifferent apathy on various issues. Today, half of India is reeling under severe drought, but no concern has been expressed about it in the President's Address.

This Presidential Address is replete with insipid hyperbole, monotonous rigmarole and rhetorical exercises. That is why, we have proposed a number of amendments to the Presidential Address. The Congress Party does not want to criticize hon. Rashtrapati ji. Rather, we want to lambast the Government for its failure and indifferent apathy on various issues. Half of the country is under spell of drought which has no mention anywhere. Is nobody worried about it? The first reaction of the Congress Party to the Presidential Address is that it is a deliberate distortion of history and manipulation of facts also. The First Five Year Plan (1951-56) had a modest outlay of Rs.2069 crore which moved up to Rs.36,44,718 crore during the 11th Five Year Plan (2007-2012). A huge enhancement in this outlay itself is an indication of the progress, growth and development that took place in the Indian economy. From 2003 to 2012, India achieved GDP growth rate of more than 7.6 per cent on an average for 10 years and in 2009-10, the GDP growth was 8.6 per cent in spite of the global economic recession. Who had initiated the Green Revolution? The Green Revolution resulted in record grain output. In 1947, our food production was 50 million tonnes which was increased to 264.38 million tonnes in 2013-14. Have we not done anything for the country? In 1970, Operation Flood, was launched with the help of Dr. Kurien. From being 50th in the world in terms of milk production, India became the largest producer of milk in just a couple of decades and by 1975,

all imports of milk and milk products were stopped whereas, earlier, we had to import milk powder. So, Congress is the soul of the nation. You will lose your entire identity without Congress. In 1947, there were just 30 dams in the country which increased to over 4000 by the year 2000. India ranks third in the world in dam building. Are you not proud of it? Who had built Bhakra Nangal Dam, Sardar Sarovar Dam, Hirakund Dam, Nagarjuna Sagar Dam, Idukki Dam? The Congress established Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Oil and Natural Gas Commission, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, National Thermal Power Corporation, State Bank of India and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited. Jawaharlal Nehru and Homi Bhabha are known to be the architects of nuclear research in India. We also did nuclear explosion and Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji also did it. We appreciate Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji. Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojana was his brain child. You wrote such a long Presidential Address but if you could have taken Nehruji's name even once, we would have felt good. But, you do not want to take our leader's name, you try to exclude us. By the end of 2013, India had 68 nuclear reactors. In 2008, the Indo-US Nuclear Agreement was signed paving the way for nuclear energy production in India and which was opposed by the BJP. DRDO and ISRO were established by the Congress. Could Modiji have thought about Chandrayan had Congress not developed Space technology? At the time of Independence in India, literacy rate was 12.2 per cent which increased to 71.96 per

cent by 2013-14. There were only twenty-seven universities in 1950-51 which had been increased to 821 in 2013-14. Shri Rajiv Gandhi pioneered telecom revolution in the country.

Shri Rajiv Gandhi had heralded the telecom revolution. A number of schemes had been launched and Acts passed during the Congress regime like MNREGA, Right to Information Act, Right to Education Act, Land Acquisition Act, Food Security Act, Forest Right Act etc. The NDA Government has only renamed the schemes launched by the UPA Government. In comparison to the UPA, the performance of the NDA Government has been dismal. The GDP growth has come down. The exports have collapsed. The NPAs have piled up. The rupee has seen steep devaluation. The rate of job creation has come down. The trade war between the USA and China has begun. The USA and Iran are on the collision course. The US Government has withdrawn the special trade status given to India. The Government should deal with this issue very carefully. As regard the neighborhood policy, I would like to say that we cannot change our neighbor.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: The success of the BJP lies in the weakness of the Opposition. The aspirations of the people have not been fulfilled. The Prime Minister had categorically stated that the Government would unearth black money. He had promised that two crore employment opportunities per year would be

created for the youths of our country. Nothing has happened. Unnecessarily, the NEET examination is being conducted over and above the ten-plus-two examination. The Prime Minister should come forward to abolish it immediately. The Karnataka Government is not releasing water for irrigation from Mettur Dam during the particular time in which the crops are cultivated. The Government is silent on this matter. Moreover, because the crops are not cultivated for want of water, the farmers could not repay the loan received by them. That is why, the Government should come forward to see that the farm loan is waived off without any further delay. We want that Tamil language should be introduced as an Official Language within the State of Tamil Nadu, in PSUs and in the Central Government Offices. The women's Reservation Bill should be introduced and about 1/3rd reservation should be given.

PROF. SOUGATA RAY: I rise to oppose the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. This Government has come to power to rule for five years and constitutionally it is acceptable. But there is a doubt about the results of the election. We want that the EVMs should be jettisoned and the ballot paper should be brought back. The speech of the hon. President does not reflect the condition of the country. It just gives some pious platitudes and repeats all the programmes of the Government like Beti Bachao, Beti Pado, PM Kisan Sammanidhi, RERA, IBC, Bharatmala, Sagarmala etc. and there is nothing indicative of the actual state

of affairs facing the country. Freedom is being curtailed in this country. The affairs in the State of Jammu and Kashmir has been mishandled. Unemployment rate is the highest in the last 45 years. The hon. Prime Minister had promised 2 crore job per year which has been proven totally false. Not just that, unemployment is likely to increase because the hon. Prime Minister has announced that 30 PSUs are to be disinvested. The BSNL employing 40000 is in shambles and Jet Airways with the staff strength of 20000 people is now closed. The Government is going to rewrite history. In the BJP's policy there figured the term Gandhian socialism which has since been changed into integral humanism of Deen Dayal Upadhyay. By bringing in Triple Talaq Bill the Government wants to convert a civil offence into criminal offence. The whole Muslim community is opposed to it. One Nation One Election is an effort to straightjacket the Indian Political system into one group. It is not acceptable to us. The economy is in doldrums. The growth rate has fallen down to 5.8 per cent. The Government has no policy about how to improve the growth rate which will create more jobs. This Government has got questionable priorities and lack of legislative clarity. There has been erosion of India's influence in Asia. Small island nation like Maldives feels confident in spurning India as does Sri Lanka. Until 5 years ago India enjoyed a pre-eminent position in the sub-continent with its voice sought on

resolving matters within this country. The Government is handling everything wrongly.

SHRI P.V. MIDHUN REDDY: The President's Address covers various people-centric activities and economic growth, environment, employment, helping farmers and various other developmental activities. It is a welcome move that the Government is envisaging to do various developmental activities in the coming five years. A massive mandate means huge responsibility. There are a lot of expectations from the public, especially from the people of my State of Andhra Pradesh. Translation of the aspirations of the people into reality will require a great deal of cooperation between the Centre and the States. We wish this Government extends maximum support to States like Andhra Pradesh or other States which are not ruled by the BJP. More than 70 per cent of the people in our country are dependent on agriculture and its various allied activities. The agrarian distress is huge in the country maybe due to the various cyclones that have hit our country or the series of drought which have affected the farmers or the low MSP which the farmers are having to deal with these days. We request the Government to take steps to keep up their word. The Government had promised that they would double the income of farmers in the coming five years. Hopefully, they take enough initiatives to double the income of farmers. The plight of the farmers of Andhra Pradesh is described in detail by the NABARD, in its All India Rural

Financial Inclusion Survey-2016-17. Agricultural households in Andhra Pradesh have an average income of Rs.7000 per month which is very low by any standards. The average monthly income for the country for the farming community is Rs.9000 and this leaves only with a surplus of Rs.350 per family. They are in huge trouble. The Government has to come up with more initiatives to help the farmers. Andhra Pradesh tops the list of indebtedness of the farmers. being 77 per cent, whereas the national average is only 47 per cent. I do not think doubling of farmers income is possible. The Swaminathan Committee report has to be implemented. Banks are catalysts for industrial and economic growth. If the banks are crippled by NPAs, there is no way the economy is going to grow. There are various sectors which need immediate attention. Despite Make in India initiative the industrial production grew only less than one per cent over the last five years except one year. If the population figures of 2011 Census are taken into consideration as per the terms of reference of the 15th Finance Commission, it is going to affect Andhra Pradesh drastically just because we have controlled population. Given that, using 2011 Census as a basis for determining the State's share in divisive pool, would be grossly unjust to Andhra Pradesh. I reiterate the demand for according special category status to Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT: I, on behalf of my party, rise to support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. It is for the first time

that representatives of every section of the society have been elected to this House. I pray to God that during the coming five years, everyone gets shelter, light and everybody is happy. 'Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Yojana', 'Ayushman Bharat', 'Kisan Pension Yojana' and 'Ujjwala Yojana' are very good schemes. There is a mention of allocation of Rs.13000 crore to treat cattle related diseases in the Address. I congratulate the Government for that. A new ministry has been carved out to look into the water crisis. Crores of fishermen earn their livelihood by fishing in the oceans. Some people indulge in LED fishing which destroys marine property. It should be banned. An important Bill that is related to the triple talaq has been passed yesterday only. I congratulate the Government for that. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana is a good scheme but the insurance companies harass the farmers when they prefer their claims. The Government should take strict action against such insurance companies. H.E. the President has made several good announcements in his Address viz. construction of Dandi museum, Statue of Unity- Kranti Mandir of Sardar Patel and a National Memorial of Babasaheb Ambedkar in Mumbai. I also want that the Government paves the way for construction of Ram Mandir in Ayodhya.

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN ALIAS LALAN SINGH SINGH: I support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. Hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has fulfilled the national aspirations during the last five years. He

implemented demonetization quite strictly. He put a check on corruption during his term from 2014 to 2019 and the people of the country endorsed his performance. His decisions of surgical strike and air strike have earned respect to the country among the world community. The country can develop only when regional development takes place. If the Government formulates any concrete programme to extend assistance to the States, that will be a step in the direction of fulfilling the regional aspirations. Bihar is a State where the Government could successfully provide electricity to every household. This Bihar model was adopted as a national programme in the year 2017. Now the Bihar Government is providing separate feeders for agriculture and the farmers. We want that the Government should reduce the centrally-sponsored schemes and the powers should be vested with the States to formulate schemes according to their needs and to spend funds thereon. I urge upon the Government to reach out to the Government of Nepal and construct high dams over the rivers flowing down from Nepal in order to control their current. Farm production in the country is increasing but the farmers do not get remunerative prices. The Government needs to give serious thinking on this problem so that the farmers can get remunerative prices of their produce. Cottage industries, small industries, food processing units and agro-based industries need to be promoted for employment generation. Entire country is faced with drinking water crisis. Water table is continuously depleting. This problem needs immediate

attention. I take this opportunity to say that we should not raise the controversial issues like triple talaq.

SHRI PINAKI MISRA: I am grateful to the Chair for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. All the electors deserve congratulations for the success of these elections. The idea of 'Co-operative Federalism' of Hon. Prime Minister is worth implementing. The people have again voted Modi ji to power on the basis of his previous Government's achievements. But, a lot is still there to be done.

As per my opinion hon. President should have also mentioned about the Woman Reservation Bill. The time has come to pass this Bill in Lok Sabha. Today, women are aware. Women of every section are now eager to join this House. Woman Reservation has been successful at every level be it panchayat or legislative assemblies and the time has come it to be successful at Lok Sabha level. If the Government is ready, they can pass this Bill. The age of High Court Judges should be enhanced but there is no mention about judiciary in the President's Address. The justice for the people of this country is delivered through High Courts. In my opinion their retirement age should be increased to 65 year so that they may feel fearless while delivering justice. Hon. President has mentioned about Fanny cyclone in his Address. Prime Minister himself had visited there. I thank him for releasing Rs.1000 crore to Odisha Government immediately.

During the last six years, Odisha has been hit by four major cyclones i.e. Hudhud, Piolin, Titli and Fanny and this has pushed Odisha's growth decades behind. The Government should provide special assistance to the State at least for 4-5 years. I would like to request the Union Government to do justice to Odisha.

KUNWAR DANISH ALI: I have got the opportunity to enter in this august House when the country will celebrate the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Hon. President has mentioned about Narayan Guru in his Address. Bahujan Samaj Party always puts up the picture of Narayan Guru in almost all its programmes. Today the country is facing hardships and farmers are compelled to commit suicide. The Government charges interest on crop loans disbursed to the farmers and along with it premium is also recovered from them in the name of crop insurance scheme. Ironically when the crops of farmers get damaged, these crop insurance companies are nowhere in view. The Government is trying to convert one party democracy in this country whereas there is multi party system. A provision has been made for 10 per cent reservation to the upper-castes but the manner in which the Government is trying to abolish the Government jobs, no jobs will be spared for reservation. A debate is being held on 'One Nation One Election' in this country. I would like to say that there should be electoral reforms in this country. During the meeting of the Election Commission, I did suggest setting up of an electoral trust. A strong Government

never fulfils the dreams of the downtrodden and the marginalised sections of society but a weak Government always takes measures in the interest of dalits, backwards and marginalized sections of society. I would like to request the Government to focus on the farmers, the poor and the youth of this country.

SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO: When we got independence, we used to import foodgrains from America. In those days, the Government started constructing dams on the rivers. Farmers were facing hardships. There was also a problem of drinking water. Increasing water crisis has been referred to as an enormous problem even in the President's Address. It has been merely six years since Telangana came into existence. We have started so many irrigation development projects. In the President's Address, it has been mentioned that when State Governments and Union Government use to perform jointly, our country will be an economy of 5 trillion. Recently, we have commissioned world's biggest irrigation project i.e. Kaleshwaram Irrigation Project. This will facilitate irrigation facility upto 45 lakh acres land and drinking water for 1400 villages. We are providing water to 45 lakh farmers by lifting Godavari river to the level of 500 meter. Under Telangana Rayathu Bandhu Kisan Nidhi we are providing Rs.10000 to each farmer every year for one acre land. The Union Government is also providing Rs.6000.

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SNEHLATA SHRIVASTAVA
Secretary General

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

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

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