

LOK SABHA

SYNOPSIS OF DEBATES (Proceedings other than Questions & Answers)

Thursday, February 6, 2020 / Magha 17, 1941 (Saka)

*MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

1. **SHRI SANGAM LAL GUPTA** laid a statement regarding need to construct a bigger underpass near level crossing no. 87C 2E between Chilbila and Jagesharganj railway stations in Pratapgarh Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh.
2. **DR. SUBHAS SARKAR** laid a statement regarding need to set up an Integrated Textile Park in Bankura and Purulia districts of West Bengal.
3. **SHRI NISITH PRAMANIK** laid a statement regarding need to set up Jute textile cluster in Coochbehar, West Bengal.
4. **SHRI K. SUDHAKARAN** laid a statement regarding rail connectivity for Kannur International Airport in Kerala.

* Laid on the Table as directed by Chair.

5. **SHRI DEEPAK BAIJ** laid a statement regarding need to accord priority to local youths in recruitment in NMDC plant in Bastar and Dantewada districts of Chhatisgarh.
6. **SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI** laid a statement regarding revision of pension of BSNL employees.
7. **DR. BEESETTI VENKATA SATYAVATHI** laid a statement regarding need to set up a Kendriya Vidyalaya at Anakapalli in Andhra Pradesh.
8. **SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY** laid a statement regarding need to provide two separate coaches in trains for differently-abled persons.
9. **SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE** laid a statement regarding need to constitute a committee to look into various issues of small savings agents in the country.
10. **SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY** laid a statement regarding need to expedite establishment of railway wagon manufacturing factory in Ganjam district of Odisha.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS - *Contd.*

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH: I thank honourable President Sir to mention about the development in the country including Jharkhand in his Address. Prime Minister Modi sir has been committed to the development of self help groups, that of women self help groups. The government revoked Article 370 and 35A from Kashmir. The government is committed to reach the target of 5 trillion dollar Indian economy. The magic of the basic formula of “Sabka Sath-Sabka Vikas-Sabka Viswas” is happening at the lower level which includes development of every sector. The benefits of ‘Neighbourhood First’ policy of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi sir are immensely reaching to north-eastern states. Enactment of CAA law is a historical step. Our government is committed to bring tribal people of the country into the mainstream of development. Sri Ram’s temple, a symbol of faith of crores of Hindus, will soon be constructed in Ayodhya. The people of the country have given mandate to our government to make a New India. Such a new India is in the making as will provide sufficient facilities and opportunities for advancement to the poor, the dalit, the women, the youths, the tribals and the minorities.

SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: While supporting the motion of thanks on Presidential Address, I on behalf my party will like to go on record with a few of observations. It is the State of Odisha which is the only State in the country which has been hit by severe super cyclonic storms 5 times in the last 8 years immensely

damaging property and livestock. Of course, it was the brave and wise planning of the Hon'ble CM of Odisha that a great number of human lives could be saved due to timely alert warning and meticulous planning of evacuation. There are many aid and financial support that have to come to the State as Centres share but the delay in release of the funds hits the progress very badly. The Government should establish a National Tribal Museum in the State of Odisha. It is requested that the railway projects in the State may please be speed up. Odisha State is one of the poorest state as far as Tele density is concerned. The Centre must take up the matter seriously and improve the situation. The State of Odisha has been witnessing severe natural calamities in the form of either the cyclonic storms or draught. The Centre should bring the State under Special Focus State and provide aids in various aspects for its developmental activities.

SHRI TIRATH SINGH RAWAT: Our Government is making all out efforts to fulfill the expectations of the people under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji. This Government is following the Mantra given by him "Sabka Sath Sabka Sath and Sabka Vishwas." Our Government has implemented various welfare schemes and has ensured transparency by transferring the subsidy direct in to the accounts of the beneficiaries. The Government has focused on the development of our villages and ensured to provide there the facilities of drinking water, electricity, road connectivity, schools, toilets etc. Adarsh Gaon, 'Har Ghar Pani Har Ghar Nal ', free Gas connections and

Free electricity connections, Aayushman Yojana are some of the flagship schemes of this Government. Skill India Abhiyan and Mudra Yojana will be helpful in generating employment opportunities in the country. The Government has taken commendable steps for development in all sectors. By revoking Article 370 and 35A the Government has given a new freedom to the people of Jammu- Kashmir and by implementing CAA it is giving citizenship to those refugees of minority communities who were being persecuted in Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan.

DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT: The Government has done several work at the ground level in the last five years. Under the 'Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana', the maximum benefit has been availed by women. Under the 'Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana', about 6 crore women have become members of Self Help Groups. It has been made mandatory for the major Government companies to purchase at least 3 percent of their material from the enterprises owned by women entrepreneurs. The Government has Enhanced maternity leave from 12 weeks to 26 weeks. Government is striving day and night to attain the goal of doubling farmers income and providing the farmers with fair price for their crops. Government has taken the historic decision of fixing the Minimum Support Price - of 22 crops at one and a half times higher than production cost of the crop. The number of Krishi Vigyan Kendras is being increased across the country. More than 17 crore Soil Health Cards have been distributed to inform the farmers about the health of the soil. Government is also completing 99 incomplete old irrigation

projects. Crop insurance is being provided to farmers at low premium. Around Eight crore people were given free gas connections. Under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, so far 75 lakh poor have availed free treatment. Government has launched the National Nutrition Mission for persons suffering from malnutrition. 'Mission Indradhanush' has been launched by the Government to provide immunization facilities to children and pregnant women living in remote and tribal areas.

SHRI DIPSINH SHANKARSINH RATHOD: In his speech, Hon. President spoke about the development of all communities of India right from SC, ST, OBC, Women, Divyangs, students, kinds, farmers, business, Armed Forces. He spoke about the bright future of India in Education, Agriculture, Sports, Foreign Affairs, Make In India vision, Rail development, Start Up, Innovation, Culture, Healthcare, Entrepreneurship, etc. Also special focus on Jammu, Kashmir, Ladakh, North Eastern States, Union Territories etc. Removal of Tin Talak, Article 370 and 35A, New law of CAA and the special care of minorities in India by the Government of India.

SHRI VINOD LAKHAMSHI CHAVDA: In his speech, Hon. President spoke about the development of all communities of India right from SC, ST, OBC, Women, Divyangs, students, kinds, farmers, business, Armed Forces. He spoke about the bright future of India in Education, Agriculture, Sports, Foreign Affairs,

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SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT: In President's Address, Hon. President spoke about the role of People's welfare Schemes in the development of our country during the last five years. 'Sabka Saath, Sabha Vikas' is the principal and on this principal, all schemes should reach the people and all sections and all areas should be developed, it has been mentioned in the Address. Hon. President has also mentioned about the initiatives taken and works done in the tribal areas in the country. In the Address, Hon. President has said that his Government is committed to bring tribal people in the mainstream. Government has stressed the need to pay special attention on Health Education and Skill Development and tribal people are getting benefit of those schemes. Government has started the work of setting up of 400 Eklavya Residential Schools. The reservation for SC and ST in the Lok Sabha Assemblies has also been increased for the next ten years. The access to means of transport in tribal dominated areas should be increased so that these means of transport become useful for the sale purchase of forest produce and access to modern farming is increased. In these areas, there is vast potential of tourism. There is vast potential of development of Food Processing units with the help of

special incentives. There is a need to set up Super Specialty Hospitals. There is need to prepare a scheme for water harvesting and to make it useful for people. Under the dynamic leadership of Hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, India is achieving prosperity and making development. India's dignity has increased and India has made a special place in the world.

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: I would firstly like to congratulate the Hon. President for addressing the House and laying out the vision of the Government for the decade. India is a young country with 65% of population below 35 years of age and 50% of population below 25 years of age. This bulge in the working-age population is going to last till 2055. In this case, it is very important for the country to educate, train and impart skills to the youth. I would like to mention in this House that the Constitution which has provided the citizens with Fundamental Rights also mentions the duties of the citizens of India as well. I would like to request our citizens to fulfil their duties and participate in various Jan Andolans initiated by our Hon. Prime Minister. I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the scale of people's participations in various Jan Andolans and the outcomes under the leadership of Modi ji. Hon. PM launched the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan with an aim to achieve open-defecation free (ODF) India by 2nd October, 2019. Now, coming to the actual outcome, under SBM, about 10.15 crore individual household latrines were constructed and 6 lakh villages were declared Open Defecation Free as on 5th Dec, 2019. In 2014, when Shri Narendra Modi ji

was elected as the Prime Minister, the rank of India on the global Ease of Doing Business ranking was beyond 140. Today, India has leapfrogged to 63rd position, and our PM has set a goal to achieve Rank 50 by next year. In “Getting Electricity” ranking India ranked 137 in 2014, today India ranks 22nd in 2020. World Bank has said that India has made the process of obtaining a building permit more efficient. Importing and exporting has also become easier under the NDA Government. This is the scale of change brought in by reformist NDA Government led by Modi ji. Various schemes of the Government have provided equitable access to benefits and facilities to the poor people of all religions. Our Government has always worked to empower Indian citizens and make them self-dependent. I am proud to say that I was part of the Lok Sabha which abolished Article 370. I am happy to say that today under the dynamic leadership of Shri Narendra Modi ji, the citizens of Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh will benefit from every scheme and program of the Government. Modi ji came up with the program of Aspirational Districts where in 112 districts each development scheme is paid special attention. Today many of these districts have developed. I am very thankful to the Government for developing a medical college in the Aspirational District of Baran. The NDA Government has also launched the program for establishing residential schools for the promotion of education. Our Government is committed to the Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas. For farmers, NDA Government launched Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi to support farmers for the sowing

season. The Government has also focused on schemes at improving quality of education and promotion innovation. The NDA Government has abolished about 1500 obsolete or out-dated laws in last 5 years. Recently, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has launched One Nation, One FasTag to ensure seamless mobility. In the renewable energy sector in 2013-14, there were solar plants of total capacity of 2.632 GW installed in the country, but today the country is moving towards achieving 175 GW of renewable power generation installations. Under the NDA Government, the LPG coverage in the country has increased from 55% to 97%. With improved supply chain logistics with the National Logistics Policy with the Kisan Rail and Krishi Udaan, I am sure that the export of organic produce from my Constituency will benefit immensely. With the prosperity of farmers, the rural economy will contribute significantly.

SHRI PARBHUBHAI NAGARBHAI VASAVA: With the efforts of the Government, India's image has witnessed an unprecedented improvement in international ranking. India was ranked 79th in the trade sector, today it has moved up to 63rd position, and along with it, the ranking of India has improved to 34th place from 52nd in Travel and Tourism of the World Economic Forum. Following the mantra of **Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, sabka Vishwas**, the Government is working with all sincerity. The Government has provided free gas connections, houses, bank accounts, insurance coverage (Bima Suraksha Kavach), and free electricity connections to crores of poor people, and 50 crore people have been

given free treatment facility up to 5 lakh rupees with complete transparency. The abrogation of Articles 370 and 35A of the Constitution by two-thirds majority in both the Houses of Parliament is historical one. Farmers, agricultural labourers, workers of unorganized sector and small traders of the country were expecting that a pension scheme should be started to help them in old age. The benefit of MSP on forest products is being given to bring the tribal brothers and sisters of the country into the mainstream of development. The reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Lok Sabha and State Assemblies has now been extended for the next ten years. The tourism sector has also got strengthened by the modern infrastructure being developed under Swadesh Darshan and Prasad Yojana.

SHRI DEVAJI PATEL: During the last five years, the Government has laid a strong foundation for taking India to new heights of progress by working without any discrimination. Today our Government is engaged in building an India in which it is working for the development of the poor, dalits, women, youth, tribals and minorities of all communities of the country in such a way that the benefits of the development of the country reach the last person of the society. But I am pained to say that some of our opposition parties are obstructing the progress of the country. They are misleading a large community of the country by making false propaganda about the Citizenship Amendment Law passed by the Government. Today, the Government has provided security to small traders, farmers and people working in the unorganized sector in their old age by giving

pension. Our Government has given houses to 2 crore poor people. Our Government has built 2 crore, 30 lakh toilets in the homes of the poor. Cent - percent villages have been provided electricity. Under Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme, 6000 rupees are being deposited in the accounts of the farmers. Survey of new rail route from Pindwada to Udaipur has been completed. This work must be completed. Agriculture is the main source of income of people in my Parliamentary Constituency, Jalore. A Krishi Vigyan Kendra was sanctioned at Sanchore located in Jalore district under 2012-2017 Five Year Plan but the Krishi Vigyan Kendra has not started functioning till now. Under the UDAN scheme, there is a need to start air service from Manpur airstrip at Sirohi. Jalore Sirohi Parliamentary Constituency is geographically quite a large area. There is a need to approve another Navodaya Vidyalaya near the district headquarters there.

SHRI C. P. JOSHI: The President said that this decade is very important for India. In this decade, we will be completing 75 years of our independence. In this decade, we all have to work together with new energy and accelerate the process of creating new India. The President said that he is happy that in the last 7 months, the Parliament has set new records of working. Many historical laws have been enacted in this year due to the strong will of the Government. The Government has clear view that mutual discussion - discussion and debate make democracy more powerful. At the same time, any kind of violence in the name of protest, weakens the society and the country. The most sacred thing in a democracy

is mandate. The people of the country have given this mandate to this Government to build a new India. The schemes of this Government have provided assistance and facilities to the poor of every religion, and every region with equality, and hence the Government has also earned the trust of the people of the country. The abrogation of Article 370 and Article 35A of the Constitution by two-thirds majority by both the Houses of Parliament is not only historical but it has also paved the way for the development of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh alike. This Government has started the Jal Jeevan Mission to provide sufficient amount of drinking water to every house in the country. Under the Prime Minister Kisan Samman Nidhi, more than Rs 43 thousand crore has been deposited in the bank accounts of more than 8 crore farmer families. The Government is working with full dedication to ensure the income for farmers which will be one and a half times of the production cost. The Government's efforts have increased the procurement of pulses and oilseeds by more than 20 times. The health of a person has an impact on the development of both the family and the country. This Government is working holistically on health. Serious efforts are are being at every level of preventive healthcare and curative healthcare. Many schemes like Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Jal Jeevan Mission, Nutrition Campaign, Fit India Abhiyan, Ayushman Bharat Yojana, are helping to improve the health of the countrymen. The Government has reiterated its commitment to improve medical education and healthcare by constituting the National Medical Commission. Rural roads

contribute a lot to the country's infrastructure. Rural roads have expanded to every corner of the country under the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana. The Government is working with all its capacity and strength to save the country from the threat of terrorism. The security situation in the North East has also improved a lot due to the continuous efforts of the Government. The area of Naxal affected areas in the country is also shrinking continuously.

SHRI MITESH PATEL (BAKABHAI) : The Hon. President's Address shows that we are progressing towards the right direction in fulfilling the expectations of the people of the country. Our Government has taken many steps for women empowerment and for the welfare of farmers and the poor people. The Lok Sabha election in the year 2014 was very important for this country. We were facing many big challenges. At that time there were more than 40 crores people in the country who were devoid of the facilities of education and health. They were also not having employment, drinking water and housing facilities. This Government has constructed houses and toilets, provided gas connection, drinking water and electricity to their houses for the welfare of the poor people. Women empowerment has been made through National Livelihood Mission. Poor people have been provided pension and insurance. The income of farmers has increased. The country's borders have become secure. Our Government has done many long pending works like abrogation of Article 370 and Article 35A and passing of CAA, the matter related to Triple Talaq and security of the country's border. Today our

foreign exchange resources in FDI are at the highest level. The value of rupee has remained almost stable at international level during the last six years. This shows our economic power. Today India can progress in the whole world under the leadership of our Hon. Prime Minister.

SHRIMATI POONAMBEN MAADAM: The Government's vision towards "Sabka Saath, Sabka vikas, Sabka Vishwaas" does not remain just a motto anymore, but can be seen in every action, every decision and every policy of the Government. Under the regime of our Hon'ble Prime Minister, the government's economic front is being strengthened through FDI. Thus, leading us in the direction of being a five trillion dollar economy by 2025. During the period of this Government, 12 public sector banks have shown a profit in the Banking sector after the Government's regulation to merge banks and strengthen them. The Direct Transfer Benefit provided in more than 450 schemes has credited more than nine lakh crore rupees into beneficiaries account. The Government has successfully issued more than 121 crore Aadhar cards and has included 38 crore marginalized people in the banking system. The government has worked in the field of Agriculture and has brought many policies for the well-being of farmers like Prime Minister Kisan Samman Nidhi and Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana. In the Manufacturing Sector and for the Job creation, 27000 new start-ups have been recognized under the Start-Up India Campaign. The entrepreneurs have availed loans under the Mudra scheme. The Government has curbed terrorist activities in

Jammu-Kashmir. Free gas connections have been provided to eight crore poor people, also free electricity has been provided to over 2.5 lakh crore people. The present government is committed towards education. Appointment of teachers in Kendriya Vidyalayas has been initiated. The government's effort to bring in Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana has benefited more than 75 lakh poor. Under Aayushman Bharat Scheme, more than 27,000 Health and Wellness Centres have been set up. Over 3.3 crore women have joined self-help groups. Legislation against triple talaq has been passed by this Government. Reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been extended for ten years in the Lok Sabha and state assemblies. The Government has launched the Jal Jeevan Mission through which drinking water will be provided to each rural household. The Government launched the Namami Gange mission, on which Rs. 724000 crores have been spent. India has achieved huge accomplishment in Space Exploration and Technology. For efficient transport systems, Rs. 100 lakh crore will be invested in transport infrastructure in the next five years. Metro facility has been extended to 18 cities in the country. The government took every essential step for the upliftment of the people in our society.

SHRI VE. VAITHILINGAM : Karaikal is a part of Puducherry and the farmers are having a good harvest of paddy there. There is no procurement centre of FCI in Karaikal. So, the purchase of paddy by the traders is below the MSP. MPS price of paddy is Rs. 1850/- per quintal. But traders are buying the paddy at

Rs.1500/- per quintal. So, I request the Government to set up a procurement centre of FCI there.

DR. KALANIDHI VEERASWAMY : To fulfill the tall claim of making our economy 5 trillion dollars by 2024, we need a GDP growth rate in double digit figures which looks unlikely in the current economic slowdown. The banking system is in shambles leading to the process of amalgamating banks by the Government. The main reason for economic slowdown is the poor government policies. This government has played with the communal harmony of this great nation for the sake of electoral gains. Some of the laws passed have resulted in several countries viewing India with suspicion regarding its Secular fabric. I am sure they will regret it before the end of this term and hopefully correct themselves to restore the glory of our country and reinstate its Secular Fabric.

SHRI VINOD KUMAR SONKAR : The Hon'ble President has mentioned about abrogation of Article 370 from Jammu and Kashmir in his Address. No untoward incidences have taken place there since abrogation of Article 370. This important step taken by the Government will ensure the restoration of peace and economic development of Jammu and Kashmir in the coming year. There is also mention of regularizing 1700 unauthorised colonies in Delhi in the Address of the Hon'ble President. This action proves that the Government is committed to provide a dignified life to backward classes. There is also mention of Jal Jeevan Mission in

the Address. My constituency is a rural area where most of the people depend on hand-pump and tullu-pump for water. Now, with the cooperation of the Ministry of Jal Shakti work on this Mission has also started in Kaushambi district. Hon'ble President has also mentioned about *Beti Bachao Beti Padhao* in his Address but convicts in Nirbhaya rape and murder case are successful in deferring the sentence. Therefore, I request the Minister of Law and Justice to ensure justice to Nirbhaya at the earliest and bring such an amendment in this law so that no accused can misuse this law. It is clear from the President's Address that the country and people of the country are moving ahead on the path of progress.

PRIME MINISTER (SHRI NARENDRA MODI) *replying said:* I rise to express my gratitude to the President on the motion of thanks for his Address. The hon. President has presented a vision of new India in his Address. The Address of the hon. President given at the outset of the third decade of the 21st century is the one which provides us with a direction, inspiration and creates a belief in crores of people of the country. All the experienced hon. Members of this House have presented their points quite well during the discussion. Everyone has made an effort with his/her own way to enrich the discussion. It is not that the people have only opted to change a Government, they have also expectation to change the direction. We have got this opportunity to serve here due to the wish and expectation of the country to work with a new vision. Had we moved in the same way, as they did and as was their wont, Article 370 would not have been removed

even after 70 years from this country. The Muslim sisters would have faced the fear of triple talaq even today, had we treaded their path. A law to ordain death sentence for rape with minors would not have become a reality, had we followed their path. The Ram Janm Bhoomi issue would have continued to remain a dispute, had we gone with their thought and never ever the Kartarpur Sahib Corridor could have become a reality. The India-Bangladesh border dispute would have never been solved, had their method and ways been followed. The country has been constantly endeavoring to combat all the challenges. If we do not challenge the challenges, had we not made forward strides taking all along us, the country would probably have continued to face several problems for a long time. Had we followed the path of the Congress Party, the country would have continued to wait for the Enemy Property Law, next generation fighter aircraft and Benami Property Law would not have been implemented even after 28 years. Also, the Chief of Defence Staff would not have been appointed even after 20 years. We all very well know that the country is not ready to wait for a long period after 70 years of Independence. Therefore, it is our endeavor to accelerate the speed and raise the scale. There should be determination and decisiveness, sensitivity as well as solution. The people of the country observed during the 5 years the rapid pace of work that we undertook and the outcome was that they gave us an opportunity to serve them again with a bit more strength and with the same pace. Had it not been this rapid pace, bank accounts for 37 crore people would not have been opened in

such a short time. Had it not been this rapid pace, toilet construction work in the houses of 11 crore people would not have been completed. It was through this pace of work that gas stoves could be provided to 13 crore households. Had it not been this rapid pace, 2 crore new houses for the poor and regularisation work of more than 1700 illegal colonies of Delhi, which was pending for a long time, would not have been completed. Lives of more than 40 lakh people were at stake in Delhi. Today, they have also got the right for their houses. Discussion has also been held here with regard to the North-East. The North-East region had to wait for a number of decades. All along, this region has remained neglected. This region is not one to be weighed in terms of vote bank politics for us. It has been our endeavor to make optimum utilisation of the citizens of India residing in remote areas for the unity and integrity of India and also of their capabilities for the sake of India's development. With this belief, we have tried to move forward. We have made an effort to fulfil the developmental needs related to the 21st century, be it with regard to electricity, providing rail connectivity, constructing airports or ensuring mobile connectivity. The Bodo issue has been discussed here with regard to which a number of experiments have been done earlier. But the Bodo problem could not be solved even after all these years through agreements reached on paper. The Agreement which has been reached this time, is in a way a message giving incident for the North-East as well as to those believing in arms and violence. The main characteristic of the agreement reached this time has been that all the armed groups

have come together. All the weapons and all the underground people have surrendered and secondly, it has been specifically mentioned in that agreement that no demand related to the Bodo problem remains outstanding after this agreement. The issue of farmers has also been raised here. Many important work has been done recently with new methods and new vision and the hon. President has mentioned them in his Address as well. We have raised the MSP 1.5 times. Irrigation schemes had been lying pending for 20 years or more even after funds were spent to the tune of 80-90 per cent. We undertook about 99 such schemes. We took them to their logical end by spending more than a lakh rupees and now the farmers have started to get benefit from them. Through the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, a confidence has developed among the farmers. Premium to the tune of about Rs. 13,000 crore was received from the farmers, however, the farmers have received through the insurance scheme about Rs. 56,000 crore for the loss suffered due to natural calamities. It is our priority to ensure that the income of the farmers is raised. Bringing down the input cost, is our priority. Seven lakh tons of pulses and oil seeds were procured in our country earlier, this has been 100 lakh tone during our tenure. We introduced E-NAM scheme so that the farmers could sell their produce through it in the market and I am pleased that around 1.75 crore farmers have so far got connected through this system. Farmers have done transactions of around Rs. 1 lakh crore of their produce through this E-NAM scheme using this technology. Be it extending Kisan Credit Cards along with its

allied activities, be it animal husbandry, pisciculture, poultry farming or making an effort to move towards solar energy, solar pump - we have added several things which have resulted in a drastic change in their economic condition. The budget of the Ministry of Agriculture was of Rs. 27,000 crore in the year 2014, before we took over. Now, this has increased 5 times to the tune of Rs. 1.5 lakh crore. Under the P.M. Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana, direct fund transfer is carried out into the accounts of farmers. So far, Rs. 45,000 crore have been transferred into the accounts of the farmers. I would urge upon those hon. Members to look into their respective States to ensure that the farmers of their States receive the P.M. Kisan Samman Nidhi and for that their Governments provide the list of farmers. In a number of States, votes were taken by making promises to the farmers, but these promises were not fulfilled. Hon. Members, sitting here and representing those States must convey to their respective State not to show any laxity in providing the rights to the farmers. Let us dedicate this session entirely on economic topics, economic conditions of the country. Let us discuss which steps India should take to take advantage of the current economic condition of the world and pursue which direction to get benefit. I would like to request all the Members to speak in depth on economic subjects and give comprehensive and innovative suggestions so that we may move forward with full strength to take advantage of the opportunities that have come up in the world. I believe that it is our collective responsibility to discuss this important subject related to economy. We cannot afford to forget the

earlier things if we remember this responsibility. We know what was the condition earlier. Corruption was a topic of discussion regularly. Who can forget unprofessional banking, weak infrastructure policies and misappropriation of resources? To come out from all these predicaments, we have made a constant endeavor to move in a certain direction with long term goals to get a redressal of the problems. I believe that as a result thereof, there is a check on fiscal deficit and inflation in economy and a micro-economic stability has been maintained. Our Government has taken all the steps required for long term strengthening - be it the important decision about GST, bringing down corporate tax, introducing IBC, liberalising FDI regime, recapitalisation of banks and benefits have thereof also started to accrue. A number of important decisions have been taken to ensure that the confidence of investors is raised and the economy gets strength. During January, 2019 to 2020, GST revenue collection has been more than Rs.1 lakh crore six times. From April to September, 2018, FDI was of Rs. 22 billion dollar, this has crossed 26 billion dollar today during the same period. This is a proof that the confidence of the foreign investors has risen in respect of India. Our vision is for greater investment, better infrastructure, increased value addition and more and more job creation. Schemes like MUDRA Yojana, Start-Up India, Stand-Up India have given much strength to the self employment schemes in the country. Crores of people in this country have started to earn their livelihood through self-employment for the first time after availing MUDRA Yojana. They are providing

employment to others as well. Not only this, for the first time 70 per cent among those who have got funds from banks through this MUDRA Yojana are our mothers and sisters. Those who were not involved in any economic activity are today contributing in enhancing the economy through one way or the other. More than 28 thousand start-ups have been recognised. India has got the third position in the world in the data of entrepreneurs of the World Bank. In total 1 crore 39 lakh new subscribers have been added to the EPFO pay roll data between September, 2017 and November 2019. Fund is not deposited without employment. The legislative proposals relating to skill development and labour reforms have moved ahead in our Parliament and I hope that this august House will soon clear them so that there remains no impediments in the way of creating employment avenues. We need to herald all these changes keeping in view the changed times and in tune with new thinking. Infrastructure plays a pivotal role in strengthening the economy. The emphasis on creating and strengthening the infrastructure also drives the economy, creates job opportunities and new industries also come up. Therefore, our Government has given an impetus in the creation of infrastructure. In fact, infrastructure brings in opportunities for future and also connects the lengths and breadths of the country. Various socio-economic activities also get a boost. The UPA Government had taken a resolution to complete the work of peripheral expressway around Delhi by the year 2009. But this project remained on paper only till 2014. When we assumed power in 2014, we took up this work in

a mission mode and the work of peripheral expressway has been completed. Today, as many as 40,000 trucks need not enter Delhi and directly go out. This is a significant achievement to bring down the level of pollution in Delhi. Some people have repeatedly talked about saving the Constitution. I do agree that the Congress party should say it atleast hundred times a day to save the Constitution because may be certain things make them realize their mistakes of the past. Why did the Members of the Congress party not remember the task of saving the Constitution during the period of emergency? Sinful task of depriving our judiciary of their right to judicial review was undertaken by them only. The Party which amended the Constitution most has no option but to talk about saving the Constitution. Those who torn down the proposal duly passed by the Cabinet have to take some classes for understanding the Constitution. The people who created the National Advisory Council over and above the PM and PMO need to understand the value of Constitution. The whole country is watching and understanding what is happening in Delhi and the country and this silence of the country will speak volume some day. The Supreme Court of the country has repeatedly directed that no movement of the people should cause hardship to the people and should not resort to any kind of violence. I would not like to mention here the kind of statements made recently. However, I would like to ask the Congress Party as to who had stopped them from implementing the Indian Constitution in Jammu and Kashmir for so long. Who kept my brothers and

sisters of Jammu and Kashmir deprived of the rights given to them in this Constitution? One hon. Member who said that Jammu and Kashmir has lost its identity. In fact, those who view Jammu and Kashmir as a tract of land only have not understood this country and this is the sign of their intellectual impoverishment only. Kashmir is the crown gem of India. Bomb, gun and separatism were made the identity of Jammu and Kashmir. The real identity of Kashmir is *sufi* tradition. This House is made of the Members who have unflinching faith in our Constitution, therefore, I would like to touch their soul. What had been stated by an ex-Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir on 5th August? Those who abide by the Constitution should listen to with rapt attention as these are grave words. She had said that India has cheated Kashmir and perhaps they did a serious mistake by choosing to live with India in 1947. Another Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir had said that if the Article 370 is abrogated then an earthquake will occur separating Kashmir from India. Can those who abide by the Constitution subscribe to these kind of views? I am saying all this to those who have some sensitivity and soul. In fact, these are those people who did not have faith in the people of Jammu and Kashmir that is why they speak such language. We are those who trust the people of Kashmir. We reposed our faith in them and they are marching ahead on the path of development at a faster pace. Nobody can be allowed to cause disturbance in any part of the country. We are fully committed to the bright future of the people of Jammu and Kashmir and also to fulfill their aspirations. Sikkim is

a State in our country which has carved out a niche for itself as an organic State. Bhutan is also lauded for its effort to protect the environment and it has earned a name for itself as a carbon neutral country. We all should take a resolve that we shall take all possible measures to make Ladakh also a carbon neutral unit. Some people are alleging as to what was the urgency to bring about the CAA. Some other hon. Members are blaming us for creating a divide between Hindus and Muslims. Yet, another set of hon. Members has said that we intend to divide the country. All these blames have been put on us ironically by those who love getting photographed with the group of people who want '*tukde tukde*' of India. Pakistan has been attempting to incite the people for decades and they have not lost any opportunity to do it in the past. But now no one believes them. The famous slogans like '*Quit India*' and '*Jai Hind*' were given by our Muslim brothers. The real problem with the Congress Party is that Muslims were always Muslims for them. For us they are all proud Indians. The day the Congress Party starts looking at India as India, they will realize their mistakes. The Congress Party and its ecosystem have raised much hue and cry about the CAA. Had the Congress Party not taken the protest to this level, their real face would not have come to the fore. The country has watched as to who is for the party and who is for the nation. It is very necessary for the Congress Party to know about the great man called Shri Bhupendra Kumar Dutt as he was a Member of the all India Congress Committee. After the partition he stayed back in Pakistan. He was also the Member of the

Constituent Assembly of Pakistan. I would like to quote Shri Dutt who had said in the Constituent Assembly there" As far as this side of Pakistan is concerned, the minorities have been practically liquidated". This was the condition of the minorities there right from the early days of independence. But this is not going to make any difference to you. The ideology of Pakistan has not undergone any change even after so many decades. The minorities continue to be subjected to persecution there even today. The Nehru-Liaquat Pact was signed in 1950 with a view to safeguarding the minorities living in India and Pakistan. The very premise of the pact was that there would be no discrimination with religious minorities in Pakistan. Why did such a great secular, thinker and visionary Nehru ji not use the term "all the citizens' instead of 'minorities'? Certainly, there would have been some reasons. Nehruji had already told at that time what we are telling you today. Just one year before Nehru-Liaquat Pact Nehruji wrote letter to the erstwhile Chief Minister of Assam, Shri Gopinath ji to say "you will have to differentiate between Hindu Refugees and Muslim immigrants and the country will have to accommodate these refugees". A few months after the Nehur-Liaquat Pact, Nehru ji made his statement on the floor of this very House on 5th November, 1950 pointing out that it was beyond doubt that all the affected persons who had come to settle in India were entitled to get the Indian citizenship and if the law was not in consistence with this purpose, then the law should be amended. Having seen the prevailing situation in Pakistan, not only Gandhi ji but Nehru ji was also

harbouring the same views in this respect. Now I would like to ask a few questions especially to the Congress Party whether Pt. Nehru ji was communal. Did he intend to discriminate between Hindu and Muslim or whether he wanted to make India a Hindu Rashtra. If our Government is making decisions today in sync with the sentiments of the founding fathers of our nation, the Congress is getting upset. Having understood the intent and spirit of the Constitution, I, through this House, would like to assure 130 crore citizens of this country with a profound sense of responsibility that the Citizenship Amendment Act is not going to affect any of the Citizens of India in any manner, be they Hindu, Muslim, Sikh or Christian. It is not going to harm the minorities of India. Unfortunately, the Congress Party which was expected by the country to play the role of a responsible opposition has gone astray. This is going to create problems not only for them but also for the entire nation. I sound this alarm so that we all could come forward to make endeavours for the bright future of the country. Everybody is entitled to make his points in a democratic manner in this country. But we would not be doing any good to the nation by misleading people through monumental lies and rumours. Therefore, I appeal to all of you to work in tandem to push the nation to the higher economic trajectory characterized with an economy of 5 trillion dollars. Let us take resolve to that end.

All the amendments moved were negatived

The Motion was adopted

THE UNION BUDGET- 2020-2021

SHRI MANISH TEWARI *initiating said:* In the Preamble to the Constitution of India, there is a mention of social, economic and political liberty. Today, we need to introspect if we have been able to offer this liberty to the people. Area of India is 2.4 per cent of the total area of the world and population is 17.7 per cent of the world population. However, only 1 per cent people own the 73 per cent wealth of the country. This scenario is not specific to India alone. If we look at the world horizon, we find that 8 billionaires have the wealth equal to that owned by 400 crore people. GDP of India has increased at the rate of 4.45 per cent during the 40 years from 1950 to 1990 and from 1990 to 2020 it has increased at 6.5 per cent. In the current year it has increased at 5 per cent only. That is why we need to review our economic model. The Economic Survey is absolutely directionless. This resurrects the debate of neo-liberalism versus socialism. Even the proponents of neo-liberalism have abandoned this theory. This House must have a detailed discussion on a suitable economic model for the future of the country. This budget fails to offer the right solution of the problems facing our country. Growth rate in all the sectors has gone down whereas unemployment is increasing. A number of data prove that Indian economy is passing through a sensitive phase. 66 per cent people of India live in villages. Indian economy cannot

take a boost unless consumption increases in the rural areas. Last year, the Government had provided concessions worth rupees 1,45,000 crore to the capitalists. Sometimes, we doubt whether the Government is trying to extend benefit to the capitalists. The problem lies in demand side whereas the Government is providing solutions to the supply side. Size of Indian economy is of Rupees 148 lakh crore. Only 4 per cent taxpayers pay 60 per cent of the taxes in India. Even, they have not got enough concessions. The Government is trying to divest the public sector undertakings to make up its fiscal deficit. Today, the economic numbers of the Government are being questioned. This makes a severe dent on the image of the country in the world. The Government should take some initiative to maintain the reliability of its economic numbers. It is stated in the budget that 27 crore people were brought above the poverty line during the period from 2006 to 2016. I would like to say that during these 10 years the UPA was in power for 8 years. If you want economic growth in the country, social harmony is a must.

SHRI JAYANT SINHA: Hon. Prime Minister has just said that we have to make a new India and take the Indian economy to 5 trillion mark. This budget shows that this is not a billionaires' rule but the people's rule. If we want to move forward, we need to look forward. Looking in the rear-view mirror will not help. If we look at the high frequency indicators, we observe that our economy has taken a big turn. Economy is bound to grow at a real growth rate of 6-6.5 per cent. GST collections are also increasing. The Government has accorded priority to the

macro-economic stability. Fiscal deficit is perfectly under control. The Government has kept pending the fiscal deficit. This will be beneficial for the economy in future and will also help create jobs. The Government has given Rs. 75,000 crore directly to the beneficiaries under the Kisan Samman Scheme. This will give a boost to consumption. Allocation to MNREGA has also been increased. This will also boost consumption. Tax cuts will accrue good benefits to the urban middle class taxpayers. The taxpayers having the earning of less than Rs. 15 lakh per year, who have the highest propensity to consume, are the ones who are going to get the most benefit from this tax slab. Along with that, simplification of GST has also benefitted people the most. During the last five years, expenses on food items have been stable whereas income of people has increased manifold. So, the Government has managed a better control over inflation and interest rates. This has also resulted in consumption boost. As far as investment is concerned, our Government has identified 6500 projects and provided 105 lakh crore rupees for this purpose. For National Highway Authority and PMGSY, allocations have been increased substantially. Similarly, allocation for industrial corridor has also been increased by 26 per cent. Again, unprecedented investment is being made for undertaking infrastructural development in Civil Aviation sector. Apart from that, 30,000 crore rupees have been provided for providing potable water and sanitation purposes. Similarly, 9000 crore rupees have been provided for river development. Under the National Clean Air Mission, 4000 crore rupees have been provided

particularly for the residents of Delhi. Moreover, today old age pension to the tune of 9 lakh crore rupees are being transferred directly to the accounts of beneficiaries under the Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme. In this budget, 70 out of 100 exemptions and deductions have been done away with for the purpose of simplification of tax regime so that people may be able to save 5 to 10 per cent tax and file their income tax returns easily. Our Government has also promoted the digital payment system. Today, transaction of Rs. two lakh crore are being made through UPI every month. Similarly, under the IBC, today the recoveries are already at about Rs. 3.6 lakh crore. More than 50,000 or 60,000 cases have come into the IBC. Moreover, the velocity of resolutions has gone up which is extraordinarily important. Our Government has been successful in controlling the NPA of banks due to which banks have become more robust and globally competitive. Now we are moving towards entrepreneurial capitalism. Similarly, if we look at FDI, it has increased upto 40 or 50 billion dollar per year. As far as NBFCs are concerned, stressed assets fund of Rs. 10,000 crore have been provided for it. I have a firm belief that our economy will definitely achieve the target of 5 trillion dollar and from now on we would look forward to achieve 10 trillion dollar economy status. And to achieve this we must go for the green frontier in terms of both competitiveness and sustainability.

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: India had very high hopes for this Budget. But I fail to see how any of the proposed allocations will boost the income and

enhance the purchasing power of the people. The Government has been talking about the five trillion-dollar economy. We have to start making allocations for equity funding for this every year. That has not happened and we cannot see it anywhere in the Budget and today, in real terms the growth is only 5 per cent of GDP. The agriculture sector has just grown by two per cent in the first quarter of this year as compared to 5.1 per cent growth in the same quarter in the previous year. The RBI Annual Report shows that the contribution of agriculture in the last five years has halved. The NITI Aayog Report says that 14 per cent growth is needed to double the farmers' income. I wonder how in the existing scenario one can be positive on this count. Moving further, as per NCRB Report, thousands of people engaged in the farm sector have committed suicide in the recent past not because of the factors ascribed to Nature but because of the erroneous format of the so called Centre's flagship crop insurance scheme. To illustrate the ground reality, the situation is so preposterous that farmers in Tamil Nadu received as little as Rs.4, Rs.5 and Rs.10 as crop insurance. The least the Government could have done is to provide immediate relief to the farmers by waiving off the farmers' loans, which has been their demand for a very long time. This apart, there has been steep fall in the money allocated for MGNREGA. The national average wage of MGNREGA worker is quite less *vis a vis* minimum wages recommended by the Ministry of Labour and Employment. The Fifteenth Finance Commission has the 2011 Census as the sole criteria for the population but has reduced the weight age

of the population to 15 per cent from earlier 27.5 per cent. It is extremely unjust to punish States like Tamil Nadu and the Southern States that have achieved a neutral net reproductive rate target. Coming to disinvestment, I would like to say that the LIC was nationalized only because there were unfair trade practices. There seems to be no cogent reason to disinvest the LIC other than the Government's desperate attempt to raise money through disinvestment as they are failing to realize their tax revenue targets. The fact must not escape our deserved attention that Private companies sadly lack commitment, let alone caring for the weaker sections. Lowering of spending for the ICDS is not justified when India has the highest number of under-five deaths according to a UNICEF Report of 2018. The Non-Banking Finance Corporations are apprehensive to lend money to the MSMEs and are charging very high rate of interest. As a result they too are in rather bad shape. The tourism sector too does not produce a rosy picture. The matchbox industry is particularly prominent in my Constituency, Thoothukkudi. Their demand for the reduction of GST must be met.

SHRI ABHISHEK BANERJEE: The concerns of the middle class, the lower middle class, the minority, the SC, ST, OBC of the country have not at all been taken care of in the Budget. The Government talks of three pillars – Aspirational India, Economic Development and Caring Society but the actual situation flies quite high in the face of such lofty claims. There is no noticeable economic development anywhere. People are losing jobs. Manufacturing units are

being closed down. Investment is at 17 years low, manufacturing is 15 years low and agriculture is 4 years low. Yet the Government is making tall claims of propelling the economy to the trajectory of five trillion dollars. Since the Government came to power, we have witnessed triple murder viz. demonetization, erroneous roll out of GST and proposed privatization of Public Sector Enterprises including LIC. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana has also miserably failed to settle the claims made by the farmers. Bengal was badly affected from Cyclone Bulbul. Still, we have got no financial assistance on this account. It is distressing that instead of focusing on increasing rural wages and improving functioning of MGNREGA, the BJP-led Government is wasting resources on divisive policies like NPR and NRC. Bengal has been doing much better under the leadership of the Mamata Banerjee Government in comparison to how the country is performing under the PM's leadership. Bengal's growth rate is almost twice in comparison to India's growth rate. Investment in agriculture and social sectors is up in Bengal. The entire cost of medical treatment is borne by the State. The credit lending to MSME is the highest in Bengal. The Centre Government's Make in India is not helping in creation of jobs. The Budget speech has not addressed the grave concerns of unemployment. The Defence Budget has been raised by just five per cent. This will stall the procurement of important military equipment. The country does not need bullet train. The Government should spend that money to build freight corridors. The time has come for the Government to take austerity

measures. The Government of India should not buy aircraft for the travel of VVIPs and VIPs.

SHRI RAGHU RAMA KRISHNA RAJU: The Government of India has launched a number of schemes with the aim of doubling the farmers' income and their efforts are being supplemented by our beloved Chief Minister. PM KUSUM is a very good initiative. With this wonderful initiative, the job seekers in the rural areas would become job givers. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to ensure that the benefits of Krishi Udan and Kisan Rail percolate down to the farmers. The hon. Finance Minister should ensure that the farmers are able to access credit from banks. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to utilize the major chunk of funds for setting up the Aquaculture University and for setting up more laboratories in Andhra Pradesh. I would also request the hon. Minister that APEDA should be left to the Ministry of Agriculture and MPEDA should be left to the Department of Fisheries to ensure better synergy. I would like to tell the Government that Ayushman Bharat is indeed a wonderful scheme but the criteria that one should not have a motorcycle, one should not have a phone, etc. should not be there. I request the Government to grant special category status to our state and provide sufficient funds for the completion of Pollavaram project. Our state needs to be compensated for the shortfall of revenue under the GST.

SHRI ARVIND SAWANT: The Hon'ble Minister of Finance in her Budget Speech said that this Budget is to boost the income and enhance the purchasing

power but this Government is not ready to accept that there is slowdown in our economy. Unless the Government accepts that there is slowdown in the economy it cannot take appropriate steps to check it. Today, we are talking about industry but many companies in metal industry are closing down. As a result, targets of employment generation are not being achieved. The government of Maharashtra has not received its share of GST from the Central Government. The complexities of GST are creating problems for people, it should be simplified. The Government should increase pension under Pension Scheme, 1995. This Government emphasis on digital penetration and we all know that BSNL has reach to every nook and corner of the country. Similarly, MTNL has reached to every nook and corner of Delhi and Mumbai but the Government has brought VRS for their employees to revive these companies. After VRS, there are no employees in the office of these companies. It means the neither the management nor the Government prepared for this. If the Government wants to increase digital penetration it should give work of optical fiber or FTTH to these companies. It will automatically support revival plan of these companies. Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, houses cannot be constructed for Rs.1.5 lac. This amount should be increased. Farmers are not getting their dues under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana. Insurance companies are not ready to provide crop insurance to farmers in 10 districts of Maharashtra. Farmers have no assured income, therefore, Bhavantar Yojana should be introduced for them. In regard to recruitment, Regional Recruitment Center should

be opened and sons of the soil should be given preference. Recruitment should be done at the local level so that justice can be done to the sons of soil. This Government has taken good steps in the education sector but it should be more focused on primary education and if we maintain uniformity in atleast two- three subjects at this level, the standard of education throughout the country will remain same, otherwise people would be deprived of the quality education and discrimination will go on.

The discussion was not concluded.

SNEHLATA SHRIVASTAVA
Secretary General

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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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