

**LOK SABHA**

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

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**Thursday, February 10, 2022 / Magha 21, 1943 (Saka)**

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**\*MATTERS UNDER RULE 377**

- (1) **SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO** laid a statement regarding internet connectivity in Gram Panchayat Headquarters in Bolangir Parliamentary Constituency.
- (2) **DR. (PROF.) KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI** laid a statement regarding regulating online games.
- (3) **SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY** laid a statement regarding railway connectivity in western Rajasthan.
- (4) **SHRI DHARAMBIR SINGH** laid a statement regarding need to increase the seats for sportsperson in SAI Centre, Bhiwani, Haryana.
- (5) **SHRI AJAY NISHAD** laid a statement regarding need to double the railway line passing through Pahleja bridge in Bihar.
- (6) **SHRIMATI KESHARI DEVI PATEL** laid a statement regarding need to hand over historical Fort in Prayagraj district, Uttar Pradesh to Archaeological Survey of India.
- (7) **DR. SANJAY JAISWAL** laid a statement regarding waiving off cut-off conditions for NEET PG.

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\* Laid on the Table as directed by the Chair.

- (8) **SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR** laid a statement regarding transfer of defence land for expansion of Tiruchirapalli International Airport runway.
- (9) **SHRI BENNY BEHANAN** laid a statement regarding government policy to support agriculture sector.
- (10) **SHRI T. N. PRATHAPAN** laid a statement regarding price fluctuations of agricultural crops.
- (11) **SHRI C. N. ANNADURAI** laid a statement regarding completion of Tindivanam-Tiruvannamalai new Broad Gauge Railway line project.
- (12) **SHRI RAGHU RAMA KRISHNA RAJU** laid a statement regarding financial condition of Andhra Pradesh Government.
- (13) **SHRI KAUSHLENDRA KUMAR** laid a statement regarding need to extend facilities to tenant farmers and sharecroppers at par with land-owning farmers.
- (14) **SHRI MALOOK NAGAR** laid a statement regarding eviction of people belonging to Gujjar/Gujjar bakarwal tribe from their natural dwellings in Jammu & Kashmir.
- (15) **SHRI RAJA AMARESHWARA NAIK** laid a statement regarding sanctioning of a Textile park in Karnataka.

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**THE UNION BUDGET – 2022-2023 – General Discussion- Contd.**

**SUSHRI SUNITA DUGGAL:** I believe that this budget has been envisaged by the Hon'ble Prime Minister and the Hon'ble Finance Minister to realize an economy which is self-reliant. Hon'ble Railway Minister is requested to start Hisar-Fatehabad-Agroha railway line at the earliest. 400 Vande Bharat trains are being introduced. I would like to urge that a Vande Bharat train must be ensured to pass through my Lok Sabha constituency. As on date, more than 63 percent of the trains have been electrified. There has been an increase of 350 percent in the budget for new railway lines, doubling and gauge conversion as against the period from 2009 to 2014. A provision has been made for interlinking of rivers. So far as the interlinking of Ken-Betwarivers is concerned, one of our areas gets flooded and the other area suffers drought. If these rivers are interlinked, I think it will immensely benefit the farmers. Not to speak of doubling the income of the farmers, the 'Kisan Rail, Kisan Drone' being developed with assistance being provided

through the NABARD has the potential to triple or quadruple their income. Our Government has also made provision to empower the youth in the border areas. The centres of NCC have also been said to be opened for youth in the border areas. This will greatly benefit the youth.

**CHOUHARY MEHBOOB ALI KAISER:** I compliment the hon. Finance Minister for presenting a forward-looking and growth-oriented Budget that strengthens the drivers of long-term development. The Budget provides a blueprint for steering the economy towards a sustained high-growth trajectory and aims to lay a strong foundation to steer the Indian economy towards *Amrit Kaal* for the next 25 years, from India at 75 years to India at 100 years. The Finance Minister has highlighted a framework for growth by focusing on four key themes, that are, public investment for building modern infrastructure under the PM Gati Shakti; inclusive development; productivity and investment, sunrise opportunities, energy transition and climate action; and financing of investment. The emphasis on infrastructure spending, reforms, various supportive schemes such as PLI, and digitization are expected to boost investment and kickstart the virtuous cycle of investment, employment, income and demand. The contribution of the pharmaceuticals and healthcare industry has been well acknowledged, especially with regard to the speed and coverage of vaccination and improvement in healthcare infrastructure. A case in point is the absence of even the mention of the welfare schemes concerning the minorities. Although, there are various schemes for their benefits. Some of the examples are, the Hunar Haat Scheme of the Ministry of Minority Affairs, the Madarsa Modernization Scheme; and also, the exhortation by the hon. Prime Minister to the students to hold the Quran in one hand and the computer in the other. Therefore, I remain optimistic that in future, the Government will be more amenable towards the upliftment of the minorities who constitute a whopping 25 to 30 crore of the citizens of our great nation.

**SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY:** Hon'ble Finance Minister has ushered in a different perspective in the present budget. In this budget, I have definitely seen the emergence of a National Master Plan under the leadership of the Prime Minister of the country. There is a terminal named KaluGhat in Bihar, which is located on the Ganges River. Today, dragon fruit has started to be grown in large quantity in Bihar, so if dragon fruit has to be supplied to Australia, New Zealand somewhere down the line, where there is a lot of demand for it, then how will it be supplied? It will leave from KaluGhat on the banks of the Ganges and then go to the port of Kolkata and from there the same will be supplied to Australia and New Zealand in refrigerated ships. Earlier it used to be my dream, but the government of the country has made it possible today. Many hon.

members have tried to explain about employment scenario here. Everyone studies the economy at their own level. The budget is of Rs. 39 lakh crore. The GDP is increasing at the rate of 9.2 per cent. With the foreign reserves of US\$634 billion India has become a country having the fourth largest reserve in the world. Export is worth 650 billion. Even after having all these parameters, if an economist says that jobs are not being generated in this budget, then I cannot understand where he has studied economics. It has been said to build 25000 kilometers of the National Highway. But the remarkable thing is that the Government of the country leaves a path for elephants while building the road, this is what has been termed sustainable development by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of the country. Today, the Government has said that eight ropeways will be built. This stands to be an ecologically sensitive subject. It is a very time consuming route of 16 kilometers to reach Kedarnath in Uttarakhand where we will reach there in 60 minutes by that ropeway. Neither mountain will be broken, nor carbon will be emitted, nor will the environment be harmed for that. This is the visionary approach of our Prime Minister. The Prime Minister of the country does not think of 15 years or 25 years, he talks about the coming generations and thousand years. Today an airport is being built in Jewar, Mopa airport is being built. In pursuit of the same, I am demanding another green field project be developed in Bihar. For a population of 12 crores, the Government of the country has agreed that a green field project should be made in Bihar. As soon as the consent of the State Government is obtained for this, the largest airport in South Asia will be built in Bihar. The international airport of Dubai built with 32 billion U.S. dollar is the best example of how investment changes the face of a country with capital investment. Dubai has an international airport made of 32 billion US dollars. It provides 21 percent employment to Dubai and its share in the GDP of that country is 27 percent. The Prime Minister of the country thinks in this direction and this time he has thought something very big. Our colleagues have spoken about the disinvestment of Air India. I do not think that any government in the country could have been strong enough to complete the disinvestment process of Air India after Covid, but our government has completed this work.

**SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY:** I must say that Budget documents are perceived to be the roadmap for the future, but here what I found is that there may be a 'map', but there is no 'road' in these Budget documents. Our leader was repeatedly saying that employment opportunities should be created and all the facilities should be provided to the people of our country. He also said – one India belongs to the haves and the other India belongs to the have-nots. What is the fault in it? Yesterday, one of our colleagues was saying that it was because of socialism the country got ruined. Everybody needs to understand the socialistic concept of Shri Nehruji. Incidents of

suicides among the unemployed persons have been increasing and it has touched a high in the year 2020. Sixty lakh small industries were wiped out, the income of 84 per cent of households got reduced, the per capita income reduced from Rs. 1 lakh 8 thousand to Rs 1 lakh 7 thousand, the per capita expenditure dropped from Rs. 62,000 to Rs. 59,000. Four crore sixty lakh people were pushed below the poverty line. Unemployment rate has crossed eight per cent in cities and six per cent in villages. Inflation rate has crossed 12 per cent. There is nothing in this Budget. It is a cruel joke on the poor people, the working class, middle class, the farmers and all the people living in this country. There is not a single word in the Budget to help the poor and to create employment and control inflation. Petroleum products have become quite expensive today. The relief given to 27 per cent of the poor, ordinary and middle class people in the country has been curtailed, which in itself is a ruthless decision. At the time of taking over the Government, it was said that two crore people will be given jobs. Instead of creating 14 crore jobs in the last seven years, 12 crore 20 lakh jobs have been lost in the last two years alone. What is the roadmap for the five trillion economy? Seven hundred farmers died and it forced the Government to withdraw the three black laws. The National Sample Survey Report of September, 2021 has pointed out that the average income of farmer is mere Rs.27 per day and the average debt per farmer is Rs.74,000. The pathetic situation that we are going through today, we did not have such a situation before. In the Budget, the fertilizer subsidy has been curtailed by 7 to 8 per cent. Please tell me whether the One Rank, One Pension Scheme has been started? During the year 2014, the price of crude oil was \$ 109 per barrel, at that time the price of petrol in India was Rs 68 per liter. Currently, in the year 2022, the price of crude oil in the international market is 78.85 per barrel. The government charges Rs 110 per litre. This means an increase of 62 percent in prices. There is an increase of 67 percent in diesel price, an increase of 117 percent in LPG price. In our time, the price of mustard oil was Rs 90 and today it is Rs 185 per liter. Prices of Toor Dal have increased by 47 per cent, Urad Dal by 34 per cent and Masoor Dal by 47 percent. The common people of India would say - '*Modi ji, Lautu Den Hume Bite Hue Din*'. During the last seven years and 6 months, there have been frauds in the banking industry to the tune of Rs 5 lakh 35 thousand crore. It means that people have disappeared after doing the fraud and taking away Rs. 5 lakh 35 thousand crore of banks. The gross NPAs of public sector banks have increased four times between 2014 and 2021. The loan written off by public sector banks between 2007 and 2014 was Rs 32,109 crore. The Government says that it will run 400 Vande Bharat trains. ICF Chennai has provided only 2 rakes of Vande Bharat from the year 2018 till date. The current target was 124 rakes by 2024. The new target is four times more and is unrealistic. It means 133 trains will have to be manufactured every year.

**\*SHRI Y. DEVENDRAPP:**

**SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA:** Today discussion on this Budget is not only taking place in India but in the entire world. India has become the fastest growing economy in the world during the last seven years. Earlier India was called the country of fishermen, country of snake charmers. Today, progress is being made in every sector of our country. The Finance Minister had mentioned about 6 pillars of the economy in the last budget. Today its effect is being seen inside the country. Our agriculture system is very good. We are providing food to 80 crore people. We are still the fastest growing economy in the world. In my Lok Sabha constituency, approval has been given to make the Ambala railway station world class. Work should be started there.

**SHRI MANOJ TIWARI:** This is the budget of the 'Amrit Kaal' and our Finance Minister has done the work of giving elixir to the people of the country in the true sense of the term. For the first time, an organic farming corridor is being conceived in the country. The Government has envisaged to make crores of people of our country healthy. During the 'Amrit Mahotsava' of independence, work has been done in the field of tourism and culture. An example of this is the grandeur of Kashi and the 'Maa Vindhyachal Dham'. Today, the artists of the country are appreciating their luck due to the Amrit Mahotsava of independence. In my Lok Sabha constituency in Delhi, I have made a lake from the water of the dirty drain, through the AMRUT scheme. I thank the Finance Minister and the Prime Minister very much.

**SHRI RAMCHARAN BOHRA :** The world class model of railways, road and transport in the budget will give impetus to our economic development. PM Gati Shakti, road, railways, airport transport and waterways development through the National Master Plan 2022-23 will give new energy to the pace of our nation's development. During the year 2022-23 PM Gati Shakti Master Plan will expand 25 thousand kms of National Highways and 400 Vande Bharat trains, 100 PM Gati Shakti Multi Modal Cargo Terminal will be developed. My Parliamentary Constituency, Jaipur is a huge center of diamonds and gems. On behalf of all the traders and residents, I would like to thank the hon. Finance Minister. In the field of MSME, 1 crore 30 lakh units will be benefited by getting funds.

**SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR:** After Corona, today many countries of the world are looking for a China Plus One alternative. India will play the most important role in the changing economic scenario. Pradhan Mantri Gati Shakti Yojana has been announced in this budget. The target of making India a 5 trillion economy will be fulfilled. 60 lakh

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\* Please see supplement.

new jobs are going to be generated under the PLI scheme in 14 sectors. Through this budget, the country will rapidly move towards self-reliance in the field of defence. Direct payment of Rs 2.37 lakh crore will be made to 63 crore farmers for the procurement of wheat and paddy. In the field of health, 23 Tele Mental Health Network Centers will be set up. The provision of 25 year interest free loan to the states is a welcome step. No separate provision or allocation has been made regarding caste census in this entire Budget. This is a very important subject pending for many decades. My Purnia Municipal Corporation area should be covered under Smart City. Many projects of our railways have been lying pending. I request the hon. Minister that, train facility like Vande Bharat or Tejas should be made available from Purnia to Delhi and Patna on priority basis.

**SHRI RAJU BISTA:** I would like to urge upon the Hon'ble Minister of Finance to throw ample light on the provisions made in the budget for the information of all the Hon'ble MPs since there was nothing specific in the budget speech made by the member's in opposition. I would like to place on record my deep sense of gratitude to the Hon'ble Prime Minister as well as the Hon'ble Minister of Finance for this visionary budget. Notwithstanding being the entire world in the pathetic grip of Covid pandemic, India has proved through its spectacular initiatives that no element of impedance is potent enough to block the path of progress if it is reinforced with strong will power and fair intentions. As a matter of fact, the power- that -be has been able to change the crisis into an opportunity for all practical purposes. The people of our constituency keep on raising demands for a separate state. The Government has assured to find an abiding political solution to it. I want that the host of schemes piloted by the Government must benefit the people residing in Darjeeling. Alongside, 11 Gorkha castes don't figure in the ST list. The fact of the matter is that they had been included in the list prepared in the year 1931 and 1940 and were delisted subsequently. This has been their long-pending demand. I would like to urge upon the Government of India to resolve all the issues facing our region at the earliest in view of the status attached to it.

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)** *replying said:* I would have actually started off with the Budget in terms of some very distinct features which are therein it but I am very tempted to start from the first speaker of the Opposition. He has said that this is not *Amrit Kaal*, this is *Andh Kaal*. There certainly was an *Andh Kaal* in this country. But that *Andh Kaal* was entirely due to the Congress. In 1991, we had foreign exchange reserves only for two weeks. That was an *Andh Kaal*. There was double-digit inflation during the ten years of UPA. There were everyday headlines about

corruption and there were middlemen everywhere. That was *andhkaal*. We have created a situation where a common man feels that he has received the benefits from the Government which were promised over the decades. Therefore, entering into the next 25 years towards India@100 would be certainly the *amritkaal* that all of us are referring to. Jan Dhan Yojana brought in financial inclusion for all Indians. Today there are 44.58 crore accounts and in those accounts there are Rs. 1.57 lakh crore as deposits. These accounts include 55.6 per cent women's accounts. Again, 44 unicorns have successfully been identified in this country and they have created wealth. During the pandemic, 20 crore women were given Rs. 500 directly in DBT format. Again, Rs. 2,000 were also given to farmers. Under SVANidhi Yojana poor street vendors have been covered. Under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana more than two crore houses have already been completed in this country. Every village in India has been electrified. Piped water connection through Nal Se Jal Scheme has also been reaching people. A total of 13.5 lakh MSME accounts were saved due to the ECLGS. If all this is not going to lead towards India@100 and *Amrit Kaal*, what else could? The Budget has stated quite a few things which are going to be leading towards building of modern India like the PLI scheme, 100 PM Gati Shakti cargo terminals, Four major Multi-Modal Logistics Parks , Capacity Building Commission for building our cities, digital education, digital university, digital banking, digital currency, digital media etc. We are also providing the necessary ecosystem for 5G services, drone technology for the farmers, Khelo India and Fit India for the youth. There are going to be 1.5 lakh post offices which will have all kinds of banking service facilities. Startups have been given a lot of encouragements. But then, one important point which we should not lose sight of is the pandemic. The pandemic in 2020-21 leading to a contraction of 6.6 per cent negative was one of the worst ever that we faced. We lost Rs. 9.57 lakh crore worth of money in this global financial crisis. But in spite of this the CPI inflation is well contained. India had a current account surplus of 0.9 per cent of GDP in 2020-2021. During the financial crisis of 2008-09, the nominal GDP growth was 12.6%, but after the crisis of 2020 - 2021, ours is minus 1.4 percent. During their tenure 2.12 lakh crores was reduced grain, whereas ours was negative till 9.57 lakh crores. But the CPI inflation was 9.1 per cent at that time, and it is 6.2 per cent in our time. The current account balance in their time was minus 2.3 percent and ours was in plus 0.9 percent. At the time of the Global Financial Crisis, foreign exchange reserves were 252 billion dollars. Ours was 579 billion dollars. FDI inflows were 8.3 billion dollars at that time and in our time FDI inflows are 80.1 billion dollars right now. Our GDP growth in the year 2020 was 7.3 per cent. In the year 2021, we will be recording at 9 per cent. Our projected growth for the year 2022 is 9 per cent. And it is 7.1% for the year 2023. We are the fastest growing economy globally. The Reserve Bank of India estimate stated that if you



spend one rupee on revenue expenditure without creating assets, its multiplier will be 45 paise. But, if you spend one rupee on capital expenditure creating assets, the return or the multiplier effect will be Rs.2.45 in the first year, and additionally in the next year and the year after another Rs.3.14 will get added to it. Therefore, we chose to spend on infrastructure building. We are also ensuring that revenue expenditure is rationalised. Revenue deficit as a percentage of GDP has shown visible decline. Now, I would like to respond to the questions that the Members have raised. Several Members have said that the real GDP growth rate mentioned in the Budget Speech and the Economic Survey are different. The difference by itself does not account for too much. The Economic Survey takes it from one source; we take it from another. Roughly, they are about similar ranges. Most Members mentioned that only 60 lakh jobs have been talked about. Let us understand the context. It is because just for PLI, when I said 60 lakh jobs. In general, when we are talking of high growth, it is not going to happen without jobs. Urban unemployment rate declined to pre-pandemic level. In November 2020-21, we saw an addition in the EPFO net subscription. With regard to reduction of allocation to MGNREGA, I would like to say that MGNREGA is a demand-driven programme. So, when the demand comes, we give them money required for keeping the rural employment guarantee scheme effective. There was a concern about the social welfare schemes getting reduced allocations, which is not true. On the contrary, it is increasing. The UPA Government put big numbers in BE but never utilised it. Our actual spending on health, education, SC/ST welfare is very high. The BE 2022-23 allocations for Minority Affairs is 16 per cent increase over the RE of 2021-22. The outlay for education and empowerment of minority girls in 2021-22 was Rs. 1,215 crore whereas it increased to Rs. 1,300 crore. The health budget was Rs. 64,000 crore in 2019-20, Rs. 80,000 crore in 2020-2021. In the budget for the year 2022-23, Rs. 86,606 crore has been allocated for the health sector. The expenditure on COVID related health preparedness package has been increased. A sum of Rs. 5,846 crore has been allocated under PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (ABHIM) to respond effectively to the current and any future pandemic or disaster. The National Child Labour Project is being subsumed under *Samagra Siksha Abhiyan*. We think that mainstreaming of children coming out of child labour will be far more focused through the Education Department. The allocation for education has been over 18 per cent increase. An amount of Rs. 20,000 crore has been given to the subordinate debt for the MSMEs which will help MSMEs which are already in distress. New revised criteria of classification for MSMEs have also brought in greater possibilities for them to improve and expand their business. Emergency Credit Liquidity Guarantee Scheme has also now been extended till March, 2023. There is no reduction in the food subsidy. In 2021-22 Rs. 79,530 crore has been given as fertilizer subsidy. To

limit the damage inflicted by the pandemic, the Government had announced a special economic and comprehensive package of Rs. 29.87 lakh crore through Atma Nirbhar Bharat. Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana saw a package of Rs. 1.70 lakh crore. I want to highlight income inequality. Despite 2021 being the pandemic year, 15 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) measured by NITI Aayog in SDG index have all been included for reducing inequalities. In the last year of UPA Government, 2013-14, there was allocation of Rs. 19 thousand crore in the Budget. Today it is Rs. 1.24 lakh crore. Out of this, Rs. 68,000 crore will be transferred through DBT mode in the Bank accounts of the farmers. About 10,000 Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) are being supported. Allocation of capital outlay on Defence Service has been increased by 13 per cent. Some Members raised a question about BSNL. The revival of BSNL is thanks to Prime Minister Modi. BSNL was formed in 2000. There was an agreement at that time that the annual licence fee will be reimbursed till 2010. However, in 2006, the then UPA Government stopped paying the reimbursement. Suddenly, MTNL had to pay Rs. 11 thousand crore for Broad Band Wireless Access. Overnight, MTNL became a loss-making company. Financial support was not given to BSNL and MTNL. BSNL was trying for expansion but tender processing was postponed. In 2019, Modi ji approved financial support of Rs. 69,000 crore for the BSNL. Then, with the sovereign guarantee, BSNL raised Rs. 8,500 crore, MTNL raised Rs. 6,500 crore next time and all these amounts have been utilized. Then Rs. 24,000 crore were provided for 4G. We are promoting mandatory utilization of BSNL and MTNL capacities by all the departments and Ministries in the Government. The money collected through cesses and surcharges is utilized through various Centrally-sponsored programmes, Central Sector schemes and also through specific programmes which have to be done in the states. 25 million umbrellas are imported into this country every year. We have raised the duty from 10 per cent to 20 per cent so that at least our own people can produce it. Our businessmen should have ease of doing business. So, 25,000 compliances have been removed.

*The discussion was concluded*

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**UTPAL KUMAR SINGH**  
*Secretary General*

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

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

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