

LOK SABHA

SYNOPSIS OF DEBATES (Proceedings other than Questions & Answers)

Wednesday, December 4, 2019 / Agrahayana 13, 1941 (Saka)

SUBMISSION BY MEMBER

Re: Reported Chinese incursion into the territory of India

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH) *responding to the issue raised by an Hon. Member, said:* There is no mutually agreed upon Actual Line of Control on the Indo-China border. There are a number of areas along this border, on which both sides have perceptual differences. Because of the conflicting claims on the actual line of control, sometimes the army of one country intrude upon the territory of the other country. Sometimes, it leads to confrontation between the two nations but in such situations the armies of both countries display exemplary restraint and do not allow the situation to go out of control. There are various type of mechanisms between India and China to deal with such kind of situations. The local commanders of both armies hold personal meetings and flag meetings. Hotline is also used to diffuse the tension. The long term issues are being resolved at diplomatic level. I would like to make it clear that the Government of India is fully aware about the security requirements of the country. We have been

developing infrastructure facilities along the India China border. I would like to assure the House that we need not worry about the border security.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

1. Re: Need to start construction work on Nanjangud-Wayanad-Nilambur rail line.

SHRI RAHUL GANDHI: The Nanjangud-Wayanad-Nilambur rail line has been a long held dream of the people of my constituency. Unfortunately, the project has been in the pipeline for several years now. Given the socio-economic significance of the project, I urge the Government of India to lend all possible support to the Government of Kerala to take up this crucial infrastructure project.

2. Re: Need to make maternity Benefit Scheme more beneficiary friendly.

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: I urge the Government to make the maternity benefit scheme more beneficiary-friendly by adopting best practices in some of already successful maternity benefit schemes like the Tamil Nadu's Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Benefit Scheme brought by the DMK Government.

3. Re: Need to make Gorakhpur a Centre for UPSC examinations.

SHRI RAVI KISHAN: At Gorakhpur the UPSC provides Centre of Civil Services (Preliminary Exam) only. As a result the candidates have to go to either Lucknow or Prayagraj to take the other examinations conducted by the UPSC. Therefore, I urge upon the Hon. Minister to provide the centre of all the UPSC examinations at Gorakhpur.

4. Re: Need to take steps to revive jute industry in West Bengal.

SHRIMATI LOCKET CHATTERJEE: West Bengal is famous for its jute production. The jute mill workers of West Bengal are facing a number of hardships. I urge upon the Government to take necessary steps to revive the jute industry of West Bengal.

5. Re: Need to provide employment to locals by Public Sector undertakings.

SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN: I want to bring to your kind notice that in PSUs particularly under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, no employment is given to local people. The Ministry may ask the ONGC to provide the details of employment given to the local people in my constituency till November, 2019 including the last two years.

6. Re: Establishing two new Indian Reserve Battalion (IRBs) at Davangere in Karnataka.

SHRI G. M. SIDDESHWAR: I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the need to establish two new Indian Reserve Battalions (IRBs) at Davangere in Karnataka.

7. Re: Need to revive the closed cotton mill in Etawah Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh.

DR. RAM SHANKAR KATHERIA: A cotton mill industry which had been set up in my Parliamentary Constituency Etawah with the aid of the Union Government has been closed down for want of economic assistance from the Union Government. I urge upon the Government to revive the closed down cotton mill.

8. Re: Need to take steps to start construction of Pune-Ahmednagar-Jalgaon railway line.

DR. SUJAY VIKHE PATIL: I would like to urge upon the Government to expedite the rail services on Pune-Ahmednagar-Jalgaon railway line.

9. Re: Need to formulate an action plan to weed out 'Vilayati Babul' in the country particularly in Rajasthan.

SHRI RAMCHARAN BOHRA: There is a hazardous vegetation called 'Vilayati Babul' in our country. This plant is turning our fertile land into wasteland. I would urge upon the Government to formulate an effective action plan to restrict and destroy this plant at the earliest possible.

10. Re: Refund of people's money invested in PACL Limited, a Pearl Group company.

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA: PACL Limited of the Pearls Group had received huge sum from nearly 6 crore investors belonging to the

poor, the labourers, farmers and the middle class people under lump sum deposit and EMI Scheme which amounted to Rs. 49100 crore in toto. It was on the 21st August, 2014 that SEBI had banned this company. The hon. Supreme Court has passed orders for the refund of investors money through the auctioning of company's assets. I demand that the Central Government must take action to get the investor's deposit paid back by auctioning movable and immovable property of the PACL.

11. Re: Building multi-speciality Hospital in Siliguri.

SHRI RAJU BISTA: I request the Minister of Health and Family Welfare to build a 1000-bedded multi-speciality hospital on the lines of AIIMS in Siliguri.

12. Re: Eviction of families residing near railway property.

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: The railway authorities issued notice for the eviction of families residing near by the railway property. The eviction without complying with the legal formalities is against the principle of natural justice. I urge upon to stop the further proceedings of eviction.

13. Re: Vaccination for Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) in West Bengal.

DR. SUBHAS SARKAR: Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) disease is the most important livestock disease in the world. In order to control FMD in the country, FMD-CP was taken up by the Government of India. But, in West

Bengal, the second round of vaccination scheduled in March, 2019 was not undertaken. The discontinuity has its impact on the vaccination done in 2018.

14. Re: Pending projects of Godda Parliamentary Constituency, Jharkhand.

DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY: A Military Station, a DRDO Lab, an ordnance factory or any other defence infrastructure project and a defence recruitment centre should be set up at Deoghar. Alongside, a Sainik School should also be set up at Godda, Jharkhand.

15. Re: Need to develop Jaigaon in Alipurduars Parliamentary Constituency, West Bengal as a Smart City.

SHRI JOHN BARLA: I urge upon the Government to develop Jaigaon located in my Parliamentary Constituency Alipurduars , West Bengal into a smart city.

16. Re: Need to undertake repair of New Delhi- Lucknow National Highway-24 and also construct flyovers at various places on this National Highway.

SHRI RAJESH VERMA: I would like to request the hon. Minister of Road Transport and Highways to start work for constructing Maholi railway crossing, Kamalapur flyover, Sigholi flyover, Athria flyover under Sitapur District on New Delhi-Lucknow NH-24. Besides, repair of this NH is also called for.

17. Re: Need to provide salary, allowances and other facilities to wardens of 'Nagrik Suraksha Corps' in Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL: I urge upon the Government to ensure the payment of duty allowance, salary and honorarium to the wardens of 'Nagrik Suraksha Corps' in time and make them available uniform akin to the one admissible to the Home Guards at local level in order to boost their moral.

18. Re: NRC in Assam.

SHRI ABDUL KHALEQUE: I urge the Government that no new exercise should be done in the name of NRC again in Assam. I also urge to issue Gazette notification on the Final list of NRC which was published on 31.08.2019 and make necessary arrangement to include the names of genuine Indian citizens irrespective of caste, creed and religion whose names were dropped from the final list.

19. Re: Waste management solutions for Hyderabad.

SHRI ANUMULA REVANTH REDDY: I want to raise my concern over long term waste management solutions for Hyderabad. It is important that we have clean water to drink and fresh air to breath.

20. Re: Need to boost Indian textile industry.

DR. T. R. PAARIVENDHAR: I would urge upon the Union Ministry of Textiles to establish Mega Apparel Cities in port cities of our country particularly in Tamil Nadu. In this respect the Union Ministry of Finance has to cooperate by reducing the GST tax on synthetic fibers from 18% to 12% which may increase Indian textile sales in the US market.

21. Re: Need to redress grievances of Fair Price shop dealers.

PROF. SOUGATA RAY: The Fair Price Shop Dealers Federation announced a nation-wide agitation to redress their grievances. They demand higher margins, minimum guaranteed income, restoration of Kerosene quota and appointment of erstwhile Kerosene dealers as LPG dealers. The Government must intervene in the matter and take corrective steps to redress the grievances of Fair Price Shop dealers.

22. Re: Withdrawing MEIS benefits for spices.

SHRI LAVU SRIKRISHNA DEVARAYALU: In August the DGFT issued orders to suspend the duty credits upto 7% under the Merchandise Export from India Scheme. The removal of this incentive has come as a rude shock to those dependent on the spice trade for their livelihood. I would like to appeal to the Government to review its decision to withdraw MEIS benefits for spices.

23. Re: Need to provide compensation to farmers who suffered loss of sugarcane due to flood and unseasonal rains in Maharashtra.

SHRI DHAIRYASHEEL SAMBHAJIRAO MANE: I would like to request the Union Government to provide financial assistance to the sugarcane farmers in Maharashtra to compensate for the losses suffered by them due to floods and unseasonal rains.

24. Re: Vacancies in Maulana Azad National Urdu University at Gachibowli, Telangana.

DR. G. RANJITH REDDY: There is a huge number of vacancies in Maulana Azad National Urdu University at Gachibowli, in Ranga Reddy District of Telangana. I request the Minister of HRD to undertake a special recruitment drive and fill in all vacancies within a time-bound manner.

25. Re: Setting up an airport at Rameswaram.

SHRI K. NAVASKANI: I would urge upon the Government to provide an airport under Regional Air Connectivity Scheme also known as UDAN scheme at my Constituency Rameswaram.

26. Re: Need to include 11 communities of Sikkim in the list of Scheduled Tribes.

SHRI INDRA HANG SUBBA: I request the Government to include the 11 communities of Sikkim in the list of Scheduled Tribes under article 342 of the Indian Constitution at the earliest.

27. Re: Producing artificial meat.

SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN: Artificial meat like plant-based meat and cultivated meat has successfully been produced in countries like the USA and Singapore. Artificial meat, in theory, is a great alternative for a country like India with an abundance of protein-based millets and pulses.

28. *Re: Need to develop Sant Ravi Das Van Vihar in Basti Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh.*

SHRI HARISH DWIVEDI: Sant Ravi Das Van Vihar park was established in 1988 at a distance of 1 km. from the district headquarters of my Constituency Basti. For the past several years this park has been facing an existential crisis. I therefore, request the Government to develop and modernise this park.

29. *Re: Need to set up an industrial unit in Nanded Parliamentary Constituency, Maharashtra.*

SHRI PRATAPRAO PATIL CHIKHLIKAR: I would urge upon the Government to establish a big industrial unit in Naded so that the local people could get employment opportunities.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (General) - 2019-20

DR. SHASHI THAROOR *initiating said:* The 2019-20 Budget ushered in by the Finance Minister had proposed an expenditure of Rs. 27,86,349 crore and in the Supplementary Demands for Grants, the minister is now seeking approval for a gross expenditure of Rs. 21,246 crore more which will be 0.7 per cent increase from the approved Budget. It is not unreasonable. During the seven months of this

new Government, the Government has collected a revenue of Rs. 9.3 lakh crore out of the budget estimate of Rs. 20.8 lakh crore for the current fiscal year. So, the figures should have been well above 50 per cent of their projections. Central Government net tax revenue is at 41 per cent, that is, 6.8 lakh crore. The Corporate Tax is at 36 per cent in seven months. So, the number speak for themselves. GDP of the country will only grow if the key contributors to it expand such as investment, manufacturing, consumptions, exports. But here we are at a peculiar situation where all of these are going down. The Government still believes that it can sell the idea of 5 trillion dollar economy. The labour participation rate is the lowest. The unemployment rate has touched a 3 year high in October of 8.45 per cent. In rural areas, it is doubled from 2013-14 fiscal year to 2017-18 fiscal year. There has been an over 50 per cent increase in unemployment in many sectors. National Statistical Office tells us that rural poverty has risen. The overall estimated poverty rate has gone up. With growing unemployment and increasing poverty, surely, the Minister could have thought about in her Supplementary Demands for Grants would have been more allocations for the MGNREGS. In this situation, the Union Budget as well as the Supplementary Demands for Grants have ignored issues of social security and employment. Nothing has been added in the Supplementary Demands for Grants. Our manufacturing sector would need to grow in double digits. Instead it has seen a very subdued rate of growth. The Indian automobile sector is in a disastrous

shape. Two-wheeler sector is plummeting, registering a major dip. At the same time Revenue is not going to come from consumer spending because consumer spending fell for the first time in more than four decades. Every year, for the last forty years our consumers have been spending more. Especially after MNREGA came and rural demand went up, people had more purchasing power in the rural areas. We have seen a decline for the first time in forty years according to the latest Consumption Expenditure Survey by the National Statistical Office. Average amount of money spent by an Indian in a month has fallen by 3.7 per cent. There appears to be a dip in food consumption including on essential food items. This is the first time this has happened in decades. Fisheries is an important issue. There has been a repeated demand from the Members of the coastal areas for additional funding for our coastal areas. Kerala suffered terrible floods in August 2018 and 2019. Funds could have been easily allocated on the Supplementary Demands for Grants but it has not. It is time for the Government to correct course and steer this country in the right direction.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: The budget presented this time is about Rs. 28 lakh crore in which the most important allocation is for defence. The Government has allocated Rs. 4 lakh crore. For consumer affairs, it is about Rs. 2 lakh crore and for agriculture sector the allocation is Rs. 2.38 lakh crore. It has been enhanced up to 83 per cent. Rs. 68,000 crore has been allocated for railways in which there is 23 per cent increase. The Government has allocated Rs. 7

thousand crore for MGNREGA, for which the opposition is time and again saying that the government is not doing proper funding for MGNREGA. These figures are for the people of the country to know that how the government is functioning. There is a special role of paramilitary forces in the entire nation. The Government has taken care of them and made a provision of Rs. 37,000 crore. The whole country feels proud about the success achieved in the field of space. The Government has allocated about Rs. 650 crore for this sector. The Government has formulated so many schemes for Jammu and Kashmir. There are about 63 projects of Jammu and Kashmir for which Government has allocated funds. The tenure of the 15th Finance Commission has been extended. This has been extended keeping in view of the priorities of Jammu and Kashmir. Now Kashmir will be at par with other states rather it would be much better than other States. This is the commitment of the Prime Minister. Construction of roads attracts investment to the area and prices of land appreciate which is beneficial for the farmers and other people. Now, Government offices in Kashmir are opening on time and other laws of the land are also applicable there. In Jammu and Kashmir, 42000 new posts have been created. Other facilities are also available there. Nobody talks about Ladakh at all. Now, a Divisional Commissioner will be posted there. The Government is setting up a university there. Growth rate across the world has come down below 2.9 per cent. The entire world is taking measures to improve the economy. When we are resorting to mid-course correction, they are accusing us.

We reduced the Corporate Tax in order to attract the foreign investors. Had there been Brexit, probably the world economy would have gone down further. The Government has brought about reforms in CSR and income tax. The banks have been directed to return the documents of the loanee within 15 days after repayment of the loan. Seventeen taxes have been merged into the GST. Tax system has been simplified. Our Government brought Bankruptcy Code. NPAs have started being cleaned up. In the year 2014, the FDI in this country was around Rs.25 billion, in 2019 it has reached Rs.44 billion. Aadhaar seeding of approximately 100 crore citizens has been done facilitating direct benefit transfer into their accounts. The Government has taken a decision for priority sector lending. MUDRA scheme is very beneficial for small entrepreneurs. Travel time has been reduced significantly due to construction of roads and bridges in Bihar. Even the remotest villages have been electrified. These are the examples of development. People in villages are quite happy. Our Government has very simple policies and we are quite positive. The Government wants to make the people skilled. With the expansion of civil aviation sector in the country, we need 1000 pilots every year whereas India has the facilities to train only 250-300 pilots. Therefore, I would demand from the Government to set up more and more pilot training centers in the country to train the youth in the country itself.

SHRI DNV SENTHILKUMAR S. : It is good that the Government has started direct benefit transfer to eradicate corruption at ground level. In order to

make the country Open Defecation Free, the Government claims that lakhs of toilets have been constructed throughout the country, but in reality, they have just taken the money and functional toilets have not been constructed because it is not possible to construct a toilet with Rs.12000. There is a need to raise the salary of the MPs and also enhance the funds under the MPLADS. The States like Tamil Nadu should be rewarded. The States' share in Central taxes amounts to more than Rs.30,000 crore. Tamil Nadu's contribution to the Union Tax is large, but the State gets just one-tenth in return. It is heartening to see that the transfer to the States has been increased by large amount. The Government should increase the share of GDP to be spent on education and health. The AIIMS for Madurai was announced in the Union Budget of 2014-15 but there is no progress of work. I hope that the required amount would be released soon for the Madurai Medical College to take off. Morappur-Dharmapuri railway line was promised by the Railway Minister just before the elections. The remaining amount should be released to the Railways so that this work gets done.

PROF. SOUGATA RAY: The Department of Space has been given an extra amount of Rs.666 crore. Rs.3300 crore has been given for the police force. Rs.1000 crore has been sought under the Ujjwala Yojana. On the one hand, the hon. Minister is allocating more funds for the Ujjwala Scheme, on the other the Government has increased the prices of LPG four times in the last four months. The country had had the worst rate of growth in the last 26 quarters with growth

dipping to 4.5 per cent. Unemployment is at all-time high of 8 per cent in the last 45 years. The Government has failed to attract investment under any circumstances. With this huge tax sop of Rs.1,45,000 crore and GST earnings not up to the mark, I am wondering from where the Government would find the money to fund these tax sops to the corporates. The Government has decided to sell 11 PSUs. Airports will be sold, six have already been sold. Air India will be sold, BPCL will be sold, and there is a further list. We strongly oppose all the efforts of the Government to disinvest in Public Sector Undertakings. Tell me of one particular sector of economy that is working well. What is the Government doing to really punish those who sent the ILFS and DHFL to the present condition? The agrarian sector is in the worst crisis. But, in this Supplementary Budget, no extra money has been given for agriculture. I do hope that the Government does come to the House with a package of measures that will take the Indian economy out of the doldrums that it is in.

SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT: Today, unemployment has been rising, the condition of farmers is very bad, traders are in stress and no investor is coming to make investment. MUDRA Yojana was a good scheme for the people seeking self-employment. But, unfortunately, the maximum NPA today which to the tune of more than Rs.10,000 crore is under the MUDRA scheme sector itself. Kisan Samman Yojana is also a very important scheme. Its first instalment was given to 11 crore people while the third instalment was given to only three crore

people, why? The scheme is good, but it has not been implemented properly. I would like to request the Government to not make any cut in any of the scheme related to farmers. An airport in the Sindhudurg district in Maharashtra has not been started since the last two years. There is a need to pay attention to it. In my Constituency, there is Mumbai-Goa road which is an important National Highway. It has been lying closed since the last 6-7 months. Funds are not being released even after the orders. The work on the third phase of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana has not been started yet. Tourism is an important sector. An important scheme by the name of Swadesh Darshan was started to promote tourism under which a district was selected from each of the States, for which at least Rs.100 crore was to be provided. But, this scheme has not been implemented so far. Fund should be provided under this scheme. Crores of youths do not have any employment in the country today. What is the Government going to offer to the unemployed people of the country? Companies are getting closed, automobile sector is on the verge of closure. So, what is the plan of the Government for creation of employment?

SHRI P.V. MIDHUN REDDY: I would like to thank the hon. Finance Minister to waive off GST on tamarind because a lot of poor people and lakhs of tamarind workers in my Constituency and in my State have benefited. The Central Government has brought in an Ordinance where corporates have been given incentives in income tax to the tune of Rs.1,45,000 crore. This is a welcome move

because it will provide a stimulus to the economy especially during this downturn. The bifurcation of the State took place with two promises. One is the special category status and second is fulfilment of the conditions in the A.P. Reorganisation Act. But the special category status has not been given so far and a lot of promises have not been fulfilled. I want to just give the magnitude of financial losses that we are incurring. We inherited almost Rs.97,123 crore debt and in the past five years, the debt has risen to Rs.2,58,000 crore. Only the interest part is Rs.20,000 crore every year. As of now, the Government is purely surviving on debt. We are having a huge revenue deficit. I urge the Government to help our State. Andhra Pradesh has the highest indebted farmers in the country. So, it is time for the Government to help us in constructing the Polavaram project which is a national project and which has to be constructed by the Centre. There is almost Rs.5,000 crore pending for the work done already in the Polavaram project. So, I plead the Government to release this fund immediately. Please help build the Polavaram project fast. I would also like to bring to the notice of the hon. Finance Minister that as part of the A.P. Reorganisation Act, we were promised a package. In our State, seven districts have been identified as backward but a total of the amount of Rs. 1,050 crore has been pending. I urge the Central Government to release this amount very soon. During the bifurcation of the State, it was promised that the revenue deficit will be bridged. Out of the total revenue deficit of Rs. 22,948 crore, only Rs. 3,979 crore has been released. I request the hon. Finance

Minister to release the balance amount. Ours is basically an agrarian State. I urge the Central Government to take up inter-linking of Krishna and Godavari rivers as a national project. This will be the largest employment generator for the State also. I request the hon. Finance Minister to increase allocations for MGNREGA also. I request the hon. Finance Minister to take up pending rail projects at a fast pace.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: The Finance Minister has moved this extra spending of around Rs. 21,246 crore as first supplementary. I would like to mention that India is now deliberating mostly on the Gross Domestic Product and that is a topic which is repeatedly hounding most of the economists and thinkers of this country. But, there has been a gradual global shift towards well-being economics rejecting GDP as the main economic metric in favour of gross national happiness. I believe, we can adopt this as a planning tool. There is little doubt that the Indian economy is in the midst of a slowdown. The Government has attempted to revive demand by ensuring welfare growth but that strategy is reaching the end of its usefulness. Long pending structural reforms will have to be given some impetus. Despite the Government's GST vision to promote One Nation One Tax system, the cesses are still cleaning the pockets of the citizens and the Central Government has failed to explain the non-utilisation of collected cesses. I would like to get some clarifications from the Finance Minister on two aspects as to how the funds that are allocated are to be utilised? Second, whether the funds have any negative implication on the States' economic condition. There is a need to set up a

dedicated expert committee to review all central charges. Perhaps the most disturbing aspect of the current economic slowdown is that the middle class is not growing. The Government needs to address overarching issue of agricultural and resultant rural distress. It needs to reform the market for agriculture. There is a need to ignite rural demand for quicker economic recovery. The key problem of the Indian economy is the inadequacy of labour incomes. The unemployment rate is rising year after year. It will require a genuine effort to increase the fund flow to productive sectors of the economy.

DR. G. RANJITH REDDY: I rise to support the Appropriation Bill. It is a formal procedure for the Finance Minister to come before the House to seek permission of the House to meet certain expenditure. In view of the recapitalisation plan, I want to know from the hon. Finance Minister as to how much the PSUs could collect from the market in addition to the capital which was supposed to be infused. I also want to know from the Finance Minister whether Rs. 1,000 crore will be sufficient for the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana. The growth story of the country is not dead. The immediate concern is the crash in demand and the Finance Minister has definitely given some tax benefits to the corporate sector to push the manufacturing sector. It is learnt that the GST Council is looking to rationalise the tax structure. I would definitely recommend 2-3 slabs. The fiscal deficit is there to cross the FRBM limit of 3 per cent. It is not only my State, but many of the States are requesting to enhance the FRBM limit. I would request the hon. Finance

Minister to look into this issue. I would really request her to support a newly formed State like Telangana by announcing a National status to the Kaleshwaram Project. If not, at least consider it for the upcoming Palamuru rangareddy Project and also support Mission Kakatiya and Mission Bhagiratha which were recommended by the NITI Aayog as well.

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SADANAND SULE: There are a few suggestions and questions I would like to ask you regarding this matter. Firstly, I would like to seek a little indulgence with a clarification from you regarding the IDBI Bank. And what is the policy of this Government in this regard. There is so much money given to J & K. But I feel, Jammu & Kashmir deserve more than anybody else. Again there is this point of promoting industry and internal trade. In that, there is transport freight subsidy that is being given to the North East. But I would like to ask about the reasons for its withdrawal earlier. Even with regard to the CRF, in my own State, Maharashtra, CRF money is not coming. My State is not getting any compensation. If my State is struggling, I can imagine States like in the North East. How those States are struggling? I would like to ask for a clarification that what is the situation of the GST Code on compensation to States? Again with regard to IB code. I am not sure ours is an economy ready for it. I understand that Government is trying to clean up the whole system but we will have to do it piece by piece, get solution, build confidence and clean up. Regarding FDI, it is said that the FDI is only going up but it is evident that it is completely stagnating. A lot can

be said in provisional figures but there is no action and there is no investments. FDIs have not come even to my State which is one of the top-performing developed States in the country. I would like to bring another point to the notice of the Government that poverty has increased in a lot of States. The entire rural economy is in the doldrums. I was actually expecting something more for agriculture but there is nothing substantial. About increasing operational ratio my concern is that whether it means that even railways are going to be privatized? Similarly, there is a discrepancy in the statement given by the hon. Minister and CBDT Chairman regarding tax collections. I would also like to ask that what is the Status and outcome of two Cabinet Committes set up on unemployment and economy. I am sure we are committed to supporting and improving the economy. Even if we are in the opposition, we do not want our country to suffer at the cost of our differences. So, we do support these Grants but we are a little disappointed that the Government did not really do justice for people who really needed the push.

SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHOUHAN: The Government has made a provision of Rs. 21,246 crore for the year 2019-2020. In the year 2014, for the first time this government has made provisions to provide funds directly to the gram panchayats. I would also like to say that for the first time after 70 years of the independence, 14th Finance Commission is formulating budget for five year period in respect of gram panchayats of our country. Similarly, MUDRA Yojana

is also one of the most successful schemes for the people of India. It is a matter of great concern that Ayushman Bharat Yojana has not been implemented in Rajasthan till date. The State Government has not even sent the relevant data to the Union Government. In this scenario it is difficult for the Union Government to provide funds. Through you, I would like to request the Union Government to take cognizance of this matter and instruct the State Government accordingly so that rural people may get the benefits of these schemes directly. Moreover, people have been benefitted from Ujjwala Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana also. As far as GDP is concerned, I am of the opinion that if there is yield of 10 quintals cotton per bigha then I would consider my GDP better and this would be the GDP of all the farmer community. Through you, I would like to request the government that various pending matters should be completed at the earliest. I would urge upon the Union Government to prevent the flow of contaminated water in Rajasthan from Punjab. I would also request the Union Government that an agriculture university and agriculture research center should be set up in Shri Ganganagar.

SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR: In the Budget presented for the year 2019-20, the estimated Government expenditure was Rs. 28.86 lakh crore. Now, through this Supplementary Budget, the Finance Minister has asked for an additional amount of Rs. 21,246.16 crore. The fiscal deficit estimated by the Government at the time of the Budget was only 3.3 per cent. Due to this additional

expenditure, the fiscal deficit is likely to increase to 3.8 per cent. The GDP growth rate fell to 4 per cent, the lowest in more than six years. Looking at the growth rate, it is estimated that the Government can achieve a five trillion dollar economy only after ten more years. The main reason for the economic slowdown is the low investment and unemployment. I come from Tamil Nadu and so far as I know, nothing is invested in Tamil Nadu. Low income, low per-capita consumption, increase in unemployment and slow growth are due to low investment mainly in industrial sector. So, growth is not possible without investment in manufacturing industry. I would like to request the Government to stop selling off the Trichy International Airport. I insist that the profit-making public sector units should not be sold. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to increase the number of mandays under MGNREGA to 200 days and also increase the wages of the workers to Rs. 300. I would also like to request the hon. Finance Minister to increase funds under the MPLADS. Moreover, some monthly assistance should be given to the unemployed youth till they get employment.

SHRI P. K. KUNHALIKUTTY: The Government talks about the prosperity of the nation. But there is no movement in the market. There are no jobs for the youngsters. What kind of prosperity is this? It seems that we are in a very difficult situation. We are going towards a poverty like situation. The prices of essential commodities are going up. I am afraid the country is losing its credibility among the comity of nations. We are even going below the

neighbouring countries like Bangladesh and Pakistan in many areas. The Finance Minister should think about it. Giving concessions to big business houses again and again will not help. In the unorganized sector, the workers are losing their jobs. It is because small and medium scale sectors are in a great difficulty. So, the Government should do something very seriously to address this problem, otherwise this country will break down and economically it will rank below our neighbouring countries.

ADV. A. M. ARIFF: Presently, our GDP growth rate has fallen to 4 per cent. Villages of this country are facing the worst poverty in the last four decades. But the Government is fooling the people by manipulating and by hiding data. If the Government releases the real data, then the people will get to know the real picture of our country. More than half of the working age population is out of labour force in India. The Government promised 2 crore new jobs a year which comes to 8 crore jobs in four years. But it has generated only 18 lakh jobs during this period. Agriculture has become a death game for our poor farmers in our country. The absence of a supporting system from the Government such as subsidies, credits etc, has pushed more than 3 lakh farmers to suicide. There is a cut of Rs. 1000 crore for food and Rs. 413 crore for fertilizer in the current year's Budget. The "Make in India" scheme of the Government has become "Selling India" scheme. MSME is another sector which has been neglected by the Government which has borne the maximum burnt of demonetization and sub-

optimal GST implementation. An example of Modi Government's duplicity is visible in the allocation for the much publicized *Beti Bachao Beti Padhao* Programme. Funds for this Programme have been cut from an already embarrassing Rs. 255.9 crore to just Rs. 100 crore. What is the attitude of the Government towards the SCs and STs? Dalits and Minorities are the social segments that are worst hit by the policies of the Government. At last, like other hon. Members, I have one request that the MPLAD fund may be hiked by at least Rs. 2 crore in an Assembly Constituency.

KUNWAR DANISH ALI: The economic scenario in the country is very volatile. The suicides committed by 31 farmers in an agrarian country show the quantum of development which is taking place in the country. The GDP has fallen to 4.5 per cent. The condition of the banking sector and the quantum of non-performing assets altogether reflect the economic condition of the country. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana is a flagship programme of the Government which has not been of much benefit to the farmers but the companies of insurance sector are making huge money out of it. On the one hand, the Government talks about the Make in India and on the other hand it is selling off the profit making companies like BPCL. The airports are being privatized. The demonetization which the Government has been claiming to be its revolutionary move has led the entire economy of the country to the cusp of collapse. Moreover, the students from the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Minority Communities have not been

given scholarship this year in Uttar Pradesh. At the same time, the farmers need to be given fair prices for their crops.

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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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