

LOK SABHA

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

Friday, June 28, 2019 / Ashadha 7, 1941 (Saka)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training (BPST) of the Lok Sabha Secretariat is organising an Orientation Programme in the Main Committee Room, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi for the newly elected hon. Members of the 17th Lok Sabha from July 3 to July 4 and from July 9 to July 10, 2019. This Orientation Programme will be inaugurated in the Main Committee Room on the 3rd of July, 2019 at 6:15 p.m. The detailed information of this programme has been published in the Bulletin Part-II.

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

STATUTORY RESOLUTION

(i) *Re: Approval of Proclamation by the President in respect of State of Jammu and Kashmir*

(ii) *Re: Disapproval of the Jammu and Kashmir Reservation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2019 (No. 8 of 2019)*

And

THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR RESERVATION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2019

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN moved that this House disapproves of the Jammu and Kashmir Reservation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2019 (No.8 of 2019) promulgated by the President on 1 March, 2019.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AMIT SHAH) *moving the motion for consideration of the Bill, said:* Two motions have come up before this august House. One pertains to the extension of the President's Rule in the State of Jammu and Kashmir for a further period of six months and the other provides for the addition of certain areas in the provision of reservation under Section 5 and 9 of the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir through amendment. The President's Rule in Jammu and Kashmir was approved in this very House on December 28, 2018. The period of six months is going to be over on the 2nd of July, 2019. It has

been decided by the Election Commission that election shall be held there at the end of the year. So, it has become essential to extend the period of President's Rule in J&K. My only submission is that it has been for the first time over the last one year that a policy of zero tolerance against terrorism has been adopted. It is only within a year that elections to the Panchayats have been conducted. Not just that, a sum of Rs.3700 crore is going to be transferred into the accounts of Gram Panchayats of Jammu and Kashmir. The vote percentage has increased in both Panchayat and Lok Sabha elections and there has been no incidence of violence. This shows that law and order is very much within the control of the Government. As far as development is concerned, the BJP Government has taken a slew of initiatives. This has led to a feel of satisfaction among the people at large in J&K as well as in the Ladakh region. Years' long pending issues have been settled. Earlier, there would be no bunkers and there used to be loss of lives and cattle as well. Now, compensation of Rs.50 thousand is paid in the event of death of a buffalo. A decision has been taken to build 15 thousand bunkers of which 44 hundred bunkers have already been built. I wish to make it amply clear that the restoration of democracy in the State of Jammu and Kashmir happens to be the top priority of the BJP. My second motion is to extend 3 per cent reservation available to the residents dwelling along the Line of Actual Control under the Jammu and Kashmir Reservation Act, 2004 also to those people residing adjoining the

international border whether it be LoC or LAC or international border, the villages located along the borders are faced with the same kind of hardships. This will benefit three and a half lakh people belonging to Kathua, Samba and Jammu district. I urge upon the House through you to approve this motion.

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN *initiating said:* I strongly oppose the Statutory Resolution moved by the hon. Minister of Home Affairs seeking the extension of President's Rule in the State of Jammu & Kashmir for a further period of six months. Also, I would like to support the contents of the Bill moved by the hon. Minister of Home Affairs. We always say that Kashmir is an integral part of our country but most of the times we are only concerned about the geographical integrity. We should try to win the confidence of the people of Jammu & Kashmir. Regarding the Jammu & Kashmir Reservation (Amendment) Bill, 2019, I have already said that I fully agree with it but I am opposing the Ordinance route of legislation. The Presidential Proclamation under Article 356 was made on 19th December, 2018 on the ground that the State Government of Jammu & Kashmir cannot carry on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of India and the Constitution of Jammu & Kashmir as applicable to the State. It was an unfortunate and arbitrary decision of the Governor to dissolve the Assembly. Instead of providing a chance to form a Government and to prove majority on the floor of the House, the Assembly was dissolved unilaterally. Why is there a delay

in holding Assembly elections in the State of Jammu & Kashmir? If you can have the Parliament election in a smooth and peaceful way, what obstructs the Election Commission in holding the Assembly elections in the State of Jammu & Kashmir? Please do not play politics out of the Jammu & Kashmir issue.

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Jammu and Kashmir is a very sensitive issue. When there was a partition of India, Islamic Pakistan and a secular Bharat were carved out of it. The people of Jammu and Kashmir chose to remain in India harbouring secular thoughts in within. If the situation went awry in Jammu and Kashmir, it is directly attributed to Pakistan. When we were voted out of power in the year 2014 and the NDA Government led by the BJP formed the Government in alliance with the PDP in the year 2015, the J&K has been in shambles until 2018 since. Terror attacks witnessed a rise. You may, of course, deal with the terrorism in a stringent manner. However, at the same time, it must be borne in mind that war on terror can only be won when there is public support. It is not in the interest of the country not to have an elected Government in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. The challenges being thrown by the neighbouring country in the West are not going to be over soon. Do stay affiliated to the masses of Jammu and Kashmir and just do not alienate them. As far as the Bill seeking to provide reservation is concerned, I have no reservations about the spirit of that Bill. It would have been better had the Bill been passed by an elected Government there.

SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN: I found it concerting that history has been referred to by the Opposition. Having said that, the issue is when we got independence in the year 1947 and Kashmir, Ladakh and Jammu had since been integral part of India, what prompted the erstwhile Prime Minister to approach the UNO and request them to resolve the issue of Jammu and Kashmir. Why was one required to obtain permit to enter Kashmir? There used to be two Heads and two Constitutions in the country. Why was it that Shyama Prasad Mukherjee had to wage a fight against it and had to make sacrifices? For what reasons had the Kashmiri Pandits been forced to vacate Jammu and Kashmir? Why would you not allow the hoisting of tri-colour at Lal Chowk? It is only because of your politics of appeasement that the Kashmiri youths fail to join the mainstream of the country despite willing to do so. We are equipping the Kashmiri youths with books, tools and skills. I wish to know why is it that you were inducing them to get themselves involved in stone-pelting. The Prime Minister released a package of Rs.80 thousand crore to the J&K in the year 2015. When our erstwhile Minister of Home Affairs Shri Rajnath Singh visited there, he launched a very good initiative viz. 'Vatan Ko Jano' (Know Your Nation). Two days back, when the present Minister of Home Affairs Shri Amit Bhai Shah visited Srinagar, there has been a development like never before. There was no warning, no protest and no invocation of curfew anywhere either. In the year 2017, I happened to visit

Srinagar as a National President of the BJP Yuva Morcha and had to attend so many programmes across J&K, did call on so many local youths and developed a kind of association with them. A historic programme of Yuva Morcha was organized at Sher-e-Kashmir Stadium. The youths from across Kashmir and Srinagar attended the programme. This is innate nature of the NDA and will continue to be so. This is the pattern of our working. Today, it is said that one should rise above politics. This is the Bill which seeks to bring all the youths in the mainstream of development without any political motive. Everyone in Jammu and Kashmir wants democracy. The Election Commission of India is of the view that election cannot be conducted there in the present scenario. The people of the country have given a clear message that Kashmir has been an indispensable part of the country and will continue to remain so even in the seeds of time.

SHRIMATI PRATIMA MONDAL: I rise to speak on the Jammu and Kashmir Reservation (Amendment) Bill, 2019, and the continuance of the Proclamation dated 19th December, 2018 in respect of the State of Jammu and Kashmir, issued under Article 356 of the Constitution by the President for a further period of six months w.e.f. 03.07.2019. I would like to ask the Minister through you about the reasons that are causing a delay in holding elections in the State. Also, what are the necessary steps that we intend to take to overcome those reasons and give Kashmiris the chance to elect their own representatives? We support the

Government's efforts to carry on President's Rule for another six months on the ground that steps will be taken to hold elections there as soon as possible, and not discuss this same issue in the next Session again. I have expressed my sincere views and want to convey that Kashmir was, is and will always be a very integral part of India. I would sincerely like to acknowledge the steps taken by the Government to enact the Jammu and Kashmir Reservation(Amendment) Bill, 2019 to provide a huge relief to people living along the adjoining areas of international borders. Due to continuous cross-border tensions, persons living on borders, suffer from huge backwardness, so it was very necessary to give them relief. Here, I would like to point out that a regulating body is to be constituted that will look into the matter of any form of redressal of the grievances. I would like to conclude by saying that not only in Kashmir but all through India, we have to protect the vulnerable group, and most importantly listen to the masses.

SHRI HASNAIN MASOODI: I would like to say that Jammu and Kashmir was an independent estate on 15th August 1947 and it was neither the part of India nor that of Pakistan. When our king annexed it to India, a promise was made that a special status would be accorded to Jammu and Kashmir. It was given willingly by the rest of the country to Jammu and Kashmir. Effort was made to demolish the special status accorded to us, which is also known as autonomy or residual sovereignty. Whatever powers or authority or autonomy was given to us

was trespassed or overstepped. The second effort was made to deprive Jammu and Kashmir of its democratic rights. I would also like to know the reasons for not conducting assembly elections so that the people of the State may elect their own Government and the elected Government may take over the entire affairs of the State. The elections to State Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir can be conducted along with the recently concluded Lok Sabha elections. I would like to urge that the Assembly elections should be conducted at the earliest thereby paving the way for the formation of a responsible and accountable Government. The Governor rule can never be said to be the rule of the representative, however it might be the best of itself. There is a gulf between the Government and the people which renders it imperative that an elected Government should come to power, lest the gap should be widened. Regarding the Jammu and Kashmir Reservation (Amendment) Bill, I would like to say that, in principle, we support reservation for every disadvantaged segment of society. We have three per cent reservation in employment, promotion and professional education for people living in areas adjoining the Line of Actual Control. Now, this three per cent is to be shared by one million people instead of five lakh people. So, it would have been better to leave this whole matter to the State Legislature. Obviously, it would have gone for a study and taken a decision. In principle, we are against reservation for people

living in areas adjoining international borders. But I think the way it has been done, calls for a second look.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

Our colleagues from Opposition and we all are concerned for Jammu and Kashmir. There is no doubt about it that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India. If at all there is an issue, it is only that of how to retrieve that part of Jammu and Kashmir which continues to remain under illegal occupation of Pakistan. The Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir also says that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India. Today, we have discussed whether President's Rule should be extended or not. Right now, an hon. Member was commenting as if BJP and Government do not want to hold elections in Jammu and Kashmir. This is the serious allegation. The party which ruled the country and this State for about 50-60 years, used to misuse the Election Commission and other Constitutional institutions for its benefit but our Party does not do so. This is Election Commission's decision not to conduct

elections at this time. Some political parties had boycotted the panchayat and local body elections in the valley and Jammu and Kashmir. After that, at the time of Lok Sabha elections, they felt that if there was only 8-10 per cent voting then they would win the elections. They owe an explanation to the people of Kashmir as to what their stand is on 35A. The party which is leveling allegations on us must reply to so many contradictions. Historians have recorded as to who is responsible for the problem of Jammu and Kashmir. Now they are also levelling allegations on us that we have destroyed democracy. I ask the Congress as to what they did with the democracy in Jammu and Kashmir? National Conference also has been opportunist when it comes to Jammu and Kashmir. Year 1987 was a turning point in the history of Jammu and Kashmir when militancy started there. Our coalition with PDP was dictated by the mandate of the people of Jammu and Kashmir but when we felt that the experiment was not successful to our expectations, we walked out. We had to bring this reservation because the political party in the State manipulated the Constitution of India to their convenience. When it suits you, you have a special status and when it does not, you do not claim the special status. You provided reservation to a part of population in the bordering area and deprived the people beyond that point. We have only corrected your mistakes. They ask us as to why we do not have dialogue. Those who cannot call a terrorist a terrorist, do not think for a minute before pointing finger at the Army. Only 3-4

faces float in your mind because you consider them stakeholders. Kashmir valley is only one-third of Jammu and Kashmir. What about Jammu or Ladakh? Kashmiri Pandits were forced to migrate overnight. What happened to the refugees of PoK and Western Pakistan? Today, I can say with conviction that militancy is on its way out. Morale of Army has got a boost after Balakot airstrike. There is a vested interest in Kashmir in the continuation of militancy. They are some so called mainstream political parties and intellectuals. But the only silver lining there is the youths of Kashmir who have moved on. As far as our party BJP is concerned, nobody can question our intentions. Two AIIMS and five medical colleges have been set up there after Governor's rule. A number of bridges and roads have been constructed. The present Bill providing 3 per cent reservation is also a proof of that. In the end, I will say that a terrorist is a terrorist and please do not use the bogie of terrorism to gain political mileage against us.

SHRI KANUMURU RAGHURAMA KRISHNARAJU: I rise to support the statutory resolution about the extension of the Ordinance for six more months under Article 356 in relation to Jammu and Kashmir. Some of my colleagues from other parties have commented on why Assembly elections were not held along with Lok Sabha elections. To hold a peaceful election later, the Government has taken this decision of conducting the Assembly elections separately. I believe that Election Commission is totally committed and with the support of the Central

Government State elections also will be held. We fully support the Bill for extending reservation to people living along the International Border. A colleague has stated that even though the reservation is extended to more people, the three per cent may not be sufficient and the opportunities will go up if more institutions are set up and more jobs are created by the Central Government and private entities. With this, my party and I wholeheartedly support the Government Resolution and the Bill.

SHRI RAHUL RAMESH SHEWALE: This Bill will be successful in connecting the people of Jammu and Kashmir with the mainstream. Our party has always demanded that Kashmir should be brought into mainstream after abolishing Article 370. Kashmiri Pandits have migrated to several parts of the country about whom nobody cares. It is about time that we enforced the Constitution in Jammu and Kashmir for all purposes. First Home Minister of Independent India Sardar Patel also did not favour Article 370. Hope the problem of Jammu and Kashmir will be solved soon. In fact, the Congress Governments also did not want to solve this problem and cut off this State from the mainstream of the country by according special status to the State. Terrorism in Kashmir is destroying everything. Everyday *bandhs* have destroyed the trades. With this Amendment, the NDA Government is trying to provide reservation in Jammu and Kashmir to all the citizens uniformly. The Bill proposes to provide free education and

government jobs to all living within the radius of 10 kilometers from the Line of Control. Our party had allied with the BJP on the promise of enacting a stringent law to deal with traitors. So, the Government should bring a Bill on these issues very soon.

SHRI KAUSHLENDRA KUMAR: I rise here to speak in support of the Government. Jammu and Kashmir has been always a bone of contention since independence. Today, also the law and order situation is not favourable for holding elections there, hence, to extend the period of President's Rule is essential. I would like to speak in support of the J&K Reservation (Amendment) Bill. This will be beneficial for the people living along the areas adjoining international borders besides the people residing in the areas adjoining line of control.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: I have certain questions or some queries. The first one is to continue our policy of zero tolerance against terrorism and extremism and empower security forces in combating terrorism. The second line is more important: committed to the abrogation of article 370 and annulment of article 35A. I support certain aspects of it but do not support certain other aspects of it. I would also like to mention here that two persons were sent to Jammu and Kashmir to find out whether to hold the Assembly elections or not. It was only after their report was provided to the Election Commission that it was decided that we would not be holding the Assembly elections. I fully agree that

there is no cause to worry because this Government is showing zero tolerance towards terror after the elections. We have fenced our borders but still a large number of people come inside. That is a point which needs to be taken care of. The State of Jammu & Kashmir has a Constitution. This reservation of three per cent emanates from that Constitutional provision. By virtue of the Indian Constitution, this amendment is going to give effect to it. Once a popular Government comes into being in Jammu and Kashmir, will this amendment need to be ratified by the Jammu & Kashmir Assembly? This point I feel is a grey area which needs to be clarified. The second clarification I would seek is regarding the talk of delimitation of the Assembly constituencies of Jammu & Kashmir. Are the Government is in a position to clarify this today or whether it is under consideration? I believe that needs to be corrected.

KUNWAR DANISH ALI: Jammu & Kashmir is a sensitive issue. We all are responsible for the situation of Jammu & Kashmir which is there today. Vajpayee ji had said about Insaniyat and Kashmiriyat. We have deviated from that and the people of J&K need human touch. The every inch of Jammu & Kashmir is our integral part. We will have to see the issue on humanitarian ground. Election Commission has peacefully conducted Lok Sabha election then why it was not possible to conduct Assembly elections there? We are always against imposing Article 356 and President Rule. We still ask the Government to conduct

elections there as immediately as possible. As far as the Amendment in Reservation is concerned, we support this for whom this reservation policy is being brought. We hope that the Government will make a way for an elected Government in Jammu and Kashmir.

SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO: Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India. Panchayat elections have been successfully completed there. When stone pelting was taking place there, the leaders of all political parties visited there. During the meeting with the people, they told that there is neither employment for youth, nor industrial development. Earlier their means of livelihood was tourism. Nowadays tourism is also not there. I fully support the reservation bill which has been brought here today.

SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU: I would like to request the Government that the priority should not be to save time but to save Kashmir, the people and the democracy in Kashmir. The reservation Bill, which is being brought for youth today, whether it will be only for the people of Jammu and Kashmir or would it be extended to other States also where the situation is quite similar? The second thing I would like to mention here is that the Government is trying to extend the period of President's Rule, whether the Government will ensure that within the coming six month they will hold elections in the State.

SHRI MOHAMMED FAIZAL P.P.: As regards Jammu and Kashmir Reservation Bill, on behalf of my Party, I rise to support this Bill. I would like to reiterate that though the reservation is coming for the benefit of the people of Jammu and Kashmir those living along the international borders, we should also concentrate on bringing a lot many welfare schemes so that those people who are really de-motivated can be brought into the mainstream. The extension of the President Rule will definitely not support the people's aspirations. A peoples' Government, a stable Government and an elected Government should be there.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Sir, I stand to oppose the President's Rule because it is a violation of article 370. I want to know from the Home Minister as to what is the definition of peace in his thinking. Do we want peace of a graveyard or do we want peace of mind? Kashmir is a part of our country and it will definitely be but how do you bring peace of mind? I want to know from the hon. Home Minister whether he will accept the talks offer given by Mirwaiz Farooq. What is this theory about delimitation? I respectfully submit that there are 15 lakhs more people living in the valley. The Government tell us how many Kashmiri Pandits have you taken back in Kashmir in the last five years? It is because this has been an election issue. You use article 370 to create an atmosphere of fear. Please bring peace of mind and not peace of a graveyard.

SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI: The main reason behind the peaceful situation prevailing in Jammu & Kashmir presently is because of connecting 2.5 crore households with electricity. Panchayat and local body elections were not being held there till date. The Government has now held elections there. The funds are being directly transferred in the people's accounts through DBT. The Government is going to fulfil the agenda of the country which has so far remained incomplete. The issue of Jammu & Kashmir is always raised but no one talks about Ladakh, whereas geographically Ladakh is the largest. Most of the population lives in Jammu, in spite of that people always raise only the issue of Kashmir valley. Through *Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas and Sabka Vishwas*, the Government is making all out efforts to win the hearts of the Kashmiri people.

SHRI JASBIR SINGH (DIMPA) GILL: Though I support the contents of the Bill, I oppose the Ordinance route. The issue of Kashmir is being exploited for votes every now and then and their sincerity to solve this Kashmir puzzle is always under scanner. The real challenge this time is to address the core issues and win the hearts and minds of the people of Kashmir. The Central Government moves are politically motivated. Government should have taken the initiative to hold Assembly elections along with the Lok Sabha elections. The Government should extend the proposed reservation to Punjab and other States also which have International border.

SHRI AMIT SHAH *replying said:* Many hon. Members have expressed concern about the security of Jammu and Kashmir, security of our borders and terrorism. I would like to assure all the Members and the people of the country that the Government has a zero tolerance policy against terrorism. Our ideology itself is inherent in the interest of Mother India. This zero tolerance policy is not just limited to the speeches. Our Government has taken a number of steps for its execution in reality. Earlier, there used to be a shortage of companies of CRPF. We not only increased the number of companies but also gave top priority to Jammu and Kashmir in allocation of those companies . There were some special demands of CRPF which have been fully met by spending Rs. 2307 crore on high security equipment, CCTV cameras, highly advanced guns, radar, commando training centre etc. To address the problem of coordination between various security agencies a multi-disciplinary terror monitoring group - TMG has been constituted whose Members meet every week to face the challenge of terrorism successfully in a coordinated manner. When President's Rule was imposed in Jammu and Kashmir then it was said that democracy has been crushed. But we had imposed the President's Rule on the basis of special circumstances. Section 356 has been used 132 times in the country so far out of which Congress party has used it 93 times. They had used it for political goals. We had never used Section 356 for political motives and now they are telling us that democracy should be

saved. Why Jamat-e-Islami was never banned till now. We banned it and neutralized its cadre. We also banned JKLF. After independence, only under the previous Government's tenure the maximum number of people supporting terrorists were put into jail under preventive arrest. Anti-India people were provided security. What was the rationale behind providing security to the people against India at Government's cost? Earlier, it was never reviewed. We reviewed about 2000 people who had been provided personal security and 919 people out of them were found to be having no security threat and our Government removed their security. Anti-India propaganda was broadcast through Pakistani channels. These channels, which used to sway Kashmiri youth, were never banned. Our Government, blocked all anti-India channels of Pakistan. The terrorism in Kashmir is Pakistan sponsored terrorism. The BJP attacked at the root of terrorism by entering their territory. Not a single civilian death occurred in our both surgical strikes and air strike. We did not attack any country but this was our right of self defence. We did not support partition at that time and do not support it even today. Even today, we say that the country should not be divided on the basis of religion. This has been an historic mistake but we didn't do this mistake. Who is responsible that one-third part of Kashmir is not with us? Pacts were signed with 630 *Riyasats* but 370 is not to be seen anywhere. Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru had negotiated at only one place and there is 370 even today. I agree to this partially

that a rift has been created between the people of Jammu and Kashmir and the people of India. But, why the confidence could not be created - because no efforts had been made at all to build the confidence. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee was jailed in Kashmir where he died under suspicious circumstances. But no enquiry was conducted into his death. The three elections conducted in Jammu and Kashmir in 1957, 1962 and 1967 were a joke in the name of democracy. The seed of suspicion was sown in the minds of the people of Jammu and Kashmir right from there which has become a huge tree now. Even now, I would like to say that whenever the Election Commission will decide, we will hold elections in a democratic, independent and unbiased manner. Union Government will not intervene in elections. Earlier, Congress party used to run the Election Commission but we don't. In our time, the decisions of the Election Commission are taken by the Election Commission itself. There was a time, when no symbol of India could be found in the entire Kashmir valley. Shri Murli Manohar Joshi and Shri Narendra Modi, risking their lives, had led a *yatra* to Lal Chowk to unfurl the tricolor. These people are telling us that the people are scared over there. But, I believe that those people should really feel scared who oppose India from their hearts. We do not belong to *tukde tukde gang*. Those who want to break India, must feel scared. I do not say that the common people of Jammu and Kashmir should feel scared. Our Government has arranged tours for the Kashmiri youths to visit the entire nation,

the children have been given jobs, courts have been established, schools have been made functional, necessary arrangements have been made for mid-day meal and widowed sisters of Jammu and Kashmir are receiving their pensions regularly. Old man in Kashmir are also getting their old age pensions. Gas cylinders have been supplied there and toilets have also been constructed there. We do not want to create any situation of fear there. We believe that people of Jammu and Kashmir are our own people and they are our brothers and sisters. Today, forty thousand *panchs* and *sarpanchs* are engaged in development of their villages using their rights. Confidence building measures are taken this way. We have seen several elections there in history along with a lot of bloodshed. Recently, Parliamentary elections were held there without any bloodshed. Hon. Prime Minister had announced on 7th November 2015 a special package of Rs. 80,000 crore for the State of Jammu and Kashmir. This package covers Ladakh, Jammu and Valley. The package includes 63 mega projects of development, 16 major roads, 8 power projects, 2 AIIMS, 2 IIMs and 1 IIT. The Narendra Modi Government has created a new work culture wherein we carry out the earth breaking ceremony and we also hold the inauguration ceremony for the same project. The Government of the BJP has provided the assistance of Rs. 5.5 lakh to each family who migrated to Jammu and Kashmir from Pak Occupied Kashmir and Chamb. This was not done in last 70 years. Our Government has also started to provide an assistance of Rs. 5.5 lakh

to the refugees who came from Western Pakistan. Employment is a big issue. Our Government has done a lot of work for creation of jobs. Five new IR battalions and two new women battalions have been created and necessary arrangements have been made to provide 60 per cent reservation in recruitment to the people in the bordering districts by the Government. After the promulgation of the Ordinance, the people residing in areas adjoining the international border will also be benefited under reservation. As many as 41 thousand new posts have been created in the State Government. An hon. Member raised a query as to whether this Ordinance will be required to be approved by the State Legislature. There will be no requirement as such as the Constitution of the Jammu and Kashmir State has already authorized both the Houses of Parliament for such a legislation. However, if a new elected Government comes there, then it can certainly review it. The Government has handed over houses to 1 lakh 42 thousand people in Jammu and Kashmir. As far as democracy is concerned, please don't show too much concern for the democracy of 87 people only. Whenever election commission will direct us, we shall hold elections there. Our Government has involved 40 thousand people in the democratic process of *panchayat* elections. As far as *Kashmiriyat* is concerned, *Kashmiriyat* does not mean shedding blood, nor does it mean opposition of India but *Kashmiriyat* means integrating with India. We are committed to protect the distinct culture of Kashmir. One hon. Member made a

mention of Article 370 of the Constitution. The Article 370 is a temporary provision in our Constitution. An hon. Member also asked as to why the state assembly elections were not conducted simultaneously along with the Parliamentary elections. I would like to tell that there are only six Parliamentary seats in Jammu and Kashmir and there are only six candidates. When assembly elections are held, they are held in a number of constituencies and there are a number of candidates also. It was not possible to provide security to all the candidates along with the Parliamentary elections. But, you should not feel concerned about it because it is the priority of our Government to restore democracy there. But, we can do so only when Election Commission directs us. I, through you, would like to appeal the entire House to support this rising above party politics and ideologies.

(i) The Resolution was adopted.

(ii) The Resolution was negatived.

The Bill was passed.

**

**

**

**

SNEHLATA SHRIVASTAVA
Secretary General

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

© 2019 BY LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

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

English and Hindi versions of Synopses of Lok Sabha Debates are also available at <http://loksabha.nic.in>.