

**LOK SABHA**

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

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**Tuesday, February 8, 2022 / Magha 19, 1943 (Saka)**

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**FELICITATION BY THE SPEAKER**

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Members, I am immensely pleased to inform you that our Under-19 Indian cricket team has achieved an unprecedented feat by winning the ICC Under-19 Cricket World Cup for the record fifth time on 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2022 in the West Indies.

Our young cricketers have secured this extraordinary victory through their extraordinary talent, skills, determination, hard work and unflinching dedication to the game by surmounting the challenges of the Covid pandemic. This victory will certainly inspire other sportspersons and millions of Indian youth.

I, on the behalf of the entire House and on my behalf congratulate the Under-19 Indian cricket team, their coach and other staff. We wish this young team a bright future. We also believe that this team will continue to win laurels to our country even in times to come.

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**\*MATTERS UNDER RULE 377**

- (1) **SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SONI** laid a statement regarding implementation of Har Ghar Nal Scheme in Chhattisgarh.

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

- (2) **SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA** laid a statement regarding development of Ambala in Haryana.
- (3) **SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO** laid a statement regarding restoring services of Trains.
- (4) **SHRI GANESH SINGH** laid a statement regarding need to remove the condition of BPL category for granting pension to old age people and widows.
- (5) **SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV** laid a statement regarding restoration of water channels feeding agriculture lands in Pataliputra Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar.
- (6) **SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI** laid a statement regarding need to set up a Medical College & Hospital in Sheohar district, Bihar.
- (7) **SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BAHERIA** laid a statement regarding smooth and unhindered implementation of development works in villages by Panchayati Raj Institutions.
- (8) **SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH** laid a statement regarding need to expand the warehousing facilities for storage of paddy and wheat in Aurangabad Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar.
- (9) **SHRI CHUNNILAL SAHU** laid a statement regarding alleged irregularities in disbursement of ration under PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana in Chhattisgarh.
- (10) **SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA** laid a statement regarding progress of railway projects in Amreli Parliamentary Constituency, Gujarat.
- (11) **SHRI SUDHAKAR TUKARAM SHRANGARE** laid a statement regarding need to start operation of Coach factory in Latur, Maharashtra.
- (12) **DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT** laid a statement regarding setting up of a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Nandurbar District.
- (13) **SHRI SURESH KASHYAP** laid a statement regarding construction of National Highways in Himachal Pradesh.
- (14) **SHRI DEVAJI PATEL** laid a statement regarding need to provide better railway connectivity to Jalore Parliamentary Constituency, Rajasthan.

- (15) **SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN** laid a statement regarding reopening of Mills operating under NTC.
- (16) **KUMARI RAMYA HARIDAS** laid a statement regarding drop out in higher education.
- (17) **SHRI SRIDHAR KOTAGIRI** laid a statement regarding age and attempt relaxation for UPSC aspirants.
- (18) **PROF. SOUGATA RAY** laid a statement regarding privatization of LIC.
- (19) **SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE** laid a statement regarding approval to the proposal for rejuvenation of Pabna and Ulhas rivers in Maharashtra.
- (20) **DR. ALOK KUMAR SUMAN** laid a statement regarding development of passenger facilities at Thawe railway junction in Gopalganj district, Bihar.
- (21) **SHRI RAMSHIROMANI VERMA** laid a statement regarding construction of bridges on River Rapti in Uttar Pradesh.
- (22) **SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN** laid a statement regarding lack of immigration and Plant quarantine facilities at Kollam Port.
- (23) **SHRI HANUMAN BENIWAL** laid a statement regarding alleged flouting of environment norms by a company engaged in production of iron and steel products.
- (24) **SHRI VISHNU DATT SHARMA** laid a statement regarding need to waive import duty on medicines for rare genetic diseases.
- (25) **SHRI S. VENKATESAN** laid a statement regarding toilet facilities for women bankers.

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**THE UNION BUDGET – 2022-2023 – GENERAL DISCUSSION – Contd.**

**SHRI DHAIRYASHEEL SAMBHAJIRAO MANE :** We are going through a very difficult situation where the economy of the whole world has been affected due to the Corona pandemic. To overcome this difficult situation, this country definitely needed a good Budget. The 'PM Gati Shakti' Infrastructure Master Plan will surely provide huge contribution in steering the country's infrastructure forward. It is very important to have

the support of everyone in the work that the government is undertaking to emerge from the Corona crisis. But there are also some loopholes in this Budget. Two crore new jobs were going to be created in the country, but the situation of unemployment in this country now is such that three crore people have become unemployed. Farmers have always been demanding fixation of MSP, but it has not been mentioned anywhere in the Budget. Provision should be made in the Budget for providing MSP to the farmers. There is a huge discontent among the farmers of Maharashtra or other states over the rising prices of fertilizers. There is no initiative in this Budget for the youth who want to get into the agriculture sector. Taxpayers have done a very good job in improving the economy of this country, but they did not get anything in this Budget. They should be given some tax benefit. The textile sector is a very large employment generating sector. Not a single textile park has been allotted to Maharashtra in the last Budget. This scheme should be implemented in Maharashtra also. A lot of hotels across the country have got closed, but no provision is seen in this Budget to revive them. Inflation has reached its highest level. The inflation rate is increasing and it is necessary for the Central Government to bring it down. CGST worth 25,000 crore rupees for Maharashtra is still pending with the Central Government. The Central Government should not do any discrimination while helping the States. It should fulfil the demand of Maharashtra.

**SHRI LAVU SRI KRISHNA DEVARAYALU:** We condemn the attack on one of our fellow Members. Union Budget is a little bit disappointing for Andhra Pradesh because none of the promises made under the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014 has been mentioned in the Budget. Even though it is an election year and there is every temptation to come up with a populist budget, the Finance Minister desisted from doing that. As a major economy like India, issuing bonds for green infra, PLI scheme for manufacturing solar panels, planned transition into carbon neutral economy are moves in the right direction. High allocation for cotton procurement and 19 per cent increase in the budget for education sector are very good steps. Coming from a State which exports almost Rs.30,000 crore worth of marine products every year, reduction of duty on shrimp-related aqua culture inputs will help our farmers and this will boost the marine exporters of not only Andhra Pradesh but also all the coastal States of India. Coming to the concerns about the Budget, the first concern is that the fertilizer subsidy has been decreased. We have seen in the last one year how rates of every fertiliser other than urea have gone up. The second concern is that there is no increase in allocation for agricultural research. Food subsidy has been reduced by almost 28 per cent. There is no mention in the Budget of PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana which has done amazing work in the last two years during the pandemic. So, I believe that it is going to be discontinued soon. That is a major cause of concern. Rural development budget has been cut by 11 per cent. In

the last one-and-a-half years, there are almost 66 lakh MSMEs which have been closed down because of the cash flow issues. So, this needs to be looked into. Coming to the Railways, in this year's Budget, almost Rs.7,000 crore has been allocated to the State of Andhra Pradesh for various projects of the State of Andhra Pradesh. Construction of Oil and Petrochemical Complex at Kakinada is still pending due to lack of funding from the Central Government side. A number of educational institutions, like IIT, IIM, IIIT, NIT, Central Petroleum University, Central Agricultural University, Central Tribal University, have been sanctioned. We have been given land also to that effect, but most of these campuses are still running from rented buildings. There has been no progress in this regard. As a result of the unscientific bifurcation of the State, AP has received 54 per cent of the population of the State and 45 per cent of total revenue. A Special Package was announced for AP but it is still due. This is the injustice that has been done to Andhra Pradesh. I would request that whatever injustice has been done to Andhra Pradesh be rectified. Granting a Special Category Status to Andhra Pradesh has been a promise that has been pending since unscientific bifurcation of our State. The State of Andhra Pradesh wants to prosper and progress. We believe inherently that if all the States prosper and progress, then only the *AmritKaal* will arrive.

**SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:** Overcoming the worst phase of pandemic, country's economy has regained its pace and 9.2 per cent growth this year is testimony to it. All this could be achieved only under the able leadership of our hon. Prime Minister. The pro-poor schemes formulated by the government are sowing good results on the ground. Now the subsidy amount is credited to the accounts of poor through DBT. Middlemen have altogether disappeared. As many as 80 crore people have been provided free ration. But we have to double the income of farmers. It is necessary to give the status of special state to Bihar to ensure its development and progress. The Government should consider this demand. Our middle class and service class people look to the budget with hope of some relief but they have been disappointed to find no relief in this budget. Therefore, the government may reconsider it. About 16 districts and about 75 per cent land area of Bihar need to be insulated against the floods and long term planning is needed to be put in place for this purpose. Ganga river need to be desilted. Dozens of MPs belonging to Bihar had met the hon. Minister of Road Transport and Highways. A four lane road needs to be constructed from Bindupur via Dalsingsarai, Bakhtyarpur, Bihariganj to Purnia under the Bharat Mala project. NH-107 passes through my Parliamentary Constituency but its construction is quite slow. A hundred kw FM radio station is operational in my Parliamentary Constituency which needs to be upgraded to 10 kw station. I had met the hon. Minister of Railways with request to give five acres of land for setting up a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Madhepura. But

land has not yet been given. As many as 57 new rail projects are proposed to be executed in Eastern-Central Railway and there is need for allocation of required funds to complete these projects in time. I would like to mention the Kosi river link project. If it is interlinked then the flood waters of Kosi river which cause havoc in this area, could be diverted.

**SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:** I have been studying Union Budgets since 1980. I would thank the Finance Minister that she deserves compliments for presenting a Budget that looks into the future while keeping a close eye on the ground. We see a clear intent, the right proposals and matching allocations in many areas. One of the most outstanding features of the Budget is the emphasis on capital expenditure. The Finance Minister has signaled a 35.4 per cent hike in the Central Government's capital expenditure plan. The focus of the Budget is on technology and infrastructure-led growth which will have a positive impact. The capital expenditure boost in itself will generate millions of jobs. The Credit Guarantee Scheme for MSMEs is being revamped to provide Rs. 2 lakh crore for new lending. However, there is no provision made for the urban poor. We are finding a large number of urban poor who are bereft of any employment. I think the word 'MSP' has been used for the first time in a Budget. That is a good thing. Out of 52 lakh metric tones of estimated procurement of rice in Odisha, its own consumption will be 30 lakh metric tones. The State is likely to have a surplus of 22 lakh metric tones of rice. The minister has told the FCI to lift at least 5 lakh metric tones. We have been selling 52 lakh metric tones of rice every year. Odisha Government purchases it, converts it to rice and gives it to FCI. For the first time, in this Budget, cooperative societies have got some relief from tax. But individuals and partnership farms continue to be taxed at double the rates of manufacturing companies. Millet has been mentioned for the first time in this Budget. It has become a game changer in promoting nutritional security and augmenting farmers' income, specially in southern part of Odisha. Increased allocations under JJM and PMAY are welcome step. However, people of Odisha are shocked that the genuine demand of Odisha on rural housing is neglected while the same is considered for other States. I hope, the Union Government would rectify this injustice being meted out to the poor and the tribal people of Odisha by not sanctioning the houses. Odisha is the only State in the country which is more frequently affected by natural calamities and disasters. Our repeated demand for a special consideration in this regard has not been addressed in this Budget. There is a reduction in subsidy for fertilizers and food by around Rs. 35,000 crores and Rs. 80,000 crore respectively. The Government has also rolled back the outlays on PM Kisan and MGNREGA. It may be assumed that if required, the Government could always raise the outlays of MGNREGA, food and fertilizers subsidy. There is no tax cut for middle-class

for propelling consumption or tax increase for Superrich. I would like to draw the attention of this House to the Government borrowing that is done to cover the deficit. Around Rs. 4.25 crore have been drawn from the small savings funds, that is, NSSF, for the Financial Year 2023. Interestingly, for the three year period, that is, 2020-21 to 2022-23, the average withdrawal has been Rs. 5 lakh crore, which is very large. The strategy will obviously benefit in normal times, but our economy is still COVID scare. Demand is weak, and capital assets have a long gestation period. More than 20 per cent of the Union taxes are proposed to be collected through levy, cess and surcharges which is against the spirit of cooperative federalism. The cess and surcharge are not being shared to the States. Overall, I would say that the Budget has laid down the intent of the Government to focus on the long-term schemes and create the right eco-system for the overall development of the economy. It is now important that all stakeholders and all means both, public sector as well as private sector, private sector in a greater way, must align themselves with the Government's vision. Then only, we can see a better nation.

**SHRI RAMSHIROMANI VERMA:** I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the burgeoning employment, skyrocketing price rise, deepening recession and to the indifference of the Government towards the farmers, middle class, lower class particularly the service class, temporary staff, labourers, youths, women, small and marginal businessmen and common man about whom no mention has been made in the budget by the hon. Finance Minister. While the economy of the countries all across the world was leading towards collapse during Corona period, it was the farmers of the country who saved the economy of our country. Nevertheless, today the farmers have been ignored in this Budget. It was said by the Government in the Budget of 2015-16 that the farmers' income would be doubled by the year 2022 but today in this Budget nowhere it has been mentioned as to when and how the income of the farmers would be doubled. No special provision has been made in the Budget to fulfil the Prime Minister's dream of 5-trillion economy. The taxes being levied on medicines should have been brought down or reduced to zero in a bid to provide relief to the common people. At present, the entire country is getting the benefit of Pradhan Mantri Aawas Yojana but my district is lagging behind in this respect. My Parliamentary Constituency can still be witnessed to have dilapidated thatched houses. Balrampur district comes under my constituency which is a quite backward area. Hence, I would like to urge upon the Government to take steps to bring even such districts forward.

**DR. G. RANJITH REDDY:** The Budget generally comes with great hopes but I feel it is short of ideas and it lacks growth invigorating and inclusive proposals. I strongly feel this is not a Budget for the common man, not for the farmers nor for the poor. This Budget does not bubble with new ideas to see that India grows into a 5-trillion economy,

which was the aspiration of this Government and I feel it will be an illusion. We have about 38-40 crore of SC/ST population in the country. But in the budget they have allocated Rs. 12,800 crore only for them. The Telangana Government under the able administration of KCR has allocated Rs. 33,611 crore for the Sub-Plan of SC/ST and they have a population of 88 lakhs. For 88 lakhs of people, our Government has allocated Rs. 33,611 crore whereas the Central Government has allocated only Rs. 12,800 crore. We have about 70 crores of OBCs in the country and the allocated budget for them is Rs. 1,400 crore. There is no mention about the poor upper castes nor about the budget allocation nor about the policy. The fertilizer subsidy has been reduced to Rs. 35,000 crore. Let me say a few words about my State of Telangana. Telangana is the latest formed State. The State of Telangana is performing in all aspects. If justice is done to us, you will see how the State of Telangana is going to progress. The Prime Minister and other Ministers give awards to the State of Telangana but they do not appreciate us because we have TRS Government in our State. When we asked for Information Technology Investment Region (ITIR), it was not considered whereas IT Industry is best developed in my State. We asked for the rail coach factory also but it was not given. I would like to state in the august House that a private company started a coach factory in Telangana with thousands of crores in my constituency. When we asked the Railway Minister, he said that the coach factory is not viable in Telangana. The final thing is the tax collected. We have sent Rs. 3.65 lakh crore to Government of India in the last eight years whereas we have got Rs. 1.85 lakh crore. Hence, we only request the hon. Finance Minister to give us a supporting hand so that we are able to perform and support the Central Government also.

**\*SHRI SUNIL DATTATRAY TATKARE:**

**\*DR. K. JAYAKUMAR:**

**SHRI JAYANT SINHA:** This is the 9th Budget of this Government. When the Covid pandemic came, the whole world was in trouble, but this Government faced this crisis successfully. Today if we look at the macro-economic parameters, the GDP has gone up to 9.2 percent and further it is estimated to be at 8 percent. Moreover, our currency Rupee is also absolutely stable. The inflation rate is also stable at 5 per cent. At the same time, foreign direct investment is also increasing rapidly. Today if any country in the world is marching towards growth, then it is India. Many speakers from Opposition have referred to fiscal federalism and cooperative federalism. In this regard, I would like to say that we have allocated One Lakh Crore Rupees to each State Government. This

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\* Please see supplement.



amount is being provided for the period of 50 years at zero percent interest. Under FRBM also, we have given a rebate of 4%. I would also like to draw your attention towards the centrally sponsored schemes. Under PMGSY, 36500 km of road has been built. Under this, 100 kms of road is being built daily. Also, One Lakh Thirty-Four Thousand Crore Rupees have been provided for National Highways in this year's Budget. Now, we can reach Hazaribagh from Ranchi in just one hour from the National Highway which has been built recently. Funds have also been allocated for the construction of Bharatmala in this Budget. Under this, a superhighway is being built from Varanasi to Kolkata. As far as Railways are concerned, we will manufacture 400 Vande Bharat trains, 100 cargo terminals and seamless multi-modal logistics for people and goods. The railway line connecting Hazaribagh and Ranchi will be completed by June. In this way, we are building a new India, a self-reliant India. We are not just focusing on the physical infrastructure. But digital infrastructure is also important for our country. For this, 44 crore Jan Dhan accounts have been opened. We are also going to auction the 5G spectrum. Also, BharatNet is being established in remote villages with 5% of the USO funds. Moreover, an unprecedented thing has happened that in December 8 Lakh Crore transactions were made through UPI. Hon. Finance Minister has stated in his Budget speech that Five And A Half Lakh Crore Rupees are coming through venture capital private equity, facilitating creation of 60 thousand start-ups and investment of Five Lakh Crore Rupees in them. An expert committee will also be set up in this regard. Similarly, for semiconductors, we are providing an incentive of Rs 76 Thousand Crores. A provision of Rs 5 Lakh Crores has been made for the ECLGS program under the MSME sector. Similarly, 50 Thousand Crores have been provided for high touch hospitality sectors. Simultaneously, the 'Udyam' port is being promoted for digital infrastructure. Apart from this, attention to digital detail is also very important. Whatever procurements are being made by the government, it should be done through e-invoicing. These should be paid within 10 days of e-invoicing so that the shortage of working capital can be resolved. Also, there is a need to promote MSME sector. Thus, we are giving resources to every sector. Because this government believes in the ideology of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas and Sabka Vishwas'.

**DR. M. P. ABDUSSAMAD SAMADANI:** This Budget completely neglects the burning realities of the country and the existing conditions of our economy. Similarly, it ignores the problematic poverty, the unending unemployment and the increasing inflation. It also completely ignores the widening gap between the incomes of the poor and the rich and the disparities in the annual household incomes. Apart, there are no measures in the Budget for increasing incomes of the poor and it ignores many other new problems borne out of the uncertainties of the COVID pandemic. Similarly, this Budget

ignores the rural poor. Approximately, 57 per cent of the national income is in the hands of only 10 per cent of the population of our country. Furthermore, one-fourth of the youth of our country are unemployed. People do not have money, food or medicines. The most important thing is equality and social justice. But this Budget has ignored the people of lower/weaker sections, minorities and other backward classes. 'Everything for Everyone', has to be the motto of our economic policy. But the Budget did not take into consideration this basic motto of our country. Spreading digital connectivity and establishing a digital university and all such other things are welcome moves. But what is the urgent need of the country right now? Why the Government has to feed such a large number of people? It is because these millions cannot afford nutritious food. Before bridging the digital divide, we have to bridge the divide between the haves and have-nots.

**ADV. A. M. ARIFF:** Over the past eight years, what has the BJP done to cheat the people of the country by giving them false promises? Starting with the '*Ache Din*', passing through the 'Make in India' and Atma Nirbhar Bharat, now the latest additions are PM Gati Shakti and Amrit Kaal. I got a reply from the hon. Education Minister on 29.11.2021 in this House that 14 project sector Kendriya Vidyalayas are going to be closed from the next academic year. All these KVs are functioning with all infrastructural facilities and the sponsoring agencies are ready to hand over them to the Government without any conditions. Prime Minister and his Government has done nothing for the ordinary people of this country, except for giving 5 kilograms of rice and that too for those who have ration card but the poor migrant labourers who have no permanent houses did not get any benefit. Hon. Finance Minister focused on the infrastructure development in the country. But when it comes to the Silver Line project in Kerala, why is there a double standard?

**SHRI SYED IMTIAZ JALEEL :** I would like to request the Government that now after covid, we should combine health and education and present budget for them separately, because now it has become very serious and a matter of concern for the country. I would request the Finance Minister to convene a special session of Parliament to at least discuss about education and health. Not every person who died, has died of Corona. Our medical infrastructure was ailing somewhere. Because of this many people lost their lives. Your focus is no longer on health care through Ayushman Mission, but on making Health Cards. If health care is not available, then what will we do by keeping that Health Card in our pocket? You improve our health care. There is a lack of transparency in PM Cares Fund. We live in a democratic country, all accounts related to PM Cares Fund should come under democratic accountability. You have changed the

name of the mid-day meal scheme. It's not like the kids are going to be Superman by changing the name. Child labour is gaining prevalence in the country. How much money did you give within this budget to eliminate child labour from the country? This is the first time that you did not even mention to double the farmers income. What is the reason that you want to sell LIC and Bank as well.

**SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:** I am opposing the Budget for the measures relating to privatization taken by the Central Government. In the last Budget of 2021-22, Air India was privatized. Major airports including Thiruvananthapuram have been privatized. Calicut Airport is also going to be privatized. We will not see Air India Maharaja in any international airports in future. What is the need for the Civil Aviation Department? In this Budget, LIC is also going to be privatized. This budget is privatizing major Government institutions. The major contribution of the first UPA Government was MGNREGA. Our life-long demand is for an All India Institute for Medical Sciences in Kerala. The Health Ministry of Kerala have showed three places, Thiruvananthapuram, Calicut and Kasaragod. But, in this Budget, there is no mention about All India Institute of Medical Sciences. In this Budget also, we did not get anything on the railway front.

**SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:** Finance Minister has not yielded to the populism in the event of five State Assemblies elections, for which I place on record my appreciation. The second is regarding the capital outlay in the Budget. That is also a positive aspect. On most of the populist programmes, there is a drastic decline in allocations relating to social welfare programmes. The malnutrition rate in 2005 was 69.4 per cent. In 2015, it came down. That means after 10 years of the UPA government in power the figure came down to 58.6 per cent. In 2021, it increased to 67 per cent. Therefore, this is the malnutrition rate now prevailing in our country. Is this the social progress going on in our country? The allocation for the health sector is very meager. That has to be improved considering the pandemic situation. If we want to achieve 5 trillion US dollar economy by 2025, India needs to invest 1.4 trillion US dollars in infrastructure by 2024-2025. As regard road construction, number of kilometers per day is lower in 2021-22 when compared to 2020-21. Unless implementation is done effectively, everything will lie in mere promises. We have to ensure that money reaches the poor. But unfortunately, that is missing in this Budget. Hence, I do oppose the proposals of the Budget.

**SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH:** I stand to support this budget. Everyone's concern has been taken care of in this budget. Every effort has been made to fulfill the needs of every sector. Special welfare of the poor and special assistance to the poor has

been talked about in this budget. The situation of India during the next 25 years has been depicted through this budget. Under the rule of the Congress party, cement, sugar, even vegetable ghee had to be taken through permits and telephones were installed in people's homes on the recommendation of MP. When Atal ji's government came into power, in just two years, the situation changed. Whoever wanted to have a gas connection or telephone connection, he could have those and now people have not one but two phones in their pockets. This is how the country progressed. The country progressed only when a non-Congress government came in the power. The government has done a great job under schemes like Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana, 'Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana'. The government is giving pucca houses to the poor to live in. In that house, there is a kitchen, water under the 'Nal-Jal' scheme, toilet, and gas connection and there is also light in that house. Earlier, the poor did not have any bank account. When this government started the scheme of Jan Dhan account on zero balance, it was also criticized. When all kinds of subsidies, all kinds of benefits, all kinds of benefits started going directly to the accounts of the poor, then such people came to know what was Modi Ji's plan behind it, what was the government's thinking. Now I would also like to make some suggestions or demands regarding my area. 122 km long rail line is proposed to be constructed from Bihta to Aurangabad. Many years ago the foundation stone was also laid. A provision of Rs 50 crore has been made in this year's budget. I would request that at least sufficient amount should be given so that the work of construction of Bihta-Aurangabad railway line can be started. In my Bihar state, there is a road from Patna to Jharkhand via Arwal-Aurangabad, which is NH-139. There is a lot of traffic on that highway. This road connects Bihar with three more states, which are Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. My request to you is that it should be four-laned from Patna to Hariharganj, a place where Jharkhand borders via Aurangabad. My area is a naxal affected area in which there are two districts, one is Aurangabad and one is Gaya. Being an LWE district, it is also an aspirational district. There is a central fund called Special Central Assistance (SCA). From this, about 25 to 30 crore rupees are available annually for development in the districts. Aurangabad has been excluded from it this year, while Naxalite incidents are happening there every day. So I would request that it should be restored. During the COVID pandemic, the government did the best it could do to protect the health and lives of people in the shortest possible time and free vaccination campaign was successfully conducted.

*The discussion was not 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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