

LOK SABHA

SYNOPSIS OF DEBATES (Proceedings other than Questions & Answers)

Monday, December 31, 2018 / Pausha 10, 1940 (Saka)

OBITUARY REFERENCE

HON'BLE SPEAKER: Hon'ble Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of two former members, namely, Sarvashri M.V.V.S. Murthi and Capt. Jainarain Prasad Nishad.

Shri Murthi was a member of 10th and 13th Lok Sabha representing the Visakhapatnam Parliamentary Constituency of Andhra Pradesh. Shri Murthi was a member of Parliamentary Committee on Science & Technology, Environment and Forests and Parliamentary Committee on Finance and Committee on Public Accounts. Earlier, Shri Murthi was a member of Andhra Pradesh Legislative Council. An active social worker, Shri Murthi did outstanding work to ensure quality education and population control and eradication of poverty. Shri Murthi passed away on 2 October, 2018 at Alaska, USA at the age of 80.

Capt. Jainarain Prasad Nishad was the member of 11th to 13th and 15th Lok Sabha representing the Muzaffarpur Parliamentary Constituency of Bihar. He was also a member of Rajya Sabha from the year 2004 to 2008. Capt. Nishad served as

the Union Minister of State for Environment and Forests and Non-Conventional Energy Sources from 1996 to 1998. An able parliamentarian, Capt. Nishad served as the member of various Parliamentary Standing Committees. Capt. Nishad participated in the Freedom Movement. He worked relentlessly for the upliftment of the backward classes and for bringing political and educational awareness among the downtrodden, deprived and minority communities. Capt. Jainarain Prasad Nishad passed away on 24 December, 2018 in Delhi at the age of 88.

We deeply mourn the loss of our two former colleagues. I am sure the House would join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

The Members, then, stood in silence for a short while.

SUBMISSION BY MEMBER

Re: Constitution of Joint Parliamentary Committee on Rafale Fighter Jets

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH)

responding to the issue raised by an hon. Member, said: Our colleagues from Congress should realize that repetition of a lie does not become a truth. I have said repeatedly that we are ready for discussion on this subject, then why the Congress leaders are avoiding the debate?

***MATTERS UNDER RULE 377**

- (1) **SHRI JUGAL KISHORE** laid a statement regarding need to set up industries in Jammu Parliamentary Constituency.
- (2) **DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA** laid a statement regarding air crash of illegal flight/test flight in Mumbai.
- (3) **SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY** laid a statement regarding need to give clearance to pending projects of Jharkhand.
- (4) **SHRI MUKESH RAJPUT** laid a statement regarding need to set up cow shelters in Uttar Pradesh particularly in Farrukhabad Parliamentary Constituency.
- (5) **KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL** laid a statement regarding need to run separate trains from Hazrat Nizamuddin, Delhi to Manikpur and Khajuraho.
- (6) **SHRI G. M. SIDDESHWARA** laid a statement regarding setting up of a fertilizer plant in Davangere, Karnataka.
- (7) **SHRI SHARAD TRIPATHI** laid a statement regarding need to establish a Cancer Hospital in Sant Kabir Nagar Parliamentary Constituency in Uttar Pradesh.

* Laid on the Table as directed by the Speaker.

- (8) **SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL** laid a statement regarding need to increase the quota and attach special coach in trains passing through North Gujarat.
- (9) **SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK** laid a statement regarding need to provide adequate funds for development of Dubri Sanjay Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh.
- (10) **SHRI GANESH SINGH** laid a statement regarding need to provide compensation to land outsees in Satna Parliamentary Constituency, Madhya Pradesh.
- (11) **SHRI B. N. CHANDRAPPA** laid a statement regarding inclusion of Chitradurga district of Karnataka in the list of backward districts.
- (12) **DR. SHASHI THAROOR** laid a statement regarding upgradation of National Institute of Speech and Hearing.
- (13) **DR KARAN SINGH YADAV** laid a statement regarding refund of money to investors.
- (14) **SHRIMATI R. VANAROJA** laid a statement regarding situation arising out of proposed National Medical Commission Bill.
- (15) **PROF. SAUGATA ROY** laid a statement regarding purchase of Rafale Jet Fighters.

- (16) **SHRIMATI RITA TARAI** laid a statement regarding reservation of women seats in Odisha Legislative Assembly and the House of the People.
- (17) **SHRI JAYADEV GALLA** laid a statement regarding supply of sufficient quantity of Urea to farmers in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.
- (18) **SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR** laid a statement regarding need to double the funds for education sector.
- (19) **DR. P. K. BIJU** laid a statement regarding need to start a new train from Palani to Palakkadu.
- (20) **SHRI E. T. MOHAMMAD BASHEER** laid a statement regarding an action plan to save Bharatpuzha river in Kerala.
- (21) **SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR** laid a statement regarding need to set up a Ultra Mega Power Plant in Banka district, Bihar.
- (22) **SHRI NABA KUMAR SARNIA** laid a statement regarding rights of people in Bodoland Territorial Council, Assam.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL)-2018-19

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY *initiating said:* Air India and Indian Airlines were running in profit under the Vajpayee Government. The Congress Government

merged both Air India and Indian Airlines resulting in continuous loss. A huge loss of 50 to 60 thousand crores rupees of Air India was left for our Government. Ever since our Government assumed power, Air India has for the first time posted an operating profit. During the period from 2009 to 2014 fiscal deficit increased to 4.5 to 6.5 per cent. Thereafter, their Government implemented MGNREGA in 200 districts. I agree that money should go to the poor. Union Government spends about 50 to 70 thousand crore of rupees on this scheme. But I would like to tell in the House that if there is any programme which we can call mother of all corruption then it is certainly MGNREGA. This Government after assuming power has brought an end to the policy paralysis. Our Government has given money for the NRC in pursuant to the direction by the hon. Supreme Court. Bangladeshis are infiltrating into India and obtaining Indian citizenship. Our Government will not allow the infiltrators to become the part of politics. Only the citizens of our country will become voters and will elect the governments. During the Atalji's Government, six AIIMS were set up. When our Prime Minister took over in 2014, he said that not a single State will be left out without AIIMS. My Constituency Deoghar has also got an AIIMS. Our country which ranked 130th in ease of doing business, has risen to the rank of 50. GST and demonetization have been the far reaching tax reform in our country. Now all workers/labourers get digital payment, their PF is deducted and they are getting pension also. Terrorism has also gone down in Jammu and Kashmir. Our Government has brought down

the rates of petroleum products also. Our Government has now decided to give gas cylinder to every poor under the Ujjawala Scheme. The Ministry of Transport and Highways has been given a sum of Rs. 2784 crore. It is in this Ministry that most of the development work has been executed. This Government also decided in the year 2014-15 that telephone and broadband towers would be set up at all places. Today, broadband is being set up in all Panchayats and it has started functioning at many places. I would request the hon. Minister of Finance to introduce the Universal Basic Income Scheme for 10 crores of poor families. If every poor family gets rupees 3000 per month in its account than the poverty in the villages would be removed.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: The health charts of our banks show how bad the governance is. My question is whether the Government has a role in the governance or not. What steps are being taken to improve governance in banks. The Finance Minister has stated very recently that the Government is working on a single GST rate for most of the goods. However, there are concerns among the States that their share of GST is not adequate. Odisha's shortfall is around 25 per cent today, which has come down from 31 per cent, and every two months it is being monitored. Removing goods from the top slab is widely welcomed, but one GST or standard GST goal is an ideal but may not be achievable. Rather subsuming various tax slabs into two seems more practical. Moreover, Odisha has been advocating to reduce GST on tendu leaves. It is a

minor-forest produce. Since July 2017, 18 per cent GST is levied on tendu leaves. Prior to GST, there was five per cent value added tax on it. I urge upon the Finance Minister to stand by the Odisha Government in this matter. A large number of farmers are in distress today but we are not in favour of loan waiver, though there is a necessity to provide adequate support to our farmers and cultivators. The Union Government should accept and support such programmes as the KALIA scheme which covers 92 per cent of the cultivators and loanee farmers as well as non-loanee farmers, share croppers and landless agricultural labourers in Odisha. We are not demanding special category status for Odisha or any funding or assistance from the Union Government. Give us financial autonomy, it would transfer Odisha into the most advanced State in South Asia. We need funds for development of telecom facility and to develop our National Highways. We are repeatedly told that with auctioning of coal blocks, Odisha would get around Rs. 70,000 crore. But, instead, the State has got just Rs. 370 crore during the last three years. The royalty on coal has not been revised. A tax for clean energy is imposed. But Odisha has got nothing out of that. The Government should not have slashed scholarship funds for Scheduled Castes students of our State.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: Due to demonetisation, thousands of small industries were closed down. I have been repeatedly asking from the Government the figures as to how many people lost their jobs due to the demonetisation but the Government has not been able to come forward with an answer. Further, I want to

know from the hon. Finance Minister whether he has got any assessment of how many small businesses have closed down due to the hurried implementation of the Goods and Services Tax. Our Party has always said that we are for one tax in the whole nation but we are stuck with five taxes. The hon. Finance Minister has recently reduced taxes on some vital commodities but cement still remains at 28 per cent which makes construction costly in this country. We should have an independent fiscal council which will monitor the accounting in real time. The Government has failed to revive the banking sector. Public sector banks are not being allowed to lend. The MSMEs are not getting any loans. The total figure of non-performing assets on 31-3-2018 stands at Rs.9,62,621 crore. It is a gigantic figure. The Government has shaken all the top institutions. RBI is under attack from the Government. Any effort to curb the autonomy of the RBI will prove to be suicidal for this country. Another major failure of this Government is to find a private sector partner for Air India. The Government has not found a solution for providing minimum statutory price to the farmers. The Government has stopped giving NREGA money to the States.

SHRI MADHUKARRAO YASHWANTRAO KUKADE: I would like to demand from the Government to waive all agricultural loan of the farmers and provide power to them 24 hours. The agriculture should be accorded the status of industry. The Government of India had set up a unit of BHEL in my constituency but the NDA Government, after coming into power, stopped allocating money for

this purpose. I would request the Government to give the MSP of Rs. 2500 to the paddy farmers. The farmers are not getting remunerative prices for onions, tomato and cotton in Maharashtra. I would therefore like to request to implement the recommendation of Swaminathan Commission for the benefit of farmers. The Government should not stop MGNREGA. There is a project named Ghosipur in district Bhandara. Before 2014 it was a national project but with the change in the Government this project was excluded from the list of national project. This project has not been completed even after 20 years. The implementation of GST has given much trouble to the small industries. The demonetization has given much pain to the woman folk. The previous Union Government had started the construction of 10 hospitals in our area but the new Government has stopped the construction of all these hospitals with effect from 21.03.2018.

DR. P.K. BIJU: I strongly oppose the Supplementary Demands for Grants presented before this House. The present Government has failed to keep its promises made in their election manifesto as well as in the presentation of Budget in this House. They have failed to save the agriculture and farmers in this country. The suicides of farmers are continuing. The percentage of GDP has reduced from 1.15 per cent to 1.08 per cent. Without farming community, how can we develop our country? So I would request the Government to look at the agriculture sector seriously. The rate of unemployment has increased from 3.6 per cent to 4.85 per cent. I would request the Government to increase the number of jobs. This

Government has failed to control the economic situation in this country. The present Government has claimed that we are the sixth largest economy in the world. Then why are we approaching RBI and asking for their reserve fund? The NPAs are increasing. I would also like to request the Government to increase the number of man-days from 100 days to 200 days.

SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR: Silt has been deposited on the sea coast of Varsova, Andheri West, Mumbai for a long time where fishermen carry out their fishing business. I demand that a provision of Rs.80 crore be made for dredging to remove the silt. Required funds may be sanctioned for construction of a post office building in Lokhandwala Complex, Andheri West, Mumbai. More funds should be provided for reconstruction of the Employees State Insurance Corporation Hospital, Marol, Andheri West, Mumbai. I demand for construction of Jogeshwari terminus between Goregoan and Jogeshwari. Slum dwellers living on the vacant land of Mumbai Suburban Railway should be rehabilitated.

SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV: I rise to oppose the Supplementary Demands for Grants on behalf of my party. Till date this Government has presented 5 full budgets but not even a single problem has been solved rather problems have increased. More than 60000 farmers have committed suicide during the tenure of this NDA Government. Today, farmers are not getting the price of potatoes. In the name of onion price, the farmers are getting only 55 paise in Gujarat. Today the price of sugarcane is very low. Arrears of more than 10000

crores of rupees are pending for payment to the sugarcane farmers in Uttar Pradesh alone. Government had said that after demonetisation corruption, terrorism and naxalism will come to an end but not even a single problems has been solved and more than 7 crore people have become unemployed. GST is also a serious issue. The price of petrol had reached upto Rs.85 mark. Today, after implementation of the Ujjawala Yojana, the per cylinder rate of LPG is more than Rs.1000. Today the constitutional institutions of the country are in jeopardy. An institution like RBI is in crisis. The Government has forgotten its promises.

SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR: I rise to support the Supplementary Demands for Grants. In the Telangana State, we have 31 districts including newly formed districts. We request the hon. Minister of Human Resource Development to establish Navodaya Vidyalayas in each district. It is very unfortunate that I could not see any allocation for that. I request the hon. Finance Minister to make some provisions for establishing Navodaya Vidyalayas in newly formed districts in all the States. Two schemes-Rythu Bandhu and Rythu Bima are benefitting a lot to the farming community in Telangana. I think, the national political parties should think over it to implement these schemes.

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: I support this Bill. All the fundamentals of Indian economy are strong and robust, be it inflation, current account deficit, fiscal deficit, foreign direct investment or foreign exchange assets. Under the leadership of the Prime Minister, India is among the world's top six

economies. Let me congratulate the Government on that. Today, when we talk of fiscal deficit, a target of around 3.3 per cent has been kept which in itself is not a simple thing. I would like to complement the hon. Minister of Finance as he has been able not only to bring back huge money stashed abroad by enacting Fugitive Economic Offenders Bill but has been able to bring back even the absconders concerned. I am pretty sure the nation would move forward and will set new milestones on economic front. There used to be more than 17 taxes and as many as 1150 toll check posts that have been substituted by the GST. Apparently, the nation has been at a premium thanks to one nation one tax regime. Yet a few of us are yet to look at things with a different perspective. If the statistics have anything to go by, mere 50 per cent residents of the rural India were equipped with sanitization facility until 2014 whereas the number of residents not having such facilities is few and far between as this has been remarkably rocketed to nearly 90 per cent today. Only 70 per cent households were electrified till the year 2014. Whereas today, every household has been electrified. Reducing the prices of stents and introduction of 'Ayushman Bharat' to benefit 50 crore people of the country are two important steps in health sector. In the last few years, economy of the country has grown at the rate of 7.5 per cent to become the fastest growing economy in the world. Demonetisation and GST had very good results in the form of control on terrorism, price rise and corruption. The Government has extended huge benefits to the MSME sector. All the villages are likely to be connected through optical

fibre during the next financial year. Earlier, we had only 2.63 GW solar energy which has increased 10 times to 22 GW. In the year 2013-14, FDI was only \$ 36 billion which has doubled to \$61 billion. The present Government has taken the economy further whereas there was rampant corruption during the earlier Government. After the Supreme Court verdict on the Rafael issue, it has become clear that there was no commercial favouratism in the deal. Hon. Supreme Court has observed that India cannot remain under prepared or unprepared in defence sector. Today, we are among the first 6 economies of the world and will be among the first 3 in the next five years.

SHRIMATI BUTTA RENUKA: We have three main sectors in our country-farming sector, weaving sector and business sector. Farmers are in distress and they are forced to commit suicides. So, we have to seriously and sincerely think about this community. Another thing is handloom for which GST is a major issue. Earlier, there was zero tax. Now, five per cent tax has been imposed on handlooms. Textiles costing less than Rs.1000 attract five per cent tax while textiles costing more than Rs.1000 attract 12 per cent. The handloom people are really suffering because of this kind of taxation. They are losing the livelihood of doing handloom on their own. In Business community, when the small and medium entrepreneurs go for loans, the banks straightway refuse them loans. They are not implementing even the MUDRA scheme. In the AP Reorganisation Act,

many things were promised but none has been implemented. Our State really needs the financial support.

SHRI PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA: This Government accords priority to the village, the poor and health sector and therefore needs more money to work towards these goals. There is a need to allocate more funds for research and development. Today, the farming has become a loss incurring proposition because it has been made dependent on industries. Therefore, there is a need to formulate a policy to make the agriculture self-reliant. The insurance companies have made huge profits from Crop Insurance Scheme and the farmers have got nothing. I believe that a corporation needs to be set up to ensure that the profits go to the farmers. The farmers need to be made debt-free. A pension scheme needs to be introduced for the farmers. Diesel and petrol should be brought into the ambit of GST. All fuels should be made tax free. There is an NFL factory in my Parliamentary Constituency and there is a requirement of Rs.1100 crore for its revival. The *kandi* area should be given the same facilities which are given in the hill areas. Some package needs to be given to Punjab. The wild animals cause damage to the life and property. There is a need to erect net fencing for the protection of crops. If check dams are constructed from Pathankot to Mohali in my Parliamentary Constituency then the requirement of water for irrigation can be taken care of. Rain water also needs to be harvested.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV: Today, our economy is in very bad shape. The popularity of this Government has also gone down. This country does not need bullet train or the smart cities but smart villages. Farmers need to be given all facilities. The Government has been an utter failure to fulfil its stated promises.

SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA: Health is a major component of this Budget. Hon. Minister has rolled out a national scheme for 50 crore people. In this regard, I would like to highlight that most of the district level government hospitals do not have even basic facilities. For effective implementation of this scheme, there has to be good infrastructure. There is a need to interlink the rivers and construct check dams over the rivers. Employees are faced with a big problem in the form of new pension scheme. The subscription to this scheme is invested in the stock market where that money is at risk. There is a need to revive the old pension scheme. There should be a uniform policy at Central level in relation to farm loan waiver. On one hand we talk about digital India whereas on the other hand, even computer labs are not there in primary schools. Temporary teachers are appointed across the States under different nomenclature. In some States they are called guest teachers whereas in some others they are called *Shiksha Mitras*. There has to be a clear cut policy in this regard and their services should be regularized. In the field of sports, there is a need to develop nurseries at village level in order to compete with foreign countries. We are paying money to the players who are

playing at higher levels like 'Khelo India'. We need to invest money on the future players of the country. There is a need to enhance the budget for sports.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) *replying said:* Supplementary Grants is an opportunity to express concerns over the economy of the country. Several hon. Members have expressed their views on it and I would give my observations thereon in brief. No Government had doubled the number of persons filing Income Tax Return. In the first 18 months of GST, the assesseees increased by 74 per cent and tax has been reduced on 360 items out of 700 items which are taxed presently. We have not increased income tax by even 1 per cent in any of our budgets rather we have given concessions in each budget. We tried to provide concessions on every tax under GST and through demonetisation brought tax evaders into the tax net. Ayushman Bharat, Toilets, Electricity, Housing, LPG etc. are being funded through that money only. The money which was siphoned off during their regime, is now reaching the house of poor. Congress only gave slogans but Shri Narendra Modi has provided them means because poverty can only be removed through means and not just by slogans. In the year 2008, the banks had lent a total of Rs.18 lakh crore as loan which increased to 55 lakh crore rupees by the time UPA Government was ousted in 2014. The second cheating they did with the country by showing NPAs worth 2.5 lakh crore rupees in the books. But when the Reserve Bank reviewed the asset call in 2015, it was found that it was 8.5 lakh crore rupees

actually. This Government has brought Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code to recover that very 8.5 lakh crore rupees. It was said that we want to take over the reserves of RBI. I do not need the RBI reserves for fiscal deficit. The question today is how much of economic capital framework does the RBI need? Several countries across the world keep 8 per cent of their assets while in conservative countries it is 14 per cent, then does India need 27-28 per cent? This is the money which can be used for removing poverty. The farmers should get MSP. Our Government has made efforts that they should get 1.5 times more money and 50 per cent more after expenditure. I would like to say clearly before the House that this Government will take all the steps that will be required for the benefit of the farmers.

All the Supplementary Demands for Grants-Second Batch, 2018-2019

were voted in full.

THE APPROPRIATION (NO. 6) BILL, 2018

The Bill was passed.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION

Re: Disapproval of Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018 (No. 8 of 2018).

AND

THE INDIAN MEDICAL COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2018

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN moved that this House disapproves of the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018 (No. 8 of 2018) promulgated by the President on 26th September, 2018.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA) *moving the motion for consideration of the Bill, said:* An Ordinance for Indian Medical Council Amendment Bill was promulgated by hon. President on 26th September 2018. The reason was that the oversight committee which was constituted to look after the MCI by the Supreme Court resigned *en masse* saying that MCI is not following the guidelines and the directions given by the oversight committee. That created a kind of vacuum. Meanwhile Supreme Court observed about the MCI that it is not functioning well and things would be forwarded to the Ministry only after the oversight committee looks into it. The Parliament was not in session at that time and we could not proceed in a vacuum. That is why a Board of Governor was to be constituted. We are working through that Board only. So far as adoption of this method is concerned, the same method was applied during the year 2010 and we are following the same. I would like that the whole House should support this Bill so that we can implement the medical regulations and streamline medical education.

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: I rise to oppose the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Ordinance 2018. The Ordinance has been promulgated to

amend the Indian Medical Council Act of 1956 with an intention to supersede the Medical Council of India. The Government of India unilaterally and without any provocation superseded an elected Medical Council of India reconstituted by the Government on 5th November, 2013 without assigning any reason. Same exercise was done in the year 2010 also. But that was done with a specific reason of corruption and irregularities. Therefore, the supersession of the Medical Council of India through an Ordinance without assigning any reasons is not proper. The expenditure for healthcare is very-very huge. The marginalized sections of the society are denied better treatment due to catastrophic expenditure. We are investing a lot of public money in Research and Development. But the fruits of this innovative Medical Technology and the Medical Science development are not reaching the poor people of this country. When the National Medical Commission Bill is pending for consideration and passing then why the Government has not waited till the passing of the National Medical Commission Bill? That means that this Government is having some other agenda in superseding the Medical Council of India.

DR. MAMTAZ SANGHAMITA: I oppose bringing out of this Ordinance to effect an amendment to the Medical Council Act. It is totally undemocratic in the name of irregularities in the Medical Council of India, it is being humiliated and taken off from the purpose for which they are serving. So, I think, it is totally undemocratic. This is hampering the medical education as well because in the

Board itself, though the doctors are there, the Board is not working properly. They themselves have committed that they cannot run with MCI not listening to them. So, what is the utility of bringing out an Ordinance? MCI throughout the States is doing quite a good work in their health institutions and for medical education. In view of that, MCI must exist and by extension, it should have an authority of renewing the registration of doctors with it.

SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE: I have certain amendments to which I would like to draw the attention of the Government. First amendment is regarding the composition of autonomous bodies. Unfortunately, the composition does not provide for inclusion of any elected Members therein which goes on to indicate that the Membership of the said Boards would be majorly appointed or nominated without any representation of an elected Member. Further, I firmly believe that the Standing Committee recommendations for increasing the strength of autonomous bodies to 'five' instead of 'three' Members should be dully incorporated.

DR. SANJAY JAISWAL: This Government has brought historical reform in the medical sector. I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards my few points. First of all, there is a need to formulate rules so that the office bearers of this body may spare a day or two in a week because they are all eminent doctors. Secondly, autonomy should be detrimental. I am talking about AIIMS, Patna where a person having M.Sc in Zoology has been appointed as

professor. So, I hope that new committee will not only safeguard the interest of the doctors but it will also ensure that only doctors can teach in the medical colleges.

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SADANAND SULE: I would request the Government to clear the air as this Body will only be till September, 2019. Government should clarify because there is a lot of confusion.

DR. P. K. BIJU: This is a small Bill but this implicates the medical field very much. I would like to submit that if somebody is selected as a Commission Member, the qualification must be laid down. Then only we can get a better qualified candidate for this post. I would request the Government to clarify as to what measures Government has taken to settle the issue so that past mistakes do not happen again in future. When the National Medical Commission will come, at that time, we will rearrange the system. Before that, we should ensure that deterioration in quality should be reduced across the country.

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA *replying said:* Now, the Government is replacing the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018 which was promulgated by the hon. President and there was a very valid reason for it. First of all, I would like to say that Constitution Bench of the Hon. Supreme Court had taken note of the failures of MCI, a detailed Parliamentary Committee Report and it had ordered that we direct the Central Government to consider and to take further appropriate action in the matter at the earliest. An Oversight Committee needs to be set up to exercise powers of this Court under Article 142 of the

Constitution to oversee the functioning of the MCI and all other matters considered by the Parliamentary Committee. Since the Oversight Committee had resigned and both the Houses were not in session, the MCI could not function. Then, a Parliamentary Committee gave a Report saying that keeping all these facts in mind, the Committee is convinced that the much needed reforms will have to be led by the Central Government. The MCI can no longer be entrusted with the responsibility in view of its massive failures. And If the Medical Education system has to be saved from the total collapse, the Government has to exercise its Constitutional authority and take a decisive and exemplary action to restructure and revamp India's regulator system of Medical Education and practice.

The Resolution was negatived.

The Bill was passed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

Re: Cancellation of the sitting of Lok Sabha

HON'BLE SPEAKER: On account of New Year, the sitting of the House fixed for Tuesday, the 1st January, 2019 has been cancelled.

SNEHLATA SHRIVASTAVA
Secretary General

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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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