

LOK SABHA

SYNOPSIS OF DEBATES (Proceedings other than Questions & Answers)

Monday, March 20, 2017/ Phalguna 29, 1938 (Saka)

OATH BY MEMBER

Shri Gurjeet Singh Aujla representing the Amritsar Parliamentary Constituency of Punjab took oath in Punjabi, signed the Roll of Members and took his seat in the House.

*MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL** laid a statement regarding need to provide funds for development of basic civic amenities in villages under Sanchore Tehsi in Jalore Parliamentar Constituency, Rajasthan.
- (ii) **SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL** laid a statement regarding need to take measures for augmentation of railway services from Mehsana to Radhanpur in Gujarat.

* Laid on the Table as directed by the Speaker.

- (iii) **SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO** laid a statement regarding need to return the money deposited by retired persons in Post Office at Jamshedpur, Jharkhand.
- (iv) **SHRI LAKHAN LAL SAHU** laid a statement regarding need to construct a railway underpass at level crossing between Biha and Kesla in Bilaspur district, Chhattisgarh.
- (v) **SHRI BAHADUR SINGH KOLI** laid a statement regarding need to extend Bhopal-Jaipur Express (Train No. 19711/19712) upto Bharatpur in Rajasthan.
- (vi) **SHRI PARBHUBHAI NAGARBHAI VASAVA** laid a statement regarding need to construct Railway underpass and over bridge on level crossings in Bardoli Parliamentary Constituency, Gujarat.
- (vii) **KUNWAR BHARATENDRA SINGH** laid a statement regarding need to amend the guidelines for use of medicines meant for treatment of depression.
- (viii) **SHRI KIRTI AZAD** laid a statement regarding need to set up Departments of Cancer, Neurology and Cardiology in AIIMS, Patna, Bihar.
- (ix) **SHRIMATI SANTOSH AHLAWAT** laid a statement regarding need to provide the arrears of salary, allowances and other service benefits to

- contractual labourers of Khetri Copper Complex of Hindustan Copper Limited in Rajasthan.
- (x) **SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL** laid a statement regarding need to commence Haj Service from Calicut airport alongwith Cochin airport.
 - (xi) **SHRI GAURAV GOGOI** laid a statement regarding shortage of man power for updation of National Register of Citizens (NRC) in Assam.
 - (xii) **SHRIMATI R. VANAROJA** laid a statement regarding various railway facilities required in Tiruvannamalai Parliamentary Constituency of Tamil Nadu.
 - (xiii) **SHRI V. ELUMALAI** laid a statement regarding completion of work on National Highway No. 66 in Tamil Nadu.
 - (xiv) **SHRIMATI APARUPA PODDAR** laid a statement regarding need to provide basic civic amenities to people in Arambagh and Chandrakana Municipalities in Arambagh Parliamentary Constituency, West Bengal.
 - (xv) **SHRI SULTAN AHMED** laid a statement regarding making Aadhaar compulsory for mid-day-meal scheme.
 - (xvi) **SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE** laid a statement regarding need to provide adequate facilities to Ashok Chakra Awardees.
 - (xvii) **SHRI JAYADEV GALLA** laid a statement regarding need to set up mud crab and seabass hatchery in Guntur, Andhra Pradesh.

- (xviii) **SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR** laid a statement regarding need to revise the remuneration of ASHA workers in the country.
- (xix) **SHRIMATI KOTHAPALLI GEETHA** laid a statement regarding drinking water problem in Araku Parliamentary Constituency of Andhra Pradesh.
- (xx) **SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN** laid a statement regarding need to establish "Border Haat" in Murshidabad and Nidia districts of West Bengal.
- (xxi) **MOHAMMED FAIZAL** laid a statement regarding need to provide night landing facilities for helicopters in Lakshadwep.
- (xxii) **SHRI RAMA KISHORE SINGH** laid a statement regarding need to provide adequate compensation to farmers whose land has been acquired for expansion of National Highway No.77 in Vaishali Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar.

SUBMISSION BY MEMBERS

Re: Reported attack on a Malayali priest in Australia.

**THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND THE
MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR)**

responding to the issue raised by several hon. Members, said: Several hon.

Members have raised a serious matter in this august House about the attack on a Malayali priest in Australia. We condemn all types of racial attacks on our citizens. I would be requesting the hon. Minister of External Affairs to look into the matter immediately to see that such incidents do not recur and corrective measures are taken.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (RAILWAY)- 2016-2017

AND

DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS (RAILWAYS)- 2013-2014

All the Demand for Supplementary Grants (Railways) were voted in full.

All the Demands for Excess Grants (Railways) were voted in full.

APPROPRIATION (RAILWAYS) NO. 2 BILL, 2017

The Bill was passed.

APPROPRIATION (RAILWAYS) BILL, 2017

The Bill was passed.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL) - 2016-2017

SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL *initiating said:* After demonetization experts in economics are unanimous that it will disturb our GDP growth rate. We would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what magic has been done by the Government within two-three weeks for achieving 7 per cent GDP. After 2005, our growth rate had become 9 per cent for three consecutive years. Those who are working in the field of MGNREGA are not getting wages. The situation is that Rs.500 crore is due on Kerala itself. The situation is the same in the States of Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. Supreme Court had criticized this Government for not releasing adequate funds for MGNREGA. In our State, the workers are not getting wages. Most of the states are facing the same problem. I would like to impress upon the need to focus on the welfare measures for farmers in the country. In States like Tamil Nadu and Kerala, there is a fear of unprecedented drought. Farmers are in distress who are committing suicides. During the Assembly elections the hon. Prime Minister announced that the Government would waive off the loan of farmers in Uttar Pradesh if BJP came to power. Our demand is that the loan of all farmers, all over the country, should be waived. It is against the federal system. It is against the national integrity. We are proud that during the UPA-I regime, our government waived off loan of farmers amounting to Rs.70,000 crore. My Constituency is a coastal constituency and 50

per cent of the population comprises of poor fishermen and agricultural labourers, coir workers. On account of the education loan the students from these poor families are getting an opportunity to pursue higher studies. The banks are against offering education loans to the students belonging to poor families and for a sum of Rs.3 lakh or 2 lakh or 1.5 lakh the banks are after these students. Without getting jobs they are unable to repay the loans. In the same way the banks are going against the farmers. About 70 per cent of unpaid loans of NPAs of banks belong to the corporates in the country. They are free not to repay but the poor students and poor farmers are getting threats from the nationalized banks for not paying their loans. After demonetization, the entire country is in distress. I got ten complaints from the public that banks are rejecting their applications for housing schemes by saying that there is no road access to their houses. My district falls under the MSME area. Not a single coir worker, the farmers and workers in the fishing industry have got a Mudra loan from nationalized banks.

DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA: India is among the top three nations of the world in terms of purchasing power parity. India is now moving in this direction under the leadership of the Prime Minister. Nostradamus had predicted that a leader will arise in the East and he will make Hindustan a leading nation in the world. That leader is the present Prime Minister. When I was a young student in 1971, the Congress talked of *garibi hatao*. And in 2014 also the same slogan was being

given by that party. The Congress had spent Rs.11,000 crore on national highways whereas the present Government has provided Rs.78,000 crore. The Congress in its budget used to make a provision of Rs.34,000 crore for MNREGA and spend only Rs.19,000 crore. Last year, the present Government made a provision of Rs.38,000 crores for MNREGA but spent Rs.39,000 crore. The present government is fully committed to uplift the poor. The present Government under the Ujwala Yojana gave Rs.50 lakh gas cylinder to the BPL families. Under Skills Development Schemes in the coming two and a half year five crore persons would be given training. Solar energy rate has come down to Rs.4 per unit which was Rs.16 per unit earlier. The Government is now moving forward on the path of progress. We should all support the Supplementary Demands for Grants and take the GDP growth and the country forward, and uplift the poor.

SHRI G. HARI: The emphasis on agriculture and enhancing farmers' income are welcome features of the Budget. The Union Finance Minister did not highlight the acute drought situation which has affected agriculture in the southern part of the country, particularly, in Tamil Nadu. A special package for drought affected farmers would have been a very welcome feature of the Budget. We expect that the Government would be able to ensure timely and adequate release of pending funds to Tamil Nadu. The Union Government should ensure that national level testing like NEET is not imposed or forced in the States like Tamil Nadu.

We welcome the announcement of the Rail Raksha Kosh with a substantial allocation of Rs.1 lakh crore. To promote and ease public transport of various forms including metro rail in Chennai City topmost priority was given by our beloved leader hon. Amma during her golden reign. Tamil Nadu has already given all necessary clearances to participate in the roll out of the BharatNet Scheme. The abolition of the Foreign Investment Promotion Board is a welcome move and would benefit a State like Tamil Nadu. North East Monsoon in December, 2015 have caused enormous devastation to standing crops, property and public infrastructure besides loss of livelihood, loss of life and cattle. In December, 2016, Cyclone Vardah had caused severe damages to the coastal regions of Northern Tamil Nadu. I urge the Union Government to consider in this Budget the genuine demands of the Government of Tamil Nadu to immediately release an adequate relief grant to Tamil Nadu for being devastated by two back to back calamities of severe nature. The scheme for modernization of the canal system in the Cauvery basin at a cost of Rs.11,421 crore may be accorded approval. The proposal to divert the flood waters of Cauvery to drought prone areas by linking the rivers Cauvery-Vaigai-Gundar at a cost of Rs.5,166 crore should be approved expeditiously. Tamil Nadu is reeling under severe drought this year. Out of 16,682 revenue villages in the State, 13,305 villages have been identified as drought affected. I urge the Union Government to release the funds requested for

carrying out drought relief measures in Tamil Nadu. Rs.200 crore should be allocated for Tamil Nadu state for celebrating the birth centenary of Bharat Ratna Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G. Ramachandran.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: The total Supplementary Demands are roughly of Rs. 11,34,000 crore. Out of this, Rs. 14,000 crore is the actual outgo of the Government. I want to mention a few points about the demands where the plan expenditure is more than Rs. 100 crores. I support the Demands for Supplementary Grants in relation to the Ministry of Coal, Bharat net, Universal Service Obligation Fund and for providing additional fund for price operations cell under the Price Stabilisation Fund Scheme. The most important is that in Defence. In the Ministry of Home Affairs, to meet the expenditure for updation of National Population Register in Assam is Rs. 200 crores. There has been a delay in updation of the National Population Register in Assam which is creating a lot of problems. Under MSME, Rs. 1,504 crore have been allotted for different types of programmes. For Ministry of Rural Development, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Gramin, Rs. 782 crore and Rs. 116 crore have been allotted. The biggest allocation is towards the debt repayment. Almost, a sum of Rs. 10,84,000 crore is allocated towards the repayment of debt both internal and external. This year's total Budget is Rs. 21 lakh crore. Rs. 14,000 crore is extra outgo in the form of Supplementary Demands. If actual figures are placed, then you will see that the rate of growth, the

rate of GDP has suffered due to demonetization. In West Bengal Budget, our Chief Minister Kumari Mamata Banerjee has allocated special funds of Rs. 100 crore for people who are affected by demonetisation. Unfortunately, in Supplementary Demands, there is no scope for compensating any of the people - farmers or the artisans - who have been affected by demonetisation. Farmers' suicides continue to be a problem in the country. Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala are reeling under drought. The Government has said that they will double the farmers' income in five years. I do not think that the condition of farmers will improve. The economy has not got strength. Growth in all sectors has fallen. The Government could have taken as much money as it wanted if it only introduced the Universal Basic Income, which was the idea proposed in the Economic Survey. A token increase to the MGNREGA has been done. Investment is not coming despite slogans like 'Make in India, Stand Up, Start Up, Swachch Bharat etc. It is not known to us as to how much black money has been recovered and how much money was deposited in the bank between November 8 and December 31 after demonetisation. The banking sector is rotting. The total non-performing assets are to the tune of Rs. 8,00,000 crore.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: There is different allocation for different ministries but I fail to understand the allocation of Rs. 620 crore made for Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Drought situation is prevailing in southern India

but the farmers distress continues. That is the challenge before us to tackle this situation. The Government says that it will double the income of farmers within five years. Let us first understand what would be doubled. Will the actual income of the farmer be doubled? Between 2002-03 and 2012-13, the farmer's income was Rs. 2,115 per month. By the end of 2012-13, it rose up to Rs. 6,426. It has risen by three times at the current rate but you say you would double it in five years. Doubling of farm income becomes meaningless if it does not mitigate the farmers' difficulties. The Government should take some steps to streamline agricultural marketing, enhancing the input use efficiency, ensuring greater value addition, and reduction of waste. There is also a need for post-harvest handling of perishable farm produce and creation of alternative income and opportunities, especially in the rural sections. For the MGNREGA allocation only Rs. 500 crore have been added. On November 7, 2016 the labour turn out in MGNREGA was 38.52 lakh. In the next January 7 it went up to 83.60 lakh. There is a sudden upsurge from 38 lakh to 83 lakh. Why this upsurge was there? Has it anything to do with demonetization? We understand that this is because there is a reverse migration of people back to the villages. That is a very alarming situation. Under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, an allocation of Rs.13,948 crore for 1.7 crore toilets was made. With the arithmetical, calculation it comes to approximately Rs.8,200 per toilet. The total incentive that is being provided now is about Rs.12,000. However, this

amount is not adequate and needs to be enhanced. The stressed assets in PSBs need to be addressed and strong measures need to be firmed up for quicker resolution. Today, the bad loans have risen to more than Rs.8 lakh crore. Why is more power not being given to the Oversight Committee? The Oversight Committee should be allowed to take decision under other available mechanism including restructuring. Our party believes that transparency in funding a political party in a democracy is the norm and must be promoted in the public interest. There is a need to discuss this inside the House. There is also a need to address the problem of low credit off take from the banks. It is a great challenge for the banking institution of our country.

SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE: Mumbai is the main economic engine of India and is financial, commercial, industrial and celluloid capital of India. Mumbai alone contributes about Rs.40,000 crore in taxes. Mumbai surrounding regions contribute over 20 per cent of the State's GDP. Mumbai Development Plan Implementation Authority should be constituted to make Mumbai as International city. The authority would also take care of the problem of land acquisition by BMC to carry out various plans. A special package of Rs.14,00,600 crore may be sanctioned and released in a phased manner in five years at the earliest for land development plan of Mumbai. The contract of preparing a master plan for developing of an International Financial Service Centre (IFSC) in Mumbai has

been accorded. In this connection, my suggestion is that the consultants should be given a time of six months to prepare the master plan. There are 35 MPs (19 from Lok Sabha and 16 from Rajya Sabha) who have their permanent address listed in Mumbai. I appeal to all of them to support my demand for provision of Rs.70,000 crore separately as a special package to be sanctioned for Mumbai city. So, I would like to stress a multi-pronged cooperative framework for the development of Mumbai into a global city. The work of Trans Harbour Link Project be started at the earliest. The work of the two new metro projects be completed in a stipulated time. Some package or relief should be given to the people affected due to demonetization in the country specially in Mumbai. One more sector which was badly affected after demonetization is the Transport Sector, the process of tax collection from the trucks, buses, commercial vehicles may be made more easy and transparent by amending the Motor Transport Act as early as possible.

SHRI M. MURLI MOHAN: I thank the Government for Special Assistance measures for the State of Andhra Pradesh including funding of irrigation component of Polavaram project. The period of Special package for Andhra Pradesh should be extended upto 2025. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh also would like to urge the Centre to amend the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act so as to help in raising the limit of borrowings to boost public spending. I would like to request the Government to implement the

N.K. Singh Committee report in toto. The major assurances made in the Andhra Pradesh Re-organization Act 2014 have not yet seen the light of the day despite lapse of three years since the NDA Government came to power in 2014. These should be fulfilled. The amount released to the state by the Union Government under the Special Financial Package is inadequate. There is a need to increase this amount. The Polavaram Project is a multi-purpose irrigation project which has been accorded National Project Status by the Central Government. However, the funds allocated to Polavaram project are not adequate. I request the Union Government to release all pending dues to the tune of Rs.22,000 crore. I urge upon the Government to allocate adequate funds to the tune of Rs.25,000 crore in this supplementary budget for the construction of new capital city at Amaravathi, Secretariat, High Court and funds for Polavaram Irrigation Project. I request the Union Government to fulfill all the provisions contained in the AP Reorganization Act, 2014 with regard to the release of adequate funds. The incidents of various types of cancer are very much prevalent in all the coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh. However, the existing Government General Hospital, Rajahmundry is not having adequate facilities to deal with cancer related cases. There is a need to set up a AIIMS like institute and the National Cancer Research Institute at Rajahmundry. There is also a need to upgrade or convert the existing Government General Hospital, Rajahmundry into a multi super specialty hospital.

SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: The Supplementary Demands for Grants which are raised by different Ministries are integral to the process of development of our nation. We have seen a trend in the past that important schemes have been given less budgeted figure in contrast to what they actually deserve. This ultimately affects the lives of our people in an adverse manner. Agriculture sector employs nearly half of the workforce in the country. However, it contributes 17.5 per cent of the GDP at current prices in 2015-16. India largely uses the technique of flood irrigation where the water is allowed to flow into the fields and seep into the soil. This results in the wastage of water. I would recommend to the Government to encourage farmers to move from flood irrigation to drip or sprinkler irrigation system. India's public health expenditure as a percentage of GDP, is relatively low as compared to other countries. I would request the assistance of the hon. Prime Minister and from the Central Government for setting up of a High Court in Telangana and for setting up of AIIMS to provide fillip to various economic viable schemes which the state has started. This would go a long way in not only strengthening my state of Telangana but also adding to the overall economic prosperity of the country.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: The Supplementary Demands for Grants include allocation of funds to Ministries like Home Affairs, Industry, medium and Small Scale Industries, Science and Technology and some others. I fully support it

because there is a need for allocation of additional funds to these Ministries. We hope that at least now the Finance Minister may come forward to inform as to how much black money has come due to demonetization. Without resorting to this drastic step, the Government could have taken necessary action against corruption through the Income Tax Department, Vigilance, Enforcement Directorate and even through the CBI. There was no need to take such a drastic step of demonetization to achieve this aim. The Prime Minister himself has made it clear that 90 per cent of black money is outside the country. So, we would like to know as to what action they have taken to bring back the black money. Unemployment has grown by 4.9 per cent. The main problem faced by the farmers is that they are not getting remunerative price for their produce and they are not getting cheap loans. Rs. 10 lakh crore for agriculture credit has been allocated. But the interest rate is 12 per cent or 14 per cent, not four per cent as recommended by Swaminathan Commission. In the Supplementary Demands for Grants, some amount should have been allocated for the NRIs also. The MNREGA is a noble and model Act passed by this Parliament for asset creation and employment creation. So, more and more amount should be allocated for it. Allocation for the PMGSY should be enhanced. The allocation for the welfare of SC/ST people is really low compared to their population as far as India is concerned. That is also true in the case of the minority. So, it needs to be enhanced. I would request the Government to send a

special team to all drought affected states including Kerala. I would request that interest free loans should be given especially to the paddy farmers. The interest should be zero per cent to maximum four per cent. Adequate foodgrains should be allocated to Kerala and Tamil Nadu for the Public Distribution System. Service tax on the lottery system, in Kerala should be removed.

SHRIMATI BUTTA RENUKA: Demonetization has been a milestone in our economic and financial sphere. As feared, there is not much impact of demonetization on the GDP and I am sure that GDP will grow at a faster rate. We look forward to more such initiatives to ensure efficiency in managing our economy. The farmers did not receive any drought relief so far in many states. The MSP increases for various crops were very insignificant. After demonetization the banks have yet to start their rural credit which is seriously affecting the farming activity. Many farmers are presently borrowing at very high levels of interest rates. Even the Micro Finance Companies are charging high rates of interest. I request the Hon'ble Finance Minister to initiate measures to regulate the micro finance companies as it is done for the commercial banks. What is important for the country is to ensure that all the farmers access bank credit. I represent Kurnool constituency which is a perennially drought prone area witnessing farmers and agricultural labour migrating to other parts of the country in search of livelihood. The plight of the weaving community is of much concern

and require immediate steps. Though many schemes have been designed for the handloom sector, these schemes have not been given due importance by the state governments and the weaving community is not reaping the benefits of such schemes. Another important area I would like to highlight is rural housing. We have to step up the allocation to this sector to achieve meaningful success in Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. Rehabilitation of slum dwellers is a major challenge in urban areas. I commend the initiative of the hon. Prime Minister for launching the ambitious scheme of 'Housing of all'. I request the Government to provide a subsidized housing, preferably free housing, community shelters etc. The people living on the pavements in cities should be brought under proper shelter. The main concern of the people of Andhra Pradesh is the special status which was promised when the State of Andhra Pradesh was divided. I request the Government to take this in a positive way and grant special status to Andhra Pradesh. The Government can promote the spirit of 'Make in India' programme through offering a special status by encouraging the industries set up in our State.

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: I rise to support the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2016-17. I think that the Modi Government has shown a right example of good management. The Government has brought down the financial deficit from 4 per cent to 3.5 per cent during the last three years and further to 3.2 per cent next year. Revenue generation has been more than Rs. 5000

crore. It shows that the government has been working in the right direction. No government could fulfill the demand for One Rank One Pension, the demand of the families of 30 lakh ex-servicemen has been fulfilled by the Modi Government. Rs. 1500 crore has been sought for the DOT Project so that 2.5 lakh panchayats could be connected with broadband connectivity. We will not only connect 2.5 lakh panchayats, but we will provide wi-fi facility also over there so that the Digital India Programme could be taken ahead. For this we have set a target of December, 2018. The Government has taken a very commendable step to ensure that electronic manufacturing hubs are made in the country. We have created Agriculture Welfare Fund by levying Agriculture Welfare Cess and for that purpose Rs.5207 crore have been provided. If any structural plan for the farmer related system has been chalked out for the first time, this has been done by the Modi Government. After Modi took over as the Prime Minister, distribution of Neem coated Urea was started. Our Government did not allow shortage of any fertilizer or Urea for a single day during the last 2.5-3 years. Thousands of crores have been provided under the Pradhan Mantri Sinchayee Yojana also. If the farmers get seeds, fertilizer, water at proper time, their income will definitely double and we will ensure that the income of the farmers is doubled. Our Government has worked in the favour of farmers. After the formation of government, Modi had stated that this Government is a government of the poor,

the helpless, the labourers, the women and the youth. They could not check price rise during so many years, we put a break on it. Price Stabilization Fund has also been provided for and for it Rs.3300 crore has been allotted. It will give benefit to the farmers and the consumers both. The Government has taken appropriate steps to ensure checking fluctuation in market, that the common man and consumers do not have to spend much money and the farmers, too do not suffer losses. 8.5 crore families or 35-40 crore people are still below the poverty line and they have been forced to live under the poverty line by the party which ruled over the country for 60 years out of the 70 years. We are working for the uplift of the poor. We started work in North-Eastern states. We worked on Act East Policy instead of Look East Policy. After Agriculture, micro, small and medium enterprises sector provides maximum employment and its share in export is more than 45 per cent. We will have to provide collateral free credit for this purpose so that micro, small enterprises could get more benefits. I would like to congratulate the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister for providing Rs.1504 crore for micro, small, medium enterprises sector which will give benefit to small industries and to crores of people. If we have to become an export super power ahead of China, we need to pay more attention to this sector. A sum of Rs. 782 crore has been provided in the Budget to provide housing facility to the poor by 2022 under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. Before our Government came to power, only 6 km national

highway used to be constructed but now every day we are constructing 23 km national highway. States would be given a sum of Rs.1384 crore under the CST as compensation. Finally, I would like to request that the fee proposed to be levied on withdrawal of money from the banks and on the use of debit and credit cards should be withdrawn otherwise this would hamper the process of digital payment.

SHRI NINONG ERING: The Government has imposed Dynamic Fare on the Rajdhani and Shatabdi Trains. I request the Government to reconsider this decision. The work on Bogibeel bridge is still lying incomplete. Funds should be provided to expedite work on this Bridge. The Government should allocate at least Rs.80000 crore for MNREGA. In Arunachal Pradesh and other North-Eastern States people are getting only 10 to 15 days work under the MNREGA. A sum of Rs. 50 crore has been announced for the Frontier Highway but the work has not yet started thereon. Pasighat has been chosen for the Smart City but there also work has not yet started. A sum of Rs. 5 crore is being allocated for the Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana. This is a paltry sum. Similarly, the allocation made for the Donear Ministry is also very less.

SHRI PASHUPATI NATH SINGH: Since our Government came to power in 2014, rapid developmental work is taking place in our country under the leadership of our hon. Prime Minister. Roads are being constructed in rural areas at a very fast pace. Similarly, our government is doing well in the healthcare

sector. Housing and power sectors are also doing extremely well. Inflation has come down significantly and growth rate of the country is also on the rise. These are the facts which we must accept in the right spirit.

***SHRI P.R. SUNDARAM:**

SHRI RAJESH PANDEY: If anybody has think something really for the poor it is our hon. Prime Minister Modiji. Our Government has provided LPG to the poor women irrespective of their castes and religion under the Ujjwala Scheme. I would really appreciate our Government for providing Rs. 3 lakh 96 thousand crore for infrastructure development in the country. Similarly, the budgetary provision for the agriculture and farmers welfare Ministry has also increased from Rs.45 thousand crore last year to Rs.51 thousand crore this year. This is no way a small measure for the welfare of our farmers. The allocation for the Pradhan Mantri Skill Development Scheme has been also increased from Rs.82 hundred crore to 11.5 thousand crore. And there could not be any better thing in the Budget than this for our youth. The sum allocated for the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana has also been increased to Rs.29000 crore this year as compared to Rs.20000 crore last year. The Padrauna Sugar Mill in my constituency has been lying closed for a long time. I request the hon. Finance Minister to provide a package for the revival of the said mill as it would benefit about 5 lakh farmers families there. All the five

* Please see Supplement.

places of the Buddhist Circuit should be connected with four-lane roads and the international airport which is coming up at Kushinagar should be made as a base for the purpose. This would be helpful in earning foreign exchange to the tune of crores of rupees and would also mitigate the unemployment problem of the Purvanchal region.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV: Our state government has been demanding special category status for Bihar since a very long time. I, therefore, demand that Bihar should be given a special category status at the earliest. The Commission for Backward Classes should also be granted Constitutional status. Baba Saheb Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar ji said that socially and educationally poor, the downtrodden, the exploited and the marginalized people should be brought in the mainstream. The initiatives which should have been taken to bring them into the mainstream is being placed on the backburners. Reservation is our birth right but the provision of reservation is being undermined. Anyone who tries to tinker with the provision of reservation will have to pay the heavy price.

MOHAMMED FAIZAL: I would like my sincere requests to be included in this Supplementary Demands for Grants. Our population has gone up to 70,000 after 2011 census. Hence, we have been under supplied the PDS quantity. So, if this Supplementary Demand can include a special package for Lakshadweep,

including supplying 100 metric tonne rice, which will cost only Rs. 1.5 crore to Rs. 2 crore, it will be of great help to our islanders. Moreover, sufficient fund should be given for our harbour development programmes especially, construction of breakwaters, widening of hindrance channels, modernization of eastern jetty sets. Besides, remaining 1200 people should also be included under health insurance. Some money should be allocated for developing night landing facility in Lakshadweep because after 4.00 or 5.00 o'clock if any emergency happens in Lakshadweep, we are not in a position to fly helicopter to Cochin.

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: I rise to oppose the third batch of the Supplementary Demands for Grants as 10 per cent of the total demand is to be voted by means of the Supplementary Demands for Grants. It is not fair and proper budgeting process. So, my suggestion to the hon. Minister is to have a strict compliance of the financial rules and the directions of the Public Accounts Committee. As regards Demand Nos. 1, 20 and 22 amounts to more than Rs. 5,000 crore. I would like to seek an explanation from the hon. Minister as to why this huge amount is coming as Supplementary Demands for Grants. Moreover, I do accept that the States' share has been increased to 42 per cent by the Finance Commission. The cess which has been increased to 9 per cent do not coming within the divisible pool. That means, in effect, the States are getting 35 per cent of the gross tax revenue.

SHRI TAMRADHWAJ SAHU: No new dam has been mentioned in the Prime Minister Agriculture Irrigation Scheme. The labourers of MNREGA are not getting their wages and the work under MNREGA is being diverted. Only slogan has been raised about Sansad Adarsh Gram. Not even a single penny has been provided for this scheme under this budget. Only training is being imparted under the Skill Development Programme and no jobs are being provided under this programme. The income of farmer has been said to be doubled in five years but the budget is totally silent on the issue of minimum support price or bonus. The minimum support price of tur pulses should be increased and the provision should be made under the supplementary demands to interlink rivers and canals.

ADV. JOICE GEORGE: I would confine myself to only one point which is one of the major impediments in implementing the development projects in our country. The Government has been issuing notification from time to time since April 15, 2013 under Environment & Protection Act, imposing certain restrictions on the developmental activities due to which in my constituency also, the construction of Government medical college, hospitals, schools and everything else has been stayed. So, I urge upon the Government and the Prime Minister to have a final notification.

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS**

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL) *replying said:* I would like to thank all the hon. Members who have participated in the discussion on the supplementary demand for grants. I would like to slightly touch upon the major portions of the supplementary demand for grants and thereafter reply the issues raised by the hon. Members. A corpus of Rs. 3500 crore of additional allocation has been made for the price stabilization fund leading to the decline in the prices of pulses. This was the big intervention by our government. Implementation of One Rank and One Pension was also a gigantic task. If additional fund is required for this purpose then we will have to come before the Parliament. Our Prime Minister has decided to complete the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana by the year 2022 which is intended to provide house to all. The Maternity Benefit Programme was also announced by our Prime Minister which also needed fund and hence a demand of Rs. 217 crore has been raised under this programme. Additional Transfer to the Universal Services Obligation Fund for Telecom is also an important programme for Digital India. That's why I am here with Supplementary Demands for Grants. As far as GDP is concerned, the basket of GDP contains three major items such as consumption, investment and export which vary from time to time. At present, they respectively amount to 68 per cent, 28 per cent and 4 per cent. Now I would like to touch upon the issue of demonetization which is related to my Ministry. In the year 1923 Baba Saheb Ambedkar studied the problems of Indian currency during

the freedom struggle. He quoted in the part III of his book 'The Problem of Rupee', 'the usage of currency as holding begets problems like corruption in the society'. At the same time he said that political equality will have no meaning without social and economic equality. That's why we have decided to go for demonetization in order to bring about social and economic equality. The difference between the poor and the rich is diminishing after demonetization. As per the will of the common people we have taken this decision in order to weed out black money, corruption, terrorism and fake currency but despite all the difficulties the entire country was standing in the support of Modi ji. It was said that MNREGA is falling short of fund but I failed to understand it. The corpus of fund for MNREGA was increased from Rs. 38,000 to 48,000 and the same has been increased to Rs. 48,500 crore in the current budget. As far as the advancement of the presentation of General Budget is concern, a group of secretaries which was constituted in January 2016 recommended to advance the General Budget. The decisions for advancing the General Budget, the merger of Rail Budget, the scrapping of the provision of plan and non plan were taken in the interest of the country. We have provided Rs. 10 lakh crore for credit and the insurance cover under Fasal Bima Yojana in order to double the income of the farmers. Rs. 1,22,188 crore was the target for the year 2015-16 under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana but we achieved Rs. 1,32,595 crore. No one was there to provide guarantee for loans to the persons doing petty jobs

under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana. Hon. Prime Minister said that he would provide guarantee to them and bank would give them loan. Thus, the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana succeeded and made Modi ji became the Messiah of the poor. At last, I would appeal to the House to pass the Supplementary Demands.

The discussion was concluded.

All the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) were voted in full.

APPROPRIATION (NO. 2) BILL, 2017

The Bill was passed.

UNION BUDGET - 2017-2018

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS - 2017-2018

All the cut motions were put and negatived.

All the Demands for Grants relating to Department of Atomic Energy; Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH); Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers; Ministry of Civil Aviation; Ministry of Coal; Ministry of Commerce and Industry; Ministry of Communications; Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Ministry of Corporate Affairs; Ministry of Culture; Ministry of Development of North-Eastern Region; Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation; Ministry of

Earth Sciences; Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology; Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change; Ministry of External Affairs; Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Food Processing Industries; Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises; Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation; Ministry of Human Resource Development; Ministry of Information and Broadcasting; Ministry of Labour and Employment; Ministry of Law and Justice; Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; Ministry of Mines; Ministry of Minority Affairs; Ministry of New and Renewable Energy; Ministry of Panchayati Raj; Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs; Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Ministry of Petroleum and National Gas; Ministry of Planning; Ministry of Power; Lok Sabha; Rajya Sabha; Secretariat of the Vice-President; Ministry of Road Transport and Highways; Ministry of Rural Development; Ministry of Science and Technology; Ministry of Shipping; Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship; Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment; Department of Space; Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation; Ministry of Steel; Ministry of Textiles; Ministry of Tourism; Ministry of Tribal Affairs; Ministry of Urban Development; Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation; Ministry of Women and Child Development and Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports were voted in full.

APPROPRIATION BILL, 2017

The Bill was passed.

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ANOOP MISHRA
Secretary General

** 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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