

4h/7.00/skc

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (Contd.): That kind of technology is available among a few countries in the world. We do not have that kind of technology. The NTRO has acquired the technology. That technology must be put to use and that technology must be put to use subject to very stringent safeguards. The Leader of the Opposition said, technology bugs. Technology does not bug. It is the use of technology and the user of technology who bugs. Technology by itself does not bug anything. We have a machine. The machine does not do anything. It is how the machine is employed, where it is employed, who uses the machine and under what conditions the machine is used. We are, therefore, as I said, in the process of reviewing the entire functioning of the NTRO and putting in place safeguards that will keep pace with the technology that NTRO has acquired and, if I may say, that NTRO will acquire in the future. I cannot say that NTRO will not acquire new technology; it will acquire and it must acquire. But we must put in place safeguards that will keep pace with the technology that we may acquire in the future.

Now, Sir, coming to the question of balancing the right to privacy and the right and duty of the Government to gather intelligence and the safeguards, I completely endorse what hon. Members said. There is no partisan view here. I endorse what the Leader of the Opposition said and I endorse what other Members said. We have to constantly be on the vigil, constantly review the safeguards and procedures in place and update them so that they keep pace with the technology that we have to acquire.

Sir, an impression was created as though telephones are being tapped only in the UPA Government. I think anyone who has been in the Government

knows that it is not correct. All authorized tapping -- and I can say this with complete conviction -- is authorized for no more than 60 days. Telephone interceptions can be extended again for another period of sixty days and again for another period of sixty days by the Home Secretary, who is the sole authorized officer in the Government of India for reasons to be recorded in writing on requests made by the agencies concerned. Let me also take you into confidence that the decision does not go beyond the Home Secretary. He is the sole person to take this decision. No Minister is involved in this decision. Please remember, the same power is available to the Home Secretary in the State. The discussion here seems to point a finger only at the Home Secretary in the Government of India. There are thirty other Home Secretaries in the States who have the same power. So, as you have said, and I take it in good spirit, the safeguards must be applied to the Government of India. Please remember, the same safeguards, if not stricter safeguards, must be applied to the States too. Therefore, each one of you who represents a State -- and this is the Council of States-- must carry the same message to your States to ensure that the Home Secretary in the State also abides by the same strict safeguards before he or she authorizes any telephone interception. There is no other way we can function. We have to entrust this power to someone. This power is entrusted to a high Government official and, at the State level, I believe it is entrusted to a high Government official, and the fact that they have to record reasons, maintain the records for a certain period of time, is the only safeguard that we can think of. But we are working on further safeguards. We will amend the rules. We will write further safeguards as and when the

situation requires, and I think the situation does require that we must take into account changing technology.

Sir, a number of broadsides were made during the debate. I accept that without broadsides the debate can be dreary and dull. Someone said Cabinets are made by lobbyists.

(contd. by hk on 4j)

HK/4j/7.05

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (CONTD.): I don't know. I thought sometimes in 1998 or so, if someone is appointed Finance Minister, somebody outside the Government objected to his being made Finance Minister. I think that is the biggest lobbyist I came across in 1998. The point is many things will be written and many things will be said, but one does not have to believe everything that is said and everything that is written. There is Prime Minister who makes the Cabinet. Simply because two people are reported to have discussed who should be a Minister and who should not be a Minister does not mean that the Prime Minister does not make the Cabinet. But the larger point that the Leader of the Opposition made is valid. What is the place of lobbyists in Indian democracy? In the US, lobbyists are registered. I know former Secretary of State is a registered lobbyist, former Secretary of Defence is a registered lobbyist. We did not encourage lobbyists. In fact, we ruled out middlemen even in our Defence purchases and other purchases because we are frightened by these middlemen. What do we do with lobbyists? What do we do with people who lobby for contracts, lobby for commercial deeds? We have to consider that. In fact, as our economy grows, larger and larger commercial transactions run into thousands and thousands of crores, it is necessary to look into the issue. What do we do with lobbyists, people who lobby? These are grave issues which have to be addressed. But I take the point. It is not as though we are not exercised by the point and we are not concerned with the point. We take the point and we will address these issues. Let us not assume that the whole Government is run by lobbyists or run by middlemen. That is completely untrue. Sir, I agree that this is not an

adversarial issue; this is an important issue. How have we addressed the problem so far? I am afraid the Leader of the Opposition was being economical with justice and fairplay towards me if he did not read the last paragraph of my statement which my friend, Sitaram Yechury, read out possibly because of his association with us for four years in the Government. ... (Interruptions)... Let me conclude. How did we deal with this problem? I said categorically that there was no authorized tapping of any politician's telephone. I stand by that statement. I have asked the Home Secretary, "You tell me after looking at all the records whether any politician's telephone is tapped." He has told me and I accept his statement that no politician's telephone was authorized to be tapped. However, there are reports that some politicians' telephones were tapped. There are reports of alleged conversations. I don't know whether that is right or wrong and, therefore, I said in my statement, "Further enquiries are being made into the allegations in magazine." That is correct. Further enquiries are being made. Even as I speak, enquiries are being made. If any evidence is forthcoming or discovered -- people can give us evidence, the magazine can give us evidence or our enquiries will discover evidence -- the matter will be thoroughly investigated by the appropriate agency. So, I can tell this House that Prime Minister has directed that we must go to the bottom of the truth and find out whether the statements made in the magazine is correct or not. If the allegations made in the magazine are right, we will certainly find out who did the unauthorized tapping and the circumstances under which the alleged unauthorized tapping was done and we will take action against them. As far as what appeared two or three days later in the newspaper, I am afraid we must keep the distinction

in this debate between allegations made in the particular case and the larger issue of interceptions and telephone tapping.

(Contd. by 4k/KSK)

KSK/7.10/4K

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (CONTD): If we allow our personal views on what we may think is right or wrong about a particular transaction to colour this debate, I am afraid, we will miss the wood for the trees. Again, what does that newspaper say? It says that there were telephone conversations. Now, the CBDT has come out with a statement. The CBDT has categorically said that a section of the media has reported communication between the Income Tax Department and the CBI regarding records of telephonic conversations between a person by the name 'so and so' and others. The CBDT says, "It is clarified that the Income Tax Department has not recorded any telephone conversations of influential businessmen, politicians and advertising professionals as alleged. It is further clarified that the Income Tax Department does not intercept telephonic conversations except as authorised under the law." Sir, if a particular person's telephone conversation has been intercepted by the Income Tax Department, I state with authority, it has been done only under proper authorisation. No conversation has been intercepted without authorisation, and I say, "We are entitled to intercept such conversations if they relate to tax evasion, or if they relate to any commercial transactions which deserve to be investigated." And, I have no hesitation in saying that if there, as the Leader of the Opposition...(Interruptions).

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Sir,...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, he has not concluded.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I am not yielding in your favour...(Interruptions) I have not yielded. The Leader of the Opposition was reading the phrase 'tax breaks/evasion affecting national security'. 'Tax break' is one compartment; there is a stroke, and then 'evasion affecting national security'. 'Tax break' is two words. You don't read 'break' versus 'evasion'. You read 'tax break' as one and then read 'evasion affecting national security' as other. So, both situations allow us to intercept conversations, and the CBDT has, for many-many years, used the power to intercept conversations wherever there is a case registered of tax evasion, or any other evasion affecting national security.

Sir, I do not wish to dwell on the individual cases. Much has been said, but I think it would be unfair or completely improper for me to dwell on any cases. If cases are under investigation, they will be investigated. No one has stopped investigation of any case. The cases being investigated will continue to be investigated to a logical conclusion, and if any evasion is found, any violation of law is found, whatever the law provides, we will follow.

On the issues raised by many of the Members, particularly Mr. Sitaram Yechury and others, I am glad that it is recognised that there are legal and authorised interceptions and there may be -- I am not saying 'is' -- unauthorised, illegal interceptions. I speak for the Government when I say that every interception authorised by the Government is perfectly legal, like it has been in the past, like it has been between 1999 and 2004, like it has been before 1999 too. If there has been illegal or unauthorised interception, if our inquiries reveal that there has been any illegal or unauthorised interception, we will go to the bottom of the matter; we will find out who is responsible; and, we will take action against those who are responsible.

(Ends)

SHRI D. RAJA: Even legal interceptions, how can you do that for political leaders...(Interruptions).

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I have categorically said that no authority has been given to intercept the conversations of any political leader. That is there in my statement, and unless somebody proves that statement to the contrary, the convention of this House is that the Minister's statement must be accepted.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Sir, I have just two submissions. First, of course, the Minister has said that even though there has been no authorisation to tap phones of political leaders, the possibility of the phones actually have been tapped may or may not have existed.

(continued by 4I - gsp)

GSP-MP-7.15-4L

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY (CONTD.): And, therefore, the enquiry will reveal whether it actually did happen. Do we have the Minister's assurance that he will report back to this House as to what really the findings of this enquiry are, and, the matter will not be left pending.

Secondly, and, it is more important, I urge the Minister to have a relook at the position which he has stated. I made a comment earlier, and, now, I reiterate a strong comment against the existence of lobbies, the encouragement of lobbies, and, the need to almost eliminate them, if not discourage them, from the system. Despite that, as a student of Constitutional law, he must also consider the exact language of Section 5(2) and the judgement of the Supreme Court in the PUCL case on whether tax evasion alone can be a ground or conditions of public emergency and public

safety are a necessary pre-requisite. Please reconsider that provision. Otherwise, if tax evasion alone is a ground, you are again empowering the authorities on vague suspicions to bug phones of all and sundry.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, I just want to make a submission. Sir, I had said that this Act of 1882 is anachronistic. With the development of technologies, today, the fundamental and the most important issue is of maintaining the privacy and liberty of an individual as enshrined in article 21 of the Constitution. With the growth of technology, we need to modernize that law upholding the right to privacy.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Before you came, the hon. Minister has replied on this issue. (Interruptions) He has discussed about that.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Enquiries are being made and if the enquiries reveal any illegal or unauthorized tapping, surely, we will share it with the hon. Members. On the second point, I do not wish to enter into a debate with my learned friend; it is likely that I may lose the debate. But please remember that the Supreme Court laid down the guidelines with the full knowledge that when the judgement was delivered, the Intelligence Bureau, the Director General-Narcotics, the Revenue Intelligence, the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau and the Enforcement Directorate were authorized by the Central Government to do interception. Having noted that, the Supreme Court when these agencies do the interception, these are the guidelines to be followed. The Supreme Court is fully aware that the tax authorities were also intercepting and the guidelines apply to them. Therefore, to say, simply for tax evasion, you can't intercept, I do not agree with that position.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: No, that is the language of the law. That is a judgement. It is a *sine qua non*. That is what the Supreme Court says. It says that there must be a public emergency or public safety. Tax evasion alone is not enough; it must be linked to either of the two. (Interruptions) Then, please amend the law.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: In this day and age to say that anyone doing an act, which threatens the financial stability of India, threatens financial institutions of India, threatens the revenues of the country, is doing something which cannot be discovered through gathering intelligence, I think, is very naïve, and, it portrays a certain childlike innocence on the part of the Leader of the Opposition.

The point is that the Supreme Court, when it laid down the guidelines, was fully aware that these authorities were authorized to intercept communications, and, said, when you intercept communications, please follow the following guidelines. Now, what does the Enforcement Directorate do? What does the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau do? What does the CBI do? They are only there to collect taxes and to prevent violation of tax laws, and, to ensure that the financial rules and laws are not violated. I think, this is a judgement of 18th December, 1996, reported in 1997. We had the NDA Government for six years, and, during that period also -- I am not sharing any great secret, I don't want to give any numbers -- the CBI or the CBEC were authorized to intercept conversations for the purpose of ensuring that there is no tax evasion.

(Followed by YSR-4M)

-GSP/YSR-MP/7.20/4M

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: You may call it childlike, but please have a Minister-like reading of the judgment. It says that economic emergency is not public emergency. What you are saying is directly raised and not accepted..(Interruptions)..

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Are you then saying..(Interruptions)..

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Please reconsider the matter. If on mere suspicion of tax evasion tax authorities are told to go ahead and bug phones, then this is going to lead to a gross misuse. This power is only given for specific ..(Interruptions)..

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: There is the Leader of the Opposition saying that between 1999 and 2004 all the authorizations given by his government ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: This law the Minister must ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I take note of the point he made. But I also want my reply to be on record. I do not have a closed mind. We will take a look at it and if necessary we will amend the law. But this is the practice which is being followed. ..(Interruptions)..

(Ends)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The debate is over. Now we shall take up the Statement by the Minister and after that we shall take up Special Mentions. (Interruptions)

**STATEMENT RE: OFFICIAL IN HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA PASSING
INFORMATION TO PAKISTAN INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): Sir, I rise to inform this august House that as a

result of our counter intelligence efforts we had reason to believe that an official in the High Commission of India in Islamabad had been passing information to the Pakistan Intelligence Agencies. (Interruptions) The position occupied by the official did not involve access to highly classified material. (Interruptions) The official is now cooperating with us in our inquiries. At this stage, for national security reasons, it is not possible to divulge more detail about the information that may have been compromised or to comment on this case as our investigations are continuing.

(Ends)

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, she read it out on television. (Interruptions)

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, I have another point. (Interruptions) It is an important thing. (Interruptions) I want your consideration. (Interruptions) This is the fifth statement from the Ministry of External Affairs during this session. (Interruptions) On all the earlier occasions, you, not you personally but as the Chair, had said that you would club all of them together and clarifications will be sought. (Interruptions) So I am requesting you to fix time for clarification on all the five statements together. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, that is the direction, we will do it. Now we shall take up Special Mentions.

(Followed by VKK/4N)

SPECIAL MENTIONS

VKK/9a

DEMAND TO TAKE INITIATIVES TO REMOVE THE SHORTAGE OF POWER IN THE STATE OF TAMIL NADU

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SHRI A. ELAVARASAN (TAMIL NADU): Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government the severe and continuous unscheduled power cuts in the State of Tamil Nadu. The general public is affected because of this unscheduled, prolonged power cut coupled with scorching heat. The commercial activities are also affected and domestic production has been affected to considerable extent.

Sir, this situation has arisen because the infrastructure in the power sector has been incapacitated in Tamil Nadu and this has resulted in unprecedented power cut. This power cut has put farmers, particularly in the districts of Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Viluppuram and Nagapattinam to extreme hardship. The State Government had assured the farmers that they would get at least six hours of power during the day and four hours during the night. But, the Government is unable to stick to its commitment and agricultural activities have been affected in these districts as well as in other districts of Tamil Nadu. In addition to this, such unscheduled power cut in the late evenings in the city and suburbs is creating law and order problems.

Therefore, I request the Government to provide power allocation from its pool of Central power quota immediately as this unscheduled power cut is creating hardships to farmers. Due to frequent power failure, students are unable to prepare well for their exams. It is my earnest appeal to the Government to initiate measures to strengthen power generation to ensure that such a situation does not arise in future.

(Ends)

RSS/9B

CONCERN OVER THE CASUALTY OF A PERSON DUE

TO EXPOSURE TO COBALT 60 RADIATION IN DELHI.

DR.(SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA (RAJASTHAN): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I want to raise an extremely urgent matter related to the first casualty due to Cobalt 60 Radiation exposure. The ill-fated 35 year old Mr. Rajender died due to multi-organ failure on Monday at AIIMS. He worked at a shop in Mayapuri scrap market, and was hospitalized after radiation exposure earlier this month. According to the hospital authorities, two more people, out of the six patients undergoing treatment at AIIMS, are in a critical condition.

Two more sources of radiation were detected in the Mayapuri scrap market, where Cobalt-60 was recovered, taking the total sources of radioactive substance found in the area to 10.

The Government should take serious note of advisory of caution issued by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) which suggested that the soil has been "contaminated" at various locations in Mayapuri. If so, people from the area should be evacuated immediately to control further damage.

I am afraid that the death of Rajender may trigger a panic button in the capital, because Mayapuri is not the only place where scrap is gathered, there are numerous spots in habited areas of Delhi where e-garbage, hospital waste and scrap is being kept. Urgent steps are required to be taken to clean up such areas, affected people should be given free and quality treatment and the family of Mr. Rajender should be given the required compensation.

(Ends)

LP/9C

**DEMAND TO PROVIDE VARIOUS AMENITIES TO THE WORKERS
INVOLVED IN CONSTRUCTION WORK OF COMMONWEALTH GAMES, 2010**

श्री कप्तान सिंह सोलंकी (मध्य प्रदेश) : देश में होने वाले राष्ट्रमंडल खेल 2010 से जुड़ी परियोजनाओं में काम कर रहे मजदूरों की हालत बेहद खराब है। वे नारकीय स्थिति में काम कर रहे हैं। न उन्हें न्यूनतम मजदूरी का भुगतान किया जा रहा है, न ही उनके लिए स्वास्थ्य और अन्य बुनियादी सुविधाएं मुहैया कराई जा रही हैं। माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, विगत मार्च को माननीय उच्च न्यायालय की चार सदस्यीय कमेटी ने जो रिपोर्ट पेश की है, उस रिपोर्ट को देखकर ऐसा ही प्रतीत होता है। राष्ट्रमंडल खेलों के लिए चल रहे विभिन्न निर्माण स्थलों पर पता चला है कि न तो मजदूरों को न्यूनतम पारिश्रमिक का भुगतान मिल पा रहा है और न ही मास्टर रोल की उचित रूप से जांच की जा रही है। इतना ही नहीं अधिकतर निर्माण स्थलों पर तो मजदूरी पर्ची भी जारी नहीं की जा रही है। साईट पर काम कर रहे मजदूरों को बहुत जगहों पर बूट और दस्ताने जैसे मूलभूत सामान भी नहीं दिये जा रहे हैं। ऐसे में निर्माण परियोजनाओं में हुए हादसों की जानकारी भी वर्कमैन मुआवजा आयुक्त तक नहीं पहुंच पाती है।

उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से आग्रह करता हूं कि इन मजदूरों को न्यूनतम पारिश्रमिक का भुगतान सुनिश्चित किया जाए जिससे उन्हें बेहतर स्वास्थ्य और अन्य सुविधाएं पूर्ण रूप से मिल सकें, ताकि ये मजदूर देश में होने वाले राष्ट्रमंडल खेलों के लिए हो रहे निर्माण कार्यों में बेहतर ढंग से काम कर सकें।

(समाप्त)

AKG/9D

**DEMAND TO BAN TELECAST OF TV SERIAL "NA AANA IS
DESH MERI LADO"**

डा. राम प्रकाश (हरियाणा) : महोदय, कलर्स टीवी चैनल पर सोमवार से शुक्रवार तक रात तथा दोपहर बाद लगातार लम्बे समय से प्रसारित होने वाले धारावाहिक 'ना आना इस देश मेरी लाडो' का हरियाणा में सामान्यतया और जाट समुदाय में विशेष रूप से

विरोध हो रहा है। हरियाणा, पंजाब और उत्तर प्रदेश के सांगवान गोत्र के लोग इसे अपने सम्मान पर गहरा प्रहार मानते हैं। इस धारावाहिक में परिवार की मुखिया 'अम्माजी' सांगवान खानदान की इज्जत के नाम पर अपनी बहुओं पर अत्याचार करती है और उन्हें अनैतिक कार्यों के लिए मजबूर करती है। इससे जाट समुदाय व सांगवान गोत्र के लोगों की छवि धूमिल होती है। यह न हरियाणा की संस्कृति है और न ही जाट समुदाय की परम्परा। किसी भी सामाजिक बुराई का इससे उन्मूलन नहीं होता। किसी वर्ग विशेष के बारे में भ्रान्तियाँ फैलाना उचित नहीं है। कुछ लोगों ने इस धारावाहिक के प्रसारण के विरुद्ध केन्द्रीय सूचना एवं प्रसारण मंत्री को पत्र भी लिखा है। मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि जनता में बेचैनी फैलाने वाले इस धारावाहिक का तुरन्त प्रभाव से प्रसारण बन्द किया जाए और सम्बन्धित अधिकारियों को कठोर चेतावनी दी जाए, ताकि भविष्य में ऐसी स्थिति उत्पन्न न हो। चिन्ता का विषय है कि विभिन्न चैनलों पर प्रसारित होने वाले कार्यक्रमों पर सदन में लगातार प्रश्न उठते हैं, पर स्थिति में सुधार नहीं हो रहा है। मर्ज बढ़ता गया, ज्यों-ज्यों दवा की।

(समाप्त)

MKS/9E

DEMAND FOR AMENDING PROGRAMME CODE UNDER CABLE NETWORKS (REGULATION) ACT, 1995 TO CURB TREND OF REPEAT TELECAST OF NEWS-ITEMS BY TV CHANNELS

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK (GOA): Sir, the recent trend in television channels of sticking to one single news throughout the day or even three to four days amounts to nothing but mental torture to the viewers.

IPL controversy between a Minister and BCCI Chief was the recent example, and it happened on a day when there were 120 deaths reported in a tornado that hit Bihar and Bengal. The news hardly got any coverage.

According to the television channels, such tragedies, perhaps, carry no news value while IPL controversies mean everything to them.

Recently, a marriage controversy was the food for thought of these channels. For three days viewers were told that this was the only thing happening in the country.

In Section 6 of the Rules framed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995, the Government has prescribed a programme code which is hardly complied with by the television networks.

This code needs to be amended to prohibit telecasting one single item continuously, disregarding other national and regional items, more particularly, news relating to national tragedies.

In fact, the very first provision of Rule 6 which prescribes the programme code prohibits programmes which "offends against good taste and decency", but this provision may not be sufficient to curb the menace of repetition of torturous news-items and hence the need to amend the programme code suitably.

(Ends)

(Followed by TMV/9F)

-TMV/9F

**DEMAND FOR ALLOCATION OF ADEQUATE FUNDS TO ORISSA FOR
TACKLING ACUTE SHORTAGE OF DRINKING WATER.**

SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA (ORISSA): Sir, the heat wave in Orissa is increasing day by day. The temperature has gone up to 45 degree Celsius in many parts of Orissa including Jharsuguda, Bhubaneswar, Kendrapara, Koraput, Cuttack, Jajpur, Sundargarh, Mayurbhanj, Rourkela, Kalahandi,

Bolangir, Ganjam, Sambalpur, Sonpur and Phulwani Districts. There is shortage of drinking water. Almost all the tanks are under renovation under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme. Wells are dry. Many tube-wells are defunct. The State Government of Orissa has completely failed to tackle this drinking water problem. The defunct tube-wells could not be repaired till today. It is learnt that now the State Government is proposing to give five new tube-wells to each block area. The five tube-wells can't even cover a big revenue village. There is an apprehension of a serious situation in Orissa in view of acute shortage of drinking water.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to consider the problem and allot adequate funds to Orissa for digging minimum 50 tube-wells in each block to tackle the serious and acute shortage of drinking water. (Ends)

SCH/9G

**DEMAND TO DECLARE A NATIONAL POLICY ON TRANSPORT
TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEMS IN TRANSPORT SECTOR**

श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास (छत्तीसगढ़): परिवहन उद्योग निजी व राजकीय स्तर पर संचालित है। इसके अन्तर्गत 10 करोड़ से भी अधिक कर्मचारी जुड़े हुए हैं। राज्य परिवहन के उद्योग को सामाजिक सुरक्षा, सेवा शर्तों का लाभ कमोबेश मुहैया हो जाता है, परन्तु इस उद्योग के निजी परिवहन कर्मचारी, जो 80 % हैं, इससे वंचित हैं।

मोटर वाहन अधिनियम 1988 का मुक्त स्पर्धा का उद्देश्य, राज्य परिवहन को बन्द करने के प्रयास एवं निजी परिवहन के कर्मचारियों के शोषण के कारण धराशायी हो गया है। श्री लाकड़ा अनुशंसा पर क्या कार्रवाई हुई है, इसका भी पता नहीं है। दिल्ली में ऑटो रिक्शा चालकों को समस्याएँ हल कराने के लिए 12 अप्रैल, 2010 को जन्तर मन्तर पर प्रदर्शन करना पड़ा था।

मेरी मांग है कि राष्ट्रीय परिवहन नीति की अविलम्ब घोषणा हो। लाकड़ा समिति की अनुशंसाएँ लागू हों एवं निजी परिवहन कर्मचारियों की सेवा शर्तें, वेतन आदि के साथ न्याय हो। राज्य सरकारें वेलफेयर बोर्ड का गठन करें, दिल्ली के ऑटो चालकों का स्मार्ट परमिट बनाने की अवधि बढ़ाई जाए, जुड़े हुए अन्य उद्योगों के चालान का जुर्माना युक्तिसंगत हो तथा प्रीपेड से प्राप्त राशि सामाजिक सुरक्षा के काम में लगाई जाए।

(समाप्त)

9H/PSV/SPECIAL MENTION/ 29.04.2010

**RE: DEMAND TO TAKE MEASURES TO REMOVE
THE PROBLEM OF POWER CRISIS IN MADHYA PRADESH**

सुश्री अनुसुइया उइके (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं इस विशेष उल्लेख के माध्यम से केन्द्र सरकार को सूचित करना चाहती हूँ कि वर्तमान में मध्य प्रदेश में विद्युत की माँग एवं उपलब्धता में 1000 से 2000 मेगावाट का अंतर है, जिसके मुख्य कारण हैं:-

1. भारत सरकार द्वारा पश्चिमी क्षेत्र की केन्द्रीय विद्युत उत्पादन इकाइयों के अनावंटित हिस्से में से राज्य का हिस्सा 12.75 से घटाकर 12.03 प्रतिशत करना,
2. तारापुर परमाणु संयंत्र से प्रदेश को आवंटित आधी बिजली प्राप्त होना,
3. गुजरात काकरापार परमाणु संयंत्र के बंद होने से राज्य को 105 मेगावाट विद्युत प्रदाय नहीं किया जाना (जबकि इसके बदले केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र से 105 मेगावाट का आवंटन किया जाना चाहिए),
4. संजय गांधी ताप विद्युत गृह बिरसिंहपुर को कोयले की आपूर्ति नहीं होने की वजह से उत्पादन प्रभावित होना,
5. गुजरात स्थित कवास एवं गंधार विद्युत गृहों में गैस की अनियमित सप्लाई के कारण प्रदेश को आवंटित कोटे की विद्युत नियमित रूप से प्राप्त नहीं होना,
6. पश्चिमी बंगाल के दामोदर घाटी निगम से दीर्घावधि की विद्युत क्रय का अनुबंध निष्पादित किया गया था जिसके अंतर्गत 400 मेगावाट विद्युत प्रदेश को मिलना प्रस्तावित था, किन्तु वर्तमान में इस संयंत्र से मात्र 40 से 50 मेगावाट विद्युत ही प्राप्त होना,
7. मध्य प्रदेश में स्थित कोयला खदानों से अन्य राज्यों को कोयला प्रदाय किया जा रहा है, जबकि भारत सरकार मध्य प्रदेश को विदेशों से कोयला आयात करने का लक्ष्य दे रही है,
8. राज्य के ताप विद्युत गृहों को आवश्यकता के अनुरूप उपयुक्त गुणवत्ता का एवं पर्याप्त मात्रा में कोयला प्रदाय नहीं किया जाना।

अतएव मैं सरकार से अनुरोध करना चाहती हूँ कि उक्त बिन्दुओं पर ध्यान देकर इनका निराकरण कराने का कष्ट करें ताकि प्रदेश के विद्युत संकट को समाप्त किया जा सके।

(समाप्त)

(9जे/डी0एस0 पर आगे)

**DEMAND TO TAKE STEPS FOR BUYING THE CROPS OF FARMERS AT
REMUNERATIVE PRICES AND THEIR PROPER STORAGE IN THE
COUNTRY.**

श्रीमती माया सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, किसानों के मेहनत-पसीने से इस वर्ष मध्य प्रदेश, उत्तर प्रदेश, पंजाब, हरियाणा, बिहार और पश्चिमी बंगाल में आलू का रिकार्ड उत्पादन हुआ है। बंपर उपज से किसानों की बंपर कमाई होनी चाहिए थी, परंतु इसके बिल्कुल विपरीत हो रहा है। किसानों की सुविधा की बात तो सरकार करती है, परन्तु जब उसके द्वारा खेतों में पैदा किए गए पैदावार को खरीदने की बात आती है तो सरकार मौन धारण कर लेती है। देश के सकल घरेलू उत्पाद का तकरीबन 65 फीसदी हिस्सा ऐसे लोगों से आता है जो कृषि कार्यों में लगे हैं। आज आलू किसान अपनी पैदावार को बेचने के लिए दर-दर भटक रहा है। उसकी उपज को खरीदने वाला कोई नहीं है और जो है, वह उत्पादन लागत जितनी कीमत पर भी आलू खरीदने को तैयार नहीं है।

महंगाई के इस दौर में आलू की उत्पादन लागत 3 रुपये प्रति किलो के करीब पड़ती है, जबकि किसानों द्वारा उत्पादन लागत से कम मूल्य पर, तकरीबन 2 से 3 रुपये प्रति किलो आलू, बेचना पड़ रहा है। बंपर उत्पादन से सभी राज्यों के सभी कोल्डस्टोरेज पहले से भरे पड़े हैं और जो खाली हैं, वे आलू को स्टोर करने में मुंहमांगी रकम वसूल रहे हैं। ऐसे में किसान हतोत्साहित है और वह आलू को खेतों में ही सड़ने के लिए छोड़ रहा है।

यह अत्यधिक दुःख की बात है कि बंपर पैदावार की जानकारी होने के बाद भी सरकार ने आलू किसानों के हितों की रक्षा के लिए पर्याप्त कदम नहीं उठाए हैं।

सरकार को चाहिए था कि वह आलू किसानों की हालत देखते हुए न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य घोषित करती और नेफेड जैसी सरकारी एजेंसियों को इसमें लगा कर आलू न्यूनतम मूल्य पर खरीदती, जिससे किसान आलू को अपने खेतों में सड़ने के लिए नहीं छोड़ते और उसे बेचने के लिए दर-दर नहीं भटकते। मेरी यह मांग है कि सरकार किसान हितैषी नीति बनाए और किसानों द्वारा उपजायी गयी फसल को उचित मूल्य पर खरीद कर भण्डारण करे।

(समाप्त)

NB/9K

**DEMAND TO PROVIDE HOUSING AND OTHER FACILITIES TO DWINDLING
BIRHOR TRIBES IN THE COUNTRY.**

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श्री बृजलाल खाबरी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति जी, देश में विलुप्त प्राय जनजाति बिरहोर एवं अन्य जातियों के लोग बिना किसी आशियाने के अपनी जिन्दगी गुजर-बसर करने को मजबूर हैं। सरकार उनके नाम पर करोड़ों रुपए प्रति वर्ष खर्च करती है, परन्तु उक्त जनजातियों को उसका कोई लाभ नहीं मिल रहा है। ये लोग जंगलों में पेड़ के नीचे रहने को मजबूर हैं।

बिरहोर जनजाति की एक महिला, एतवरिया बिरहोर दिनांक 12.4.2010 को बुढ़मू में जंगल में एक पेड़ के नीचे प्रसव पीड़ा के लिए घंटों तक तड़पती रही और उसने एक बच्चे को जन्म दिया, लेकिन उसकी सहायता के लिए न तो आंगनवाड़ी केन्द्र एवं न ही उप-स्वास्थ्य केन्द्र से कोई आया, जब कि सरकार इन पर प्रति वर्ष करोड़ों रुपए खर्च कर रही है।

अतः मेरा सदन के माध्यम से, केन्द्र सरकार से अनुरोध है कि वह कृपया देश में विलुप्त प्राय जनजाति बिरहोर एवं अन्य जातियों के लोगों को तुरन्त आशियाने सुनिश्चित कराए। जब तक सरकार आशियाना उपलब्ध नहीं करा पाती, तब तक सभी मूलभूत सुविधाओं सहित, आवश्यक चिकित्सा (प्रसव आदि) उपलब्ध कराए जाने के निर्देश जारी करने का कष्ट करे।

(समाप्त)

**CONCERN OVER MISBEHAVIOUR AND HARASSMENT OF
INTERNATIONAL PASSANGERS BY STAFF OF PRIVATE AIRLINES AT
HYDERABAD AIRPORT**

श्री मोहम्मद अली खान(आन्ध्र प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं इस हाउस का ध्यान हिन्दुस्तान के मुखतलिफ़ शहरों, खास तौर से हैदराबाद से प्राइवेट एयरलायंस के जरिए दूसरे मुल्कों को जाने वाले मुसाफ़िरों की परेशानियों की तरफ़ दिलाना चाहता हूँ। हिन्दुस्तान के मुखतलिफ़ राज्यों, खास तौर से आन्ध्र प्रदेश से बहुत से लोग नौकरी, तालीम, सैरो तफ़रीह वगैरा के मकसद से अपनी फैमली के साथ दूसरे मुल्कों का सफर करते हैं। बाकायदा वीज़ा और दूसरे कागज़ात होने के बावजूद प्राइवेट एयरलायंस, खास तौर से एमीरेट एयरलायंस का स्टाफ़ एयरपोर्ट पर मुसाफ़िरों को परेशान करता है। यहां तक कि बाकायदा वीज़ा और कन्फ़र्मर्ड टिकट होने के बावजूद हिन्दुस्तानी मुसाफ़िरों को जहाज पर सवार होने के लिए बोर्डिंग पास न देने के वाक्यात भी सामने आए हैं। हाल ही में हैदराबाद के शम्साबाद एयरपोर्ट पर 20 मार्च 2010 को भी एक ऐसा ही वाक्या पेश आया। एमीरेट एयरलायंस के स्टाफ़ ने हैदराबाद-दुबई-क़तर सैक्टर पर कन्फ़र्मर्ड टिकट रखने वाले मुसाफ़िरों को इम्मीग्रेशन सर्टिफिकेट और दूसरे कागज़ात के नाम पर परेशान किया तथा उन्हें न सिर्फ़ बोर्डिंग पास देने से इन्कार कर दिया, बल्कि धमकियां भी दीं। इससे उन मुसाफ़िरों को न सिर्फ़ ज़ेहानी परेशानी हुई, बल्कि उनके मुल्क के बाहर जाने के मक़सद में भी खलल पड़ा। इसलिए वज़ीर बराए सिविल एविएशन से मेरा मुतालिबा है कि वह इस मामले में मुदाख़लत करके हैदराबाद एयरपोर्ट पर एमीरेट एयरलायंस के मैनेजमेंट और अफ़सरान के खिलाफ़ सख्त कार्रवाई करें, ताकि आइन्दा इस किस्म के शर्मनाक वाक्यात को रोका जा सके।

(समाप्त)

جناب محمد علی خان (آندھرا پردیش) : میں اس ہاؤس کا دھیان
ہندوستان کے مختلف شہروں، خاص طور پر حیدرآباد سے پرائیویٹ ایئر لائنس

کے ذریعے دوسرے ملکوں کو جانے والے مسافروں کی پریشانیوں کی طرف دلانا چاہتا ہوں۔ ہندوستان کے مختلف راجیوں، خاص طور سے آندھرا پردیش سے بہت سے لوگ نوکری، تعلیم، سیروتفریح وغیرہ کے مقصد سے اپنی فیملی کے ساتھ دوسرے ملکوں کا سفر کرتے ہیں۔ باقاعدہ ویزا اور دوسرے کاغذات ہونے کے باوجود پرائیویٹ ایئرلائنس، خاص طور سے امارات ایئرلائنس کا اسٹاف ایئرپورٹ پر مسافروں کو پریشان کرتا ہے۔ یہاں تک کہ باقاعدہ ویزا اور کنفرمڈ ٹکٹ ہونے کے باوجود ہندوستانی مسافروں کو جہاز پر سوار ہونے کے لئے بورڈنگ پاس نہ دینے کے واقعات بھی سامنے آئے ہیں۔ حال ہی میں حیدرآباد کے شمس آباد ایئرپورٹ پر 20 مارچ 2010 کو بھی ایک ایسا ہی واقعہ پیش آیا۔ امارات ایئرلائنس کے اسٹاف نے حیدرآباد-دبئی-قطر سیکٹر پر کنفرمڈ ٹکٹ رکھنے والے مسافروں کو امیگریشن سرٹیفکٹ اور دوسرے کاغذات کے نام پر پریشان کیا اور انہیں نہ صرف بورڈنگ پاس دینے سے انکار کر دیا، بلکہ دھمکیاں بھی دیں۔ اس سے ان مسافروں کو نہ صرف ذہنی پریشانی ہوئی، بلکہ ان کے ملک کے باہر جانے کے مقصد میں بھی خلل پڑا۔ اس لئے وزیر برائے سول ایونیشن سے میرا مطالبہ ہے کہ وہ اس معاملے میں مداخلت کر کے حیدرآباد ایئرپورٹ پر امارات ایئرلائنس کے مینیجمنٹ اور افسران کے خلاف سخت کارروائی کریں، تاکہ آئندہ اس قسم کے شرمناک واقعات کو روکا جا سکے۔

(ختم شد)

MP/9M

CONCERN OVER THE PROBLEM ARISING DUE TO THE

**PLAN OF CONSTRUCTION OF A CONTAINER YARD AT
VICTORIA AND PRINCESS DOCKS IN MUMBAI PORT**

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर (महाराष्ट्र) : सर, मुंबई पोर्ट द्वारा विक्टोरिया डॉक तथा प्रिन्सेस डॉक में जहां अभी जहाज रुकते हैं, वहां पानी हटाकर ज़मीन तैयार करने का काम शुरू हुआ है। वहां आने वाले अनेकों जहाजों के लिए अब जगह नहीं होगी और यहां कन्टेनर यार्ड निर्माण करने का काम हो रहा है, जबकि बैलार्ड पियर्स में कन्टेनर रखने के लिए बहुत जगह है। निजीकरण द्वारा मुंबई बन्दरगाह में हो रहे इन बड़े बदलावों के बारे में न तो जानकारी दी जा रही है, न ही सभी संबंधित पक्षों की सुनवाई हो रही है।

सर, इस निर्णय के बहुत गंभीर परिणाम होने वाले हैं। पहले तो मुंबई का ड्राय डॉक बंद हो जाएगा। आज तीन लाख मजदूर वहां काम कर रहे हैं, वे बेरोज़गार होंगे। अपने देश के छोटे-बड़े जहाजों की मरम्मत का काम यहां होता है, अब ऐसी मरम्मत करने के लिए भारतीय जहाजों को दुबई या कोलम्बो जाना पड़ेगा। समय और खर्च दोनों बढ़ेगा। एक नया ड्राय डॉक बनाने के लिए दो हजार करोड़ रुपयों की जरूरत होती है और यहां बना बनाया और सबसे पुराना ड्राय डॉक बंद किया जा रहा है। नया तैरता ड्राय डॉक बनाने की योजना है, लेकिन इसका खर्चा आज की तुलना में 8 गुना ज्यादा है।

कन्टेनर टर्मिनल होने से मुंबई तथा नासिक, पुणे, गोवा - इन सभी मार्गों पर यातायात अत्यधिक होगा और उससे सभी प्रभावित होंगे। इसलिए मैं मांग करता हूं कि इस प्रकल्प पर नए सिरे से पुनः विचार होना चाहिए, तब तक ज़मीन भराव का काम रोकना चाहिए और कम से कम प्रिन्सेस डॉक को यथावत रखना चाहिए, ताकि ड्राय डॉक तथा मरम्मत उद्योग और लाखों रोज़गार बचें।

(समाप्त)

VK/9N

**REQUEST FOR TAKEOVER OF PEERLESS GENERAL FINANCE AND
INSURANCE COMPANY LTD. BY GOVERNMENT IN NATIONAL INTEREST**

SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY (WEST BENGAL): Sir, the Peerless General Finance and Insurance Company Ltd., Kolkata is a premier financial institution of the country. It is carrying on its small savings mobilization business for the last 78 years. It has presently 150 offices across the country. Since 1987, the Peerless is operating its present RNBC nature of business as per the rules framed by the RBI, according to the judgement of the Supreme Court. The Peerless has paid more than Rs. 18,000 crores as maturity value to its depositors. The Peerless is having its net owned fund of Rs. 1,005 crores as on 31st March, 2009. As per the Inspection Report of the RBI, the Peerless is having assets more than its liabilities. Besides, it has more than Rs. 1,597 crores unclaimed and unpaid money. But due to the directive of the RBI, the Peerless has to close its present RNBC business from 1st April, 2011. While the Peerless management is very much active to stop its RNBC business as per the timeframe given by the RBI, they also actively considered any other model which will absorb its present infrastructure as well as employees. The employees are apprehensive about losing their livelihood.

Sir, I, on behalf of the All India Peerless Employees Union, strongly urge the Central Government to urgently takeover the Peerless in order to save all connected with Peerless and to utilize its funds for national interest.

(Ends)

DEMAND TO TAKE INTERNATIONAL AND DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES TO ASSIST THE INDIANS FACING DEATH SENTENCE AND LANGUISHING IN JAILS IN SOME GULF COUNTRIES.

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं आपका ध्यान एक अत्यंत ही गंभीर विषय की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं। हमारे अपने देश के बेरोजगार युवक-युवतियां अपने परिवार के भरण-पोषण हेतु अपना देश छोड़कर अन्य देशों में जाकर नौकरियां, व्यापार इत्यादि करते हैं और अपने देश हेतु भारी विदेशी मुद्रा भी अर्जित करते हैं। यह बताना उचित होगा कि मुख्य रूप से खाड़ी देशों में जब एक बेरोजगार प्रवेश लेता है तो उसका पासपोर्ट और वीजा नौकरी पर रखने वाला व्यक्ति अपने पास जमा कर लेता है और उसके बाद शुरू होता है उस बेरोजगार व्यक्ति का मानसिक व शारीरिक उत्पीड़न। वह मजबूर व्यक्ति न ही अपने मन से स्वदेश लौट सकता है और न ही उनके उत्पीड़न का विरोध कर सकता है। जो विरोध करता है, उसके ऊपर तरह-तरह के झूठे आरोप लगाकर उसे जेलों में बंद करा दिया जाता है। आज भी खाड़ी देशों की जेलों में बंद ज्यादातर भारतीय फर्जी मामले में ही बंद किए गए हैं। अभी हाल में ही 17 भारतीयों को शारजाह में फांसी की सजा सुनायी गयी है। उन भारतीयों की तरफ से बार-बार यह कहा जा रहा है कि हम सभी बेकसूर हैं। उक्त मामले को अंतर्राष्ट्रीय समुदाय के सामने लाकर अपने देश को हस्तक्षेप का हर संभव प्रयास करना चाहिए, ताकि इन निर्दोष भारतीयों को फांसी से बचाया जा सके। इसी क्रम में मैं आपके संज्ञान में यह भी लाना चाहूंगा कि जार्डन में 14 भारतीय जेल में बंद हैं। उनको भी जेलों से छुड़ाने हेतु भारत सरकार द्वारा न्यायिक मदद के साथ-साथ अंतर्राष्ट्रीय पहल कर राजनयिक व कूटनीतिक प्रयास करना चाहिए। धन्यवाद।

(समाप्त)

RG/9P

**NEED FOR ACTION AGAINST UNIVERSITIES LACKING BASIC
INFRASTRUCTURE, FACULTY AND OTHER FACILITIES**

DR. M.V. MYSURA REDDY (ANDHRA PRADESH): Sir, on the one hand, the Government is screaming for quality education, particularly, higher education, but on the other hand, there are many as 10 Universities in Andhra Pradesh which, one can say, are not fit to be recognized even as 12th class/junior colleges. Ten universities set up in Andhra Pradesh, between 2004 and 2009, do not have the College Development Council, Academic Audit Cell, Academic Branch, Board of Studies, Exam Branch, apart from other infrastructure. It is amazing that these universities enroll only a few hundred students and offer not more than 10-15 courses. But, surprisingly, they have the power to give affiliation to hundreds of degrees with P.G., Engineering, B.Ed. and other professional colleges in which lakhs of students are enrolled. They also do not have full-fledged faculty and are dependent on contract professors to meet their academic requirements. How can they conduct exams without Examination Board? How can they set question papers, evaluate papers and declare results without regular faculty?

Secondly, all the universities lack basic infrastructure. For example, the Nellore University runs from 15 rooms provided by the management of a private college; Rajahmundry University runs from a rented building. Some universities operate from P.G. centres of old universities. This clearly indicates that a mockery of higher education is being made. For setting up of a university, it requires Rs.200 crores. But the Government established these without any

funds! So I would request the Government of India to take action against such universities and strictly ensure that they maintain the standards prescribed.

(Ends)

(Followed by 9Q)

9q/ks

SCAM IN ARMY RECRUITMENT

SHRI R. C. SINGH (WEST BENGAL): Sir, working with the Indian Army is not just a career; it is a challenge to serve the nation, an opportunity to be trained in high technology arena and a noble approach to be disciplined, civilized and cultured. But if you look at the recently conducted Army recruitment drive in Warangal, Andhra Pradesh, it really hurts and defeats the very objective of a career in Army. The drive is meant for the local youth of Telangana. But, unfortunately, candidates belonging to Rajasthan, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, etc. have procured fake domicile certificates from Ranga Reddy district and cleared even the physical test. The fraud came to light when police of Warangal arrested youth from Haryana and Rajasthan after they attacked local candidates and the police. On an enquiry, it came to light that the candidates belonged to other States and not to Andhra Pradesh. They entered into an altercation with local youth after they objected to the presence of candidates from other States. It is surprising how Army officials, without scrutinizing their applications thoroughly, allowed them to take part in the recruitment drive. It has been found, on preliminary investigation, that some persons collected huge money from non-local youth and provided them with false documents.

Therefore, I request the Government to investigate the whole issue and see to it that unauthorized and ineligible candidates do not enter the Army and only local candidates are given preference in such local drives.

(Ends)

TDB/9R

**NEED TO TAKE STEPS FOR REHABILITATION OF FAMILIES AFFECTED
BY THUNDERSTORM AND FLOOD IN ASSAM**

SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS (ASSAM): Sir, heavy rains accompanied by cyclonic storm crippled normal life in most parts of Assam, especially the Guwahati city with several areas submerged. The worst hit being Lachit Nagar, Rajgrah, Zoo Road, Nabin Nagar Hengrabari and GS Road. On the other hand, the cyclonic storm heated all the hilly areas like Kharghuli, Batahghuli, etc. It is the worst ever flood.

A thunderstorm followed by heavy rains wreaked havoc in Assam during last few days that damaged hundreds of huts, uprooted trees, electric poles and chocked traffic on highways. The worst affected districts are Barpeta, Nagaon, Gopalpara, Dhubri and Guwahati City. It has claimed more than 20 lives and injured, at least, thousands across the State.

Again, the present flood situation in the districts of Lakhimpur and Dhemaji is worse. The flood of Ranga Nadi and Singara river created havoc where thousands of families became homeless and more than 41 villages became the worst sufferer.

It is, therefore, demanded that adequate relief be provided to the affected families by releasing immediate rehabilitation grant to those who lost their habitation. I also request to stop the construction of dams on Ranganadi,

Subansiri, etc., till the relief is given to the people living in the downstream of those rivers, including the river Brahmaputra.

(Ends)

MCM/9S

**DEMAND TO COVER FAR FLUNG VILLAGES OF UTTAR PRADESH UNDER
SUBSIDIZED SOLAR ELECTRICITY PROGRAMME**

डा० अखिलेश दास गुप्ता (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, हमारे आदरणीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने हाल ही में सम्पन्न कोपेनहेगन जलवायु परिवर्तन सम्मेलन में ग्रीन हाउस गैस उत्सर्जन में 20 फीसदी स्वेच्छिक कटौती का ऐलान किया है, जो स्वागत योग्य है। लेकिन इस कटौती के लिए वैकल्पिक ऊर्जा को बढ़ावा देना भी उतना ही आवश्यक है। परन्तु बढ़ावा देने के स्थान पर मेरे गृह प्रदेश -उत्तर प्रदेश के 60 हजार से अधिक छोटे गांव दूरस्थ ग्राम विद्युतीकरण कार्यक्रम के तहत सौर बिजली से वंचित रह जाएंगे। दूरस्थ ग्राम विद्युतीकरण कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत अब तक सौ लोगों की आबादी वाले विद्युतविहीन मजरों को सोलर बिजली की सुविधा दी जाती थी, मगर तीन सौ लोगों की आबादी वाले मजरों को भी इसका लाभ मिल जाता था, जिसके लिए केन्द्र के रूरल इलेक्ट्रिफिकेशन कारपोरेशन से अनापत्ति प्रमाण पत्र लेना पड़ता था। परन्तु नई नीति में अब यह सुविधा तीन सौ से अधिक आबादी वाले मजरों को ही मिलेगी। प्रदेश में एक अनुमान के अनुसार 60 हजार से अधिक मजरे एक सौ या उससे भी नीचे और तीन सौ से तो काफी नीचे आबादी वाले हैं। नए मानकों के अन्तर्गत इन मजरों तक सब्सडी की सोलर लाइट पहुंचना असंभव है। इससे उत्तर प्रदेश के वैकल्पिक ऊर्जा कार्यक्रम को बड़ा झटका लगा है। केन्द्र की इस नीति का प्रदेश की सरकार ने विरोध किया है।

अतः मैं केन्द्र सरकार से मांग करता हूं कि दूरस्थ ग्राम विद्युतीकरण कार्यक्रम के पुराने मानकों को ही जारी रखा जाए, ताकि उत्तर प्रदेश के 60 हजार से अधिक छोटे-छोटे मजरों को, जिनकी आबादी सौ है या तीन सौ से नीचे है, भी सब्सडी की सोलर लाइट

मुहैया हो सके और इनमें रहने वाले गरीब और समाज के कमजोर तबकों के लोगों को भी सोलर बिजली का लाभ मिल सके। धन्यवाद।

(9T पर आगे)

kgg/9t

INCLUSION OF SMALL FARMERS AND MINORITIES IN NREGS

SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA (ANDHRA PRADESH): Sir, I would like to mention some serious issues concerning the NREGS, which excludes minorities and farmers. NREGS is so structured that small farmers and minorities cannot avail of it. Farmers still commit suicides in thousands every year and diverse committees constituted by the Government of India have highlighted the poor plight of minorities. In 2009-10, Government allocated Rs.39,000 crores for NREGS. In 2010-11, NREGS has an annual budget of Rs.40,000 crores. This massive programme should be so devised that all sections in rural areas get some benefits. By leaving out huge sections, there is disharmony and discrimination.

Government should immediately find ways to provide employment to small farmers and minorities in rural areas. Surveys have shown that these sections are being avoided and not getting work. The other issue is how to ensure that this huge fund is not dissipated. About 10 crore workers are to avail NREGS benefits in 2010-11. How will the Government supervise this vast manpower and ensure actual works are taken up? In many Panchayats, it is learnt that work is not undertaken properly.

There is a great shortage of public facilities and amenities in minority habitat areas. The Government should think of using funds for such asset creation. It is learnt that works being undertaken do not have lasting value.

Many programmes started by the Government like JRY did not last long. If the Government address the weaknesses in NREGS, it will have a beneficial effect. There are serious reports of corruption and funds being squandered away on non-existing work. Corruption should be severely curbed. Assets created should be useful and durable.

Hence, I request the Government to find ways to curb corruption in NREGS and also make a serious effort to include small farmers and minorities in NREGS.

(Ends)

KLS/9U

NEED TO STRENGTHEN RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT

SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR (TAMIL NADU): Sir, I would like to urge the Government to strengthen awareness programme for effective implementation of Right to Information Act. According to the recent survey report, only 27 per cent of applicants are getting the desired information under the Act. This is mainly because of lack of awareness about the RTI Act. Despite the funds to the tune of Rs.4.76 crore having been released to the State Information Commissions and Rs.4.10 crore to the Administrative Training Institutes for awareness campaigns and development of printing material in regional language, such efforts do not seem to have worked and the awareness level among citizens about their right to apply under the RTI Act are low. Even the names of public information officers under this Act are not placed in the public offices. It is also reported that there is inadequate help provided to applicants and there is non-friendly attitude of public information officers. The quality of the information provided and the data is either incomplete or irrelevant.

Therefore, I request the Government to take more effective steps and instruct the State and Central Departments to place adequate information officers in the respective Departments. The names of information officers should also be placed for public attention for those who are visiting the public officers so that the ultimate motto of this Act is fulfilled. I further urge upon the Government through this august House to make necessary initiatives for effective implementation of this Act in general and bring awareness among public in particular. Thank you.

(Ends)

GS/9W

**DEMAND TO PROVIDE AIR TRAVEL SERVICES
TO JHANSI IN UTTAR PRADESH.**

श्री गंगा चरण (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं सरकार का ध्यान बुन्देलखण्ड के झांसी नगर की ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ। यह एक ऐतिहासिक स्थान है, जहां झांसी की रानी लक्ष्मीबाई के नेतृत्व में 1857 की लड़ाई लड़ी गयी थी। झांसी एक पर्यटक स्थल है इसके पास "ओरक्षा" प्राकृतिक सौन्दर्य से भरपूर, पर्यटक स्थल भी है तथा पास ही दतिया में पीताम्बरा पीठ तथा मुगलकालीन किले हैं, जिनको देखने के लिए हजारों की संख्या में विदेशी पर्यटक जाते हैं। झांसी बुन्देलखण्ड प्रान्त की राजधानी भी बनेगी, किन्तु यहां कोई भी हवाई यात्रा का साधन नहीं है, जिससे पर्यटक सुगम यात्रा कर सकें। यहां पर भारतीय सेना का एक हवाई अड्डा है। इसलिए भारत सरकार के उड्डयन मंत्री से मेरा अनुरोध है कि दिल्ली से बनारस वाया खजुराहो एक फ्लाइट जाती है, उसी ओर रास्ते में झांसी भी पड़ता है। अतः उक्त फ्लाइट का स्टापेज झांसी में भी होना चाहिए। इससे सरकार का कोई अतिरिक्त व्यय भी नहीं होगा। धन्यवाद।

(समाप्त)

SSS/9x

**FILLING UP VACANCIES AND IMPROVING THE SERVICE CONDITIONS IN
THE EMPLOYEES PROVIDENT FUND ORGANISATION (EPFO)**

SHRI S. ANBALAGAN (TAMIL NADU): Sir, I would like to bring to the attention of the Minister of Labour and Employment the acute shortage of manpower in the Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO). Presently, the recruitment is under process only for 40 per cent of the required staff strength. This situation affects the effective functioning of the Organization. I, therefore, urge the Minister to take steps for filling up all the vacancies in the Organization. Moreover, the employees of the organization at various levels are also facing hardships. Time Bound Promotion Scheme for clerical service was abruptly stopped in 2007. This should be resumed forthwith. Those who were already benefitted and those will be benefitted of the Time Bound Promotion should be placed in the pre-revised pay scale of Rs. 5,500-9000 instead of the Rs. 5000-8000 as has been done presently. The entry into the Organization was upgraded from Lower Division Clerk to Social Security Assistant without deciding the fate of the erstwhile LDCs. Subsequently, they were made to appear in a Departmental Computer Skill Test, the qualification which they were already possessing. They were upgraded only in November, 2005 after a delay of more than 23 months which resulted in loss of career progression and monetary benefit to them. I request that their service should be counted from the date of notification of recruitment rules for SSAs i.e. 03/01/2004. The grade pays of the Accounts Officers/Enforcement Officers and Section Officers should also be increased to Rs. 4800 and Rs. 4600 respectively as they have been presently equated with clerical cadres.

(Ends)

**ALLOCATION OF TIME FOR DISPOSAL
OF GOVERNMENT AND OTHER BUSINESS**

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that the Business Advisory Committee in its meeting held on the 29th April, 2010, has allotted time for Government Legislative Business as follows :

<u>BUSINESS</u>	<u>TIME ALLOTTED</u>
1. Consideration and return of the Finance Bill, 2010, after it is passed by the Lok Sabha.	4 Hours
2. Consideration and passing of the Plantations Labour (Amendment) Bill, 2008	2 Hours
3. Consideration and passing of the Payment of Gratuity (Amendment) Bill, 2010, after it is passed by the Lok Sabha.	2 Hours

(Ends)

The House then adjourned at twenty-eight minutes past seven of the clock till eleven of the clock on Friday, the 30th April, 2010.