

The House reassembled at twenty-three minutes past two of the clock,
THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

THE APPROPRIATION (NO. 4) BILL, 2004

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year, 2004-05, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration".

Sir, the Bill arises after the supplementary appropriations charged in the consolidated Fund of India and demands voted by the Lok Sabha. It is proposed to augment the sanctioned provision by Rs. 38,621.77 crore. Of course, I may straightway point out that the cash outgo is much smaller; the cash outgo is only about Rs. 5,000 crore. However, to the extent of Rs. 33,058.23 crore, the augmented provision is matched by savings of the concerned departments by enhanced receipts. In addition, token provision of Rs. 48 lakh is being sought, Rs. one lakh for each of 48 items of expenditure, enabling re-appropriation of savings in cases involving new service or new instrument of service. Hence, the net cash outgo involved in the proposal is only Rs. 5063 crores. Sir, I move that the Bill be considered.

The question was proposed.

श्री लक्ष्मीनारायण शर्मा (मध्य प्रदेश): उपसभापति महोदय, लोक सभा में सप्लीमेंटरी बजट पर कल जो अनुदान मांगा गया और स्वीकृत हुआ, तकरीबन 55 डिमांड्स पर यहां लगभग 133 करोड़ रुपया मंगाने का यह अनुपूरक बजट पेश हुआ है। उपसभापति महोदय, 19 जुलाई, 2004 को आउटलुक में एक सर्वे आया था, उसे मैं यहां उद्धृत करना चाहूंगा। भारत शहरी विकास के मामले में कितना पीछे है, उसमें उसका उल्लेख किया गया है। अमेरिका और यूरोपीय देशों में छोटे एवं बड़े शहरों में मूलभूत सुविधाएं लगभग पूरी हो चुकी हैं। भारत में केवल 300 नगरों में मूलभूत भूमिगत ड्रेनेज व्यवस्था है, देश की नगरपालिकाओं एवं नगर निगमों में मूलभूत सुधार के लिए लगभग 19 हजार करोड़ रुपये की आवश्यकता होगी। जल प्रदाय और सफाई जैसी सुविधाओं के लिए 17 हजार करोड़ रुपये की आवश्यकता होगी। केन्द्र और राज्य सरकारें, दोनों इतनी बड़ी राशि उपलब्ध नहीं करा सकतीं, इसके लिए उद्योग-धंधों में लगी हुई कम्पनियों और उद्योगपतियों से, ऐसी आशा करेंगे कि वे इसमें सहयोग प्रदान करें। मैं शासन से भी यह अनुरोध करना चाहता हूं कि बड़े-बड़े उद्योगपतियों से, कम्पनियों से इस बात के लिए प्रयास किया जाये कि वे बड़े-बड़े नगरों में, मूलभूत सुविधाओं को जुटाने के लिए निश्चित रूप से सहयोग प्रदान करें।

उपसभापति महोदय, उसी प्रकार से विद्युत के मामले में “आइटलुक” ने जो सर्वे किया है, वह मैं आपके सामने पेश कर रहा हूँ। बिजली की औद्योगिक दरें भारत में 4.18 रुपया प्रति यूनिट है, जबकि अमेरिका में 1.80 रुपया प्रति यूनिट है, चीन में 1.20 रुपया प्रति यूनिट है, थाईलैंड में 2 रुपया प्रति यूनिट है और यूरोपीय देशों में 1.70 रुपया प्रति यूनिट है।

उपसभापति महोदय, हमारे देश के युवा उद्यमी इसीलिए दूसरे देशों में जाकर अपने उद्योग-धंधे करना चाहते हैं। यह नितांत आवश्यक है कि ऊर्जा के क्षेत्र में हम बहुत तेजी से काम करें और जितनी जल्दी से हम ऊर्जा को बढ़ा सकते हैं, उसके लिए प्रयास करें। उपसभापति महोदय, आज के ही प्रश्न के उत्तर में बताया गया है कि लगभग 13 हजार मेगावाट बिजली की कमी है और उसको पूरा करने के लिए दसवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में भी बहुत मुश्किल हो रही है। इसीलिए मैं सरकार से मांग करना चाहता हूँ कि किसी भी प्रकार से ऊर्जा की हम जितनी जल्दी पूर्ति करेंगे, उतना ही देश का औद्योगिक विकास होगा। किसानों की ऊर्जा के बारे में बहुत बड़ी समस्या है। उनकी फसलें सूख रही हैं, विशेषकर मध्य प्रदेश में जबरदस्त बिजली की कमी है। उसको पूरा करने के लिए केन्द्र सरकार को आगे आना चाहिए और अन्य प्रांतों में भी जो कमी है, उसको पूरा करने का प्रयास करना चाहिए।

उपसभापति महोदय, उसी प्रकार से शिक्षा के बारे में हमारे देश की बड़ी विचित्र स्थिति है। अभी इस समय हमारे देश में लगभग 57.2 प्रतिशत साक्षरता है और करीब 43 प्रतिशत अभी भी निरक्षरता है। उपसभापति जी, श्रीलंका में 91.6 परसेंट साक्षरता है, केन्या में 82 परसेंट साक्षरता है, चीन में 84 परसेंट साक्षरता है। इस प्रकार से हमारे देश के अंदर साक्षरता का बहुत बड़ा अभाव है। यद्यपि सर्व-शिक्षा अभियान, सतत शिक्षा और अन्य प्रकार से हमारे यहां राशि देने का प्रयास जरूर हुआ है, लेकिन सर्व-शिक्षा अभियान के अंतर्गत आज भी देश में ऐसे बहुत से गांव हैं, जहां पर हम प्राथमिक स्कूल नहीं खोल सके हैं। हमारे प्रदेश में, विशेषकर मध्य प्रदेश में, यह व्यवस्था की गई थी कि हर गांव में स्कूल खोलेंगे, हर तीन किलोमीटर में माध्यमिक पाठशाला खोलेंगे और हर पांच किलोमीटर पर हाई स्कूल खोलेंगे। उपसभापति महोदय, मुझे खेद है कि अभी भी मध्य प्रदेश के अंदर 3 किलोमीटर के रेडियस में माध्यमिक पाठशालाएं पूरे तरीके से नहीं खोली गई हैं और 5 किलोमीटर के रेडियस में हाई स्कूल भी नहीं खोले गये हैं। इसलिए मैं मानव संसाधन विकास के मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि वे मध्य प्रदेश के लिए और विशेष अनुदान दें, ताकि 5 किलोमीटर में हाई स्कूल और 3 किलोमीटर में माध्यमिक पाठशालाएं खोली जा सकें। उपसभापति महोदय, मुझे इस बात की खुशी है कि इस बजट में 19 करोड़ रुपया कस्तूरबा गांधी बालिका विद्यालय खोलने के लिए केन्द्र सरकार ने रखा है। इसके लिए मैं उनको बधाई देना चाहता हूँ, क्योंकि बालिकाओं की शिक्षा के लिए यह नितांत आवश्यक है कि हम बहुत ताकत के साथ हैं, उनकी शिक्षा के प्रचार-प्रसार के लिए आगे बढ़ें।

उपसभापति महोदय, उसी प्रकार से कृषि के मामले में हमारा देश कृषि प्रधान देश कहा जाता है, लेकिन यह हमारे देश का बड़ा दुर्भाग्य है कि यहां प्राकृतिक प्रकोप, अकाल, अवर्षा, अतिवर्षा,

ओला और इल्ली आदि के प्रकोपों से, हमारे देश की बहुत बड़ी फसल बर्बाद होती है। महोदय, मध्य प्रदेश में इस बार एक और नयी आपदा हमारे ऊपर आयी है, एक और कठिनाई खड़ी हुई है। यहां पर सोयाबीन की फसल पर बहुत जबर्दस्त इल्ली का प्रकोप हुआ है। हरदा, होशंगाबाद, रायसेन जिला और अन्य कई जिले इल्ली की चपेट में आ गए और लगभग सौ फीसदी, पूरा सोयाबीन बर्बाद हो गया। उपसभापति महोदय, हमारी प्रदेश की सरकार ने केन्द्र सरकार से मांग की है कि वह इसमें हमारी सहायता करें ताकि हम किसानों को अधिक सुविधा दे सकें। महोदय, कृषि के मामले में जब तक सिंचाई की पूरी व्यवस्था नहीं होगी तब तक हमारा देश, जो कृषि प्रधान देश कहा जाता है, उसमें उत्पादन बढ़ाने में बाधा आ रही है। इसलिए उपसभापति महोदय, पूर्व सरकार ने, जो बड़ी-बड़ी नदियां हैं, उनको एक-दूसरे के साथ जोड़ने के लिए जो योजना शुरू की थी, मैं केन्द्र सरकार से निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि उस पर पुनर्विचार करे और उस योजना को निश्चित रूप से चालू करे ताकि जहां बाढ़ आती है, वहां बाढ़ को रोका जा सके, जहां अकाल पड़ता है, वहां पानी का प्रबंध हो सके। हमारा नारा होना चाहिए “खेत का पानी खेत में और गांव का पानी गांव में।” महोदय, वर्षा के पानी को गिरफ्तार करो, जहां भी पानी है, वर्षा का पानी समुद्र में न जा पाए, इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था अगर पूरे देश में बड़े पैमाने पर, युद्धस्तर पर केन्द्र सरकार अपने हाथ में लेती है तो जो पानी की सबसे बड़ी समस्या है, चाहे वह पेयजल की समस्या हो, चाहे सिंचाई की समस्या हो, वह निश्चित रूप से दूर हो जाएगी और हम पानी की समस्या से निश्चित रूप से निजात पा लेंगे। मुझे इतनी ही बात आपके सामने रखनी थी। आपने मुझे समय दिया, उसके लिए बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2004, and use this opportunity for making some remarks on the current performance of the economy and the directions that are likely to be seen in the next few months. Sir, before I do so, I just take two points made by the hon. Member of the Opposition, who opened this debate, and he has mentioned about the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. Sir, it is a common misconception in this House; this is a point that was made by his senior colleague, Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi also a few days ago, and I had occasion, then, to draw the attention of the House to the fact that this year, contrary to what is popularly believed, the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has seen an unprecedented increase in the level of the budgetary support. The support for the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan had almost doubled, and the support for the Mid-Day Meals Scheme has more than doubled. This is being made possible because of the two per cent cess on tax is levied in the regular Budget, earlier this year. So, to argue that the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is under-funded. in my view, is incorrect. Whether it is being properly implemented or not, or whether the State's matching contribution is being made by the States

like Madhya Pradesh or not, is a separate issue. But, I think, as far as the funding for the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is concerned, this should no longer be a matter of debate.

Sir, the hon. Member has also raised the perennial issue, if I may say so, of the interlinking of rivers, on which we have had occasion to discuss it in the past. He has raised this issue. It is my considered view that the approach that the Government has taken is one of caution, as has been advocated in the Common Minimum Programme. I think, straight forward linking of rivers, as was mooted by the earlier Government, is fraught with grave ecological and social consequences, and it is best that we hasten slowly along the lines that the Minister for Water Resources outlined a few weeks ago.

Sir, I would like to just make some four or five brief comments on the general background of the Appropriations Bill. I want to first make a few observations on the Mid-Year Review of the economy that was tabled in the Houses, last week, by the hon. Finance Minister. I want to talk about three or four specific commitments made in the Common Minimum Programme and draw the Finance Minister's attention to them. I also want to use this occasion to make a few comments on the amendments to the SARAFESI Act 2002 which, unfortunately, were approved in the Parliament, last week, without a debate. Fourth, I want to talk about some of the revival packages. This morning, you heard our colleagues from U.P. arguing for a revival package for U.P., and this is something that needs some comment. And fifth, I want to talk about the value Added Tax (VAT), which seems to be the cornerstone of the fiscal reforms strategy in the months to come. Sir, the first point is on the Mid-Year Review of the economy—this is, of course, in keeping with the Fiscal Responsibility and the Budget Management Act that was passed by the Parliament itself two years ago, that enjoins upon the Finance Ministers to come up with quarterly assessments of the performance of the economy. But, Sir, there are two or three important points which I want to make here. First, if you look at page 12 of the Mid-Year Review of the economy, the performance in the highways sector is a cause for some concern. It says here:—

"The Golden Quadrilateral North-South and East-West projects involving a total length of 13,146 kilometres of highways, only 30 per cent has been completed so far."

Worse, if I may add, contracts are yet to be awarded for 6,211 kilometres, making 47 per cent of the project. But this was a flagship project,

irrespective of whether it was a flagship project of the NDA or the UPA; that is immaterial. This is a project that is absolutely essential for the further development of the economy, and I believe that the slow rate of progress in this particular segment of the infrastructure project is a cause for some concern. I hope that the hon. Finance Minister will have an occasion to deal with this.

Sir, I am, somewhat, intrigued that in the section of infrastructure, there is a complete silence on the modernisation of railways. The Railway Minister when he presented the Railway Budget, unveiled fairly ambitious plans for modernisation of the railways, involving gauge conversion, introduction of high speed locomotives, and so on. Yet, the Mid-Year Review of the economy is completely silent on the important issue, what progress has been made in this regard.

Sir, if you look at Appendix Table-IX, page 49,—this is the section on Plan Expenditure—one of the arguments made for an increase in the introduction of the Appropriation Bill is that we need more money for our Plan Expenditure. But, Sir, if you look at some critical sectors of the economy, which are important to all political parties, you find very substantial underutilisation of the Plan Expenditure in the period, so far, this year, and I am just comparing it with the corresponding period of last year, e.g. the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries, there has been a steep fall in the utilisation of Plan Expenditure, from 36 per cent to 23 per cent, this year. The Department of Health and the Department of Family Welfare are also showing very substantial shortfalls in the utilisation of Plan funds. The Department of Land Resources, which is in charge of implementing the Haryali Programme, the D.P.A.P., the P.D.P. and the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme also are seeing very substantial underutilisation of Plan funds. Sir, my point is that we routinely vote increases in Plan Expenditure, but in actual point of fact, now that the Finance Minister has a half-yearly snap shot on the utilisation of Plan Expenditure, I think, some tough questions need to be asked, as to why is it that in some of these important sectors of the economy which have political commitments, cutting across the political spectrum, we are seeing very substantial underutilisation of Plan Expenditure which, I think, is a cause for some concern.

Sir, finally, on the Mid-Year Review of the economy, the point that I want to make here is, if you look at the balance of payments summary, Appendix Table-II, page 42, a very significant development is taking place in the Indian economy. For the first time, perhaps, this year, 2004-05, trade in,

what is called, invisibles is going to exceed trade in, what is called, visibles. In other words, your export earnings from software and remittances from Indian workers abroad are going to be much more than the exports of merchandise. Sir, yet, as you know, we persist in calling them visibles and invisibles, and most of the discussion is on the visible side of the trade equation, and I would request the hon. Finance Minister, as time goes on, that we spend a little time on discussing what these components of the invisibles are, only the knowledgeable will understand what is this all about. In simple English, it is really workers remittances and software export earnings, and the fact that this is now becoming a substantial chunk of our dollar earnings, I think, really requires a much more comment than it contains. If you look at the April-June figure alone, the invisibles earning is 8 billion dollars. So, you can expect that you will have about 25 billion dollars only from software earnings and remittances of Indian workers abroad, largely in the Middle East, and increasingly from North America as well.

Sir, on the Mid-Year Review, the final sub-point I want to make is that the Finance Minister says in the introduction to the Mid-Year Review that the Mid-Year Review is a statement explaining deviations in meeting the obligations of the Government under the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003. Sir, we are still awaiting from the Government a detailed road map on how this Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act is going to be implemented. Sir, you may recall that the Parliament passed this Act which enjoins the Government to eliminate revenue deficit in five years time and reduce the fiscal deficit to a particular number. What this detailed road map is going to be is, of course, left to the Government of the day. Some months ago, the Government, when it came to power, unveiled the Report of the Task Force on implementation of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act. I would like to ask the Finance Minister whether this still constitutes the authentic road map, as far as reaching the end target of eliminating revenue deficit by the year 2008, if I am not mistaken, is concerned.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: It is 2009.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: The Common Minimum Programme has shifted it from 2008 to 2009. Thank you for reminding me, Mr. Minister. It is shifted by one year. I want to know what precisely the road map for the Government is. How does the Government propose to reach this target of eliminating revenue deficit? This calls for very heroic efforts in managing expenditure and in raising revenues.

Sir, I now move to the three CMP commitments which, I believe, are very important. They, unfortunately, have not got much attention in either the Mid-term Review or the debates that have taken place in the Parliament so far. One of the CMP commitments was setting up of a National Manufacturing Competitive Council. Now, the reason behind the Council was that, in the last few years, we have been mesmerised by the growth of IT industry which served the country very well. But this country's real strength lies in hardcore manufacturing industries like textiles, leather, jute and core engineering which not only provide very substantial opportunities for export earnings but are also, more importantly, very employment intensive, blue collar employment intensive as supposed to be white collar employment intensive like the IT industry. One of the industries is textiles.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Mr. Jaitley is wearing a blue scarf.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: He says Mr. Jaitley is wearing a blue scarf.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA (Jharkhand): He is wearing a grey scarf.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Okay, it is grey. But we have not yet reached grey collar manufacturing. We will come back to it a little later.

Sir, I want to raise three specific points on the national Manufacturing Competitiveness Council. In just about ten days' time the entire Multi Fibre Agreement is going to be phased out. There is an enormous opportunity that is available to the Indian textile industry to reach the glory that it had some 40 to 50 years ago. The Indian textile industry has been strangled in the last few decades almost entirely because of Fiscal Policy. Successive Finance Ministers have tried to bring about fiscal policy changes, but not entirely with success. I would request the Finance Minister to revisit these issues. I think there is a sort of urgency to this, as the abolition of the Multi Fibre Agreement is just a few days away. Industries like jute and leather are also very important, not just from the export point of view, as I mentioned, but also from the employment point of view. But, I think, we need to pay far greater attention to this traditional areas of core advantage in India, which is basically manufacturing, and we should not be just carried away by the IT industry as we were some years ago.

The second commitment in the CMP, on which, again, there is silence, is the establishment of the National Commission on Unorganised Informal Sector. The entire debate in Parliament and the entire debate in the media—I say this with all due respect to my friends in the Left parties,

who will suddenly get up and say "No, no"; I have just woken up Mr. Dipankar—is on the organised sector. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA (West Bengal): No, it is not that. You have mentioned this in this House earlier also. Please don't repeat this. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: This is my view. *(Interruptions)*... This is my view. The organised accounts just about 8 per cent of the workforce and the entire debate, the entire attention of the Government, is on the pay, perquisites and privileges of this organised sector of the economy. Ninety-two per cent of the workforce is in the unorganised sector. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JIBON ROY (West Bengal): What have you done for the unorganised sector? *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: That is the point I am trying to make, Comrade. *(Interruptions)* ... That is the point I am trying to make. Let us have a debate. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JIBON ROY: I can challenge that no Government has done anything for the unorganised sector. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Jairam Ramesh is not able to understand it. Our discussion is on self-reliance, not on the question of public sector.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, the social security concerns, the employment concerns or the growth concerns of 93 per cent of the workforce in the unorganised sector should occupy the attention of the Finance Minister. I did not see much attention to it either in his Budget speech or in the media review of the economy, and I would like him to revisit this issue also, as I have mentioned earlier, as far as manufacturing is concerned.

The third aspect of the Common Minimum Programme that I want to deal with is this. Sir, yesterday, in the Lok Sabha, the National Rural Employment Guarantee Bill was introduced which, presumably, will be referred to a Standing Committee. There could be different views on the financial viability or the fiscal feasibility of an Act. But such an Act is required, that such an Act will have a salutary effect on employment, on wage conditions, in rural areas is borne out by the experience that Maharashtra has had over the past three decades in the implementation of the Employment Guarantee Scheme. I don't think that this scheme should suffer on account of funding. I think that this offers an unique

opportunity to the Finance Minister for bringing about integration of a whole plethora of rural development programmes covering watershed, horticulture and so on, and bringing it under the ambit of the Employment Guarantee Act so that once for all, we can bury this shibboleth, 'Yes, we need an Employment Guarantee Scheme; but there is no money for this.' I say this because in the battle for employment guarantee, the Finance Minister has acquired the reputation of trying to hold aloft the flag of fiscal responsibility, and somehow, the proponents of the Employment Guarantee Act seem to be fiscal terrorists. This type of an impression the Finance Minister should dispel sooner rather than later. I think it is within the realm of possibility for the Finance Minister to generate resources for progressive—I underline the word 'progressive'—implementation of the Employment Guarantee Act to cover the entire country.

Then, Sir, let me come to the SARAFESI Act, 2002, that is, the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Securities Act, amendments for which were approved by this very House last week without a discussion, which bore out a rare show of unity amongst Members of the Shiv Sena, the CPI (M) and the Congress (I). Now, what does the SARAFESI Act do? In fact, this is the main reason why I wanted to speak today on this. What is it that this Act does? It is addressing a very serious problem of the Indian economy, which is the problem of Non-Performing Assets. Now, there are various estimates floating around us. Some hon. members say, "It is Rs. 1,00,000 crores; some people say Rs. 2,00,000 crores". It is very difficult to figure out what recisely is the magnitude of these Non-Performing Assets. Fortunately, some days ago, the Reserve Bank of India came out with a Report on Trends and Progress of Banking in India. I read every word of it trying to get some feel about what the magnitude of this problem is. Sir, the Report says: "The Non-performing Assets in respect of 27 public sector companies amount to Rs. 50,000 crores; as for State Co-operative banks, it is Rs. 7,000 crores; Central Co-operative banks, Rs. 14,000 crores; State Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks, Rs. 3,000 crores; Primary Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Bank, Rs. 3,600 crores; the term lending institutions, Rs. 15,000 crores; private banks, Rs. 13,000 crores; the State Urban Co-operative Banks, Rs. 7,000 crores. So, Sir, you reach a figure of almost Rs. 1,00,000 crores if you look at it in its totality. If you leave out the priority sector, if you say that you are not going to count advances to agriculture, small farmers, small trade operators and transport operators, we are still talking of a very substantial sum of almost Rs. 50,000 crores as Non-Performing Assets. Now, this is one of the

reasons why we voted these amendments to the Act, that is, to ensure that institutions would be able to recover some of these dues. But this is only a tip of the iceberg. We have a long, long way to go before we actually try to do something very meaningful. The Finance Minister yesterday was mentioning that the net NPAs have come down. In a recent meeting of the Standing Committee,—Shri Venkaiah Naidu is a man known for his humour; he was heard saying "vision, mission, lotion; able, stable, capable" — he came out with a brilliant definition of Non-Performing Assets. He was listening to all the bankers explaining the difference between the Gross NPA and Net NPA. He asked them, "Tell me, what is the difference between the two"? The chief of the State Bank of India said, "Well, Sir, the Gross NPA is the total amount of money that is actually owed to us. The Net NPA is the amount which we have written off. We have made a 'write-off' which we hope to recover". So, Mr. Venkaiah Naidu said, "Will you ever recover this"? The banker said, "Yes, we hope to recover it at some stage". Shri Venkaiah Naidu said, "In other words, this is a write-off that is not written off". So, I think in this miasma of Gross NPA and Net NPA, let us not get lost in these definitions. The fact of the matter is that this is Rs. 50,000 crores in the economy, waiting to be recovered. And what are we doing about it? That is the real issue. I think the step that the Finance Minister took by amending the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARAFESI Act) was only one small step.

Sir, we have set up Debt Recovery Tribunals. There are 29 Debt Recovery Tribunals. Rs. 92,000 crores worth of cases have been filed; only Rs. 8000 crores have been recovered. And we were told, when we went and met some of the Debt Recovery Tribunals, that one of the key problems in the Tribunals was the fact that they did not have Recovery Officers. Recovery Officers' are appointments of the judiciary. More often than not, these are delayed. In other words, you can file the cases to get them to adjudicate, which takes time. And to recover what is adjudicated, takes even more time. So, I think this is an issue that demands the Finance Minister's immediate attention. What is he doing to bring about a greater sense of urgency and effectiveness in the Debt Recovery Tribunals?

Sir, about Asset Reconstruction Companies, some time ago it was said that we would set up these asset reconstruction companies. Three Asset Reconstruction Corporations have been set up. I would again like to ask the Finance Minister, what impact this has had on the recovery of Non-Performing Assets. The short point is that just by amending the

SARAFESI Act, we have created a window of opportunity for institutions to recover their money. But this is a much larger issue. And I don't see the same sense of urgency, the same sort of mission-approach to recovering this money which is, after all, public money available for the public exchequer for investment in social sectors. And I think we do need a very time-bound approach to recover these Non-Performing Assets from various components of our financial system. Otherwise, we will congratulate ourselves by saying that Gross NPAs are coming down, Net NPAs are coming down, and the problem is not as serious as it is being made out to be.

Let me now turn to the fourth point which is about packages, and which was raised this morning. The Government has avoided the use of the word 'package'. They are now talking about Revival and Reconstruction Plans. In the last few weeks, some Reconstruction Plans have been announced both for Jammu and Kashmir and the North-East. I think, Sir, it is an opportunity, at the same time, to pay adequate attention to the way these huge Revival and Reconstruction plans are going to be implemented. Otherwise, this is public expenditure down the drain.

I did a quick exercise this morning, based on a study of all the State-packages that was done by the Reserve Bank, for the North-East. We are all very concerned about the North-East. We are all concerned that we should spend more money in the North East; and the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister both have announced major revival plans for some States in the North-East.

Sir, if you look at the North-East, and if you just look at some of the figures, they are really very startling. Eighty-four per cent of Arunachal Pradesh's expenditure comes from the Centre; Fifty per cent of Assam's expenditure comes from the Centre; seventy per cent of Meghalaya's; eighty per cent of Manipur's, eighty per cent of Nagaland's; seventy per cent of Tripura's; and seventy-one per cent of Mizoram's expenditure comes from the Centre. Every year, for the Seven Sisters of the North-East, Rs.30,000 crores are spent; this is non-defence, non-military expenditure. Rs.30,000 crores are spent; every year in the North-East, out of which Rs.20,000 crores comes from the Centre! The question could then be asked: where is all this money going? Rs. 20,000 crores a year for a population of thirty million people. On per capita basis, this is the highest in the country and, yet, nobody has really asked this question of the efficacy of public expenditure in this critical region. At least, I have come to the conclusion that successive Governments have used corruption as a mode of cohesion, that we have these sensitive regions of the country,

and we assuage our social conscience by saying that we will have a reconstruction plan, we will spend more money; but we are not bothered about how this money is being spent.

We are not bothered about how this money is being spent; we are not bothered where this money is going. The money may be extorted; may be going to militant groups, may be going to terrorist groups. Who knows? But, every year we take pride in announcing huge increases in outlays.

SHRI FALI S. NARIMAN (Nominated): If you don't mind, main source of indigenous income of many of these North-Eastern States was the lottery. Unfortunately, under the Central Act, we have banned them from having State Lotteries in their own States. A large amount of money used to be generated from these lotteries. That is where the money goes.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, the point on packages which I want to highlight to the hon. Finance Minister is that it is high time you bring some system of discipline into public expenditure in some of the States which are seeing year after year ramp-up in reconstruction and revival plans. This applies to the North-East; this applies to Jammu and Kashmir, and, it, certainly, applies to Bihar which has seen a special expenditure package in this year's Budget. I think, while a case can certainly, be made out, and I am sure the Finance Commission, whose recommendations would be made public, I hope, would have made recommendations for increasing expenditure in backward States without a commensurate attention being paid on where this public expenditure is going, the accountability associated with this public expenditure, I am afraid, Sir, Parliament will be voting money, year after year, without getting any adequate returns for this.

Finally, Sir, I want to talk about tax reforms for which both the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister are on record as having said that in the next few months the economy is going to be kick-started or buoyed up by major big bang tax reforms. Sir, central to this is going to be the introduction of the Value Added Tax; central to this is going to be the transition to the VAT. It has been announced that from 1st April, 2005, we will make the transition to the VAT. This is only the fourth such announcement that has been made in the last ten years. Four times—April 1, 1994; 1, 1996; April 1, 2003 and now April 1, 2005. This has been a moving April 1 target. I hope this time April 1st would be sacrosanct, and even if the Delhi Government objects, even if a few Governments object, the majority of the State Governments would make the transition to the VAT. But, in the process of making the transition to the VAT, I would request the hon. Finance Minister to allay many of the fears and concerns that have been expressed

by my colleagues in this very House that while the VAT is good; while the VAT should be welcomed, it should not be seen as an invitation for harassment of small dealers and small traders. That is why the concept of introducing a threshold value, which, I believe, is being introduced by the Empowered Committee, is very important. How actually the VAT would work in practice, what it does to documentation for traders needs to be explained in a very simple language. I think, we need a very massive public education campaign of the type that you mounted on the service tax, in the case of VAT because quite clearly the success of this Budget, the success of the next Budget is going to be determined by the success you have on revenue mobilisation. And that, a successful implementation of the VAT is necessary.

Finally, Sir, let me say that the Appropriation Bill and the mid-year review of the economy have come in the midst of a most unexpected revival in the economic fortunes. I still remember May 17, 2004, when the markets fell by unprecedented 28 per cent, and today, we are asking ourselves the question how long the market boom will continue. On May 17, we were asking, what is the bottom that the markets are going to actually discover for itself? But, I do hope that the Finance Minister will not be lulled into complacency; rather, I am more worried by a market that is going up in the manner it has grown in the last few months than by a market falling. The fact that the markets are very healthy, the fact that the FII flows have been very, very buoyant, have created undoubtedly situations of economic confidence internationally and nationally, but it has also created other challenges for managing the price situation, for managing the inflationary expectations and so on and so forth.

So, I think, all in all, while the Appropriation Bill needs to be voted, while the mid-year review of the economy does paint a fairly robust picture of the economy, there are structural problems that need to be addressed, and those structural problems have largely to do with increasing the revenue-raising capacity of the Government because quite clearly unless the Government is able to raise more revenues quickly, many of its social expenditure commitments are not going to be met. Thank you, Sir.

†SHRI S. ANBALAGAN (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to make a few points on the Appropriation Bill for 2004-2005 on behalf of AIADMK. When the hon'ble Minister presented the budget for the year 2004-2005 in the Lok Sabha, he made

†English translation of the original speech delivered in Tamil.

an observation. He said that it would take some six months to achieve the goals set out in the budget. Today, when we are discussing this after almost six months, we have to look back and think as to how far these promises have been fulfilled. There was reference to the National Common Minimum Programme and seven clear economic factors were set to be achieved. Now that almost six months have passed, I would like to know how many of them have been achieved and to what extent they have been realised.

Sir, whatever be the claim, it is a fact that the common man continues to suffer greatly by the ever increasing price rise. Therefore, I am compelled to mention what the Finance Minister said in his budget speech. He said, Economy augurs well. Though there could be ups and downs the price front will be benign. I would like to ask the Finance Minister whether the price front as prevailing now, is, benign. Is it a promising situation? Very recently, while replying to a question in the Lok Sabha, the hon'ble Finance Minister said that the value of rupees is 21.78 paisa in Assam and 16.18 paisa in Delhi. If a poor labourer earns 50 rupees a day, then the worth of the money is only 10 rupees. With that money the poor man has to make both ends meet, educate his children, have a shelter, look after the health of family members and save for the future as well. Is that all possible for a common man?

Sir, a great thinker, Alexander Campell once said, in a country where the difference between the maximum and the minimum wage is too high, corruption ought to prevail. I am referring to this because, in a country where the majority is suffering without the basic amenities, there is extravagant opulence on display on the other day. Then now are we going to make India a developed country. Unless poverty is completely eradicated, no developmental scheme can be implemented successfully. I wish to refer to some issues concerning the States, Tamil Nadu in particular. The loans with less than 13 % rate of interest should be set off in the interest of the States. The loan schemes that have been stopped with effect from 2-10-2004 should also be commenced. This will help the states and lessen their financial burden. States will also be able to reduce their debt burden. On behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu, I wish to make a demand. The hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Dr. Puratchithalaivi Amma has demanded funds to the tune of 18,000 crore rupees for developing Chennai and over a period of 10 years. I request the Centre to provide funds for developing Chennai on the lines given to Mumbai and Delhi. The demand for an airport in Chennai on international standard should also be considered favourably.

Sir, I have another point pertaining to Taminadu. In my native district of Namakkal as well as in the districts of Villuparan Trichy soleim. and Dharmapuri there are about 450 factories producing starch and sago from cassava. Over 1 lakh workers are employed in these factories. Their livelihood is dependent on these factories. But this industry is in doldrums now. Because, under WTO Agreement, raw materials are important from Thailand to India under reduced duty. This has affected the sago industries adversely. Not only the industrial workers, but also the farmers growing cassava are adversely affected. I appeal to the hon'ble Minister to kindly bail out this sago and starch industry from the current crisis.

Sir, I have one last point to make. Under the directions of the hon'ble Prime Minister a Central team visited Tamil Nadu last week to assess the damage caused by flood. That team had visited various affected areas in the State and also met the hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. Our hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. Puratchithalaivi Amma has demanded enough funds to provide relief to the farmers and other affected people. As the hon'ble Finance Minister hails from Tamil Nadu, I appeal to him to provide funds as demanded by Tamil Nadu. With these words I conclude.

SHRI JIBON ROY (West Bengal): Thank you very much sir. The Appropriation Bill has already been passed by the Lok Sabha. Our discussion is merely a technical discussion. I think the hon. Minister will take it as an input for the next budgetary preparation. Of course, I am not a knowledgeable person on economics. I cannot go deep. But still I would like to raised. First of all, if you want to take the yardstick growth alone to measure a economy, of course, we are growing. I compliment you for that, during the last six months.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY (Gujarat): Last six years.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: There were years in which there was growth and there were years in which there was stagnation.

SHRI JIBON ROY: You have done an amazing thing in agriculture. It was minus growth during the first six months of the last year and this time they have grown by more than four per cent. They have gone back to 2002-2003 level. They have grown. Obviously, industry also, in manufacturing, in capital goods, in mining, in all areas you have grown. But the point is that, whether an economy can be charged up only by the yardstick in the growth of economy. This is my simple point. I understand that that globalisation did not take care of the distribution side of the economy or

liberalisation side. So take care. As far as distribution is concerned I think Mr. Jairam should have spoken for one minute. In the total speech you could have spared one minute only. Let it start with one minute in the latter period whereby the distribution side will be discussed in the Budget and we can also discuss it. But on the point that he said, I would ask, "you were speaking about the old rhetoric". Employers were making this rhetoric twenty years back, organised and unorganised. Now the situation is completely different.

I would like to know the policy matter of the Government. You may take one month's time to give an answer. During the last fifteen years, twenty years of globalisation and liberalised economy, growth has taken place in the industrial economy. But how much of that growth has come out of the productivity increase, and how much has come through labour increase? Everybody knows, nowadays, in the private sector the casualisation of jobs is taking place. All are unorganised. Nobody is organised nowadays. I wish to know from the Government how much of it has come through productivity and how much of it has come through labour increase. There is a current estimate made by some economists that out of the total production increase forty per cent has come through growth of productivities—machine productivity and labour productivity—not even through increase of casual labour. You should keep this in mind, when you make rhetoric. You should know what you are speaking. I would like to place before you, Sir, as I understand, that people have accepted globalisation and liberalisation. Don't discuss distribution, discuss only production. But sometimes some assessment should be there, how it will be reflected in distribution line also. At least one was doing it. In the recent assessment it has been said that in all the under-developed countries, where such an adjustment has taken place a peculiar type of development is taking place in the distribution line. Firstly, the wealth of the poor and the middle class is being redistributed. Poverty and middle-class wealth is being redistributed among themselves. As a result more and more people are coming above the poverty line because poverty is being redistributed between the poor and the middle class. A second phenomenon that is taking place is that the gap of income is being widened. In our country, the second phenomenon is working. The first phenomenon is not working. Keep it in mind. It is a dangerous thing. In 1993, the poverty line was 39 per cent; in 1996, it was 37 per cent; in 1998, it was 27 per cent. You are talking about our economy. But have you gone through the report of the World Food Organization? They have said that during 1998 to 2002, the number of hungry people in India had increased by 13 million. Five Years

ago, the hungry people were reduced by 18 million. From reduction, it had increased. If you calculate, Sir, you will find that from 1998 to today the poverty line has gone down. This pendulum swinging is taking place in the Indian economy. Mostly, hunger is coming back because of the malnutrition of the children. Now, 10.6 million children, up to the age of five, die every year. Sir, this is for information, and, probably, you know one Abhayankar Bank Committee was constituted in Maharashtra. They have calculated that deaths due to malnutrition in Maharashtra are around 1,60,000 in a year. It is the most developed industrial State of the country. If this is the picture, what is happening at the ground level? You have to take note of it. You may believe in globalisation. You may believe in liberalised economy. You may believe in growth in economy. But you have to make an assessment of what is happening in the distribution line too. In the rural economy, the self-employment is going down, both in the cases of male and female. The condition of the poor is deteriorating. The situation is such that if you go in for agriculture, agricultural economy cannot absorb and share production of the entire agricultural economy. I have gone through your speech and papers, circulated when the subject of price rise was discussed. You will find that in the case the agricultural products, produced and consumed in our country, price is not rising. The prices of cereal and foodgrains are not rising. The prices of agricultural products produced by our peasantry are not rising. But the prices of agricultural products, finished in the mill, are increasing. Agricultural products are imported. Their prices are rising. The prices of milk products are rising. The number of live stocks are going down. Milk is coming from outside. The price of everything is rising. The price of edible oil is rising. The price of sugar is rising because it is processed in the industry. But the price of foodgrains, cereals and other things, is coming down. Now, cabbage is being sold in the market at a cost of rupee one. People are not getting back even the cost of petrol, and diesel, the prices of which are falling. Therefore, the condition is that even if growth is there in agriculture, you cannot absorb ...*(Interruptions)*... Even if growth is there in agriculture, people cannot absorb ...*(Interruptions)*... What is it? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सुरेश भारद्वाज (हिमाचल प्रदेश): प्राइस राइज़ में क्या आपका भी कोई योगदान है?

SHRI JIBON ROY: देखिए, देखिए, ... (व्यवधान) Please don't talk, everybody knows my economic philosophy. ...*(Interruptions)*... You understand it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jibon Roy, don't answer him. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JIBON ROY: The point is that you don't understand the 'ABC' of the economy. ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't argue with me. ...*(Interruptions)*... You have said... ...*(Interruptions)*... You have said*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jibon Roy, ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)* No; no, I have not allowed you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JIBON ROY: You have said with full responsibility*(Interruptions)*... When people were dying, you were chewing *badam*. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. *(Interruptions)*... आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*

SHRI JIBON ROY: You don't bother about people. ...*(Interruptions)*... At least, now we have got some breathing time. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... देखिए, आप बीच-बीच में इंटरफीयर मत कीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*

SHRI JIBON ROY: Sir, at least, we have got some breathing time. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jibon Roy, you address the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why are you taking cognisance of that?*(Interruptions)*... They want to provoke you and you get provoked. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JIBON ROY: Sir, at least, now, ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पणि (उड़ीसा): सभापति जी, ...*(व्यवधान)*

श्री उपसभापति : आप बैठ जाइए। आपको भी परमिशन मिलेगी। ...*(व्यवधान)* माननीय सदस्य, यह ठीक नहीं है ...*(व्यवधान)*, नहीं, नहीं, आप रूल्स को फालो नहीं कर रहे हैं। इस प्रकार से बीच में आप चेयर की परमिशन के बिना खड़े नहीं हो सकते हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*

SHRI JIBON ROY: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am raising this issue because... ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री कृपाल परमार (हिमाचल प्रदेश): ये हमें देख करके भाषण दे रहे हैं। इनसे कहिए कि आपको देख करके बात करें।

SHRI JIBON ROY: I never look at you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति: आप बैठिए ...*(व्यवधान)*.. Mr. Jibon Roy, don't look at that side. ...*(Interruptions)*... Look towards me. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JIBON ROY: Sir, I am raising this issue because of the fact that during the last 6-7 years, we have passed through a time when there was no scope to discuss economics with the people. People were involved with extraneous issues. Now, the time has come, and I urge upon the Government so that economic and democratic issues are discussed with the people and the masses. That is why, openly, I raised this issue for discussion.

Sir, obviously, we have to take care of the peasant. Mr. Finance Minister, potato is grown in my State. We are trying to export potatoes and trying to build infrastructure for that, but no SCBs are available, no fertilizer is available, and it is not going into the State. You have to ensure this so that poor peasants are saved and a regular supply of fertilizer is ensured.

Then, I come to Employment Guarantee issue. Whatever economics we follow, we have a united Common Minimum Programme. We are committed to carry forward the Common Minimum Programme. They may try to create a breach between you and me. Sometimes, I grieve that I may not be able to make friends with you in my lifetime. ...*(Interruptions)*... I may not be able to make friends with you in my lifetime because of your economic policies... ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, please... ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI VIKRAM VERMA (Madhya Pradesh): He belongs to the Left. Let him sit on the left side. ...*(Interruptions)*..

श्री उपसभापति : आप बैठिए, आप बैठिए, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI JIBON ROY: They have to withdraw from communal politics. Otherwise... ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री एस०एस० अहलुवालिया: जीवन बाबू की तकलीफ यह है कि वे तब तक वॉर्मअप नहीं होते हैं जब तक वे दाहिनी तरफ नहीं देखते हैं, he won't get warmed up. इतना हमारी तरफ मत देखिए, कहीं प्यार आ गया तो मुश्किल हो जाएगी।

SHRI JIBON ROY: They know what economy they followed. As regards the employment generation, you have to take care of it. The Employment Guarantee Scheme was introduced in this House. (Time bell) Sir, I will take three to four minutes. I am new in Economics ... (Interruptions)... In the Employment Guarantee Scheme, the urban poor has been ignored. My second point is, if you take a position that States will finance it, it means nobody will finance it. Therefore, you have to take care of it. A consensus has to be built up, so far as the Employment Guarantee Scheme is concerned. Sir, I will make two, three more points. The first point is that our foreign exchange reserves have gone up to, probably, \$ 130 billion. What are you doing with that money? The first thing I understand is that you are financing current account deficit. I do not know about this. You may answer it. But sometimes, I feel that we are financing the deficit of the USA also by buying Treasury Bonds at a low rate of interest. Now the problem that we are facing is the price of dollar is declining, dollar is weakening, and, at a point of time, it was thought that American economy will grow and they will be able to absorb the shock. Now, if you compare, to some extent, American economy is growing faster than that of the Japanese Economy or the European economy, but, still, American current account deficit is increasing. It is now at a level of \$ 475 billion or so. If that is the position, whatever reserves you have in the foreign exchange, they are now declining by itself, vapouring out in itself. In that case, I want to know whether any precaution is required or not. As regards the petroleum, we produce 0.05 per cent of the world production, but our population is 25 per cent of the world population. So, we will have to import petroleum continuously. There is no other alternative here. For deep sea exploration of petroleum and other issues, what are we doing? As regards the international agreement with petroleum companies, what are we doing? Sir, some diplomatic steps are required, probably, to be taken by other countries. I believe, you will take care of that. With these words, I support the Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2004.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I rise to support this Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2004. Sir, my friends have spoken very exhaustively about the comprehensive economy of this country, especially, Shri Jai Ram Ramesh. I will be confining myself to the precarious financial position of the States in this country. Sir, as regards the financial position of the States, especially, the weak States, I would say that they are totally unable to meet the demands of the people. Their debt has gone up. All States put together are owing to the Government of India to the tune

of 2.5 lakh crores, subject to the correction by the Finance Minister. I have read it in an article. And, slowly, from 1993-94 to 2003-04, that is, 2004 March end, the debt GSDP ratio (The debt to Gross State Domestic Product of the States put together) has gone up from 18.7 to 29.1. Out of the total GDP, 29.1 is the debt of the States. And the funds at the disposal of the States are very, very meagre to spare for the development of the States, and they continue to borrow to finance current spending, especially, poor States like Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan. Sir, I would like to quote a study made by the FICCI. The report says that unless the quality and quantity of the productive expenditure is drastically improved through restructuring and management of expenditure, revenue reforms and mobilisation, India's growth and human development will come to a halt. It is true, Sir. Sir, what I am trying to say is — I don't want to politicise any issue; kindly don't take it in that perspective; I am advising you friends — that there is an impending necessity to prepare a road map for toning up the State finances. Sir, right from the Sarkaria Commission, the States have been demanding an increase in the devolution of funds to the States, and the responsibility of the States is much more than the Government of India. I do not say the Government of India doesn't have any role; it has a role. It has a federal role there. It has a catalytic role that the Government of India has to play. You keep all your vital sectors in your control. You have been formulating schemes for the rural development, for empowerment of the people without knowing the resources available there, without knowing the demands of the people there. So, the State Governments are the best intermediaries, and they should be allowed freedom to formulate the schemes for the empowerment of the people in those areas. They know what are the resources that are available there; they are the best institutions to formulate the schemes. So, all along, irrespective of the Government in power, — I had been pleading with the NDA Government also earlier in this regard — I am saying that whatever funds you want to give to the States, give it, but, not through the schemes which you are formulating and thrusting on the States because, there is an overlapping. I read in a newspaper what late Rajiv Gandhi had once said. He had said that only 15 per cent goes to the poorer sections out of the total money that is spent. I don't think it is an exaggerated statement. It is true. Sir, overlapping is there. This overlapping entails wastage of some expenditure. On the floor of this House, I have been making this request on umpteen times. And, that is the reason why the States are opposing the Centre to levy the taxes directly on the States. Now, you have included 71 services under the net of service tax. And you are

mopping up a major portion of this. If I am correct, that is going to the divisible pool. And, you are giving a very paltry percentage to the States - - 28 per cent to the States; 1.5 per cent from the additional excise duty to those who are not levying taxes on paper, sugar and textiles. So, putting together, it is 29.5. Now, I read in the newspapers that the Twelfth Finance Commission has made a recommendation to increase it by one per cent; one per cent for five years, per annum 0.2 per cent. ...(*Interruptions*)... You must be knowing about it more because you are in a position to access the report because it was not made public. I came to know about it only through the newspapers. What I read in *The Economic Times* is that one per cent has been recommended as an incremental allocation to the States, which have been demanding 50 per cent. And, you mop up the resources by levying the taxes directly on the people, you keep it with you and the States are always knocking at the doors of the Government of India with a begging bowl. You are making the States more impoverish, irrespective of the Government in power. Sir, unless the States are strong, the Centre cannot be strong. The State has to be strong. Sir, this is my request to the Finance Minister. They may say that it is the Constitutional authority; the Finance Commission has made this recommendation and so, it will bind us. But that won't cut ice; honestly. You have to empower the States financially. That is the only need of the hour. And, that is the reason why the State Governments are vehemently opposing the Government of India in levying taxes on the States. That is the only reason because, they can't allow you to enter into their shoes and they be at the mercy of the Government of India. When persons, who have served in States as Ministers, become Central Ministers, they are also not keeping all these things in their view. When persons are Ministers in States and make some demands, generally they do not press for those demands when they enter into the Central Cabinet. It is a very unfortunate thing.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: You are referring to Shri Yerran Naidu.
... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: It is not applicable to you.
...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY (Andhra Pradesh):
Shri Yerran Naidu is not in the Government. It applies to you.
...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: I fully concur with the views expressed by Shri Jibon Roy. Thanks to our protagonists of reforms! Since 1991,

reforms are being implemented and it is a virtual transformation of economy. I am not an Economics student. But I have studied at the grass-root level and in the society as to how people face transformation of economy. Over a period of time, we could build 'islands of prosperity', against 'ocean of poverty' in this country. Twenty-five per cent of the GDP is being shared by more than 65 per cent of the people—people depending on agriculture are more than 65 per cent and their contribution is only 25 per cent. As a layman, I can understand that this wealth of 25 per cent of the GDP is being shared by 65 per cent of the people. You see the economic imbalances. What happens to our Directive Principles in which we proclaim that we will eradicate these economic imbalances in this country? Let us go to the structural level. Increase of revenue deficit and the budget deficit is a matter of time, and the Finance Minister is quite capable of solving all these problems. But let us go to the structural problems in which the economy and the nation are confronting. There is a lot of confusion in policies. In the Mid-term Review, you said that subsidy has to be rationalised and it should go to the proper-targeted groups. I do agree. But what is your exact policy on subsidies? Have you one policy at the national level and the different policy at the State level? Let there be a planning. Yours is a national party? We belong to regional parties, so we take care of our States and talk about our States. The national parties have failed and, therefore, there is a lot of emergence of regionalism. Regional parties have come up and they are being strengthened. If the present state of affairs and the present policies continue, ultimately this country will be totally ruled by regional parties only. National parties have to take care of it. I congratulate the Finance Minister because he has enacted this Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act which is to be implemented from this year. The revenue deficit should have been 45 per cent for the first half of this year, but it has gone up to 78 per cent. It is not his fault. I do admit because the Finance Minister is facing so many constraints. But infrastructure is badly needed in this country, and we are unable to get investment for our rural roads, irrigation, etc. Banks are flooded with funds. Why don't you spend those amounts? Your godowns are flooded with foodgrains. Why don't you use all foodgrains? You should provide infrastructure for irrigation. Sir, even today, this country's economy has to depend upon the vagaries of monsoon, and last time Mani Shankar Aiyar said, let us see towards the *Allah*. So, we are seeing towards rulers. We, the common men, are seeing towards rulers, and you be benevolent. There is thousands of crores of black-money in this country. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): World Bank.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: You better interact with your Finance Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ramachandraiah, please continue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Yesterday, in the morning, in reply to a question the hon. Finance Minister was saying that it is a misconception. We are the founders of the World Bank. It was the answer. You tell it to Mr. Narayanasamy.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Narayanasamy, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Why has Chandrababu Naidu become an obsession to Mr. Narayanasamy?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ramachandraiah, why are you...

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: But, Sir, you should prevent him. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, please tell Shri Jairam Ramesh to educate Mr. Narayanasamy that what is World Bank.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is doing it. They are sitting together ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Narayanasamy, you are the Chief Whip and you have to help the Chair.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Sir, the hon. Finance Minister is very happy. I am equally happy that more FDI is coming into this country. But, I want to ascertain to what extent, they have gone into the primary market. Ultimately, more funds in the secondary market through this FDI route, our experience shows that it has created more scams. When Ketan Parekh scam occurred, everybody felt happy that the Sensex had gone up, but that was totally disproportionate to the fundamentals of the economy. I am not expecting that. I am not a pessimist. I am an optimist. I am not predicting any doom. But, we have to be cautious—Sensex has gone up to 6400—because, Sir, our regulators are not that strong. The economy is going through transformation and the archaic and anarchic forces are trying to exploit the economy of this country. So, we have to be careful. Reserve

Bank, Company Affairs Ministry and the Law Ministry are there. There are so many regulating authorities which were created to take care of the economy of this country. (Time-bell) My request is that you strengthen the regulators. Just because Sensex has gone up to 6400; it is one of the indications that we should feel happy, that there is buoyance in the market, that economy is growing up. But, you have to continuously monitor the situation and I am confident that a person like you will deliver the goods.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Sir, I am concluding with a request that even if the Twelfth Finance Commission recommends one per cent increase only, kindly make it a point this year, that the devolution of funds to the States should be increased.

SHRI BIMAL JALAN (Nominated): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, for giving me the floor. I should start, perhaps, by declaring my bias, which is with the present Finance Minister. I am a great admirer of the Finance Minister and I have worked closely with him over the last 20 years in different capacities, and I believe, that he has managed the short-term finances in the Government as well as they could be. So, I don't want to make any short-term points or a point about the Appropriations Bill *per se*. But, some extremely important issues have been raised which are of a long-term nature. With your permission, I would just make three or four points which are of some importance from the long-term management of Government finances and Government's role in the economy. Sir, the first point, which strikes one as one looks back, is that India, our country, has been particularly fortunate in having excellent Finance Ministers throughout and, most of the times, excellent Prime Ministers. Shri Yashwant Sinha was there; Shri Jaswant Singh was there; Shri P. Chidambaram is here; Dr. Manmohan Singh was there; Shri Subramaniam was there, to name a few. If you just go through the list, they are the finest Finance Ministers you had, with, perhaps, one or two exceptions, over the last 57 years. And, yet, the kind of long-term issues that we have heard today, are very rare. In 1956, I recall, in the Second Five Year Plan, it was said that by 1981, the country would have so much public savings because of the public domination, commanding heights and so on that we would not need taxation. This is in writing in the Second Five Year Plan. I remember, in 1986, I must have written that paragraph saying that the country is on a new growth path. In 1991, we had the worst crisis. Today, again, there is a great deal of joy. I think, that is, perhaps, interesting. We must take note

of it. But, the more interesting long-term point-of-view is that despite having this great Chamber, that great Chamber, despite having the best Finance Ministers, the great Prime Ministers of our country, why do we come back to those real issues of distribution versus growth, of low growth, of periodic crisis, of joy followed by a great deal of despondency. So, this is the first issue that I want to mention. I won't give you the answer but the point I want to make is that irrespective of which party has been in power—we have had United Front Government, we have had Congress Governments, we have had BJP Government, we have had NDA Government, we have had various formations—there is something underlying the processes of Government decision making which makes it more difficult for the Government to deliver what we promise.

Let me just give you a few broad statistics. Despite proclamations, to the contrary fiscal deficit continues to be high, despite proclamations, to the contrary our public savings, instead of being positive, are negative by four percentages of GDP, and that means we are taking the public money and spending it somewhere, doing something. Where we are spending, what we are doing; we don't know. So, Sir, this is the first issue that I want to raise. May be there is some occasion when we can deal with it. The issues are more fundamental, and, the economists have analysed it, some of the public choice theorists have analysed it. The real issue is that the Government expenditure patterns are such that they don't yield what you think they should be yielding.

Sir, I go back to the point mentioned by Shri Jairam Ramesh about the under utilisation of Plan funds. It is the actual delivery of the services that you promised to the people, and, that is where we fail. So, this is the first issue. I am not giving you the answer but I think there is something within the system, as a whole, where what we promise we cannot deliver, what we spend, we cannot buy, what we do always leads to the reoccurrence of the problems irrespective of how brilliant the Finance Ministers are, how great the Prime Ministers are, and, how vocal the Parliament is. This is the issue, and, I think, perhaps we will have the opportunity to debate it sometime.

Sir, the second long term important point is: why is the expenditure management difficult? It is difficult because all Government expenditure benefits someone. It may be a contractor, it may be somebody else, but somebody is getting that money, and, he forms a coalition of interest around that expenditure which makes it very difficult to rationalise that expenditure.

Over a period of time, what you will find is that when you say, I am going to make plans, I am going to do capital expenditure, I am going to build roads, but you won't be able to do that because most of the money is going to go somewhere which will not, what you say, deliver to the people, and, that is the core issue. My first suggestion, therefore, to Mr. Jairam Ramesh is that instead of looking at under utilisation of Plan funds, why don't we fix the individual responsibility for ministers to say that this is my implementation target for the current year, so many square kilometres of road, so many ports, so many jobs etc. I mean employment generation also, and, I think, the Bill is going to come up.

Let somebody take the individual responsibility away from the collective responsibility to say that I will implement the programme to generate so many jobs in a productive way, but you won't, and, I can tell you now, you won't. Next year or two years later, may be you would have a new Minister or a new Government or new something, and, they would sit in judgement on the previous Government after sometime. So, unless you fix up the responsibility for fiscal implementation, you are not going to make progress. And, therefore, I would say, if Mr. Jairam Ramesh is serious about it, let us set this pattern in the new Budget that each Ministry says what it is going to do, not in rupee terms but in physical terms. You debate it, you hold the Minister responsible. When a new Minister comes, he has either to change the target, or, he has to again abide by the same target. This is one suggestion.

Secondly, fiscal deficits have been increasing, revenue deficits have been increasing and capital expenditure has not been going up. What you have been doing is you have created a whole, what I might say, paraphernalia of expenditure control, which leads to a lot of wastage. I know we have discussed it in the Parliament, for example, the scheme for distribution of food. You have got the Centre, you have got the States, you have got vertical ministries, you have got different agencies vertically, and, you have got sideways Ministry. For example, agricultural loans, this has been discussed here. NABARD, the Central Government agency, gives loans at six per cent interest. The farmer gets it at fourteen per cent interest. Why? It is because there are so many people involved, and, everybody makes a loss by the way. In between, there is a primary government agency; there is a co-operative agency at the District level, at the Central level, at the State level, and so on and so forth. So, my second suggestion to the Finance Minister is, not to the Finance Minister only, but to the House collectively because Finance Minister has to take the whole House

along, that we have to cut this multiple agencies at various levels in disbursement of funds. You hold one agency responsible. What we are doing today, let us try and get it done. And, I think, will the physical implementation, getting the Ministries, multiple-Ministries out of the way, vertically, and horizontally, agencies out of the way, we will actually reduce cost. Then, you will deliver more benefits to the people than you are doing now.

The third suggestion is about procedural simplification and reform. I think, reform and simplification are part of the same thing that what you want to do is to make it more effective for tax-payers to pay tax. Today, it is very difficult. I don't think anybody can pay tax on his own, even if he wants to pay, because he needs technical advice, he needs lots of forms, he needs to fill up. So, my suggestion to the Finance Minister, to begin with, would be to make things simpler for the people to pay.

Now, finally, I just want to come to the question of income distribution and growth. What Mr. Jibon Roy said is absolutely right that we have to worry about distribution. But, what I would like to put before him and his colleagues is also that there are no examples of countries which have done distribution without growth. There are examples of countries which have done growth without distribution, but not the other way round. And, therefore,--these are not tensions--we should not create tension between growth and distribution. What you need is combination of growth with distribution and that can be done provided the State is able to do things the way it says. But the State is disempowered. Today, what we are seeing in the Government, and this point deals with Mr. Ramachandraiah's point, and I must, honestly, with due humility say, it is not Centre versus States. All are fiscally disempowered. Centre does not have the money. His fiscal deficit is high. Finance Minister has got a target which he is not able to do. He has got a target on revenue deficit. All the State Governments are in trouble. Ten years ago, there were six States which were in trouble. But today, there are 23 or 24 States which are in trouble. Why? So, it is not the fiscal problem. It is the fiscal disempowerment problem. You look at your municipal corporation; you look at your state agency. Everybody is fiscally disempowered. How do you tackle this? I would suggest to the Finance Minister that in his next Plan, put the responsibility on individual Ministries. Take his Ministry out of expenditure approvals. Once you approve the Budget, let them put a feasible plan. Let them decide that this is what they are going to do. Examine it after nine months. He should not be able to move here or there, or take this permission or that permission, expenditure permission, financial

adviser's permission, somebody else's permission, as long as he sticks to the Budget and as long as he delivers what he has promised. You make a review, and, if he delivers what he has promised, I believe, Sir, and honestly, I can tell you professionally, and being an economist, that in India today the resources are not a problem; money is not a problem. It is what you do with it is the problem. It is for the first time in our history that you have foreign exchange resources, but you do not have balance of payment crisis. In 36 years, out of first 45 years of our independence, we had foreign exchange crisis. 36 times, you were begging food, you were begging oil, and you were begging dollars. Now all that is over. Rupees are also not a problem provided you spend it in doing what you say, "I will". Most of the times we spend things doing what we say we will, but we deliver something which is quite different. Thank you.

SHRI JIBON ROY: Sir, I entirely agree with Mr. Bimal Jalan that distribution should go along with production.

श्री कृपाल परमार: माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, इस महत्वपूर्ण बिल पर आपने मुझे बोलने की अनुमति दी, इसके लिए आपका धन्यवाद। महोदय, 6 माह पूर्व जब नई सरकार सत्ता में आयी, तो लोगों को यह उम्मीद जगी थी कि डा० मनमोहन सिंह, जो भारत के प्रमुख अर्थशास्त्री रहे हैं और हमारे मौजूदा वित्त मंत्री श्री पी० चिदम्बरम जी, इनके सहयोग से भारत की अर्थ-नीति को और भारत की आर्थिक नीतियों को पटरी पर लाने का प्रयास होगा। लेकिन वर्तमान वित्त मंत्री अर्थशास्त्र के एक महारथी होने के बावजूद पिछले 6 महीनों का जो वित्तीय लेखा-जोखा सदन के सामने आया है, उस से कुछ हद तक निराशा ही हाथ लगी है। महोदय, एक सफल सरथी जब गाड़ी को ठीक से हांक न पाए तो उस की गतिविधियों को देखने को मन चाहता है। वित्त मंत्री जी की हस्तत यह है कि भारत की आर्थिक नीति की गाड़ी को वे हांक रहे हैं और उन के दाहिने हाथ में चाबुक है, लेकिन बाएं हाथ में लगाम नहीं है। उन के बाएं हाथ की लगाम उन के हाथ में होने की बजाय "वाम हाथों" में चली गयी है। यही कारण है कि भारत की अर्थ-व्यवस्था बिगड़ती चली जा रही है। महोदय, इस बजट के 76 हजार करोड़ रुपये के वित्तीय घाटे के बाद आई आर्थिक कमी के कारण देश के इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर को खड़ा करने में सरकार असफल रही है। जहां एन० डी० ए० सरकार के शासन के दौरान प्रधानमंत्री की ग्राम सड़क योजना तथा सर्व शिक्षा अभियान जैसे कार्यक्रमों में जिस तरीके से वर्तमान सरकार ने कटौती की है, इस चिंता को मैं आपके समक्ष रखना चाहता हूं। महोदय, आज बेकारी का आलम यह है कि देश का नौजवान दो वक्त की रोटी के लिए मारा-मारा फिर रहा है और एन० डी० ए० की सरकार ने जहां नौजवानों के लिए 13,283 करोड़ का प्रावधान किया था, मौजूदा सरकार ने उस में 4,044 करोड़ की कमी कर के 9,239 करोड़ कर दिया है।

[उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया) पीठासीन हुए]

महोदय, एक तरफ तो देश में बेरोजगार नौजवानों की संख्या बढ़ रही है, जिसे यह सरकार मान भी रही है, लेकिन उन को रोजगार मुहैया कराने के प्रावधान में सरकार ने लगभग 40 फीसदी की कटौती की है। मान्यवर, आप जानते हैं कि भारत गांवों में बसता है और अगर किसी अर्थशास्त्री को भारत की आर्थिक स्थिति के बारे में ज्ञान प्राप्त करना हो तो उसे देखना होगा कि वहां की सरकार ने ग्रामीण विकास के लिए क्या प्रावधान किए हैं। महोदय, एन० डी० ए सरकार के वक्त जो आंकड़ा 19,200 करोड़ का था, वह इस सरकार के दौरान 15,958 करोड़ पर आ गया है। इस कारण प्रधान मंत्री ग्रामीण सड़क योजना व अन्य कार्यक्रम अटके पड़े हैं और पिछली सरकार ने जो एक लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया था कि भारत के गांवों को सड़कों के साथ जोड़ा जाएगा, वह अधर में लटका नजर आ रहा है।

मान्यवर, शिक्षा किसी भी सरकार का एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम रहता है। सर्व-शिक्षा अभियान के कार्यक्रम में, सरकार ने अपने बजट में माना कि इस अभियान को पूरा चलाने के लिए 10919 करोड़ रुपए का प्रावधान करना होगा। उस के लिए सरकार ने "एजुकेशन सेस" भी लगाया और दावा किया कि 4 से 5 हजार करोड़ रुपए इस सेस के माध्यम से इकट्ठे कर के एजुकेशन के बजट में दिए जाएंगे, लेकिन अफसोस की बात है कि उस के लिए मात्र 4732 करोड़ का प्रावधान किया गया। आज लगभग 60 फीसदी कमी के साथ यह अभियान चल रहा है। इस से यह अभियान किसी नतीजे पर पहुंच पाएगा, यह एक चिंतनीय विषय है।

मान्यवर, "मिड डे मील" के बारे में कहा गया कि इस योजना को पूरे हिंदुस्तान में लागू करने के लिए 6420 करोड़ रुपए चाहिए, लेकिन सरकार ने वहां भी "ऊंट के मुंह में जीरे" के समान लगभग आधी रकम 3057 करोड़ मुहैया करायी। आज उस कमी के चलते स्कूलों की हालत यह हो गयी है कि पैसा नहीं है, लेकिन हुक्म है कि बच्चों को खाना खिलाओ। महोदय, जो अध्यापक बच्चों को सोईस् और मैथमैटिक्स पढ़ाने वाले थे, वे लंगोटी डालकर बावर्ची बने फिर रहे हैं। आज उस का उल्टा असर हो रहा है। जहां बच्चों को अट्रैक्ट करने के लिए, उन को स्कूल लाने के लिए, मिड डे मील का प्रचलन शुरू किया गया था, लेकिन उस से शिक्षा बुरी तरह से प्रभावित हुई है। मान्यवर, जब भी कांग्रेस की सरकार आती है, कोई नया नारा लेकर आती है। 70 के दशक में, श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी ने नारा दिया "गरीबी हटाओ", लेकिन गरीबी के बदले गरीब हटे, गरीबी नहीं। उसके बाद जो सरकार आई, उसने कहा कि हम सौ दिनों के अन्दर महंगाई कम करेंगे, लेकिन महंगाई ने आज तक रुकने का नाम नहीं लिया। अब एक नया नारा लेकर आए हैं कि "कांग्रेस का हाथ गरीबों के साथ"... (व्यवधान)... "आम आदमी के साथ", लेकिन यह हाथ मुझे आजकल लोगों की जेब की तरफ बढ़ता हुआ दिखाई दे रहा है। यह हाथ आजकल किसानों के गले की तरफ बढ़ता हुआ दिखाई दे रहा है। भुखमरी और मजबूरी के कारण जितने किसानों ने इस शासनकाल में आत्महत्या की है, उतने किसानों ने आज तक कभी आत्महत्या नहीं की। मैं माननीय वित्त मंत्री

जी का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि अगर आप चाहते हैं कि किसान तरक्की करे, यह देश तरक्की करे, तो आपको किसानों की तरफ और गांवों की तरफ ध्यान देना होगा, नहीं तो ऐसा न हो कि फ्रांस की क्रांति के दौरान, 1700 के दौरान जैसी हालत हो जाए कि जब फ्रांस के राजमहल के बाहर किसानों ने एक धरना दिया, जुलूस निकाला, तो रानी ने बाहर आकर पूछा था कि ये लोग क्या चाहते हैं, तो उन्होंने कहा कि ये किसान हैं, इनके पास खाने को रोटी नहीं है, ये रोटी चाहते हैं, तो रानी ने कहा था कि रोटी नहीं है तो केक खाइए और उस रानी का 1793 में क्या हश्र हुआ था, यह मैं सदन को बताना नहीं चाहता। उसको पब्लिकली फांसी की सजा हुई थी। यह हालत हिन्दुस्तान में न बने, उसके लिए आज ही से कारगर कदम उठाने होंगे।

एक और महत्वपूर्ण विषय जो हमारी अर्थव्यवस्था को बड़ी बुरी तरह से खा रहा है, वह है—क्रूड ऑयल का आयात। मान्यवर, हजारों, लाखों करोड़ रुपए का हम क्रूड ऑयल आयात करते हैं और फिर कहा जाता है कि अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मार्केट में उसके भाव बढ़ने और कम होने के कारण महंगाई बढ़ रही है। हमारे देश में कोयले के इतने बड़े भंडार भरे पड़े हैं कि यह देश अगर तीन सौ सालों तक भी उसको निकालता रहे तो खत्म नहीं होंगे। मैं माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी का ध्यान इस ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि क्रूड ऑयल का सब्स्टीच्यूट जो है, वह कोयले से बिजली बनाकर किया जा सकता है, इसकी तरफ भी वे ध्यान दें।

मान्यवर, मैं हिमाचल से आता हूँ और हिमाचल पहाड़ी, सुन्दर और अपनी ईमानदारी और शांति के लिए जाना जाता है। शायद यही कारण है कि हिमाचल प्रदेश हमेशा केन्द्रीय सरकार की नीतियों का शिकार होता रहा है। 2003 में श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी जी की सरकार ने हिमाचल प्रदेश, उत्तरांचल, जम्मू-कश्मीर और नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के राज्यों को 10 सालों के लिए एक टैक्स हॉलीडे का इंडस्ट्रियल पैकेज दिया था, लेकिन मुझे अफसोस के साथ इस सदन का ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित करना पड़ रहा है कि कश्मीर को आप छू नहीं सकते। नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में टेरिज्म है। आप वहां बजट की कटौती नहीं कर सकते। इसलिए दो शांतिप्रिय राज्यों को उसका निशाना बनाया गया। हिमाचल और उत्तरांचल के आर्थिक पैकेज को शॉर्टकट करके 2007 तक सीमित कर दिया। यह हिमाचल के शांतिप्रिय लोगों के साथ विश्वासघात ही नहीं, उनके साथ बेईसाफी भी है। मान्यवर, हिमाचल प्रदेश, जो पूरे हिमाचल को जहां पानी देता है, वहां हिमाचल के जंगल भारतीय लोगों को सांस लेने के लिए ऑक्सीजन भी देते हैं। माननीय सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने हिमाचल के जंगलों की कटान पर पाबंदी लगा रखी है। इसके चलते हर पंचवर्षीय योजना में हिमाचल को लगभग एक हजार करोड़ रुपये का नुकसान होता है। मैं माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी से निवेदन करता हूँ कि एक तरफ तो हमें हमारे यहां पानी से बनने वाली बिजली के लिए, अगर माननीय मंत्री जी सुन लें तो, यहां हिमाचल प्रदेश से बहते पानी पर बनने वाली बिजली के लिए, हिमाचल प्रदेश को जेनरेशन टैक्स लगाने की अनुमति दी जाए। जंगलों का कटान न हो पाने के कारण जो क्षति हिमाचल प्रदेश को हो रही है, उसकी भरपाई के लिए भी 5000 करोड़ रुपए का एक स्पेशल पैकेज हिमाचल प्रदेश को दिया जाए।

4.00 P.M.

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि माननीय मंत्री जी मेरे सुझावों को मद्देनजर रखेंगे। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं इस एग्रीप्रिअशन बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ। धन्यवाद।

श्री विजय जे० दह्रा (महाराष्ट्र): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारे आदरणीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने जो यह एग्रीप्रिअशन बिल, 2004 माननीय सदन के सामने लाया है, मैं उसके समर्थन में बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ, मगर इस विषय पर बोलते समय मैं फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब से कुछ अपेक्षाएं भी रखता हूँ। आज हमारे देश के अंदर जो पिछड़े इलाके हैं, उन इलाकों का विकास नहीं हो रहा है और जिसके कारण वहां इम्बेलेन्स क्रिएट हुआ है। इसकी ओर मैं आपका ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ।

महोदय, आज हमारे यहां जो अनडवलप्ड एरियाज हैं, जैसे महाराष्ट्र के अंदर विदर्भ है, मराठवाड़ा है, इसी तरह उधर तेलंगाना है, बिहार, मध्य प्रदेश और उत्तर प्रदेश राज्यों के कुछ जिले हैं। आज वहां पर यह स्थिति निर्मित हुई है कि किसानों के प्रश्न हैं, इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर के प्रश्न हैं, उद्योगों और रोजगार के प्रश्न हैं। मैं मानता हूँ कि जब तक एग्रीगेशन के मामले में व्यवस्था नहीं होगी, तब तक किसानों की हालत ठीक नहीं हो पाएगी। चूंकि मैं विदर्भ से आता हूँ, इसलिए विशेष रूप से उस विदर्भ में मैंने देखा है कि वहां पर नक्सल मूवमेंट दिन-पर-दिन बढ़ता जा रहा है। यह भी एक कारण है, जिससे वहां पर न उद्योग की व्यवस्था है, न सिंचाई की व्यवस्था है, न ठीक से रास्तों की व्यवस्था है और न ही शिक्षा का पूरी तरह से प्रबंध है। आपने टैक्स-होलीडे नॉर्थ-ईस्ट को दिया है, सिलवासा को दिया है, उत्तरांचल को दिया है और इसी तरह विदर्भ में गड़चिरीली जिले को भी दिया है, मगर वह एरिया नक्सल प्रभावित होने के कारण न तो वहां पर कोई उद्योग आए हैं और न ही कोई वहां पर जाता है। मेरी आपसे दरखास्त है कि अगर आप इसी प्रकार से उद्योग के लिए टैक्स-होलीडे हमारे यहां दे, जैसे यवतमाल है, विदर्भ में बुलधाना है, तो वहां पर उद्योग आ पाएंगे और इससे उस क्षेत्र का विकास हो सकेगा।

महोदय, आपने देखा है, हम रोज इस बात पर चिंता कर रहे हैं कि आज उस इलाके में, तेलंगाना में, जहां किसानों की जटिल समस्याएं हैं, जिससे वहां आत्महत्याएं भी हुई हैं। इस पर न तो मैं कोई पोलिटिक्स करना चाहता हूँ और न ही किसी को दोष देना चाहता हूँ, किन्तु यह फैक्ट है कि उन किसानों को बिना पानी के कारण परेशानी हो रही है और जिसकी वजह से आज उनकी हालत बहुत बुरी है। वहां बेरोजगारी इतनी बढ़ी हुई है कि युवकों में निराशा पैदा हो गई है। अगर वहां अच्छे ढंग से उद्योग आते हैं तो उन पिछड़े इलाके में निश्चित रूप से उसका फायदा वहां के युवकों को होगा और उनके अंदर जो निराशा है वह भी दूर होगी। मैं आपको स्मरण दिलाना चाहूंगा कि इसी कारण से अलग विदर्भ राज्य की मांग, तेलंगाना की मांग हमारे सामने आई है क्योंकि उन क्षेत्रों में आर्थिक, सामाजिक और औद्योगिक विकास नहीं हुआ है। हमारे वित्त मंत्री जी आर्थिक विषयों के एक्सपर्ट हैं और हमारे प्रधानमंत्री जी भी आर्थिक विषयों के एक्सपर्ट हैं, मैं आपसे आग्रह करूंगा कि अगर आप

इन विषयों पर ध्यान दें, तो निश्चित रूप से यह जो पिछड़ापन है, उसमें निश्चित रूप से बदलाव आएगा। मैं एक और बात की ओर आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा कि जो रास्तों के मामले हैं, उस पर सिर्फ 30 परसेंट ही काम हुआ है देश के अंदर। मगर जो काम हुआ भी है उन रास्तों की हालत भी बहुत खराब है। अगर इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर में हमारा वर्क होता है तो निश्चित रूप से उससे आर्थिक सम्पन्नता आएगी, काम मिलेगा और उससे हमारी आर्थिक स्थिति भी ठीक होगी। इसलिए आप उधर भी ध्यान दें, ऐसी मेरी आपसे अपेक्षा है। जहां तक यातायात का प्रश्न है, जो पिछड़े इलाके हैं दुर्गम स्थानों पर और जहां पर आज ट्रेन जानी चाहिए थी वहां 50 साल के बाद भी ट्रेन नहीं जा पाई है, हमेशा एक ही बात कही जाती रही है कि पैसा नहीं है। मगर मैं यह चाहूंगा कि जो बजट बनते हैं वे बजट किसके लिए बनते हैं? क्या सिर्फ मुट्ठी भर लोगों के लिए ही बजट बनते हैं या आम आदमियों के लिए बनते हैं। इसके अलावा विदर्भ के अंदर आज तक कोई कंवर्जन काम नहीं हुआ है, नई रेलवे लाईन भी नहीं आई है। 50 सालों से एक प्रश्न है कि यवतमाल से जो वर्धा, नान्देड़ ट्रेन जाती है, वहां पर नई रेल लाइन डाली जानी चाहिए। मगर उसका भी काम अभी तक शुरू नहीं हुआ है और हमेशा यही कहा जाता रहा है कि पैसा नहीं है। मैं चाहूंगा कि अगर यह आर्थिक असंतुलन दूर करना है तो निश्चित रूप से इस ओर आपको ध्यान देना होगा। इसी के साथ, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूं। धन्यवाद।

SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I rise to support the Appropriation Bill, 2004. Sir, when this Government took office, the market was not behaving all right. At that time, the hon. Finance Minister was sounding very confident. He assured the nation that it was only a temporary phenomenon, and he was proved right. Now, the market is really buoyant and the sensex figure is now reported to be above 6400 points. Our foreign exchange reserves are also now in a very good position. We have got foreign exchange reserves to the tune of more than \$ 120 billion. The rupee is also stronger against the dollar. As far as the FDI is concerned, there is a jump of over 70 per cent, and it is reported that from \$2.38 billion in the last year, now it is \$ 7 billion.

Sir, however, the Government has an additional burden of over Rs. 20,000 crores due to spiralling oil prices. Of which, Rs.4400 crores borne by the Government are through cuts in Central Excise and Custom Duties. Sir, this is the picture at the national level.

Sir, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister towards certain announcements which were made in the Budget, particularly, about Tamil Nadu. In the Budget, the hon. Finance Minister announced the desalination plants along the Coromandel Coast of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. He also announced that the desalination

plant, to start with, will be commissioned at Chennai at a cost of Rs.1,000 crores. But, nothing has happened so far. This plant is very essential for the city of Chennai because the recent North-East monsoon was not sufficient for the Chennai city.

Sir, there must be some concentration on the knowledge economy, particularly there is a great growth potential for knowledge economy and IT sector has to be given certain impetus by the hon. Finance Minister.

Sir, one other point towards which I want to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister is about the Madurai Doordarshan Kendra. The Madurai Doordarshan Kendra has not got sufficient staff appointed because the Finance Ministry has not cleared the file regarding those appointments. Due to this, the Madurai Doordarshan Kendra is unable to function. Sir, Madurai is now getting prominence because of the Meenakshi Temple which is going to be declared as one of the new seven wonders of the world. So, this has to be immediately attended to. Sir, with these words, I support the Bill.

श्री तारिक अनवर (महाराष्ट्र): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपको इस बात के लिए धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि आपने मुझे इस महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर बोलने का मौका दिया। मैं यूपीए सरकार को और विशेष रूप से वित्त मंत्री जी को इस बात के लिए बधाई देना चाहता हूँ कि एनडीए सरकार से विरासत में, जो आर्थिक स्थिति हम लोगों को मिली थी, इस देश को मिली थी, उसको सुधारने की दिशा में, वह महत्वपूर्ण कदम उठा रहे हैं। अभी जो मिड इकानामिक रिव्यू पार्लियामेंट में दिया गया उसको देखने के बाद यह अंदाजा होता है कि हमारे देश में जो जीडीपी बढ़ी है, वह 7.4 per cent as compared to 5.3 per cent in the corresponding quarter of 2003-04. हम इस मिड इकानामिक रिव्यू को गहराई से देखें, तो उस दिशा में, वह एग्रीकल्चर, इंडस्ट्री, सर्विस रिकार्ड, हर क्षेत्र में, हम आगे बढ़ रहे हैं और हमारा परसेंटेज ग्राफ भी बढ़ा है। अगर यह कहा जाये कि ब्राड बेस ग्रोथ मूवमेंट है, वह संतोषजनक है, पिछले चंद महीनों का, जिसके लिए हमारे वित्त मंत्री जी ने कदम उठाये हैं।

यह बात सही है कि नेशनल ग्रोथ के लिए आवश्यक है कि जो हमारी एग्रीकल्चरल ग्रोथ है, वह भी उसमें शामिल है। पिछले वर्ष में, खासतौर से जो साउथ-वेस्ट मानसून है, वह लगभग 13 परसेंट डेफिसिट में रहा, जिसकी वजह से हमारा खरीफ प्रोडक्शन संतोषजनक नहीं रहा, जो हमारा टारगेट था, वह पूरा नहीं हुआ। लेकिन हमें इस बात की खुशी है कि पोस्ट मानसून, जो रेनफाल है, वह काफी हद तक संतोषजनक है और उससे रबी की क्रोप ठीक होने की संभावना है। इससे आने वाले समय में, जो कमी, जो डेफिसिट हमें एग्रीकल्चरल सैक्टर से हुआ था, उसको हम पूरा कर पायेंगे।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, हम वित्त मंत्री जी से यह कहना चाहेंगे कि इकनोमिक ग्रोथ के लिए

इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर बहुत जरूरी होता है। जिस इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर को हम शुरू करते हैं, जिस काम को हाथ लगाते हैं, अगर वह समय के भीतर पूरा हो जाता है, तो उससे फौरन हमारी इकानामी को लाभ मिलने लगता है। उसमें जो विलम्ब होता है, इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर बनाने के समय में, उसमें देर होने से, उसकी कीमत बढ़ती है, उसमें साधन भी ज्यादा लगते हैं और साथ ही साथ जो उसका लाभ हमारी इकानामी को मिलना चाहिए, वह नहीं मिल पाता है। इसलिए उस पर विशेष ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है, अगर हम अपनी इकानामी को तेजी से बढ़ाना चाहते हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, पावर सेक्टर की स्थिति बहुत ही गंभीर है, खासतौर से स्टेट इलेक्ट्रिसिटी बोर्ड्स की। अगर हम इसको स्टडी करते हैं, तो हमें इस बात का अंदाजा होता है कि लगभग 50 हजार करोड़ रुपये का नुकसान विभिन्न स्टेट इलेक्ट्रिसिटी बोर्ड्स को है। इसके कई कारण हैं। हम लोग, जो राजनैतिक दल हैं, कभी-कभी राजनीतिक कारणों से जो फैसले लेते हैं, जो निर्णय लेते हैं, उसका नुकसान देश की अर्थव्यवस्था को उठाना पड़ता है। अंत में मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि किसी भी देश की आर्थिक उन्नति के लिए कृषि के क्षेत्र में उसका विकास होना बहुत आवश्यक है और जब हम कहते हैं कि हमारा देश कृषि प्रधान देश है तो वहां कृषि पर विशेष ध्यान देने की जरूरत है। अगर हम चाइनीज़ इकानामी को देखें तो वहां दस परसेंट पर ऐनम उनकी जो ग्रोथ है, उसमें ऐग्रीकल्चर का जो योगदान है, वह चार प्रतिशत पर ऐनम है। इस हिसाब से मेरा कहना यह है कि अगर हम चाहते हैं कि हमारे ग्रोथ रेट को बढ़ाया जाए तो इसके लिए ऐग्रीकल्चर पर ध्यान देना आवश्यक है और उसके लिए फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर ने इस बात का ऐलान किया था कि ऐग्रीकल्चरल क्रेडिट को हम डबल करेंगे। लेकिन केवल इतना करना ही महत्वपूर्ण नहीं है, हम समझते हैं कि जो टेक्नोलॉजी है, जो ऐग्रीकल्चर की तकनीक है, उसको इम्प्रूव करने की जरूरत है। जो स्टोरेज करने का प्रोवीज़न है, उसको दुरुस्त करने की जरूरत है। मार्किटिंग, जो हमारी सबसे बड़ी समस्या है, processing through an integrated chain, उसकी जरूरत है। जब हमारी ऐग्रीकल्चरल ग्रोथ बढ़ेगी तो उसका लाभ हमारी इकानामी को मिलेगा और फिर हम उसका लाभ उठ सकते हैं। इसके अतिरिक्त फॉरेन डायरेक्ट इनवैस्टमेंट जो हमारे देश में आ रहा है अगर हम इसे देखें तो यह भी बढ़ता ही जा रहा है। **India has emerged as the second most preferred FDI destination following China.** इस तरह से अगर हम देखें तो हम उसमें आगे बढ़ रहे हैं और हर तरह से हमें उसमें लाभ मिल रहा है। इसके लिए वित्त मंत्री जी बधाई के पात्र हैं। अभी यहां बेरोज़गारी के संबंध में चर्चा हुई कि हमारे देश से बेरोज़गारी दूर करने के लिए जो ब्याप्य होने चाहिए, उनमें खास तौर पर, प्लानिंग कमीशन ने जो अपनी रिपोर्ट दी है, उसमें टूरिज्म को बहुत पोटेंशियल दिया है। यानी अगर हम चाहते हैं कि जॉब्स क्रिएट करें तो टूरिज्म के संबंध में सबसे अच्छी बात यह है कि **for every Rs. 10 lakh investment, tourism industry can create 89 jobs** यह प्लानिंग कमीशन की रिपोर्ट है, जो अभी आयी है। अगर हम उसे इंडस्ट्री में कन्वर्ट करें तो वह 12.6 जॉब्स क्रिएट करता है और अगर हम उसी 10 लाख रुपए को ऐग्रीकल्चर पर इनवैस्ट करते हैं तो लगभग 44.7 प्रतिशत जॉब्स वह क्रिएट करता है। मेरे कहने का मतलब यह

है कि अगर हम प्लानिंग कमीशन की ही रिपोर्ट को मान लें, उसके रिकमेंडेशन को मान लें और उसे आधार मानकर अगर हम टूरिज्म की ओर ध्यान दें तो इससे इस बात का अंदाजा लगाया जा सकता है। महोदय, अकेले शंघाई सिटी में जितने होटल्स हैं, पूरे हिन्दुस्तान में उतने नहीं हैं। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि चाइना ने भी टूरिज्म को महत्व दिया है और उसकी जो ग्रोथ हुई है, उसका एक कारण टूरिज्म है, उसमें टूरिज्म का बहुत बड़ा योगदान है।

आखिर में, मैं इतना ही कहूंगा कि जो पिछड़े राज्य हैं, उन पर ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है। नॉर्थ ईस्ट, जम्मू और कश्मीर की चर्चा यहां हुई है। उसी के साथ-साथ उत्तर भारत, हमारे दूरबीन ने भी कहा, महाराष्ट्र के विदर्भ, मराठवाड़ा और ऐसे तमाम क्षेत्र, जो पिछड़े हुए हैं, उनकी स्थिति को कैसे सुधारा जाए। महोदय, मैं बिहार से आता हूँ। बिहार के बंटवारे के बाद जो झारखंड राज्य बना है, उसमें जितने भी खनिज पदार्थ थे, जितने भी उद्योग थे, जितने भी कल-कारखाने थे, वे झारखंड राज्य में जा चुके हैं और जो शेष बिहार बचा है, उसके पास कोई इनफ्रास्ट्रक्चर नहीं है। कैसे उसका विकास होगा? मैं वित्त मंत्री जी को और प्रधानमंत्री जी को बधाई देता हूँ कि उन्होंने बिहार के लिए स्पेशल पैकेज दिया है। हम चाहेंगे कि जिस तरह से उन्होंने बिहार के लिए स्पेशल पैकेज दिया है, उसी तरह से उत्तर प्रदेश, मध्य प्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र के पिछड़े क्षेत्रों या जो भी इलाके पिछड़े हुए हैं, उनको ऊपर उठाने के लिए वे कदम उठाएं क्योंकि अगर देश की अर्थव्यवस्था को ठीक करना है, देश की परिस्थिति को अगर बदलना है तो हर राज्य के अंदर जो पिछड़ा इलाका है, उसको ऊपर उठाने की आवश्यकता है। आखिर में, जिस बात का जिक्र यहां हुआ, समानान्तर अर्थव्यवस्था जो हमारे देश में चल रहा है, काले धन का जो सिलसिला हमारे देश में चल रहा है, उस पर रोक लगाना जरूरी है। हम चाहते हैं कि वह काला धन, जिसका इस्तेमाल देश के विकास में नहीं हो पा रहा है, अगर हम उसे रोक सकते हैं, देश की इकानॉमी से जोड़ सकते हैं तो उसका फायदा देश को मिलेगा, देश के विकास को मिलेगा। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ, वित्त मंत्री जी ने जो एप्रोप्रिएशन बिल, 2004 रखा है, मैं उसका समर्थन करता हूँ।

श्री संजय निरुपम (महाराष्ट्र): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, तारिक भाई ने तो अपने भाषण में वित्त मंत्री महोदय को बहुत सारी बधाइयां दीं, लेकिन मैं बधाई देने के लिए नहीं खड़ा हुआ हूँ। अगर वित्त मंत्री जी फाइल पर साइन करना बंद कर दें तो मैं थोड़ा-बहुत उन्हें सावधान करूँ। आदरणीय वित्त मंत्री महोदय, मैं आपका ध्यान शेयर मार्केट की तरफ आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। थोड़ी-बहुत चर्चा हुई और बहुत दबे स्वर में आपको याद दिलाया गया कि मार्केट में जो कुछ हो रहा है, वह कोई बहुत अच्छा नहीं हो रहा है। आप बहुत खुश हैं। पूरे देश में दो तबके बहुत खुश हैं कि शेयर मार्केट बूम पर है। इसमें एक है मार्केट के ब्रोकर्स और दूसरे हमारे देश के फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर हैं। सेंसेक्स पिछले बीस-पच्चीस दिनों से 6000 से ऊपर है, पिछले दो-तीन दिनों से 6400 के आसपास मार्केट का सेंसेक्स चल रहा है। जब मैंने पता लगाने की कोशिश की कि बाकी दुनिया के शेयर बाजारों की तुलना में हमारे यहां का मार्केट का ग्रोथ रेट क्या है, तो इस समय बीएसई का ग्रोथ रेट 8.22, नेस्टेक 7.17, हांगकांग की मार्केट हेंगसेई 6.08, जर्मन मार्केट 4.20 और जापानी मार्केट निकई

1.72 है। पूरी दुनिया में पता नहीं क्या हो रहा है, हिन्दुस्तान की इकोनॉमी में ऐसा कौन सा चमत्कार आ गया है कि शेयर मार्केट तेजी से बूम पर है.....(व्यवधान).....सामने से देखिए, पता नहीं एफ॰डी॰आई॰ कहां आ रहा है, कहां जा रहा है.....(व्यवधान)....

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया): संजय जी, इधर देखकर बोलिए।

श्री संजय निरुपम: यह एफ.डी.आई. कहां से आ रहा है, कहां जा रहा है, मुझे नहीं मालूम, लेकिन आम आदमी के चेहरे पर पिछले छह-सात महीने में कोई सुकून नहीं दिखा है। महंगाई बढ़ी है, इन्फ्लेशन बढ़ा है, यह खुद मंत्री महोदय ने स्वीकार किया है। इन्होंने अपने बयान में स्वीकार किया है कि जब तक क्रूड ऑयल के इंटरनेशनल प्राइसेज कंट्रोल में नहीं आते, तब तक यह मेरे हाथ से बाहर की बात है। महंगाई बढ़ी है और पिछले छह-सात महीने में पांच गुना महंगाई बढ़ी है। डीजल और पेट्रोल के भाव बढ़े हैं, ये दो बातें सामने से दिख रही हैं। रेविनान का जो मिड टर्म रिव्यू है, उसमें रेवेन्यू डेफिसिट बढ़ गया, उम्मीद से कई गुना ज्यादा बढ़ गया। फिस्कल डेफिसिट उम्मीद से कई गुना ज्यादा बढ़ गया। यानी पूरे देश की अर्थव्यवस्था में कोई ऐसा चमत्कार नहीं दिख रहा है तो फिर मार्केट क्यों इतनी तेजी से बढ़ती चली जा रही है? इसके प्रति वित्त मंत्री महोदय को निश्चित रूप से सावधान होना चाहिए। लगभग 39,000 करोड़ रुपए इस साल मार्किट में आए हैं। यह विदेशी पैसा है। पूरी दुनिया के लिए बहुत अच्छी स्थिति नहीं है, डॉलर का भाव गिर रहा है। पूरी दुनिया में कह सकते हैं कि जो मेजर कंट्रीज हैं, मेजर इकोनॉमीज रिसेशन के दौर से गुजर रही हैं, फिर भी हमारे यहां पैसा आता जा रहा है, हम बहुत खुश हैं, तो यह पैसा सचमुच में किसका है? आजकल मुम्बई में ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राजीव शुक्ल (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं संजय जी की ही बात कह दूँ कि जब मार्किट गिरती है, जब पहले दिन सरकार बनी थी तो गिरा था, तब इन्होंने इतना हंगामा किया था कि पूछे मत। इन्होंने कहा था कि मार्केट क्यों गिर रही है, सरकार ने सत्यानाश कर दिया, अब मार्किट बढ़ रही है तो इसमें भी इन्हें तकलीफ है। मेरी समझ में नहीं आ रहा है कि अब इन्हें इसमें भी खराबी लग रही है। यह तो चित्त भी मेरी, पट्ट भी मेरी की बात है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया): आप डिस्टर्ब मत कीजिए, क्योंकि इनका मन ऐसा ही चलता है, बोलने दीजिए।

श्री संजय निरुपम: राजीव जी, आपने बहुत अच्छी बात कही कि जब मार्किट गिरता है तब भी हम चीखते-चिल्लाते हैं, तबाह हो जाते हैं और जब मार्किट ऊपर जा रहा है, तब भी चीख-चिल्ला रहे हैं। यह बहुत ही इम्पैक्टफुल और अननचुरल ढंग से मार्किट ऊपर जा रहा है। मेरे कहने का अर्थ यह है कि जब देश की अर्थव्यवस्था के फंडामेंटल, सामने से, कहीं से इतने मजबूत नहीं दिख रहे हैं, तब मार्केट ऊपर जा रही है, तब इस देश में 40,000 करोड़ रुपए इस साल इस देश में आए। मुम्बई में शेयर मार्किट में एक टर्म बहुत मशहूर है कि भाई, आजकल मार्किट में F-II रीजिम चल रहा है। मैंने पूछा कि F-II क्या होता है? वे बोले कि एफ.आई.आई. स्कोर को मार्किट के दलालों

ने F-II कर दिया। उन्होंने कहा कि F-II रीजिम में आगे-पीछे कुछ सोचने की जरूरत नहीं है। मैं अपने ब्रोकर दोस्त से पूछता हूँ कि भाई साहब अभी एग्जिट का टाइम आया है कि नहीं? उन्होंने कहा कि एक-दो महीने रुक जाओ, उसके बाद exit का time आएगा, यानी अभी मार्केट और ऊपर जाने वाला है, सेंसेक्स 7,000 तक जा सकता है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया): संजय जी, इधर देखकर बोलिए, सारा देश आपको सुन रहा है, देख रहा है। बहुत लोग शेयर खरीदने वाले हैं।

श्री संजय निरुपम: महोदय, सेनसैक्स तब 7,000 के करीब जाने वाला है, जब कि रिलायंस कम्पनी में दो भाइयों का झगड़ा, पिछले एक महीने से अखबारों की सुर्खियों में है। रिलायंस को करीब 7 से 10 हजार करोड़ रुपए नुकसान हो चुका है। मार्केट में एक ऐसा बूम आया है कि रिलायंस का झटका भी उसने पचा लिया। इसका मतलब है कि अंदर कुछ हो रहा है, कोई स्कैम पल रहा है, और वित्त मंत्री महोदय, उस स्कैम के प्रति, अपने देश की अर्थव्यवस्था को लेकर इतने सीरियस हैं कि जब मैं उस मार्केट पर बोल रहा हूँ तो वे उठकर बाहर चले गए, उन वित्त मंत्री महोदय को मैं सावधान करना चाहता हूँ। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे लगता है कि वित्त मंत्री महोदय यहां से चले गए हैं तो मैं भी बोलना बंद कर देता हूँ।

विदेश मंत्री (श्री नटवर सिंह): वे अभी आ रहे हैं।

श्री संजय निरुपम: मैं यह विदेश मंत्री के लिए नहीं बोल रहा हूँ, मैं वित्त मंत्री के लिए बोल रहा हूँ। वित्त मंत्री जी के मन में क्या इतना सम्मान नहीं है कि जब एक सदस्य अपना विषय रख रहा है तो वे उठकर चले गए? ... (व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष: सुनिए, सुनिए, नियम और कायदे से हर मंत्री बाहर जा सकता है, दूसरे मंत्री उसको नोट कर रहे हैं। It is all right.

श्री संजय निरुपम: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, जो बातें यहां बताई जा रही हैं, वे न तो एजुकेशन मिनिस्टर, न एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्टर की समझ में आएंगी, ये बातें तो सिर्फ फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर की ही समझ में आएंगी। विदेश मंत्री उनको नोट करके दे देंगे और वे उनकी समझ में आ जाएं, ऐसा कुछ नहीं है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं तीन कंपनियों के बारे में जानता हूँ जिनकी बहुत बुरी हालत है लेकिन मार्केट में उनके शेयर्स के prices बढ़ते जा रहे हैं। मैं एक उदाहरण देता हूँ, जिसको सारा देश जानता है। Tulip Star look over to Juhu Centaur. ... (व्यवधान)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Mr. Finance Minister, just hold on. I want to make a point. Just hold on.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: You cannot dictate to me whether I should talk to my neighbour or whether I smile or not. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Of course, I am trying to draw your attention through the Vice Chairman. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: You have to make a speech which attracts my attention. ...*(Interruptions)*... You cannot compel me that I should not speak to my neighbour. ...*(Interruptions)*... You cannot dictate like this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Then, why should I speak? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I will listen in the manner I want to listen. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): What is all this? ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Minister, please, you also talk to me. ...*(Interruptions)*... and Mr. Sanjay, you also talk to me. There is no provision of both of you talking together. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री संजय निरुपम: उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मेरा मुद्दा सिर्फ इतना है कि अगर वित्त मंत्री, इस देश के शेयर बाजार की गतिविधियों को लेकर गंभीर नहीं हैं तो मेरे बोलने का कोई मतलब नहीं है। मैं इसकी गंभीरता बतलाने के लिए उनका ध्यान अपनी ओर आकर्षित कर रहा हूँ। मैं आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करने के लिए यहां खड़ा हुआ हूँ ...*(व्यवधान)*

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया): आप इधर देखकर बोलिए, आप बार-बार उधर देखकर बोल रहे हैं। आप उधर मत देखिए कि कौन बैठा है, कौन नहीं बैठा है, आप इधर देखकर बोलिए।

श्री संजय निरुपम: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, Tulip Star ने Juhu Centaur को take-over किया और पिछले महीने 17 दिनों तक वह होटल बंद था। उसका बिजली का बिल करीब 1 करोड़, 30 लाख रुपए का बिल था। उस बिल का पेमेंट नहीं किया गया, इसलिए Reliance Energy ने उनका बिजली का कनेक्शन काट दिया। अब वह होटल बंद पड़ा है। ऐसे में Tulip Star के शेयर प्राईसेज ऊपर जा रहे हैं। इसी तरह DSQ, जिसका मालिक जेल में था, उसके share prices ऊपर जा रहे हैं। पेंटासाफ्ट जो कंपनी पूरी तरह से फेल हो चुकी है, उसके share prices ऊपर जा रहे हैं। इस तरह करीब 600-700 ऐसी कंपनियां हैं, जिनकी परफार्मेंस बहुत अच्छी नहीं है, लेकिन फिर भी share prices ऊपर जा रहे हैं। इसलिए मैं सावधान करना चाहता हूँ कि आखिर यह क्या खेल है? मार्केट में ऐसी बहुत सारी कंपनियां वचमत्तजम कर रही हैं, जो बंद हो चुकी हैं, उनके नाम share trading चल रही है, share transaction हो रहे हैं। इस बात को लेकर मैं वित्त मंत्री को आगाह करना चाहता हूँ, और मुझे लगता है कि मैं उनकी भलाई के लिए अच्छा काम कर रहा हूँ। मार्केट ऊपर जा रहा है, इसमें हमें कोई तकलीफ नहीं है, लेकिन मार्केट ऊपर जाने के जो कारण

नहीं हैं, उन कारणों के चलते ऊपर जा रहा है, इसलिए आश्चर्य हो रहा है, इसलिए हम परेशान हैं, और इस परेशानी की ओर मैं वित्त मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान आकर्षित कर रहा हूँ। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, जब यह सरकार 7 महीने पहले आई थी, तो बड़े जोर-शोर से यह घोषणा की गई थी कि प्रॉफिट मेकिंग पब्लिक सेक्टर यूनिट्स का डिसइंवेस्टमेंट नहीं होगा। मैं अपना अनुभव जानता हूँ कि एयरपोर्ट ऑथारिटी के जो 800 इम्प्लाईज मुंबई में रहते हैं ...

उपसभाध्यक्ष: सुनिए, आपका समय हो गया है, अब आप कितना समय लेंगे।

श्री संजय निरुपम: समय हो गया तो मैं बैठ जाता हूँ। आप अगर कहते हैं ... (व्यवधान)

उपसभाध्यक्ष: आपका जो समय था, वह मैंने आपको बता दिया। अब बैठना, नहीं बैठना आपकी मर्जी है। मैंने आपको बताया कि आपका समय हो गया है, इस तरह की बात करने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। मैंने आपको बताया, अगर आप एक-दो मिनट और बोलना चाहते हैं, तो बोलिए, ज्यादा समय नहीं दिया जा सकता। बिजनेस एडवाइजरी कमेटी में जो डिसाइड किया गया है, मुझे उसको फॉलो करना है।

श्री संजय निरुपम: अगर आप दो-तीन मिनट अनुमति दें तो मैं बोलूँ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया): आप मांगेंगे, तब तो दिया जाएगा। .. (व्यवधान) मांगिएगा, तब तो दिया जाएगा। बोलिए।

श्री संजय निरुपम: तो नई सरकार के आते ही बहुत जोर-शोर से घोषणा की गई कि प्रॉफिट मेकिंग कंपनीज़ को हम डिसइंवेस्ट नहीं करेंगे और जो सबसे पहला डिसइंवेस्टमेंट का केस बनाया, वह एयरपोर्ट ऑथारिटी का था, जिसका 500 करोड़ रुपए का प्रॉफिट था। उस सरकार ने न सिर्फ लोगों को * दिया, बल्कि अपने साथी, जो हमारे लेफ्ट हैंडर बॉलर्स हैं, लेफ्ट वाले, उनको भी * दिया, उन्होंने..

उपसभाध्यक्ष: एक मिनट, मैंने कल भी कहा था कि * शब्द अनपार्लियामेंटरी है, वह रेकार्ड पर नहीं जाएगा। अब बोलिए।

श्री संजय निरुपम: मतलब पूरे देश को जो वचन दिया गया, उस वचन को तोड़ा गया, मेरा कहना यह है। जिस प्रकार से एन्टी-पीपीसी फंड रेज़ करती है, मार्केट में जाती है, आईपीओ लेकर जाती है, पैसे लेकर आती है, बिल्कुल उसी तरह से एयरपोर्ट ऑथारिटी की तरफ से भी एक आईपीओ लाकर फंड रेज़िंग की जा सकती है। क्या मजबूरी है, एक ज्वाइंट वेंचर में, क्या

मजबूरी है, एक स्ट्रैटेजिक पार्टनर ढूंढने में, क्या मजबूरी है कि अपनी कंपनी को बेचने में लग जाए। यह मेरा साफ-साफ, वित्त मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन है। जब से प्रफुल्ल पटेल, वे मेरे बहुत अच्छे मित्र हैं, सिविल एविएशन मिनिस्टर बने हैं, दो ही बात कहते हैं। सबसे पहले बोलते हैं कि मैं एयरक्राफ्ट खरीदूंगा, 10 हजार करोड़ रुपए का एयरक्राफ्ट खरीदूंगा और जो पिछले 20 सालों में नहीं हुआ, मैं वह करके दिखाऊंगा, और दूसरी बात बोलते हैं कि मैं एयरपोर्ट बेचूंगा, एयरपोर्ट का प्राइवेटाइजेशन करूंगा। ये दोनों चीजें, ये दोनों बातें, कहीं-न-कहीं हमें परेशान कर रही हैं। एयरक्राफ्ट चाहिए, एयरक्राफ्ट का एक्वीजीशन होना चाहिए, इससे कोई इंकार नहीं कर रहा है, लेकिन जिस तरीके से मिनिस्टर का यह थप प्रीयोरिटी का एजेंडा बन गया है, वह कहीं-न-कहीं अंदर-ही-अंदर हमें तकलीफ देता है, हमें सावधान करने के लिए कोशिश करता है। दूसरा विषय, एयरपोर्ट ऑथारिटी, एयरपोर्ट का अपग्रेडेशन होना चाहिए, मुंबई एयरपोर्ट निश्चित तौर पर, एक इन्टरनेशनल लेवल का बनना चाहिए। कोई इसके खिलाफ नहीं है, लेकिन कोई मजबूरी नहीं है कि वह एयरपोर्ट प्राइवेट हैड्स में दे दिया जाए। कोई मजबूरी नहीं है। उन एयरपोर्ट्स को बगैर निजी हाथों में दिए, उनका अपग्रेडेशन किया जा सकता है। सिविल एविएशन सेक्टर में 49 परसेंट एफ़्डीआई आया, ऐसी घोषणा हो गई। खुद वित्त मंत्री महोदय ने घोषणा की। मुझे पूरी तरह याद है कि जब एनडीए की सरकार थी, तो उस समय मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ होम अफेयर्स ने एक ऑब्जेक्शन लिया था कि टेलीकॉम सेक्टर में 49 परसेंट का एफ़्डीआई नहीं होना चाहिए। मैं वित्त मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इस घोषणा से पहले, होम मिनिस्ट्री, गृह मंत्रालय की तरफ से उन लोगों को हरी झंडी मिली या नहीं? क्या गृह मंत्रालय ने पिछली सरकार के समय जो ऑब्जेक्शन लिया था, वह ऑब्जेक्शन वापस ले लिया? और ऑब्जेक्शन वापस लिया, तो किस आधार पर वापस लिया? अगर यह बताने की कोशिश करें, अगर आप बताएं तो बड़ी मेहरबानी होगी। ... (व्यवधान)

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया): वे अगर इधर बोलें, तो सुनें ना।

श्री संजय निरुपम: धन्यवाद, उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय।

उपसभाध्यक्ष: श्री बशिष्ठ नारायण सिंह जी। श्री बशिष्ठ नारायण सिंह जी। आप तीन मिनट से ज्यादा नहीं बोलें, आपने अभी-अभी नाम भेजा, आपके लिए स्पेशली तीन मिनट। आपका जो समय था, वह खत्म हो गया। आप जल्दी से बोल दें। बोलिए, बोलिए।

श्री बशिष्ठ नारायण सिंह (बिहार): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी मैंने स्लिप दिया और आपने तीन मिनट का समय दे दिया तो कोई कम नहीं है। मैं आज इस सदन के माध्यम से वित्त मंत्री जी से कुछ आग्रह करना चाहता हूँ और निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि इस देश में विकास के लिए हम लोगों ने जो प्रणाली अपनाई और जो प्रक्रिया अपनाई, उस प्रक्रिया पर आज विचार करने की जरूरत पड़ गई है। हम लोगों ने प्लांड इकोनॉमी का कंसेप्ट लेकर इस देश में अपनी योजनाओं को

प्रारंभ किया। योजनाओं को प्रारंभ किया है, उन को कार्यान्वित करने की भी कोशिश की है। तो अब एक अप्रैजल की जरूरत है। अब उनके पुनरीक्षण की जरूरत है कि हमने जो लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया था, वह अभी तक पूरा क्यों नहीं हुआ है? उस लक्ष्य के पूरा न होने के क्या कारण हैं? महोदय, आज इस देश में यह पुनरीक्षण करने की जितनी जरूरत है, उतनी पहले कभी नहीं थी। इस का कारण यह है कि देश में व्याप्त समस्याओं और नयी समस्याओं के जो सिम्पटम्स हैं, वे अत्यंत खतरनाक हैं। ये सिम्पटम्स 4-5 मोर्चों पर बढ़ते दिखायी दे रहे हैं। महोदय, ये सिम्पटम्स हैं क्षेत्रीय उन्माद, क्षेत्रीयता की मांग और साथ में बेरोजगारों की बढ़ती संख्या, हिंसात्मक प्रवृत्तियों में बढ़ावा और गांवों को छोड़कर शहरों में जाने की प्रवृत्ति। इन को मैं अनरेस्ट के चिह्न मानता हूं क्योंकि ये चिह्न हमारी व्यवस्था के लिए एक चुनौती के रूप में सामने आ रहे हैं। इन के कारण हमारी इकॉनोमी के काम करने के तौर-तरीकों में बदलाव की जरूरत है। महोदय, जब हम फॉरेन एक्सचेंज की बात करेंगे और यदि प्रतिशत में करेंगे तब हम संसार के सामने और देशवासियों के सामने बहुत बेहतर पिक्चर प्रकट कर सकते हैं। लेकिन जब हम निर्धनता के नीचे रहने वालों की बात करेंगे, जब हम इस देश में रहने वाले मजदूरों की बात करेंगे तो हम को लगता है कि एक दुःख भरी तस्तीर दिखाई पड़ेगी। इस देश में अभी जहां एक ओर चाइल्ड लेबर का सवाल उठ रहा है, इस देश में जहां प्रवासी मजदूरों के वेलफेयर के लिए तरह-तरह की योजनाएं बनाने की बात हो रही है, जहां विमेन बिल पास कराने की अभी चर्चा चल रही है और हम जानते हैं कि ये बातें आबादी के कितने बड़े भाग को कवर करती हैं। महोदय, अभी भी देश में अन-एम्प्लायमेंट इतना है कि बड़े पैमाने पर योजना बनाने के बाद भी बेरोजगारों की संख्या बढ़ती जा रही है और झोंपड़ियों की आबादी भी बढ़ती जा रही है। देश में अर्ध-बेरोजगारों और बेरोजगारों की संख्या में भी बहुतायत वृद्धि होती जा रही है। तो हम को कुछ सोचना पड़ेगा और सोचना पड़ेगा कि अब हमारी पूंजी क्या है? हमें सोचना पड़ेगा कि हमारी प्राथमिकताएं क्या हैं?

महोदय, आज इस बहस में भाग लेने का निर्णय मैंने इसलिए लिया क्योंकि मैं वित्त मंत्री जी से आग्रह करना चाहता हूं कि आज हमारे सामने चुनौती अपनी प्राथमिकताओं को बदलने की है, आज चुनौती है कि अब हमारे सामने कौन से ऐसे विषय आए कि जिन घरों में अभी विकास की किरण नहीं पहुंच पायी हैं, जहां हम अपनी प्लानिंग को लेकर नहीं जा पाए हैं, उन के बीच में अपनी प्लानिंग को कैसे ले जाएं। अभी केन्द्र-राज्य संबंधों के सवाल भी उठ रहे हैं। महोदय, ये सवाल वित्त से भी संबंधित हैं और फाइनेंस मैनेजमेंट से भी संबंधित हैं। इन सारी समस्याओं पर हम को लगता है कि दूसरे ढंग से सोचना पड़ेगा। महोदय, मैंने जल प्रबंधन बेहतर व्यवस्था की आवश्यकता की बात की है। इस देश के अर्थ-शास्त्र की यह खूबी है कि यहां लोग ज्यादा हैं, पूंजी कम है और श्रम शक्ति ज्यादा है। श्रम शक्ति ज्यादा है, पूंजी कम है और जमीन भी कम है।... (व्यवधान)... पूंजी है, लेकिन पूंजी में डिस्पैरिटी है।... (व्यवधान)... महोदय, मैं वित्त मंत्री जी से यही कहूंगा कि एक "यूरोपियन थॉट" तो लग सकता है, लेकिन अपने यहां दाम बांधने के सिस्टम और खर्च पर सीमा रखने की भी जरूरत है। आप खर्च पर सीमा को निर्धारित कीजिए और देश की इकॉनोमी को एक

नए ढंग से आगे ले चलने की बात कीजिए। नहीं तो समाज में जो एक असंतोष उभर रहा है, वह एक बवाल का रूप ले सकता है, एक विस्फोट का रूप ले सकता है।

महोदय, अब सभी पक्षों के लिए जरूरत है कि वह संघीय व्यवस्था में कुछ योजनाएं इस ढंग से बनायी जाएं कि एक ओर जहां क्षेत्रीय विषमता में कमी आए और दूसरी ओर नौजवानों के लिए रोजगार के अवसर उपलब्ध हो जाएं। आप ने मुझे समय दिया, धन्यवाद। जय हिंद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): Mr. Minister, before you speak, there is one single point. For employment, SSIs are very important. For the last seven years, the SSI financing has gone down from 17 per cent to 10 per cent. It will be good, if you can look into this.

(MR. CHAIRMAN, in the Chair.)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members from all sections of the House for broadly supporting the supplementary Demands for Grants. The Budget is specially presented in February. After about eight or nine months, experience shows that Ministries come up with further requests for money and Parliament always responds to these requests and sanctions them the money. This year, as the Chairman and the House know, the Budget was passed only in August and, therefore, the size of the supplementary Demand is one of the smallest in recent years. Apart from technical Demands, the size of the Demand is only Rs. 5063 crores in terms of cash outgo. But before I deal with the Demands themselves, let me give you a brief picture of the state of economy. If hon. Members have had a chance to glance at the Mid-year Review, you will find on page 5 the performance of the economy in the first six months of the current fiscal year. Let me straightway concede in the months of April and May, it was the NDA, which was in charge, and in the months of June, July, August and September, and thereafter it is the UPA, which is in charge. I am not here to take credit or to apportion blame. The purpose of my drawing attention to this is that all this is possible because of the sweat and toil of millions of farmers, millions of workers and millions of service providers. It is they who must be complimented for the excellent performance of the economy. The Book here gives the performance for April-September, but I have figures for April-October. You will find that the industrial growth has been 8.4 per cent in the first seven months of this fiscal compared to 6.2 per cent last year. Manufacturing has grown by 8.8 per cent as against 6.8 per cent; electricity by 7.1 per cent as against the meagre 2.9 per cent last year; mining by 5.0 per cent as against 3.9 per cent, and, very importantly, capital goods has grown by 15.1 per cent as

against 9.2 per cent last year. My distinguished predecessor will acknowledge the importance of this statement. Non-food credit has increased from Rs. 53,014 crore last year during this period to Rs. 1,26,423 crore this year. Food credit which had declined by Rs. 13.18 crore is now positive at Rs. 6,419 crore. What is this mean? This means that thanks to the favourable macro-economic environment that we have created in this country, in this fiscal, there is a revival of investment; there is a revival of demand and above all, there is a renewal of confidence that the UPA Government, especially under the leadership of Dr. Manmohan Singh and at the political level, under the leadership of Mrs. Gandhi, are in complete control of the situation, and the people have reposed their confidence in the stability, durability and ability of this Government. Sir, this demand is only for Rs. 5063 crore. But, what I am asking this money for? The heads of expenditure, for which I am asking this Rs. 5063 crores, reflect the priorities of the UPA Government. Let me list them very quickly. For *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan*, last year, the total expenditure was Rs. 2732 crore. In the Budget, you gave me Rs. 3057 crore. Today, I ask you to give me an additional Rs. 2,000 crore, making the total allocation Rs. 5057 crore as against Rs. 2732 crore last year. So, our highest priority is to educate our children. For the Mid-Day Meal Scheme, last year, Government spent Rs. 1375 crore. This year, in July, you gave me Rs. 1675 crores. Today, I ask you to give me another Rs. 1210 crore. So, the total will be Rs. 2885 crore, more than double the last year's expenditure. The Food-for-Work Programme, which should be the precursor to the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, which will be eventually subsumed under that Programme, for the Food-for-Work Programme, which was launched by the Prime Minister on Panditji's birthday on November 14, I ask you to give me Rs. 2020 crore. Of course, when the National Rural Employment Guarantee Bill becomes law, the estimates are that this will multiply several-fold next year. But, we are making a beginning. So, our highest priority is for education, for Mid-day Meal and the Food-for-Work Programme and I assure this House, and I assure the people of this country, that these will remain our priorities during the tenure of the UPA Government. Sir, very quickly for Health, we are asking now for an additional Rs. 408 crore. For the Department of Agriculture, we are asking for an additional Rs. 440 crore. For Science and Technology, we are asking for an additional Rs. 200 crore which, together with the Budget allocation, will represent an increase of 50 per cent over the last year's expenditure. For Scientific and Industrial Research, we are asking for an additional Rs. 50 crore, a 23 per cent increase over the last year. For Bio-technology, an additional

Rs. 40 crore which, together with the Budget allocation, will represent a 38 per cent increase over last year. And, for Ocean Development, an additional Rs. 36 crore, which will represent a 52 per cent increase over the year. Again, in frontline areas like bio-technology, ocean development, scientific research, we are putting more money because this is where, I think, India's future lies - research, development and the development of human resources. Sir, last year, under the Universal Service Obligation Fund, for the purpose of rural telephony, only Rs. 200 crore was spent. This year, Sir, in July, the House gave me Rs. 200 crore, matching last year. Today, I come to you for another Rs. 1,000 crore. So, Rs. 1,200 crore will be spent on rural telephony. For Indira Awas Yojana, we are asking for an additional Rs. 400 crore. So, in all, Sir, you will find that the bulk of the expenditure, that I am asking, is for high-priority areas which require more money and I am sure you will generously grant me what I ask for. Sir, I am very keen that more money should be given to the States. I am not at liberty to reveal the contents of the Twelfth Finance Commission Report. I have to formally lay it on the Table of this House. But, I believe, the Twelfth Finance Commission has been generous to the States and the Prime Minister is already on record he has said that we will implement the Twelfth Finance Commission as an award in letter and spirit. Look at what we are giving to the States. In the Revised Estimates 2003-04, total Central Assistance to the States and UT Plans was Rs. 48,660 crores, roughly Rs. 49,000 crores. In the Budget, we provided Rs. 57,704 crores, and, today, out of the allocation, Rs. 4,703 crore will be transferred to State and UT Plan, making it a total of Rs. 62,407 crore, an increase of 28 per cent over the last year's transfers. Therefore, Mr. Ramachandraiah need not have any fear; my heart is in the right place, my head is also in the right place. We will give more money to the States, but States must spend the money. Yesterday, I gave figures in the Lok Sabha; Rajasthan has unspent balances, Orissa has unspent balances, and, I can give you the unspent balance for every State.

When we transfer the money, States must spend the money. So, when you go back to your State, I would urge you to tell your Chief Minister, what you told me. You told me to give money. You tell your Chief Minister that now you have got the money, please spend the money.

SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI (West Bengal): Sir, the money should reach in time. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Money is reaching in time. Madam, the unspent balances mean the money that has been given but that has not

been spent ...*(Interruptions)*... Please listen to me ...*(Interruptions)*... The unspent balance is the money that has been given but has not been spent. We are not talking about untransferred money. We are talking about unspent balances.

SHRI JIBON ROY: Sir, the money ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Can you give the reasons for ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: No, no. That is not correct. I can give you figures for money already given this year, which remains unspent.

श्री रुद्रनारायण पणि: सर, सदन के ज्ञान के लिए बताने का कष्ट करें कि कितना पैसा दिया गया था और कब दिया गया था? इसका मतलब आप ...*(व्यवधान)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I don't know why he is wasting his energy ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सभापति: बैठिए-बैठिए। अपनी स्टेट से पूछिए कि कब रुपया दिया गया और कब खर्च किया।

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, some specific questions were raised, and, I will very quickly deal with them. Mr. Jairam Ramesh asked about the roadmap for reducing fiscal deficit and revenue deficit. The roadmap is that we should reduce the revenue deficit by not less than 0.5 per cent a year, and, the fiscal deficit by not less than 0.3 per cent a year.

In the Budget, I proposed a reduction this year of the fiscal deficit by 0.4 per cent and the revenue deficit by 1.1 per cent. I am hopeful we will achieve this target. Even so, we have enough headroom, and, I think if we stick to this minimum, namely not less than 0.5 in revenue deficit, and, 0.3 in fiscal deficit, the Kelkar - FRBM roadmap will indeed be achieved.

Sir, question was raised about NPAs. Now both during the United Front Government, then the NDA Government, and, now, the NPAs are reducing. That is because we have put our public sector banks on a much sounder basis. In 1997-98, I remember, at least, five public sector banks were floundering. But through a mix of policies - which was continued in the last six years; nobody is questioning that - the public sector banks are on a much sounder basis.

But to assume, as Shri Jairam Ramesh appeared to do, that there would be no NPA, is just bad business sense. I think he is a very academic economist ...*(Interruptions)*... Lending is a business. Dr. Jalan will bear me out that lending is a business like any other business. Like in any

other business, some businesses will fail; some loans will also fail. In fact it is the exit of failing companies, which creates the space for the entry of new companies. Some proportion of your loans will indeed fail. If you tell the bankers not one of your loans should fail, what would the banker do. He will behave like a bureaucrat. He will never take a decision. The idea is that you must lend. Some loans will fail but that does not matter. What we have to look at is what is the proportion of bad loans to the total lending. That is why, I submit with respect, gross NPAs and net NPAs as a percentage of total outstanding is a relevant figure. These numbers are coming down and I would urge the bankers to lend. That is the *dharma* of banking. They must lend to the farmer; they must lend to the students; they must lend to the small-scale industrialists; they must lend to industry. But, they must lend honestly. They must not lend out of any *mala fide* motive, on any corrupt motive. When they lend honestly, if one or two loans fail, that does not matter. That is a part of the business and one must take that in one's stride.

Sir, he did ask about VAT. We had a good meeting with the consultative committee. I have had three very good meetings with State Finance Ministers. Let me tell you, Sir, I am very happy to report that all States are on board; every State is on board today. 27 States have already passed or will shortly pass the law. Many of these laws have received the assent of the President, the remaining will receive the assent of the President this month or next month, if all of us work together and there is no discordant voice. If there are genuine apprehensions of traders, I take the responsibility of travelling around the country, meeting them and allaying their fears. I am holding my first meeting in Chennai on the 30th of this month. I will travel to Kolkata; I will travel to Mumbai; I will travel to Kanpur; I will travel to Nagpur; I will travel to Guwahati; I will travel to other parts of India. But, let us work together. VAT is the single most important tax reform, as far as States are concerned. Let us determinedly move in order to implement VAT with effect from 1st of April, 2005.

Sir, there was some comment about forex reserves, what is the composition of forex reserves. The composition of forex reserves is a very good composition of forex reserves. The composition of forex reserves is a very good composition. In fact, I have figures for April-June. The BOP related figures will come only in December for the second half, that is something which Mr. Jalan did not fix, he should have fixed it. It should come sooner. But the figures are good. The composition is that of the foreign exchange flow, the bulk of it comes from exports, from export of

services, from remittances and from tourism. These are the broad heads under which our foreign exchange reserves come. And, our foreign exchange reserves, as everyone knows, is the highest ever in the history of this country. It has touched 130 billion. In a sense, that is one of my concerns. The huge inflow of foreign exchange is one of the concerns because liquidity-induced inflation has to be managed very carefully. But fortunately, like Mr. Jalan has been kind enough to pay compliments, let me say, we have had a succession of Governors of Reserve Bank who are able to manage liquidity very well.

Sir, on service tax, there is some misconception. Parliament amended the Constitution. Parliament introduced Entry 92 (A) in the Constitution. It is Parliament which gave power to the Centre to levy service tax. So, nobody else can levy service tax. The question is how do we share service tax. I have had a discussion with the State Finance Ministers. There is a broad consensus. Until that discussion reaches a conclusion, the Twelfth Finance Commission is recommending, as it should, that this will go into the 'Divisible Pool' and hence service tax will also be shared by the States. There need be no apprehension about service tax. We have an open mind. We want to share service tax with the States. But, the power to levy service tax is available only to Parliament and to the Central Government because Parliament has amended the Constitution and given that power only to Parliament and to the Central Government.

On subsidies, you will recall, in 1997, I placed a discussion paper in Parliament, and in the Budget speech, I promised that I would place another paper on targeting subsidies. If all goes well, Sir, I expect to place that paper tomorrow in Parliament. It will be available for discussion and you will have an opportunity, I am sure, to discuss it in the next session. I am trying to place it before Parliament tomorrow.

Sir, some point was made about the Sensex. I think, somebody did make a comment. When the Sensex goes down, you blame me; when the Sensex goes up, you blame me. Please, don't blame me for either event. I am not responsible for either the Sensex going down or the Sensex going up.

श्री संजय निरुपम: सर, आपको सावधान करना था।

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I am watching it carefully. Fortunately, one of my predecessors installed a huge television screen in my room. I am grateful to my predecessor because that television screen runs right through

the day; it tracks the Sensex right through the day. Therefore, even if I do not wish to be cautious, the television screen will alert me. So, we are cautious about the Sensex. We are watching it carefully. Today, it is driven by FII flows and that is not bad in itself. If FIIs think India is a good investment destination, we should welcome it. About six hundred and thirty-eight new accounts have been opened, and nearly 100 FIIs have registered including Cal PERS, including University Funds. All these are good signs. But we are watching it carefully. I do not think there is a bubble building up; but we will watch it very carefully. I will take the advice of both Mr. Ramachandraiah and Shri Sanjay Nirupam, although he may be angry with me for leaving the House for a couple of minutes. I will take advice of both of you. We will watch the Sensex very carefully.

But, on vanishing companies, let me make a statement. I am very unhappy. In 1997, I asked the SEBI to identify vanishing companies and take action. To my deep regret, Sir, no action was taken in the last six years. Now, I have asked notices to be issued to vanishing companies. Notices are in the process of being issued. Both the SEBI and the Ministry of Company Affairs will issue notices to vanishing companies and take action against these vanishing companies.

Sir, regarding backward areas, I have already said in the Budget, "Please wait for 1.4.2005". We are going to set up the Backward States Grant Fund. About Rs. 5,000 crore will be put in the Fund every year. Backward States will get more funds so that we do not have this comparison between Bihar and UP, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh, etc. We will set up this Fund, and we will have rules and the Fund then will take care of the backward States as well as backward districts in the States.

Sir, a question was asked about project implementation. I am very unhappy about project implementation. We have a very complicated system here. We have a very complicated system of evaluation in one place, project monitoring in one place and expenditure finance clearance at another place. I am not happy about the system. I do not think anybody can be happy about the system. We are looking into it. I want to put in place a system by which project evaluation is done by technically competent people with domain knowledge. After that, expenditure monitoring must be done only for the purpose of seeing whether milestones are being met, and project monitoring must monitor the quality of implementation. It is now under discussion and I hope that we can improve project implementation. We are very unhappy about project implementation.

Sir, some severe criticism was levelled against the road project. Now, let me tell you that this is completely wrong; this is misinformation. There is no attempt at all to slow down or stall any of the road projects, particularly the Golden Quadrilateral, the North-South Corridor and East-West Corridor. These are our national projects and this Government is deeply committed to implement them on time.

But let me share with you some facts. The Golden Quadrilateral is 5846 kms long. It was targeted originally to be completed in December, 2003. But even the previous Government realised that it was an unattainable target. The target is now being revised to December, 2005. Now, the information with me tells me that out of these 5846 kms. 4203 kms. have already been completed, or, is partially completed, and work is underway in the remaining stretches. As far as the North-South-East-West Corridor is concerned, this is an even more ambitious project, of 7300 kms. The target date is December, 2007. The project has just started. We will adhere to these targets; we will try to achieve this ahead of target. If the Delhi Metro can be achieved three months ahead of target, there is no reason why we should not achieve this ahead of target. All we need is to clone a few more *Sridharans* and put them all over India, and I am sure many of these programmes will be completed.

I have received a letter only yesterday from the Minister concerned, Mr. T.R. Baalu. He has given me the reasons why there was a slow down in the first three-four months of the current fiscal. He has promised that he is attending to it on a daily-basis. He has assured me that he will personally monitor the key segments of these projects, and he will ensure that the implementation is quickened. Let me assure this country, let me assure this House, that we are as committed to this project as anyone else, and we will implement it with utmost vigour.

Sir, finally, there were some questions about the Chennai Diesel Plant. Now, I do not want to get into any acrimonious debate. I am still hopeful that good sense will prevail on everyone concerned. I am not taking names, and I am not joining issue with anyone. I want a diesel plant. That is more important than scoring a point. The position, today, is that the State Government appears to have given up with its original proposal to set up an SPV and is now entrusting the project to Metro Water. Now, I understand that Metro Water has floated a tender. The last date was 31st of December, 2004. The date has been extended to 23rd January. Once they finalise the bidder, I believe, they will give it on the DBOOT basis, i.e., the design, build, own, operate and transfer basis. Sir, I am waiting for more

information from the State Government. We have offered our support, but our support can only be given if the Central Government also has a role to play in the project-implementing vehicle. That is only reasonable. We are helping in design, we are helping in procurement and we are helping in funding through the viability gap funding mechanism. If the Central Government is doing all this, it is only fair that the Central Government has a role to play in the project-implementing agency. I believe that we will be able to resolve this matter to the satisfaction of everyone concerned.

Sir, a reference was made to the Doordarshan Kendra in Madurai. I have checked with my Ministry; nothing is pending in my Ministry, but I will certainly find out from the Minister concerned whether anything is standing in the way of the proposals concerning Doordarshan Kendra in Madurai being implemented.

Now, fertilizers; my learned friend talked about potatoes. He should have also said that Midnapur is making a major advance in potato growing. The consultant is McKinsey; nothing wrong with that; perfectly right. What they have done is the right thing to do. The consultant is McKinsey. It is a right thing. Now, if there is a problem about fertilizers, I will certainly address it. I will talk to my colleague and see that the fertilizers are supplied. I urge you to use more consultants in more districts and get more potato grown.

Finally, Sir, a word on textiles. Sir, textile is the biggest industry. We have tremendous strength in a number of areas, particularly strong raw-materials base, large production capacity, vast pool of skilled manpower, competitive advantage in terms of labour cost. There are also some constraints. The constraints are poor quality of cotton, cloth production being in the decentralised sector; only a small portion in the organised sector, outdated technology in hand-processing units and restrictive regulatory practices. Sir, we have taken a major step, in the Budget, of abolishing the CENVAT. That has created a level-playing field and a competitive-playing field. I have already assured the other House, and I repeat the assurance, that the tax regime that we have introduced for natural fibres will remain untinkered. We will not tinker with it, we will not tamper with it. We will have a stable tax regime for the next five years so that producers can happily make progress. On man-made fibre, I promised that there would be a helpful and benign tax regime, effective from the next Budget, and I want the textile sector to be more competitive.

Finally, Sir, we will implement the recommendations of the Twelfth Finance Commission. I ask for everybody's support. We want to build India as an economic powerhouse through the philosophy of cooperative federalism. Centre and States must work together. States must become prosperous. Centre will help States to become prosperous so that India can also become prosperous. I ask all of you to please return the Bill which I have presented to you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the question is:

That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year, 2004-05, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up Clause-by- Clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2, 3 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I beg to move:

'That the Bill be returned'.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I just want to say only one sentence to the hon. Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That matter is over now. (*Interruptions*)... That matter is over now.

SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION

Foreign Policy of the Country

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): Mr. Chairman, Sir, two days ago we had a very lively and stimulating debate on foreign policy in this House. Twenty hon. Members participated in the debate and I made some note of their names, but some of them are not here today. They are Shri Janeshwar Mishra, Shri Yashwant Sinha....