

[Dr. E.M. Sudarsana Natchiappan]

to the Reporters' Branch. Written speeches so laid will be incorporated in the verbatim proceedings of the day. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, those Members who have given their names to speak in their respective regional languages may also be permitted to lay their speeches in their respective regional languages.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Regarding the number of words, as the House has come to a consensus, there is no limit for that. You can make it up. ...(*Interruptions*)... Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): Okay, there is no limit.

श्री रामविलास पासवान (बिहार): सर, आप मेम्बर्स से रिटेन स्पीच ले रहे हैं, इसमें बोलने की जरूरत है नहीं, समय भी बर्बाद नहीं हो रहा। ...(*व्यवधान*)... अब जो मेम्बर्स नाम देने से छूट गए हैं, अगर वे लिख कर स्पीच देना चाहें, तो उनको भी एलाउ कर दीजिए। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

---

**(A) THE BUDGET (GENERAL) 2013-14**

**(B) GOVERNMENT BILL -- Cont.**

- (i) The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2013**
- (ii) The Appropriation Bill, 2013**
- (iii) The Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2013**

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, with a heavy heart and with a lot of agony, I am laying my speech on the Table of the House. This has never happened. We are setting a very bad precedent. I don't want to question the decision. At the same time, the Budget of India is an important document. Where the Parliament should discuss it threadbare, who is responsible for this, the Government should explain. It is the Government's failure to manage the situation that has resulted in this situation. Secondly, Sir, the deficit is a major challenge before the country, the fiscal deficit, revenue deficit, current account deficit, and, above all, trust deficit. The situation today has arisen because there is a trust deficit in this Government. I am not holding the Finance Minister responsible for this trust deficit. When I say trust deficit, trust deficit is because of the mishandling. You do not know how to run a Government. You do not consult your

allies. You always try to insult them and thereby create ...(Interruptions)... I was on my legs and I was speaking.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): There was a consensus, and everybody started, speaking. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: I am not going into the details. ...(Interruptions)... What is this? Sir, today when I woke up in the morning, astonishingly there was a news that some people were raided by the CBI. That party has withdrawn support yesterday and you misuse CBI. ...(Interruptions)... and today the Home Minister says ...(Interruptions)... The Home Minister says that it is inquired into, and they have been ordered to stop it and explain in 60 minutes. You say that you have no jurisdiction on the CBI. Then, how can you give such instructions? That is nothing but blackmail. ...(Interruptions)... You are trying to misuse CBI. We protest against this. This is against democracy. My point is, the Finance Minister should incorporate the response to all the points, raised by various Members, during his speech on the Appropriation Bill because at least we must have an opportunity then to understand what is the thinking and what are the actions proposed by the Government or taken by the Government. Today, I request the Finance Minister to please go through the economic newspapers of today, "The Headlines Today", the Captains of Industry and know what is their feeling and try to understand that. The prices of essential commodities are rising, unemployment is growing, corruption is also increasing and the Government is silent on all these issues. So, I would like the Government to respond to all these issues.

As per your direction, I am laying my speech on the Table of the House by signing every page.\*\*

DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR (Nominated): Sir, I lay on the Table my speech relating to Budget, 2013-14. Thank you.\*\*

श्री नरेश बुढानिया (राजस्थान): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं बजट पर बोलना चाहता था और वेंकैया जी के सवाल का जवाब देना चाहता था, लेकिन समय के अभाव के कारण मैं अपना भाषण सभा पटल पर ले कर रहा हूँ।\*\*

श्री ईश्वर सिंह (हरियाणा): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं बजट पर अपना भाषण सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।\*\*

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I lay my speech on the Table of the House.\*\*

---

\*\* All speeches are given from page 349 onwards.

SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA (Odisha): Sir, I lay my speech on the Table of the House.\*\*

SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I lay my speech on the Table of the House.\*\*

श्रीमती रजनी पाटिल (महाराष्ट्र): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मेरी मेडन स्पीच थी ...(व्यवधान)... मैं बजट पर अपना भाषण सभा पटल पर रखती हूँ।\*\*

श्री बीरेन्द्र सिंह (हरियाणा): मैं बजट पर अपना भाषण सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

श्रीमती नाजनीन फारूख (असम): मैं बजट पर अपना भाषण सभा पटल पर रखती हूँ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Shri Piyush Goyal. Not present.

श्री धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान (बिहार): मैं बजट पर अपना भाषण सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI (Madhya Pradesh): May I lay my speech before the end of the day.\*\*

SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA (Karnataka): Sir, I lay my speech on the Table of the House.\*\*

श्री अजय संचेती (महाराष्ट्र): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं बजट पर अपना भाषण आज शाम तक सभा पटल पर ले कर दूंगा।\*\*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Shri Raghunandan Sharma. Not present.

श्री वीर सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, परंपरा के अनुसार सामान्य बजट 2013-14 पर मुझे बोलना था, लेकिन राज्य सभा के सभापति जी द्वारा आदेश हुआ है कि आपने जो भाषण तैयार किया है, आप उसको ले कर दीजिए, तो मैं सभापति जी के आदेशानुसार वर्ष 2013-14 के सामान्य बजट के संबंध में अपना भाषण सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।\*\*

आपने मुझे बहुजन समाज पार्टी की ओर से अपने विचार रखने का मौका दिया है, इसके लिए मैं आपका, अपनी पार्टी का और अपनी बहन कुमारी मायावती जी का धन्यवाद करता हूँ।

श्री राजपाल सिंह सैनी (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मेरी मेडन स्पीच है, मैं आपसे अनुरोध करूंगा कि मुझे दो मिनट बोलने का मौका जरूर दिया जाए ...(व्यवधान)... मैं सबकी

---

\*\* All speeches are given from page 349 onwards.

सुनता हूँ, मुझे केवल दो मिनट बोलने का मौका दिया जाए ...(व्यवधान)... मुझे अपना भाषण ले तो करने दीजिए। वर्ष 2013-14 के बजट पर यहां बोलने के लिए हमारी नेता बहन मायावती जी ने बहुजन समाज पार्टी की ओर से मेरा नाम दिया था, इसके लिए मैं अपनी नेता बहन कुमारी मायावती जी को धन्यवाद देता हूँ, आपको भी धन्यवाद देता हूँ और अपना भाषण सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।\*\*

SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, I lay my speech on the Table of the House.\*\*

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY (West Bengal): Sir, as per your direction, I am laying my speech on the Table of the House.\*\*

DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH (Jharkhand): Sir, I lay my speech on the Table.\*\*

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं दो पंक्तियां कहना चाहता हूँ:-

"पेट में रोटी नहीं और हाथ में पैसा नहीं,  
आपकी सरकार में ज़हर भी सस्ता नहीं।"

यह कहकर मैं अपनी बजट स्पीच ले करता हूँ।\*\* ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री एम. वेंकैया नायडु: फिर भी आप उनकी मदद करते रहते हैं।

SHRI N.K. SINGH (Bihar): Sir, I rise to lay the speech that I would have made in case there was an orderly debate, and I thank all the hon. Members for a very patient hearing ...(Interruptions)...

\*DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM (Tamil Nadu):\*\*

SHRI SHASHI BHUSAN BEHERA (Odisha): Sir, I lay my speech on the Budget on the Table. My focus is on disinvestment of NALCO and 'Special Category' status to the State of Odisha, which has been a long-pending demand. The hon. Finance Minister may kindly clarify the criteria being adopted for awarding 'Special Category' status to States.\*\*

DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI (Maharashtra): Sir, I lay on the Table some of my constructive suggestions. But, in the meanwhile, I congratulate the Finance Minister for a very realistic Budget.\*\*

---

\*\* All speeches are given from page 349 onwards.

\*Spoke in Tamil

SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN (Maharashtra): Sir, I was supposed to make a speech in the House.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): You lay it on the Table.

SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Yes, Sir. I lay my speech on the Table of the House.

\*SHRI A. ELAVARASAN (Tamil Nadu):\*\*

SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY (Andhra Pradesh): It is unfortunate, Sir, but I lay my speech on the Budget on the Table of the House.\*\*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Dr. M.S. Swaminathan. He is not here.

DR. ASHOK S. GANGULY (Nominated): I lay my speech on the Budget on the Table of the House, Sir.\*\*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Ms. Anu Aga.

MS. ANU AGA (Nominated): Sir, I have nothing to lay on the Table.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA (Assam): Sir, I lay my Budget speech on the Table of the House.\*\*

SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS (Assam): Sir, I lay my speech on the Table.\*\*

श्री रघुनन्दन शर्मा (मध्य प्रदेश): सर, मैं अपनी बजट स्पीच सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।\*\*

SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR (Karnataka): Sir, I lay my speech on the Budget on the Table of the House. \*\*

SHRI ANIL DESAI (Maharashtra): Sir, in view of the paucity of time, I lay my Budget speech on the Table of the House. \*\*

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, my Party's opposition to the neo-liberal economic and fiscal policies of the Government is well-known. I lay a copy of my speech on the Table of the House for the consideration of the Government.\*\*

---

\*\* All speech are given from page 349 onwards.

\* Spoke in Tamil.

DR. BARUN MUKHERJI (West Bengal): Sir, I lay a copy of my speech on the Table. \*\*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Dr. Vijay Mallya. Not present.

श्री राम कृपाल यादव (बिहार): सर, मैं 2013-14 के बजट के लिए अपनी स्पीच ले करता हूँ।\*\*

SHRI A.V. SWAMY (Odisha): I have a comment to make, Sir. It is good that you are asking us to lay on the Table speeches which are supposed to be made on the floor of the House. Anyway, I expect the Finance Minister to answer each one of the speeches that we are laying on the Table.\*\*

श्री रणवीर सिंह प्रजापति (हरियाणा): महोदय, मैं अपनी बजट स्पीच सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।\*\*

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL (Punjab): Sir, while the Government should have been laid on the mat for destroying the economy of this country, I am constrained to lay my speech on the Table of the House.

श्री विश्वजीत दैमारी (असम): सर, मैं अपनी बजट स्पीच ले करता हूँ।\*\*

\*\* SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I could not complete my speech while initiating the discussion on the Union Budget 2013-14 on 18/03/2013 because of the lunch break. Thereafter, the House could not transact any business till today because of disruptions. Sir, it is very unfortunate that today I have to lay it on the Table of the House and, with a lot of agony, I am herewith laying my remaining speech on the Table of the House.

- Food and primary articles have shown higher annual price rise of 11.38% and 9.70% respectively. Common man's food items have all become dearer. Onions went up by 154.33%, rice by 18.84%, wheat by 21.63%, cereals by 19.19%, fruits by 8.93% and milk by 4.57%.
- The Government is sitting on stocks of 70 million tonnes of grain, yet the key component of inflation this year is food grains, which is 17% in the third quarter.
- Indian national capital, Delhi, has 50% malnourished children which means every second child is malnourished. It ranks 27 out of 29. What a shame?

---

\*\* All speech are given from page 349 onwards.

\*\* All speeches laid on the Table

[Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu]

- Vegetables compared to last year has risen by 26%; sugar by 13%, edible oils by 15%, cereals by 17.4%. The proposals made by the Railway Minister will further escalate inflation because he has declared that every six months there will be revision of tariff linking transport charges with oil prices. Food grains, cooking gas, cement, coal, iron and steel—all products will go up.
- When people are reeling under unprecedented inflation, they expect relief. Instead, the Government is offering them deregulation of fuel products and a further dose of higher prices, taxes and service charges. Diesel prices have been raised by Rs. 5 in one go and then by Rs. 10 in monthly instalments of 50 paise each. This attitude indicates that you have no concern for the common man.
- Prices of petroleum products were increased before and after the Budget; in all 30 times, apart from putting a cap on LPG Cylinders, since the UPA came to power. Railway fares were hiked this January, a month before presenting the Budget. Also, fertilizer prices have gone up 14 times. Then what is the sanctity of Budget?
- The air-conditioned restaurant is the symbol of the urban middle class's aspirations. You have taxed them also.

#### **Fiscal Deficit**

- Deficit ..... Deficit .....deficits everywhere. Fiscal deficit, revenue deficit, current account deficit and, above all, trust deficit.
- As someone rightly said, the macroeconomic indicators—Fiscal Deficit, Trade Deficit and level of inflation are equivalent of the system's Pulse Rate, Blood Pressure and Temperature. All of these are higher than normal under UPA.
- The Fiscal and current account deficits are almost as bad as 1991. The rate of growth is lowest in the decade.
- Current Account Deficit has risen to unacceptable level of 5.4% of the

GDP. Even a young student of economics knows that such a situation is akin to consuming the resources of the future generations to meet one's current liabilities. While the Budget acknowledges this as a major challenge, it did not propose any concrete measures to address the same.

- Fiscal Deficit was 2.5% in 2007-08 and now at 5.2%, and you hope it to be brought down to 4.8% next year. Where is the roadmap?
- Because of increase in Current Account Deficit and Fiscal Deficit, the rupee has fallen by more than 20% in the last one year. A continuous fall in the rupee value will result in further increase of fiscal deficit, thus nullifying the effect of key announcements made in the Budget. It will also result in the import bill going up, leading to a rise in inflation and the Current Account Deficit.
- The FM was able to achieve the 5.2% fiscal deficit number largely because of the massive cut on spending and deferment of payments on fertilizer and other subsidies. FM shaved of Rs. 91,838 crore from the budgeted Plan expenditure of Rs. 5,21,025 crore for the current fiscal in the backdrop of a growing fiscal deficit.
- FM reduced Budget allocations and expenditure by almost 18%, the steepest cut in expenditure comes from unspent funds allocated to various Ministries last year. For example, in BE FY 13, Ministry of Agriculture was provided Rs. 16,121 crore; however, RE is Rs. 13,787 crore. HRD Ministry's BE was 61,427 crores, the revised is 56,223 crores. RD Ministry which implements various flagship programmes was provided Rs. 76,376 crore, but the actual expenditure has been cut to Rs. 55,000 crore. In total, the exercise helped the FM save Rs. 91,838 crore in the Plan Outlay this year.

#### **Words for the poor and Deeds for the rich**

##### **Withdrawal of subsidies —The poor and farmers are doomed**

- In the current financial year, the total subsidy is expected to rise to Rs. 2.47 lakh crore against the Budgetary target of Rs. 1.79 lakh crore.



[Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu]

Subsidies on petroleum products is expected to be more than Rs. 96,880 crore against the Budgetary target of Rs. 43,580 crore.

- The fertiliser subsidy at Rs 65,971 crore in 2013-14 is almost the same as what was spent in 2012-13. Prices of fertilizers are increasing but the subsidy remains the same.
- Much of the increases in outlays will be absorbed by the likely increase in prices, particularly subsidies.
- What happened to your *aam aadmi* slogan ? I have no hesitation in saying that your policy seems to be words for the poor and the deeds for the rich.
- But in contrast, the additional giveaways from 2008-09 corporate sectors have caused a tax expenditure of Rs. 7.5 lakh crore between 2009-10 to 2013-14. Corporate profits rose from 11.9% of GDP in 2008-09 to 12.7% in 2009-10 and 12.15% in 2010-11. In actual terms, the corporate profits rose from Rs. 6.68 lakh crore in 2008-09 to Rs. 8.24 lakh crore in 2009-10 and to Rs. 9.89 lakh crore in 2011-12. The giveaways have risen from Rs. 2.85 lakh crores in 2007-08 to average Rs. 5 lakh crore every year, totaling Rs. 25 lakh crore for the last 5 years. Even the Economic Survey mentions about this.
- In 2012-13 alone, the aggregate revenue forgone from Central taxes on account of tax concessions to the rich and the corporate sector are projected to be Rs. 5,73,627 crore. If one adds the Rs. 5,33,583 crore of forgone tax revenue in 2011-12, the total is a whopping Rs. 11, 07,210 crore. The bluff of deficit reduction through slashing subsidies must be called.
- According to a study, revenue foregone since 2005-06 under Corporate Income tax, Excise and Customs is Rs. 31,11,169 crores.
- NPAs under the CORPORATE CATEGORY as on 31.12.12 constitute 53.68% amounting to nearly 1,00,000 crore. Total Income Tax arrears as on 31.12.12 are Rs. 4,18,696 crores and the Government is not able to recover this huge sum for reasons best known to them.

## **Allocations**

### **Lowest Defence Budget**

- Lowest Defence Budget increase in over 30 years: pegged at 1.79% of GDP, with several major modernization projects set to be affected .
- The allocation of the Defence has been reduced by 4903 crores under revenue segment and 10,000 crores under capital in the revised estimates. While speaking in Rajya Sabha on 6th March, 2013, the Defence Minister said and I quote “I fully share the sentiments of the Members. India is facing various challenges. Security situation around is very volatile. We have to be watchful 24x7. We have to strengthen our armed forces and give them the most modern equipment”. And you reduced the allocation.
- It is disturbing to note that India remains the world’s biggest importer of weapons during 2008-2012. India’s imports were 109% higher than that of China and China becomes the 5th largest exporter. We need to develop our weapons indigenously. How do you do that when you reduced allocations?
- This year China has increased its defence Budget by 20% .
- Former Defence Chief, Gen. Malik, said that the allocation to defence, not even 2% of the GDP, is not adequate keeping in view the present security environment whereas China and Pakistan are providing 3.7% and 4.2% of their GDP.

### **Meagre allocations**

#### **Women’s safety**

- Allocation of Rs. 1,000 crore fund for women’s safety and welfare is far from adequate in covering the rehabilitation and medical costs of survivors of gender violence. Where is the money for speedy justice, fast track courts, filling up of vacancies in judiciary?

What kind of ‘dignity for women and girl child’ are you talking of? See the plight of the girl child. They are deprived of even as basic an

[Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu]

amenity as a separate toilet for girls in schools. It is shameful to note that half of the schools in the country are without toilets for girls. Justice Verma Committee suggested provision of adequate safety measures and amenities in respect of women. With a mere 1,000 crores under the so-called *Nirbhaya Fund*, how this is possible?

#### **Skill development**

- The UPA Government has allocated a mere Rs. 1,000 crore for skill development. Contrast to this, see the Rs. 800 crore that just one State, Gujarat, has allocated for skill development. Madhya Pradesh allocated 476 crores. If one State gives 800 crores, then what is 1000 crores for the entire country. You boast it as a major initiative for growth.

#### **Disabled persons**

- The Twelfth Five year plan makes a lot of promises for the disabled on various counts—education, habitation and rehabilitation, health, barrier-free environment and this has not been reflected in the Budget. The outlay for the Inclusive Education for the Disabled at the secondary stage has been reduced from Rs. 63 crore in 2012-13 to Rs. 45 crore in this Budget.
- Planning Commission member on Task Force, Dr. Mihir Shah, says pension for aged and widows should be Rs. 1950 per month. As per Tendulkar Committee, it should be Rs. 950 minimum on the basis of increased inflation. But just a pension of Rs. 200 per month is being given for old people, physically challenged and widows. See your concern for the poor and disabled.

#### **One Women's Bank**

- You tried to play to the gallery, of course, unsuccessfully. Because people have learnt to read between the lines. How is that one bank in one corner of the country going to help or empower the women-entrepreneurs?
- Should we understand that the other banks are absolved of their responsibilities towards women? The concern of gender bias in loan

appraisals could well be addressed by increasing the share of loans to women.

- Instead of creating one bank for the entire country, you could have taken steps for incorporating women within the existing public and private banking systems. A nationwide bank is less effective than enhancing the existing banking services to ensure ease of access.
- Just compare the market valuation of the SBI (one bank) at Rs. 1,47,000 crore and the promised 1,000 crore investment for the women-only bank. The difference in scale is evident.

### **Agriculture**

- Agriculture is basic culture of the country. In 1950-51, agriculture used to contribute 53% of GDP; now it is at 14%. From 19% in 2004-05, it dropped to 18.3% in 2005-06 and to 17.4% in 2006-07. It further dropped to 16.8% in 2007-08, 15.8% in 2008-09 before reaching 14% in 2011-12.
- Agriculture is a vital sector from the point of view of subsistence to food security. But it has become a victim of your systematic negligence in the planning process and policy initiatives.
- Agriculture employs more than 60% of the population. It is in a state of deep distress. Terms of trade in UPA regime have always gone against farmers.
- Why mum on Swaminathan Commission's recommendations? The key recommendation that MSP should be cost of production +50% has not been implemented so far.

### **Mismatch between MSP and cost of production**

- The latest calculation of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) is testimony to this reducing margin for the farmers. Input costs like cost of seeds, pesticides, fertilizer, diesel, power, water have all gone up. According to Haryana Government, the cost of producing one quintal of paddy in the State is Rs. 1,566. The Government buys paddy at 1,280 per quintal. So, the Government does not even pay the cost of production, let alone profits, to the farmers.

[Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu]

- It is true that MSPs have been hiked. What you forgot is the fact that cost of production has also gone up by 300% thereby even surpassing hiked MSPs.
- Sir, I have an interesting table which compares 2011-12 cost of production with 2012-13 MSP and cost of production + 50% figures. This table throws at us very surprising figures. These figures are even higher than the 2012-13 MSP for almost all crops.
- There has been abnormal and manifold rise in the prices of agriculture inputs like fertilizers, pesticides, diesel and labour wages.
  - Prices of DAP, the most widely used fertilizer after Urea, in April 2010 was Rs. 9,350/- a tonne. Today it is Rs. 24,000/-. Even the hike between two seasons last year was 31.8%.
  - The prices of MOP (Muriate of Potash) was Rs. 4,455/- a tonne in April 2010. It has gone up to Rs. 17,000/-. Hike between the last two seasons is 41.6%.
  - Fuel prices have also been increased a number of times.
  - Government is not focusing on providing uninterrupted power supply to farmers causing heavy losses to them.
  - Between January 2008 and January 2012, prices of crucial farm inputs went up sharply, impacting cost of cultivation across States. Yet, the Government announced MSPs are lower than the cost of Production of the most kharif crops.
 

o Fertilizers	300%
o Farm power	20%
o Lubricants	62%
o Fodder	60%
o Diesel (pumpsets)	44%
o Diesel (tractors)	34%

- What happened to Hooda Committee's recommendation of Rs. 10,000/- compensation to farmers for loss of crops?
- The UPA's Nutrient Based Subsidy scheme for fertilizers has fuelled the prices of all non-subsidized fertilizers thereby defeating the very purpose of the scheme. Farmers are experiencing short supply of fertilizers and resultant back market.
- A massive loan waiver scam has been unearthed by C & AG. More than 34 lakh farmers who were eligible for loan waiver were not benefited on account of the faulty implementation of the scheme. More than 24 lakh ineligible farmers became beneficiaries.
- Farmer suicides have continued unabated during your regime. 19000 farmers committed suicides in 2011 and 14000 in 2012. This Budget fails to address any of these farmers' problems. Now we are getting reports from AP that the distress farmers are selling their organs to come out of agriculture debt trap.
- If the country's agriculture is growing at 3.5% for which the hon'ble President patted the Central Government, it must be noted that the average of agriculture development in BJP and NDA ruled States is double of national average.
- Look at the BJP-ruled States. Karnataka came with a separate 'agri Budget' which was extremely innovative. Madhya Pradesh showed a double digit agri-growth at 18.2%, the highest in the country. Gujarat is growing at 10.8%.
- What are the steps taken to ensure lower interest rates on agriculture credit? Swaminathan Committee recommended credit to be given at 4%. Some of the BJP ruled States are giving at the rate of 0% interest, and some at 1% or 2%. Then the States with their limited resources can provide loans at lower interest rates, why not the Centre? This speaks of your attitude towards agriculture and welfare of farmers.
- PM claims that credit flow to agriculture sector has increased by many folds. Even according to the Rangarajan Committee Report, out of 11

[Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu]

crore farming community of the nation, only 1/4th are getting agriculture credit from the banks and the remaining are forced to borrow from private lenders.

### **Industry and Investment Climate**

- Government should know why the investments have fallen. Land acquisition, rehabilitation and clearances are a few of the other main reasons. The coal linkage problem is also affecting Rs. 5 lakh crore investment proposals.
- Stable tax policy is essential to encourage investments in the businesses. However, investors have lost confidence due to repetitive retrospective amendments.
- As per the World Bank and International Finance Corporation's Doing Business 2013 data, India is ranked a lowly 132 out of the 185 countries analyzed. In the category of "Paying Taxes", India's ranking is further low, at 152 which has worsened from 149 in the year 2012. This clearly indicates that India is losing out on its competitiveness *vis-a-vis* other countries.
- People were expecting an announcement of cut in interest rates. The need for interest rates to come down for boosting growth has been forcefully conveyed in the Economic Survey. "Lower interest rates could provide an additional fillip to investment activity for the industry and services sectors".
- The main reason for collapse of country's growth is fall in private investment from 14% to 10% of the GDP. What is the strategy for its revival? Nothing!

### **Infrastructure**

- Infrastructure has received mere lip service. The problem in infrastructure is of clearances, administrative bottlenecks and interest rates. So, all infrastructure sectors, like National Highways Development Programme, telecom, ports and roads will continue to languish and so will critical sectors like power and civil aviation.

- 37 projects sanctioned under BoT in the last three years are yet to take off. Nobody is coming forward due to lack of resources, banks and financial institutions are not providing adequate loans. Last year, NHAI wanted to award contracts for 11 projects for expansion of 4-lanes to 6-lanes, but nobody came forward to bid!
- During the NDA regime, construction of highways achieved a level of 11 kms. per day. Today it stands at an abysmal low of just 3 kms. per day despite their tall promise of building 22 kms. every day.
- The East-West and North-South corridors still remain a distant dream. Even the Gram Sadak Yojana has slowed down.
- Power generation which was targeted at 78,000 MW in Eleventh plan actually achieved was only 54,000 MW. The performance of other sectors of infrastructure like rail, ports, oil and gas is also lack luster.
- With all round failure to address the power sector's pervasive and crippling problems, the UPA Government is succeeding in pushing the country to kerosene lantern days again. I remember the days when I studied under lanterns. Do you want the same situation to arise? Many States are facing serious power problems and my own State, Andhra Pradesh, you will be surprised to know that from 6.00 am to 6.00 pm there will be no power! Andhra Pradesh has now become *Andhera Pradesh*.
- The power crisis has had rippling effects in the economy with many industries both small and large highly impacted.

**Black money**

- No measure to retrieve black money which was put at Rs. 25 lakh crore two years back. If 20% of this money is retrieved, we can enjoy tax holiday for one year.
- All of us were suggesting that firm action should be initiated to minimize the presence of black money in the national economy and to bring back huge amount of black money stashed in Swiss Bank accounts and tax havens, and use it for infrastructure development and social welfare schemes. There is no meaningful movement forward.



[Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu]

- When UPA-II came to power in 2009 PM promised to bring back black money in 100 days. But nothing has moved since then. Many such 100 days have gone by.
- You are silent even on your Government's 'White Paper on Black money' (presented to Parliament in May last year). Let me quote your predecessor FM : "The success of an inclusive development strategy critically depends on the capacity of our society to root out the evil of corruption and black money from its very foundations." He also promised a more effective policy response as we move forward. Certain strategies were also suggested. Where is the more effective policy response?

### **Savings**

- In view of the fact that savings have declined in the last five years from 37 per cent of the GDP to less than 30%, the Finance Minister should have taken more determined steps to encourage savings by giving concrete concessions in income-tax to the savers. He has failed to do so.
- Deposits are going down. Credit Deposit Ratio is all time high 78.86%. Deposits growth is 12.71%. Growth in advances is 16.1%.

### **Employment**

- Economic Survey says India will face a shortage of about 17 million non-agricultural jobs by 2020 if labour reforms and high-growth policies are not taken up immediately. It further says that this massive shortage—about six times the current numbers—could trigger social unrest.
- The 61st round of NSSO survey reveals faster increase in employment during 1999-2005 as compared to 1983-94 (source : Economic Survey 2006-07)
- The BJP-led NDA could create 12 million jobs in its-tenure, the UPA could create only 2 millions. What the UPA so far offered the country is "jobless growth".

- 17 lakh applications for 1500 posts in SBI! 2 lakh applications for 100 posts in DRDO! Today the headlines in Economic Times is disturbing-13 IIMs unlucky for placements. Even in IIMs that is the situation.
- Economic Survey warns that by 2020 India could be faced with upto 16.7 million 'missing jobs'.

### **Flagship programmes**

- Flagship programmes are flagging.
- The approach of the UPA Government to the poverty alleviation is entitlement and not empowerment. While empowerment is a productive and sustaining strategy, entitlement makes people permanently Government depended.
- The UPA's flagship scheme, MNREGA, originally provided for Rs.40,000 cores, In the past two years, this amount has been reduced to Rs. 33,000 crores.
- Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) got 24,000 crore in the last Budget but could spend only Rs. 10000 crore.
- The new flagship programme touted by the UFA is the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme. All the 26 schemes covered under the scheme have a Budgetary allocation of Rs. 5595 crores. Till today, the actual expenditure is only Rs. 5.38 crore. This scheme, according to UPA, is a game-changer of Indian politics; finally, it will end as regime-changer!
- Over 28,78,41,507 Aadhaar numbers have been generated as on February 28, 2013. That means less than 25% of the population have been issued Aadhaar cards. Even within that 25%, the direct benefit transfer is only a token. In the pilot project of kerosene in Alwar, people do not get subsidy for months together. Even in the pilot project for transfer of cooking gas subsidy, only a token transfer of cash into their account. Aadhar is not going to enhance your Janadhar. It will make you *Niradhar*.
- The estimated requirement of food subsidy in the Government's National Food Security Bill was Rs. 1,17,000 crore for distribution of 7 kg. of

[Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu]

foodgrains per person per month. The Parliamentary Standing Committee projected a subsidy demand of Rs. 1,12,000 crore for the distribution of 5 kg food grains per person per month. They suggested a coverage of 67 per cent of the population.

- As per the present Food Security Bill, subsidy involved is 1,35,000 crores. The total food security subsidy for this year is 90,000 crores. That means .....
- Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission : Allocation in 2012 was Rs. 10,500 crores. 11,000 crores in 2013. Token increase.
- Rajeev Gandhi Grameen Vidyuteekaran Yojana : Allocation for 2012 was 4,900. For 2013 it is 4,500 crore. Reduced.
- Grameen Telephony : Allocation for 2012 was 3,000 crore and it is the same in FY 13. No change.
- Rural Irrigation Project : Allocation for 2012 was 1,081 crore. For 2013 it is 1,207 crore. A meager hike only.
- Either the allocations were reduced or remained stagnant. Even if hiked, they are nominal.
- UPA-II has done worse than UPA-I in social sector spending

**Average Annual Growth in Budget Allocations**

	Education	Health	Women and Child Development
UPA1 (2004-10)	25.7%	19.0%	29.8%
UPA2 (2010-13)	21.7%	16.2%	25.4%

Source : Budget at a glance, Ministry of Finance 2004-2013

Sir, this Budget is totally disappointing, lacks direction, does not inspire confidence and does not add to growth. I conclude by saying that Mr. Chidambaram seems to have followed BJP's policy, of course, in reverse—we say '*appeasement of none and justice for all*' and his motto seems to be '*injustice for all and appeasement of none*'.

DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR (Nominated): Thank you Dy. Chairman, Sir, for allowing me to participate in the debate on the Annual Budget, 2013-14, that I strongly support. Sir, I patiently heard the speech of Shri Venkaiahji Naidu of the principal opposition party. I thought that he would raise some substantial issues, but I was disappointed. He described the Budget as 'deceptive', 'non-inspiring' and 'disappointing'. I totally disagree with him. His criticism sounded like poetry in the form of prose. Anyway, I shall certainly react to some issues of relative importance. But, Sir, before I do that, I need to make some broad observations by way of compulsion.

Sir, in the fast changing globalizing world economy in which Indian economy is getting integrated, it would be grossly erroneous and even inexcusable to overlook the factors that have a bearing on the nature and the structure of the Budget for 2013-14.

Sir, let me begin with the global conditions in the background of which this Budget is prepared. These factors include: (i) global banking/financial crisis of 2009-10; (ii) Eurozone or sovereign debt crisis facing all Euro countries that are our major trade partners; (iii) several countries are finding extremely difficult to overcome the effects of these crises as the entire world economy is slowing down; (iv) in August, 2011, the S and P downgraded the US economy from AAA to AA+, that had its consequences for the world economy. Though I have my own views of such credit rating, it is the fact of life; (iv) advanced countries experienced deleveraging by banks, financial institutions and households; escalating the fear about sovereign debt; rising cost of sovereign borrowing; the loss of confidence of currencies and stock market, and persistently high prices of commodities; (v) world trade volume contracted from 12.8 per cent in 2010 to 7.5 per cent in 2011 and further to 5.8 per cent in 2012. This adversely affected demand for India's exports that fell by 4.9 per cent in this year over the preceding year; (vi) the Current Account Deficit (CAD) has increased to the unsustainable level of 4.6% of the GDP, India's sustainable level of the CAD being about 3.0 per cent.

These factors are certainly not the making of the Government of India. Let me now turn to the domestic factors. These include: (i) Gross Domestic Saving (GDS) as % of GDP declined from 36.8 per cent in 2007-08 to 30.8 per cent in 2011-12; (ii) Gross Domestic Capital Formation (GDCF) as % of GDP declined from 38.1 per cent in 2007-08 to 35 per cent in 2011-12; (iii) corporate sector investment declined from 17.3 per cent in 2007-08 to 10.6 per cent in 2011-12; iv) the rate of growth decelerated to % to 5 per cent from 6.2 per cent in the last year. I

[Dr. Bhalchandra Mungekar]

shall come to the growth story shortly and reply Shri Venkaiah Naiduji; (v) this affected the revenue collection of the Government; (vi) inflation has been within the range of 7 to 8 per cent; and (vii) low growth and relatively high inflation rate is the present day syndrome.

Sir, under such difficult economic conditions, probably nobody could have presented better Budget than the one we are debating. The Hon. Finance Minister has prepared a balanced, responsible and inclusive Budget that shall help revive economic growth, for which I congratulate him.

Sir, under the able guidance of Smt. Sonia Gandhiji, the UPA Chairperson and the Congress President, and Dr. Manmohan Singhji, Hon. Prime Minister, since it came to power in 2004, after the NDA miserably failed to 'shine', the UPA has stood committed to inclusive and broad-based growth.

Dy. Chairman, Sir, as I shall explain, I am tempted to say, and that too in all fairness, that the real problem of the principal Opposition party and for that matter, I am sure, all opposition parties is not the architecture of the Budget, but the fact that all sections of the society have accepted and appreciated the Budget. It has addressed concerns of all sections of the society. The following allocations will make my point clear.

Sir, though agriculture contributes only 14% of the GDP, it employs 55% of the total labour force of the country. The FM has allocated Rs. 27,049 crore to agriculture and Rs. 3,415 crore for agricultural research. What is most significant is, the supply of agricultural credit is sought to be enhanced from Rs. 5.75 lakh crore to Rs. 7.0 lakh crore. Rs. 1000 crores are provided for the technological development of the Eastern States, viz. Bihar, Odisha, West Bengal, Assam etc. with RKVY—Rs. 22,250 crore.

Sir, small and marginal farmers constitute about 80 per cent of the farmers in the country. They are most vulnerable in every possible sense. I congratulate the FM for providing Rs. 5,387 crore for integrated watershed development programme for these farmers. Rural Development is provided with Rs. 80,194 crore, i.e. 46 % increase over the last year. The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) is given Rs. 33,000 crore, PMGSY—Rs 21,700 crore, and IAY—Rs. 15,184 crore.

Sir, the SCs and the STs are the most disadvantaged sections of our population. There are two special programmes for these communities: the Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan and the Tribal Sub-plan. These schemes are allocated Rs. 41,561 crore and Rs. 24,598 crore, respectively. This makes a rise of 12.5% and 31% in the BE and RE, respectively. The Women and Child Development Deptt. has got Rs. 20,350 crore.

Sir, the UPA Government is committed to the welfare of the Minorities that constitute about 20 per cent of the of the total population. Sir, I must mention that in the light of the Justice Sachar Committee's Report, the Muslim community is economically the most backward, in addition to their perception of discrimination. Therefore, the Ministry for Minorities is provided with Rs. 3,511 crore. The assistance to the Disabled amounts to Rs. 110 crore.

Sir, all-round human development is the commitment of the UPA Government. Though the country has made a steady progress on the front, it is not satisfactory. In view of this, a sum of Rs. 65,867 crore is provided to the education sector. This makes the total expenditure on education to 4.0 per cent of the GDP, from 3.5 per cent, which is still less compared to the 6% of the GDP as recommended by the Kothari Commission in 1966. Of this allocation, the SSA/RTE shall get Rs. 27,258 crore and the Mid-Day Meal scheme shall get Rs. 13,215 crore. Similarly, the health sector shall receive Rs. 37,330 crore, of which medical education will get Rs. 4,727 crore and six AIIMS-like institutes will receive Rs. 1,650 crore.

Sir, it is the moral responsibility of the Government to provide food security to the people, particularly the poor and needy sections of the society in enough quantity and at affordable prices. The proposed legislation on National Food Security seeks to cover 75% of the rural and 50% of the urban population, that makes about 67% of the total population. The Budget has provided Rs 10,000 crore for this scheme in addition to the regular food subsidy Budget. Sir, I congratulate the Government for this scheme and particularly, the Congress President and the UPA Chairperson, Smt Sonia Gandhiji for steadfastly insisting upon this scheme.

Sir, there is a fashion among one section of the mainstream economists who ridicule the help to the poor as 'populism' and even non-affordable benefits to the privileged as 'incentives. Each one of these economists has criticized MGNREGS as wasteful expenditure. But what would have happened to Inclusive growth in the

[Dr. Bhalchandra Mungekar]

absence of providing employment to nearly 5.5 to 6.0 crore rural households every year?

I also congratulate the Government for the proposed scheme of National Right to Homestead providing about 4,000 sq. feet area to about 8 million landless agricultural labourers out of about 13 to 18 million landless agricultural labourers with all amenities.

Sir, over a period of time, infrastructure bottlenecks have seriously affected the performance of the Indian economy. In view of this, the Budget has given the railways a support of Rs. 26,000 crore. The Twelfth Plan has projected the required investment in the infrastructure to the tune of US \$ 1 trillion ( Rs 55,00,000 crore ), of which 47 per cent is expected to come from the private sector. The issue of tax-free bonds in 2013-14 is expected to bring Rs. 50, 000 crore. NABARD -RIDF's corpus shall be raised to Rs 20,000 crore.

The resource mobilization measures of the Government include tax deduction at source ( TDS) on transfer of certain immovable property (other than agri. Land), additional income tax on distributed income by company for buy-back unlisted shares, basic custom duties on passenger cars exceeding the value of US \$ 40,000 shall be raised from 75 to 100 per cent, and amnesty scheme for non-filers and stop-filers.

Sir, now let me now react to some of the points raised by Hon. Member from the opposition.

He mentioned that some countries have achieved a higher rate of growth. I do not know from where he discovered these countries, maybe with 2 to 3 million population. Let us talk of the major countries that matter for India and for the world economy at large.

In 2012 and 2013, the growth scenario in some major countries was as follows:

USA, 2.3 and 2.0 per cent, Germany, 0.9 and 0.6 per cent, Italy, -2.1 and -0.10 per cent, Spain, -1.4 and -1.5 per cent, Japan, 2.0 and 1.2 per cent, UK, -0.2 and 1.0 per cent, Canada, 2.0 and 1.8 per cent, and France, 0.2 and 0.3 per cent. Only china is expected to grow at 8.2 per cent in 2012 and India at 5.9 per cent. Actually, for India , the growth rate is revised to be 5.0 per cent.

Sir, by end of September, 2011, China's total foreign exchange reserves stood

at \$ 3, 201.7 (\$ 2 trillion) as against India's \$311.9 billion (Today India's income is about \$1.8 trillion). This meant China's FERs stood at 1.75 times higher than India's total national income.

Sir, Shri Naiduji was talking about high growth story during the NDA rule. What is the real fact? Let me mention about the growth performance of the Indian economy since Independence. The rate of growth in the 1950s was 3.6 per cent; during the 1960s, it was 4.0 per cent; during the 1970s, it was 2.9 per cent; 5.6 per cent during the 1980s; 5.8 per cent during the 1990s; and 7.2 per cent during the 2000s. The growth rate during the Tenth Plan was 7.6 per cent and during the Eleventh Plan, it was 7.9 per cent. This means, only during the Eleventh plan, the growth rate of the Indian economy was about 8.0 per cent.

Sir, during the five-year rule of the NDA, the average rate of growth was 5.9 per cent. During the preceding five years, it was 6.5 per cent and during the succeeding five years, it was 8.42 per cent. This means during the relevant 15-year period, the growth rate was the lowest during the NDA rule. What growth is Shri Naiduji talking about? Hereafter, we should permanently stop discussing about the growth performance of the NDA. Sir, fortunately for this country, the BJP-led NDA ruled only for five years.

Sir, inflation is always a cause of serious concern to the poor. About 85% unorganized workers comprising agricultural labourers, small and marginal farmers, industrial workers etc. are most adversely affected by inflation, because it erodes their meagre purchasing power. Sir, the NSS data show that 45% expenditure of the poor is incurred on food, as against 8-9% in the advanced countries. Therefore, inflation in general and food inflation in particular is the enemy of the poor.

But we cannot neglect the factors that contributed and continue to contribute to the inflationary pressures in the economy. These include: stimulus packages for revival of growth amounting to 2.1 per cent of the GDP between 2007-08 and 2010-11 and were estimated to be 3.2 per cent in 2011-12; continuous increase in the minimum support prices to the farmers to mitigate the rise in the cost of cultivation; growing purchasing power in the hands of the rural poor due to several welfare schemes such as the MGNREGS, that has been adding to their incomes, that is a sign of development; shift in the consumption pattern even of the poor resulting in higher demand for fruits, vegetables, meat, eggs, fish etc., that is again a welcome sign; import of nearly 65 per cent of crude oil at higher prices causing non-food inflation; and lastly the demand-supply mismatch is a major reason.



[Dr. Bhalchandra Mungekar]

Sir, I must draw serious attention of the Government to the fact that Rs. 50,000 crore worth foodgrains, fruits and vegetables are annually wasted due to lack of inadequate storage facilities and the lack of cold chains. This is unacceptable. Government cannot depend on FDI in multi-brand retail trade, as not a single proposal has so far been received probably due to conditions of 30 per cent procurement from the domestic manufacturers and investment of US \$100 million with 50 per cent in backward linkages. Government must invite the domestic industrialists in this sector. Food inflation particularly, the rise in the prices of rice and wheat, is simply unjustifiable in view of the huge stocks of foodgrains with the Government. The PDS must be restructured to deliver what is expected of it.

Sir, having said this, let us look at the problem of inflation in the changed scenario. Prof. Harry Johnson, a noted monetary economist, has written an article entitled: "Is Inflation Inevitable for Economic Growth?" Prof Johnson acceptable 1.5 per cent inflation for the advanced countries due to almost full employment and 3.0 per cent for the developing countries—this was in the 1960s. The situation has dramatically changed since then. Sir, I should not considered extravagant, but I think that 6.0 per cent inflation could be consistent in a growing economy. This does not, I repeat, does not at all mean that the Government is exempted from taking every possible step to ensure that the inflation does not cross this Laxman Rekha. Dy Chairman, Sir, continuous increase in employment is one of the most useful-instrument of securing inclusive growth. Therefore, all-out efforts need to be made for securing faster rise in gainful employment with decent living conditions. This is particularly true when the elasticity of employment across the sectors of the economy is declining over a period of time.

Sir, Shri Naiduji was talking about failure of the UPA Government to control unemployment. What was the situation during the NDA rule?

According to the NSS, between 1999-2000 and 2004-05, that covers four years of the NDA, the rate of unemployment measured by the UPS marginally increased from 2.2 per cent to 2.3 per cent. But with CDS, that is the most inclusive measure of unemployment, it increased from 7.3 per cent to 8.2 per cent. Contrary to this, during the UPA-I *i.e.* between 2004-05 and 2009-10, the UPS unemployment declined to 2.0 per cent and the CDS to 6.6 per cent.

Sir, Shri Naiduji also referred to the Govt.'s inability to control the fiscal deficit. There cannot be two opinions about the necessity of controlling the fiscal deficit. But what is the real picture? The FD declined from 4.3% to 2.5% in 2007-08 of the GDP. It increased to 6.0 per cent in 2008-09 and further to 6.5 per cent in 2009-10. It again fell to 4.8 per cent in 2010-11, but increased to 5.7 per cent in 2011-12 (Provisional). It is estimated at 5.1 per cent for the year 2012-13. Sir, what is gratifying is, the revenue deficit as % of the fiscal deficit and the GDP is showing a downward trend. It was 5.2 per cent of the GDP in 2009-10, while it is estimated to be 3.5 per cent in 2012-13. But when some criticize the Govt. for not controlling the fiscal deficit, and like opposition parties, some economists are in the forefront, is it not necessary to closely look into the factors that lead to rising fiscal deficit?

In this regard, one can easily point out the following factors responsible for the rising fiscal deficit, (a) A conscious decision of the Govt. to resort to financial packages to overcome the adverse impact of the global financial crisis and domestic factors; (b) Lower receipts (that explain 58 per cent of total slippage) due to sharp deceleration of growth, particularly in the industry sector, elevated level of inflation, subdued financial market conditions, for generating required disinvestment receipts and overshooting of expenditure. If stimulus packages had not been given, growth would have further decelerated; (c) Subsidies pose a major problem. We know that oil and petroleum subsidy, food subsidy and fertilizer subsidy are three major subsidies that drain the public exchequer. During April-December 2013, total under recoveries of the OMC stood at Rs. 1,24,824 crore. Bulk of these subsidies are accounted only by diesel and LPG subsidies; (d) When the Govt. tries to slowly align the prices of these products with the international prices since about 65% of them are being imported, is it not a fact that all opposition parties come to the streets and create havoc? Is it not a fact that war was broken when the Govt. reduced the number of the subsidized cylinders to six and was forced to make it 9. When 50% of the urban households use kerosene and more than 60 per cent rural households use fire fuel, that war was beyond my comprehension; (e) Fertilizers subsidy amounted to Rs. 32,490 crore in 2007-08, that increased to Rs. 67,199 crore in 2010-11 (RE) and estimated to Rs. 60,974 in 2012-13. I want to know which political party in this country will suggest and support rationalization of the fertilizer subsidy or not to raise the minimum support prices to the farmers.

[Dr. Bhalchandra Mungekar]

Sir, I would now like to make the following suggestions for the consideration of the Govt.

First, agriculture needs a greater attention. Despite it being a state subject, the States are not doing enough. This is a serious matter. The Union Govt. should take initiative in sensitizing the States. Sir, we have been waiting for the Second Green Revolution for the last 40 years, that is too long a period. No major technological break-through is visible. That alone can shift the supply curve in agriculture upwards. Only about 1/3rd of the country's farming is irrigated and 2/3rd is rain-dependent. We will have to develop in a major way the dry-farming technology. The agricultural universities must undertake frontier research in agriculture. Special problems of 80 per cent marginal and small farmers need to be urgently attended to make them viable and sustainable.

Second, the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises ( MSMEs) have been provided with Rs. 2,977 crore assistance. It is too inadequate to for their development. 33 per cent of the MSMEs are in the services sector and 67 per cent in the manufacturing sector. They contribute 10 per cent of the GDP, more than 30 per cent of the exports and 17. 0 per cent of the total employment in the country. 84 per cent of the total manufacturing employment in the country comes from the MSMEs employing less-than 8 workers. They need much better treatment. I am happy to know that the Govt. is revising their threshold limit, and also proposing to bring them under the priority sector lending. Sir, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru talked about self-reliant growth. In the changed context, that is not possible. Let us replace 'self-reliant growth' by 'domestic demand-driven growth'. And in that perspective, agricultural growth by making small and marginal farming sustainable, and also, the all-round development of the MSMEs have a unique role to perform.

Third, uneven regional development and the resulting imbalance is a perennial problem in the country. Due to different factor endowment and certain historical factors, some States developed faster, while some States remained economically backward. I therefore congratulate the FM for giving assurance in the Budget for reviewing the norms of backwardness so as to decide the level of financial assistance to such States.

Fourth relates to the financing of the development. Sir, every evidence shows

that though growth has benefited all sections of the society, it has benefited and is benefiting the rich more than the poor. Therefore, the affluent and rich must bear a greater cost of financing the development. This is not borne out by the facts. For instance, the Gross Tax Revenue as the % of the GDP has stagnated between 10 and 11 per cent of the GDP; the direct taxes between 5.5 to 6 per cent and indirect around 4 to 5 per cent. The wealth tax is nominal, and yet it fell to Rs. 950 crore from Rs. 1,244 crore in the previous year. The services sector contributes about 62 of the GDP, but the service tax as a proportion of the GDP has stagnated only at one per cent of the GDP. This means that relatively higher growth is not getting reflected in the tax structure, that has virtually remained inelastic.

Fifth, the latest trend for gold import is very much disturbing. Due to inflation and relatively low rate of return on financial investment, people prefer gold as an asset. The demand for pure gold is rising faster compared to jewelry and other ornaments. This is a worldwide phenomenon. As a result, since 2008, gold prices denominated in dollar doubled and denominated in Rupee increased three times. It has two effects; one, since entire gold is imported, CAD has increased, and two, financial investment has fallen. The Government must regulate the gold import with strict measures.

Sixth, the estate duty is abolished. Sir, even the classical economists who believed in laissez-faire economic policy had recommended the estate duty with a view to reducing income inequalities. I think more than 100 countries in the world have gone for that. I do not know, why the India is dragging its feet.

Seventh, it is freezing to know that only 42,800 persons in the entire country have more than Rs one crore taxable income. (I hope Ministers are included and the MPs are excluded). Sir, only persons in Pali Hill and Colaba in Mumbai, Banjara Hills in Hyderabad, Salt Lake in Kolkata, many areas in New Delhi, and affluent localities in banglore and Chennai alone might exceed this number by ten times. Sir, economists are enamored by the logic of the Laffer curve that shows an inverse relationship between the tax rate and the compliance, *i.e.* tax collection. This is not borne out by the Indian conditions. It is high time that we rationalise the tax-structure, improve the tax compliance and punish tax evaders so that the major beneficiaries of growth also share the larger burden of financing the development.

Sir, on the whole, the Budget is realistic and down to earth. It is a balanced

[Dr. Bhalchandra Mungekar]

and responsible Budget. It is not extravagant in promises and does not entertain the sloganeering. It is not popular, and certainly not populist. Within the global and the domestic constraints, the FM has done a remarkably good job for the revival of the economy. Following the Hon. Prime Minister, I request my colleagues in the Opposition to share and strengthen this hope for the better future of the economy and that of country.

Sir, thank you very much.

**श्री नरेन्द्र बुढानिया:** महोदय, आपने 2013-14 के बजट पर बोलने का समय दिया, इसके लिये मैं आभारी हूँ व धन्यवाद करता हूँ। यह 2013-14 का बजट बहुत ही चुनौतियों के बीच पेश किया हुआ बजट है। हमारे देश में **fiscal deficit** व **Revenue deficit High** है तथा **current Account Deficit** एक चिंता का विषय है। विकास दर बढ़ाने के लिए सरकारी खर्चों में बढ़ोतरी करनी पड़ती है, इससे मुद्रा स्फीति के बढ़ने का खतरा बढ़ता है इन परिस्थितियों में वित्त मंत्री जी ने **Balancing** बजट देश के सामने पेश किया है।

महोदय, आज हम उदारीकरण के 25 वर्ष पूरे करने जा रहे हैं। पिछले छः-सात वर्षों तक हमारी विकास दर 8 प्रतिशत रही, परन्तु अचानक पिछले दो वर्षों में यह नीचे आई है। यह दुनिया में आई मंदी का कारण है। चीन व इण्डोनेशिया ही ऐसे दो देश हैं जो विकास दर में हमसे आगे हैं। यदि हम इस वर्ष अनुमान के मुताबिक विकास दर हासिल कर सकें तो चीन ही एक ऐसा देश होगा जो हमारे से विकास दर में अधिक होगा। हम यह कहना चाहते हैं कि **UPA** की 11वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में विकास पर औसतन 8 प्रतिशत रही है।

महोदय, वित्त मंत्री जी ने 2013-14 के बजट में हिन्दुस्तान की नब्ज़ को पकड़ा है। इस बजट में उन्होंने तीन वायदे किये हैं--पहला वादा हमारे देश की महिलाओं के लिये, दूसरा वादा हमारे देश के युवा वर्ग के लिये, तीसरा वादा हमारे देश के गरीबों के लिए। महिलाओं के लिये यह बजट में जबरदस्त फोकस किया है। 97,134 हजार करोड़ रुपये महिलाओं के कल्याण के लिये प्रावधान रखा है। इसके अलावा महिला सशक्तीकरण के लिये एक निर्भय फंड का प्रावधान किया है, जिसके लिये 1000 (एक हजार) करोड़ का प्रावधान किया है जो ऐतिहासिक कदम है। इसके अलावा एक और जोरदार कदम उठाया है वित्त मंत्री जी ने एक महिला बैंक खोलने का निर्णय किया है। इस महिला बैंक के लिये 1000 करोड़ रुपये **Initial Capital** के रूप में उपलब्ध कराया जायेगा।

महोदय, इस महिला बैंक की एक खासियत होगी कि महिलाओं द्वारा चलाये जाने वाले बिजनेसिज़ या ऐसी संस्थायें या सेल्फ ग्रुप्स जिनमें ज्यादातर महिलायें काम करती हैं, उनको यह वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान करेगी। युवा वर्ग के लिये विशेष **Skill Development Programme**

चलाने का निर्णय लिया है जो इसमें सफल होंगे उनको 10,000 (दस हजार रुपये) इनाम (Reward) दिया जायेगा। इस प्रोग्राम के लिये दस लाख बच्चों को प्रशिक्षण दिया जायेगा। इस काम के लिये वित्त मंत्री जी ने एक हजार करोड़ का प्रावधान किया है। गरीबों के लिये **Direct Cash Benefit Transfer** स्कीम चलायी जायेगी। इस स्कीम से गरीब व्यक्ति के पास सीधा पैसा उसके पास जायेगा। आपका पैसा आपके हाथ। इस योजना से देश के बड़े हिस्से को लाभ मिलेगा।

महोदय, हमारे विपक्ष के साथी कहते हैं कि यह बजट दिशाहीन है, निराशाजनक है, जादूगिरी है। मैं इनकी बात से सहमत नहीं हूँ। हमारा पिछला बजट 2012-13 था। वह 14,90,925 करोड़ का था और हमारा रिवाइज्ड एस्टिमेट 14,30,825 करोड़ रुपये था। इस बार 2013-14 का बजट एस्टिमेट 16,65,297 करोड़ रुपये का प्रावधान है जो बजटरी-एस्टिमेट से 11.7 प्रतिशत अधिक है तथा रिवाइज्ड एस्टिमेट से 16.4 प्रतिशत अधिक है। इससे विपक्ष के साथियों की बात गलत साबित होती है। यह बजट हमारे देश को विकास की ओर तेजी से आगे ले जावेगा। मैं यह भी बताना चाहता हूँ कि प्लान एक्सेपेन्डीचर पिछले बजट 2012-13 हमारा 85,21,054 करोड़ रुपये थे और हमारा रिवाइज्ड प्लान एक्सेपेन्डीचर 4,29,187 करोड़ था। इस 2013-14 के बजट में हमारा प्लान-एक्सेपेन्डीचर 5,55,322 करोड़ रुपये है जो आर ई व बी ई दोनों से ज्यादा है। इसलिए विपक्ष की सारी बातें सही नहीं हैं।

महोदय, हमारे देश में जो फ्लेगशिप योजनाएं चल रही हैं। ये सभी योजनाएं बहुत अच्छी योजनाएं हैं जिसका लाभ हमारे देश की जनता को मिला है। वित्त मंत्री जी ने इस बजट में इस फ्लेगशिप योजनाओं को चालू ही नहीं रखा है बल्कि पिछले बजट से ज्यादा बजट इस वर्ष दिया है। शिक्षा के लिए इस 2013-14 के बजट में 65,867 करोड़ रुपये का प्रावधान है। इससे सर्वशिक्षा अभियान के लिए 27,258 करोड़ का बजट दिया है जो पिछले बजट से ज्यादा है। इस वर्ष वित्त मंत्री जी ने राष्ट्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा अभियान के लिए 3983 करोड़ का प्रावधान रखा है। हम कह सकते हैं कि इस बजट में शिक्षा के लिए शानदार कदम उठाये हैं।

महोदय स्वास्थ्य हमारे लिए एक बहुत बड़ा व आवश्यक विषय है। इस बजट में हैल्थ के लिए 37,330 करोड़ का प्रावधान रखा है। इसे सिर्फ राष्ट्रीय हैल्थ मिशन के लिए 21 हजार 240 करोड़ का प्रावधान रखा है। यह पिछले बजट से 26 परसेंट ज्यादा है। ग्रामीण विकास की बात हम करें तो इस बजट में 80 हजार 194 करोड़ का प्रावधान किया है जो पिछले वर्ष से 46 परसेंट ज्यादा है। मैं यह भी बताना चाहता हूँ कि पिछले वर्ष 70 हजार करोड़ रुपये का प्रावधान था जिसमें 50 हजार करोड़ ही खर्च हुए। इस वर्ष के बजट में महात्मा गांधी नरेगा कार्यक्रम के लिए 33 हजार करोड़ का आवंटन किया है। इसी प्रकार नेशन सोसियल एसिस्टेंट प्रोग्राम के लिए 9 हजार 541 करोड़ का प्रावधान रखा है। ICDS के लिए 20 हजार 440 करोड़ का प्रावधान रखा गया है।

[श्री नरेन्द्र बुढानिया]

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय — शहरी विकास के लिए हमारे देश में एक महत्वपूर्ण योजना जवाहरलाल नेहरू राष्ट्रीय शहरी रिन्यूवल प्रोग्राम है हालांकि हम कार्यक्रम कंप्लीट कर चुके हैं और दूसरे के लिए 14 हजार 873 करोड़ का प्रावधान किया है जो पिछले खर्च से दुगुना है। मेरे सामने जो साथी बैठे हैं कहते हैं पिछले वर्ष इस बजट में बसें खरीदी गईं परंतु मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि कम से कम लोगों को बसें तो मिली। हमारे देश के बड़े-बड़े शहरों में आज जो चमचमाती लो फ्लोर बसें चल रही हैं पहले नहीं थीं।

हमारे देश में प्रधानमंत्री सड़क योजना के लिए 21,700 करोड़ रुपये व बहुत ही लोकप्रिय स्कीम इंदिरा आवास योजना के लिए 15 हजार 184 करोड़ रुपये का आवंटन किया है। इसी प्रकार एक और महत्वपूर्ण योजना मिड डे मिल है, इसके लिए पिछले वर्ष 11 हजार 937 करोड़ के स्थान पर 13 हजार 215 करोड़ रुपये का प्रावधान किया है।

महोदय जी कृषि के क्षेत्र में यूपीए सरकार ने जबरदस्त कार्य किया हैं। 11 पंचवर्षीय योजना में हमारे कृषि विकास की दर 3.8 प्रतिशत रही है जो 9वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना जो एनडीए के शासन में थी उसमें कृषि विकास दर मात्र 2.5 प्रतिशत ही थी। वित्त मंत्री ने इस बजट में कृषि विकास दर बढ़ाने के लिए 27 हजार 49 करोड़ रुपये का प्रावधान किया है। पिछले वर्ष की तुलना में यह 22 प्रतिशत अधिक है। कृषि अनुसंधान जो देश की बहुत बड़ी आवश्यकता है इसके लिए 3 हजार 415 करोड़ का प्रावधान रखा है। किसानों के लिए कृषि ऋण एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम है इससे ही किसानों की मदद होती है, इसी से उत्पादन बढ़ता है। कृषि ऋण के लिए पिछले बजट में 5 लाख 75 हजार करोड़ का प्रावधान था, इस वर्ष 7 लाख करोड़ कर दिया है जो 22 प्रतिशत अधिक है इसके लिए वित्त मंत्री जी को बधाई देता हूं। किसानों के लिए और भी कई निर्णय लिए गए हैं। किसान अब निजी बैंकों से भी ऋण ले सकेंगे। किसानों को यह ऋण 7 प्रतिशत ब्याज दर से मिलेगा। यदि किसान समय पर ऋण जमा कराता है तो यह ब्याज दर 4 प्रतिशत होगी। खाद्य सुरक्षा निश्चित करने लिए सरकार बिल ला रही है इसके लिए 65 से 70 हजार मीट्रिक टन की आवश्यकता पड़ेगी। यह आवश्यकता पूर्वी राज्यों में हरित क्रांति से ही संभव है। पूर्वी राज्यों बिहार, असम, छत्तीसगढ़, पश्चिम बंगाल के लिए इस बजट में 1 हजार करोड़ रुपये का प्रावधान रखा है जो एक सराहनीय कदम है। मैं हमारे देश के किसानों को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूं कि उन्होंने कड़ी मेहनत कर खाद्य सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने में बड़ा योगदान दिया है। मैं यह भी बताना चाहता हूं कि कृषि के क्षेत्र में और भी कई इनीशिएटिव लिए गए हैं जिसमें पायलट प्रोग्राम आन न्यूट्री फार्म चलाने का निर्णय है जिसमें हमारी पोषक तत्वों से भरपूर यानि आयरन रिज बाजरा, प्रोटीन रिच मक्का, जिक रिच गेहूं, हमारे किसान पैदा करें। महोदय मैं यह भी बताना चाहता हूं कि यह प्रोग्राम उन जगह में प्रारंभ किया जाएगा जहां महिलाओं व बच्चों को पोषण युक्त भोजन नहीं मिलता है। गर्मी व सूखा सहन करने की वैरायटी उपलब्ध कराने के लिए रायपुर में एक संस्थान खोला जाएगा।

महोदय यूपीए अध्यक्ष श्रीमती सोनिया गांधी लंबे समय से प्रयासरत हैं इस देश के गरीबों के लिए खाद्य सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित हो। आज श्रीमती सोनिया जी की मेहनत का नतीजा है कि वित्त मंत्री जी ने खाद्य सुरक्षा के लिए 10 हजार करोड़ रुपये का अतिरिक्त प्रावधान किया है। महोदय, यह एक ऐतिहासिक निर्णय है इसके लिए देश श्रीमती सोनिया गांधी जी को धन्यवाद दे रहा है।

महोदय, यूपीए अध्यक्ष श्रीमती सोनिया गांधी, प्रधानमंत्री डा. मनमोहन सिंह, पेट्रोलियम मंत्री श्री वीरप्पा मोईली व हमारे देश के युवा नेता राहुल गांधी को राजस्थान की जनता की ओर से बधाई देना चाहता हूं कि उन्होंने राजस्थान के बाड़मेर में रिफाइनरी लगाने का निर्णय लिया है। इस निर्णय में राजस्थान में विकास गति तेज होगी व युवाओं को रोजगार मिलेगा।

महोदय, इस बजट में सभी वर्गों का ख्याल रखा है। विशेष तौर से महिलाओं, बच्चों, युवाओं, एससी, एसटी, अल्पसंख्यक ओबीसी के लिए ख्याल रखा है। हम धन्यवाद देते हैं और 2013-14 के बजट का समर्थन करते हैं।

**श्री ईश्वर सिंह:** महोदय, बजट देश की दिशा व दशा का दर्पण है। 2013-14 वर्ष का जो बजट माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने पेश किया है यह आम आदमी का बजट है, मैं उसके समर्थन में बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूं। कांग्रेस पार्टी हमेशा गरीब व्यक्ति के प्रति गंभीर रही है कि उसे मूलभूत सुविधाएं मिलनी चाहियें खास कर के ग्रामीण व्यक्ति के जीवन के प्रति हमारी यू.पी.ए. सरकार ग्रामीण विकास के लिए वचनबद्ध है।

#### **केन्द्रीय आयोजना 2013-2014 की विशेषताएं:-**

1. महात्मा गांधी राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार गारंटी योजना।
2. ग्रामीण आवास
3. प्रधानमंत्री ग्राम सड़क योजना
4. पेय जल आपूर्ति
5. भूमि संसाधन
6. कृषि तथा सहकारिता
7. पशुपालन डेयरी
8. कृषि अनुसंधान तथा शिक्षा

अनेकों योजनाएं दी हैं।



[श्री नरेन्द्र बुढानिया]

तीन वचन:-

I हम अपनी बालिकाओं और महिलाओं के साथ दृढ़तापूर्वक खड़े हैं। हम उनके सशक्तिकरण और उन्हें सुरक्षित रखने के लिए हर समय प्रयास करने की प्रतिज्ञा लेते हैं।

II युवाओं को स्वेच्छा से कौशल विकास कार्यक्रमों में शामिल होने के लिए प्रोत्साहित किया जाएगा।

III यू.पी.ए. सरकार के कार्यकाल के दौरान देश भर में भारत के गरीब व्यक्तियों के लिए प्रत्यक्ष लाभ अवतरण योजना आपका पैसा आप के हाथ उद्देश्य के साथ शुरू की जाएगी।

**अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति महिलाएं एवं बच्चे:-**

अनुसूचित जाति, उपयोजना और जनजातीय उप योजना के आबंटन चालू खर्च के आबंटन के मुकाबले मूल रूप से बढ़ा दिये हैं। महिलाओं एवं बच्चों से संबंधित कार्यक्रमों के लिए क्रमशः रुपये 97,134 करोड़ और रुपये 77,236 करोड़ का आबंटन किया है।

**अल्पसंख्यक वर्ग:-**

निशक्त व्यक्ति-बजट में बढ़ोत्तरी की है।

**स्वास्थ्य व शिक्षा:-**

सभी के लिए स्वास्थ्य और शिक्षा हमारी प्राथमिकताएं बराबर बनी रही हैं। स्वास्थ्य व परिवार कल्याण के लिए 37,330 करोड़ का आबंटन सर्वशिक्षा के लिए 27,258 रुपये उपलब्ध कराए हैं।

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: Respected Sir,

Though Global Economic Parameters are indicating slowing down, the Indian Economy could show its strength of resilience due to the consistent efforts of UPA under the magnificent leadership of Shrimati Sonia Gandhi ji, who has created history of being the head of one of the largest political organizations of the world.

The economic survey of India and the General Budget for 2013-14 presented by the honourable Finance Minister are transparent without any hidden burdens and categorical to highlight that Indian Economy is challenged with several constraints. The General Budget is keenly following the Mool Sutra of Indian National Congress, that is "Higher growth shall lead to inclusive and sustainable development". The testimony to the commitment of UPA to have comprehensive

welfare of Indian *Aam Aadmi* is amply indicating by the way of improvement of average living standard both in rural and urban India and correctional, far reaching measures in the delivery of welfare and development so as to ensure direct transfer of benefits.

UPA's efforts for fiscal consolidation and to stimulate growth besides sufficient provision for social defence, social security and social justice are to decisively secure safe future to the upcoming generations.

Care for infrastructure, enlarging industrial corridors besides protecting agrarian sector and accelerating the water body management and safe irrigation are to be the bedrock of our economy.

Increase of agrarian credit to 7 lakh crore rupees and enlarging support of Biotechnology without spoiling the traditional strength of native seed besides appropriate soil protection and improvement mechanism are the efforts of furtherance of already achieved Green Revolution by successive Governments of Indian National Congress.

Assurance for lowering Interest rate to 6 per cent to the credit to be extended to Handloom Weavers is attracting the aspirations of my poor artisans. The Government must take steps to smooth provision of such credit to weavers. This facility shall also be extended to all types of artisans of the country.

I request and again reiterate my urge to provide minimum 100 day Job based wages to weavers and all other artisans who are certified to be landless and under BPL. This measure will develop defence mechanism to such lakhs of families who are hunger stricken though they have some or other occupation, which are thoroughly semi-skilled. Protection of weavers and other artisans are protection of traditions and self respect of remote India.

The efforts to sensitize the urgent need of renewable energy including solar power generation by UPA Government is one another future saving initiative in the scarce Coal, scarce Petro Products, scarce Natural Gas and other scarce and precious resources—reality. Cheaper Solar Power generation requires much enlarged research and development and production of inputs for renewable energy. Every house and every productive unit have to be encouraged to gain capacity of their own captive Electricity.

[Shri Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu]

UPA's effort to bring Indian and other traditional medicinal systems to the broader availability to each and every Primary Health Centre besides all Hospitals shall gain much greater momentum. Manpower shortage and poor infrastructure in Healthcare is stigma, which deserves attention of Governments both at Centre and States.

Government schools shall attain their real status to be attracted by all the parents, so as to convince them to send their children to those schools. As huge funds through Sarva Siksha Abhiyaan, are flowing, enhancing the status and infrastructure of all Government owned and aided schools are possible, if precautionary measures are to be put in place.

There are several—foundation building policy initiatives with reasonable fiscal provisions which deserve appreciation.

I appreciate the efforts of Union Finance Ministry to ensure spending process right from April month, which will bring real change all across the nation.

Thank you, Sir,.

SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: The prime political commitment of Union Budget 2013-2014 is to make development economically and ecologically sustainable, pragmatic and legitimate. It aims at higher growth leading to inclusive and exclusive sustainable development. It has laid emphasis on improving human development indicators, weaker sections like women, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Minorities and Other Backward Classes. There is a clear indication to roll out the flagship programmes like Direct Benefit Transfer by the year end. Of course, I suggest that the Direct Transfer System should also be extended for providing food security to the people and fertilizer subsidy to the farmers of the country. Based on the recommendations of Kelkar Committee in 2012, a new fiscal consolidation path with fiscal deficit at 5.3 percent of GDP this year and 4.8 percent of GDP in 2013-2014 has been announced in the Budget. In response to the demand of Odisha, West Bengal and Bihar, Finance Minister has clearly indicated to change the criteria of declaring Special Category States.

More Budget provision -Rs. 37,330 crores are allocated to the Ministry of

Health and Family Welfare. New Health Mission will get allocation of Rs. 21239 crores, Rs. 4,727 crores for medical education, Rs. 150 crores for treatment of elderly people, Rs. 1,069 crores for Department of AYUSH, Rs. 1,650 crores for six AllMS-like Institutes, Rs. 65,867 crores for HRD, Rs. 27,298 crores for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Rs. 5,284 crores for SC Students, -Rs. 13,215 crores for Mid Day Meal Scheme—and Rs. 17700 crores for ICDS, Rs. 300 crores for 2013-14 for Maternal and Child Nutrition, Rs. 10,000 crores for National Security Act, increasing provision from Rs. 200/- to Rs. 300/- per month, targeting 50 million people in 12th Plan period including 9 million people in 2013-2014 are the important features of this Budget of 2013-2014.

We suggest pension for Gramin Bank employees and officers, increasing the pension to minimum Rs. 1,000/- per month, provident fund eligibility up to Rs. 15,000/-, comprehensive legislation for agricultural workers, waiving, the ceiling on bonus, increasing the quantum of gratuity from 15 days' wages to one month's wages per year. Revise the compensation for weavers in case of accidental death and disablement. I also request the Hon. Minister to increase the old age pension to Rs. 500/- per month. I demand to declare Odisha a Special Category State immediately.

SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Hon'ble Chairman, Sir,

I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak in the august House today on the discussion for General Budget for the year 2013-14.

First of all, I would like to thank the Hon'ble Prime Minister and the UPA Government for implementing the Integrated Action Plan for the development of scheduled areas, and also for taking steps in developing the roads in the scheduled areas.

Now, I would like to speak about women belonging to the most vulnerable groups, including single women and widows who should live with self-esteem and dignity in the society. As the House is aware that unfortunately, this situation is not seen anywhere, due to the recent incidents happened in Delhi, to avoid such incidents, the laws should be strengthened and relief and rehabilitation should be provided to such affected women immediately by designing exclusive schemes to address these concerns with proper legislations.

[Shrimati T. Ratnabai]

Now, I come to the allocation for Tribal Sub Plan which was increased to Rs. 24,598 crore with the increase of 12.5% over the Budget Estimate and 31% over the Revised Estimate of the current year 2012-13.

Moreover, ITDAs and ITDCs should be strengthened with allocation of sufficient Budget to take up welfare measures by posting the IAS officers only to head the ITDAs and ITDCs as the functioning of the ITDAs are not up to the mark. There is a need to set up a Committee to take steps for reviewing its implementation for transparency, accountability to achieve the output and to benefit tribals ultimately.

ITDAs should be more strengthened to help the tribals who were duped in availing welfare measures with the help of Protective Criminal Laws in the country by taking their cases on suo motu basis. Otherwise, their grievances are not being solved and delayed when the tribals complain to the grievances departments. Tribal cases should be taken up under Protective Criminal Laws by ITDAs under suo moto.

I am thankful to the UPA Government for increasing of the amount from Rs. 68 crore in 2012-13 to Rs. 106 crore in 2013-14 for the schemes of hostels for ST girls and boys in the country.

I am also thankful to the UPA Government for increasing the amount from Rs. 107 crore in 2012-13 to Rs. 202 crore in 2013-14 for the schemes of pre-matric scholarship for ST students.

I am also thankful for increasing the amount from Rs. 1673 crore to Rs. 2517 crore under Special Central Assistance to TSP and assistance for schemes under Article 275(1) of the Constitution under central assistance to the States.

Next, I come to the subject of maternal and child malnutrition in our country. On the one hand, the food grains are abundant in the godowns and are rotting, and on the other hand, people are suffering with malnutrition. This is absurd and it is our prime concern, which pertains to all of us.

Agriculture research should be given top priority as many people are not taking agriculture as the subject and also as a profession. This is leading into the

dangerous situation of our country and it will, no doubt, uproot the system of our country and plunge it back into chaos.

Livestock is part of our life and Government should support livestock Mission which will be useful to the farmers and their families to get the revenue daily.

Now, I come to the Education subject. Education plays a very key role in developing the personality of a person to earn knowledge and to lead a good life in the society with dignity. But it is sad to note that education is not reaching to the poor people in the agency areas. There are no proper schools. There is no proper infrastructure. There are no toilet facilities, particularly for girls. That's why the desired targets are not being achieved by the Government so far. Sarva Siksha Abhyan is being implemented, but the funds are being misused at various levels and such situation will not ensure the Right to Education Act be successful.

Now, I come to the Health sector in scheduled areas. I am pained to say that most of the Primary Health Centres in Andhra Pradesh, particularly in the agency areas have no proper facilities to treat the patients. People have to go walk for miles to reach the Government hospitals in agency areas. There were no sufficient doctors, equipments and not even prime facilities.

There is need to upgrade the Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences (NIMS), and new Regional Institutes of Medical Sciences (RIMS) should be set up, one each in the agency areas, because the tribal people are dying of unknown diseases, due to vector-borne diseases.

Now, I come to Financial Inclusion subject. I am very much thankful to the Government for making available banks even to the scheduled areas in the country under Financial Inclusion scheme. I am also thankful to the UPA Government for taking steps to establish first women's bank and first women's post office in the country. This is a welcome step and unique idea.

But I am also pained to say that banking activities are not improved due to the lack of communication network to tribals in the scheduled areas. The TRAI organisation which has to oversee the implementation of the activities is not concentrating on the banking customers and helping the private operators.

[Shrimati T. Ratnabai]

The tribal people in the scheduled areas are the worst victims due to the present power policy in the country. The power tariffs are so high that tribal people cannot afford such power tariffs which were imposed on them by the regulatory committees as per the instructions of power companies.

Tribals are facing a lot of practical problems in getting the loans in scheduled areas. The Government is not granting long-term agricultural loans on their assets on the pretext of Land Protective Act.

Even though they get the loans on agricultural lands, tribals are getting very less percentage of loans due to low rates in scheduled areas. And on the other hand, business people and industrial companies are getting huge loans and misusing the Government funds and later showing the companies and industries as non-performing assets (NPAs). Micro Finance loans are also not useful to the tribals even though the schemes are merged and are managed by women self help groups. Hence, the only solution to this problem is giving counter guarantee by Government to the tribals.

I request the Government to develop road infrastructure in Petroleum, Chemical, Petrochemical Investment region (PPIR) at Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh as it has a lot of scope for development.

I request the Government to provide loans to Self Help Groups (SHGs) with an interest rate of 4% on a par with interest rate to farmers for crop loans by making Budgetary provisions.

I also request the Government for clearance of A.P. Rural Inclusive Growth Project (APRIGP) which is presently pending with Ministry of Finance.

I also request the Government to provide Minimum Support Price for each tribal product for their produce.

I also request the Government to release Central Assistance of Rs. 3,006.43 crore from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for Andhra Pradesh for the drought of Kharif in 2011, and also for the recent untimely and unseasonal rains in Andhra Pradesh in the third week of February, 2013.

**Implementing Agencies:** The role of the implementing agencies needs-to be re-examined for ensuring the transparency by strengthening the State Tribal Development in implementing the schemes.

**Release of funds:** A decentralised process for release of funds through the State Departments to the NGOs will not only create a suitable environment for smoother implementation, but will also ensure the accountability of the NGOs in the States .

**Monitoring:** Empowerment of the Panchayati Raj Institutions and Community-based organisation is the need of the hour with systematic monitoring of schemes at all levels in utilisation of funds meant for scheduled areas in the country. I am also pained to say that there is gross under utilisation of funds in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs allocated under Article 275(1).

In Andhra Pradesh in the year 2009-10, out of the total allocated Rs. 5283 lakhs, only Rs. 1946.2 lakhs were released and in 2010-11, out of the allocation of Rs. 5526 lakhs, only Rs. 5187 lakhs were released, and in 2011-12 and 2012-13 also, the same situation happened in spending the amount.

It is sad to note that regarding funds allocated under SCP and STP also there is gross negligence in releasing the funds.

**श्रीमती रजनी पाटिल:** इस राज्यसभा में पहली बार अपने विचार व्यक्त करने के लिए मैं खड़ी हुई हूँ। इस साल में रखे गये बजट के समर्थन में मैं अपना वक्तव्य व अपेक्षाएं भी यहां रखूंगी।

इस साल का बजट जो यू.पी.ए. सरकार, डा० मनमोहन सिंह और पी. चिदंबरम माननीय अर्थमंत्री जी ने दिया वह बहुत ही पारदर्शी, सुस्पष्ट, स्थायी विकास देने वाला और आर्थिक प्रगति पर धीरे-धीरे जाने वाला बजट है। जो नकारार्थी परिणाम इस देश की अर्थव्यवस्था पर, पूरे विश्व की अर्थव्यवस्था नाजुक होने के कारण हुआ उसको धीरे-धीरे कम करने का काम माननीय अर्थमंत्री महोदय ने इस बजट में ज़रूर किया है। साथ ही समाज में जो उपेक्षित वर्ग हैं, जिनको मदद का हाथ बढ़ाना ज़रूरी है, उन वर्गों को चाहे महिला हो, पिछड़े वर्ग हो, पिछड़ी जाति हो, आदिवासी हो, अल्पसंख्यक हो या आम आदमी हो हर एक के दिल को छूने का काम ये बजट करता है और सबसे महत्वपूर्ण बात यह है कि पहली बार अर्थमंत्री महोदय ने प्रस्ताव किया है कि बजट का पैसा जिसको allocate हुआ है वह कालबद्धता के साथ खर्चा किया जाये न कि आखिर के 4-5 महीनों में।



[श्रीमती रजनी पाटिल]

इस समाज में सबसे बड़ी समस्या यह है कि हम कभी भी महिलाओं को समानता के नजरिये से नहीं देखते। हम मुंह से बोल तो लेते हैं परन्तु हमारी मानसिकता आज भी पुरुषों के अहंकार से जुड़ी हुई है। जब तक हम 50 प्रतिशत आबादी में रहने वाली महिलाओं को आत्मनिर्भर नहीं बनाएंगें तब तक हमारा देश पूरी तरह विकास नहीं कर सकता। और इसी को ध्यान में रखते हुए इस बजट में भी आधा आकाश व्याप्त करने वाली इन महिलाओं का विचार सबसे ज्यादा किया गया है।

इस देश के इतिहास में पहली बार एक महिला बैंक बनाने का उत्कृष्ट कार्य इस सरकार ने किया है। ऐसे बैंक पूरे देश में होने चाहिये। खास तौर पर जो पिछड़े इलाके हैं, जहां बैंक नहीं है उन इलाकों में ऐसे बैंक होने चाहिये।

माइक्रो क्रेडिट में काम करने वाले प्रो० मोहम्मद युनुस ने जब देखा कि बांग्लादेश में असंगठित क्षेत्र में काम करने वाली महिलाएं जो हर रोज साहूकार से सुबह 900 रुपये लेकर जाती हैं और शाम को 990 रुपये वापिस देती हैं तब इस माइक्रो क्रेडिट की कल्पना ने जन्म लिया। इन्हीं छोटी-छोटी महिलाओं ने जिनको 900 रुपये देना मुश्किल था इस साइलेंट रेवोल्यूशन द्वारा एक ग्रामीण बैंक की स्थापना की। हमारे यहां अगर यह महिला बैंक सक्षम होकर काम करना शुरू कर दे तो यह बैंक कम से कम 50 हजार करोड़ का बैंक हो सकता है। लेकिन उसमें यह ध्यान देना जरूरी है कि पूरी पारदर्शिता से यह बैंक काम करे। इसमें सेल्फ हेल्पग्रुप से लेकर बड़े-बड़े उद्योगों को समर्थन मिले। सिर्फ पापड़, अचार, मसालों तक सीमित न रहते हुए महिलाएं बड़े-बड़े काम करें, इंडस्ट्री खड़ी करें, एग्रो बेस व्यवसाय करें जिससे इस देश को आगे ले जाने में महिलाओं की भागीदारी 50 प्रतिशत हो।

नौकरी के लिए महिलाओं को हर क्षेत्र में आरक्षण देना जरूरी है। चिदंबरम साहब ने बहुत ही अच्छे शब्दों में एक बार बोला था कि आज हमारे समाज में महिलाओं के प्रति एक **unsaid discrimination** होना है और उसी शब्द को आगे ले जाते हुए मैं कहना चाहूंगी कि इसी समाज की भावना को समझते हुए हमारे भूतपूर्व प्रधानमंत्री राजीव जी ने हम महिलाओं को अपना आत्मसम्मान देने का प्रयास किया।

जी हां, पंचायत राज या बिल केवल राजनीति बिल नहीं था, वो था--महिलाओं में आत्मनिर्भरता लाना, उनको स्वयंपूर्ण बनाना, उनको खिड़की के बाहर का आसमान समझ लेना, उनको धीरे-धीरे निर्णय प्रक्रिया में साथ ले जाना, यह सब उसी का परिणाम है कि आज महिलाएं हर क्षेत्र में आगे आ रही हैं।

आज जब पूरे देश में चर्चा हो रही है महिला सुरक्षा की तो इस देश की महिलाओं को सुरक्षित रखने का काम अधिक मजबूती से करने के लिए "निर्भया फंड" निर्माण किया गया।

मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि एन.जी.ओ. स्वयंसेवी संस्थाओं के माध्यम से 1000 करोड़ का जो प्रावधान इस निर्भया फंड को दिया गया है, उसका मैकेनिज़म ज़ल्द तैयार किया जाये, जिसके द्वारा सुरक्षा अधिक बेहतर हो।

सर, इस देश के मज़दूर को काम मिलने के लिए MG NAREGA तो है ही लेकिन इस बजट में कृषि के क्षेत्र में भी अच्छा प्रावधान बढ़ाकर कृषि को बढ़ावा देने का प्रयास किया है।

सिर्फ एक मांग में यहां रखना चाहती हूं कि महाराष्ट्र में इस साल अभूतपूर्व अकाल पड़ा है। खास तौर से घीड़, उस्मानाबाद, जासना, सानारा, सांगली क्षेत्रों में भयंकर परिस्थिति है। गोधन को संभालना मुश्किल हो गया है। बहुत सारे किसानों ने अपने घर के गोधन को capital camp में रखा है। खाने के लिए अनाज तो है लेकिन पीने का पानी नहीं है। लोग शहरों में स्थानांतरित हो रहे हैं। महाराष्ट्र के मध्य भयंकर अकाल के कारण सरकार ने प्रावधान किया है कि लोगों को राहत ज्यादा से ज्यादा मिले। इस अकाल के लिए यहीं मैं आपके माध्यम से अर्थमंत्री जी को कहना चाहूंगी कि इस देश में कोई भी व्यक्ति भूखा ना सोए, इसलिए इस सरकार ने "अन्न सुरक्षा विधेयक" लाना ज़रूरी समझा और उसके लिए 10,000 करोड़ रूपयों का प्रावधान भी किया है। आम आदमी को केन्द्र बिन्दु मानकर उसी प्रतिबद्धता से डायरेक्ट कैश ट्रांसफर की योजना शुरू की है। एक रुपये के 15 पैसे।

अध्यक्ष जी, यह जो बजट है वह समाज के हर तबके को स्पर्श करता है, हर भौगोलिक क्षेत्र को जाकर छूता है। यह बजट ना "पापुलरिस्ट" है ना "चुनाव केंद्रित" है। इस बजट के द्वारा इस देश के हर एक नागरिक को आगे चलने की प्रेरणा मिलेगी और आने वाले कल में हमारा देश हर चुनौती का सामना करने के लिए सक्षम होगा। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं पूर्ण विराम लेती हूं।

धन्यवाद।

**श्री कप्तान सिंह सोलंकी:** महोदय, देश की आर्थिक स्थिति का हवाला देते हुए माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने खुद यह स्वीकार किया है कि आज देश 1991 की परिस्थिति में पहुंच गया है। उनका यह कथन इस बात से भी सिद्ध होता है कि राजकोषीय घाटा 2.5 से बढ़ कर पांच प्रतिशत हो गया है। वर्ष 2004 में एनडीए सरकार के समय विकास दर 8.4 प्रतिशत थी, जो घट कर 4.5 प्रतिशत हो गयी है। आज कृषि की विकास दर 3.4 प्रतिशत रह गयी है और देश का विदेशी मुद्रा भण्डार खत्म होने की स्थिति में आ चुका है। वित्त मंत्री जी, आपने यह खुद स्वीकार किया है कि यह बजट क्रिकेट के खेल के समान है, जो पिच और मौसम के ऊपर निर्भर करता है। आपको जैसी पिच और जैसा मौसम मिला है, वैसा ही आपने बजट बनाया है। यह बजट आपकी कुशलता को तो इंगित करत ही है, पर देश की आर्थिक स्थिति की बदहाली की ओर भी संकेत करता है। एक शोध के अनुसार, हमारा देश गरीबी उन्मूलन के

[श्री कप्तान सिंह सोलंकी]

मामले में नेपाल और बंगलादेश से भी पीछे हैं। नेपाल की गरीबी उन्मूलन दर जहां 4.2 प्रतिशत है, वहीं यह बंगलादेश की 3 प्रतिशत है, जबकि भारत की यह दर मात्र 1.2 प्रतिशत है।

माननीय मंत्री जी, आपने अपने बजट भाषण में तीन वचन दिए हैं, जो देश के गरीब, युवा और महिलाओं के बारे में हैं, लेकिन इन तीनों वर्गों के बारे में भी जो आपने बजट में आर्थिक व्यवस्था की है, वह एकदम निराशाजनक है। गरीबों के लिए खाद्य सुरक्षा के बारे में सरकार के ऊपर एफसीआई का 33000 करोड़ रुपये बकाया है, जो आपको देने हैं। उसी तरह से राष्ट्रीय खाद्य सुरक्षा बिल के लिए आपने सिर्फ 10000 करोड़ रुपये देकर गरीबों का मजाक बनाया है। युवाओं के कौशल विकास के लिए आपने 1000 करोड़ रुपये की व्यवस्था की है, जबकि गुजरात जैसी सरकार 800 करोड़ रुपये की व्यवस्था करती हैं। महिलाओं के लिए 33 प्रतिशत आरक्षण कानून आत अब तक पास नहीं करा पाए, तो 1000 करोड़ रुपये देकर उनके लिए बैंक की स्थापना करने से उनका कौन-सा कल्याण होने वाला है? मेरा निवेदन है कि आपने अपने तीनों वचनों में किसानों और मजदूरों को छोड़ दिया है। 1995 से लेकर अब तक 2 लाख 90 हजार किसानों ने आत्महत्याएँ की हैं। किसानों को जो कर्ज बांटा जाता है, उसमें घपले उजागर हो रहे हैं। जब हम मजदूरों का विचार करते हैं, तो हमें ख्याल आता है कि उन्होंने 21-22 फरवरी को देशव्यापी हड़ताल की थी, जिससे 26000 करोड़ रुपये का नुकसान हुआ। आप अगर उन्हें 26000 करोड़ रुपये दे देते, तो उनका भला हो जाता। मैं आपके ध्यान में लाना चाहता हूँ कि असंगठित क्षेत्र में मजदूरों की संख्या 42 करोड़ है, जबकि 40 प्रतिशत मजदूर निर्माण के क्षेत्र में और 50 प्रतिशत मजदूर सेवा के क्षेत्र में ठेकेदारी प्रथा में काम कर रहे हैं। ऐसी स्थिति में हम यह कैसे सोच सकते हैं कि इस देश का सर्वांगीण उत्थान होगा?

मुझे लगता है कि देश के वित्त मंत्री जी के सामने एक बड़ा यक्ष प्रश्न यह है कि देश की आर्थिक स्थिति को पटरी पर कैसे लाया जाए? मेरा निवेदन है कि इसके लिए वित्त मंत्री जी को गुजरात, मध्य प्रदेश तथा छत्तीसगढ़ जैसे राज्यों ने आर्थिक क्षेत्र में जिस प्रकार से विकास किया है, उसकी तरफ देखना चाहिए और उससे सबक लेनी चाहिए। जैसे, गुजरात ने ऊर्जा के क्षेत्र में अकल्पनीय उदाहरण पेश किया है। गुजरात में वर्ष 2001 में जब नरेन्द्र मोदी मुख्य मंत्री बने, तब ऊर्जा की जो दर उपभोक्ताओं से ली जाती थी, आज भी वही दर कायम है और उसमें कोई भी परिवर्तन नहीं किया गया है। इसके बाद भी गुजरात का विद्युत बोर्ड 700 करोड़ रुपये के लाभ में है। गुजरात में 24 घंटे बिजली मिलती है, वहां हर गांव में बिजली है तथा कृषि एवं उद्योग क्षेत्र में ऊर्जा का कोई भी संकट नहीं है। स्थिति यहां तक पहुंच गई है कि साधनों की पर्याप्तता के कारण महाराष्ट्र से उद्योगपति गुजरात की ओर पलायन कर रहे हैं। गुजरात एक ऐसा राज्य है, जो करप्शन फ्री, टेरर फ्री एवं लीकर फ्री है। मध्य प्रदेश राज्य ने कृषि के क्षेत्र में अकल्पनीय विकास किया है। जहां देश में कृषि की

विकास दर 3.4 प्रतिशत है, वहीं मध्य प्रदेश की कृषि विकास दर 18.91 प्रतिशत है। वहां सिंचाई के क्षेत्र में वर्ष 2003 में 7 लाख हेक्टेयर सिंचित भूमि थी, जो कि बढ़ कर अब 25 लाख हेक्टेयर हो गयी है। वहां किसानों को हम जीरो प्रतिशत पर कर्ज देते हैं और इसको देखते हुए स्वामीनाथन कमिटी, जिसमें 16 सदस्य थे, ने कृषि विकास का मूल्यांकन करते हुए उसे कृषि कर्मण का प्रथम पुरस्कार दिया है। उसी तरह, छत्तीसगढ़ ने पीडीएस, जिसमें गरीब लोगों को खाद्य वितरण होता है, उसमें अभूतपूर्ण बढ़ोतरी की है जो कि देश के लिए एक उदाहरण है। मुझे लगता है कि फूड सिक्योरिटी बिल की सफलता इस बात पर निर्भर करेगी कि हमारा खाद्य वितरण कैसे होता है? मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि आप इन तीनों प्रदेशों के विकास के ढांचे का अध्ययन कराएं और देश के सम्पूर्ण राज्यों में इसे लागू करने का प्रयास करें, तभी देश का आर्थिक बजट विकासोन्मुख तथा उत्तम होगा।

अंत में, मैं एक बात यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि जितनी योजनाएं बजट के माध्यम से जनता के लिए लागू की गयी हैं, उनका सही क्रियान्वयन करने के लिए निष्ठावान प्रशासनिक तंत्र की आवश्यकता है। इसके अभाव में विकास और लोक कल्याण का धन उचित स्थान और पात्र तक नहीं पहुंच पाता है और राजकोष की बंदरबांट हो जाती है। प्रशासनिक गुणवत्ता बढ़ाने की दृष्टि से लगभग तीन दर्जन समितियां और आयोग बने। प्राक्कलन समिति ने भी प्रशासनिक सुधार पर सुझाव दिए, लेकिन राजनैतिक कार्यपालिका अनिर्णय का शिकार रही। 5 जनवरी, 1996 को पहला प्रशासनिक सुधार आयोग बना, जिसके अध्यक्ष मोरारजी देसाई थे और जो कि बाद में मंत्री बन गए। इसके बाद आयोग ने के. हनुमंतैया की अध्यक्षता में काम किया। हनुमंतैया ने यह टिप्पणी की कि बीते 20 वर्षों में भारतीय प्रशासन में न्यूनाधिक परिवर्तन अधिक हुए हैं, लेकिन सुधार नहीं हुए हैं। फिर उन सिफारिशों के आधार पर योजना आयोग का पुनर्गठन हुआ। योजना आयोग की सिफारिश पर राष्ट्रीय विकास परिषद् बनी, जिसकी आज श्रीमती सोनिया गांधी अध्यक्ष हैं, लेकिन तंत्र संबंधी प्रशासनिक सुधारों पर कोई काम नहीं हुआ, इसलिए भारतीय प्रशासन को जनोन्मुखी बनना जरूरी है। केन्द्रीय बजट में काफी बढ़ोतरी हुई है, जिसके कारण संस्थानिक, प्रशासनिक व वित्तीय प्रबंधन का सुदृढीकरण जरूरी हो गया है। इसके बिना प्रभावी तंत्र का निर्माण नहीं होगा और राजकोष की लूट होती रहेगी।

**SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA:** With an experience spanning over decades in Budget presentation and with a reputation of dishing out dream Budgets, there was high expectation from Shri Chidambaram this year that he will pull a rabbit out of a hat. But the Budget 2013-14 has indeed turned out to be a damp squib.

After the invocatory blame for all our ills on the global slowdown—a theme common to both the President's Address to Parliament on 21 Feb and FM's overture in the Budget speech of 28 Feb—the Finance Minister acknowledged that the economic space is constrained because of a high fiscal deficit; reliance on foreign inflows to finance the current account deficit; lower savings and lower investment; a tight monetary policy to contain inflation and strong external headwinds.

[Shri Rangyasayee Ramakrishna]

There was never a self appraisal as to what was the UPA Govt's own acts of omissions and commissions that brought the country to this pause and what is the Govt's road map for lifting the country out of the current stagflation.

Let us look at hard facts. The Prime Minister in his closing intervention on the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address cleverly manipulated the NDA record of achievements with a dose of amnesia when he observed that NDA took on a legacy of 6.7% GDP growth and left a legacy of 8.1% on the UPA in 2004. He conveniently forgot that NDA had a six year rule and not a five year rule. The GDP growth in 1997-98 was only 4.3% (the 6.7% growth was in the first year of NDA rule and the NDA improved on this to a parting gift of 8.1% on 2003-04. It was the UPA which inherited this 8.1% growth and brought it—up or down?—to its present 4.8% level. In inflation, however, the UPA did improve on its inheritance. The inherited growth rate of 8.1% has been brought down to 4.8%; here, I would like to add that growth would have been even lower had it not been supported by the much higher growth rates even in double digits in NDA-ruled States. The inflation has however been doubled by the inherited level of about 5% being improved to its present level of about 10%.

But let me not dwell upon these contrasts between our rule and their rule. We have already been cautioned that arrogant pride goes before fall and hence I shall abide by this advice and turn my attention to some of the core concerns in the Budget.

In his Budget speech, FM acknowledges that the twin deficits—one of fiscal and the other of current account—are causes for concern but he gives greater weight to current account deficit. I cannot refrain from emphasising once again that the current account during the NDA years was one of surplus. The transition from surplus to deficit commenced from 2004 itself and it has steadily deteriorated to its present level of minus 4.2. As a way out, FM reiterates that foreign investment is an imperative. Foreign investment is certainly desirable in infrastructure. But we are encouraging FDI in areas where it will curb our share of manufacturers still further. In the recent IKEA case, we have seen how the Govt. has diluted the local procurement clause in such a manner that local industry gets no benefit.

Significant amount of long-term foreign investment, debt and equity, will be required to meet the domestic infrastructure needs. Even as China has floated Yuan bonds, we could have attracted substantial funds from abroad by way of rupee bonds raised outside. Presently, there is only a limited secondary market for sale and purchase of bonds. Creation of a secondary market will help the investors in repatriating the money invested by them in such bonds.

The emphasis on FDI makes it appear as if everything is OK with domestic investment. Ground reality is that domestic investment is also slackening. In recent times, there has been a decline in both savings and investment. Last year witnessed an eight year low of 30.8% in savings. The savings profile has also seen significant changes. The share of public savings progressively declined from 20% in the eighties to 3.3% in the 2000s. It is also a matter of worry that while household savings is declining, saving in physical assets (property, gold and jewellery) is steady but saving in financial assets is declining (last year only 8% GDP). The Budget has not found any solution for the lust for gold which not only distorts savings but also to avoidable imports.

Not to speak of FDI, even domestic investment is declining. It is observed that our entrepreneurs are investing more abroad than in India. Why? We are still a highly regulated economy. With the change in direction in 1991 and the abolition of Licence Raj one thought we have liberalised the economy. But what we find is that there are far more clearances required today than one had even in the pre 1991 years. It is learnt that for Greenfield investments, *e.g.* in the pharmaceutical industry there are as many as 122 clearances required. The oft repeated panacea of single window clearance is no solution as long as that single window is clogged with too many prescribed clearances. There are other nuances; a major part of the incentive of tax holiday is eaten up even before the entrepreneur completes all the clearances and sets up his plant. No wonder that one prefers to shift to some of our neighbouring countries in East Asia which provide far better incentives, and far lesser clearances.

Our labour laws are archaic. It is axiomatic that once you deregulate the entry, you should also deregulate the exit route. Even after 20 years of liberalisation there is no proper exit policy. It is time that our labour laws are reviewed in the context of changing ground realities such as contract labour and outsourcing.

[Shri Rangyasayee Ramakrishna]

The steadily dwindling share of GDP for manufactures is a cause for serious concern. We dream of emerging as a major strategic power but our Defence Forces depend almost to 75% on import of armaments: Why is it that neither the corporate sector nor the Govt. is taking any initiative for channelising manufacture in areas where we do not have any presence such as armaments, the whole gamut of electronic hardware or aerospace industry?

Why has the FM only flagged areas of concern but not given solutions? *e.g.* Why has he not initiated steps for break-up of Coal India? Has the coalgate scam thwarted his innovative initiatives? In his previous Budget, he used to set up dozens of commissions and task forces—why has he not thought of a commission to go into the whole issue of augmenting the share of manufactures in GDP and particularly a task force for slimming down the number of clearances? Why has he not hinted at any specific measures for restoring the current account deficit to sustainable levels?

Let me now come to the second major area of concern *viz.* inflation. FM once again shifts the blame to overseas, when he says some inflation is imported. He draws solace from the fact that WPI inflation has been brought down to 7%. He is not realising that he is sitting on a landmine of food inflation which will unseat him in the election year. He does not realise that even in the WPI where he is patting his back, the rise in food inflation from 1.45% in January 2012 to 10.39% in December 2012 was indeed a little too steep. Retail food inflation stood at 13% in December 2012. A CSO study shows that inflation even in rural areas is hovering around 13%. In food articles, the highest price rise was seen at 21.4% in pulses and 23% in vegetables. This is a sad commentary on our food policy. All our initiatives have resulted in cereals, and that too, staples and not coarse cereals edging out all other agr. commodities. As the life style improves, the emphasis on balanced nutrition with more intake of vegetables and fruits and less of cereals is unavoidable. It is high time that our policy in Minimum Support Price is either universalised to cover all crops or it is scrapped altogether. The Budget does not even address this problem. It is also time that our internal trade policy is reviewed such as to bring about a closer interface between the wholesalers and retailers rather than through adatis and mandis.

I now come to the third major concern *viz.* fiscal deficit. Here beyond paying

lip service, FM has exhibited nothing but a knee jerk reaction. Revenue growth is over estimated and expenditure growth grossly underestimated *e.g.* there is a 30.7% reduction in the BE 13-14 as compared to BE 12-13 for the Ministry for Textiles. There is an over ambitious reduction in subsidy bills. All these amount to inept window dressing. A year-on-year study of growth in public expenditure shows that the curve invariably peaks in a pre election year. In the year 1998-99 it peaked at 20.4%; in 2003-04 at 17.7% and in 2008-09 at 24%. How can it then be pegged at 11.7% in, 2013-14? How can he usher in the Food Security programme on a mere 1000 cr? As LoP correctly described it, it is a PC Sorcar act! FM is obviously planning for a huge supplementary Budget. Inflation will still mount up; interest rates will further harden; the CAD will further peak up; rupee will further get devalued and our miseries will further accentuate.

On balance, for the first time we find that Mr. Chidambaram is out of steam. The cat has vanished, but the grin remains. Mr. Chairman, you may be curious to know which is the grin. The grin is the customary couplet from the sage Tiruvalluvar.

**श्री अजय संचेती:** आदरणीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी को वर्ष 2013-14 का बजट पेश करने के लिए बधाई देता हूँ। यह बजट जो सरकार द्वारा पेश किया गया। यह पालिसी स्टेटमेंट और देश के डवलपमेंट के प्रति उनके विजन को दर्शाता है। आने वाले वर्ष और समय में देश की आर्थिक सेहत कैसी रहेगी, यह भी देश का वित्तीय बजट दर्शाता है। जब भारत के फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर बजट पेश करते हैं तब न सिर्फ देश के बल्कि सारी दुनिया के इनवेस्टर्स और डिसिज़नस मेकर्स की उस पर गरी नज़र होती है और देश की पाजिटिव या निगेटिव तस्वीर पेश करने में यह एक सब से महत्वपूर्ण टूल की तरह यूज़ किया जाता है।

सर, मैं वित्त मंत्री जी को उन्होंने जो बजट में आंकड़े पेश किये हैं, उसकी चर्चा में उलझना नहीं चाहूंगा लेकिन कुछ विषयों पर अपनी बात रखना चाहूंगा। साढ़े पांच लाख करोड़ का बजट पेश किया गया, उसमें एस.सी., एस.टी. और ट्राइब्ल्स के लिए 63000 करोड़, महिलाओं के कार्यक्रमों के लिए 97000 करोड़ बच्चों के कार्यक्रमों के लिए 77000 करोड़ दिये गये तथा टोटल बजेटरी आउटले का 16.5 प्रतिशत यानी 27300 करोड़ एजुकेशन के लिए प्रस्तावित है। इनफ्रास्ट्रक्चर डवलपमेंट के लिए तकरीबन 80000 करोड़ प्रस्तावित है। यह सारा फाइनेंशियल आउटले सराहनीय है लेकिन इसे वास्तव में उसी समय सराहा जाएगा जब आने वाले समय में यह पूरे तरीके से खर्च होगा और रिवाइज्ड बजट में फिगरज़ को कम नहीं किया जाएगा। फार एग्ज़ेम्पल पिछले साल देश को इरीगेशन प्रोजेक्ट के लिए 14000 करोड़ रुपये भारत सरकार ने देने का प्लान किया था लेकिन प्राप्त जानकारी के अनुसार केवल साढ़े तीन हजार करोड़ के आसपास ही दिए गए। इसलिए मेरा सम्माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी से आग्रह है



[श्री अजय संचेती]

कि The money proposed to be spent on a particular head should not look only lucrative, but it should also turn into real expenditure और हम सब की पैनी नज़र इसे हमेशा देखती रहेगी। इस पूरे बजट में सम्माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने world economic crisis का हवाला दिया और कहा कि इससे विपरीत हमारे देश की आर्थिक स्थिति इस मुकाबले में बेहतर हैं। मैं मानता हूँ कि दुनिया की आर्थिक स्थिति चिंताजनक है लेकिन मैं आपके माध्यम से सीधा प्रश्न करना चाहता हूँ कि पिछले 10 वर्षों में लगातार बिगड़ती हुई भारत की आर्थिक स्थिति के लिए कौन जिम्मेदार है? मेरा दृढ़ विश्वास है कि फाइनेंशियल प्लानिंग देश की नब्ज होती है और इसे महेशा पार्टी पालिटिक्स से उपर उठ कर देखना चाहिए। सरकार भी सभी से उम्मीद करती है कि वह नीति निर्धारण में जो देश हित में हो, उसका साथ दे। यह अपेक्षा गलत नहीं है लेकिन सरकार को भी सारे आंकड़ों व तथ्यों को पेश करते समय ईमानदारी का निर्वाह करना होगा। आज देश में इरीगेशन, पावर, आयल, डीज़ल और कोयले की डिमांड और प्राइसिंग की स्थिति इतनी बिगड़ चुकी है कि लगे हुए उद्योग बंद हो रहे हैं। नये इनवेस्टमेंट आ नहीं रहे हैं। परिणामस्वरूप देश का उद्योग जगत भारी संकट से गुजर रहा है। Telecommunication, Power, Coal, Steel इनसे जुड़ी इंडस्ट्रीज़ की हालत यह है कि देश के बैंकों में देश के उद्योगों को दिया हुआ तकरीबन 10 लाख करोड़ का लोन कैसे वापस आएगा। इस पर प्रश्न चिन्ह लग गया है। प्राप्त जानकारी के अनुसार बैंकों के पास तकरीबन 30000 करोड़ के CDR के प्रोपोज़ल हर क्वार्टर में आ रहे हैं। This is highly alarming.

Sir, इन सब का impact मंहगाई पर इतना पड़ा है कि आम आदमी की कमर टूट गई है। माननीय अटल बिहारी बाजपेयी की एन.डी.ए. सरकार के समय इस देश में खाना, पीना, रहना और शिक्षा प्राप्त करना हर आम आदमी के बस में था और आज इन basic needs की पूर्ति भी एक भीषण समस्या बन गयी है। Food inflation पिछले कई वर्षों से लगातार 10 प्रतिशत है। आयल और डीज़ल के रेट सरकार अब महीनों में नहीं बल्कि हफ्तों में बढ़ाने लगी है। हमारा देश आज policy paralysis से ग्रसित है। पालिसी सिर्फ पेपर पर है उसका स्पीडी ओर टाइमली इंप्लीमेंटेशन एक गंभीर समस्या बन चुकी है। ये सिर्फ हम नहीं कह रहे हैं देश के बड़े उद्योगपतियों ने स्वयं सम्माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी को पत्र लिख कर अपनी पीड़ा व्यक्त की है।

हम भारत को कृषि प्रधान देश कहते हैं और आज कृषि के क्षेत्र में अनेक संकट हैं। किसान को बिजली, पानी, खाद नहीं मिल रहा है। वह कर्ज के बोझ से परेशान है। Food items की कीमतें आसमान को छू रही हैं। लेकिन किसान को उचित मूल्य नहीं मिल रहा है। किसान आत्महत्या कर रहा है। मेरी सरकार से अपील है कि दृढ़तापूर्वक स्वामीनाथन आयोग की सिफारिशों को तुरंत लागू कर देना चाहिए।

मैं वित्त मंत्री जी से अपील करता हूँ कि जितना आऊटले उन्होंने जिस सेक्टर के लिए प्रोपोज़ किया है, वह एचीव हो, इसके लिए सभी सहयोगी मंत्रालयों का जरूरी सहयोग ले कर देश में चिंतित औद्योगिक वातावरण को दूर कर के आम आदमी मंहगाई की समस्या को

समझकर इन आंकड़ों को real expenditure में परिवर्तित करे अन्यथा यह बजट सिर्फ एक दिखावा रह जाएगा।

अंत में सुप्रसिद्ध जैन संत परम पूजनीय आचार्य महाप्रज्ञाजी की बात दोहराना चाहूंगा "विश्वास प्राप्त करना ओर विश्वास दिलाना, यही मनुष्य जीवन का सार है"। आदरणीय वित्त मंत्री जी, मैं यही आपको याद दिलाना चाहूंगा। धन्यवाद।

**श्री रघुनन्दन शर्मा:** माननीय सभापति जी, मैं वर्ष 13-14 के भारतीय बजट पर बोलने के लिये खड़ा हूँ। मैंने वित्तमंत्री जी के भाषण को ध्यान से सुना है उन्होंने अपने भाषण के अन्त में स्वामी विवेकानन्द को एवं तमिल के महान कवि संत तिरुवल्लुवर को स्मरण किया है। यदि मैं भाषण को प्रारंभ में इन महानुभावों के बोध वाक्य को स्मरण करके चलता तो इन्हें बजट में भारतीय दृष्टि मिलती। इस बार हमेशा की तरह वित्त मंत्री जी व चाणक्य याद रहे नहीं गांधी व शेक्सपीयर महोदय व्यक्ति के अनुसार मार्गदर्शक भी बदलते रहते हैं। मैंने पिछली बजट बहस में भाग लेते हुए कहा था कि भारत की सामाजिक व्यवस्था इतनी प्रायोगिक है कि पश्चिम में तूफान का प्रभाव हिमालय से टकराकर वापस लौट जाता है।

महोदय, विश्वव्यापी मंदी की आंधी भारत की संयुक्त परिवार व्यवस्था तथा बचत की घरेलू प्रवृत्ति से टकराकर लौट गई। यह मंदी भारत की अर्थव्यवस्था को हिला नहीं पाई। किन्तु आपने विदेशी प्रेरणा से प्रभावित होकर हमारी संयुक्त परिवार व्यवस्था पर प्रहार किया, मर्मान्तक चोट से इसे तोड़ने का प्रयत्न किया। गैस कनेक्शन में एक परिवार के लिए सीमित सिलेन्डर देने की घोषणा ने संयुक्त परिवार की व्यवस्था को हिला कर रख दिया। 30-30, 40-40 व्यक्तियों के परिवार को तोड़कर अपने परिवार में चार-चार चूल्हे चौके बनाने पड़े, अलग-अलग रसोईघर तैयार करने पड़े एवं छोटे-छोटे राशन कार्ड बनाकर परिवार को विभाजित रूप में दिखाना पड़ा। आप सिलेन्डर की संख्या परिवार की संख्या इसमें साथ एक रसोई में भोजन करने वालों की संख्या से जोड़ें। अपनी मानसिकता को भारतीय बनाने का प्रयत्न करे तो ही देश की अर्थ-व्यवस्था मजबूत रह सकेगी।

माननीय सभापति जी, वित्त मंत्री के एक बचकाने वक्तव्य की ओर ध्यान दिलाना चाहूंगा। उनके भाषण के बिन्दु 168 में यात्रियों को उत्पीड़न से मुक्त करने, शिकायत दूर करने की बात कही है। पुरुष को 50 हजार तथा स्त्री को 1 लाख का सोना लाने की अनुमति प्रदान की है। सोने का मूल्य तो घटता बढ़ता है, इसलिए कस्टम एवं कर विभाग का उत्पीड़न तो घटेगा नहीं बढ़ेगा ही, कृपा करके इसे रुपये के बजाय वजन से जोड़िये, व्यावहारिक बनिये अपनी सद्बुद्धि का उपयोग कीजिए।

वित्त मंत्री जी ने भाषण के बिन्दु क्रमांक 186 में जीएसटी कानूनी का पास करने का अनुरोध किया है, मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि केवल अपील से केवल शब्दों से काम नहीं चलेगा। आप कृपा करके इस कानून के पश्चात राज्यों के राजस्व में होने वाली हानि की क्षतिपूर्ति का ठोस विकल्प दीजिए। दृढ़ संकल्प से युक्त होकर उनकी क्षति को पूरा करने का वजन दीजिए, परिणाम सकारात्मक होगा।

[ श्री रघुनन्दन शर्मा ]

सभापतिजी, वित्त मंत्री जी, ने यह कहते हुए लज्जा का आभास भी नहीं किया कि 2004 में संप्रग की सुविचारित नीति के कारण भारत की विकास दर 8% थी वह घट कर आज आधी रह गई, आज 4% है किन्तु निर्लज्जता आने पर व्यक्ति अपनी गलती को स्वीकार नहीं करता।

महोदय, बिन्दु क्रमांक 43 में आंकड़ा देते समय चालाकी से इस वर्ष का कृषि ऋण 7 लाख करोड़ किया है। वस्तुतः 5 करोड़ 75 लाख तो पहले से ही बनाया था। बढ़ाया केवल एक करोड़ 25 लाख करोड़ ही है। किन्तु दिखाया ऐसा मानो इन्होंने 7 लाख करोड़ रुपये कृषि ऋण बढ़ा दिया है। चालाकी पूरे भाषण में परिलक्षित है। सभी स्थानों पर करोड़ या लाख करोड़ रुपये की बजाय सारे आंकड़ें प्रतिशत में दर्शा दिये जिससे पिछले बजट का सरलता से तुलनात्मक अध्ययन ही न हो सके।

सभापति जी, अब तो बजट का कोई महत्व नहीं बचा, चाहे जब यानि वर्ष में कई बार महीने में दो बार ही डीजल पेट्रोल एवं घरेलू गैस का मूल्य बढ़ता दिखाई देगा, यही नहीं अब बजट के पूर्व भी और पश्चात् भी रेल यात्रा की दरें बढ़ती दिखाई देगी। यह गरीबी का उन्मूलन करने वाली नहीं, गरीबों का उन्मूलन करने वाली सरकार है।

वित्तमंत्री जी ने इस सरकार ने स्वयं माना है कि निर्यात में गिरावट हो रही है तथा आयात में अप्रत्याशित उछाल है। अपने भाषण के पृष्ठ 2 पर बिन्दु क्रमांक 11 में यह स्वीकारोक्ति है बर्बादी की स्वीकारोक्ति है। यह मिटने के लक्षण हैं।

सभापति जी, एक चिन्ता का विषय है कि चीन के बड़े हथियार निर्माता तथा निर्यातक देशों में आ गये हैं और आज भी हम हथियार आयात करने वाले बड़े देशों में हैं, यहां तक कि इजरायल जैसे छोटे देशों से भी हम हथियार खरीद रहे हैं। क्यों हमने हथियारों के कारखाने स्थापित नहीं किये। लाखों करोड़ों रुपये के हथियार खरीदने वाला धन हथियार फैक्ट्री में लगाते तो हम भी हथियार निर्माता ही नहीं हथियार निर्यातक देश बन जाते।

महोदय, खाद के दाम छलांग लगा कर बढ़ रहे हैं। कृषि उत्पादन प्रभावित होगा और यदि यह हुआ तो हमारा सकल घरेलू उत्पादन भी घटेगा जो देश की अर्थव्यवस्था को कमजोर करेगा। कृषया खेती का लाभ का व्यवसाय बनाइये। गांवों में रोजगार पैदा कीजिये। मनरेगा तो रचनात्मक एवं विकास कार्य की योजकता को बढ़ाने के बजाय भ्रष्टाचार तथा ग्रामीण युवाओं के निकम्मेपन को बढ़ाने वाली योजना है। इसे विभाजित ग्रामीण विकास के साथ जोड़ा जाना चाहिए।

घरेलू कम्पनियों पर अधिक करारोपण से कम्पनियां हतोत्साहित होगी जिससे विकास दर पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़ेगा। माननीय महोदय, आज की भीषण बढ़ती मंहगाई को देखते हुए करारोपण की प्रथम स्लेब 3 लाख रुपये से शुरू होनी चाहिए। यदि सरकार सच्चे मन से इस देश के सर्वांगीण विकास की चिन्ता करना चाहती है तो ग्रामीण सड़कों तथा रेलमार्गों को विस्तार देने के लिए युद्ध स्तर पर योजना कार्यान्वित करनी पड़ेगी। माननीय अटल जी के

सपनों के भागीरथ प्रयास नदियों को जोड़कर उसके जल को निरर्थक समुद्र में मिलने से रोकना होगा। उसे उर्वरा भूमि में प्रवाहित करना होगा। यदि ये कुछ कार्य कर डाले तो काले धन को ले आये, भ्रष्टाचार पर रोक लगा लें तथा लालफीताशाही की अंग्रेज परस्त नीति को ध्वस्त कर दिया। विदेशी निवेश को हमारे अधोसंचना में अव्यावसायिक विदेशी निवेश को रोका तो भारत विश्व की महाशक्ति बन सकेगी। सरकार अपनी देश निष्ठा का परिचय देकर भारतीयता के अनुरूप विचार करते हुए आय-व्यय का अनुमान करे तो देश के देशवासियों का हित होगा।

धन्यवाद।

**श्री वीर सिंह:** उपसभापति महोदय, वर्ष 14-2013 के सामान्य बजट के संबंध में आपने मुझे बहुजन समाज पार्टी की तरफ से चर्चा करने का समय दिया उसके लिए मैं आपका व अपनी पार्टी अध्यक्ष आदरणीय बहन कुमारी मायावती जी का धन्यवाद करता हूँ। महोदय आम बजट सरकार की आर्थिक नीतियों तथा आर्थिक आंकड़ों का लेखा-जोखा होता है। साथ-साथ उसमें राजनीतिक एजेंडा विशेष रूप से नीतिगत घोषणाएं भी की जाती हैं, जिससे जनता को पता चलता है कि सरकार उन्हें राहत पहुंचाने के लिए क्या कुछ करने जा रही है। यही नीतिगत फैसले जनता को आकर्षित करते हैं। माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी जब बजट पेश कर रहे थे तो उस समय देश की जनता बहुत ही आशा के साथ देख रही थी कि संग्राम सरकार के दूसरे कार्यकाल के आखिरी पूर्ण बजट में क्या-क्या लोकलुभावन घोषणाएं होने जा रही हैं, परंतु बजट भाषण में माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने सभी वर्गों को विशेषकर आम आदमी व अति गरीब लोगों को न केवल निराश किया बल्कि उन्हें मंहगाई ने निजात दिलाने हेतु कोई कारगर उपाय नहीं किए हैं। अतः सरकार का दावा कि बजट प्रावधान से आम आदमी का कल्याण होगा, सार्थक नहीं होने वाला है। यह आम बजट मंत्री जी की बाजीगिरी का बजट है जिसमें महिला, युवा और गरीब को केन्द्र में रखकर सभी को सामने की विवशता और अर्थव्यवस्था को उबारने की मजबूती ने कमोवेश सभी को निराश किया है। बजट 14-2013 के लिए 16 लाख 65 हजार 297 करोड़ रुपये के कुल व्यय तथा 5 लाख 55 हजार 322 करोड़ रुपये के योजना व्यय का अनुमान है जो कि पिछले वित्तीय वर्ष के बजट की तुलना में करीब 24 प्रतिशत अधिक है। लेकिन मंहगाई जिस अनुपात में बढ़ी है उसके अनुरूप यह बजट नाकाफी है। बजट में राजकोषीय घाटा, सकल घरेलू उत्पाद का 5.3 प्रतिशत जो कि लगभग 5 लाख 20 हजार 9 सौ 25 करोड़ रुपये होता है, दिखाया गया है। वित्त मंत्री जी ने इसे अगले साल तक 4.8 प्रतिशत तक कम करने का भरोसा जताया है और इसके लिए कदम उठाने की बात कही है तथा प्रमुख रूप से प्रत्यक्ष विदेशी निवेश बढ़ाने का रास्ता बताया है परंतु यह प्रत्यक्ष विदेशी निवेश मात्र एक छलावा ही साबित होगा क्योंकि वर्तमान में सरकार के पास लगभग 7 लाख करोड़ के निवेश का मामला लंबित है वहीं, कोयला घोटाले के कारण ऊर्जा क्षेत्र की प्रगति पर भी प्रश्नचिह्न लग गये हैं अतः माननीय मंत्री जी राजकोषीय घाटा कम कैसे करेंगे यह मैं जानना चाहूंगा।

महोदय, आर्थिक सर्वेक्षण में आर्थिक मोर्चे पर जो उम्मीद जताई गई थी, बजट में ऐसा

[श्री वीर सिंह]

कुछ विशेष दिखाई नहीं देता है जो मंहगाई और बेरोजगारी जैसी गंभीर समस्याओं का समाधान कर सके। मान्यवर, आज आम आदमी मंहगाई की मार से मर रहा है। खाने-पीने की वस्तुओं में मंहगाई आसमान छू रही है। बजट बाद भी मंहगाई पर अंकुश नहीं लगा रहा है। वित्त मंत्री जी ने मंहगाई पर लगाम लगाने हेतु कुछ नहीं किया है। वह खाने-पीने की चीजों समेत रोज-मर्रा की जरूरत की वस्तुओं पर कर आदि में कमी कर जनता को संदेश दे सकते थे कि संग्रह सरकार मंहगाई कम करने के लिए कटिबद्ध है। लोग मंहगाई से राहत चाहते हैं परंतु इससे निजात नहीं मिल रही है। उल्टे सरकार ईंधन उत्पादों को डिक्ट्रोल कर, और ऊंची कीमतों, कारों व सेवा प्रभारों को और बढ़ाने जा रही है। पेट्रोलियम और उर्वरक कीमतों को बढ़ाने का रोडमैप पहले ही लागू हो चुका है। डीजल के मूल्यों में बेहताशा वृद्धि हुई है। इसी दौरान जमीनी हकीकत की उपेक्षा करते हुए सरकार ने गैस सिलेंडरों की सीमा बांध दी है जिसके परिणामस्वरूप काफी भ्रम पैदा हो गया है और कालाबजारी ने गैस सिलेंडरों की कीमतें बढ़ा दी हैं। सभी प्रकार के परिवहन लागत तुरंत बढ़ जाने के साथ-साथ इसका सभी प्रकार की वस्तुओं के मूल्यों में वृद्धि का बहुत बुरा प्रभाव पड़ा है। पेट्रोलियम पदार्थों के लगातार बढ़ रहे मूल्यों को आगे ओर बढ़ाने का बजट में साफ-साफ संदेश दे रखा है। बजट में पेट्रोलियम सब्सिडी पर 36,980 करोड़ रुपये बचाये गये हैं। इससे यह पता चलता है कि पेट्रोल, डीजल और गैस के मूल्य और बढ़ेंगे। स्वाभाविक है इसका सीधा असर आम आदमी के जीवन से जुड़े उपभोग की सभी वस्तुओं के मूल्यों में भारी वृद्धि होगी। मेरा माननीय मंत्री जी से आग्रह है कि मंहगाई व मुद्रास्फीति को रोकने हेतु विशेष कदम उठाए तथा सब्सिडी वाले गैस सिलेंडरों की संख्या नौ से बढ़ाकर बारह करने की घोषणा भी करें। जिससे आम जनता को राहत की सांस मिल सके। माननीय मंत्री जी का दावा है कि इस बजट से मंहगाई दर थमने में सहूलियत होगी, जो कि संदेहास्पद है। मैं मंत्री जी से चाहूंगा कि खाद्य उत्पादों की कीमतों में तेजी को रोकने के लिए आपूर्ति पक्ष को बेहतर बनाये तथा राजकोषीय घाटे को नियंत्रण में करने हेतु टोस कड़म उठाए जिससे मंहगाई की दर कम हो सकती है।

महोदय, मंत्री जी ने अपने भाषण में कहा था कि भारत एक बहुल और विविधता वाला देश है और यदि महिने सदियों से वंचित, उपेक्षित और गरीब तबके पर विशेष ध्यान नहीं दिया तो समाज के कई वर्ग पीछे छूट जाएंगे लेकिन उन्होंने इस उपेक्षित तबके की तरफ जो बजटीय आवंटन विशेष रूप से अनुसूचित जाति उपयोजना और अनुसूचित जनजातीय उपयोजना के आवंटन में मूल रूप से बढ़ाने की बात कही है वह वर्तमान जरूरतों के लिहाज से नाकाफी है क्योंकि देश में अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति की आबादी लगभग 25 प्रतिशत है तथा आवंटन का प्रतिशत भी उसकी सामाजिक, आर्थिक दशा व कुल संख्या के हिसाब से करीब 1,45,000 करोड़ होनी चाहिए। किंतु इस वर्ग विशेष के विकास के लिए बजट में व्यापक व्यवस्था नहीं की गई है जिससे देश के बहुत बड़े गरीब तबके को निराशा हाथ लगी है। बजट में यह घोषणा की गई है कि उन परियोजनाओं में आवंटित धनराशि का प्रयोग किसी अन्य मद या योजना में करना वर्जित है। यह सरकार का एक अच्छा कदम है, स्वागतयोग्य है। इसके

इस उपेक्षित तबके को विकास की मुख्यधारा में लाने में कुछ सहायता मिल सकती है तथा अवांछित धनराशि के दुरुपयोग कर अंकुश लगाया जा सकेगा। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार इन वर्गों के लिए बहुत सारी योजनाएं बनाती है परंतु इन वर्गों के विकास के लिए योजना आयोग से धनराशि समय पर अवमुक्त नहीं होती है। अतः मेरी माननीय मंत्री जी से गुजारिश है कि वे इन वर्गों के विकास के लिए प्रदेशों को स्पेशल कम्पोनेट प्लान के अंतर्गत धनराशि समय पर अवमुक्त करें जिससे एससी/एसटी के लोगों का सामाजिक, आर्थिक, शैक्षिक विकास हो सके। दूसरा, सरकार ने वर्ष 2010 में राष्ट्रमंडल खेलों में दिल्ली प्रदेश की सरकार ने दलितों के विकास की 744 करोड़ रुपये की धनराशि राष्ट्रमंडल खेलों के विकास में खर्च की थी। जिसका मामला बहुजन समाज पार्टी के सदस्यों द्वारा सदन में अनेकों बार उठाया गया था और माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी जो 2010 में देश के गृह मंत्री होते थे, ने सदन में आश्वासन दिया कि जल्द ही दलितों के विकास का पैसा, दलितों के विकास पर ही खर्च किया जायेगा। तो क्या माननीय मंत्री जी ये बताएंगे कि उक्त 744 करोड़ रुपये दिल्ली के दलितों पर खर्च कर दिया गया या नहीं।

महोदय, भारत कृषि प्रधान देश है। कृषि ही हमारी अर्थव्यवस्था का मूल आधार है। पूरे देश की तरक्की कृषि के ऊपर निर्भर करती है, क्योंकि यदि किसान को उसकी फसल का उचित दाम मिलेगा तो वह खुशहाल रहेगा, देश की तरक्की होगी। जब गांव खुशहाल होगा, तो शहर खुशहाल होगा और गांव और शहर जब खुशहाल होंगे, तभी हमारे देश की तरक्की संभव है, क्योंकि जब किसान के पास अच्छी फसल होती है और उसकी फसल का उचित दाम उसको मिलता है, तो वह मकान बनाता है, अच्छे ढंग से शादी-विवाह करता है। वह मकान बनाएगा, तो सामान खरीदने के लिए शहर में व्यापारी के पास जाएगा और सरिया, सीमेंट खरीदेगा। अगर बच्चों की शादी करेगा, तो शहर में व्यापारी के पास जाकर कपड़े वह सोना-चांदी आदि खरीदेगा। जब किसान खुशहाल होगा, तो व्यापारी भी खुशहाल होगा और जब दोनों खुशहाल होंगे, तो देश की तरक्की होगी, इसलिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से निवेदन करूंगा कि कृषि के लिए जो बजट 27,049 करोड़ रुपये दिया गया है, वह पर्याप्त नहीं है। हालांकि माननीय मंत्री जी ने कृषि सुधार के लिए काफी प्रयास किए हैं, जिसके लिए हम उनका शुक्रिया अदा करते हैं। कृषि अनुसंधान हेतु आपने जो 3,415 करोड़ रुपए का प्रावधान बजट में किया है, वह पर्याप्त नहीं लगता है। वित्त मंत्री जी को इस पर विचार करना चाहिए और शोध कार्यों के लिए आबंटन बढ़ाना चाहिए। कृषि भण्डारण, खाद्य प्रसंस्करण, कृषि विपणन पर भी तत्काल ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है। मेरा मानना है कि रेल बजट की तरह कृषि का भी अलग से बजट तय होना चाहिए क्योंकि देश की उन्नति कृषि के ऊपर काफी हद तक निर्भर करती है।

हमारे 80 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा किसान लघु और सीमांत हैं उन्हें बाजार में बहुत मुश्किलें आती हैं। इस संदर्भ में कृषि उत्पादन संगठनों को सहायता प्रदान करना काफी महत्वपूर्ण है परंतु इसके लिए काफी कम संसाधन जुटाए गए हैं। महोदय कृषि वाणिज्यिक होती जा रही है और खर्च बढ़ रहे हैं ऐसे में किसानों को निजि स्रोतों से लोन लेने से बचाने के लिए संस्थागत

[श्री वीर सिंह]

ऋण को बढ़ाना अनिवार्य है इससे निजी निवेश को भी बढ़ावा मिलेगा। इन सबके बावजूद बजट में ऐसी खामियां हैं जिन पर गौर न करने से कृषि क्षेत्र पर तात्कालिक और दूरगामी दुष्प्रभाव पड़ सकता है। जिस प्रकार से हमारे देश के किसान कर्ज के बोझ तले आत्महत्याएं कर रहे हैं। विशेषतया महाराष्ट्र में विदर्भ क्षेत्र में तथ्यस देश के अन्य प्रदेशों में भी किसानों ने आत्महत्याएं की हैं। उससे पता चलता है कि आज भी किसानों की दशा अति शोचनीय है। हमें किसानों व कृषि का लाभकारी बनाने की दिशा में कार्य करने की आवश्यकता है। इस बार बजट में कृषि ऋण का लक्ष्य 7 लाख करोड़ रुपए रखा गया है जो कि प्रशंसनीय है परन्तु वितरण लाभार्थी तक पहुंचने यह देखने की आवश्यकता है। नहीं तो, यह आवंटन भी पहली कर्ज माफी योजना की बंदरबाट किया जा सकता है। मान्यवर, केन्द्र सरकार की योजना की सही जानकारी पीड़ित किसान को मालूम नहीं होती है। अतः इसकी पब्लिसिटी बैंकों के माध्यम से किसानों को दी जानी चाहिए। सरकार ऋण माफी योजना में व्याप्त खामियां जैसे वास्तविक लाभार्थी तक पहुंचने हेतु प्रबंधन तंत्र की स्थापना, कर्ज माफी किसानों की सूची, कर्ज के लिए पात्रता में छूट व बैंकों को ऋण वितरण हेतु दिशानिर्देश आदि बनाने की आवश्यकता है। मेरे संग्रहण में आया है कि जनवरी 2013, से अब तक अकेले विदर्भ में लगभग 43 आत्महत्याएं हुई हैं तथा एक बार ऋण माफी के बाद किसान ऋण के बोझ तले मर रहा है। यह इसलिए हो रहा है क्योंकि किसानों को अपनी उपज की सही कीमत नहीं मिल रही है। लागत का खर्चा लगातार बढ़ रहा है। खाद, बीज, दवाएं, बिजली, पानी, डीजल सब महंगे हो रहे हैं और न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य में मामूली बढ़ोतरी हो रही है। लागत और कीमत का फासला कम हो रहा है, इसलिए किसान को घाटा बढ़ रहा है। कृषि मूल्य आयोग के गेहूं और धान के लागत में समर्थन मूल्यों के आंकड़ों का अगर आकलन करें तो साफ होता है कि किसान कर्ज के बढ़ते बोझ तले दबा जा रहा है। इसलिए किसानों को लागत के आधार पर लाभकारी मूल्य देने की आवश्यकता है स्वामीनाथन कमीशन ने इसका एक सूत्र दिया है उनके अनुसार लागत खर्च से 50 प्रतिशत ज्यादा समर्थन मूल्य होना चाहिए, तभी किसान को लाभकारी मूल्य मिलेगा। खेती लाभकारी होगी और किसान कर्ज के बोझ तले नहीं दबेगा।

मान्यवर, देश में आवास की बहुत कमी है। बड़े शहरों में यह एक गंभीर समस्या है। हमारे देश में करीब बीस करोड़ लोग आज भी नीले आसमान के तले ही अपनी रात गुजारते हैं। अभी तक सरकार आवास के मुद्दे पर बड़ी सफलता नहीं प्राप्त कर पाई है। इस बजट में भी केवल आवास की लागत 45,000 रुपये से बढ़ाकर 70,000 रुपये कर दी गई है। जिसमें मकान बनाने जैसे विषय पर प्रश्नचिन्ह खड़ा कर दिया है। इस महंगाई के जमाने में इतने कम पैसे में एक गरीब कैसे अपना मकान बना सकता है। यह सोचने का विषय है। यदि सरकार वास्तव में गरीब को मकान देना ही चाहती है तो आप उत्तर प्रदेश के मान्यवर, श्री कांशी राम शहरी गरीब आवास योजना में बनाए गए मकानों को जरूर देख लें। हमारी पार्टी की सुप्रीमों आदरणीय बहन कुमारी मायावती जी ने अपनी सरकार में लाखों गरीब लोगों को दो कमरे के पक्के मकान मुफ्त में दिए जिसमें रसोई, स्नानघर, शौचालय आदि है जो कि हमारी पार्टी का उत्तर प्रदेश में एक सफल उदाहरण है। मैं सरकार से गुजारिश करूंगा कि वे भी हमारी पार्टी

के उत्तर प्रदेश में बनाये गये मकानों के माडल को अन्य प्रदेशों में आवास विहीन करोड़ों गरीब लोगों को इसी प्रकार के मकान बनाकर प्रदान कराए।

मान्यवर, माननीय मंत्री जी ने पहला घर खरीदने पर 25 लाख तक के होम लोन पर एक लाख की अतिरिक्त ब्याज बजत से एलआईसी हाउसिंग फाइनेंस जैसी कंपनियों को लाभ मिलेगा। इससे रियल एस्टेट सेक्टर में भी उछाल आने की उम्मीद हो सकती है परंतु गरीब को घर मुहैया नहीं हो सकता है। आज भी हमारे देश के करोड़ों लोग रेल की पटरी के किनारे, गंदे नाले के किनारे, मलिन बस्तियों और खुले आसमान में झुग्गी-झोपड़ी बनाकर रहते हैं क्योंकि वह मंहगे घर नहीं खरीद सकते हैं। केन्द्र की किसी भी सरकार ने इस ओर ज्यादा ध्यान नहीं दिया। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से निवेदन करूंगा कि इस ओर विशेष ध्यान देकर हमारे देश में ऐसे जो गरीब लोग हैं, जिनका अपना आशियाना नहीं है जो खुले आसमान के नीचे रहते हैं, जो मलिन बस्तियों में रहते हैं, जो गंदे नालों के किनारे रहते हैं, उनको भी मकान मुहैया कराया जाए। कभी-कभी महानगरों में मलिन बस्तियों को उजाड़ा जाता है, भू-माफिया उनकी बस्तियों में आग लगा देते हैं, उनकी कमाई का जो धन होता है, वह भी उसमें जलकर राख हो जाता है। इस तरफ की शिकायतें ज्यादातर महानगरों में मिलती है और इनके बारे में आये दिन समाचार-पत्रों में छपता रहता है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से निवेदन करूंगा कि पूरे देश में जितनी इस प्रकार की मलिन बस्तियां हैं, पूरे देश में जितने गरीब लोग रेलवे लाइन की पटरियों के किनारे, गंदे नालों के किनारे झुग्गी-झोपड़ी बनाकर रह रहे हैं जो खुले आसमान के नीचे रह रहे हैं, उनके लिए एक विशेष अभियान चलाकर ऐसे सर्व-समाज के गरीब लोगों को सरकार द्वारा मकान बनाकर देने चाहिए जिससे कि वे अच्छी तरह से जीवन-यापन कर सकें और अपने बच्चों को अच्छा वातावरण दे सकें तथा उनके बच्चे भी अच्छी शिक्षा प्राप्त कर सकें।

मान्यवर, देश की सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली ध्वस्त है। राशन का 70-80 प्रतिशत गेहूं व 25-30 प्रतिशत चावल गरीबों तक पहुंचने के बजाय बाजार पहुंच जाता है। गरीबी की रेखा से नीचे वाले लोगों की पहचान भी घपला है। वास्तविक गरीबों के पास बीपीएल कार्ड नहीं है। केन्द्रीय सत्ता गरीबी को परिभाषित भी नहीं कर पाई। अर्जुन सेन गुप्ता समिति से लेकर तेंदुलकर समिति तक ने 80 प्रतिशत लोगों को अभावग्रस्त बताया है। सरकार के पास इनकी पहचान और ईमानदार सूची बनाने वाले प्रबंधन तंत्र का अभाव है।

आज बीपीएल कार्ड एक बहुत बड़ी समस्या है क्योंकि पूरे देश में जो बीपीएल की श्रेणी में लोग आते हैं, उनको बीपीएल का राशन कार्ड प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है। अगर इसका पूरे देश में सर्वे कराया जाए, तो जो इसका पात्र व्यक्ति है, उसको बीपीएल का कार्ड नहीं मिला है, अंत्योदय का कार्ड नहीं मिला है, क्योंकि जब बीपीएल या अंत्योदय के कार्ड बनाए जाते हैं तब सरकारी कर्मचारी सरपंच या प्रधान के पास जाता है। वह सरपंच या प्रधान की बैठक पर सीधे जाता है और उसी सरपंच या प्रधान से सूची ले लेता है कि आपके गांव में कौन-कौन गरीब लोग हैं, जो बीपीएल की श्रेणी में आते हैं या अंत्योदय की श्रेणी में आते हैं। वह सरपंच उन लोगों के नाम लिख लेता है जिसने उसे वोट दिए हैं और सरपंच बनाया है, चाहे वे इस श्रेणी



[श्री वीर सिंह]

में आते हैं या नहीं आते हैं, वे इसके लिए पात्र है या नहीं है। आज पूरे देश में ऐसे लाखों-करोड़ों लोग निकलेंगे जो साधन संपन्न हैं, लेकिन जिनके पास बीपीएल या अंत्योदय का कार्ड है। हमारे देश में ऐसे भी करोड़ों लोग हैं जो बीपीएल या अंत्योदय के कार्ड के लिए पात्र व्यक्ति हैं, जिनको बीपीएल श्रेणी का लाभ मिलना चाहिए, जिनको अंत्योदय कार्ड का लाभ मिलना चाहिए, लेकिन उनको इसका लाभ नहीं मिल रहा है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से मांग करूंगा कि वे देश में बीपीएल श्रेणी की सही पहचान करावें और पात्र गरीब व्यक्तियों को केन्द्र से दी जाने वाली खाद्यान्न व अन्य सहायता का पूरा-पूरा लाभ उनको दें। आज भी जो अनाज भंडारण की सुविधा के अभाव में बेकार सड़-गल जाता है उसे भी ऐसे पात्र गरीबों को बांट दिया जाना चाहिए। बजट में खाद्य सुरक्षा के लिए 10 हजार करोड़ रुपये की व्यवस्था की गई है जोकि राजनीतिक दृष्टि से आधार कार्ड, आपका पैसा आपके हाथ योजना की तरह एक सुविचारित योजना है। वास्तविक लाभार्थी को इसका लाभ पहुंचे। इसके लिए सरकार को आवश्यक प्रबंधन तंत्र बनाने पर गौर करने की आवश्यकता है। वरना यह योजना भी अन्य योजनाओं की तरह भ्रष्टाचार की भेंट चढ़ जायेगी।

मान्यवर, बजट में सामाजिक सेवाओं मसलन शिक्षा, युवा कल्याण, खेल, स्वास्थ्य, जल आपूर्ति और सफाई इत्यादि पर पिछले साल की तुलना में खर्च में मामूली बढ़ोतरी की गई है। यदि इसको जीडीपी के लिहाज से देखा जाये तो इसमें 13-2012 (संशोधित अनुमान) के 17 प्रतिशत की तुलना में 14-2013 में महज 1.9 (बजटीय अनुमान) प्रतिशत की बढ़ोतरी की गई है। 14-2013 में इन क्षेत्रों में कुल बजटीय खर्च जीडीपी के 7 प्रतिशत के आस-पास है। सामाजिक क्षेत्र में यह खर्च विकसित और कई विकासशील देशों के औसत स्तर की तुलना में काफी कम है। वस्तुतः इन देशों में यह औसत जीडीपी का 14 प्रतिशत है। सामाजिक सुरक्षा स्कीमों के लिहाज से केवल राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना (आइबीएसवाई) के लिए विशेष प्रावधान किए गए हैं। इसका दायरा बढ़ाते हुए कुछ अन्य श्रेणियों को इसमें शामिल किया गया है। नेशनल सोशल असिस्टेंस प्रोग्राम (एनएसएपी) के लिए बजटीय आवंटन पिछले साल के 8,382 करोड़ रुपये से बढ़ाकर 9,541 करोड़ रुपये किया गया है। लेकिन इस मामूली बढ़ोतरी से लाभार्थियों का दायरा बढ़ने की गुंजाइश नहीं दिखती।

मान्यवर, गरीबी उन्मूलन के लिए सरकार का रवैया हकदारी का है न कि सशक्तिकरण का। मनरेगा एक ऐसी ही योजना है जिसमें गांवों में रहने वाले गरीबों व बेरोजगारों को 100 दिन का रोजगार की गारंटी दी गई है। महोदय साल में 365 दिन होते हैं परंतु रोजगार के अवसर केवल 100 दिन ही मिलते हैं। ऐसे में गरीब 265 दिन बेकार रहता है। उसका भविष्य अधर में है। इससे यह पता चलता है कि सरकार गरीबों की उन्नति के लिए प्रयासरत नहीं है। वह नहीं चाहती कि देश तरक्की करे और कोई बेरोजगार या गरीब अपने बच्चों को पालनपोषण कर बड़ा करे या उन्हें अपने पैरों पर खड़ा करे। अतः मैं मंत्री जी से मांग करूंगा कि वे 100 दिन के रोजगार को बढ़ाकर कम से कम 300 दिन करने की घोषणा करें। केन्द्र

सरकार से प्रदेशों को मनरेगा के लिए जो पैसा दिया जा रहा है, वह काफी कम है। जो लोग मिट्टी का काम करते हैं और कच्चे कार्य हैं, उनको बहुत कम मजदूरी, ज्यादातर 120 से 140 रुपये, मिलती है और यह उनके लिए पर्याप्त नहीं है। मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि उनको केवल मिट्टी के काम के लिए ही यह मजदूरी न मिले, बल्कि इसमें और काम भी शामिल किया जाए। मैं समझता हूं कि सरकार की यह सोच है कि गरीब मिट्टी में मिलकर उसकी बुद्धि भी मिट्टी जैसी हो जाए, वह विकास न कर पाए और आगे न बढ़ पाए। वह बाहर जाकर 250 रुपये कमाता है, लेकिन गांव में उसको 120 रुपये या 140 रुपए में लगाकर रखा जाता है। वे रुपए भी उसको पूरे नहीं मिलते हैं क्योंकि वे रुपए तो सरपंच के रहमों करम पर मिलते हैं। सरपंच जिसकी हाजिरी भर देता है, उसको पैसा मिल जाता है। उस पैसे का सही उपयोग नहीं हो रहा है। मेरा निवेदन है कि इस पैसे में बढ़ोतरी हो और मिट्टी के कच्चे काम की जगह उसको पक्का काम मिले। मिट्टी के काम का कुछ पता नहीं चलता है क्योंकि बरसात आई तो वह खत्म हो जाता है। चाहे उसको आधा ही काम मिले, लेकिन पक्का काम मिलना चाहिए क्योंकि, वह टिकाऊ तो होगा। गांव में रहने वाले गरीब लोगों को और सर्व-समाज के लोगों को इसका लाभ तो होगा। मैं आशा करता हूं कि माननीय मंत्री जी इस ओर भी ध्यान देंगे और 120 से 140 रुपये की मजदूरी को बढ़ाकर 250 से 300 रुपये करने की महती घोषणा भी करेंगे।

मान्यवर, मंत्री जी, हमारे देश में बेरोजगारी एक बहुत बड़ी समस्या है। हमारे देश में लाखों पढ़े-लिखे बेरोजगार युवक हैं। पढ़ने-लिखने के बाद भी उनको नौकरी नहीं मिलती है, जिसके कारण वे परेशान हैं। आज हमारे देश का नौजवान बेरोजगारी के कारण हताश और निराश हैं। सरकार ने बजट में बेरोजगारों को रोजगार देने के संबंध में कोई उचित प्रावधान नहीं किया है और न ही इस समस्या का कोई समाधान किया है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से गुजारिश करूंगा कि वह बेरोजगारी दूर करने हेतु आवश्यक रोजगार सृजन करे जिससे इस समस्या का निदान हो सके। इसके साथ-साथ मैं आपके संज्ञान में वर्षों से खाली पड़े पदों की ओर दिलाना चाहता हूं। अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति और पिछड़ी जाति के ऐसे बैकलॉग पद विभिन्न विभागों में लाखों की संख्या में पड़े हैं जिन्हें आज तक नहीं भरा गया है। माननीय मंत्री जी, यदि सरकार इस बैकलॉग को पूरा करती है, तो पूरे देश में लाखों अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति और पिछड़ी जाति के पढ़े-लिखे बेरोजगार युवकों को रोजगार मिल जाएगा, नौकरी मिल जाएगी जिससे कि बेरोजगारी की समस्या का काफी हद तक समाधान होगा। मान्यवर, मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूं कि हमारी पार्टी की नेता आदरणीय बहन कुमारी मायावती जी जो हमारी पार्टी की राष्ट्रीय अध्यक्षा भी है उन्होंने अपने मुख्यमंत्रित्व काल में उत्तर प्रदेश में विशेष अभियान चलाकर वर्षों से खाली पड़े सरकारी नौकरियों में अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजाति तथा पिछड़े वर्ग के पढ़े-लिखे बेरोजगारों को लाखों नौकरियां दीं। अतः माननीय मंत्री जी केन्द्र के विभिन्न विभागों में पड़े खाली पदों को तुरन्त भरने हेतु आवश्यक कदम उठाएं।

[श्री वीर सिंह]

मान्यवर, देश में विद्युत उत्पादन, जिसका लक्ष्य 11वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में 78,000 मेगावाट रखा गया था, वास्तव में केवल 54,000 मेगावाट हो पाया है। नवीन एवं नवीकरण ऊर्जा के लिए 12वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में 40 हजार करोड़ रुपये की आवश्यकता बताई गयी थी। बजट में 20 हजार करोड़ रुपये भी नहीं दिया गया है। रेल, बंदरगाहों, तेल और गैस जैसे अन्य बुनियादी क्षेत्रों का कार्य निष्पादन पूरी तरह से निराशाजनक है। अतः इन क्षेत्रों में विशेष ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है जिससे चरणबद्ध तरीके से निवेश बढ़ाया जा सके और आशाजनक तरीके से लक्ष्यपूर्ति हो सके।

मान्यवर, हमारे देश में शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में कुल सार्वजनिक खर्च सकल घरेलू उत्पाद का 3.31 प्रतिशत है। जबकि कोठारी कमीशन ने सकल घरेलू उत्पाद का छह प्रतिशत खर्च किए जाने का अनुशंसा की है। इस बजट में शिक्षा पर कुल बजटीय आवंटन सकल घरेलू उत्पाद का 0.69 प्रतिशत किया गया है जो विगत वर्ष के संशोधन अनुमान जीडीपी के 0.66 प्रतिशत की तुलना में मामूली रूप से बेहतर है। शिक्षा के अधिकार (आरटीई) एक्ट के क्रियान्वयन का जिम्मा सरकार के सर्वशिक्षा अभियान (एसएसए) पर है लेकिन इसके लिए बजटीय आवंटन पिछली बार की तुलना में महज 3,613 करोड़ बढ़ाया गया है। इसमें 13-2012 के 23,645 करोड़ रुपये के बजटीय आवंटन की तुलना में 14-2013 में धनराशि को बढ़ाकर 27,258 करोड़ रुपये किया गया है। निर्धारित अवधि के भीतर आरटीई लक्ष्यों की प्राप्ति के लिहाज से यह नाकाफी है। मान्यवर, इस तरह से अपर्याप्त बजटीय प्रावधानों से सभी बच्चों की पढ़ाई का सपना दूर को कौड़ी ही साबित होगा। नई राष्ट्रीय उच्च शिक्षा स्कीम लांच की गई है लेकिन उसके लिए भी महज 400 करोड़ रुपये की व्यवस्था की गई है। हालांकि राष्ट्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा अभियान के लिए बजटीय प्रावधान पिछले साल के 2,423 करोड़ रुपये की तुलना में इस बार बढ़ाकर 3,124 करोड़ किया गया है। लेकिन यह भी 12वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में की गई सिफारिशों की तुलना में कम है। फिर भी कमोवेश, माननीय मंत्री जी ने बेहतर शिक्षा के लिए काफी प्रयास किए हैं, किंतु इन्होंने अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति तथा आदिवासी क्षेत्र में रहने वाले बच्चों की शिक्षा हेतु बजट में कोई भी चर्चा नहीं की है। इस क्षेत्र में रहने वाले बच्चों की शिक्षा हेतु आई.टी.आई., मेडिकल कॉलेज, नर्सिंग कॉलेज इत्यादि का होना अत्यंत जरूरी है। विशेषकर झारखंड, छत्तीसगढ़, महाराष्ट्र, पूर्वी, उत्तर प्रदेश तथा देश के अन्य राज्यों में ऐसे कॉलेज का होना अति आवश्यक है, अतः इन क्षेत्रों में रहने वाले बच्चों की शिक्षा हेतु बजट में प्रावधान किया जाना अत्यंत जरूरी है। मेरे संज्ञान में आया है कि एससी/एसटी/ओबीसी के छात्रों को दी जाने वाली छात्रवृत्ति समय पर प्रदेशों को निर्गत की जाए जोकि केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा प्रदेशों को अत्यंत विलम्ब के साथ निर्गत की जाती है जिसका खमियाजा इन छात्रों को उठाना पड़ता है। मान्यवर, हमारे देश में दोहरी शिक्षा व्यवस्था प्रणाली है जो अमीरों के लिए अलग व गरीबों के बच्चों के लिए अलग है। मैं आपसे मांग करूंगा कि इस दोहरी शिक्षा व्यवस्था को तत्काल प्रभाव से खत्म किया जाए जिससे गरीबों के बच्चे को भी समान अवसर प्राप्त हो सके।

मान्यवर, 13-2012, में स्वास्थ्य के क्षेत्र में सार्वजनिक खर्च जीडीपी का महज एक प्रतिशत था वैश्विक दृष्टि से इस मामले में हम निचले पायदान पर खड़े हैं। केवल स्वास्थ्य मदों में भारी खर्च के कारण हर साल लाखों लोग गरीबी रेखा से नीचे जीवन जीने को विवश होते हैं। लिहाजा स्वास्थ्य सुविधाओं का ढांचा सुधारना सरकार के समक्ष बड़ी नीतिगत चुनौती है। बजट में राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन के लिए 21,239 करोड़ रुपये आवंटित किए गए हैं। यद्यपि इस मिशन का दायरा बढ़ाने की रणनीतियों के लिहाज से उम्मीद थी कि इस बार कुल स्वास्थ्य बजट में एनएचएम के हिस्से के आवंटन में बढ़ोतरी होगी लेकिन उसके बजाय इसमें गिरावट दर्ज की गई। हालांकि महत्वाकांक्षी स्वास्थ्य इश्योरेंस कार्यक्रम के तहत राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना शुरू की गई है। इसमें रिकशा चालकों, ऑटो और टैक्सी ड्राइवर समेत गरीबी रेखा से नीचे गुजर बसर कर रहे (बीपीएल) श्रेणी के 3.4 करोड़ लोगों को शामिल किया गया है जो कि एक अच्छा कदम है। माननीय मंत्री जी से गुजारिश करूंगा कि स्वास्थ्य सुविधाओं और सेवाओं का दायरा देश के ग्रामीण अंचलों में भी बढ़ाएं जिससे गरीबों विशेषकर एससी/एसटी/ पिछड़े वर्ग के समुदायों को स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं का समुचित लाभ मिल सके।

मान्यवर, शुद्ध पेयजल हमारी एक बड़ी आवश्यकता है। पेयजल हमारा जीवन है। शुद्ध पेयजल उपलब्ध कराने के सहस्राब्दी विकास लक्ष्यों को पूरा करने के लिए सरकार ने 11वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना तक 1,45,000 करोड़ रुपये खर्च किए हैं। हालांकि 2011 की जनगणना के मुताबिक 43.5 प्रतिशत लोगों के पास वाटर सप्लाई की सुविधा है। 11 प्रतिशत लोग कुएं से जल प्राप्त करते हैं। 42 प्रतिशत लोग हैंडपम्प/ट्यूबवेल और 3.5 प्रतिशत लोग अन्य स्रोतों से जल प्राप्त करते हैं। दूसरी तरफ स्वच्छता के मामले में तस्वीर निराशाजनक है। 51.1 घरों में अभी भी शौच की सुविधाएं नहीं हैं। समाज के पिछड़े वर्गों का हालतो इस मामले में और भी दयनीय है। इसके बावजूद इस बार ग्रामीण पेयजल और स्वच्छता के मामले में बजटीय आवंटन जीडीपी का महज 0.13 प्रतिशत किया गया है जो पिछले साल 0.14 प्रतिशत था। मेरा मानना है कि मानव विकास के इन बुनियादी पहलुओं पर सरकार ने अपेक्षित आवंटन नहीं किया है। अतः इस तरफ भी ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है।

मान्यवर, देश की बाह्य व आंतरिक सुरक्षा देश के सामने एक बड़ी चुनौती है। चूंकि जिस प्रकार से देश में आतंकवादी घटनायें घटित हुई हैं वे देश के कई प्रदेशों में कानून व्यवस्था बिगड़ी है उसे देखकर ऐसा लगता है कि अभी देश की सरकार को दृढ़ इच्छाशक्ति के साथ सबको साथ लेकर चलते हुए इस चुनौती का सामना करना चाहिए। देश की सरहदों, मैदानी एवं समुद्री रास्तों से आतंकवादियों का आगमन हमारे देश में निरंतर बढ़ रहा है। इसको रोकना बहुत जरूरी है।

जहां आज एक ओर देश के जवानों विशेषकर अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सीमाओं पर तैनात जवानों पर हमलों से मनोबल गिरा है, वहीं पूर्व सैनिक को वन रैंक वन पेंशन का लाभ न मिलने से हताश का माहौल है। मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से मांग करता हूं कि पूरे देश में पूर्व

[श्री वीर सिंह]

सैनिकों को वन रैंक वन पेंशन की नीति समय-सीमा में बनाकर लागू कराये ताकि करोड़ों पूर्व सैनिकों को इसका लाभ मिल सके।

मान्यवर, अंत में, मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि इस बजट में वित्त मंत्री ही ने कई अच्छी और सकारात्मक घोषणाएं ही हैं परंतु कई ऐसी घोषणाएं भी हैं जिनमें दी गई राहत दिखती है परंतु वह वास्तव में समझ से परे हैं। जैसे महज बयालीस हजार आठ सौ अमीरों पर टैक्स बोझ बढ़ाने से गरीबों का कितना भला होगा। गरीबों का भला तब होगा जब उन्हें भूख लगने पर पोषक भोजन की उपलब्धता सुनिश्चित हो सके। रहने के लिए छोटा परंतु स्वच्छ आवास मुहैया हो सके। बीमार होने पर तुरन्त इलाज की सुविधा उपलब्ध हो, स्वच्छ पेयजल, शिक्षा व रोजगार के उचित अवसर प्राप्त हो सकें। इस बजट के माध्यम से गरीबों का अधिकाधिक कल्याण किया जाना हम सभी के लिए बड़ा मुद्दा है और इस ओर हमें भविष्य में आवश्यक कदम उठाने की दरकार है। मैं अपने सुझावों के साथ इस बजट का समर्थन करता हूँ। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं अपना भाषण समाप्त करता हूँ।

धन्यवाद।

**श्री राजपाल सिंह सैनी:** माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया और धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ अपनी नेता और बहुजन समाज पार्टी की राष्ट्रीय अध्यक्ष बहिन कुमारी मायावती जी को जिन्होंने मुझे और मेरे अति पिछड़े सैनी समाज को सम्मान दिया और इस सम्मानित सदन का सदस्य बनाकर यहां भेजने का कार्य किया। आज तक अन्य किसी पार्टी ने मेरे समाज को यह सम्मान देने का कार्य नहीं किया। आज देश का सैनी शाक्य, कुशवाह, मौर्य समाज टीवी पर यह देखकर खुश हो रहा होगा और धन्यवाद दे रहा होगा बहिन कुमारी मायावती जी को जिन्होंने मुझे यहां भेजकर बोलने का अवसर प्रदान कराया। केवल अति पिछड़े सैनी समाज को ही नहीं वरन मेरे साथ में बैठे अति पिछड़े कहार कश्यप समाज में जन्में भाई नरेंद्र कश्यप व अति पिछड़े ही गडरिया पाल बघेल समाज से ताल्लुक रखनेवाले साथी एस.पी. सिंह बघेल के समाज को भी सम्मान देकर बहिन कुमारी मायावती जी ने इनको भी राज्य सभा में भेजने का कार्य किया।

महोदय, आज भारत में अगर किसी वर्ग की सबसे दयनीय स्थिति है तो वह किसान वर्ग है। ऐसा लगता है कि सरकार किसानों की समस्याओं के प्रति संवेदनशील नहीं है। महोदय, आज आम बजट पेश किया जाता है तो केवल दिखावे के लिए कृषि और किसानों का नाम लिया जाता है जबकि सत्तर प्रतिशत देश की आबादी इस पेशे पर निर्भर करती है। इस आम बजट में भी सरकार कृषि और किसान पर मेहरबान दिखाई नहीं देती। सस्ते कर्ज से लेकर डीजल सब्सिडी और खाद समेत किसान की तमाम उम्मीदों पर पानी फेर दिया। डीजल पर सरकार किसानों के लिए सब्सिडी देती है, लेकिन इस सब्सिडी पर पूरा लाभ उद्योगपति व

पूंजीपति उठाते हैं। इसलिए सरकार किसानों के लिए ऐसी नीति बनाए जिससे डीजल सब्सिडी का सीधा लाभ किसानों को मिल सके। महोदय, इस बजट से किसानों के हाथ मायूसी ही लगी है। मनरेगा के लिए तैतीस हजार करोड़ रुपये देने की बात जरूर है पर किसानों की आय बढ़ाने का जरिया इस बजट में नजर नहीं आता। सिंचाई की समस्या को इस बार भी नजरअंदाज किया गया है। देश का करीब 60 प्रतिशत क्षेत्र अभी भी सिंचाई सुविधाओं से वंचित है। इसके बावजूद जब ढांचागत विकास की बात आती है तो सड़क, हवाईअड्डे और बंदरगाह आगे बढ़ जाते हैं और किसान के लिए सिंचाई परियोजनाएं मीलों पीछे छूट जाती हैं। इसलिए इस बजट में ऐसा कुछ देखने को नहीं मिलता जिससे कहा जा सके कि कृषि और किसान के लिए कोई बदलाव होने जा रहा है। महोदय, पिछले वर्ष के बजट में कृषि का ऋण पौने छह हजार करोड़ रुपये था और इस वर्ष का बजट पेश करते हुए माननीय मंत्री जी ने कृषि ऋण के लक्ष्य में केवल 125 हजार करोड़ रुपये की बढ़ोतरी की है। लेकिन सीधे तौर पर इसका फायदा किसानों को मिलने के बजाय हमेशा की तरह कोर्पोरेट्स ही ज्यादा फायदे में रहने वाले हैं। महोदय, किसान को अपनी फसल तैयार करने में जितनी लागत लगानी पड़ती है, उसकी तुलना में फसल का लागत मूल्य भी किसान को नहीं मिलता। महोदय आज तेल कंपनियों को तेल का भाव तय करने की आजादी है। उद्योगपति अपने द्वारा निर्मित सामान का भाव स्वयं तय करता है। दुकानदार अपने माल को अपने भाव पर बेचता है, परन्तु दुर्भाग्य की बात है कि जब किसान की उपज का मूल्य सरकार द्वारा तय किया जाता है तो किसानों का कोई भी प्रतिनिधि उसमें शामिल नहीं किया जाता। उसकी फसल का मूल्य वे लोग तय करते हैं जिनको यह भी पता नहीं है कि कितनी बार और कब गन्ने, गेहूं, धान, सब्जी, दलहन व तिलहन को खाद व पानी दिया जाता है? और कितनी बार किस-किस समय उसकी निराई-गुड़ाई की जाती है। महोदय, मैं किसान का बेटा हूं, किसान हूं और स्वयं अपना ट्रैक्टर चलाकर खेत तैयार करता हूं व खुद उसकी बुवाई करता हूं। मैं किसान की समस्या व दर्द को भलीभांती समझता हूं। इसलिए मेरी सरकार से पुरजोर अपील है कि किसान की उपज का मूल्य तय करते समय उसका प्रतिनिधि भी शामिल रखा जाए।

महोदय, कृषि अनुसंधान के लिए 3415 करोड़ रुपए की राशि रखी गयी है और वहीं कुछ नए कृषि अनुसंधान खोलने की बात भी कही गयी है। इससे सरकार किसान के हित के लिए बात करती है। परन्तु महोदय, इससे आम किसान को कोई फायदा नहीं मिल रहा है क्योंकि वह तो अपनी पारंपरिक खेती करता है। स्वयं बीज पैदा करता है, क्योंकि उसको उन्नत बीज व खाद समय पर नहीं मिल पाता। महोदय, मैं पहले भी कह चुका हूं कि किसान को उसकी उपज का सही व समय पर भुगतान नहीं मिलता, जिससे किसान की रूचि कृषि से हट रही है। यदि किसान को समय पर भुगतान नहीं होगा तो महोदय वह कर्ज की अदायगी कैसे कर पाएगा? ऊपर से किसान मौसम की मार का भी शिकार होता है। कभी बाढ़ कभी ओलावृषि, कभी सूखा किसान को तबाह कर देता है, इसलिए यदि किसान की हालत में सुधार

[श्री राजपाल सिंह सैनी]

के लिए नहीं सोचा गया तो किसान खेती करनी छोड़ देगा। इसका क्या परिणाम होगा, इससे सभी भलिभांति परिचित हैं। आज जंतर-मंतर पर किसान अपनी मांगों के लिए धरना दिए बैठे हैं, वे अपनी उपज का उचित मूल्य दिए जाने की मांग कर रहे हैं। सरकार उनकी मांगों की ओर कोई ध्यान नहीं दे रही है। आप खाद्य सुरक्षा बिल की बात कर रहे हैं, परंतु किसान के बारे में कुछ नहीं सोच रहे हैं। इससे परेशान होकर यदि किसान का कृषि से मोह भंग हो गया और उसने पैदावार करनी छोड़ दी तो इस खाद्य सुरक्षा बिल का क्या होगा? खाद्यान्न की आपूर्ति कहां से होगी? आज कोई भी किसान अपने बेटे को कृषि के कार्य में नहीं लगाना चाहता क्योंकि वह जानता है कि यह फायदे का कार्य नहीं है।

महोदय, मैं आर्गनिक कृषि की बात भी करना चाहूंगा। आर्गनिक फसल की पैदावार बढ़े इस ओर भी सरकार को अधिक ध्यान देना होगा। इसमें किसान की रुचि बढ़ाने के लिए सरकार को कुछ कदम उठाने होंगे। क्योंकि इसकी पैदावार के लिए किसान को बहुत अधिक मेहनत करनी पड़ती है, लेकिन उपज कम निकलती है। इसलिए सरकार को इसका मूल्य सामान्य उपज से कम-से-कम पांच गुना अधिक रखना होगा। आर्गनिक उपज की भी मिनिमम सपोर्ट प्राइज तय करनी होगी तथा किसान की इस उपज को सरकार को खरीदने की गारंटी देनी होगी तभी किसान आर्गनिक कृषि की ओर बढ़ेगा।

महोदय, पशुधन के लिए सरकार ने इस बजट में केवल 360 करोड़ रुपये का प्रावधान किया है, जो कि बहुत कम है। इस पर भी सरकार को सोचना होगा।

मान्यवर, भारत की 70 प्रतिशत आबादी कृषि पर निर्भर है। लेकिन आबंटन कुल बजट का 3.6% है। इससे पता चलता है कि सरकार 70 प्रतिशत आबादी के बारे में क्या सोच रखती है।

महोदय, दूरदर्शन पर दुनिया भर के चैनल केवल मनोरंजन के लिए चल रहे हैं, लेकिन इस आधुनिक युग में किसानों के लिए आज भी कृषि कार्यक्रमों को प्रसारित करने के लिए कोई टीवी चैनल उपलब्ध नहीं है। अतः मेरी सरकार से मांग है कि किसानों को समय-समय पर उनकी भाषा में कृषि से संबंधित नवीनतम जानकारी और कृषि साहित्य उन तक पहुंचाने के लिए टीवी चैनल चलाया जाए। इससे किसान लाभ उठा सकेंगे।

महोदय, मैं पश्चिम उत्तर प्रदेश के जनपद मुजफ्फरनगर से आता हूं। पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश में सबसे अधिक गन्ने की पैदावार होती है। मुजफ्फरनगर में एक समय एशिया की सबसे बड़ी गुड़ मंडी हुआ करती थी और आज वह समाप्ति के कगार पर है। जिससे इससे जुड़े किसान-कामगार और आदती भारी नुकसान उठा रहे हैं। इसलिए सरकार मंडियों के लिए ऐसी नीति बनाए जिससे मृत प्रायः रोजगार में जान पड़ सके तथा इससे जुड़े किसान-कामगार और

आढ़ती को दोबारा लाभ मिल सके। महोदय, अपनी बात समाप्त करने से पहले मैं मांग करता हूँ और यह किसानों की भी शुरू से ही मांग रही है कि जिस प्रकार रिक्षा चालक, आटो ड्राइवर व कबाड़ी को स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना के अंतर्गत लाया गया है किसानों को भी इस योजना के अंतर्गत लाया जाए।

धन्यवाद।

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Sir, I come from the state of Kerala. Kathakali is the famous classical dance form of Kerala. A few days back the famous kathakali Maestro Ramankutty Aasan died. He was an expert in Pakarnattam. That means performing two *bhavas* at the same time. Like acting as both hanuman and Rakshasinat at the same time in *lanka dhahana*. It is a difficult exercise. Before the presentation of this year's Budget, the general feeling was, Mr Chidambaram will try to perform Pakarnattam. At the eve of an election, he would aim to address the issues of the common man and at the same time try to satisfy the global credit agencies and global capital. But sorry to say that, our Finance Minister has failed to perform thus. This Budget is a Budget only for the international credit agencies and global capital.

This Budget as Sitaram Yechuri correctly wrote in The Economic Times is neither growth-oriented nor "inclusive". Rather than reversing the current economic slowdown, these proposals may well make it worse. The economy is facing a serious crisis. While introducing the new economic policy in his 1991 July Budget speech, the then Finance Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh was worried about the Current account deficit and Fiscal deficit. At that time the CAD was 2.5% of the GDP. Now we have completed two decades of NEP with a current account deficit of 4.5% of GDP, which is the highest in our history. The economy is facing four problems simultaneously, that is CAD, Fiscal deficit, inflation and the depreciation of our currency. This shows the period of globalization did not help to resolve these issues but led to a deeper and more complex crisis of the economy.

Have these policies helped the country to become a trade surplus economy? Certainly the answer is no. The last time India enjoyed a trade surplus was in 1976-77. India's share of world exports fell from 2 percent at the time of Independence to 1.1% in 2007.

In the Budget speech the Finance Minister openly declared the *Mool mantra*,



[Shri K.N. Balagopal]

that is-high growth rate. Will the reforms give a big momentum to the Growth of Indian economy? India was growing at 5-6 percent between 1974 and 1990. Now the predictions are same as the pre reform period. These features show the reforms which have growth as their *mool mantra* of growth leading the economy to a deeper crisis.

The Finance Minister has criticised some growth-oriented States and stated that the UPA govt gives emphasis to improving human development indicators. But, what is the reality? When the reforms began in 1991, India was ranked 123rd among countries around the world in terms of the Human Development Index. In 2011 it had slipped to the 134th place. In 1991 the then Finance Minister stated that the fundamental objective of reforms is to bring about rapid and sustained improvement in the quality of life of the people of India. Is this the improvement, Sir,?

While reading the Budget speech, we could not find out a single reference to 'Inequality.' Intensifying inequality is one of the major consequences of reforms. In 2006 the UN published a comprehensive global study on personal wealth. As per that report the top 10 per cent of India's population owns 53% of the country's wealth. The bottom 10% controls a mere 0.2%. Now this difference has further widened. The Directive Principle of the Constitution of India, number 39c, clearly States that the operation of the economic system should not result in the concentration of wealth. That means the reforms are clearly against the Directive Principles of the Constitution of India. Sir, inequality is against the concept of growth. If the income of the majority is squeezed to feed a rich minority, how can they contribute to the growth processes? 'The Economist' weekly recently published a special issue on inequality. It stated that "the inequality has reached such a stage when it can be inefficient and bad for growth".

Without increasing the purchasing power of the people and strengthening the domestic market, we cannot improve the situation. I am totally against the mythology of the fiscal deficit cut. It is recommended by international financial agencies. According to me, in a recession period, the Government should stimulate the economy by increasing public spending. As China did, the Government should invest more in infrastructure and other sectors. It will create employment and

increase the purchasing capacity. This will give momentum to the economy. But the Finance Minister is still following the contrary path. Sir, the Finance Minister has stated that foreign investment is imperative. Since 1991 onwards, we are trying to attract FDI. What is the reality? 44% of the FDI came from a small country, Mauritius. Less than 10% of FDI has come from EU Countries, 7% from the USA, 5% from UK and only 4% from Japan. FII investments are the major component in the foreign capital coming into the country. They are not creating any employment, or any assets in this country. They are floating from one country to another country for more and more profit. They first arrived in India in 1993. By 2006 they were engaged in transactions worth Rs. 28,55,000 crore which was over one third of the country's GDP and more than six times the value of primary transactions. If we are considering FDI, the main component is equity, which is also drawing more and more profit from India. For example, the American private equity firm Warburg Pincus invested 292 million dollars in Bharati Tele Ventures between 1999 and 2001. It sold its shares in 2004-05 for one billion dollars retaining a stake of 700 million dollars. The implicit return calculated over a five year period is almost 500%. FDI is not playing any role in Indian investment. India's investment is financed almost entirely from domestic savings. But still we are giving more and more concessions to FDI. In his July 1991 Budget speech, the then Finance Minister gave the justification for the opening up of the economy. According to him the entry of the foreign capital would increase domestic investment. But two decades of reforms show this is not true.

On the contrary, Indian big business groups have grown to be a new class of TNCs, while their contribution to the Indian economy is less. According to our Commerce Minister Indian big business has created not less than 300,000 jobs in the US during 2004-07. Is the US giving any tax concessions to Indian companies. NO. Yet, they are also doing much business in developed and developing countries. Despite that, this Budget also fails to present concrete plans for utilizing Indian capital for investment but gives more benefits to volatile FII. Sir, the next choice for investment is the remittance of NRIs. The remittance from NRIs is higher than the FDI inflow into our country. But, as usual, this Budget has forgotten this sector completely. We cannot find any schemes for the welfare of NRIs. Sir, we have other sources of capital for investment. As per the Public- Enterprises survey, PSUs had a surplus reserve of Rs. 5,60,203 Cr in 2010-11, which has increased to 6,13,949 crores in 2011-12 showing, or by 9.5%. Why is the Government not ready to utilize

[Shri K.N. Balagopal]

this for further investment and employment generation? Instead of this, the Government will mobilize Rs. 25,000 crore through disinvestment of PSUs. This is totally illogical. During this period, The contribution of CPSEs to the Central Exchequer by way of different taxes has increased by 2.58%. The move of the Government to kill these milk giving cows is totally anti-national. If this Government is following the philosophy of fiscal deficit reduction, why are they concentrating only on cutting expenditure? Why does this Government keep silent on the revenue part? Yes the FM repeatedly mentions the world's lowest TAX GDP ratio. But still he is doing nothing to improve this.

While comparing the BE with the RE of 2012-13, the only sector in revenue collection which shows an increase is the Securities Transaction Tax. And there is a strong demand to increase this tax all over the world. But for giving more benefits to corporates the Finance Minister has reduced the Securities transaction tax. This will result in revenue loss and can also promote speculative transactions.

The Parliament of India has amended the rules for implementing GAAR and retrospective Taxation. But when Mr Chidambaram took over this portfolio, then he constituted a one-man committee and postponed the Parliament approved decision on this matter for three years. This is totally arbitrary and amounts to favouring global capital. While giving his reply to the last year's Budget discussions, the then FM stated in this same august House that countries like the UK had already implemented retrospective amendments in 2008 dating back to 1987. If they can then why can't we? This is a shameful situation. How can the Govt depend on a so-called tax specialist's one-sided opinion for overruling the unanimous decision of the Indian Parliament? This is an attack on the supremacy of Indian Parliament. The undermining of Parliament is also reflected in other areas such as Aadhaar, Pension Fund etc.

The Indian rich are now one of the lowest taxed segments of the global rich. We have abolished estate duty. More than 148 countries still have it. India is also the country which gives more and more tax exemptions to the super rich.-

The revenue forgone due to exemptions/ deductions/ incentives in the Central Government tax system is estimated to be Rs. 5,29,432 crore in 2011-12. This is 6 %

of GDP. Sir, this is higher than our fiscal deficit. The Govt is weeping about subsidies which are only 2% of the GDP? As per the calculation done by well-known journalist Sainath, since 2005-06 taxes and duties for the corporate world and the rich have been written off at the rate of Rs. 7 million a minute on average. While the Finance Minister complains about the passion for gold, he writes-off in this Budget the customs duties on gold, diamonds and jewellery that are worth Rs. 61,035 cr.

The Finance Minister is not ready to tax the super rich. Yes, in this Budget the Minister has declared a new cess on the super rich. But the impact of this on total tax collection is very small. Secondly, why is the Finance Minister not ready to increase the tax rate instead of imposing a cess? Sir, in the case of a cess there is no provision for distribution of a share of the revenue to the States; if it is in the form of a tax then it is the constitutional responsibility of the Centre to share it with States. Sir, India is a federal republic. But the rights of the States are being eroded day by day.

The state of inflation is alarming and food inflation is very high. The majority of the people are struggling to meet their daily needs. As per the answer given to me, the per capita food grain availability has declined by 57 gms in between 2000 and 2010. The rate of growth of foodgrains production (2.5% annum on average) exceeded the rate of population growth till the time the reforms began in the early 1990s. Since then the rate of growth of food grains production has fallen sharply to 1.25 while population has continued to grow at 1.6-1.9% per annum. Besides this, the main reason for the decline in per capita food grain availability is the declining purchasing capacity of the majority of the people. But the Budget fails to address this issue. Food Subsidy has been pegged at Rs. 90,000 crore in 2013-14 (BE), which is a small increase relative to the Rs. 85,000 crore in 2012-13 (RE) This allocation of Rs. 90,000 crore for 2013-14 includes an amount of Rs. 10,000 crore that the Government expects to be the incremental cost due to the implementation of the National Food Security legislation. This implies the lack of a sense of urgency in implementation of this. Universal distribution of rice and/or wheat and millets under PDS in the country would require additional funds to the tune of Rs. 148,471 crore. Sir, now the Minister has proposed to levy a CTT on future trading in non-agriculture commodities. This

[Shri K.N. Balagopal]

is a good step. But the exclusion of agricultural commodities will further increase the future trade in this sector which will increase food inflation.

The outlay for Petroleum Subsidy has been reduced significantly from Rs. 96,880 crore in 2012-13 (RE) to Rs. 65,000 crore in 2013-14 (BE), which would further increase the prices of petroleum products and affect price rise all round. This is coupled with Government's agenda to deregulate the pricing of petroleum products under the cover of Parikh Committee recommendations, which would further aggravate inflation. The pricing mechanism of petroleum products is the main cause of the increasing burden on account of subsidies. The production cost of diesel and petrol is, more or less, same as the market price. But the oil companies determine the price of petrol as per the parity with international price of petrol and diesel. India is not importing petrol or diesel, we are importing crude oil. The refining cost in India is the cheapest in the world. Why is the Government still hesitating to reconsider the pricing mechanism? The Budget failed to incorporate the recommendation of the Standing Committee to remove the import duty on crude and reduce the excise duty. This approach of the Budget will add fuel to the inflation.

Sir, in his Budget speech, the Finance Minister gave stress to inclusive growth. For inclusiveness, a Government should focus on social sectors and should give more allocations to the deprived sections of the country. But the reality is far away from that. In 2008-09 expenditure from the Union Budget on social services was 2% of the GDP. But in this Budget, the allocation is only 1.9% of the GDP. Going by last year's experience, the actual expenditure may be less than 1.7% of the GDP. The revised estimate for the current fiscal year shows that plan spending was nearly 20 percent below the Budget Estimates for 2012-13. In this Budget, the FM has resorted to a clever exercise by comparing the Budgetary allocation with the Revised Estimate for 2012-13. It had directed ministries to cut expenditures relative to the previous year's Budget allocations and is now making comparisons with that reduced figure to claim that it has increased allocations. The UPA's promise reiterating the Kothari Commission recommendation of 1966 remains unfulfilled even in 2013-14; the Union Govt's allocation for Education in 2013-14 stands at 0.69% of the GDP. This is one of the lowest in the world. The situation in health is the worst. The Centre's total expenditure on Health and Family Welfare as a proportion of the

GDP shows stagnation at 0.3 % in 2013-14. If we are combined both the state and central expenditures it is below 1% of GDP. This is the lowest in the world. Now the Ministry has announced the extension of the National Rural Health Mission to urban areas also. But the allocation is not sufficient. According to well known economist Jayati Ghosh India is the only country where public delivery of essential social services is presented as Government schemes that are gifts from the state to the people rather than the rights of its citizens. If we are considering the rural economy in totality the situation is the same. Rural expenditure includes expenditure on Agriculture and allied activities, Rural development, Special Area programmes, Irrigation and flood control and Village and small industries. The allocation to the Rural economy has declined from 2.3% of the GDP in the Revised Estimate for 2012-13 to 2.2% in the BE for 2013-14. As a proportion of total expenditure from the Union Budget, the expenditure on Agriculture and allied Activities shows a decline from 11.8% in 2011-12 (actual) to 10.4 % in 2013-14 BE. Expenditure on Agriculture and allied activities as a proportion of the GDP has also dipped from 1.7% in 2011-12 (actual) to 1.5% in 2013-14 BE.

This shows the Government is not concerned about the Agrarian Sector and the rural economy. UPA-II2 is forgetting the words of Mahatma Gandhi who said 'India lives in the villages'. Are these allocations to the Agricultural sector sufficient in a country where 2.5 lakh farmers had committed suicide in between 1995 and 2010? Is this sufficient for a sector on which half of the labour force depends for its means of living? The allocation for the MGNREGA is same as last year's. Last year the actual expenditure was far below of the allocation. This shows the interest of the Government in this flagship program is declining. In this Budget, the Finance Minister announced the next stage of PMGSY. But, Sir, the current Budget allocation for PMGSY has declined to Rs. 21,700 crore from Rs. 24,000 crore in 2012-13 (BE), which is a perceptible decline.

Sir, the working class is suffering miserably. As per the Economic Survey 2013, 95 per cent of the working class is in the informal sector. Contractualisation and casualization have increased. The share of wages in GDP has in fact halved since the 1980s and is in now the lowest in the world. Now a new category is emerging of people working for an honorarium. Nothing has been mentioned about the ASHA workers, anganavadi teachers etc.

[Shri K.N. Balagopal]

Irrespective of political differences,, the working class in the country resorted to a two day strike. It was a historic movement. Crores of workers participated in this two days' strike. This is the largest mobilization in the history of anti-globalization strikes in the world. But this Budget reflects the same anti-working class attitude of the Government. Tokenism in the form of a crude joke is reflected in the Budget through an allocation of only Rs. 1000 crore for social security of 47 crore unorganised sector workers.

Sir, are the allocations in this Budget sufficient to include the SC and ST and Minority? The share of SCSP (Schedule Cast Sub Plan) in the total Plan allocations has fallen from 10.20% in 2012-13 (RE) to 9.72% in 2013-14 (BE). There has been a decrease in the share of TSP in the Total Plan Allocations in the Union Budget from 5.77% in 2012-13 RE to 5.75% in 2013-14 BE.

Four important schemes which were initiated in 2012-13 for development of minorities have been scrapped in 2013-14. These include Scheme for promotion of education in 100 minority concentration towns/cities (out of 251 such town/cities identified as backward), Village Development Programme for Villages not covered by Minority Concentrated Blocks (MCBs)/Minority Concentrated Districts (MCDs), Support to District Level Institutions in MCDs and Free Cycles for Girl Students of Class IX. These figures show that this Government is against the interest of the marginalized sections of the country.

Sir, the President of India in his speech declared the formation of a new department for disabled persons. But there is no separate demand for grants for the Department of Disability Affairs indicating that the commitment to have a separate department is only on paper. The inclusive agenda excludes persons with disabilities. An outlay of Rs. 110 crore has been announced for ADIP scheme under the Department of Disability Affairs. However, the analysis of the demand for grant document revealed an outlay of only Rs. 96 crore.

Sir, children are the most ignored section in this Budget. Children, who represent 42% of the population of the country, have been earmarked allocations worth 0.67% of GDP in Union Budget 2013-14(BE). Total allocation for children has decreased from 4.8% of the Union Budget in 2012-13(BE)-to 4.6% of the Union

Budget in 2013-14(BE). In his Budget speech the Finance Minister gave importance to youth. The allocation for skill development is a good step in the right direction. But where will these skilled youth go for getting employment? The reforms are intensifying unemployment in the country. It is reflected in the jobless growth phenomenon. Between 1983 and 1994, when economic growth was 4-5% every year, employment in the organized sector grew at 1.2%. Between 1994 and 2005 when growth increased to 5-6%, employment growth turned negative at -0.3%. In the pre-reform period the rate of growth of employment was higher than the rate of growth of population. But in the post reform period the opposite has been the case. 10 % growth in manufacturing sector is the pre requisite for 1% employment growth in that sector. The Budget terribly failed to address the real issues of the youth in this country. The workers in the organized sector are also facing retrenchment. An estimate suggests that anywhere from half million to possibly ten million workers may have lost their jobs since September 2008, most of them in export sectors and export related areas of the informal economy. This Budget does not have any specific plans to address this phenomenon. The Minister gave priority to women and he has announced an exclusively women's bank. Is it sufficient for addressing the exclusion of women? According to the Indian Human Development study, 80% of the women in India have no bank account. Barely 13% of the rural women have bank accounts and only 28% in urban areas. Several women are in key position in banks and other institutions. But Sir, only 19% of the women between 15 and 59 years earn any cash income. Is a separate women-run women-focused bank is sufficient to overcome these hurdles? Definitely not. If the Ministry is concerned about women's banking, why is the ministry not giving clearance to the long pending demand for postal banking?

The allocation for Implementation of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act has increased from a meagre allocation of Rs. 20 crore in 2012-13 to Rs. 67.5 crore, whereas the recommended outlay for the scheme by the Steering Committee on Women's Agency and Empowerment was Rs. 90 crore annually. It must also be noted that the entire allocation for 2012-13 remained unutilized. FM has announced Nirbhaya, but there is no proper allocation to the concerned Ministry. Sir, this is a Budget for FDI not for Indian citizens. This proves that this is a Government of the corporates, for the corporates, and by the corporates. If the Govt



[Shri K.N. Balagopal]

is not ready to consider the discontent among a majority of the people, the consequence would be unpredictable. I urge the Govt to reconsider the existing policy.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, when we look at this Budget, we find an element of Alchemist as well as Fortune Teller, in our Finance Minister as he said and I quote, “Our goal is higher growth leading to inclusive and sustainable development. That is the *mool mantra*” (unquote). But, Sir, the *mool mantra* sounds like *bhool mantra*. Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development have been proved to be merely slogans or rhetoric for public consumption. On a careful analysis of this anti-people Budget, one will find that in the name of reducing fiscal deficit, it fails to raise social sector expenditure which is badly needed for the poor. The Budget fails to stimulate growth and it makes relative economic stagnation and high inflation. The Govt’s bias towards foreign capital has become more brazen. When a quantum speeding leap is needed to make foodgrains available at affordable prices through a Universal Public Distribution System, the food subsidy is raised to laughable Rs 5000 crores over last year’s revised estimate. MNREGA has been frozen at last year’s level of Rs. 33,000 crores and well below its peak allocation of Rs. 40,000 crores. **Allocation to Health and Family welfare is raised by a paltry 8%** which is less than the inflation rate. This will lead to further impoverishment, ill health and miseries to poorer section of the society. **Allocation for Pradhan Mantri Gram Sarak Yojna** has also been reduced to half, which will affect road expansion in the Rural India.

Sir, Dr. Manmohan Singh and Sri P. Chidambaram have managed Finance portfolio for 14 years between them. But nothing has changed. The key concerns remain. Our economy is reeling under slowing growth rate, rising inflation, skyrocketing prices of essential commodities, widening current account deficit and the Govt. has undertaken a peculiar mechanism of cuts in subsidies like fertilizer, food and petroleum. This fiscal fundamentalism is not accidental, but is dictated by the views prevalent among credit-rating agencies, multinational companies and our corporate honchos. This is why I say time and again that this Govt. has surrendered to crony capitalism and it is transforming into a **‘Govt of the Chiselers, for the Chiselers and by the Chiselers.’** Govt is driven an urge to attract foreign investment

at any cost as the P.M. believes that foreign investment is an imperative. The Govt does not believe in raising the tax GDP ratio which has fallen to 10%, lowest for any large developing country. India's upper crust are among the lowest taxed people as they pay an average of 20% compared to 50% plus in the UK, Spain, Bulgaria or Sweden. Govt. claims that 10% surcharge has been raised on incomes above Rs. 1 crore to reduce inequality. If we take 42,000 individuals in this class as per Govt's calculation, the surcharge will yield an estimated Rs. 15,000 crores which is less than 1% of the projected total revenue increase.

Sir, the Govt's pro rich bias is writ large everywhere in this Budget .Revenue to the extent of Rs. 5, 73,630 crores were foregone in 2012-13 through tax write-offs and exemptions and this figure is 130% higher than in 2006-2007. This amount is larger than the entire fiscal deficit. And pursuant to this Budget, the poor must bear the burden from reduced social spending and higher indirect taxes on the commodities of mass consumption like kerosene, clothing and footwear. The Non-Performing Assets of PSU Banks rose to Rs. 2,25,000 crores in Dec'12. Who are the top 50 Wilful defaulters? Govt. has taken refuge to RBI Rules not to disclose their names. More than Rs. 13000 crores have been diverted by a number of Big Companies for the past 3 years in contravention of the External Commercial Borrowing Scheme.

No punitive action has yet been taken by the Reserve Bank. Why and at whose instance? This is another scam. And this is the real picture of Aam Admi Sarkar.

Darkness and darkness is all around.

Sir, opening up Multibrand retail, aviation and Direct to Home Services to FDI, in addition to petroleum, power and real estate is not enough for the super greedy capital. It always wants more and our Govt. has invited foreign capital and suspect investment through tax havens or double taxation avoidance treaty like Mauritius and Finance Minister's declaration that Indian tax authorities will ask proof of income through routes like Mauritius proved to be a hoax since the next day of his Budget speech it was withdrawn following loss of 291 points in the Sensex. The implementation of GAAR has also been deferred in supersession of the Budget announcement of his predecessor-cum-office. The McKinsey Global Institute

[Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Roy]

Report has estimated global capital flows were 13% lower in 2012 than 2011 and 61% below the peak of 2007. Hence, bank on FDI substantially would be suicidal for our alarming economic situation. If we do so, India will be a big Casino for the foreign players.

Sir, the FM has referred in his Budget that India ranks 10th among economically advanced countries. While I look at the UNDP's Human Development Report 2013, I find the HDI Profile of India is at 136 among 187 countries, 53.7% Indian live in Multi Dimensional poverty and another 16.4% are vulnerable to multiple deprivations. Only 29 countries do worse in this field than India. Maternal mortality rate per 1 lakh live births is 200 and Children under 5 mortality rate per 1000 live births is 63. Hence, insofar as the Human Development Report is concerned, we share our position with Equatorial Guinea, a country, name of which is hardly known to people. What a shame! Perhaps, this is why renowned social activist and a Member of NAG Smt. Aruna Roy has commented and I quote "the truth is: the Budget perpetuates what it claims to tackle centuries of neglect, discrimination and deprivation....." (Unquote). She has also deplored the so-called success story of Aadhar-based Direct Cash Benefit Transfer in most districts and has claimed no impact. More than 60% of our people do not get banking services. How will the benefits reach them within one year?

Hence, '*Aap Ka Paisa Aap Ka Haath*' is essentially a pre-election slogan like '*Garibi Hatao*' to ensure '*Aap Ka Vote Congress ke Saath*' *Lekin Desh Ki Janta Ki Awaz aap shun nahi pa rahe hai. Janta bol rahi hai 'Hamne ki thi unse bafa ki ummid Jo nahi jante bafa kya hota hai'*. Sir, India's trade imbalance is 11% of GDP. In terms of Fiscal Deficit, India's position is 148 among 150 countries. Import is more than Export-61% of GDP. External Debt is 25% more than our Foreign Exchange Reserve. Employment generation is 0.41% in 2011-2012 compared to 2.08% during 2004-2005. Inflation in Vegetables, Pulses etc. is about 11% at present. Yet the Govt. is happy with Moody's assessment. The Govt. has no assessment about the mood of the people. People feel themselves alienated. Fears abound that if India does not grow continuously at the rate of 8%, there will be danger to basic equilibrium that keeps India united. Derek Scissors of the Washington based think tank, Heritage Foundation has commented on our Budget saying (quote)" The proposal for the

year is a triumph of hope over courage: spending is to increase by 17%, yet the deficit is to fall to 4.8% of GDP. This won't happen. Govt. revenue and GDP will continue to disappoint, deficits will continue to be high and consumers will continue to suffer. This is the path India remains on." (Unquote) What a mess the mandarins of North Block and Yojna Ayog have created.

Sir, there is no whisper in this Budget about recovery of Black Money since the Govt. has willfully neglected and deliberately failed to recover Black Money from within and outside our country. Report of Washington based Global Financial Integrity of Nov. 2010, shows that between 1948 and 2008, *i.e.* 60 years of Indian Independence, illicit financial flow in our country was 213 billion US Dollars and it rose to 462 billion dollars in 2010, a rarest of the rare achievement that the UPA-II Govt. can claim. The underground economy of our country, as per the Report, was 640 billion US Dollars at the end of 2008. As per 2012 Report of Transparency International, India ranks 94 among 174 countries in Corruption Perception Index. So, Black Money also does not grow on trees, but blooms underground.

Sir, the National Commission to Review the Working of Constitution recommended *inter alia* in 2002 for doing away with surcharges as part of the Union's fiscal armoury. Yet in this Budget, 10% surcharge has been imposed on a section of private individuals, etc and additional 5% surcharges for domestic companies and 3% increase for foreign companies. Well, this is another way to deprive the States in revenue sharing since under Article 271 of the Constitution whole proceeds of such surcharges shall form part of the Consolidated Fund of the Union. The enhanced surcharge ought to have been in the direct tax net. Sir, examples are galore in regard to financial dictatorship of the centre. I am citing only one example. Take the case of West Bengal. A Govt. ruled and ruined Bengal for long 34 years; nowhere in the world this has happened. After the change of guards at Writers' Building in 2011, the newly elected Govt found that more than 2 lakh Crores of loan had been thrust upon it. Ms. Mamata Banerjee, the Hon'ble C.M of Bengal urged upon the Central Govt. not for any dole or package, but to put a Moratorium on this huge loan amount for a period of only 3 years and restructuring of the interest amount accordingly. But no murmur is heard as yet in response to the appeal of Mamataji. Even Twelfth Finance Commission characterized West Bengal as most debt stressed state. Why such indifferent attitude? Why Govt. has turned deaf

[Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Roy]

ears? Is there any state in this country which has inherited from its previous Govt. a debt burden of Rs. 2 lakh crores? Then why Bengal should not be declared as a Special Category State? Does Bengal exist outside India? The Centre, as a part of political vendetta, has intentionally put an economic blockade to West Bengal which has not been taken kindly by the 8 crore people of the State. But I assure the Govt. that the voice of Mamataji can neither be throttled nor the demands of 8 crore people of Bengal can be ignored. She is Leader of the masses, rose like a finix and is committed to do justice to all her people, come what may.

Sir, the Govt. must take a lesson from history why the 22 Republics of the erstwhile USSR disintegrated. There were political upheavals. But the main reason was economic exploitation of the Centre towards the States. We are having an identical situation in India. For example, Centre is collecting revenue to the extent of more than Rs. 40, 000 crores from Bengal every year. And how much we are getting? Only 2% or so of the total allocation among the States. Govt. is glorifying itself with Centrally Sponsored Schemes.. But the successive Commissions on the Centre-State Relations, namely the Sarkaria Commission and the Punchhi Commission *inter alia* recommended that 'when the emphasis on the social justice, there is no escape from realignment of resources in favour of the States, because services and the programmes which are at the core of a more equitable social order come within the purviews of the States under the Constitution'. This is the Constitutional Scheme, Sir, If we still want to respect the first line of Article 1 of our Constitution, which says 'India, that is Bharat, shall be a Union of States', then we must come out of our age long obsession that India is more unitary than federal. As an ordinary student of Law and political science, I understand that it is the duty and obligation of the Centre to respect the spirit of federalism as embodied in our Constitution to fulfill the aspirations of 120 crores of our people living in different States to emerge and remerge as one nation under the Indian Federation. This Budget deviates from that goal. This Budget is Anti- Federal if not Unconstitutional.

Sir, the Finance Minister has assured that new Criteria would be devolved for future planning and devolution of funds, particularly to the Backward States. My pointed question is whether the Govt. would shirk off the vintage formula called

Gadgil Formula for distribution of revenues among the States? Whether the Govt. will redefine the role of Finance Commission and Planning Commission vis-a-vis our Constitution based on the recommendations of Sarkaria Commission and Punchhi Commission. As per Articles 268, 269, 270, 275, 280, 282 and 293, it is the Finance Commission which is the only Constitutional Authority to look into all aspects of financial relations between the Centre and States. Even though Planning Commission and different Ministries of the Govt. are allocating funds over the decades in the most arbitrary and unlawful manner, the Planning Commission has emerged as a robust extra constitutional centre of authority. Will the Govt. clip off the wings of Planning Commission and restrict its role to planning only? What about Plan and Non- Plan expenditure? Is there any such stipulation in our Constitution? Please try to look into these issues and redefine the status of a Special Category State only on the basis of economic backwardness.

Sir, We do not have any objection if any State is granted special relief within the framework of the Constitution. Our Leader Ms. Mamata Banerjee always says “let hundred flowers bloom”. In this Budget, not a single KM. road has been sanctioned for Bengal. No industrial corridor in the model of Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor has been proposed for any area under the Eastern Region? Is this not discrimination? Not a single paisa has been allotted for development of Jute cultivation in Jute-growing States of West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, Assam, Tripura or Meghalaya which encompasses 4 million jute growers. This has caused financial deprivation of the entire Eastern Region. Should we not express our agonies?

Sir, I would urge upon the Finance Minister and the Central Govt to rise above the regional and political bias, but act according to the Constitutional mandate as enshrined in Article 275(ii) which guarantees equitable distribution of revenues and resources based on the principles of justice and fair play, as otherwise all your action or inaction will inflict grievous injury to the very root of our democratic structure endangering the unity and integrity of the nation. Centre must have a relook in continuous consultation with the States to remove the financial imbalances among the States and introduce a noble fiscal policy so that States march ahead in unison.

Sir, in fine I would like to quote the concluding sentences of the book titled “Under Cover Economist” authored by Tim Harford (over 1 million copies of the

[Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Roy]

book have since been sold worldwide). It says, “Faced with the costs and risks of trial and error, should you and I try to experiment and adapt more than we do? What price would we pay in our quest to succeed?”

With these words, I conclude. Thank You, Sir.

DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Hon. Chairman, Sir, I rise in front of this august House to present the views of the Aam Aadmi. I speak for him because I strongly believe that he has not been adequately represented in the Budget presented by the honorable Finance Minister.

#### **West Bengal Moratorium Issue**

Let me begin with the plight of the Aam Aadmi of West Bengal. Sir, after 34 years of governance-or, may I say, mis-governance-by the Left Front Government, the State was won over by our party in 2011. Because ‘the Left, left the State in a fiscal mess’, we inherited a massive debt of more than 2 lac crore.

The debt servicing alone cost 22000 crore rupees every year. The Left Front Govt. of West Bengal kept on borrowing and the Union Govt. kept on pleasing them without any regard to the fiscal indiscipline in that state. Sir, from 2004 to 2008 when the Left front was the part of the UPA, West Bengal came down from the 6th worst State to the second worst State in terms of outstanding liabilities/Gross GDP.

This was the level of disregard towards fiscal discipline. Sir, if I may draw an analogy from the Mahabharata-it looks like the Union Govt. was acting.

Like Dhritrashtra with blind folds, even as West Bengal was being stripped off her economic sheen and dignity owing to the fiscal mis-deeds of the then West Bengal State Govt. Otherwise, how can one explain the fact that the State Govt. could borrow 5173 crores within 28 days just a few days before our party took office in West Bengal?

Since the time our Govt. took office the State Govt has been continuously requesting for a moratorium on the annual debt servicing cost of Rs. 22000 crores. Sir, I must clarify that the State Govt. is only asking for a moratorium of few years, not a waiver, and yet till today, nothing has been done for the Aam Aadmi of West

Bengal. Sir, I would like to highlight a very interesting factor here that even as the legitimate request of the people of West Bengal has been ignored with disdain, at the same time the Union Govt. pledged 10 billion dollars to the IMF for helping the Euro Crisis in 2012. Sir, through you I ask the Hon. Finance Minister, is this fair? Should the land that sparked the first War of Independence in 1857 and gave us our national anthem be treated with such humiliating levels of disrespect and contempt?

### **Manufacturing Sector**

Sir, I would now like to highlight the omissions from this Budget towards the Manufacturing Sector. Sir, we all know that the manufacturing sector has the capacity to generate jobs and the Govt. keeps on talking about the need to create 10 million jobs every year, and yet this Budget seems to provide no priority to this sector. Sir, studies of the progress of other countries around the world show that economies progress from Agriculture to Manufacturing to Services. But in our case we have missed to notice that we as a country have skipped the step of manufacturing and gone to services.

Therefore, we are feeling the pinch of widespread unemployment. It pains me to say that only 16% of the country's GDP comes from manufacturing sector whereas this number is much higher for countries like China (30%) and South Korea (31%). It is further shocking when I look around to our small immediate neighbours like Pakistan (19%), Sri Lanka (18%) and Bangladesh (18%) whose manufacturing sectors contribute more to their GDP than ours. This shows, Sir, that there is something wrong in our planning process and the Budget does not address this issue.

The amount of young population we have can prove to be a big asset, but if enough jobs are not created, then this young workforce, which could have otherwise yielded Demographic dividends, may well turn into a Demographic Disaster. Though the Finance Minister has allocated an amount for skill development programs, but lack of opportunities to absorb such skilled workforces will only lead to unemployment-driven frustration amongst the youth.

### **Defence Budget Cut**

1. As the Hon'ble Finance Minister scrambles to cut costs, due to the



[Dr. Kanwar Deep Singh]

dismal growth rate of our economy, defence spending has been hit the highest with the reduced allocation of defence Budget which is barely 1.79% of the GDP. This is a record low for India in three decades with the figure dropping from 3.16% of GDP in 1987 to 1.79% for 2013-14.

2. The defence Budget for 2013-14 (Rs 203,000 Crores) has increased by only 5% over the previous year (Rs 1,93,000 Crores) which has actually resulted in the decrease of expenditure in real terms. Sir, let me explain that a 5% increase in the Budget will not cover even the cost of inflation. I must highlight here that Rupee has depreciated more than 10% and it is continuing to do so, while 75% of our defence purchase are from foreign countries. So, a 5% increase will not allow us to maintain the same spending as of the previous year.
3. The war clouds may not exactly be hovering over India, but the seeds of war lay overwhelmingly on our borders with Pakistan occupied Kashmir and China occupied Tibet. China and Pakistan, single or incollisivity/collusion, constitute a potent military threat to our National Security. Since the war can suddenly erupt on our turbulent borders, as it happened on a limited scale during the Kargil conflict, such threats dictate the imperatives of high state of war preparedness at all times.

**General Douglas Mac Arthur said, I quote**

**“Whoever said the pen is mightier than the sword obviously never encountered automatic weapons”** and yet the Budget cut by one stroke of the pen on defence spending by the honorable Finance Minister will have very serious implications as it will further increase the critical shortages of **weapons, equipment** and **ammunition** in the Armed Forces. *I must apprise the House that for almost 25 years, the Indian Artillery has not been upgraded. We may recollect that the **Kargil war** was a **limited war** in the true sense—Yet, the Indian Army had to use all available arty guns bought in 1987 and muster them to the War Zone in Kargil for achieving a very limited scale degradation of the enemy. Since our ammunition arsenals were empty, the Govt had to run ‘helter*

*skelter' to buy ammunition during the course of war from foreign countries at 3 to 4 times higher rate. Such was the extent of fire fighting for only Artillery.*

4. There were extreme shortages in all 3 wings of the Defence Forces due to which we were ill prepared for a full scale war and were facing acute deficiencies in opening up other fronts with Pakistan for reducing enemy pressure in the Kargil sector. As a result, the Govt ordered the Army not to cross the LOC. By not crossing the LOC, the Army could not follow the basic teachings of first isolating the enemy locality from all directions, particularly blocking its routes for reinforcements as this could only be done by crossing the LOC.

Our soldiers had to thus launch the tactics of frontal attacks which, is a suicidal method of assaulting the enemy defences. The Officers and Jawans were being used as Cannon fodder due to frontal assaults. They knew very well that only few of them would survive a frontal attack, as the enemy would focus all weapons on them when they are climbing the high mountains and yet, their patriotism for the Nation made them charge blindly on the high peaks, following the political mandate of not crossing the LOC and the military weakness of not being equipped for an all out war. Sir, let me read the letter written by a 21 years' old young officer, Lt. Vijayant Thapar, to his father, just before going in for the attack on an enemy position during the Kargil war. You can make out from the letter that our young soldiers knew that returning from a frontal attack is almost impossible, yet they were fearless and they dedicated their lives to the Nation.

I quote

*"Dearest Papa, Mama, Birdie and Grany,*

*By the time you get this letter, I will be observing you all from the sky enjoying the hospitality of Apsaras. I have no regrets; in fact even if I become a human again I will join the Army and fight for my Nation. If you can, please come and see where the Indian Army fought for your tomorrow. As far as the unit is concerned the new chaps should be told about this sacrifice. I hope my photo will be kept in the 'A' Coy Mandir with Karni Mata. Contribute some money to orphanage and keep on*

[Dr. Kanwar Deep Singh]

*giving Rs. 50/- per month to Ruksana (Ruksana was a 5 year old Girl whose father was killed by the militants in the Kashmir Valley) and meet Yogi Baba. Best of luck to Birdie, never forget the sacrifice of these men. Papa you should feel proud. Mama so should you” It is time for me to join assault party.*

*Best of luck to you all.*

*Your’s*

*Robin (Nick Name of Lt. Vijayant Thapar)” unquote.*

5. I ask this House, for how long will the Govt. keep ignoring the importance of full scale defence preparedness and keep sacrificing our soldiers due to a sheer neglect and understanding of defence related issues. The threat appreciation on our nation envisages a simultaneous “two and a half front war”, against **Pakistan, China** as well as the **internal insurgency and terrorism**. Army has bought not even half the equipment it planned to acquire during the **Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012)**. The Former Army Chief Gen Deepak Kapoor told the CCS after the 26/11 Mumbai attack that the “Army was not ready for war”.
6. Today, China is giving an open threat to us by **claiming the entire State of Arunachal Pradesh**, by claiming **large parts of Eastern Ladakh, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh**. Their Navy is dominating in the International waters and posing a direct threat to our oil exploration plans and our **sea trade routes**. **Gwadar port in Pakistan** is entirely under their control; they have influence on all **Indian Ocean Rim (IOR) countries** and thus surrounded us by a “**String of Pearls**” policy. As a result of defence cuts, the Naval strength will not be able to protect **our oil interests** and **protect our Island territories**. **The Indian Air Force is also woefully short of Combat squadrons**. Their contracted deal of 126 Fighter aircraft from France will get delayed, and also, the deal for 123 helicopters to replace the age old **Cheetas** and **Chetaks** may no more see the light of the day. **As per a study carried out, 50% of the Air Force equipment is obsolete.**

7. As we go to a low of 1.79% defence Budget allocation in terms of GDP, Pakistan remains at over 4% and China at 3.2% (though China is known to spend 60% more than the revealed Budget). For 2013-14 **China has increased its defence Budget** and now stands at more than \$ 115 billion. Chinese defence Budget is now about **3 times the Indian defence Budget which stands at \$ 37 billion.**
8. Before and during the outbreak of war, heavy war machinery is required to move up on roads leading to the border. *I will request the Hon'ble Members to go once by road to Leh through the NH 1A Srinagar–Zozila- Leh road and particularly the NH–21–Manali–Leh Road.* The **state of roads is so pathetic** that for miles together, road patches are missing or are completely broken. The Border Roads is incapable of either constructing or maintaining the roads. **New technologies for road construction are not adopted due to the age old mind set.** These roads are unfit for taking the load of large scale war movement of men, material and logistics. If we have to move our heavy guns, rocket artillery, ammunition, tanks, heavy engineering vehicles, these would be taken as 'pot shots' by enemy Air Force as everywhere along the route their heavy columns would get stuck. Though China has deployed its tactical missiles opposite **our border, the width of our roads cannot take the traffic of Prithvi/Brahmos/Agni missile systems** and they also cannot be lifted by air alongwith their ground launch systems. There are some strategic areas on our borders which have extremely good **quality Roads constructed from the Chinese side** but own side is either devoid of any road (the locality being linked only by air) or we have very **poor quality ground tracks** which cannot take on the traffic of war accretions. **Hence, even if we have manpower and weapons, we stand to loose because our infrastructure does not permit a seamless build up for war.**

For some I may sound like an alarmist, who is seeing war clouds in the horizon. But, Sir, I am only trying to highlight the inadequacies and how under prepared we are, in case of a full scale war.

[Dr. Kanwar Deep Singh]

In conclusion, therefore, Sir, by neglecting the 90 million plus population of West Bengal and ignoring an employment-intensive sector like manufacturing, not only has the honourable Finance Minister presented an “*anti-Aam Aadmi*” Budget, but by cutting down allocations on defence, he has put national security in danger.

I sincerely urge the Minister to consider these points and take appropriate action to address them.

SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Hon’ble Chairman Sir,

I would like to thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Budget. I would like to begin with a quote which summarizes the complete Budget:—

गरीबों के लिए ऐसा बजट लाया गया है,  
दिखा कर झुनझुना जनता को बहलाया गया है।  
अभी कुछ रोज राशन भी मिलेगा हमसे सस्ता,  
लगा कर जख्म अब जख्मों को सहलाया गया है।

Today we are facing a grave fiscal deficit situation. The main reason for this has been the Government’s lax effort in increasing the tax base of the country. Only 2.77% population of India pays Income Tax, which is one of the lowest in the world. When we compare it with other western countries that have more than 50% population paying income tax, we can easily see the reason for our low revenue. And the Government is responsible for this because of its lazy approach to bring more people under tax net.

The Budget presented by the Government is just a magic of numbers, which motive is to fool the people and cause harm to all sections of the society.

In this Government, the Budget has lost all its significance. All important decisions like raising taxes, petrol and diesel prices, removing subsidy etc. are taken by the Government and not by the legislature. Presenting Budget and debating it in the House has just become a formality.

In Budget 2012-13, the Plan Expenditure was Rs. 5,21,025 crore, which the Government revised to Rs. 4,29,187 crore; which is Rs. 91,838 crore lower than the initial target. Why did the Government cut the plan expenditure? Which projects

suffered due to this cut? Or whether the Government was not able to make the estimated expenditure? The Finance Minister should answer this.

Also, the market loan target increased from Rs. 4,67,384 crore to Rs. 4,84,000 crore; by 3.5% in Budget 2013-14; while the interest burden increased by Rs 54,000 crore by 17%. The total foreign loan on India has exceeded Rs. 20 Lakh Crore, which is more than 25% of the GDP. Till when will we be dependent on foreign countries and institutions to meet our needs? What long-term plan does the Government have to make our country external debt free and self dependent?

The Government informed in the last Budget that it plans to raise short-term loans of around Rs. 9000 crore in financial year 2012-13 but raise a whopping Rs. 45,746 crore, which is 400 % higher than the target. Also, the Government failed to meet its revenue target by Rs. 63,857 crore. It remained at Rs. 8,71,828 crore, much lower than the target of Rs. 9,35,685 crore. The Government needs to explain this.

The economy is going for a free fall. This is evident from the status of the Public Sector Banks in the country. The Gross Non Performing Assets of the Public Sector Banks has risen to Rs. 1,43,765 crore, out of which share of the State Bank of India is 32%. During my recent field trip to Mumbai for Finance Standing Committee, I found out that around 60% of the bad loan belong to people with more than Rs. 10 crore, 35% belong to people below Rs. 10 lakh, who are mostly farmers and students and rest are only 5%. The CIC ordered the Banks to release the name of these defaulters but the RBI refused to do so quoting the Public Financial Institutions (Obligation as to Fidelity and Secrecy) Act 1983. Why is the provision of this not applied to the farmer and student loans? They are given loans at 13-14% interest and when they are unable to repay, the banks disclose their names and cuts RC in their names at district, so that they have to pay 10% extra interest. Why this double standard? The Government is providing support to Public Sector Banks for three consecutive years. Rs. 20,157 crore in 2010-11, Rs. 12,000 crore in 2011-12 and Rs. 12,517 crore in 2012-13. This money is used by Public Sector Banks to write off bad loans of big defaulters. SBI has written off 1896 crore 2008-09, Rs. 1990 crore and Rs. 4,000 crore in 2010-11. Punjab National Bank has written off Rs. 2,911 crore, Bank of India Rs 2,008 crore, Union Bank of India Rs 2,005 crore, Allahabad Bank Rs. 1,810 crore, Indian Overseas Bank Rs. 1,593 crore, IDBI Bank Rs 1,559 crore, Bank of

[Shri Naresh Agarwal]

Baroda Rs 1,421 crore and Oriental Bank of Commerce Rs. 1,333 crore. Why is the Government showering public money on these big defaulters? The priority of the Government should be settling all the loans to the farmers and students, who have around 35% of the bad loan; and to provide them loans at low interest rates of 4% so that there will be no defaulters. And action to recover loan from the rest 60%, who have more than Rs. 10 crore worth, should be initiated immediately.

Not only this, the private Insurance Companies have siphoned off around Rs. 1,75,000 crore of public money in the past 10 years in the name of ULIP Policies but the IRDA and Government preferred to look the other way. People were promised double money in three years but half of the premium was cut as agent commission and administrative charges. IRDA gave permission for this. Due to this the total investment would double in 7-8 years. When investors realized this, they stopped paying further premiums and the paid premiums were not returned by the insurance companies. They included this in their profits. The total loss to investors was around 1.75 lakh crore rupees. In 2010, IRDA changed the guidelines but did not take any step to ensure that investors' money is returned. The Government also did not act. The Government should take immediate action and ask the companies to return the investor money. The reason and motive behind this inaction by IRDA and Government should also be investigated.

This Government has made the farmers of the country bleed with its policies. From high prices of urea and fertilizers to deregulation of diesel to scam in the loan waiver scheme, all Government actions are anti-farmer. The Government announced the Nutrient Based Subsidy scheme for fertilizers in 2010 even when the Fertilizer Minister, Mr. Alagiri, opposed the scheme. The Finance Ministry pushed the scheme and the scheme was implemented after the Prime Minister wrote in favour of the scheme. In this scheme, the Government fixed the subsidy on per kg. of nutrients but the fertilizer companies, were allowed to fix the market price. What is this policy? The companies are earning from both ends. The subsidy bill of Government on fertilizer has increased and the fertilizer price in the market has gone up manifolds. Price of DAP has gone up from Rs. 460 per bag in Dec. 2010 to Rs. 1200 per bag in Oct. 2011. Similar is the case for all fertilizers. How can any democratic Government allow this? Public money is being gifted to private

companies and they are also allowed to loot the farmers. This should stop. Companies like IIFCO and IPL are the main beneficiaries. There have been complaints against the MD of IIFCO U S Awasthi and his two sons for corruption and money laundering but no action has been taken. A CBI inquiry should be initiated in this and the guilty should be brought to justice. Even the Government ministers and officials should be investigated in this Rs. 50000 crore per year scam. No one should be allowed to loot the poor farmers of this country. Also, we are importing more than 50% of our UREA and 90% of fertilizer from abroad. No action has been taken by the Government to increase domestic production. Is it being deliberately done so that public money can be looted in the name of imports? The complete matter should be investigated.

Recently, a sting operation by Cobra Post brought forth matter of money laundering by certain Public Sector Banks namely, ICICI Bank, AXIS Bank and HDFC Bank. These banks were found assisting people deposit their black money without being checked. This is not a new matter. It has only come in the public domain recently. A person named Abdul Munaf Khan was arrested by CBI in 2011 for depositing Rs. 100 crore in various banks including HDFC, ICICI and Kotak Mahindra Bank. But he was released in just three days without investigation. The Intelligence Bureau sent a report in this matter to the RBI, Finance Minister and Prime Minister but no concrete action was taken. The matter was also reported in an internal report of Ministry of Finance. Why did the RBI and Finance Minister not act in the matter? I demand a high level inquiry in the matter to find the complete truth and bring the offender organizations and individuals to justice.

Also, a number of Chit Fund Companies are operating in States like Bengal. These companies are illegally taking money from the people without any permission from RBI or SEBI. Around 75 such companies are operating, the prominent ones being Rose Valley Corporation, Alchemist Group, Sharda Group, Prayag Group, Tower Group etc. Numerous complaints have been made by many Members of Parliament in the matter but no action has been initiated by the SEBI, RBI or Government. The matter should be thoroughly investigated and investors' money should be returned with complete interest promised. The hon'ble Supreme Court in a similar matter has asked the company to return the investors' money with complete interest. The Government should act immediately to stop these illegal activities and return the investors' money.



[Shri Naresh Agarwal]

The Government has being for the past three years has been setting targets for disinvestment to meet the expenditure of its social program, mainly MNREGA but has not been able to meet the targets. Last year's target was Rs. 30,000 crore which has been brought down to Rs. 24,000 crore. But still the Government has set an impossible target of Rs. 55,810 crore from disinvestment. How will the Government meet this? In which companies does the Government want to sell its stake? Why is the Government selling stakes when the market is down? Why the complete money is being used to fund MNREGA, where no asset is being created? Is the Government selling Public Sector Enterprises to fund its own agenda? The Government needs to give explanation on this matter.

The poor and middle class of the country is suffering under the huge burden of high prices and decreased Government assistance. The Government is saying that inflation is down at 6.84% but this is the whole sale inflation. The consumer inflation is at 10.91%, food inflation at 13.73% and vegetable inflation at 21.29%. The Government is unable to provide relief to the people even after repeated promises on the floor of the House for the past 3 years. Food is rotting in FCI Godown even after the Supreme Court asked the Government to distribute it to the poor. What will the people of the country? This Government will make the people of the country die of hunger. They are only talking of food security. There is no action. The price of diesel has been deregulated to make food production more costly and make farming more uneconomical. These are the policies of this Government. The people will teach them a lesson in the elections. They will have to pay for this.

This Government is only of the rich. They are protecting the 782 people, whose name has been given by the Swizetland Authorities. More than Rs. 27.50 lakh crore of the country is parked in various tax havens around the world. All the countries are working to bring its money back but not this Government. They have postponed the General Anti Avoidance Rule to protect people investing their Black Money through Mauritius. This is worse than East India Company. They are looting the country and not even repenting. This money can be used to build a new India from Cities to Villages. But they don't want this to happen. I want the Finance Minister to explain what the Government has done to bring Black Money back to the country.

Sir, I am ending my speech with a few lines for the present Government

पेट में रोटी नहीं और हाथ में पैसा नहीं,  
आपकी सरकार में जहर भी सस्ता नहीं।

SHRI N.K. SINGH: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I rise to speak on the Budget (General) 2013-14 and the Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2013, the Appropriation Bill, 2013, and the Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2013, as passed by Lok Sabha, and moved by the Hon'ble Finance Minister in the Rajya Sabha on March 18, 2013.

The exercise of Budgeting is an act of intrigue—working numerical improbabilities and keeping the other side guessing as they conceal more than they reveal, much like the game of *shatranj*. This game can become an obsession, much like the players of the *shatranj* in the 70s classic movie *Shatranj ke Khiladi* by Satyajit Ray, based on Munshi Premchand's short story. I understand that all Finance Ministers have a compulsion to present an optimistic picture, but in this Budget, the Finance Minister has not only been the *pasha*, he has pulled off the magic of a *gogia pasha*.

The GDP is a magician's trick much-loved by Finance Ministers all over the world—an optimistic GDP assumption makes all numbers look robust when calculated as a proportion of it. This is especially the case with deficit numbers, which look respectable because the denominator has been somewhat optimistic. However, an unrealistic diagnosis and remedy of the macro-economic situation can lead to problems festering go beyond any policy correctives. As I say this, I am reminded of philosopher Machiavelli who thought somewhat similar in matters of state-craft, who said, "*Physicians say of consumption, that in the early stages of this disease it is easy to cure but difficult to diagnose; whereas later on, if it has not been recognized and treated at the beginning, it becomes easy to diagnose and difficult to cure. The same thing happens in affairs of State.*"

So, let me raise some pertinent issues relating to the Budget arithmetic.

#### *Credibility of economic forecasts*

The CSO advance estimates for national income for 2012-13 indicate the growth rate of Real GDP at factor cost to be 5%. This is sharply lower

[Shri N. K. Singh]

than the 7.6% growth projection made by the Government in the Budget presented for 2012-13. Likewise, in the Budget for 2011-12, the Government had predicted 9% growth for 2011-12, whereas the result was 6.2%. A gap of approximately 2.5-3% between economic forecasts and the year-end actuals for two consecutive fiscal years is deeply disturbing.

*Optimistic assumptions*

The Finance Minister has Budgeted for a significant increase in tax collection of 19 per cent, even though nominal GDP is projected to increase by only 12.9 per cent. It is unclear how the projected expenditure increase can actually be financed while at the same time reducing the overall deficit. This estimate relies on very optimistic tax buoyancy, which is not completely warranted given that the current year shows a significant shortfall of more than 5% of actual tax collections over the Budgeted amount.

Subsidies are almost inevitably underestimated. For the year 2012-2013, subsidies were expected to be at Rs. 190015.13 crore. The revised estimate has come in at Rs. 257654.43 crore, which is almost 36% higher. This makes it very difficult to believe the next year's subsidy target of Rs. 231083.52 crore. It may be noted that the total subsidy bill is to be brought down by more than Rs. 26,000 crore—almost entirely on account of reduced outlays on fuel subsidies. This will necessarily require the Government to push through several unpopular price hikes, which might be particularly difficult in a pre-election year.

Two major problematic areas are the Budgeting of oil and fertilizer subsidies. At the beginning of 2012-13, oil subsidies were Budgeted to be Rs. 43,580 crore. The revised amount of Rs. 96,880 crore is more than double initial estimate, and even that is lower the actual under-recoveries of OMCs, which is estimated at Rs. 1,24,854 crore for the period of April-December 2012-13 alone (Chapter 3, Economic Survey, 2012-13). This is discounting the fact that nearly 40 percent of the

subsidy is given by ONGC, Gail and Oil India by sacrificing their profits. The third quarter results for ONGC alone show that the company paid out Rs. 12,433 crore in discounts (subsidies) to the oil marketing companies (OMCs).

The fertilizer subsidy is estimated at Rs. 65,974 crore for 2012-13, and Rs. 65,972 crore has been allocated for the 2013-14. However, the Minister of State for Fertilisers and Chemicals has indicated in a Parliamentary question that the actual requirement for 2012-13 is Rs. 1,02,207.39 crore. This leaves a gap of over Rs. 37,000 crore between actual subsidies required and the Budget's revised estimate. If this amount is rolled over to 2013-14, the Government will be left with just over Rs. 28,500 crore for the current year, which will be very difficult to meet the fertilizer subsidy for 2013-14.

*Growth rate and savings (Investment Gearing Ratio)*

As per the approach paper for the XII Plan, a savings rate of at least 36.2% and an investment rate of 38.7% is required to support a growth rate of 9.0%. In contrast, the CSO has indicated that the national savings rate this fiscal could be as low as to 30 per cent, declining further from the an eight year low of 30.8 per cent last fiscal. In light of the current low levels of savings and investment, the prediction of economic growth in the Twelfth Plan of 8.2% is unrealistic.

There is then the matter of fiscal discipline.

*Fiscal Profligacy*

Looking back, the years of high economic growth coupled with high tax buoyancy in an earlier period could have been used for retiring public debt and creating fiscal space. As John Maynard Keynes had said, " ***The boom, not the slump, is the right time for austerity at the Treasury.***" Instead, this fiscal space was frittered away by blatant fiscal profligacy.

The combined fiscal deficit in 2007-08 was just about 4 per cent and revenue deficit was very close to zero along with a primary surplus. In 2008-09, there was an increase in public expenditure of 28.4 per cent—

[Shri N. K. Singh]

economic stimulus measures like the farm loan waiver and the expansion of social security schemes under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), the Sixth Pay Commission award and subsidies for food, fertilizer and petroleum were introduced (leading the fiscal deficit to shoot up to 8.5 per cent of GDP against five per cent in 2007-08 and turning the primary surplus into a deficit of 3.4 per cent of GDP).

While this was necessary to some extent to counter-balance the effect of the global economic crisis in 2008-09, a further increase of Government expenditure by 30.4 per cent in 2009-10, was unwarranted. It worsened the fiscal situation with fiscal and primary deficits increasing to an unsustainable 10.1 per cent and 4.9 per cent of GDP respectively.

The excessive fiscal and monetary stimulus that was provided between 2008 and 2010 not only artificially inflated our growth rate, but also led to a massive increase in inflation. Without a corresponding growth in the number of goods and services, we now face a situation of high inflation coupled with a moderating growth rate.

#### *Fiscal Discipline and Monitoring*

Fiscal policy can no longer afford to be insensitive to the business cycle. The FRBM Act has not helped in bringing down overall fiscal liabilities of Government as it does not distinguish between what is structural and what is cyclical. Moreover, in the present form, it only requires the Government to justify its failure to achieve the specified targets. In practice, the Government is rarely held accountable for the breach of targets. We need to consider a mechanism which requires a deliberation and vote prior to incurring expenditure that would result in a breach of a hardline target, as opposed to the existing system of an *ex post facto* ratification. Failing this, the attempt at fiscal discipline will remain a weak and ineffective one.

This is also a befitting time to consider the recommendation of the Thirteenth Finance Commission regarding the need for a Fiscal Council that acts as an autonomous body reporting to the Ministry of Finance,

which should report to Parliament. In today's environment of high public debt and rising deficits, such an institution can play an important role not only in assisting the Government in the task of fiscal consolidation, but also add integrity to the Government's medium term plans for fiscal consolidation.

Most importantly, we need to concentrate our efforts towards achieving a framework which will enable economic growth.

*Current Account Deficit*

To bridge the widening CAD, we not only need economic policy reforms, but also their implementation. Even in a stagnant world economy, the export pessimism reflected in official statements can be overcome by undertaking the necessary internal reforms and making the policy environment friendlier for labour-intensive manufacturing. In 2011, India's share in the world merchandise exports was a minuscule 1.7% compared to China's 10.4%. India therefore has vast scope for export expansion just by increasing its share in global exports. We must encourage FDI and remittances and announce concrete measures for reviving exports.

*Encouraging investment*

There is a serious mismatch between the optimistic asseverations of Finance Ministers and India's unenviable standing in the global investment community. According to the report of a comparative survey on the ease of doing business in 185 countries published by the World Bank Group, for both 2012 and 2013, India has been ranked 132. In investor protection, it is down to 49 in 2013 from 46 in 2012. More alarmingly, it ranks 184th in enforcing contracts and 182nd in the issue of construction permits. As per the report of World Economic Forum for 2012-13, India ranks 59th amongst 144 economies in the Global Competitiveness Index for 2012-13. The high informal regulatory costs are especially worrying, especially when in the new global competitive environment the investors are to compete globally with low cost producers.

[Shri N. K. Singh]

We would also do well to apply the observations of former White House economic adviser, Lawrence Summers, to our context. He has observed that the uncertainty over the future of the corporate tax code is creating a drag on the US economy by making businesses hesitant to invest. Our situation is no different. The proposal to categorize foreign direct investments (FDI) and foreign institutional investors (FIIs) based on their holdings in a firm would require companies to undergo significant changes in their foreign shareholding structures and could unsettle the flow of overseas investments. Statistics indicate that in 217 of the 586 firms with FDI holdings, the overall foreign ownership is less than 10%. On the other hand, of the 1,317 companies with FII holdings, the overall foreign ownership is more than 10% in 380 firms. Going by the Budgetary proposal, all the 217 firms with FDI holdings less than 10% may need to raise such ownership to comply with the proposed classifications. If they fail to do that, the FDI entities will be reclassified as FIIs and will lose the promoter tag and any say in management. On the other hand, 57 key FII entities hold more than 10% in various listed firms. To comply with the new laws, they will have to sell their shares to bring down their holdings to below 10%. If they fail to do that, they will be tagged as promoters, getting certain voting and transaction benefits, but losing tax benefits and freedom from lock-in mandates. These issues should be ironed out at the earliest.

The Budget is much more than a mere accounting statement, and should hold some promise and comfort for the millions of poor and underprivileged Indians.

### *Inflation*

Inflation, especially the CPI driven largely by food inflation, has been hovering at uncomfortably high levels for well over three years. A stubborn inflation not only wipes out the welfare gains achieved through public investment but it limits the options required for growth acceleration. There is a need for a comprehensive strategy to improve the supply side, including augmenting capacities in the manufacturing sector to keep pace with the growth in demand.

The issue of food inflation remains particularly relevant. Despite the increase in foodgrain production, which has been attributed to the raising of the minimum support price, foodgrain inflation has exacerbated. We need to rethink our strategy of tackling this issue. Even though there is an increase in the production of foodgrains, the distribution channels are not properly developed. In addition, with artificially high profitability of producing foodgrains, and there is no incentive for crop diversification. A durable solution to inflation would require simultaneously improving agricultural productivity as well as strengthening food supply chains.

*Social Sector Expenditure*

Even the claims of welfare spending are inflated, and do not present an accurate picture. The revised estimates for the current fiscal year show that Plan spending was nearly 20 per cent below the Budget estimates for 2012-13. The Budget claims larger spending with respect to the revised estimate which reflects the severe cut-backs, and does reflect the actual spending trend visa-vis the original spending proposal.

For instance:—

- The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) was originally provided for Rs. 40,000 crore. In the past two years this amount has been reduced to Rs. 33,000 crore. The current year's actual estimate is at Rs. 29,387 crore. The Finance Minister has optically brought the proposed target back to Rs. 33,000 crore, which is lower than the Rs. 40,000 crore originally proposed.
- The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana was initially Budgeted for Rs. 2301 crore. The revised estimate for this road construction plan in the current year is Rs. 900 crore, and it is proposed to increase the expenditure to Rs. 1743 crore.
- The food subsidy bill was estimated this year at Rs. 75,000 crore. The revised estimate is Rs. 85,000 crore. For next year's Budget, the estimate has been reduced to Rs. 80,000 crore, yet the Finance



[Shri N. K. Singh]

Minister claims to have provided Rs. 10,000 crore extra because of the Food Security Bill. Effectively it is only an increase of Rs. 5,000 crore, whose impact on food subsidy will be marginal.

*Weakness in implementation*

An analysis of expenditure trends in most social schemes suggests that the spending capacity is low. For instance, the combined Budget of the Centre and the States for the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has increased nearly three-fold from Rs. 21,360 crore in 2007-08 to Rs. 61,734 crore in 2011-12. However, the expenditure has failed to keep pace with this increase. In fact, expenditure as a proportion of allocations dropped from 70% in 2007-08 to 61% in 2011-12, suggesting a serious capacity gap in spending capability.

Further, the current mechanism for transferring and utilization of funds from one level of Government to the next is beset with inefficiencies and bottlenecks. For instance, for two key infrastructure projects under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission in 2010-1—the integrated housing and slum development programme and the urban infrastructure and governance programme—as much as 49% and 44% of the money, respectively, was transferred only towards the end of the financial year, in March 2011. Effective implementation of funds is extremely difficult given the uncertain and opaque nature of disbursement of funds (Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General).

A bulk of the Central transfers is done through Centrally-Sponsored Schemes (CSS). Most of these schemes have rigid implementation norms. This has resulted in the creation of multiple, parallel departments, often with overlapping responsibilities. Consolidating these CSSs will help streamline management systems and could contribute to improving expenditure capacity at the district level. The Planning Commission should be advised to constitute a bi-partisan Committee of the Chief Ministers to prepare a new Roadmap for Consolidation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes and its implementation during the Twelfth Plan itself.

Regional focus:

*Special Category Status*

The Finance Minister has promised for a re-look at the present criteria for determining backwardness and granting of “Special Category Status” which is currently based on terrain, density of population and length of international borders. He has proposed to restructure the criteria for devolution of funds from the Centre to the States on the basis of parameters defined along the lines of the distance of States from the national average for multiple parameters such as per capita income, literacy and other human development indicators.

This is necessary for inclusive development, and should be welcomed unequivocally. While doing so, I expect the Finance Minister to come out with a time-bound action plan towards the implementation of this commitment. The parameters for the assessment of development should be identified, and Central investment should be targeted to enable and incentivize backward States to perform at par with the national average. The process should be broad-based and involve consultations with the Finance Commission, the Planning Commission and the Inter-State Council.

This is also the appropriate time to restructure the stalled Inter-State Council and create an Inter-State Economic Forum under the ambit of the Ministry of Finance to give content to federal related issues. Economic-policy making cannot remain in the exclusive domain of the Centre when it affects the states in more ways than one. In addition, given the importance of incentivizing agriculture in the Eastern Region, a Chief Ministers’ Committee comprising the Chief Ministers from the Eastern States should be constituted for a coherent Action Plan and adequate support from the Central Government.

Having said this, I compliment the Finance Minister for a delicate balancing act as he has both responded to the political requirements of a pre-election-year Budget and the economic compulsions of fiscal rectitude. The Finance Minister today is faced with his own impossible trinity of reconciling austerity with growth,

[Shri N. K. Singh]

fiscal rectitude with populist expenditure and moderating subsidies with compulsions of tax revenues. Yet, these need to be reconciled in a manner that the India Growth Story can be reinvigorated.

We don't have the luxury of an assured high economic growth anymore. Millions of people can slip back into poverty if there is a continued slowdown in economic growth coupled with the high levels of inflation.

The times are grim, with falling growth, widening Current Account Deficit, rising Debt to GDP ratio, stubborn inflation alongside falling inward capital flows. However, I draw hope from the same poet that the Finance Minister referred to in his Budget Speech,

*“There is nothing too difficult to be accomplished  
When done carefully with unflinching endeavour.”*

- Tiruvalluvar

The underlying optimism in the Budget is contingent on several assumptions, which will be borne out in the coming months, including the behaviour of inflation, return to high growth path and more importantly the fate of legislations pending before Parliament.

In the absence of tangible action to carry out the measures embedded in the Budget Speech of the Finance Minister returning back to the high noon of growth will become increasingly difficult, necessary for poverty redressal and inclusive growth.

Finally, it is the implementation of the Budget that will test the resolve of this Government to remove poverty and hunger and bringing about inclusive growth. Failing this, the cynical observation made by John Kenneth Galbraith may well be a reality—*“they are a species who will only discover tomorrow that the prediction they made yesterday has not come true today”*.

#### **Budget–Talking Points**

The GDP is a magician's trick much-loved by Finance Ministers all over the

world—an optimistic GDP assumption makes all numbers look robust when calculated as a proportion of it. However, an unrealistic diagnosis and remedy of the macro-economic situation can lead to problems festering go beyond any policy correctives.

*“Physicians say of consumption, that in the early stages of this disease it is easy to cure but difficult to diagnose; whereas later on, if it has not been recognized and treated at the beginning, it becomes easy to diagnose and difficult to cure. The same thing happens in affairs of State.”—Machiavelli*

#### 1. Credibility of economic forecasts

- CSO advance estimates for national income for 2012-13 indicate the growth rate of Real GDP at factor cost to be 5%. This is sharply lower than the 7.6% growth projection made by the Government in the Budget presented for 2012-13.
- Likewise, in the Budget for 2011-12, the Government had predicted 9% growth for 2011-12, whereas the result was 6.2%.
- A gap of approximately 2.5-3% between economic forecasts and the year-end actuals for two consecutive fiscal years is deeply disturbing.

#### 2. Optimistic assumptions

- The Finance Minister has Budgeted for a significant increase in tax collection of 19 per cent, even though nominal GDP is projected to increase by only 12.9 per cent.
- This estimate relies on very optimistic tax buoyancy. However, the current year already shows a significant shortfall of more than 5% of actual tax collections over the Budgeted amount.
- Underestimated subsidies—In 2012-2013, subsidies were expected to be at Rs. 190015.13 crore. The revised estimate is Rs. 257654.43 crore (almost 36% higher). This makes it very difficult to believe the next year's subsidy target of Rs. 231083.52 crore.
- Fuel linked price hikes—It may be noted that the total subsidy bill is to be brought down by more than Rs. 26,000 crore—almost entirely on

[Shri N. K. Singh]

account of reduced outlays on fuel subsidies. This will necessarily require the Government to push through several unpopular price hikes.

- **Oil subsidies:—**

- Budgeted to be Rs. 43,580 crore at the beginning of 2012-13.
- This was revised to Rs. 96,880 crore (more than double initial estimate).
- The actual under-recoveries of OMCs, which is estimated at Rs. 1,24,854 crore during April-December 2012-13.<sup>1</sup>
- In addition, nearly 40 percent of the subsidy is given by ONGC, Gail and Oil India by sacrificing their profits. The third quarter results for ONGC show that the company paid out Rs. 12,433 crore in discounts (subsidies) to the oil marketing companies (OMCs).

- **Fertilizer subsidy:—**

- Estimated at Rs. 65,974 crore for 2012-13, and Rs. 65,972 crore allocated for 2013-14.
- The Minister of State for Fertilisers and Chemicals, has indicated that the actual requirement for 2012-13 is Rs. 1,02,207.39 crore—leaving a gap of over Rs 37,000 crore between actual subsidies required and the Budget's revised estimate.
- If this amount is rolled over to 2013-14, the Government will be left with just over Rs. 28,500 crore for the current year, which will be very difficult to meet the fertilizer subsidy for 2013-14.

### 3. *Growth rate and savings (Investment Gearing Ratio)*

- As per the approach paper for the Twelfth Plan, a savings rate of at least 36.2% and an investment rate of 38.7% is required to support a growth rate of 9.0%.
- The Central Statistical Organisation has indicated that the national savings rate may be as low as 30 per cent this year, declining further from the an eight year low of 30.8 per cent last fiscal.

---

<sup>1</sup> Chapter 3, Economic Survey, 2012-13

- In light of the current low levels of savings and investment, the prediction of economic growth in the Twelfth Plan of 8.2% is unrealistic.

#### 4. Excessive stimulus and fiscal profligacy

- The years of high economic growth coupled with high tax buoyancy in an earlier period could have been used for retiring public debt and creating fiscal space **As John Maynard Keynes had said, “The boom, not the slump, is the right time for austerity at the Treasury.”** Instead it was used for fiscal profligacy.
- The combined fiscal deficit in 2007-08 was just about 4 per cent and revenue deficit was very close to zero along with a primary surplus. In 2008-09, there was an increase in public expenditure of 28.4 per cent—economic stimulus measures like the farm loan waiver and the expansion of social security schemes under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), the Sixth Pay Commission award and subsidies for food, fertilizer and petroleum were introduced (leading the fiscal deficit to shoot up to 8.5 per cent of GDP against five per cent in 2007-08 and turning the primary surplus into a deficit of 3.4 per cent of GDP).
- While this was necessary to some extent to counter-balance the effect of the global economic crisis in 2008-09, a further increase of Government expenditure by 30.4 per cent in 2009-10, was unwarranted. It worsened the fiscal situation with fiscal and primary deficits increasing to an unsustainable 10.1 per cent and 4.9 per cent of GDP respectively.

#### 5. Fiscal Discipline and Monitoring

- The FRBM Act does should be amended to distinguish between structural and cyclical liabilities of the Government, and systematically improve the fiscal health.
- In the present form, the FRBM Act requires the Government to justify its failure to achieve the specified targets. The Government should consider a deliberation and vote prior to incurring expenditure that would result in a breach of target, as opposed to the existing system of an *ex post facto* ratification.

[Shri N. K. Singh]

‘Need for a **Fiscal Council** that acts as an autonomous body reporting to the Ministry of Finance, which should report to Parliament (as recommended by the Thirteenth Finance Commission)—in the environment of high public debt and rising deficits, such an institution can play an important role not only in assisting the Government in the task of fiscal consolidation; it can also add integrity to the Government’s medium term plans for fiscal consolidation.

#### 6. *Current Account Deficit*

- In 2011, India’s share in the world merchandise exports was a minuscule 1.7% compared to China’s 10.4%. India has vast scope for export expansion just by increasing its share in global exports. Undertaking the necessary internal reforms and making the policy environment friendlier for labour-intensive manufacturing can achieve this.
- In addition, we need to encourage FDI and remittances and announce concrete measures for reviving exports.

#### 7. *Encourage investment*

- Mismatch between the optimistic asseverations of Finance Ministers and India’s unenviable standing in the global investment community.
- According to the report of a comparative survey on the ease of doing business in 185 countries published by the World Bank Group, for both 2012 and 2013, India has been ranked 132. In investor protection, it is down to 49 in 2013 from 46 in 2012. More- alarmingly, it ranks 184th in enforcing contracts and 182nd in the issue of construction permits.
- As per the report of World Economic Forum for 2012-13, India ranks 59th amongst 144 economies in the Global Competitiveness Index for 2012-13.
- The high informal regulatory costs need to be minimized, especially when in the new global competitive environment the investors are to compete globally with low cost producers.
- Former White House economic adviser, Lawrence Summers, observed—

the uncertainty over the future of the corporate tax code is creating a drag on the US economy by making businesses hesitant to invest. Our situation is no different.

- The proposal to categorize foreign direct investments (FDI) and foreign institutional investors (FIIs) based on their holdings in a firm would require companies to undergo significant changes in their foreign shareholding structures and could unsettle the flow of overseas investments. Statistics indicate that in 217 of the 586 firms with FDI holdings, the overall foreign ownership is less than 10%. On the other hand, of the 1,317 companies with FII holdings, the overall foreign ownership is more than 10% in 380 firms. Going by the Budgetary proposal, all the 217 firms with FDI holdings less than 10% may need to raise such ownership to comply with the proposed classifications. If they fail to do that, the FDI entities will be reclassified as FIIs and will lose the promoter tag and any say in management. On the other hand, 57 key FII entities hold more than 10% in various listed firms. To comply with the new laws, they will have to sell their shares to bring down their holdings to below 10%. If they fail to do that, they will be tagged as promoters, getting certain voting and transaction benefits, but losing tax benefits and freedom from lock-in mandates. These issues should be ironed out at the earliest.

#### *8. Inflation*

- Inflation, especially the CPI driven largely by food inflation, has been hovering at uncomfortably high levels for well over three years.
- Such high levels of inflation not only wipe out the welfare gains achieved through public investment but it limits the options required for growth acceleration.
- There is a need for a comprehensive strategy to improve the supply side. A durable solution to inflation would require improving agricultural productivity, strengthening food supply chains and augmenting capacities in the manufacturing sector to keep pace with the growth in demand.



[Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Roy]

- Food inflation remains a major issue. Despite the increase in foodgrain production (attributed to the raising of the minimum support price), foodgrain inflation has exacerbated, and there is no incentive for crop diversification. We need to rethink our strategy of tackling this issue.

9. *Social sector expenditure*

- The claims of welfare spending are inflated, and do not present an accurate picture.
- The revised estimates for the current fiscal year show that Plan spending was nearly 20 per cent below the Budget estimates for 2012-13.
- The Budget claims larger spending with respect to the revised estimate which reflects the severe cut-backs, and does reflect the actual spending trend *vis-a-vis* the original spending proposal. For instance:—
  - The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) was originally provided for Rs. 40,000 crore. In the past two years this amount has been reduced to Rs. 33,000 crore. The current year's actual estimate is at Rs. 29,387 crore. The Finance Minister has optically brought the proposed target back to Rs. 33,000 crore, which is lower than the Rs. 40,000 crore originally proposed.
  - The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana was initially Budgeted for Rs. 2301 crore. The revised estimate for this road construction plan in the current year is Rs. 900 crore, and it is proposed to increase the expenditure to Rs. 1743 crore.
  - The food subsidy bill was estimated this year at Rs. 75,000 crore. The revised estimate is Rs. 85,000 crore. For next year's Budget, the estimate has been reduced to Rs. 80,000 crore, yet the Finance Minister claims to have provided Rs. 10,000 crore extra because of the Food Security Bill. Effectively it is only an increase of Rs. 5,000 crore, whose impact on food subsidy will be marginal.

### 10. Implementation

- An analysis of expenditure trends in most social schemes suggests that the spending capacity is low.
- Since 2007-08, the combined Budget of the Centre and the States for the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has increased nearly three-fold from Rs. 21,360 crore to Rs. 61,734 crore in 2011-12. But the expenditure has failed to keep pace with this increase. In fact, expenditure as a proportion of allocations dropped from 70% in 2007-08 to 61% in 2011-12, suggesting a serious capacity gap in spending capability.
- Further, the current mechanism for transferring and utilization of funds from one level of Government to the next is beset with inefficiencies and bottlenecks. For instance, for two key infrastructure projects under the JNNURM in 2010-11—the integrated housing and slum development programme and the urban infrastructure and governance programme—as much as 49% and 44% of the money, respectively, was transferred only towards the end of the financial year, in March 2011. Effective implementation of funds is extremely difficult given the uncertain and opaque nature of disbursement of funds.<sup>2</sup>
- A bulk of the Central transfers is done through Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS). Most of these schemes have rigid implementation norms. This has resulted in the creation of multiple, parallel departments, often with overlapping responsibilities at the district level, that make efficient management and expenditure near impossible. Consolidating these CSSs to a few consolidated schemes is an important step forward.
- The Planning Commission should be advised to constitute a **bipartisan Committee of the Chief Ministers** to prepare a new Roadmap for **Consolidation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes** and its implementation during the Twelfth Plan itself.

### 11. Regional Development

- The Finance Minister has promised for a re-look at the present criteria for determining backwardness and granting of “Special category Status”

---

<sup>2</sup> Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General

[Shri N. K. Singh]

which is currently based on terrain, density of population and length of international borders.

- The new parameters are to be defined in respect of the distance of the State from the national average under multiple criteria such as per capita income, literacy and other human development indicators.
- I expect the Finance Minister to come out with a time-bound action plan towards the implementation of this commitment. The parameters for the assessment of development should be identified, and Central investment should be targeted to enable and incentivize backward States to perform at par with the national average.
- The process should be broad-based and involve consultations with the Finance Commission, the Planning Commission and the Inter-State Council.
- While inclusive growth is an imperative, it should not result in the erosion of the federal structure of our polity.
- An appropriate time to restructure the stalled Inter State Council and given the preponderance of economic issues create an **Inter-State Economic Forum** under the ambit of the Ministry of Finance to give content to federal related issues. Economic-policy making cannot remain in the exclusive domain of the Centre when it affects the states in more ways than one.
- Given the importance of incentivizing agriculture in the Eastern Region a **Chief Ministers'** Committee comprising the Chief Ministers from the Eastern States should be constituted for a coherent Action Plan and adequate support from the Central Government. This was a promise by your distinguished predecessor and action on this is still awaited.

Having said this, I compliment the Finance Minister for a delicate balancing act as he has both responded to the political requirements of a pre-election-year Budget and the economic compulsions of fiscal rectitude.

The Finance Minister today has a different impossible trinity on reconciling austerity with growth, fiscal rectitude with populist expenditure and moderating subsidies with compulsions of tax revenues.

You need to reconcile these in a manner that the India Growth Story can be reinvigorated. We don't have the luxury of an assured high economic growth anymore. Millions of people can slip back into poverty if there is a continued slowdown in economic growth coupled with the high levels of inflation. Budget being much more than a mere accounting statement should hold some promise and comfort for the millions of poor and underprivileged Indians.

I am not possessed with the knowledge of Tamil unlike the Finance Minister, but in the present circumstances I can't find a line more appropriate than that of poet Tiruvalluvar, who said,

***“There is nothing too difficult to be accomplished  
When done carefully with unflinching endeavour.”***

The underlying optimism in the Budget is contingent on several assumptions; action in the coming months—behaviour of inflation, return to high growth path and more importantly the fate of legislations pending before Parliament.

In the absence of tangible action to carry out the measures embedded in the Budget Speech of the Finance Minister returning back to the high noon of growth will become increasingly difficult necessary for poverty redressal and inclusive growth.

Finally, it is the implementation of the Budget that will test your resolve for a war against poverty, hunger and true quest for an inclusive growth. I have faith in your judgment more than the judgment of many of my fellow practioners of the dismal science namely economists about whom John Kenneth Galbraith had cynically said that, ***“they are a species who will only discover tomorrow that the predictions they made yesterday has not come true today”***.

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM:\* Hon'ble Vice Chairman Sir,

First, I would like to express my thanks to the Chairman for giving me the opportunity to participate in the discussion on Budget (General) 2013-2014. The

---

\*Spoke in Tamil.

[Dr. K.P. Ramalingam]

Finance Minister has brought out this Budget for Indian women, Indian youth and Indian poor. I have the opportunity to speak about it. Hon'ble Finance Minister Sir, this is your eighth Budget. Your first Budget was presented seventeen years ago. I had the opportunity to express my opinions about your first Budget in Lok Sabha. Now, I am very happy, and I am very proud to speak about your present Budget in Rajya Sabha. Truly, I feel elated and delighted.

Indian economy has to go with the world economy. We alone cannot dissociate ourselves from the current world scenario. We have the grand philosophy of, "All land is our land. All human beings are our relatives". Therefore, we cannot have a different life. When other countries in the world are experiencing great economic depression, is it possible for us to achieve great progress? Nevertheless, I view this present Budget as the one which has protected Indian economy from depression. Now, our country is like a pile of camphor surrounded by burning flames. The members who are in the Opposition also aware of this. But a protective fence has been carefully constructed around such a pile of camphor to protect it from the surrounding flames. I consider the present Budget as a protective fence of such a nature. Hon'ble Minister of Finance, while presenting the Budget, stated that "our goal is higher growth leading to inclusive and sustainable development".

As far as India is concerned, can we afford to neglect agriculture if we talk about inclusive development? The Minister quoted a couplet from 'Thirukkural' while concluding his speech. I would also like to quote one more couplet from the same text, Thirukkural'.

"Who ploughing eat their food, they truly live:

The rest to others bend subservient, eating what they give."

That means those who earn their livelihood by means of agriculture are leading the best kind of life. Others are dependent on them for their food. Therefore others are subservient to farmers.

The average annual growth rate of agriculture and allied sector was 3.6% during the eleventh five year plan. This is not enough. As far as Indian economy is concerned, our slogan is 'Aam Admi'. That is, the growth of common man is very

important. 24% of the common men of our country constitute farmers. In 1980, I made my first speech in Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly and put forward a demand in that speech. The same demand, which I had put forward thirty three years ago, is repeated by me even today. That is, in India, we need an “exclusive Budget” for the Department of Agriculture as is the case with the Railways. Sir, I request you to allocate Rupees five lakh crore for five successive years for agriculture and then to monitor whether India has made progress or not.

Too much attention has been paid to the growth of share market. This will increase the number of lazy men and middlemen in our country. The Finance Minister is aware of this fact. India is a labour intensive country. Your great leader, *Perunthalaivar* Kamaraj’s policy was “Greatness lies in labour”. I will not make a casual remark that our Finance Minister did not pay attention to agriculture. We need more schemes based on production. Agricultural production alone can accelerate the development of our country in future.

In the present scenario, farmers are in a situation that they are likely to abandon agriculture gradually. If our farmers forsake the occupation of agriculture considering it as non-profitable, who will provide food to 110 crore people of India? Sir, I would like to ask you which other country is capable of providing such a huge quantity of food? No other country is capable of doing that. Therefore, I demand an exclusive Budget for agriculture. You have made Samsung Galaxy, iPhone, etc., available in the streets. Can’t you introduce modernization in agriculture?

A machine to pluck coconuts and a modern machine for cotton are needed. All the rivers in our country have to be interlinked. Drip irrigation facility has to be provided. Liquid fertilizers are to be introduced. Are these measures impossible for us? If all these measures are possible, we need an exclusive Budget for agriculture. I would like to put forward the demand to the Government through this House.

Many new schemes are announced which are to be implemented. At the same time, attention has to be paid to monitor the status of the schemes which were announced earlier. I welcome the Finance Minister’s initiative to develop Chennar Bengaluru Industrial Corridor. At the same time; I have some queries with regard to some other projects. What happened to the Coovam Corridor which was initiated by the Prime Minister? What is the present status of Chennai Port-Maduravayal

[Dr. K.P. Ramalingam]

Corridor? What are the reasons behind the obstacles created by the State Government? What is their expectation? I would like to have the reply.

I welcome the excise duty exemption given to readymade garment industry and to sago. More financial allocation to the Department of Science and Technology of India is a welcome initiative. The modern technology that will be obtained later due to this initiative has to benefit agriculture. Rs. 41,561 crore was allocated for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. The allocation to minorities has increased by 12% in comparison to the allocation made last year. Rs. 1000 crore was allocated for setting up All Women's Bank. Rs. 65,867 crore was allocated to the Department of Human Resources Development. Rs. 37,330 crore was allocated to the Department of Family Welfare. All these measures deserve appreciation.

Sir, you have mentioned that six medical institutions will be set up on the line of AIIMS in Delhi. I request the Finance Minister that one such institution should be set up in Salem District, which is at the centre of Tamil Nadu.

It has been announced that a new outer harbour will be developed at Thoothukkudi, Tamil Nadu through Public Private Partnership mode. It is a welcome initiative. The air services that are available in Chennai have to be extended to other parts of Tamil Nadu. I request that power generation in Koodankulam Atomic power Plant should be started as early as possible.

I have one grievance with the Finance Minister. Income Tax ceiling limit has not been increased which is against the expectation of all. I think we can expect a new announcement soon with regard to this aspect, which will bring happiness to all.

In addition to the above, there are many more welcome measures in this Budget. But there is not enough time to list out all of them. I once again welcome and support this Budget. Thank you. Vanakkam.

SHRI SHASHI BHUSAN BEHERA: Sir, This is the last Budget of the present Government. It does not cater to the aspirations of common people. It lacks growth strategy and vision. It is not sensitive towards the need of the people. Finance Minister's projection is far from ground reality.

Present Finance Minister has played a long inning in Fiscal Management of this country. He is a player from both the sides, the treasury and the present opposition. So with his vast experience, we have expected the economic health will move in a right direction.

The fiscal deficit in 2012-13 is 5.02%, but it is, in 2013-14, pegged at 4.8% and it would be, by 2017, aiming for 3%. Besides Revenue Deficit is expected to be 1.5%, which is at present 3.9%, and expected to be, in 2013-14, 3.3%. With this rosy picture you want to shape-up the economy of the nation. Sir, what is your plan for the same? You have focussed attention on reining in the fiscal deficit. Slashing expenditure during the last month 2.012-13 to reach the deficit at 5.2% and quoting the Budgetary expenditure increase the Receipts deliver at 4.8%, fiscal deficit to G.D.P figure for 2013-14. Because of this scenario, you are not able to allocate a larger amount for all Flagship Schemes of Central Government, for *e.g.*, NREGS provision for poor, *i.e.*, 33,000 crore. There is a slight increase of 29.357 crore.

Sir, you are insisting on higher growth rate as “MOOL MANTRA”, to achieve inclusive development with emphasis on improving human development. Sir, the Finance Minister has to deal with centuries of neglect, discrimination and deprivation. Sir, we hope that this will be an agro-based and Infrastructure based Budget. But it does not look like.

In your last Budget, the loan waiver scheme does not give a boost to Indian agro economy. The farmers are not happy. They are not getting Minimum Support Price for their product. It is the continuous demand from Odisha to enhance the Minimum Support Price of paddy this year. Odisha Government laid much emphasis on Agriculture and Budget allocation for Agriculture is Rs. 7,500 crore in a Budget of Rs. 62,000 crore. State Government with financial constraint gives a lot of incentives to farmers and for Infrastructure Development. More storage required in P.P.P. mode. Union Government also fails in supplying fertilizers, as required by the farmers.

Due to lack of storage, lakhs of tonnes of foodgrains are rotting. Finance Minister has tried his best to fill this gap of huge Current Account Deficit (CAD). How can this be possible without checking big scam and corruption? No such mention or reflection in the Budgetary Provision for bringing both; the Black Money, more than 500 billion dollars, or to check the ongoing Mega Scams.



[Shri Shashi Bhushan Behera]

So, depending on World Bank, IMF and Private Foreign Sources can't settle our slow down growth. Sir, this is hope against hope.

The former Finance Minister and Prime Minister of this country has his opinion that this Budget is prudent, productive and progressive. But there is a massive fall in Aggregate Subsidies. Food Subsidy, last year's 8,000 + this year's 10,000 crores, is a very small amount.

When it requires more than 1 lakh crore, the Fertilizer Subsidy is put at Rs. 65,971/- crores in 2013-14, just near to Rs. 65,974 in 2011-12. There is a fall in petroleum subsidy from Rs. 96,880 crore to Rs. 65,000 crore.

The Budget does not provide any stimulus to reverse this growth slowdown rather it will contribute to inflation.

The purpose of a Budget and job of the Finance Minister is to create the Economic space and find the resource to achieve the objective.

Your planning for tax G.D.P. ratio and widening of Current Accounts Deficit (CAD) for this, you require large dose of additional tax mobilisation.

For that you are going to create a new tax slab that taxable income is more than 1 crore to protect you from the financial constraint.

Tax paying in this range is Rs. 42,800 crore. This figure is a very small tax return and added to this "Miscellaneous Capital" that is from disinvestment or sale of spectrum. Now you have decided on disinvestment, the most profiting P.S.U., "NALCO", the Navratna Industry. There is strong opposition even from the employees of NALCO. The State Government and the people of Odisha also opposed it since this proposal was raised. This is not acceptable.

You want to escape from the Financial crisis which you have occurred from the global impact. You failed to go by with your own economic policy. Your dependency put you to depend on World Bank, IMF and other Private foreign capital to finance, the CAD and the fiscal deficit has to be controlled. With the helpless position you are promising an inclusive growth.

Still you are hopeful. But the reality is something else. Your protection for

Social Sector is not realistic in nature, it is only publicity nature . Sir, Finance Minister has emphasised on three main aspects of our population Women, Youth and Poor.

**Women**—only Rs. 1000 crore for Women Bank does not satisfy. Opening Women Bank and putting Rs. 1000 crore is a very little step for women empowerment. This is not much in support of women safety.

**Youth**—No clear youth policy, after 65 year of Independence, only draft policy. It is only an eye-wash. No specific planning for bringing the youth to the mainstream of nation building. No hope for rural youth.

**Poor**—Poverty Alleviation Programmes are not achieving the goals.

**SC & ST**—Sir, in Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan and S.T. Sub-Plan emphasis is not given as per requirement.

**In social sector**—Health, Education, Poverty alleviation.

**Health**—In health sector Government spending is only 26% of Health spending of the grant. The rest amount people used to spend from their pocket.

**Education**—Higher education is now far reaching for the poor. No stress on primary education. Budgetary insufficiency is continuing.

**Drinking Water**—Pure drinking water is still a dream for the poor. Rivers are polluted because of the industrial pollutant and urban wastage.

**Road Sector**—Importance is given in the Budget to include the major States, not the backward States in PMGSY.

**Industry**—Industrial Corridors are all planned for Mumbai, Delhi, Bangalore, not for the mineral based backward region.

Sir, we are neglected since long in overall development, my State Odisha.

In a federal structure we need special care. My CM, Shri Naveen Patnaik, has been demanding special category status for Odisha and has written many letters putting continuous pressure on behalf of the 4 crore Odiyas. In the plan Odisha is not satisfying the condition for special category State benefit. Centre rejected our demand. Sir, the Government is not going by the reality. It is going by the old

[Shri Shashi Bhushan Behera]

structured norms though the time Finance Minister made announcement that it would evolve a new policy for backward States. But this is also not clear if he has anything in position or planning. He should make it clear now.

Sir, our fight against Central negligence will continue till we get achieve justice.

Sir, this time Finance Minister has remember the saying of Swami Vivekanand.

He told the people, “All the strength and succor you want is within yourself, therefore make your own future”

Sir, Finance Minister came to understand very late this truth. I am not able to support this Budget as it was not pro-poor.

SHRI A. ELAVARASAN:\* Hon’ble Vice Chairman Sir,

I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak on this discussion on Budget (General) 2013-2014 on behalf of my party AIADMK. Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, the goddess of our hearts, revolutionary leader (*Puratchi thalaivi*) Amma, while expressing her opinion about this Budget, has said, “This Budget is full of such aspects as are against the welfare of the states and of the people”. Many aspects of this Budget show that this Budget is full of day-dreams and adornments.

In this Budget 2013-2014, it has been mentioned that Rs. 16,65,297 crore has been allocated for total expenditure, 33% of which has been allocated for plan expenditure. That is, Rs. 5,55,975 crore has been allocated for plan expenditure and Rs. 11,09,975 crore has been allocated for non-plan expenditure. It seems that each department has been given more fund than was allocated in the previous year. But the fact can be known by seeing the Revised Estimates of 2012-2013. The Revised Estimates of 2012-2013 have been reduced and added in Budget 2013-2014 and an attempt has been made to present this as an attractive Budget.

I would like to point out an important thing by considering the value of time. The Government has approved a scheme for the financial restructuring of power DISCOMS (Distribution Companies). But, not a single rupee has been allocated for the said purpose. I would like to state that Tamil Nadu is greatly affected by this

---

\* Laid in Tamil.

decision. Last year, no fund was allocated to the states from the revenue obtained from Goods and Services Tax. It is mentioned that Rs. 9,000 crore will be allocated to states from the revenue of Goods and Services Tax in 2013-2014. It is doubtful whether this amount will be given to the states though this is a meagre amount. I request you to enhance this allocation. In 2012-2013, the allocated fund was reduced in many sectors. I request that this fund may be enhanced and given to the states as per the assurance given last year.

I would like to point out that sufficient fund has not been allocated for the country's growth and requirement. In 2012-2013, Rs. 2,430 crore was allocated to the Ministry of Environment and Forests. The same amount has been allocated this year also. I would like to point out that this constitutes only 0.35% of the total allocation of the Union Government. Statistics reveal that more than six lakh people die every year due to air pollution.

It is mentioned in the Budget that Rs. 10,000 crore has been set apart for the implementation of the National Food Security Act after the bill is passed. Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu wrote a letter to the Prime Minister of India last December. In the letter, she mentioned that the National Food Security Bill is vague and confusing. She also mentioned that distribution of food grains on the basis of economic disparity through Public Distribution System will create certain problems. In Tamil Nadu, food subsidy is given to the tune of Rs. 4,900 crore every year. I request the Union Government to accept 50% of the expenditure on the Public Distribution System of Tamil Nadu.

Under the National Food Security Bill, direct cash transfer scheme instead of supply of food grains, is unacceptable. The poor and the downtrodden will not get food grains through direct cash transfer scheme. The scheme of food cards is also not suitable. The centre should not impose these schemes on the State Governments. 2.96 lakh tonnes of food grains is given to Tamil Nadu. If the Food Security Bill is passed, it will be reduced to 2.24 lakh metric tonnes. The Standing Committee has recommended that the Centre should issue orders to retain the allocation of food grains. This section should be amended and the allocation of food grains at the present stage should be retained.

It has been mentioned that in case of scarcity of food grains from Centre's corpus, cash will be provided as a substitute for food grains. This is not acceptable

[Shri A. Elavarasan]

to Tamil Nadu. This will create scarcity of food grains in states like Tamil Nadu. It cannot be purchased from market. In case there is a shortage of food grains in the states, it is the duty of the Union Government to import sufficient food grains. Therefore, I would like to reiterate the view of our Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu that our state, Tamil Nadu, should be given exemption from the National Food Security Act proposed by the Union Government.

We can see that presentation of Budget every year creates expectations in share markets and in some national and international organisations. But, it does not create any kind of expectations in the common man who has to struggle with his hunger on daily basis. The common man has no hope that the Budget is going to bring about any marked change in his life as the Budget will not bring down prices. The Government is routinely increasing the prices of petroleum products every month. The common man knows the sad fact that Government is not going to change its stand with regard to such price increases.

But the common man of Tamil Nadu is not suffering from such distressful situations. Our revolutionary leader (*Puratchi thalaivi*) Amma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu protects the common man of Tamil Nadu by distributing essential commodities like Urad Dal, Tur Dal, Palm oil, Sooji, Maida and Sugar at affordable prices through Public Distribution Shops. Moreover, she has provided free rice to the poor people. With a view to regulating the prices of food items in the market, she has set up a 'Price Stabilisation Fund' because of which fine variety of rice is available to the people at the rate of Rs. 25 per kilogram. At this juncture, I am very proud to state in this House that our Hon'ble Chief Minister is a role model to the other states.

As far as price of petrol is concerned, this Government has increased it for 19 times since 2010. The price of one litre of petrol has been increased by 90% during the last three and a half years. Recently, the price of petrol was increased by Rs. 1.50 per litre and the price of diesel was increased by Re. 0.45 per litre. Within two weeks, the price of petrol was further increased by Rs. 1.40 per litre, by pointing out the depreciation in the value of Indian Rupee and the international price rise. Therefore, I request the Government to withdraw the increase in the prices of petrol.

and diesel with a view to benefitting the poor, the downtrodden and the middle class. I also request the Government to roll back its decision of authorising the oil companies to fix the prices of petrol and diesel. This is the request of our revolutionary leader (*Puratchi thalaivi*) Amma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, to the Union Government. I would like to draw the attention of the House towards her request.

In the present Budget, the Government has proposed to allocate Rs. 17,700 crore in 2013-2014, to Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS). This represents an increase of 11.7 per cent. Similarly the Budget has allocated Rs. 300 crore for the treatment of mothers and child malnutrition in the country. What is the present situation? Majority of the children in our country are malnourished.

Approximately 60% of children in rural areas are malnourished. I would like to cite a depressing incident that the fund allocated for Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) in the state of Maharashtra has been utilized for buying buses. This news was published in all media. Therefore, I would like to point out that it is the duty of the Union Government to ensure that the fund allocated for the welfare of children is spent for the said purpose.

Similarly this Budget has proposed to allocate Rs. 27,049 crore to the Ministry of Agriculture, an increase of 22 per cent over the allocation of the previous year. It is very important that the growth obtained by this allocation has to reach all farmers. Hon'ble minister has stated in the Budget that the average annual growth rate of agriculture during the Eleventh plan was 3.6%.

But the prices of agricultural inputs are increasing. This is due to the wrong fertilizer subsidy policy of the Government.

The price of 50 kilo gram of fertilizer ATP is Rs. 486 in 2010. It has been increased to Rs. 1200 in 2012. Similarly the price of 50 kilogram of MOP has been increased from Rs. 231 to Rs. 840. Procurement price is fixed according to the wrong fertilizer subsidy policy. As a result, the prices of essential commodities in market are increasing. Prices of essential commodities has to be regulated by the economic policy of the Union Government. Therefore, I would like to reiterate the Union Government through this House that the Centre has to modify its economic policy and its fertilizer subsidy policy in such a way to control the prices of essential commodities.

[Shri A. Elavarasan]

Similarly, I would like to express that sufficient importance has to be given to infrastructure development with regard to storage of food grains. Production of food grains involves the arduous labour of our farmers. Therefore, proper steps need to be taken to store the food grains properly and infrastructure has to be developed accordingly. Recently, I examined a report of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India. It creates the suspicion that planned development may include corruption also. The CAG report says that under the agricultural loan waiver scheme announced in May, 2008, 22% of the beneficiaries are not qualified farmers. I would like to have the explanation from the Hon'ble Minister in this House, with regard to this report. Hon'ble Vice Chairman sir,

The human sufferings and the atrocities that are happening in Sri Lanka at present, have been brought to the attention of all, at the international level. All the countries reiterate to take action against the Government of Sri Lanka. Now, I request that our country also has to take suitable action considering its own responsibility. Last year, the Union Government has allocated Rs. 500 crore for the rehabilitation of Sri Lankan Tamils affected by war. It is doubtful whether this amount has reached the targeted mass. In this year's Budget, nothing was mentioned either about the rehabilitation measures of the Sri Lankan Tamils or about the allocation for such purpose. This is disappointing. The Tamils residing in Sri Lankan camps have to be resettled in their original settlements. Those who have committed war crimes, who have committed ethnic genocide in Sri Lanka have to be declared as war criminals. I request that this Government have to persuade the United Nations with regard to the above demands. What happened in Sri Lanka is ethnic genocide. They have killed many women and children. They have sexually harassed many women. War crimes have been committed.

India has to support the resolution put forward by America against Sri Lanka in the United Nations Human Right Council (UNHRC). India has to make some amendments in the resolution proposed by America. An enquiry has to be conducted at the international level and Sri Lanka has to be punished for committing war crimes. This enquiry has to be completed within six months. India has to impose economic embargo against Sri Lanka.

Due to the atrocities of Sri Lankan Navy, innocent Tamil fishermen are attacked many times. Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. *Puratchi thalaivi* Amma has reiterated the Union Government to protect the welfare of innocent Tamil fishermen. Proper steps need to be taken to protect them. With these words, I conclude my speech. Thank you.

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Thank you, Sir. I rise to speak on the Budget 2013-14. The Economic Survey 2012 had predicted that the Indian economy would register growth of around 7.6 per cent, plus or minus 0.25 per cent, in 2012-13. But now, the economy is expected to register a growth rate of 5.0 per cent in 2012-13.

According to economic Survey, Growth rate in Agriculture, forestry and fishing has declined from 5.1% in the year 2005-06 to 1.8% in the 2012-13. Mining and Quarrying from 1.3% in the year 2005-06 to 0.4% in the year 2012-13, Manufacturing from 10.1% in the year 2005-06 to 1.9% in the year 2012-13, Construction from 12.8% in 2005-06 to 5.9% in the year 2012-13, Trade, Hotels, and restaurants, transport and communication from 12.0% in 2005-06 to 5.2% Service. The Growth Rate has declined significantly in almost all sectors during the period from 2005-06 to 2012-13. As a result, our GDP has declined from 9.3% in the year 07-08 to 5.0 in the year 2012-13. Fiscal Deficit increased from 2.5% in 07-08 to 5.01% in 2012-13. Capital formation also declined from 38.1% 2007-08 to 35.0% 2011-12.

Sir, the allocation in case of education, health and woman and child development in respect of the UPA II has decreased from UPA I . I would just give you data, in education it was 25.7 %, now in UPA II it is 21.7% . In health it was 19% now in UPA II it is 16.2% . In case of woman and child development it was 28.9 % now it is 25.4 %. There is inadequacy of the Budgetary hike for education sector. 25.7 %, now in UPA II it is 21.7% . The Education Minister informed press recently that a very little amount has been allocated to Education Ministry, and he will make a request to Finance to increase. Nothing has been done.

The Economic Survey also indicates that, the economy has slowed down due to euro crisis, uncertainty in fiscal policy in the United States and weak monsoon. Revenues did not keep pace with spending, the fiscal deficit threatened to breach the target, saving falls and private saving also shrinks. Current account deficit also increased.



[Shri Y.S. Chowdhary]

Sir, if we take the issue of Infrastructure projects, they are unable to complete due to inconsistent Govt. policies thus resulting huge PSU banks exposure and becoming NPA's.

While world-wide infrastructure financing is on long term basis, we have no Policy regarding Long Term Low Cost initiatives. Not only this, Sir, we have no proper gestation period methodology and combined with improper finance planning which is affecting Thermal/Gas based/Hydel Projects and they are all languishing.

In AP alone, I am told, 6000 MW equivalent power plants capacity is completed but due to environmental clearance (once given) are kept idle and this amounts to Rs. 30,000 Cr of Banks' Money which is completely stuck.

No proper Coal Linkages/non fuel supplies resulting in power plants being non-starters are posing a major setback to the whole Country, while Petroleum as well as Gas allocations which are not planned are affecting our foreign exchange outflow.

Sir, this kind of inconsistent approach towards the Industry will have serious ramifications on industries too, be it large, medium or small, and they are all not running beyond 30% of their capacity due to the lack of working capital or power cuts as all this is cyclical.

This would lead to people's unrest because most employees will eventually default in either housing loans or personal loans which eventually will affect the Country's ratings.

Sir, regarding Agriculture, this sector is constantly suffering either due to lack of fertilizers or lack of power or no proper financing. In fact no Indian farmer wants any dole as he is a respectable person. Our economy is pushing him to live on doles. Govt can give them a level playing field by supporting proper timely fertilizers, power, warehousing facilities and cold storage centers.

Sir, our farmers in Andhra Pradesh are going on Crop Holidays which was unheard in the past. Why is there no planning to address such issues when we are largely dependant on agriculture? Is there no responsibility to take care of farmer issues? I am sure though this Budget did not mention, at an appropriate time this Government will resort to some quick fix method in this election year to give a Loan

Waiver scheme in order to draw votes as well as help middle men as seen by the recent CAG's report on the earlier loan waiver scheme.

In order to accelerate the growth rate, all the major sectors, Agriculture, Industry and services, have to perform well. India has 1799000 square kms. of Agricultural Land. China has lesser agriculture land area than India and still it produces more agro products than India. Productivity per acre is much more there than in India. I would like to know from the Hon'ble Finance Minister what Government has in mind to increase productivity in agriculture.

Sir, in my Budget speech of last year in this House you may please recall that I have mentioned the way our economy is going and the way industries are going to their banks for Corporate Debt Re-structuring and unless this is not corrected it would hit the healthy banks which have played such a vital role in nation building. They are likely to land on the sick bed which may warrant a Special Banks Restructuring Cell. This will pull our Country's rating further down.

Sir, the problem is, there is total paralysis of the Govt. in terms of inter-Ministerial relationship, be it in fiscal issues or even internal law enforcement issues. There is total chaos in between Ministries. I had on several occasions cautioned that the way our economy is being neglected there would be very soon large scale NPA's and as the Manufacturing sector is already down. Very soon joblessness will rise and would Impact inflation. Our Imports and exports amounts to 44% of GDP and capital inflow and outflow represent 108 % of GDP.

Sir, Today we are discussing the most important issue, *i.e.* Finance of the Country and continuous slow down of the economy for the two/three years, which the Hon'ble Prime Minister has also accepted. I would like to know from Hon'ble Finance Minister, what concrete steps are being conceived to move up our economy and to contain inflation. Every Budget time, the Government takes the international crisis as the reason for the slowdown of the economy. International crisis was there in 2008. But in the year 2008-09 our economy was completely insulated. Why our economy today is so badly affected and why is the Government takes the reason of the crisis to the American crisis. India is a big country; we have a big domestic market. We should explore the possibilities to boost domestic market. There is a huge potential for the domestic consumption and market. I wish, the Hon'ble Finance Minister, would tell us what plans this Govt has for this.

[Shri Y. S. Chowdhary]

Unless India undertakes reforms, our economic growth will be far below potential. At this hour, there is a need to be innovative in terms of policy. But our Government have failed to spell the innovation in the policies in the Budget.

Sir, regarding my State of Andhra Pradesh which was one of the most flourishing States and several years back and was being compared to California/Singapore etc. The State which gave the best talent to the Software world and created so many jobs is today in total backwardness. This Budget has nothing to provide for issues like Power as am sure that many industries would be closing down while many more will become NPA's. Both Govts in Centre as well as the State are same but apathy been shown in such a way that the state is totally neglected.

Earlier we were told that we are a de-coupled economy and hence insulated. Does it now mean that are we now re-coupled economy?

Sir, this Budget has no direction. This Budget has failed to fulfil the dreams of the people of the country. With this, I conclude. Thank you, Sir.

DR. ASHOK S. GANGULY:

- (1) The Finance Minister presented the 2013-2014 Union Budget against a backdrop of a decelerating economy, an endemic fiscal deficit, the spectre of downgrades from rating agencies, general elections in 2014 and an embattled global economy. It was a time for "prudence, restraint and patience", said Mr. P. Chidambaram, and delivered a Budget focused on long-term revival of the economy rather than short-term triggers or radical moves.

Low on populist measures, this Budget aims to provide concrete outcomes in the form of faster growth and lower inflation. Given that the specifics demanded by the macroeconomic scenario include taming the fiscal deficit and spurring investment and saving, the fiscal discipline mooted by this Budget is arguably its biggest positive.

The Finance Minister has reduced the fiscal deficit for this year to 5.2% of GDP, against the expected 5.8% in 2012. Moreover, he has committed

to a fiscal deficit of 4.8% in the next year. Prioritization of expenditure and widening of the tax base would be crucial in reducing the risks to this fiscal marksmanship.

**The crippling current account deficit, the foreign investment imperative and the necessity of curbs on gold imports**

- (2) Oil and gold are the largest components of the import bill and largely responsible for the current account deficit (CAD) becoming the Indian economy's greatest worry. India imports over 70% of its crude requirement, which is essentially non-negotiable given soaring energy and transportation needs.
- (3) What is inexplicable however, is that despite the Economic Survey clearly stating that gold buying was actually fuelling India's CAD, gold imports—rising from around 0.5% of GDP till FY08 to 2.5% in FY12, have been rewarded with a higher duty-free allowance. Even a temporary sharp increase in customs and excise duty on gold would have added to revenue and diverted savings from an unproductive asset to financial assets.

The rising demand for gold is a symptom of more fundamental problems in the economy. The overarching motive underlying the gold rush is high inflation and the lack of financial instruments available to the average citizen, especially in the rural areas. A series of small measures with reference to the financial sector like reduction in securities transaction tax (STT), clarity on the securitization guidelines, and tax treatment on alternate assets are small steps in the right direction in encouraging savings away from gold and into financial assets.

- (4) The Finance Minister also unequivocally affirmed the imperative for foreign investment to mitigate the CAD and safeguard India's sovereign credit rating. While the clarity emerging from adoption of the Shome Committee recommendations is welcome, the acid test for foreign investors would be how the policy provisions—the tax residency certificate (TRC), the tax rate of royalty and fees for technical services (FTS), the distribution tax on buyback of unlisted shares, the tax on direct transfers—are enforced.

[Dr. Ashok S. Ganguly]

(5) **Windening of the tax base remains crucial**

Compared to a 10 year (FY03-13) average growth rate of 17%, Budget 2013-14 assumes a 19% growth in gross tax revenue, led by a 36% increase in service tax collection and a 20% increase in income tax with more modest increases in corporation tax (17%) and excise duties (15%). The tax growth assumptions — based on the assumption of a nominal GDP growth rate of about 13% evenly contributed by real GDP growth rate and inflation—appear optimistic given that GDP growth rates this year have been 5% to 4% with Q3 even lower at 4.6%.

- (6) There must be between 500,000 and 1,000,000 with annual income of more than rupees one crore a year. It is not clear what efforts are being made to correct this significant source of tax avoidance.
- (7) It is widely known that, at least in big cities, the bulk of the real estate transactions are carried out in cash and is a major source of money laundering.
- (8) The crucial Goods and Services Tax (GST) rollout has been commissioned in an effective way through the drafting of the Constitution Bill by the state Finance Ministers. Though imperfect, it will hopefully be implemented in 2013.

Despite the increase in the surcharge for high-net-worth individuals and certain companies, stemming from the compulsion to increase revenues, the tax slabs in India remain lower than in many advanced economies. However, efforts to widen the tax base remain more crucial. The proposed commission on tax administration—necessary to raise revenues without having to raise tax rates—is important in light of the realization that our tax administration is antiquated.

- (9) After reaching a peak of 11.9% in 2007-08, the tax-GDP ratio declined to 9.6% in 2009-10 and improved only marginally to 9.9% in 2011-12. Raising the tax-GDP ratio to above 11% is crucial to sustaining the process of fiscal consolidation in the long run.

**Delivering on pro-investment investment initiatives in infrastructure**

- (10) A strong multiplier effect on the economy is possible with the big boost to infrastructure development in Budget 2013-14 through long-term infrastructure debt funds, the enhanced limit for tax-free bonds 'to Rs.50,000 crores, an investment allowance for manufacturing companies which would encourage asset creation, support for innovative financing for infrastructure projects, the extension of benefits under Section 80-1 A for power projects by a year, the commitment to award 3,000 km of road projects in the first half of 2013-14, with, a regulatory authority for the road sector, new industrial corridors and a bigger role to private firms in coal.

- (11) The recent announcement of the establishment of the apex Cabinet Committee on Investment is most welcome and will hopefully expedite revival of investment in major FDI projects and infrastructure projects.

A greater growth orientation is possible with higher involvement of the private sector. The Government envisages the private sector contributing half of the \$1 trillion needed for infrastructure development in the Twelfth Plan. There are, however, "miles to go" before this can happen. The cumbersome, and unpredictable process of approvals from various authorities, particularly in the states, which complicates funding and loan repayment, needs to be simplified. As must the hurdles in acquiring land and securing environmental clearances and the political hurdles in charging appropriate political tariffs after investing thousands of crores on infrastructure projects.

- (12) Budget 2013-14 has been pragmatic in balancing the need to reduce the fiscal deficit and the need to attain social, political and growth objectives. Political will is, however, just one element of the framework required to improve the investment climate and revive growth. Improved governance through proactive consensus is the pivotal link for actioning the legislative and political agenda.

**SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Boosting Investments**

That our economy is facing challenging times is the politically non-alarmist way of describing our current situation.

Judged on virtually every macroeconomic parameter, the parallels between today and the crisis period of 1990-91 are striking. At 4.8% of GDP, in fact, the current account deficit is at a historical high, much higher than the 3% it recorded during the 1990-91 crisis. Likewise, as former CEA Virmani points put, the growth rate of GDP at constant market prices is at 3.3%, only slightly better than it was at the height of the earlier crisis. And another red light that's flashing is high inflation rate—particularly the 9% average rise in GDP deflator for private consumption.

To quote a recent article—*“India has become a low growth-high inflation economy (officials remain in denial), and the macro healing will be protracted and uneven.”*

Dharmakriti Joshi, Chief Economist, CRISIL Ltd, said, in a recent article in Business Standard dated 04 July, 2012—*“Growth slipping to 5.3% in a developing economy is as worrisome as stagnation or near-zero per cent growth in advanced countries. India needs to grow faster on a sustained basis.”* Further, that *“If the current low growth-high inflation environment continues, incomes will not rise fast enough, while inflation will continue to erode the purchasing power of consumers, particularly those whose wages are not indexed to inflation.”*

Sir, so let us not underestimate the challenges facing us and effort required to get our economy growing again.

Before I say anything further, I want to bring to your attention the need to harmonize the way various people in Government are talking about our economy.

C. Rangarajan, Chairman, Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council (PMEAC), stated in an event in Chennai, on 01 February, 2013—*“Actions of Government have started showing change in bid sentiment. 2013-14 is expected to be better than 2012-13 and we need to get back to 8-9% growth rate.”*

Later in February 2013, he then wrote—*“It is pertinent to note that stagflationary tendencies have already reared their head in emerging markets, like India, where financial intermediation was never a problem.”*

Similar bullishness from the Deputy Chairman of Planning commission who

has—in my research team’s count—on over 11 occasions since 2010, predicted that Food Inflation will ‘soon’ be brought under control and almost everyday trots out rosy predictions of the Economy. In February last year, he predicted blithely that in 2013-2014, the economy would grow at 7% and we would ‘soon’ be back to 9%.

We also have a recent admission by the Hon’ble Prime Minister on 13 March, that he expected the economy to get back to a “*robust growth path*” only in two or three years, and on 14th March, by the Chief Economic Advisor, Raghuram Rajan that “*Indian Economy is not facing stagflation, and that growth is picking up.*”

Sir, before I focus on the real challenges and solutions to get us out of the current near stagflation—let me make an earnest and sincere request. There are too many people talking all over the place about our economy. I wouldn’t mind’ this if they were not all contradicting each other and confusing participants in our economy. This is increasingly helping the perception that there is a lot of shooting in the dark going on in terms of our economic strategy, rather than a smart, coherent, well-thought-through medium term plan.

I am no economist, but as someone who has been an entrepreneur and understands the difficulties of persuading long term investors to put capital into India, I can tell you this—this kind of confused messaging will not help your cause in boosting investor confidence and substantially increasing capital flows.

Sir, I have had the privilege of speaking on every Budget discussion since I was first elected to this august House in 2006, and if you go through my speeches, I have consistently tried to draw your attention to the dangers of hubris and the consequent lack of focus on the real Governance issues.

But being an Independent MP, whilst it has some advantages, has the disadvantage of being easily ignored. But for what it’s worth, I have been right on almost all my economic predictions.

I said way back in 2008 in this House, that our Inflation trends are all to do with capacity constraints and that the Government must focus on boosting investments, and not just consumption. This year’s Economic Survey confirms that the economic stimulus package of 2008—whilst necessary—was flawed in its design and short term in its focus—may be because of the elections around the corner in 2009.



[Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar]

In his column in Business Standard dated 04 July, 2012, Dharmakriti Joshi of CRISIL had also said *“Growth has been suffering owing to sagging investment sentiment, tardy decision -making and global headwinds.”*

I have repeatedly said that unless you address the core structural concerns about Investors, *i.e.*, Governance and regulatory reforms—our economy will not see the large FDI capital flows that we need, and will continue to be plagued by and dependent on FII flows to fund our Current Account. Ignoring this real reforms and focusing instead on reforms as defined by FDI limits and road shows and rhetoric, has caused the chickens to come to roost. As Dr. Rangarajan wrote recently, *“The first lesson to be derived from the policy response to the current crisis in advanced economies is that while monetary policy is a powerful macroeconomic tool for stabilizing business cycles, it cannot revive growth by sweeping structural problems under the carpet”*.

The Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission said in January 2012—*“I think there is a very good chance that in next 20 years you will see the Indian Economy grow somewhere between 8-9 per cent per year”*, and in March 2013 this year, predicted that growth will be 7-8% in next four to five years.

First, let’s accept that misguided, blithe, over the top and baseless optimism in Government don’t make for a good formula for economic recovery of any sort as long as there is excessive pessimism in Industry and investors—least of all, a sustainable one over a medium term which is what we need if we are to effectively address our issues of poverty and deprivation.

Rangarajan says—*“India may need to cool consumption and clear supply side bottlenecks by switching public expenditure from subsidies to more of investment. This would help growth and lower inflation over the medium term.”*

So sir, while this Government has one more year to go, let’s focus on what is really needed to be done *i.e.* Boost investments and make our Economy more efficient.

#### **Steps for Boosting Investments**

These are not just red-tape issues, but rather a deep structural set of reforms

required to address squarely the issue of Governance risks and public policy quality:

1. Address the issue of increasing concentration of risk in the banking sector—where 10-11 corporate sector borrowings account for almost 95% of the net worth of the Indian Banking sector. This is unprecedented and far worse than any comparable emerging economy.
2. Cease the practice of using taxpayer money to recapitalize PSU banks repeatedly. It is resulting in inefficient and unaccountable banks and creating a culture of complacency and dependence on taxpayer funds. Strict norms for proportionate asset creations and increases in return of equity should be used as hurdles for additional capital from Government—at a time of scarce capital.
3. country has crores of rupees locked up in incomplete projects—that are effectively an unproductive waste of capital. These incomplete projects have gone from Rs. 10,000 Crores in 1999 to Rs. 7,95,000 Crores currently. This is an unacceptable and terrible waste of capital—locked up as it is without creating any economic activity. The Government must put together an interministerial group or a committee focused on working the details of each of these projects, and unlock the many crores of rupees invested and bring them into economic ‘activity. This will have a seriously positive impact on many, many projects that are waiting
4. There is a need to relook at our disinvestment policy—whether this trickle, handful of shares being sold in adverse market conditions is resulting in true returns to the shareholders, *i.e.*, citizens of the country. If we are serious about disinvestment, then we must examine the options that maximise returns to the nation, and not just look at the least politically controversial options. A ‘reluctance’ to have a real revenue realization plan for public assets is not in the best interest of the nation.
5. Strengthening our institutions of governance:
  - (a) Improving the delivery efficiency of the Executive
  - (b) Capacity building in regulatory bodies

[Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar]

6. The problems of Governance arise from the issue of “unfettered administrative discretion”—in dealing with Public Assets and doling out Government contracts and spending with very little oversight and failure/compromise of institutions like independent regulators—leading to repeated instances of public policy and regulatory capture by vested interests.
7. The Government should usher in a Value-for money culture—to reinforce that Government is only a trustee of public money and assets. The spending of this money and handling of public assets must always pass the test of national interest.
8. Four point strategy for introducing a culture of fiscal responsibility and value for public money within the Government:
  - (a) Statutory disclosures by all Government departments on commercial decisions.
  - (b) More effective oversight by the Finance Ministry on all decisions related to spending, contracts and public assets.
  - (c) Increased use of technology for ensuring better disclosure and expenditure management. Specially, the TAGUP’s recommendations of an Expenditure Information System should be implemented.
  - (d) A relook at the Independent Regulatory institutions.
9. Focus on reforms of the Independent regulatory framework to ensure long term public policy stability and consistency. A comprehensive review and amendments of laws and creating more independence and development of a new cadre of regulators—that are distinguished by their independence, integrity and competence. Strengthen CCI to ensure that monopolies or cartels are not created in Indian economy either foreign or domestic. Implement the ARC recommendations in this regard.
10. Need for a comprehensive and transparent policy for monetization of public assets like spectrum, mines, oil blocks etc.—to ensure benefit to

the exchequer and the citizens, and avoid lopsided PPP deals in the favour of the private investor.

11. The primary area of consensus that needs to be created is around the declining state and state institutional capacity. While the last several years have been years of economic reforms, the next decade must urgently focus on undertaking governance and state institutional reforms.

After straying away from FRBM, which will go down in history as a big mistake, claims of fiscal prudence will always been seen with a ‘wait and watch’ attitude—because the Government’s track record in financial terms has been absent of credibility—be it inflation management or spending or growth. *But this kind of profligate spending is no longer an academic issue, it is dangerously putting at risk the future direction and options for the country. If there is any doubt of the consequences of profligate spending by Governments, examples of southern Europe countries that, for many years, fostered a social spending/welfare state funding by borrowings and fiscal recklessness, should serve as cautionary lessons to us. And as Dr. Rangarajan has himself written “But quite apart from following a contra-cyclical fiscal policy, another object lesson from advanced countries is that generis social compacts are difficult to renegotiate. It is, therefore, imprudent to put in place generous compacts that are affordable when societies are young and trend growth is high, but become unaffordable as society ages and growth moderates.”*

Sir, the Finance Minister, in a recent Consultative Committee meeting, referred to my views as cynicism. But sir, you need a few like me to counter this self serving, and sometimes delusional rhetoric of a preordained destiny of an economic superpower headlines. In my last Budget speech, I had quoted Andy Grove of Intel, where I worked several years—“*Only the paranoid survive*”. So yes, we can meet our destiny of being an economic superpower, but only working hard and in a determined, disciplined, efficient way and implementing real structural changes in Governance and not through sloganeering and profligacy.

*Jai Hind.*

SHRI ANIL DESAI: (1) Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the General Budget, 2013-14, for various reasons which I will enumerate during the course of my

[Shri Anil Desai]

speech. Though Maharashtra is reeling under the worst drought conditions for the first time in the last forty years, neither there has been any mention about it in the speech of the Finance Minister nor any allocation to tackle the gravity of the situation. People are not asking water for irrigation but for drinking purposes. Many villagers have locked their houses in the villages and have migrated to cities and towns. I am deeply disappointed with the speech of the Finance Minister. It is insipid and uninspiring.

(2) Maharashtra was sidelined in the Railway Budget and now Finance Minister has done more injustice to the State. Our contribution towards central taxes is the highest. We were expecting a special package due to drought but we have been ignored.

As we all know, Mumbai is the commercial capital of India. It is also one of the world's top ten centres of commerce in terms of the global financial flow, generating five per cent of India's GDP, and accounting for 25 per cent of industrial output, 70 per cent of maritime trade in India (Mumbai Port Trust and JNPT); and 70 per cent of capital transactions to India's economy. It is undenyng the fact that Mumbai is the largest contributor of revenue to the Central exchequer. However, it gets step motherly treatment and ignored in the allocation of adequate funds in this Budget.

(4) This Budget is yet another example of the UPA's disconnecting with the people of the country. The FM tried to be populist at the cost of the aam aadmi. They do not know what the people want. . There is no direction for improving the growth rate of the country. There is also no linkage of the Budget with the Twelfth Five Year Plan nor is there any commitment to reduce the fiscal deficit which is as high as 5.9 per cent and going up and up over the years. I am sorry to say that there is also no direction for skill development or employment generation for the youth.

(5) The Budget fails to signal a stable, friendly tax regime. The FM has failed to take any major steps to improve India's tax regime in keeping with global best practices. He also has not sent any signal that India's tax regime will be stable and friendly and, instead, has introduced measures that would last just one year.

(6) Unfortunately, there is nothing significant in this Budget for the healthcare sector as such. Increased Budgetary allocation for the National Rural and Urban Health Mission may improve access. However, a planned allocation on Universal Health Coverage initiative was highly expected. The industry also expected that the Government will take measures to make all imported life saving drugs more affordable to the patients by eliminating import duty, unfortunately, this has not happened.

Thus, in our view, the healthcare concerns of the country have not been given adequate importance in the Budget proposals to help improving the healthcare needs of the nation.

(7) The Budget is high on rhetoric, low on funds for food security. For all the talk of the UPA Government about the seminal step the proposed National Food Security Bill will be on eradicating hunger and malnutrition. The FM's Budgetary allocation for it is meagre. The FM said he will be setting aside an extra Rs. 10,000 crore, apart from the usual provision for food subsidy, towards the "incremental cost" likely, once the legislation is enacted.

(8) The FM has not said how he is going to fund various social welfare schemes.

This Budget falls flat on offering measures to curb inflationary pressures on the economy.

How much has FM provided? Part-II of the Expenditure Budget documents show it is Rs. 90,000 crore. The document clarifies: "The provision of Rs. 90,000 crore for food subsidy, and also includes a provision of Rs. 10,000 crore for implementing the National Food Security Act."

How much was the food subsidy Budgeted in the last Budget, 2012-13? It was Rs. 75,000 crore, and the Revised Estimate was above Rs. 85,000. But this estimate, as the Government itself has said—was based on population statistics of the year, 2000. In short, therefore, the actual provision is Rs. 5,000 crore which is very meagre.

(9) Does the Budget stimulate savings? There have been only feeble attempts to take in savings through the Rajiv Gandhi Equity Savings Scheme even though a

[Shri Anil Desai]

lot has been spoken about the need to increase financial savings and move households away from gold. We do not see anything on increasing the tax limit on savings under 80C Section and therefore 'the Budget has not really addressed this issue which it could have done if it wanted.

(10) This Budget is neither populist nor pragmatic. It can be interpreted either way depending on how one looks at it. Given the commitment to inclusive growth, spending on MGNREGA cannot be contested nor can the expense on food subsidy related with the Food Security Bill. These are also necessities since we have, at least, 325 million poor people. It becomes the prime responsibility of the Government to provide support.

(11) India's Information Technology (IT) industry has little to cheer about because the FM has ignored most of the sector's direct tax requests in his Budget for 2013-14. For instance, the sector had been asking for companies located within the Special Economic Zones to be exempted from paying the Minimum Alternate Tax. There was no mention of it in the Budget speech of the FM.

In order to attract new investment and speed up project implementation, the FM had introduced an investment allowance for new high value investments in manufacturing, but ignored the IT.

Companies engaged in manufacturing which invest Rs.100 crore or more in plant and machinery will be entitled to deduct an investment allowance of 15 per cent of the investment.

The second negative relates to Section 80JJAA of the Income Tax Act, IT companies could claim 30 per cent deduction of additional wages paid to the new employees. The new proposal nullifies this Section and this deduction is now applicable for manufacturing of goods in a factory."

(12) The Government, it appears, is committed to promote chip manufacturing, an area where India is far behind countries such as Taiwan and China. Experts in India have been pointing out to the country's huge electronics import bill. The FM said in his Budget speech, "we recognise the pivotal role of semi-conductor wafer fabs in the ecosystem of manufacture of electronics." He has also said, "I propose

to provide appropriate incentives to the semi-conductor wafer fab manufacturing facilities, including zero customs duty for plant and machinery.”

The other hardware piece is the encouragement “for domestic production of Set Top Boxes”. The FM proposed to increase the import duty from five to ten per cent. Though well-intentioned, it is meant to keep Chinese and other Asian players at bay, but it could easily backfire on consumers.

(13) The UPA Government is bogged down by mega scams like 2G spectrum, Commonwealth Games, Bofors, IPL, Chopper scam and now another scam, that is, CAG report on loan waiver scheme to the BPL farmers. Is the UPA Government sincere to control corruption is a million dollar question?

To conclude, I would say that the UPA Budget for 2013-14 is a disappointing Budget. It has failed to address the issues related to boosting the economic growth, cutting down inflation, usher investments, creating skills and jobs and building infrastructure.

In short, the common man, *aam aadmi* will continue to feel the pinch of the price rise, the unemployment of the youth will continue, and the investors will experience economic uncertainty. Thus, this Budget lacks vision and is devoid of any strategy for growth of the nation and welfare of the people.

In view of these, I oppose the General Budget, 2012-13.

SHRI D. RAJA: Currently the economy is going through a tough phase. Not only has growth slowed down to one of the lowest in the last ten years with industrial production turning negative, there is also the added burden of inflation which has continued at very high levels for the last five years. The mismanagement of the economy in the last five years is also obvious from the fact that the country is currently faced with the twin deficits of fiscal deficit and the current account deficit. An immediate impact of this has been the decline in growth of consumption expenditure which is now growing at only 4% as against more than 8% earlier. This is partly because of the decline in real incomes due to inflation but also due to low availability of employment in the economy.

At this juncture, the Finance Minister was expected to boost consumption in the economy through public expenditure. On the other hand, the Finance Minister



[Shri D. Raja]

has given tax sops (revenue forgone) to the tune of Rs. 5,73,630 crore which is not only higher than the fiscal deficit of Rs. 5,20,925 crore but also a significant increase compared to last year. The notional increase in surcharge on the households with income of more than Rs. 1 crore (which is going to affect less than 43000 households) is not only a drop in the ocean but also insignificant compared to total tax generated. In nutshell, the Finance Minister has failed to use this opportunity to generate taxes from those who can pay despite his own admission in the Budget that the tax-GDP ratio has not only declined but is lower than what it was 10 years ago.

The entire burden of fiscal management has been shifted on the poor where there has been massive reduction in subsidies as well as other public expenditure. The revised estimates also show that the actual Expenditure last year was 4 per cent lower than the Budgeted. So the Finance Minister issuing Budgetary as well as non-Budgetary measures to cut down essential expenditures including NREGA for which the actual expenditure is 4000 crores lower than Budgeted. This is despite the fact that wages have gone up. Effectively, he has Budgeted for lower number of person days to be created in NREGA than what was there last year. This is worrisome considering that many parts of the country are going through drought and food production is expected to decline by 10 million tonnes.

The worst apart of the Budget is the miniscule provision of 5000 crores extra compared to last years expenditure on food security which is the poll promise of the UPA Government. The total food subsidy is not only lower in real terms but also lower than the amount projected by the standing committee for effective roll out of food security act.

The fact that the economic survey has recognised job creation and quality of employment as the centre piece of economic reforms is a belated but bold and welcome recognition of the structural issues affecting the economy. It is indeed the key to any revival of the economy and this revival is very much contingent on how the economy absorbs the new entrants in the labour force as part of the growth process. But a crucial point highlighted by the economic survey is also the low productivity of existing employment, particularly in agriculture and rural areas. With

the economic survey predicting a shift of almost 10 per cent of workforce out of agriculture joining the pool of job seekers in the non-farm sector, the challenge is not only creating more jobs but also creating meaningful, decent and remunerative employment.

Unfortunately, there seems to be a mismatch between the stated objectives in the economic survey and the thinking of the Finance Minister, if one has to go by the announcements of this year's Budget. Part of the reason is the Finance Minister's belief that jobs are going to be created by the high capital intensive infrastructure sector alone. But more than that Budget 2013 misses the real issue which is that the process of revival of the economy has to be started at the bottom of the pyramid.

And this bottom of the pyramid is the workforce in rural areas, particularly those engaged in low productive agriculture. It is this huge work-force which amounts to more than half of total workforce which has seen deceleration in growth rates of incomes. While the drought in 2009 and 2012 have exposed the vulnerability of the agricultural sector to the vagaries of monsoon, the issues are not merely restricted to the decline in public investment in agriculture. As the second advance estimates for this year have reported, the food grain production is expected to decline by almost 10 million tonnes. The decline is not only restricted foodgrains alone with sugarcane production expected to decline by 7 per cent, cotton by 4 per cent and groundnut by 16 per cent. Clearly, insulating the farmer from the erratic rainfall by investing more in irrigation infrastructure should have been the first priority.

Unfortunately, as the economic survey notes, the total investment in agriculture as a percentage of total investment at 6.8 per cent is certainly much lower than even the share of agriculture in GDP at 14 per cent. But these look appalling considering that only 6.8 per cent of investment goes to a sector which accounts for more than half of total workers. What is worrying is that despite the agrarian sector slipping into crisis, there has not been any step-up in public investment. Whatever little increase in investment is observed in the recent years is accounted by the increase in private investment.

While the neglect of investment in agriculture is definitely worrying for the

[Shri D. Raja]

long term sustainability of the agricultural sector, what is worrying in the immediate present is the worsening of the profitability in agriculture. This has also been highlighted with as much seriousness in the various reports of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). Not only has there been a deceleration in income growth in the last four years but in case of some crops in some states, the net returns are negative. This is worrying since this is certainly going to affect the consumption demand in rural areas.

The obvious question is why incomes turned negative. Answer to this lies not in blaming the rain gods but our own policies for the agricultural sector. While the biggest increase in costs has been on account of rising wages probably as a response to the rising inflation thus starting a wage inflation spiral, the second biggest increase has been the costs of fertilisers and pesticide. Unfortunately, this has happened because of the introduction of nutrient based subsidy (NBS) regime in 2010. The result has been that the prices of non-urea fertilisers have trebled. This has led to many farmers shifting to urea which has created further pressure on supply and prices of urea. Net result has been an increase in urea as well as non-urea fertilisers. This Budget continues with the same measures and instead of correcting the imbalance between urea and non-urea fertilisers, it has ended up reducing the total fertiliser subsidy in real terms. Suffice it to note that the introduction of NBS has not led to any significant increase in domestic production which in any case was stagnant since 2001.

While the big-ticket reforms certainly did not materialize, even the existing promises which were meant to boost demand in rural areas received only cursory mention. While the economic survey mentioned leveraging MGNREGA to create infrastructure in the rural areas, this seems unlikely with the overall Budget of MGNREGA remaining constant. In fact, this translates into lower allocation considering that wages have gone up since the last Budget. But the biggest disappointment has been the token increase of food subsidy which is certainly not enough to roll out the ambitious national food security act. Even the idea of strengthening the farmer producer organization, an idea emphasised in the Twelfth Plan has only received a token attention with an outlay of 100 crores as the corpus grant.

But the real problem with this Budget is the approach to the agricultural sector. Unlike the economic survey which in some ways has at the least acknowledged the importance of employment and the need to shift workers out of agriculture, this Budget seems to be at variance with the broader vision of reform. Because the only way to shift workers from a low productive agriculture to high productivity non-farm sector is not by ignoring agriculture but by improving incomes and generating demand.

Dalits and Adivasis have been suffering from two-fold discriminations of social exclusion and economic exploitation for many years and this continues. This year again, as per the SCSP and TSP, meant to be a mechanism for the economic empowerment of SCs and STs, the quantum of allocation is very inadequate, which account to only 9.92 per cent to SCSP and only 5.7 per cent to TSP.

The Finance Minister has completely failed to identify the disease and root cause of disease of Indian Economy. He has tried, through Budget to treat only the symptoms not the disease.

Invoking the names of Stizler, Vivekananda and Thiruvallanvas will not help. FM cannot hoodwink people. People have understood the lip service to youth, poor and women.

CPI will continue fight the neo liberal economic policies pursued by the Government.

DR. BARUN MUKHERJI: The Hon'ble Finance Minister has presented the Budget 2013-14 in a situation when the Indian economy is passing 'through a crisis'. The Hon'ble FM affirms that it has happened in the context when 'global economic growth slowed from 3.9 per cent in 2011 to 3.2 per cent in 2012'. He further argues—'we are not unaffected by what happens in the rest of the world and our economy too slowed after 2010-11. In the current year—the RBI has estimated growth at 5.5 per cent,—which is below India's potential growth rate of 8 per cent'. But the Government's own Economic Survey 2013-14 indicates that domestic factors are also no less responsible for slowdown.

All these years were under UPA Government. Still no adequate explanation is given as to the reason for this economic slowdown, particularly when, against the

[Dr. Barun Mukherji]

world trend, China and Indonesia could grow at faster rate. It is interesting to note the Government's claim that 'the average for the Eleventh Plan period, entirely under the UPA Government, was over 8 per cent.' But the question remains whether the Government admits that with this growth—it has achieved its "mulmantra" of "inclusive and sustainable development", whether the GDP growth percolates to the poor and downtrodden people. In fact, deplorable inequality is the biggest tragedy of our present day society. There is no such indication in the Budget as to how to reach the goal of inclusive growth.

The other acute problem that haunts the people constantly is 'food inflation'. It is admitted in the Budget: "it is food inflation that is worrying, and we shall take all possible steps to augment the supply side to meet the growing demand for food items." But the allocation of Rs. 27,049 crore to Ministry of Agriculture may not be adequate for the purpose. Moreover, if the standard of living of the millions of poor and marginal farmers is not improved, agricultural productivity can not be improved. When thousands of debt-trapped farmers are compelled to commit suicide, how can we expect to improve the agricultural productivity? Unfortunately, the Budget does not emphasize on this point.

In response to a Calling Attention Motion at Rajya Sabha on 15th March, 2013, Mallikarjun Kharge, Minister of Labour and Employment has said in a written statement: "The challenge of employment, especially quality and remunerative employment in today's circumstances is truly formidable. There is no National level umbrella policy so far to address employment related issues." But the current Budget of the same Government does not provide any provision to properly address this vital national problem.

Another such regrettable omission is the issue of Black Money. The Hon'ble Finance Minister has carefully avoided this gigantic issue of unearthing the huge amount of Black Money, no less than several lakhs crore of Rupees, which otherwise could have funded several social development projects for the 'aam aadmi'. In view of the distressing deficit Budget can we afford to ignore this huge hidden wealth?

In fact, while meeting the formidable challenge of achieving the higher GDP

growth of at least 8 per cent, we expected some innovative plans and schemes from the learned F.M. But excepting one public sector women's bank, with Rs. 1,000 crore as initial capital, no other new scheme is offered. Of course, women's banks in cooperative sector are already operating for quite some years. The main emphasis of the Budget is to encourage foreign investment as much as possible, Hon'ble Finance Minister confirms—"if I may be frank, foreign investment is an imperative." The very high current account deficit (CAD) is proposed to be financed through FDI, FII or External Commercial Borrowing (ECB). The other large volumes of investment for infrastructure sector (Rs. 55,00,000 crore) are proposed to be met through Infrastructure Debt Funds (IDF) registered with SEBI or India Infrastructure Finance Corporation, in partnership with Asian Development Bank, or Multilateral Development Banks with assistance of World Bank and others. We are afraid, this extraordinary confidence and dependence in foreign investment and loan may eventually harm the development and growth of Indian economy.

**श्री राम कृपाल यादव:** उपसभापति महोदय, मैं 2013-14 आम बजट का समर्थन करता हूँ। किन्तु मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूँ कि बिहार के प्रति उसका नजरिया क्या है। बिहार BIMARU राज्य में से एक है और पिछले 65 वर्षों में अन्य राज्यों से विकास के संदर्भ में इसकी दूरी और बढ़ती जा रही है। इस बजट में सरकार ने 10.5 करोड़ जनता के लिए बहुत थोड़ी सी राशि का ही प्रावधान किया है। इस राशि में बिहार को कितना लाभ मिलेगा, यह बात न तो केन्द्र सरकार बता सकती है और न ही राज्य सरकार।

बिहार औद्योगिक रूप से पिछड़ा रहा है तथा 2002 में बंटवारे के बाद सारे उद्योग झारखंड चले गये। बचा हुआ सारा उद्योग बंद होने के कगार पर है। सर्वधिक विकास दर हासिल करने का दावा करने वाली राज्य सरकार इन रूग्ण उद्योगों में जान नहीं डाल पायी। फलस्वरूप पढ़े लिखे वर्ग का भी बिहार से निरंतर पलायन हुआ।

मैं सरकार से मांग करता हूँ कि वह बिहार के रूग्ण उद्योगों में जान डालने के लिए एक विशेष पैकेज दे। वर्तमान राज्य सरकार आज विशेष दर्जे की मांग कर रही है और उसके लिए गरीब बिहार राज्य का करोड़ों खर्च कर दिल्ली में प्रदर्शन आयोजित किया है। जबकि यही मांग हम लोग 2002 में राज्य के बंटवारे के समय से ही करते आ रहे हैं और इस पर हमने राज्य का एक पैसा भी बर्बाद नहीं किया।

राज्य सरकार विकास का दावा करती है किन्तु मैं एक हृदयविदारक घटना बताता हूँ। मेरे पुराने चुनाव क्षेत्र के फलवारी शरीफ में एक महिला को अपने पति के इलाज के लिए अपनी बेटी को 500 रुपये में बेचना पड़ा। हमारे पार्टी आरजेडी ने पहल की और उस महिला

[श्री राम कृपाल यादव]

को उसकी बेटी वापस दिलवाई, परंतु उसका पति बच नहीं सका। यह घटना जहां राज्य सरकार के दावों को खोखला साबित करती है, वहीं वहां के अस्पताल की स्थिति को बयां करती है।

सभापति महोदय, केन्द्र सरकार ने मुस्लिमों के शैक्षिक और आर्थिक पिछड़ेपन को दूर करने के लिए किशनगंज में AMU का एक केंद्र खोलने का निर्णय लिया पर राज्य सरकार ने इसके लिए जमीन देने में आनाकानी की थी फलस्वरूप इसे खोलने में विलंब हुआ था। परन्तु दुःख की बात है कि इस मद पर न तो केन्द्र सरकार ने और न ही राज्य सरकार ने आगे कुछ किया तथा इसके लिए कोई राशि निर्धारित की, फलस्वरूप मुस्लिमों का पिछड़ापन बरकरार रहा। मेरी मांग है कि सरकार BR(JU) की किशनगंज शाखा के लिए फंड दे क्योंकि BR(JU) की अन्य राज्य की शाखाएं अच्छा काम कर रही हैं।

सभापति महोदय, उत्तर बिहार प्रतिवर्ष बाढ़ की विभीषिकाओं का सामना करता है और स्वयं सरकार के आंकड़ों के अनुसार अब तक उसे 3000 करोड़ रुपये का नुकसान हुआ। मेरी सरकार से मांग है कि नेपाल के साथ वार्ता करे। सरकार इन क्षेत्रों में बाढ़ रोकने और लोगों को जानमाल के नुकसान से बचाने के लिए उस क्षेत्र में Hydel Project लगाये। इससे राज्य को न सिर्फ बिजली मिलेगी बल्कि बाढ़ से भी लोगों को निजात मिलेगी और रोजगार की संभावनाएं बढ़ेंगी। हालांकि राज्य सरकार इस संदर्भ में असफल ही रही है। बिहार जहां कि अनेकों नदियां बहती हैं वहां पीने के पानी की कमी है बहुत सारी जगहों में पानी का लेवल काफी नीचे गिर गया है तथा प्रदूषित हो गया है। वहां कई जगहों पर पानी में आर्सेनिक और फ्लोराइड की मात्रा अत्यधिक है और लोग अनेक प्रकार की बीमारियों तथा विकलांगता के शिकार हो रहे हैं। राज्य सरकार इस ओर कोई पहल नहीं कर रही है बल्कि असफल ही रही है। मेरी सरकार से मांग है कि वो इस दिशा में कार्य करे, पेयजलों को आर्सेनिक और फ्लोराइड मुक्त कराने के लिए Action Plan बनाये।

राज्य सरकार किसानों के लिए भी कुछ नहीं कर रही है जिससे कि बिहार के किसान बहुत दुखी हैं। बिहार में कृषि के अलावा कोई और रोजगार नहीं है। नहर क्षतिग्रस्त है, किसानों को सिंचाई के लिए पानी नहीं मिल रहा है। समय पर बीज और खाद नहीं मिलता जिससे उन्हें काफी नुकसान होता है, वे ठीक से खेती नहीं कर पाते। राज्य सरकार उनका अनाज समय पर नहीं खरीदती है और जो कुछ भी वह खरीदती है उसका उचित और समय पर भुगतान नहीं होता है। फलस्वरूप किसानों को मजबूरी में अपना अनाज औने-पौने भाव में व्यापारियों को बेचना पड़ता है और किसान ऋणों के जाल में और फंस जाते हैं क्योंकि उन्हें अपने उत्पाद का लाभकारी मूल्य नहीं मिल पाता है। किसानों का लगातार शोषण हो रहा है।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस बजट का समर्थन करता हूं और साथ ही मांग भी करता हूं कि वह बिहार को इन कठिनाइयों से उबरने के लिए विशेष पैकेज दे।

SHRI A.V. SWAMY: Chairman Sir, I am thankful to you for allowing me to participate in this vital debate.

Sir, The General Budget introduced by our forward looking Finance Minister Shri P. Chidambaram is spiced with many provisions that cheer the deprived sections and neglected regions of the country.

Sir, I convey through you my appreciation and thanks for giving due importance to problems long ignored for the poor and depressed population besides under developed regions of the country.

Sir, The most welcome assurance by the Finance Minister to revisit the criteria for identification of states for special category. This raises high hopes for the state of Odisha which has been persuading the centre for this status since 2001 by our untiring Chief Minister, Shri Naveen Patnaik for twelve years!

Chairman Sir, Incidentally, this 12 year period matches with 12 years of Pandavas' (of Epic Mahabharata) Vanavas returning to Hastinapur to give their subjects their legitimate right to live happily.

Sir, The Finance Minister has stated that it may be more relevant to use a measure like distance from the state from the national average, per capita income, literacy and other human development indicators for determining Special Category Status.

Chairman Sir, 11 states of the country have been declared as special category states as per the earlier criteria.

Apart from the present criteria based on terrain, length of international border, all the other criteria are met by Government of Odisha in their representation. I am giving below some of the high lights to justify the claim of Odisha for special category state.

Indicators	Remarks
1. Population Density (269)	Lower population density than two states <i>i.e.</i> Assam (397) and Tripura (350).
2. Tribal population (22.19%)	Higher tribal population than five states <i>i.e.</i> Assam (12.42%), Himachal Pradesh (4.02%), Jammu and Kashmir (10.98%), Sikkim (20.61%) and Uttarakhand (3.02%).



Indicators	Remarks
3. GSDP (At constant Prices) (137585/-)	Highest compared to other states.
4. Per Capita Income (At constant Prices) (Rs. 26900/-)	Lower per capita income than seven states-Arunachal Pradesh (Rs.38130/-), Himachal Pradesh (Rs. 49817/-), Jammu and Kashmir (Rs. 28,932/-), Meghalaya (Rs. 38944/-), Nagaland (Rs. 41522/-), Tripura (Rs. 40411/-) and Uttarakhand (Rs. 47831/-)
5. Growth Rate of GSDP (7.18)	Lower growth rate of (GSD) than five states-Assam (8.42), Himachal Pradesh (7.59), Meghalaya (9.54), Tripura (8.87) and Uttarakhand (8.8).
6. Literacy (73.45%)	Lower literacy per cent than eight states - Himachal Pradesh (83.78%), Manipur (79.85%), Meghalaya (75.48%), Mizoram (91.58%), Nagaland (80.11%), Sikkim (82.20%), Tripura (87.75%) and Uttarakhand (79.63%).
7. Per capita power consumption (kWh) (837.55 kwh)	Lower power consumption than four states - Himachal Pradesh (1144.94 wkh), Jammu and Kashmir (968.47 kwh), Sikkim (845.40 kwh) and Uttarakhand (930.41 kwh).
8. Human Development Indicators (0.362)	Lower than all the 11 special category states.
9. Infant Mortality Rate (69)	Higher than all the 11 special category states.
10. Maternal Mortality Rate (258 per 1,00,000 live birth 2007-08)	Higher than the national figure of 212 per 1,00,000 live births.
11. Railway Density (14.6 %)	Lower than the national density of 19.13%.
12. Road Density (168.6 K.M. Per 100 Sq. K.M.)	Higher than the national density of 76.8 K.M. Per 100 Sq. K.M.

Indicators	Remarks
13. Access to safe drinking water (60.1)	Lower than eight states-Arunachal Pradesh (78.6), Assam (69.9), Himachal Pradesh (93.7), Jammu and Kashmir (76.8), Mizoram (60.4), Sikkim (85.3), Tripura (67.5) and Uttarakhand (92.2).
14. Use of mobile and landline phones (2.4%)	Lower than eight States - Arunachal Pradesh (5.6%), Himachal Pradesh (13.4%), Jammu and Kashmir (6.6%), Mizoram (7.2%), Nagaland (3.2%), Sikkim (3.5), Tripura(3.3%) and Uttarakhand (6.6%).
15. BPL population (%) (2009-10) as per Tendulkar Methodology (37.00%)	Higher than 9 states-Arunachal Pradesh (25.90%), Himachal Pradesh (9.50%), Jammu and Kashmir (9.40%), Meghalaya (17.10%), Mizoram (21.10%), Nagaland (20.90%), Sikkim (13.10%), Tripura (17.40%) and Uttarakhand (18.00%).

Sir, Odisha suffers from internal security in nearly two-third districts out of 30 districts in the state due to Naxalism—a greater unpredictable insecurity compared to border areas security. Our revered President Shri Pranab Mukherjee aptly coins the Naxal and terror zones as “Fourth World War Zones” deserving top priority to stall the menace.

Distress migration of lakhs of people every year more particularly from Western Odisha is a visible sign of under development of the state. I appeal to the Finance Minister through you Sir, to favourably consider Odisha’s claim as special category state under the revised criteria being initiated by him.

Sir, I welcome the Finance Minister’s acceptance of the Kelkar Committee Report. Even though the modalities for un-utilised prime lands of PSUs and Port Trust are yet to be worked out, care should be taken that such lands are not diverted to private companies and the original owners who have been dispossessed and displaced should have a stake either in the form of land or cash compensation.

Sir, Finance Minister has also announced a long awaited demand from the public for revival of Nalanda University as centre of educational excellence.

[Shri A. V. Swamy]

In Odisha Pushpagiri ranks along with Nalanda, Vikramsilla and Thakyasilla universities as one of the primary institutions of higher learning in ancient India. It is one of the earliest Buddhist Maha Vihar spread across Jajpur district of Odisha (ancient Kalinga). Latilgiri, Udayagiri and Ratnagiri are integral parts of Pushpagiri University Complex. Unlike other ancient universities, Pushpagiri was not discovered until 1995 and hence did not received the importance that is due to it.

Sir, I would appeal to the Finance Minister to make adequate financial assistance for reconstruction Pushpagiri, which is 100 years older than Nalanda University located in Odisha.

*Jai Hind...Jai Jagat....*

**श्री रणवीर सिंह प्रजापति:** आपने मुझे बजट 2013-14 पर विचार रखने का मौका दिया। सर बजट को देख कर बड़ी निराशा हुई। हमारा देश कृषि प्रधान देश है। माननीय महोदय, मैं हरियाणा से आता हूँ। प्रदेश की जनता 80 प्रतिशत खेती पर निर्भर है। महामहिम राष्ट्रपति जी ने भी अपने अभिभाषण में कहा कि देश के अन्दर किसानों ने बम्पर पैदावार की है और खास कर के धान और कपास की रिकार्ड पैदावार हुई है। लेकिन महोदय रिकार्ड पैदावार होने के बावजूद आज किसान कर्ज में डूबता जा रहा है। आत्महत्या करने पर मजबूर है क्योंकि सरकार की गलत नीतियों के कारण किसान को महंगी D.A.P. यूरिया और पेस्टीसाइड्स खरीदने पड़ते हैं हालांकि कृषि मंत्री जी ने एक प्रश्न के जवाब में उर्वरकों के बारे में आंकड़ा दिया था कि देश और प्रदेश के अन्दर डी.ए.पी. यूरिया की कोई कमी नहीं है। लेकिन जब किसान को अपनी फसल की बुआई करनी होती है तब उसको बाजार में डी.ए.पी. यूरिया उपलब्ध नहीं होती है और उसे एक ही जवाब मिलता है कि रैक नहीं आया है। उसे ब्लैक में यूरिया और डी.ए.पी. खरीदनी पड़ती है। माननीय महोदय, मुझे समझ में नहीं आता है कि जब हमें यूरिया, डी.ए.पी. उर्वरक विदेश से आयात ही करने हैं तो हम समय पर आयात क्यों नहीं करते। सरकार को चाहिए कि किसान की फसलों की MSP फिक्स करे और न केवल MSP फिक्स करे बल्कि उस पर सरकार सुनिश्चित करे कि किसान की फसल अगर बाजार से सस्ते दाम पर बिक रही है तो सरकार MSP रेट पर स्वयं खरीदे। जब हरियाणा में चौधरी ओम प्रकाश चौटाला की सरकार थी तब उन्होंने सरकारी एजेंसियों को निर्देश दिए थे कि वे किसान की फसल चाहे बाजरा हो, गेहूँ हो, कपास हो, सरसों इत्यादि MSP रेट पर खरीद करें। लेकिन दुर्भाग्य है कि आज किसान जो पूरे देश का पेट भरने का काम करता है, वह खुद का घर चलाने के लिए संसाधन नहीं जुटा पाता। सरकार का हर महीने डीजल के रेट में बढ़ोत्तरी करने का निर्णय किसान को और कर्ज में डूबाने का काम कर रहा है।

पेट्रोलियम पदार्थों की कीमत में लगातार हो रही बढ़ोत्तरी के कारण न केवल किसान बल्कि आम आदमी पर लगातार मंहगाई का बोझ बढ़ रहा है। इस बजट में आम आदमी को निराशा ही हाथ लगी है। इस बजट में जहां किसान को भारी नुकसान है वहीं मजदूर का संकट और अधिक गहरा हुआ है क्योंकि बजट में महंगाई पर रोक लगाने का कोई प्रावधान मुझे नज़र नहीं आया जिसके कारण खेती और मजदूर से जुड़ा हर गरीब मजदूर और परेशान हो गया है।

माननीय महोदय, आज देश की राजधानी दिल्ली समेत देश में कानून व्यवस्था के हालात चिन्ताजनक हैं। महिलाओं पर अपराध निरंतर बढ़े हैं और जब कानून व्यवस्था बिगड़ती है तब गरीब आदमी, चाहे दलित हों या पिछड़ा वर्ग से हों, वे सब से ज्यादा अपराध के शिकार होते हैं। पिछले कुछ समय में हरियाणा के हालात बद से बदतर हुए हैं। यहां तक कि एस.सी., एस.टी. आयोग के राष्ट्रीय चेयरमैन महोदय ने भी हरियाणा की स्थिति को चिन्ताजनक बताते हुए हरियाणा प्रदेश को रेप प्रदेश की संज्ञा देने का काम किया। इस बजट में इस प्रकार के मामलों की रोकथाम के लिए कोई विशेष बात नहीं है। महामहिम महोदय ने अपने भाषण में 10 लाख मकान गरीबों को (BPL) देने की बात कही है लेकिन जब केन्द्र की सरकार की नीति-नीयत यह है कि 28 रुपये प्रतिदिन कमाने वाला व्यक्ति BPL में नहीं आएगा तो फिर मनरेगा के तहत जो मजदूर काम करते हैं उनका नाम भी BPL की सूची से बाहर होगा। जब BPL की सूची से मजदूरों का नाम ही कट जाएगा तो सरकार मकान किस को बना कर देगी। 'ना नौ मन तेल होगा, ना राधा नाचेगी।'

सर, मैं माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी से कहना चाहूंगा कि उन्हें इस बजट में डीजल के दामों में जो लगातार बढ़ोत्तरी हुई है, किसान की हालत देखते हुए उसे डीजल में सब्सिडी दे कर सस्ता डीजल उपलब्ध करवाना चाहिए तथा DAP यूरिया उर्वरकों पर बढ़ोत्तरी तुरंत वापिस लेनी चाहिए। सर, रसोई गैस मामले को लेकर हुई नीति पर भी पुनः विचार करके लगाई गई लिमिटेशन हटानी चाहिये ताकि आदमी राहत की सांस ले सके। धन्यवाद।

SHRI C.M. RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh): Thank you Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, to speak on the Budget for 2013-14. Except creating Nirbhaya Fund, exclusive bank for women and one or two other initiatives, this Budget is insipid and devoid of any concrete reforms to bail out the Indian economy out of its present doom and gloom. Sir, the fall in Sensex by 300 points on the day of Budget and Finance Minister's pleading the super-rich even to impose 10% surcharge gives enough indication that it is not only the scriptwriter, but even the script is wrong.

As a layman and person who know little about economics, I see the Budget from Aam Aadmi's point of view. This Budget will spur inflation as subsidies bill has been brought down from 2.58 lakh crores to 2.31 lakh crores for 2013-14. Not only

[Shri C.M. Ramesh]

this, the subsidy on petroleum products has also been reduced from 98,000 crores to 65,000 crores. These two retrograde initiatives alone would hit *Aam Aadmi* the most.

Sir, even an ordinary man, on reading the Budget, will understand that Finance Minister is interested in controlling fiscal deficit instead of addressing the socio-economic problems being faced by the people of this country for the last 10 years. To rein in fiscal deficit at 5.2%, the Finance Minister has cut 92,000 crores in the Plan expenditure in the current year. Sir, plan expenditure is what Government spends on implementation of various social sector schemes and asset creation. So, Finance Minister has 'sacrificed' social sector schemes and asset creation to contain fiscal deficit at 5.2%. It is good that he has not gone beyond 5.2%. If he thought of taking fiscal deficit to 2007-08 level of 3.1%, probably, he would have provided just a few lakh rupees as Plan expenditure and you can imagine the plight of *Aam Aadmi* in such a scenario. Secondly, look at the sectors where he has imposed the cut. BE of Agriculture for 2012-13 was 16,121 crores, but it has been reduced to 13,787 crores now; HRD from 61,427 crores to 56,223 crores; Rural Development's expenditure which implements NREGA has been brought down by more than 21,000 crores to name a few. This reflects his concern towards the social sector of this country. Can there be a bigger joke and betrayal of the people of this country than this?

Thirdly, even if you look at the Gross Budgetary Support, it is also disappointing. The Hon. Minister asserted that there is 30% increase in the Plan expenditure for 2013-14 over the RE of 2012-13. Surely, it will be there. Because you have reduced 92,000 crores of Plan expenditure at the RE stage for 2012-13! Sir, Finance Minister is well aware of the fact that a meaningful comparison can only be made between two similar items. In this case either between two BEs or two REs and not between BE and RE. So, if you look at this year's Plan expenditure, it is 5.21 lakh crores while the Plan expenditure for next year is 5.55 lakh crores. The hike is just 6.5% which is not commensurate with the inflation which is now hovering around 7.5%. This clearly shows that his claim of 30% increase is baseless and misleading. He can sell his script by saying that there is a 30% increase to *Aam Aadmi* as they do not understand his financial jugglery, but not to others.

Sir, next I come to National Food Security which was an election promise of

the UPA Government in 2009. Congress has been dragging it since 2009 and, I am sure, that it would not drag it any further and will enact the Bill just before the next elections to reap electoral gains. Last month a meeting of all Food Ministers of States was held to discuss various issues. Many States have expressed reservations on the Bill. In fact, some States like Tamil Nadu wanted to be excluded from this scheme. Even though the objective of the scheme is laudable, but with just 10,000 crores allotted in this Budget, I am deeply worried and unsure as to how it is going to be implemented. Sir, even the NAC, headed by Smt. Sonia Gandhi, has criticised this move. Let me give details. This year food subsidy bill is estimated to be 75,000 crores. But, the actual RE shows an expenditure of 85,000 crores. Now, the Finance Minister, for 2013-14, has given 80,000 crores which is 5,000 crores less than the RE of 2012-13 and provided 10,000 crores extra for Food Security Bill. But, effectively, the increase is only 5,000 crores. So, I fully agree with Shri N.C. Saxena, Member of NAC, that it is nothing but deceit to fool the people of this country. The Government will implement this scheme in the next 10 months. So, the Finance Minister should have, at least, provided 40,000 crores for Food Security Bill. Otherwise, it clearly shows that Government is not serious about addressing hunger and mal nourishment in the country.

I will now mention as to how the Hon. Finance Minister has played havoc with other social sector schemes. Sir, it is with these schemes the UPA Government wants to achieve the inclusive growth and wipe out disparity between rich and poor. And, it is with the slogan "*Congress Ka Haath, Aam Adami Ke Saath*" this Congress-led Government came to power. But, Finance Minister has other plans in his mind. He said in his speech that wisdom lies in finding the correct level of Government expenditure. And, he has shown this "wisdom" not in words, but in deeds at the cost of *Aam Aadmi*. I will give you an example. Hon. Finance Minister boasted that he has given 33,000 crores to NREGA for 2013-14, but it is the same amount that was provided this year. PMGSY is 21,700 crores for 2013-14 which is roughly 10% less than Rs. 24,000 crores given in 2012-13. RGGVY is given 4,500 crores for 2013-14 which is about 8% less than 4,900 crores allocated during the current year. The list goes on. Why he has done all this? He has done this only with a single objective in mind and that is to prove his point and hidden agenda that the country is in the dire need of foreign investment. Does India require foreign

[Shri C.M. Ramesh]

investment by resorting to such anti-people measures? My party does not subscribe to such investment at the cost of common man. The former Finance Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, has rightly said that India lived without foreign investment earlier and India will survive without foreign investment, if required, in future as well. That is the reason why I say that this Budget is not in the interest of the common man.

I now come to agriculture credit. I congratulate the Finance Minister for increasing agriculture credit from 5.75 lakh crores this year to 7 lakh crores for 2013-14. It is nearly 10 times of target set in 2002-03. It is good. But, the point is, farmers have been requesting for reducing the interest to 3% . But, in this Budget, Finance Minister has not shown any mercy towards farmers. It is their genuine demand if you look at the investment required for production and the amount that he gets for his produce through MSP. So, I only urge the Finance Minister to be magnanimous towards the farming community and provide farm loan at 3%. Secondly, hon. Minister is well aware that the farming community is in deep trouble. Farmers are looking for debt waiver again. Even Shri Chandrababu Naidu also demanded for waiving the agriculture loans in his Padayatra. This will help the farmers a lot. So, I request the Finance Minister to seriously think about it.

Sir, I now come to personal tax. Every tax payer eagerly waits for the Budget with the hope that he would get some tax relief. We all know that it is only the salaried class which cannot escape from the clutches of tax net as their entire income is like an open book unlike business people. What relief Minister has given to salaried tax payers this time is virtually nothing ! He has given 2,000 exemption to those whose income is less than 5 lakhs per annum. If you calculate, it comes to 166 p.m. It is a pittance. So, I request tax relief, particularly for women. Secondly, there is indiscipline in tax administration and tax collection. Current year's tax collection fell by 40,000 crores of BE. This year, the Finance Minister has set a target of 12.33 lakh crores of direct and indirect tax collections. I suggest him to be strict and adopt intelligent means to achieve this target.

I welcome that the Finance Minister has shown **generosity** towards first home buyers by giving additional interest deduction of 1 lakh up to loan amount of 25 lakhs. But, it should have been given for, at least, 3 years which will boost the real

estate sector which is **subdued** in the last few years. Secondly, real estate is considered as the major sector of engine of growth and there have been demands from the real estate sector and also from others for giving infrastructure status to the real estate sector. Further, RBI is allowing only 6% of total lending of banks to real estate sector at a time when the global average is 25% that needs to be corrected especially when construction costs have escalated significantly. The Government has introduced the Real Estate Regulatory Bill without consulting the Confederation of Real Estate Developers Association of India and other stakeholders. The real estate sector is opposing this Bill as it mandates to deposit 70% of sale proceeds in bank account and there are other provisions which are detrimental to this sector. I request the Hon. Finance Minister to accord infrastructure status to real estate sector and persuade the RBI to provide, at least, 20% of total lending of banks to real estate sector for its sustainable growth and address their concerns in the Bill.

We are not getting foreign investment and MNCs are not coming mainly due to lack of infrastructure. There is no mention in the Budget what Government is going to do to provide infrastructure. If we provide necessary infrastructure only then MNCs will come and we will get revenue which increases our growth. So, I suggest for putting more emphasis on infrastructure.

I read closely the Budget Speech of the Finance Minister to find out whether he has announced any steps to curb black money and bring back black money stashed in foreign banks. Some reports say the amount is 1.4 trillion dollars, CBI says 500 billion dollars and some reports say it is more than 2 trillion dollars. Whatever may be the figure, but the fact of the matter is that lakhs of crores of money belonging to the poor man of this country are stashed illegally in foreign banks. All I ask the Finance Minister is to share with us the details of the roadmap drawn by him to bring back this black money.

Secondly, banks are mandated to give loans to MSME, agriculture and other sectors which need it the most. But, if you look at the Credit Suisse Report 2012, it indicates that 11 companies debt is 6 lakh crores which is 14% debt of total bank loans and 98% of networth of banking system. The growth rate of corporate lending is 50% and for agriculture, MSMEs it is much less. So, this clearly shows that Indian



[Shri C.M. Ramesh]

banking system, in the last five years, is driven by a select few corporate groups. I request the Minister to rectify this anomaly.

Sir, I also welcome the proposal for setting up of water purification plants to cover *arsenic* and *fluoride* affected rural areas. And, for this Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation has been given Rs. 1,400 crores. Sir, 19 districts in AP and 16 districts in Tamil Nadu are affected with fluoride. The Minister might be aware that Nalgonda district in AP is the worst fluoride affected district in the country. So, I request the Hon. Minister to set up sufficient number of water purification plants in AP.

Sir, these are some of the views I wish to place before the Hon. Minister and request him not to forget the common man. Otherwise, they will forget you in the coming elections. The Prime Minister has rightly said, while replying to the debate on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address, that the so-called BIMARU States have done much better in UPA period. So, I only advise the Hon. Finance Minister rise above the party politics and not to grudge but provide more financial support to any State which has done this country proud both at the national and international level.

Since public is the shareholder and the Govt. being the management appointed by these shareholders as the custodian of public finances, the Govt. needs to put in place its Key Performance Indicators which are SMART (Stretch, Measurable, Actionable, Result and Time-oriented) broken into 12 monthly targets along with Quarterly, Half Yearly and Annual Performance Reviews by the general public. Hence, I urge the Finance Minister to put in place a barometer for people of this country to measure Govt.'s Budgetary targets Versus achievements on periodic basis, thereby making Budget a meaningful and relevant exercise for them.

When in the case of M/s Satyam Computers despite not having much loans and any bank debts on its books, the Govt. promptly initiated SFIO and other investigations, took immediate control and changed the management as soon as the fraud was reported in Satyam, why Govt. is keeping silent and has not initiated any action so far against M/s Deccan Chronicle which is indebted with bank loans of more than Rs. 7500 crores and when the financial bungling and misappropriation has

been widely reported with many of the banks having already initiated legal actions for recovering their dues? Your silence in such matters of public and Govt. interest is raising doubts about your sincerity with double standards being adopted to nab and apprehend the perpetrators of the financial crimes in the country.

Today's one of the leading national business daily newspaper has widely reported about the "Road to loan recovery tough for banks" with the top ten most indebted leading, prestigious and famous (or infamous) Corporate Houses having a Market Capitalization of Rs. 1,90,738.2 crores as against their consolidated borrowings (including all their group companies) of Rs. 4,35,734.8 crores (as on 31.03.2012). Further all listed companies (with their debt higher than their market cap) have a total borrowing of Rs. 16,18,618.7 crores as against their market cap of only Rs. 6,67,288.5 crores, thereby, implying a huge unrecoverable gap of Rs. 9,51,330.2 crores. This is already in the public knowledge and I would like to know as to what actions are being taken by Hon. Minister for ensuring the safety of the public money as well as the retail shareholders who are at loss as well as the risk of losing their hard earned money in the current scenario.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

Thank you !!!

SHRI P. KANNAN (Puducherry): Hon. Chairman, I would like to lay following point in the Budget presented by Hon. Finance Minister.

The tax for A/c Restaurant may be reconsidered and pl. be withdrawn as it is against the interest of middle class people as they generally go for such restaurants and moreover now a days the mere A/c may not considered as luxury at all.

**श्री महेन्द्र सिंह माहरा** (उत्तराखंड): मान्यवर चेयरमैन सर, पंचवर्षीय योजनाओं के लक्षित बिन्दुओं को वार्षिक रूप से प्रतिरूपित करने का आधार आम बजट ही है, जिसके माध्यम से योजनाओं को प्रगति व समीक्षा किया जाना संभव हो पाता है। बजट देश की आर्थिक प्रगति, नीतियों की एक तस्वीर देश व दुनिया के सामने रखने व सरकार की दृढ़ इच्छा शक्ति का परिचायक है। मान्यवर, वर्तमान वित्तीय वर्ष के बजट में सरकार ने अपने पूर्व निर्धारित लक्ष्यों की प्राप्ति एवं सामाजिक व आर्थिक जगत के विकास में विशेष प्रयास किए हैं। बुनियादी ढाँचे के लिए राजकोषीय घाटे को कम करना, विदेशी निवेश को आकर्षित करने, आंतरिक बचत बढ़ाने के लिए भौतिक व वित्तीय सम्पत्तियों के आवंटन के तरीकों में बदलाव हेतु नये संस्थागत

[श्री महेन्द्र सिंह माहरा]

उपायों, जैसे महंगाई से जुड़े बांड, राष्ट्रीय महंगाई बचत पत्र, एक्सचेंज ट्रेडेड फंड का सरलीकरण, राजीव गांधी इक्विटी योजना द्वारा 12 लाख तक के वर्ग को प्राथमिक व द्वितीयक बाजार में प्रवेश के अवसर एवं पांच लाख तक की वार्षिक आय तक के वर्ग के करदाताओं को 20,000 रुपये की अतिरिक्त क्रयशक्ति दी गयी है।

मान्यवर, ऋण बाजार के विकास व उसे प्रभावी बनाने के लिए मध्यम व लघु उद्योगों की संख्या वृद्धि व आर्थिक दृढ़ता प्रदान करने के उपायों को प्राथमिकता दी गयी है। इससे समाज के मध्यम व निम्न आय वर्ग के लोगों को रोजगार के विशेष अवसर प्राप्त होंगे।

मान्यवर, उत्तराखंड के परिप्रक्ष्य में यह बजट सराहनीय है। राज्य के 6.66 लाख पंजीकृत बेरोजगारों व अन्य शिक्षा प्राप्त युवाओं के लिए स्किल डेवलपमेंट फंड की राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर स्थापना की घोषणा उनकी तकनीकी कुशलता व आत्मनिर्भरता में वृद्धि के अवसर पैदा करेगा एवं इस राज्य से युवा शक्तियों के पलायन को रोकने में प्रभावी होगा तथा उनके विश्वास व आय बढ़ाने में सहायक रहेगा। इस योजना में प्रशिक्षण पूर्ण कर प्रमाण पत्र के साथ स्वरोजगार व उद्यमिता विकास हेतु दी जाने वाली 10 हजार की राशि उन्हें शारीरिक व मानसिक रूप से तैयार करेगी।

मान्यवर, खनन व रेत व्यवसाय तथा अन्य समकक्ष व्यवसाय से जुड़े राज्य के खनन मजदूरों के लिए राष्ट्रीय बीमा योजना उन्हें सामाजिक व आर्थिक सुरक्षा प्रदान करेगी।

मान्यवर, महिला बाहुल्य उत्तराखंड राज्य में इनकी सामाजिक सुरक्षा व आर्थिक विकास हेतु महिला बैंक व निर्भया फंड की स्थापना विशेष उपलब्धि रही। इसके लिए महिला व बाल विकास तथा अन्य संबंधित मंत्रालयों के माध्यम से शीघ्र योजनाओं का क्रियान्वयन सरकार की दृढ़ इच्छाशक्ति का परिचायक है।

मान्यवर, ग्रामीण स्वास्थ्य मिशन योजना से उत्तराखण्ड के छोटे व दुर्गम गांवों को विशेष लाभ विगत वर्षों में प्राप्त हुआ है। इससे चिकित्सा सुविधाओं में विशेष उल्लेखनीय वृद्धि हुई है। इसी से प्रेरित 108 एम्बुलेंस ने चिकित्सा सुविधा प्रदान कर सेवा के क्षेत्र में विश्व कीर्तिमान बनाया है। प्राप्त सफलता को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए शहरी क्षेत्रों को भी राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन के अंतर्गत लाना स्वागतयोग्य है।

मान्यवर, कृषि क्षेत्र में खाद्यान्न की उपलब्धता बढ़ा कर अंतर्राष्ट्रीय महंगाई को नियंत्रण में लाने का बजट प्रस्ताव भारत जैसे कृषि प्रधान अर्थव्यवस्था के लिए महत्वपूर्ण है। इसके लिए 22 प्रतिशत बजटीय वृद्धि, कृषि अनुसंधान व संस्थागत विकास सघन उत्पादकता को प्रेरित करेगी। राष्ट्रीय कृषि विकास एवं खाद्य सुरक्षा मिशन की निरंतरता को बजट में बनाए रखने से प्रथम हरित क्रांति के राज्यों उत्तर प्रदेश पंजाब, हरियाणा व द्वितीय हरित क्रांति से पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों को प्रोत्साहन प्राप्त होगा तथा यूपीए सरकार का इस प्रकार के प्रोत्साहन का बजट

प्रस्ताव विशेष प्रयास व उपलब्धि है। इसका सीधा लाभ उत्तराखंड के कृषकों को पिछले कई वर्षों से प्राप्त हो रहा है और वर्तमान बजट से स्पष्ट होता है कि यह आगे भी निरन्तर जारी रहेगा।

मान्यवर, पशुधन उत्तराखंड की आय व आत्मनिर्भरता का प्रमुख स्रोत रहा है। इसके लिए राष्ट्रीय पशु मिशन और दाने-चारे के लिए उपमिशन की शुरुआत इस क्षेत्र को आत्मनिर्भर बनाने व आर्थिक विकास दर बढ़ाने में सहायक होगी।

मान्यवर, संयुक्त प्रगतिशील गठबंधन की हमारी सरकार की ग्रामीण विकास योजनाएं विगत वर्षों में विशेष उपलब्धि कारक प्रयोगवादी व अनूठी रही हैं। महात्मा गांधी रोजगार गारंटी योजना, प्रधान मंत्री सड़क योजना, राजीव गांधी ग्रामीण विद्युतीकरण योजना, इंदिरा आवास योजना जैसी सामाजिक व आधारमूलीय आर्थिक योजनाओं ने विश्व का ध्यान भारत की ओर आकर्षित किया है। इन योजनाओं से आर्थिक सेवा का क्षेत्र मजबूत हुआ है और क्रयशक्ति की प्रगति से महंगाई व बेरोजगारी जैसी विश्वव्यापी समस्याओं में तुलनात्मक रूप से नियंत्रण संभव हो पाया है, जो आगे भी जारी रहेगा।

मान्यवर, ग्रामीण पेयजल व स्वच्छता मिशन से जीवन स्तर में गुणात्मक परिवर्तन भारत के ग्रामीण परिवेश में दृष्टिगोचर हुआ है। सर्वशिक्षा अभियान व मिड-डे मील जैसी लोकप्रिय योजनाओं ने गरीब व आर्थिक रूप से विफल तबकों के शैक्षिक उन्नयीकरण में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका प्रस्तुत की है।

मान्यवर, अनुसूचित जाति, जनजाति, अल्पसंख्यक वर्ग तथा बीपीएल के लिए आर्थिक सहायता व सर्वांगीण विकास हेतु आधारभूत सुविधाओं के प्रसारण, नियोजन ने एक नया परिवर्तन भारतीय समाज को दिया है। इससे समेकित सुरक्षा बीमा व अल्प बचत की अनेक योजनाएं सफल हुई हैं। यही प्रावधान इस वर्ष के बजट में पुनः किया गया है।

मान्यवर, इसी राष्ट्रीय प्रगति का प्रतिनिधित्व कांग्रेस शासित उत्तराखंड राज्य करता है, जिसका अधिकांश भाग पर्वतीय है। उपरोक्त योजनाओं के माध्यम से युवाओं के पलायन में प्रभावी कमी, रोजगार के साधनों के अवसरों में वृद्धि तथा आर्थिक विकास के लिए ढांचागत सुविधाओं के विकास से वर्तमान में उत्तराखंड राज्य ने राष्ट्रीय विकास दर से अधिक गति प्राप्त की है, जो कि संग्रह सरकार की स्वच्छ संचालन की देन है।

मान्यवर, मुझे बजट जैसे महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर बोलने का अवसर प्रदान किया, इस हेतु मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ और प्रस्तुत बजट का समर्थन करता हूँ।

SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Chairman Sir, Thank you very much Sir for permitting me to speak on the Budget which is growth-oriented, progressive and aimed at fiscal consolidation. It is a balanced Budget with

[Shri Palvai Goverdhan Reddy]

substantial increase in the allocations to health, rural development, education and special fund for women's development. The all- new women bank with Rs. 1,000 crores as corpus shows that it is the only UPA which can think of welfare and well being women and destitute in the country. Sir, even if you look at the Economic Survey released a day before the Budget presented a bright future with GDP expected to reach 6.7% in the coming year. With World Bank's prediction that the prices of global commodities, including oil prices, would come down in 2013-14, I am confident that our economy would surpass the 7% growth rate. There is no doubt that this year's growth rate would be around 5%. But, if one looks at the overall growth rate since 2009-10, it is 8% which is more than what NDA has achieved during its time.

I welcome that he has taxed the super rich, doubled from 5% to 10% and exempted the low income groups which is a good balancing act from the Finance Minister.

Even if you look at the allocations made, they are very impressive. Finance Minister has increased allocation for food from Rs. 75,000 crores in BE in 2012-13 to Rs. 90,000 for 2013- 14 and an additional Rs. 10,000 crores for Food Security Bill.

Agriculture credit target has been increased from Rs. 5.75 lakh crores in 2012-13 to Rs. 7 lakh crores in 2013-14. In this Budget the Finance Minister has extended the interest subvention to private commercial banks as well to achieve the target. The notable feature of the Budget is a Rs. 500 crore fund for National Mission on Crop Diversification. This would help farmers to switch over to commercial crops such as oilseeds and pulses.

Finance Minister has set aside Rs. 1,400 crores for water purification plants. It is the need of the hour as many States in the country are reeling under severe water problem and important of them are Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, West Bengal apart from other States. I only request the hon. Minister to set up more water purification plants in Telangana region of Andhra Pradesh which is facing a lot of problem with quality of water such as fluoride, arsenic, etc.

I welcome that the Minister has proposed to provide 6% interest on working

capital and term loan for handloom weavers. He has allocated Rs. 96 crores for this. I request him to increase this to, at least, Rs. 500 crores. It is only then the weavers in the country are benefited. There is a quantum jump in the allocation for health sector from Rs. 26,760 crores in 2011-12 to Rs. 37,330 crores for 2013-14. Allocation for education has gone up from Rs. 55,000 crores in the current year to more than Rs. 65,500 crores.

The agriculture loan waiver as must, so that the agriculturist can start afresh with a clean slate. He can be free from the clutches of money lenders and banks and retain self confidence and keep the pride of the nation as a whole. Government banking laws require a re-look. The Grameena Banking System is envisaged to cater to the rural people, more particularly the agriculturist, at a lesser rate of interest than commercial bank, whereas, the ground reality is different. The Grameena Banks have been charging 5 percent more rate of interest than the commercial banks. This should be put an end to. On some pretext or the other, the loan recovery has been thoroughly defective and disastrously dangerous to the rural folk.

Chairman Sir, More than 60% of the population in the Country live on Agriculture. The Economic Survey shows that there has been induction of 2% of GDP in the Economic growth of the Country in this sector. This is quite alarming the Union Government will have to take necessary steps to see that there is good improvement. Great importances have to be given to Agriculture. Let us see the reasons for this said state of affairs:

1. There has been a great investment by the farmers for some necessary inputs such as the cost of fertilisers which has increased immensely. The loan the farmers take is mostly spent on the purchase of this commodity. Another important input is the Seed. Seed supplied in the market is not only costly but it is normally defective, which does not give the necessary result. A mechanism has to be derived by the Government to ensure better seed. The cost of this input has also increased enormously.
2. Agriculture Labour has been expensive and scarce to the farmers. The MNREGS introduced is no doubt a boon to the agriculture labour, but it

[Shri Palvai Goverdhan Reddy]

has increased wages enormously and the works undertaken by them are only in the Agriculture Seasons where the farmer is in need of his assistance. Secondly the wages paid under this scheme has upset the wage structure on Farming. The wages paid are enormous for two or three hours of work. The Budget provided under this is mismanaged and middlemen are sharing benefits. This scheme must necessarily be implemented during non- agriculture season when the Agriculture labours require work. The result is that a small Holder of Land is giving his land on Lease and has taken up work under MNREGS. This has become more profitable. The result is that there has a drastic decline in Agriculture Production.

3. The M.S.P announced annually does not commensurate with the expenditure the farmer incurs. Normally the farmer is in great need of money the moment the crop is harvested. He gives it to the traders at a price not conducive to his expenditure. The traders knock if the advantage of N.S.P if the market is dull. There is a great need to make effort to see that the farmer gets the N.S.P directly from the Government Agencies as it is done in Punjab and Haryana. There is also a great need to allow export of Cash Crops such as Turmeric and Sugar etc., to maintain the Standard value of the Cash Crop, if not all it must be at least for substantial stock.
4. The farmers get good income in Vegetables, Fruits and Flowers. These are perishable Commodities, which needs cold storages. There is a need to encourage establishment of Cold Storage on a large scale, either through the co-operative or by offering subsidy to private sector.
5. Power and Irrigation are the other two main ingredient to the farmer especially in areas where there is no facility of canal irrigation. Today erratic power supply is the order of the day. Heavy subsidies are being given to Private Power suppliers who do not keep up their commitments. This affects farming in upland areas and both the farmer and the labour are severely affected.

The Union Government must direct the State Government to make better arrangements in power supply and give incentive to those who adhere to the Union Government Directions.

### **Irrigation**

Water is a gift of humanity by Nature. Irrigation is life blood to agriculture. There are mighty rivers in south India. Godavari, Krishna and Cauvery and several other rivers, which if well, harnessed and used equitably to back ward areas as per their catchment area, is a great boon to the agricultural community.

Unfortunately the union Government left the harnessing of river water to the States, without keeping an effective control, with the result the State Governments are not doing proper justice to people who have a right to utilize the river waters for their needs. For example the State of Andhra Pradesh is endowed with the benefit of using the Godavari waters in the North and Krishna River in the South. The A.P. State Government is acting in flagrant violation of the awards given by the water tribunals to the disadvantage of some backward regions and backward classes of people. For example the A.P. State Government has taken up a big project namely Polavaram which is to irrigate 7 lakhs of acers by storing water. A dam on River Godavari is not possible to get a sound foundation. All experts have continuously opined that only a Barrage may be constructed as a dam on Rock filled Foundation cannot withstand the heavy floods in the rainy season. There are objections to the dam by the Odisha and Chandigarh Governments as their villages would be submerged under a 70 feet dam. In the State also it will submerge about 3 Lakhs Tribal villages and also 2 lakh acers of land of the tribal's in Telangana area. The famous Sri Rama Temple at Bhadrachalam is likely to be submerged.

Experts such as Sri Hanumanth Rao, Former-Engineer-in-Chief of Andhra Pradesh has made alternative design for Polavaram Project to irrigate the same area and generate the same power as envisaged under the dam, by constructing 3 Barrages upstream which would save submergence in Odisha and Chhattisgarh which are regboureng States and also save submergence effecting 3 lakh tribal habitant and save about a lakh of acers of tribal land from submergence.

Unfortunately the State Government officials and Engineers and Leaders due to their own vested interests are not ready to even examine the proposal of an



[Shri Palvai Goverdhan Reddy]

eminent Engineer like Sri Hanumantha Rao, which could be done at a lesser cost. I had met the CPWC officers several times to save the calamity but they for reasons best known to them are not interested to examine the proposal themselves. The affected people in the state are represented through their M.P. of the both the houses of Parliament. Therefore I feel it is the duty of Union Government to save the people from catastrophe. Especially the submerging areas is a 5th Schedule area belonging to Tribal's. Another glaring instance of the Andhra Pradesh State Government is that when the water Tribunal had ordered that the Rayalaseema Region of the State shall utilise only 150 TMC of water for irrigation, but the State Government which has to divert the 29 TMC for SRBC canal and 15 TMC for drinking water for Chennai State through Pothi Reddy Padu outlet has now increased its capacity from 4000 Cusecs to 40,000 Cusecs per day, thereby utilising about 360 TMC of water to One Region at the cost of others. This has badly affected the rights and irrigation projects of Telangana area.- It has been deprived of its legitimate share under the Water Tribunals Award. This is the only project only to produce the power not for irrigation A.P. constructed project without planning commission, Central Water Commission and Finance Department with Andhra Pradesh Government funds.

Chairman Sir, It is necessary to take up entire Godavari River as National Project and construct 11 barrages to produce power in each barrage and supply to agriculture through lifts. 3500 megawatts power will come through these 11 barrages and through this power we can lift the water during Karif season to cultivate around 20 lakh acres in dry times through irrigation dry crops during Karif season. Navigation of 300 Metric Ton sea going vessels as in Saint Laurence River in U.S is possible and the same is not possible in dam design which has navigation path through a small tunnel.

It is also wonder to construct canals without dam design and approval of Central Water Commission. They had spent 3000 crores on the canal.

I therefore request the Government of India to alter the design of Polavaram project which saves 300 villages, only 70 villages in Telangana and Andhra area will submerge apart from there is no submersions in Odisha and Chhattisgarh.

Government of India should be brought irrigation under the union list so that the disputes can be avoided and optimal utilization principle can be implemented so that in future there will be no wars and bloodshed for the sake of water.

Chairman Sir, You are requested to direct the Government of India to examine all the possibilities to save 2 lakhs tribals and their agricultural land and examine all these possibilities by not depending only on State Government proposals.

I am also laying herewith a copy of Polavaram Project “Why An Alternative Design for Head Works” for the persuasion of the Government of India through high expert committee.

Overall picture, I submit that, I totally and honestly support this Budget with all kudos to the Finance Minister Sri Chidambaram Ji, our beloved Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh Ji and Madam Sonia Ji for the people’s welfare Budget. I also thank you all for this opportunity.

*Jai Hind !!!*

*Jai Telangana !!!*

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members. With your permission and with the permission of the House, what I intend to do is, I will cull out all the major points in the speeches and prepare one comprehensive reply and circulate it to the Members. Individual points that are made by Members, which deserve to be examined carefully, will be sent to the concerned Departments. The Departments will examine them and I will try to reply to them in due course.

With these words, I conclude. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): I shall first put the Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2013 to vote. The question is:

That the Bill to provide for the withdrawal of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of a part of the financial year 2013-14, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

*The motion was adopted.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

*Clauses 2 to 4 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 move:

That the Bill be returned.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): I shall now put the Appropriation Bill, 2013 to vote. The question is:

That the Bill to authorize payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2012-13, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

*The motion was adopted.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

*Clauses 2 and 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 move:

That the Bill be returned.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): I shall now put the Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2013 to vote. The question is:

That the Bill to provide for the authorisation of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March, 2011 in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

*The motion was adopted.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

*Clauses 2 and 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 move:

That the Bill be returned.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

---

**(A) THE BUDGET (JHARKHAND) 2013-14**

**and**

**(B) GOVERNMENT BILLS--Contd.**

**(i) THE JHARKHAND APPROPRIATION BILL, 2013**

**(ii) THE JHARKHAND APPROPRIATION (NO. 2) BILL, 2013**

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): We shall now take up the Budget (Jharkhand) 2013-14, the Jharkhand Appropriation Bill, 2013 and the Jharkhand Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2013. The hon. Minister.

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

That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Jharkhand for the services of the financial year 2013-14, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

Sir, I also move:

That the Bill to authorize payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Jharkhand for the services of the financial year 2012-13, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

*The questions were proposed.*