

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, it was reported in the media. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You should say, 'a person'. You say, a person or his friend. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, I am demanding a reinvestigation. His involvement is very much evident from the video recording. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is okay. What do you want? You want a re-inquiry. You have said that. Now, sit down. Why do you go to unnecessary points? Your time is over. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, I want reinvestigation. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shri K. K. Ragesh.

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shri K. K. Ragesh.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Time is over. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Dr. Narendra Jadhav. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Ragesh, your time is over. Sit down. Dr. Narendra Jadhav, please start. ...*(Interruptions)*... What Mr. Ragesh says will not go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: \*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What Mr. Ragesh says will not go on record. Now, Dr. Narendra Jadhav.

**Concern over the abolition of Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP)  
and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP)**

DR. NARENDRA JADHAV (Nominated): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, one of the most serious fall-outs of the removal of distinction between Plan and Non-Plan expenditure is abolishment of the Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan and the Tribal Sub-Plan. SCSP and TSP are now being replaced by allocations for welfare of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Sir, this is not an innocuous change of nomenclature; this is a paradigm shift and it is at its worst. This is a change from institutional mechanism, which was operational for nearly four decades, to pure *ad hocism*. Sir, this is a change from targeted budgeting to untargeted budgeting.

Sir, presently, in terms of the Human Development Indices, the gap between the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes on the one hand and the rest of

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\*Not recorded.

the population on the other has remained unacceptably high. At this juncture, it was expected that SCSP and TSP would be replaced by a transparent, accountable, efficient and effective Centrally-sponsored umbrella scheme for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, duly prioritized and sanctioned by a legislation in the spirit of the Constitutional mandate. Regrettably, Sir, we seem to be moving in the opposite direction.

Though it is true that the allocation for the Scheduled Castes has been raised by 35 per cent and the allocation for the Scheduled Tribes has been raised by 33 per cent, but regrettably, Sir, this is illusory. The Ministry of Finance had issued clear instructions to all the relevant Ministries and Departments, dated August 23, 2016, to follow Jadhav Guidelines for allocation of SC/ST schemes. These were the guidelines issued by the Planning Commission on the recommendations of a Committee which I had the privilege to chair as a Member of the then Planning Commission. Sir, if these guidelines had been followed, this year's allocation would have worked out to ₹ 91,000 crore plus. In other words, this year's allocation for the Scheduled Castes is about ₹ 44,000 crore short of the agreed amount and similar shortfall for the Scheduled Tribes works out to more than ₹ 18,000 crore. Sir, this is a curious case of the Finance Ministry not following its own directive.

Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, one more reason why this change is a retrograde step is this. With the Plan and non-Plan expenditure distinction gone, it paves the way for diverting SC/ST allocations to administrative heads like salaries, pensions and the like rather than properly-targeted schemes for empowerment of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Finally, Sir, through you, I would like to make an appeal to the Hon. Finance Minister to reconsider this counter-productive paradigm shift which is likely to have a serious detrimental effect on the Government's vision of *Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas*.

**श्री शरद यादव** (बिहार) : उपसभापति जी, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**श्री अली अनवर अंसारी** (बिहार) : उपसभापति जी, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**Concern over the privatization/strategic sale of Public Sector Undertakings**

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the disastrous selling spree of the Government at the Centre targeting most of the well-functioning and wealth-generating public sector undertakings, mostly in the core and strategic sector of the economy. In fact, the national economy as a whole is being sought to be thrown in the auction mode.

Sir, while making high-decibel noise of 'Make In India' slogan, actually, the Government has been targeting most of the profit-making PSUs for privatization in the name of strategic sale, thereby striking at the root of country's manufacturing capability. The NITI Aayog comprising handpicked personnel appointed by the Government for this purpose have already produced a big list of 74 CPSUs for outright sale.

While profit-making companies like BEML, Pawan Hans, Bridge and Roof, etc. have already been pushed to the advanced stage of privatization, the potentially viable and strategically viable PSUs in steel like Alloy Steel Plant, Salem Steel Plant and VISL under Maharatna SAIL are also being processed for outright privatization.

On the other hand, Sir, certain PSUs which are producing essential and important medicines, particularly, drug-producing companies, which have been pushed to sickness are being sold out as if they are loss-making units. In fact, the privatization exercise is aimed at severely weakening and destroying the country's manufacturing capability. Otherwise, how can one justify a Maharatna PSU like BEML, catering to defence-sector requirement, being targeted for privatization? How can one justify, as a follow-up action to the BEML's privatization, the hectic move of the Defence Ministry to list in the stock-market other Defence PSUs like BDL, BEL and MIDHANI? How can one, even with minimum sense of ownership of national interest, conceive of strategic sale of the BSNL unless benefiting the private players becomes their priority? How can one justify the decision of outright privatization of a premier PSU like Bridge and Roof in the construction and heavy engineering sector, despite the company being a profit-making company having a sound order book position? How can one having minimum respect to national heritage, think of selling out and closing down the PSUs like Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited set up by the great scientist of our time, Acharya Prafulla Chandra Roy?