

**REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING
COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS**

DR. BHAGWAT KARAD (Maharashtra): Sir, I rise to lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas (2020-21):—

- (i) Third Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in its First Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on ‘Demands for Grants (2019-20)’ of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas; and
- (ii) Fourth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in its Second Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on ‘Demands for Grants (2020-21)’ of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Third and Sixth Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Coal and Steel

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; THE MINISTER OF COAL; AND THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): Sir, I lay a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Third and Sixth Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Coal and Steel on Demands for Grants (2019-20) and Demands for Grants (2020-21), respectively, pertaining to the Ministry of Coal.

LEAVE OF ABSEENCE

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that letters have been received from Shri Vaiko and Shri K. Somaprasad, Members, for grant of Leave of Absence on medical ground during the current 253rd Session of Rajya Sabha.

Shri Vaiko has sought Leave of Absence from 29th January to 13th February,

2021 while Shri Somaprasad has sought Leave of Absence from 1st to 13th February, 2021 during the 1st Part of the current 253rd Session of Rajya Sabha.

Do they have the permission of the House for remaining absent from the sittings of the House for the period requested by them during the ongoing Session of Rajya Sabha.

(No Hon. Member dissented)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Permission to remain absent is granted.

**REGARDING A SUGGESTION GIVEN BY A MEMBER TO INCREASE THE TIME
FOR DEBATE ON THE BUDGET**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ramesh, what were you saying?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I rise to make a suggestion. You had kindly agreed in the BAC that discussion on the Motion of Thanks would be for ten hours and the Budget Discussion would be ten hours. Subsequently, with the co-operation of all parties, time for the Motion of Thanks was increased from ten hours to fifteen hours.

Sir, my request to you is the following. There is a lot of interest amongst Members for discussing the Budget. I want to make a suggestion to you to increase the time for debate on the Budget from ten hours to, at least, twelve hours. And if need be, we can sit till 2.30 or 3.00 p.m. By this way, we will be able to accommodate more Members in the Budget discussion. So this is my earnest request to you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us see. No discussion now.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

**Need for a policy for promoting Indian consultancy firms in Government
establishments**

DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE (Maharashtra): Sir, I am raising this issue about the need for moving towards a self-reliant consulting ecosystem. As we know, on