

STATEMENTS BY MINISTER

**Status of Implementation of Recommendations Contained in
The Hundred and Fifty-Third Report of The Department-related
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development**

And

**Status of Implementation of Recommendations Contained in The Hundred
and Seventieth Report of The Department-related Parliamentary Standing
Committee on Human Resource Development**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): Sir, I make following statements regarding:

- I. Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Hundred and fifty-third Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development; and
- II. Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Hundred and seventieth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development.

STATEMENT REGARDING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): Sir, I beg to announce that the Government Business in this House for the week commencing 29th August, 2007 will consist of:-

Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.

Consideration and passing of the Apprentices (Amendment) Bill, 2006.

Consideration and return of the Appropriation (Railways) No. 3 Bill, 2007, after it has been passed by Lok Sabha.

Consideration and passing of the Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill, 2007, as passed by Lok Sabha.

GOVERNMENT BILL**The Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 2007**

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

“That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2007-08, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

The question was proposed

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल (राजस्थान): उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि एप्रोप्रिएशन बिल नंबर 3 पर बोलने के लिए आपने मुझे इजाज़त दी। महोदय, यह संयोग है कि वित्त मंत्री जब कभी भी इस सदन में ऐसी डिमांड्स लेकर आते हैं, तो उस समय उनके सामने अक्सर मैं ही खड़ा मिलता हूँ, लेकिन इस बार परिस्थितियाँ कुछ विशेष हैं। महोदय, मैं माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी का इसलिए ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि कहीं-कहीं अब ऐसा लगने लगा है कि केंद्र में इस समय यह जो सरकार चल रही है, वह किसकी दया पर है और किसकी माया में है?

उपसभापति महोदय, मुझे एक छोटा सा किस्सा याद आता है। एक पति ने कोर्ट में अपनी पत्नी के खिलाफ शिकायत दर्ज की। जब कोर्ट में केस चल रहा था, तो पत्नी ने चिल्ला-चिल्ला कर कहा - जज महोदय, यह मेरा पति जल्लाद है, यह मेरा पति मुझ पर बड़ा अन्याय करता है और यह मुझे प्रताड़ित करता है। जज महोदय ने कहा कि अगर आपको यह व्यक्ति इतना परेशान करता है, प्रताड़ित करता है, तो आप तलाक ले लें। महोदय, उस महिला ने जवाब दिया कि मैं इस जल्लाद को, जो मुझे इतना प्रताड़ित कर रहा है वृंदा जी, आप सुनें... उसको इतनी जल्दी छोड़ दें, यह कभी नहीं हो सकता। मैं इसको तड़पा-तड़पा कर परेशान करूँगी और तलाक नहीं लूँगी। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्रीमती वृंदा कारत (पश्चिमी बंगाल): सर, मैं इसका जवाब दे सकती हूँ? सर, यह महिलाओं का मामला है।

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: मैं ध्यान से सुनने के लिए कह रहा हूँ आपको, interrupt करने के लिए नहीं कह रहा हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*... महोदय, इनकी पार्टी ने यह कहा कि हमारा कांग्रेस के साथ हनीमून समाप्त हो गया है और शादी के बाद जो कार्यक्रम हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Narayanasamy, we have to discuss the Appropriation Bill. If the hon. Members want to talk, they can go to the lobby. We have made a lot of good arrangements there. You can talk there, not in the House.

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: उपसभापति महोदय, मैंने यह बात इसलिए कही कि बार-बार हमारी कांग्रेस की सरकार पर यह आक्षेप और आरोप आता है कि यह सरकार, जो आम आदमी के सहयोग से बनी और कांग्रेस के इस नारे से बनी कि “कांग्रेस का हाथ, गरीब के साथ”, लेकिन इन्हीं के सहयोगी लोग बार-बार इसी सदन में और सदन के बाहर, कल लोक सभा में भी इस बात को बड़े जोर-जोर से कह रहे हैं कि यह सरकार गरीबों के साथ नहीं है। यह सरकार ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL (Gujarat): Sir, are we discussing politics over here? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: I am speaking on behalf of my party. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I can't direct him to say what he wants to say about it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: Economic issues के ऊपर अगर politics discuss नहीं होगी, तो फिर ...(व्यवधान)... आप क्यों बीच में बोल रहे हैं?

श्री उपसभापति: आप बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)... बैठकर बात करना ठीक नहीं है, वह रिकार्ड पर नहीं जाएगा।

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: उपसभापति महोदय, मैं यह बात इस सदन में इसलिए कहना चाहता हूँ कि जिन्हें विरोध करना है, मुझे उसमें आपत्ति नहीं है या जिन्हें समर्थन करना है, मुझे आपत्ति नहीं है। लोकतंत्र में यह व्यवस्था है, लेकिन लोकतंत्र में नाटकीयता और नटबाजी करने का विरोध है और वह जनता के सामने आना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर (हिमाचल प्रदेश): यह नटबाजी क्या होती है?

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: उपसभापति महोदय, वे नटबाजी के बारे में पूछना चाहती हैं तो मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि नटबाजी का अर्थ यह होता है कि दिखाने के दांत कुछ और खाने के दांत कुछ और। अगर वे उसका मतलब समझती हों तो समझ जाएं। उपसभापति महोदय, मैं यह इसलिए कहना चाहता हूँ कि आखिर इस देश की गरीब जनता जो हम लोगों से अपेक्षा करती है चाहे वह किसान हो, चाहे वह बेरोजगार हो, चाहे वह पढ़ा-लिखा व्यक्ति हो, हमारे सामने सवाल यह आता है कि देश की जो आर्थिक नीतियाँ हैं वे किस प्रकार से हमारी गरीबी की रेखा के नीचे रहने वाले लोगों की मदद करेंगी। माननीय वित्त मंत्री महोदय, मैं आपके सामने यह बात इसलिए कह रहा हूँ कि जब आपने अपना बजट रखा था उस समय भी और जब प्रधान मंत्री जी ने इस सदन में वक्तव्य दिया था उस समय भी यह कहा गया था कि जब तक इस देश के अंदर कृषि उत्पाद में जी.डी.पी. नहीं बढ़ेगी तब तक इस देश के अंदर उन्नति सम्भव नहीं है क्योंकि हम सभी इस बात को जानते और मानते हैं कि इस देश के अंदर जब तक कृषि उत्पाद नहीं बढ़ेगा तब तक महंगाई कम नहीं हो सकती और जो कृषि पर आधारित लोग हैं तथा इसी पर ही अपना जीवनयापन करते हैं उनके जीवन में वे जो अच्छे सपने देखते हैं वे कभी प्राप्त नहीं हो सकते। जब यह बात हम सब मानते हैं तो आज यह बात भी सच है कि एग्रीकल्चर ग्रोथ रेट बढ़ाने के प्रयास हर सरकार करती हैं, मैं यह नहीं कहता कि इस सरकार ने नहीं किए होंगे। लेकिन जमीनी धरातल पर यह सच साबित नहीं हो रहा है और एग्रीकल्चर प्रोडक्शन के बारे में चिंता कल स्वयं वित्त मंत्री जी ने लोक सभा में अपने भाषण में की है। मैं उन सारे तथ्यों पर इसलिए नहीं जाता कि स्टैटिस्टिक्स सब को मालूम हैं, स्टैटिस्टिक्स के आधार पर यह बात मानी जा सकती है कि धन बहुत दिया है, पैसा बहुत जा रहा है लेकिन सबसे बड़ी आवश्यकता जो अनुभव की जा रही है वह यह है कि क्या धन का सही उपयोग हो रहा है और अगर धन दिया जा रहा है तो फिर हमारी एग्रीकल्चर लैंड जिस पर उत्पादन होता है उसमें वृद्धि क्यों नहीं होती है, सिंचाई क्षेत्र में पैसा जाता है तो फिर सिंचित क्षेत्र क्यों नहीं बढ़ता है और जब राज्य सरकार और केन्द्र सरकार मिलकर किसानों के पास अपना पैसा भिजवा रही हैं तो किसान आत्म-हत्या करने पर क्यों उतारू हैं? ये सवाल हमारे सामने हैं। क्या उनके ऊपर कर्ज का बोझ नहीं है, क्या वे अपने उत्पाद का सही मूल्य प्राप्त कर रहे हैं? अगर हम इन बातों पर विचार करेंगे तो हमारे सामने पिक्चर स्पष्ट हो जाएगी कि हम जितना भी प्रयास कर रहे होंगे उन प्रयासों का परिणाम अन्ततः गरीब आदमी के लिए ऊँची कीमतों के रूप में परिणित हो रहा है। उपसभापति महोदय, इसमें छिपाने की कोई बात नहीं है, इन्फ्लेशन रेट के लिए वित्त मंत्री महोदय बड़ा

संतोष कर सकते हैं, यह उनका अधिकार है। लेकिन मैं जनप्रतिनिधि के नाते इस सदन में यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि क्या जो भी नीतियाँ पिछले दो-तीन-चार साल में इस सरकार ने वित्त के संबंध में या एग्रीकल्चर के संबंध में स्थापित की हैं, क्या वास्तव में एग्रीकल्चर प्रोड्यूस जो एक आम आदमी के लिए खाने का साधन जुटाता है उन सारी चीजों के दामों में कुछ कमी हुई है? उपसभापति महोदय, अगर सरकार यह मानती है कि दामों में कमी हुई है तो यह उनका भ्रम है और यह उनकी गलती है और अगर सरकार इस बात को मानती है और जैसा मैं पढ़ता रहता हूँ कि इनकी भी चिंता है कि वास्तव में कंज्यूमर गुड्स जो एक साधारण आदमी के काम में आने वाली चीज है, चाहे वह आटा हो, गेहूँ हो, दाल हो और उपसभापति महोदय, अभी इन दिनों में बार-बार यह पढ़ने को मिल रहा है कि प्याज, टमाटर और आलू के दाम भी आसमान को छू रहे हैं। उपसभापति महोदय, अगर गेहूँ का उत्पादन घट गया तो टमाटर कहाँ गायब हो गया और अगर टमाटर गायब हो गया तो आलू कहाँ चला गया, फिर दाले कहाँ चली गई? यह सारा एक ऐसा विषय है जिसको बड़ी गंभीरता से कृषि मंत्रालय को और इस सरकार को लेना होगा, अन्यथा हम केवल भ्रम में हमारे देश की उस गरीब जनता को बुलडोजर के नीचे पीसते चले जाएंगे जो रोजमर्रा की आवश्यकताओं की वस्तुओं के बढ़ते दामों से प्रताड़ित है, परेशान है और वह यह समझती है कि आज देश में या संसद में या इस सरकार में कोई संवेदनशील व्यक्ति है या नहीं, जो उनकी वास्तविक कठिनाइयों और उनके दुख-दर्दों को समझ सके। उसको ऐसी सरकार चाहिए कि जो उसकी कठिनाइयाँ हैं, वह उनका समाधान कर दे। वह केवल आपके statistic के आधार पर नहीं जाना चाहता हैं हाँ, वित्त मंत्री महोदय, आप संतोष कर सकते हैं कि देश का जीडीपी बहुत अच्छा हुआ है। आपने जो सफलता प्राप्त की है, हम भी उसकी आलोचना नहीं कर सकते हैं। यह अच्छी बात है कि आपने कुछ अच्छे काम किये हैं, उसके बारे में हमारा आपसे विरोध नहीं है।

उपसभापति महोदय, हमारा सवाल यह है कि केवल जीडीपी ग्रोथ में अगर इंडस्ट्री का उत्पादन बढ़ता है, तो क्या मैं सीमेंट खाकर अपना काम चलाऊंगा, या फिर मैं लोहे की सलाखें अपने पेट में डालकर अपना काम चलाऊंगा? मुझे अपना काम चलाने के लिए निश्चित रूप से आटा-दाल चाहिए, वह आटा-दाल अगर मुझे ठीक दाम पर नहीं मिलता है, तो फिर लोहे की छड़ें कितनी ही पैदा हो जायें, सीमेंट का उत्पादन कितना ज्यादा हो जाये, उससे कुछ लोगों को फायदा होगा, कुछ गुप्स को फायदा होगा, कुछ कैपिटलिस्ट्स को फायदा होगा और कुछ बड़े लोगों को फायदा होगा, लेकिन क्या किसी गरीब आदमी को इस सारी जीडीपी से लाभ मिल रहा है? इसके तथ्य वित्त मंत्री महोदय, को सदन में प्रस्तुत करने चाहिए। क्या वह ऐसा अनुभव करते हैं कि हम इस सारी प्रोग्रेस से संतुष्ट दिखाई दे रहे हैं? वित्त मंत्री महोदय, मैं आपसे जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या उस सारी प्रोग्रेस के कारण इस देश के अंदर गरीबी में रहने वाले लोगों की संख्या में कमी हो रही है? कितने गरीब लोगों को रोजगार मिल रहा है, कितनी आवश्यक वस्तुओं के दाम कम हो रहे हैं? आवश्यक वस्तुओं के दामों पर आप कितनी निगरानी रख रहे हैं?

उपसभापति महोदय, मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि सरकार में इस समय एक मानसिकता यह चल रही है कि हमारे देश की जो ग्रोथ रेट है, हमने वह बहुत प्राप्त कर ली है, बहुत पैसा विदेशों से आ गया है, इन्वेस्टमेंट इस देश में आ रहा है, जो आ रहा है, उसका स्वागत है, लेकिन जो जा रहा है, उसकी भी तो जानकारी करनी चाहिए। मैं वित्त मंत्री महोदय को याद दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि जब मैं पहले इधर था और वह पहले वित्त मंत्री थे, शायद यह 1995-96 की बात होगी, मुझको याद नहीं

है, मैं आपके इस सदन में सांसद था, मैंने वित्त मंत्री जी से पूछा था कि स्टॉक एक्सचेंज में इस समय जो उतार-चढ़ाव आता है, उसका कंट्रोल किसके पास है?

उपसभापति महोदय, ऑन रिकार्ड यह बात है कि मैंने उस समय यह बात कही थी कि हमारे स्टॉक एक्सचेंज के अंदर, जो उसको नियंत्रित करने की बात है, हमारे देश के उद्योगपति या हमारे देश के फाइनेंशियल इंस्टीट्यूशन्स हैं, उनके हाथ में अब स्टॉक एक्सचेंज का नियंत्रण नहीं रह गया है, इस पर आप ध्यान रखें।

उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आज इस बात को दस साल बाद फिर आपके सामने दोहरा रहा हूँ और आज यह बात साबित हो चुकी है कि भारत का स्टॉक एक्सचेंज हमारे लोगों के हाथ में नहीं है। आज दुनिया के लोग यहां खिलाड़ी बनकर हमारे क्षेत्र में आ गये हैं, उन्होंने आज स्टॉक एक्सचेंज पर नियंत्रण कर लिया है। जब वे चाहते हैं, तो दाम बढ़ जाते हैं और जब वे चाहते हैं दाम गिर जाते हैं।

उपसभापति महोदय, इन्हीं वित्त मंत्री महोदय को याद होगा जब वह इधर बैठे थे और हम सामने बैठे थे। उस समय जब यशवंत सिन्हा जी वित्त मंत्री हुआ करते थे, मुझे अच्छी तरह से याद है, हमारा स्टॉक एक्सचेंज का मार्केट 2700 से 2400 के मार्क पर आ गया था, उस 2400 के मार्क पर आने पर वित्त मंत्री का इस्तीफा यहां पर इन्हीं लोगों ने मांगा था कि 300 पाइंड्स की गिरावट क्या कम गिरावट है? हमको कितनी चेतावनी इन्होंने दी थी, इनका फर्ज था, यह चेतावनी दे सकते थे। उपसभापति महोदय, आज मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि पिछले 15 दिनों में स्टॉक एक्सचेंज कितना गिरा है, करीब-करीब 15500 पाइंड्स से आज वह 14100 पाइंड्स पर आ गया है, मार्केट 1400 पाइंड्स डिप हो गया है। हमारे समय में 300 पाइंड्स गिरने पर इन लोगों ने हमारी सरकार से इस्तीफा मांगा था और कहा था कि सारे देश की इकोनॉमी में भूचाल आ गया है। उपसभापति महोदय, आज इस भूचाल का पता ही नहीं है। मैं समझ नहीं पाता हूँ कि अगर यह स्थिति रहती है, वित्त मंत्री महोदय, आप 300 पाइंड्स पर चिंता कर सकते हैं, तो यह 1400 पाइंड्स गिरा है। हम अखबारों में पढ़ते हैं, हमारे अमर सिंह जी को शायद ज्यादा पता न लगे कि अगर किसी का एक लाख करोड़ कम हो जाये, तो किसी को फर्क नहीं पड़ता होगा। लेकिन आज एक आदमी को, पता नहीं बेचारा गरीब आदमी, जो इन्वेस्टमेंट कर लेता है और अगर उसको शेयर मार्केट में लॉस होता है; तो उससे फर्क पड़ता है। उपसभापति महोदय, इस तरह से छोटे-छोटे आदमियों को लॉस होता है। छोटे आदमी के नुकसान की कहीं पर कोई गारंटी नहीं। मुझे याद है, एक बार माननीय वित्त मंत्री महोदय ने कहा था कि जो खेल रहा है, वह अपने रिस्क पर खेल रहा है। I know that. You had told this once that if somebody is playing in the market, he is playing on his own risk. I know that very well, Sir. But, the point is, the common man does not know who are the players who are now actually controlling the whole market. The market is now controlled by the world market and the world financial institutions, and they are playing as and when they want to play with the market. महोदय, यह हमारे लिए ... (व्यवधान)...

SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH (Uttar Pradesh): They don't know what are the rules of the game ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Whatever Mr. Narayanasamy said will not go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: अगर आप ऐसा कहते हैं तो मुझे बहुत खुशी होगी। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति: अग्रवाल जी, आप बोलते रहिए।

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: सर, वे मेरे दोस्त हैं। अगर वे कुछ कहते हैं तो मेरा फर्ज है कि मैं उनको सुनूँ। महोदय, मुझे स्टॉक एक्सचेंज के बारे में एक बात और कहनी है। मैं माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा, मेरा यह प्रश्न है कि आपने Tax havens बना रखे हैं, जो इंस्टीट्यूशन्स या कम्पनीज, कारपोरेट बॉडीज बाहर की हैं, वे इंडिया में रुपया लाती हैं और स्टॉक मार्किट में फॉरेन एक्सचेंज इन्वेस्टमेंट करती हैं। उसके बाद जब उनको प्रोफिट हो जाता है, नफा हो जाता है, तो वह पैसा बिना किसी टैक्स के दूसरे रूट से चला जाता है। मैं अभी इस बात पर आपत्ति नहीं कर रहा हूँ, यह आपको तय करना है, आपकी सरकार को तय करना है कि क्या ये रूट्स खुले रहने चाहिए या बंद होने चाहिए? यह निर्णय आप करें, लेकिन मैं वित्त मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहूंगा, Kindly inform the House how much money has come in the capital form in the market in foreign exchange and how much capital has gone back or withdrawn by the foreign institutions or the investors. A lot of money has gone back from the market. How much profit have they earned, without paying tax? How much money has been transferred, without paying tax, to their respective accounts and to their profit accounts?

उपसभापति महोदय, हम यह जानना चाहते हैं कि जब स्टॉक मार्किट से हजारों करोड़ रुपए का प्रोफिट होता है, तो वह प्रोफिट बिना किसी टैक्स के विदेशों में जा सकता है, क्योंकि आपने नियम, कानून ऐसा बनाया है। यह देश यह जानना चाहेगा कि ये फॉरेन इंस्टीट्यूशन्स हमारे यहां से बिना टैक्स दिए, कितना पैसा कमाकर, विदेशों में ले जाते हैं। मान लीजिए कोई दो हजार करोड़ रुपए लेकर आया, तो वह दो हजार करोड़ का प्रोफिट लेकर चला जाएगा, अगर पांच सौ करोड़ लेकर आया, तो वह पांच सौ करोड़ का प्रोफिट लेकर चला जाएगा और हम हाथ पर हाथ रख कर बैठे रहेंगे। इस देश के अंदर गरीबी रेखा के नीचे रहने वाले लोग चीखते और धिल्लाते रहेंगे और दूसरे लोग हजारों करोड़ रुपया कमा-कमा कर इस धरती से गायब हो जाएंगे। महोदय, इस पर कहीं कोई नियंत्रण, जांच या कोई ऐसी स्थिति आनी चाहिए, ताकि इस देश को यह पता लगता रहे कि जो विदेशों के लोग हमारे देश में इन्वेस्टमेंट कर रहे हैं, वे लोग एटलिस्ट स्टॉक मार्किट से या क्मोडिटी मार्किट से कितना पैसा विदग्धा करते हैं, कितना पैसा लाते हैं, एवरेज प्रोफिट कितना ले जाते हैं, इस देश के लिए इतनी जानकारी आवश्यक है। महोदय, तथ्यों में जाने पर समय लगेगा। मैंने स्टॉक मार्किट के संबंध में उनके सामने दो बातें रखी हैं। पहली बात यह है कि आज देश का उद्योगपति या देश के फाइनेशियल इंस्टीट्यूशन्स या बैंक, म्यूचुअल फंड्स आज देश की मार्किट के कंट्रोलर नहीं हैं। आज दुनिया के लोग उस पर नियंत्रण कर रहे हैं, जो कि हमारी पहुंच से बाहर है। इस स्थिति को क्या वे देश के हित में समझते हैं और दूसरी बात मैंने यह कही है कि जो पैसा आता है, उसका लेखा-जोखा केन्द्र सरकार सदन में रखे, इस संबंध में मेरी यह मांग है।

महोदय, मैं एपीक्लचर के बारे में कह रहा था। आज उसकी जो स्थिति है, माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी यह कह सकते हैं कि उन्होंने दो परसेंट कम करके सात परसेंट ब्याज

दर पर किसानों को लोन की सहूलियत दी है और बाकी के बारे में स्टेट गवर्नमेंट जानें। महोदय, मैं एक बात खास तौर से कहना चाहता हूँ कि आप किसान को पांच परसेंट पर, सात परसेंट पर लोन देना चाहते हैं, तो दें, लेकिन उसको लोन लेने के लिए जिस प्रकार से परेशान होना पड़ता है, अगर आप उस मैकेनिज्म को ठीक नहीं करेंगे, तो यह सारी व्यवस्था ठीक नहीं रहेगी। आप उनको चाहे पांच परसेंट पर या सात परसेंट पर लोन दें, लेकिन आप यह भी देखें कि उनको रुपया देने के टाइम पर कितना भ्रष्टाचार होता है। फिर देते समय, एप्लीकेशन देने के बाद, डिमांड आने के बाद एक आदमी को कितना समय लगता है, कितने चक्कर लगाने पड़ते हैं, कितनी ठोकरें खानी पड़ती हैं और उसे भ्रष्टाचार में कितना योगदान देना पड़ता है, अगर आपके पास इस बात की जानकारी नहीं होगी तो आप रुपये भेजते रहिए, पहुंचाते रहिए, लेकिन रुपया पहुंचाने के बाद भी - जैसा किसी जमाने में कहा गया था कि एक रुपया जाता है और आदमी के पास एक रुपया पहुंचता है(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: रामदास जी दो मिनट बाकी हैं, क्योंकि इस डिबेट को 3.30 तक कम्प्लीट करना है और रिप्लाय दो आवर में होना है, इसलिए मेरी सभी मैम्बर्स से गुजारिश है कि टाइम के पाबंद रहिए I am afraid, I will not be able to give more time for speakers than the allotted time.

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: उपसभापति जी, मेरे केवल दो प्वाइंट्स हैं और मैं उन्हें संक्षिप्त में कहने की कोशिश करूंगा।

श्री उपसभापति: इसीलिए दो मिनट पहले मैं आपसे कह रहा हूँ।

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: उपसभापति महोदय, किसानों के बारे में मैं आपसे जो कह रहा हूँ, उस पर(व्यवधान).... ओनली प्वाइंट्स। Then, Sir, the next point is SEZs. This has also opened a new sector for the tax exemptions. I do not know whether our hon. Finance Minister has agreed with his colleagues, whether he is now fully agreeable to give subsidies of more than Rs.1 lakh crores to industries established in the SEZs. I do not know that. But I hear about it so many times that because he has to control the finances he has some reservation, he has some difficulties to provide such a huge subsidy to industries established in SEZs. उपसभापति जी, हम किसानों की सब्सिडी कम करने की बात करते हैं, फर्टिलाइजर की सब्सिडी कम करने की बात करते हैं, उनके उत्पाद पर कम सब्सिडी मिले, हम इस पर बात करते हैं, लेकिन हम एक के बाद एक एस.ई.जेड्स के माध्यम से More than Rs. 1,50,000 crores exemptions दे रहे हैं। ये रिव्यू करने वाली बातें हैं। सरकार को समय-समय पर इन चीजों को रिव्यू करना चाहिए ताकि उसे इस बात का अंदाजा हो कि जब आपने एग्रीकल्चर को सब्सिडी दी थी तब आप कितना कष्ट पा रहे थे। आज आप ऑयल सेक्टर में सब्सिडी दे रहे हैं तो कितना कष्ट पा रहे हैं। आगे जाकर यह देश कितना कष्ट उठाएगा। इन एस.ई.जेड्स के साथ जो कमिटमेंट किया जा रहा है, इसको भविष्य के साथ जोड़कर देखना चाहिए। केवल कुछ लोगों को फायदा पहुंचाने के लिए, उनकी तरक्की में सहायता करने के लिए इस प्रकार का काम किया जाएगा तो अंततः देश को भारी नुकसान का सामना करना पड़ेगा। बाद में कोई इसे रिव्यू करे, इससे बैटर है कि स्वयं इन चीजों को समय-समय पर रिव्यू करें।

उपसभापति जी, एक कठिन बात जो मैंने शुरू में कही थी, वह अशेन्शियल कोमोडिटीज की बात कही थी। हमारा किसान अपने उत्पाद का अच्छा पैसा नहीं पाता

है। आप उसे पूरा पैसा नहीं दे पा रहे हैं। कल आपने ही कहा है कि हम पचास लाख टन व्हीट इम्पोर्ट...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: प्लीज क्वकलूड।

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: मैं प्वाइंट के साथ अपना प्रश्न पूछता जा रहा हूँ, इसलिए मेरा क्वकलुज न बहुत जल्दी होगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: इसलिए क्वकलूड कर दीजिए। मैं मजबूरी में कह रहा हूँ।

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: आई अंडरस्टैंड सर। सर, मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि किसान को आप उत्पाद का पैसा नहीं दे सकते तो आप इम्पोर्ट पर 400 रुपया टन पैसा ज्यादा क्यों खर्च करना चाह रहे हैं। यहाँ केवल इम्पोर्टेंट प्वाइंट यह है कि आज सरकार के पास, जब वह बाजार में 850 रुपए पर खरीदने जाता है, तब उसे गेहूँ नहीं मिलता है, लेकिन जब दूसरा व्यापारी वहाँ खरीदने जाता है या कोई कार्पोरेट कंपनी जाती है तो वह 900 रुपए में खरीदकर अपने घर में माल जमा कर लेती है। इसमें जमाखोरी भी शामिल है। इस जमाखोरी या विदेशी किसानों को ज्यादा पैसा देने की बजाय मैं यह मांग करूंगा कि हमारी सरकार संवेदनशीलता के साथ इन किसानों पर दया करे और उन्हें ही ज्यादा पैसा देने का प्रयास करें तो बी.पी. एल. सप्लाई के लिए उन्हें पर्याप्त गेहूँ मिल सकता है। यदि पर्याप्त गेहूँ मिलेगा तो बाकी चीजों पर उसका स्वाभाविक रूप से असर होगा। लास्ट प्वाइंट यह है कि अशेनियल कोमोडिटीज में जिस प्रकार से तेजी आ रही है, उस पर नियंत्रण करने के लिए हम वित्त मंत्री जी से अपेक्षा करेंगे कि कम से कम इस मानसून सत्र में यह आश्वासन दें कि इन चीजों पर नियंत्रण के लिए वे आगे के लिए किस प्रकार के प्रयास कर रहे हैं। उपसभापति जी, मुझे इतना ही कहना था। आपने बोलने के लिए अलाऊ किया, इसके लिए धन्यवाद।

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA (Rajasthan): Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak. As far as Appropriation Bill is concerned, this is a formality and I will generally support and vote for it, that is okay. But..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Then on what else do you want to speak?

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: I think, we need to make some comments in general and something on the Appropriation Bill also. I start with the Appropriation Bill, Sir. Just after the passage of the first quarter of current financial year, the Government has come back with the first batch of Supplementary Demands worth Rs.20412 crores of which Rs.19296 crores are voted and the remaining Rs.1115.63 crores are charged on the Consolidated Fund. Most of the charged expenditure is by virtue of the transfers to the State Governments. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government should seek supplementary demands on the Consolidated Fund of India to make transfers to the State Government, that too without having them voted in Parliament. What is the nature of the expenditure of the State Governments for which such charged supplementary demands are required. It has been observed that often such transfers to the State Governments are put under the personal deposit accounts, thereby avoiding the scrutiny of respective State Legislatures.

Sir, out of Rs. 20412 crores of supplementary demands predictably the revenue expenditure is much, much ahead of capital expenditure meaning thereby that most

of the supplementary demands are meant for committed liabilities. I would like to know from the hon. Minister if such committed liabilities have been estimated only in past three months. Why can we not foresee such liabilities at the time of the annual demands for grants? This has been a usual problem. He did reply last time also and maybe, he may continue with the same explanation again. Now, I congratulate the hon. Minister because according to the Finance Ministry's release the kind of collection of tax is unprecedented. The release says that personal income tax received up to 14th of August, 2007 is Rs. 25989 crores which is 35 per cent more than what it was during the same period in the last year. The corporate tax has increased to Rs. 33164 crores, which is 52.3 per cent more, and on an average the direct taxation has increased by 44.4 per cent. Sir, similarly, the Indirect taxes about which I read a few days ago in newspapers but I did not have the newspaper cutting because I did not know that I would be speaking on this subject, but I vividly remember that the collection in the service tax, customs, excise, everything is increasing by about 40 per cent. Last year it was 35 per cent during this period. I must congratulate the hon. Minister because after all it is his duty even if it is a thankless job. He raises the funds, resources for the country, for the Government and the base of income tax payees has also increased. For that I congratulate him because it is more widely based now. He himself has said I think in one of the meetings somewhere that more people are willing to pay tax. For that also one reason is that the rate of taxation is much more reasonable than it was before. I wonder with this increase whether the hon. Minister would consider bringing down the rate further, then I am sure the compliance rate will also increase. I can assure the hon. Minister on the basis of the discussion that I have with different segments of the society all over the country, they are all happy to pay the tax if it is at a reasonable level. So more you decrease probably your increase, instead of 50 per cent, will be 100 per cent. Instead of 30 million taxpayers, it will come to about 100 million. It is not impossible because people want to have a peaceful time. But the problem is, despite that, the Finance Ministry's mindset has changed. Are they willing to trust the people who are paying; the taxpayers? It is a little more than what they were trusting before because a number of times the tax payers tell us that more they pay, more the trouble is created by the Department. I do not say those who are evading tax should not be taken to task but let us be more concerned, let there be real, good information. So, I would request the hon. Minister, to take strongest action possible on somebody evading tax. But, just because we have a department to handle seizures, raids and all kinds of things, just to keep them employed I find a number of times that one particular road is covered. I mean, all the houses should be raided. Or if you go to a building, all the flats should be raided. Nowadays, Sir, the joint family system is also disintegrating but they live in the same house. They might live in the same flat but the brothers and sisters do not have anything else to do with each other. But, if there is one brother, one sister and if there is an inquiry against one, the entire family is questioned. Some improvement has to come in all these things. When there is better compliance our mindset also has to change.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Bagrodia, you have disclosed your interest under the Ethics Committee that you are a taxpayer.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Yes, yes, Mr. Deputy Chairman you have mentioned. My interest is in the Government, my interest is in the society, my interest

is in the country and this is what I want to disclose. If you want any further disclosure then let me know. You tell me what more disclosure you want. My income tax records are with the Parliament, and, I am one of those whose records are up to date with the Parliament. I am sure if you check with your own department, you will see that I am up to date. That is by nature. We have to keep ourselves up to date. So, that is happening by nature.

SHRI AMAR SINGH (Uttar Pradesh): Government is kind to you.

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN (Uttar Pradesh): Even if it is in your nature, it is not possible.

SHRI AMAR SINGH: Government is kind to you. Sometimes it is very unkind,...(Interruptions)...

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANI (Orissa): You are also our Vice-Chairman. ... (Interruptions)...

श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया: मुझे पता नहीं कि ये लोग क्या बोल रहे हैं ... (व्यवधान)... जया जी क्या बोल रही हैं या मेरा भाई क्या बोल रहा है ... (व्यवधान)... अब मैं उस चक्कर में नहीं जाऊंगा ... (व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आप बोलिए, बोलिए... (व्यवधान)... बागड़ोदिया जी, आप अच्छा बोल रहे हैं, बोलिए, बोलिए ... (व्यवधान)...

श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया: मैं उस चक्कर में जाऊंगा नहीं ... (व्यवधान)... क्योंकि उनका माइंडसेट अलग है और मेरा माइंडसेट अलग है ... (व्यवधान)... अब मैं इसका क्या इलाज कर सकता हूँ ... (व्यवधान)...

श्रीमती जया बच्चन: हमारा माइंडसेट बिल्कुल साफ है और हमारी नीयत भी बहुत अच्छी है, मगर आपकी नीयत खराब है ... (व्यवधान)...

SHRI AMAR SINGH: I appreciate your honesty but we realise what Government does at times.

श्री उपसभापति: अमर सिंह जी, आप ज़रा उनको बोलने दीजिए, ताकि बाद में वह यहां आ कर बैठ सकें ... (व्यवधान)...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि: सर, ये जो कह रहे हैं... (व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: पाणि जी, आप बैठिए ... (व्यवधान)...

SHRI AMAR SINGH: If I submit my return, they may not accept it; they will reopen it.

श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया: अब मुझे पता नहीं कि आप लोग क्या-क्या बोल रहे हैं, But, I thank you for your appreciation, that is all. If there is anything else or any advice from me please meet me outside. I will give you good advice without any charges. Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to a very serious matter. It is as per the law, the Government decided to give target plus benefit to the buyer and that was, of course, to the Commerce Ministry. But, Finally, it is the

Customs and Excise Department, which comes into the picture. The practice was, it was handled by MMTC, STC and by private people also. What is happening, Sir, is because of export benefits, they call it target plus benefits, and there are agents in Mumbai, Delhi and the manufacturer exports. Only the merchant exporter gets transfer of documents. It is not illegal. It is all done on contract basis. Now, there is no method by which this merchant-exporter will know what the real manufacturer-exporter is doing. If he is over-invoicing or if he is doing any manipulation, there is no system to find out and, most of the time, the merchant-exporter and the manufacturer do not even know each other. They only see papers through agents. When it is noticed that the actual manufacturer, who is exporting, is manipulating the accounts by way of over-invoicing or under-invoicing and through all sorts of things, in that case, he should be used as an approver to get all the information. But the real problem is from the manufacturer who actually handles this. All action should be taken against him. But, hundreds of other merchant-exporters, who are trying to take the benefit of target-plus-benefit, should be spared from unnecessary harassment. If they have also done anything in collusion, action should be taken. But, just because they have used this facility, which the Government is giving, unnecessary action should not be taken.

Now, I come to economic growth and inflation. Due to efforts of the hon. Minister and the Government the economic reforms of 90s put the economy on a rising growth trend. The growth of GDP at constant prices during 2006-07 is estimated to be at 9.4 per cent. That is all unprecedented. Continuous improvement in investment over the past four years has led to an increase in the investment ratio. The gross domestic capital formation in 2004-05 and 2005-06 has been estimated to be 31.5 per cent and 33.8 per cent respectively. It is expected to increase further in 2006-07. These are congratulatory things for the hon. Minister. I am speaking all these good words so that he can also change his mind set. This is all truth. The rise in investment has been supported by rise in savings rate. The savings rate is also rising. Gross domestic savings, as proportion to the GDP, increased from 26.4 per cent in 2002-03 to 29.7 per cent in 2003-04 to 31.1 per cent in 2004-05 and to 32.45 per cent in 2005-06. I am sure, our Government is confident of sustaining the growth. While financial resources are important for development. But, ultimately, it is the entrepreneurial abilities that drive the growth. I wish the hon. Minister to invest this surplus revenue in such a way so that more and more people can be trained for entrepreneurial growth. Sir, the faster growth will generate new jobs at a faster rate than before. There are no Government jobs now. The jobs are only self-employment. That is why the entrepreneurial growth is required. As per the 61st Round of NSSO Survey, average annual growth in employment, during 2000-01 to 2004-05, stood at 2.5 per cent, exceeded the rate of growth of population. The rate of growth of employment was also higher when compared to the growth achieved in the previous fifteen years. As a result of higher growth in employment, together with programmes which focused on poverty alleviation, the head count ratio of poverty declined to about 22 per cent based on mix-recall period in 2004-05. This greater openness of the economy has led to the rising shares of exports to the GDP. This is linked to the rising competitiveness of the economy. But, I really don't know with the strong rupee how it is going to affect the exports. If the hon. Minister can throw some light on this, it would be better. It will be a good idea, because the exporters are very, very concerned about the appreciation of the rupee. The entire textile industry is in

doldrums, because the profitability in this employment-oriented industry is very minimal — 1 per cent or 2 per cent or 3 per cent. Suddenly, if this kind of a situation arises, industry will be in turmoil. If they are closed, we will have other side effects. I will request the hon. Minister to look into it. A higher growth and increased competitiveness is mirrored in a faster growth of industries and services in the last four years. Number one, manufacturing sector has grown at a healthy rate of 9.2 per cent per year in the last four years. It accelerated to 12.3 per cent in 2006-07, that is, last year. Number two, measured in terms of index of industrial production, manufacturing growth had reached 12.5 per cent last year, that is, 2006-07. In the first two months of the current year, manufacturing sector growth was maintained at a healthy 12.7 per cent. The capital goods registered a growth of 18.3 per cent in the year 2006-07. The growth momentum is being maintained in the current year as well. रामदास जी, आप जरा सुनते जाइए कि क्या-क्या किया है। आप ने बहुत शिकायत की है तो थोड़ा-सा सुन लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप थोड़ा-सा सुन लीजिए कि सरकार ने क्या-क्या किया है। आप केवल शिकायत करते हैं। अब मैं आप की बात बोलने वाला हूँ। Construction has been growing at 12.8 per cent per year, contributing greatly in creation of unskilled job, which directly benefit the poor and low-income workers. आप जो poor की बात बोल रहे थे, इस में 12.8 परसेंट की योग्य हुई है। Similarly, Trade, hotels, transport, communication and other sectors have also witnessed growth. Communication sector, which generate a large number of unskilled and semi-skilled jobs has grown by 11.6 per cent per year. आप ने कभी जिंदगी में नहीं सुना होगा, मैंने नहीं सुना। पिछले 50 वर्षों में नहीं हुआ जो इस समय हो रहा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Financing, insurance, real estate and business services have been growing at the rate of 8.9 per cent per year. I would just quickly mention, in points, the actions to be taken by the Central Government because I am aware of the time constraint. Now, I come to the launch of Food Security Mission. अग्रवाल जी ने कहा, इम्पोर्ट क्यों करते हो? इम्पोर्ट करो तो क्यों नहीं करते, नहीं करो तो क्यों नहीं करते हो? अब इस का तो कोई जवाब नहीं दे सकता because we are objecting only for the sake of objection. Everybody, from the NDA, has been mentioning in all the discussions, that is why we are importing at a higher price; why don't we give to the farmers? Agarwaji comes from a business community. He has done business worth crores and crores of rupees. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: How do you know? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: They know each other.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: I mean, he understands what business is. I am just trying to explain this. What is the concept of business? I would like to tell you in one second.

श्री प्रशांत चटर्जी (पश्चिमी बंगाल): आप बिजनेस की बात कर रहे हो, हम लोगों की बात भी सोचिए।

श्री अमर सिंह: वामपंथियों की बात भी सोचिए ...*(व्यवधान)*... आम आदमी की बात सोचिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया: रामदास जी बिजनेस नहीं जानते, मैं जानता हूँ। मैं अपनी बात बोलता हूँ। ...*(Interruptions)*... I will explain what business is. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Sir, I would like to state in this House that it seems there are only two groups — the NDA and the UPA. There is a huge chunk in between. They are never addressed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Bagrodia, please address to the new group also. ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't address only the NDA. Address the UNPA also. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: उपसभापति महोदय, यह दो तरफ का घोटाला है, जो बता रहे हैं - एक तो खरीद में घोटाला और यहाँ पर जो खरीद की जाती है, उस में घोटाला ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: I will explain in one second. I will not take long time. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is restriction of time also. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: I will take two-three minutes more because I don't want to take longer time on this as I am committed to finish it in time.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That's why I am reminding you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Thank you very much for reminding. I appreciate. But I only request them, with folded hands, to please listen to me for two-three minutes. If you increase the rates for SMP, that will become a permanent feature. Supposing, you need one crore tonnes and you have received 98 lakh tonnes. Now, for those 2 lakh tonnes, you don't increase the rate of 98 lakh tonnes. You just supplement that at whatever price is available in the world market, on which you have no control. And, the prices, which the NDA had increased during the last six-seven years, was Rs. 10 per tonne, per year; whereas, this Government has increased from Rs. 150 per year. ...*(Interruptions)*... What are you talking about! Forget about it. They knowingly do not want to know. But, at this stage, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: No; no; please. No; ...*(Interruptions)*... because I must finish. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is his view. इसमें सवाल जवाब नहीं चलेगा।

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: No; I can't afford to waste time. Sir, the prices of vegetables have gone very high. This may not be directly your responsibility, but nobody bothers about statistics. Nobody bothers about the information that the growth rate is so much, the GDP has grown by so much and things like that. But if the prices of potatoes, tomatoes and onions go up, that hurts every citizen in the country. So, that responsibility lies with the Government. So, I request the hon. Minister that as Government, you have to ensure that enough supplies are there. Whatever you do, whatever measures you take, unless there is enough supply, prices would not come down. You have been able to arrange enough *dal*, you have been able to arrange enough wheat and therefore, the prices have come down to certain limits. Similarly, the prices of these things will come down only if you arrange the supplies in time.

Sir, though I had plenty of points to mention, but due to paucity of time, lastly, I would mention only one or two points.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: One is sufficient.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: The funding to the SSI should be properly distributed at the village level. I am not going to elaborate this point any further.

Sir, the last point that I would like to mention is about the SEZs. My friend has also mentioned about it. I would also like to say something about this. I am not going into the merits of the SEZs. But I would like to draw your attention to the Surat SEZ. The whole purpose of creating SEZ was to have new investment, new technology and more employment. But what has happened? It was an Export Promotion Zone (EPZ) in Surat. After taking benefits of EPZ for many years, now with same unit, same investment and same employment, they have just changed its name as 'SEZ'. Now, they are taking benefits of SEZs. Please stop this kind of a practice. I am giving you the name of Surat SEZ. Unless this is done, the whole purpose of having SEZs will be defeated.

Sir, with these words, I conclude. Thank you very much.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The next speaker will be from the S.P. and then from the CPI(M). But since Dr. Malaisamy has requested both of them to allow him to speak before them, so, if both of you agree, I will call Dr. Malaisamy.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes; Sir. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Malaisamy, your party has only five minutes.

DR. K. MALAISAMY (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I think, it is eleven minutes. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is five minutes, not eleven minutes. *...(Interruptions)...* I am reminding you because we cannot extend this discussion on the Appropriation Bill beyond 3.30 p.m. As you know, today is Private Members' Legislative Business day, and if we do it after that, then, it will be at the cost of Private Members' Business. That is why I am saying this. We have already taken one hour from it. So, please conclude in five minutes.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving preference to speak in advance of my other colleagues. *...(Interruptions)...* Sir, looking at your mood ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Don't worry about my mood; my mood is good.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Sir, I will try to be as quick as possible and certainly try to oblige you. *...(Interruptions)...* Sir, as far as the Appropriation Bill is concerned, as rightly said by Shri Santosh Bagrodia, the hon. Minister is seeking for additional expenditure of Rs.20412.14 crore. Out of that, the net outgo is only Rs.10428.02 crore, while the remainder is being maintained by savings, etc. When I see this, except some small changes in the figures, the concept and the way they are going, it is as good as the previous year's Bill. According to me, it is the usual exercise that we are doing.

Sir, before coming to the subject, I am able to see how the Finance Ministry, through their tools, are running the administration as a whole because whatever is

needed by the Government for its various programmes of development, the input is, being given from the Finance Ministry only. As such, they promote welfare, development, help to remove poverty, unemployment, mal-distribution of wealth, inequality and check inflation etc., by bringing safety and happiness to the people. As such, they are playing a vital role. Sir, as far as the purpose envisaged is concerned, I am sorry to make a general observation that it is not achieved. We have just celebrated the 60th anniversary of our Independence. We had attained Independence six decades back and many of these ideas had been envisaged by various Governments. Governments have come and gone, but they have not done things as envisaged in the Directive Principles or in the Constitution.

Sir, we have a population of about 110 crores in India. Out of these, 40 crores are workers and even among the 40 crores, 37 crores belong to the unorganized sector. More than 38 per cent of our population is living below the poverty line. I wish to highlight that there are suicides, starvation deaths and there is poverty. They talk about removal and alleviation of poverty. But everything exists on paper as concepts without anything being done in reality. That is my first point. Secondly, the poor is becoming poorer while the rich is getting richer. This is the policy that any Government that came to power has been following. Sir, I can cite examples when I say so. Our hon. Minister is a well-informed Minister; he can justify even a weak case as an excellent one. By virtue of his profession, he has the knack for putting things in such a way that even weak cases are made to be strong. He may try to highlight the Government's achievements citing, how they have made progress, how the GDP has increased, how the economy is booming, and so on. Leaving it aside, the fact remains that the rich is becoming richer while the poor is becoming poorer. I would cite an example. The corporate houses such as Reliance and Tata Motors have been under assessed and they have been exempted from taxes amounting to Rs. 1000 crores. Coming to our players, * and *, they have been exempted from paying taxes to which they are not entitled. I mean to say that the rich and influential people manage to ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think you cannot take names. It is not fair to use names of individual assesses and say they are paying or not paying taxes. They are not present here and so cannot defend themselves. The matter relates to individuals. ...*(Interruptions)*... It will not go on record. I am expunging it.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Sir, coming to the next point, according to the Minister, corporate tax would grow by 17.4 per cent, personal income tax would grow by 14.55 per cent and the collection of total direct taxes would grow by 16.31 per cent. Already five months have gone by after March; we are now at the end of August. They had fixed a target and already half a year has gone by. I would like to ask the hon. Minister specifically — how far have you succeeded in achieving the target on these three items?

Coming to a very import item, it has been said that the revenue deficit would be reduced from 2 per cent of last year to 1.5 per cent this year. This is what they have said. But, Sir, I would like to underline the fact that the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council has said that the revenue deficit continues to be high and it is not

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

1.00 P.M.

likely to be eliminated before 2008-09. They have said that the revenue deficit could be done away with once and for all by next year. While the Prime Minister's Economic Council, which is an expert body manned by none other than Mr. Rangarajan, has said that it would not be possible to do that. I would like to have a specific answer from the hon. Minister on this — the Economic Advisory Council says that GDP growth can go up to only 9 per cent while the inflation would recede at 4 per cent, whereas our hon. Minister says that they are capable of achieving the target and that they are optimistic about doing that. I appreciate the confidence with which our hon. Minister says that. I would like to ask him whether he is so confident because while fixing the target, the target was under-pitched, or the full potential before fixing the target was not taken into account.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Coming to the other points, Sir...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is no time left. Already it is one o'clock.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Sir, I would take only two minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*... You have always been considerate with me.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Whether you conclude it or not, I would adjourn the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please be brief.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Now I come to the most important aspect. I am talking about a Columbian eminent expert on economy. He said that the Indian economy needs to undergo a major structural transformation shifting a significant number of people from traditional agriculture-linked livelihood to labour-intensive sector to sustain the current growth rate level, *i.e.*, shifting from agro economy to service-sector-driven economy. This is what the eminent economist said. What would the hon. Minister like to say on this? (Time-bell)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. Make your concluding remarks

DR. K. MALAISAMY: What are the measures taken to control inflation, particularly with reference to control of prices of essential commodities. Your non-Plan expenditure and Government spending are responsible for increase of inflation. What are the measures you have taken? You are definitely willing to speak nicely, but I am asking whether the measures taken are adequate and effective. Are you really confident that such measures are comprehensive? Lastly, Sir, I would like to record that whatever is talked by way of precept and practice or promise and performance, I feel a wide gap in between. For example, take the case of disinvestments or private participation in public sector undertakings. They talk in tall terms. I would like to know the percentage of achievement that you have made. Secondly, you say about welfare. When you are talking about welfare, directive principles, etc, how will this go like this? I am trying to say your precept is one thing and practice is another. Whatever you promise is not executed. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned for lunch to meet at 2.30 P.M.

The House then adjourned for lunch at three minutes past one of the clock.

The House re-assembled after lunch at thirty minutes
past two of the clock.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Brij Bhushan Tiwari.

SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI (Maharashtra): Sir, it is time for Private Members' Business.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Decision has been taken that Private Members' Business will be taken up at 3.30 P.M. to 6.00 p.m.

SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI: When was it decided?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It was decided in the Chamber.

SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI: Sir, I want to protest against this decision because this is sacred two-and-a-half hours time for Private Members' Business. We should take the Appropriation Bill after 5 o'clock.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It has already been decided.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Puducherry): I am Mover of the Bill which will be discussed today. I agree that it can be taken up at 3.30 p.m.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Joshi, please cooperate.

श्री बृजभूषण तिवारी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति महोदय, कुल 20412 करोड़ रुपए के सकल अतिरिक्त व्यय को मंजूरी देने के लिए यह बिल पेश किया गया है। इसमें निबल व्यय के प्रस्तावों की कुल राशि 10428 करोड़ 22 लाख रुपया है और मंत्रालयों, विभागों की बचतों अथवा बढ़ी हुई प्राप्तियों, वसूली द्वारा पूरे किए गए। सबल अतिरिक्त व्यय की राशि 9983 करोड़ 62 लाख रुपया है। इसके अलावा 30 लाख रुपए की सांकेतिक मांग की गई है और इसमें कुल 39 मदों के लिए राशि मांगने के लिए यह बिल रखा गया है। मैं यहां इसका विरोध तो नहीं करना चाहता, परंतु इसके संबंध में यह जरूर कहना चाहता हूँ कि आप यह बजट पास कर देंगे, पैसा भी आपको मिल जाएगा, परंतु प्रश्न यह उठता है मान्यवर, कि इस पैसे को खर्च कैसे किया जाए और देश के विकास के बारे में हमारा नजरिया क्या है? इसमें खेती के बारे में खास तौर पर तीन बातों के लिए पैसा मांगा जा रहा है। एक, खाद्य सुरक्षा मिशन के लिए, दूसरा, जो नेफेड में सरसों के तेल वगैरह के मामले में घाटा हुआ, उसकी आपूर्ति के लिए और तीसरा, 11वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में जो खेती के विकास में चार प्रतिशत का लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया गया है, वह राज्यों को केंद्र की सहायता देने के लिए किया गया है। उपसभापति महोदय, आज ही अखबार में यह पढ़ने को मिला कि भारत की सरकार विदेशों से 1600 रुपए प्रति किंवटल का दाम देकर गेहूँ आयात करने जा रही है और यहीं पर माननीय कृषि मंत्री जी ने एक प्रश्न के उत्तर में यह बात बताई थी कि कभी-कभी हमारे रिजर्व स्टॉक में अनाज नहीं रहता है, चाहे गेहूँ हो, चाहे चावल हो, तो हमें देश के अन्य भागों में या जो सरकार के दायित्व है, उन दायित्वों के निर्वहन में और खास तौर से फूड सिक्युरिटी के लिए, खाद्य सुरक्षा के मामले में जो योजनाएं चल रही हैं, उनके लिए हमें अपना बफर स्टॉक भरा रखना पड़ता है और इसके लिए बाहर से भी आयात करना पड़ता है, परंतु आप जानते हैं,

मान्यवर, कि यह जो सरकार की नीति है, एक तो जो खेतीहर उपज है उसके दाम तय करने का कोई मानक नहीं है, कोई सिद्धांत नहीं है, जबकि जो औद्योगिक वस्तुएं हैं उनमें cost accountancy है। क्या लागत लगी, क्या खर्चा हुआ, क्या मुनाफा होगा, इन सब को दृष्टि में रखकर उनके दाम तय किए जाते हैं। दूसरी बात यह है कि उस दिन कृषि मंत्री जी कह रहे थे कि बहुत प्रकार के जो बंधन थे, वह हमने हटा दिया। निजी क्षेत्र के व्यापारियों को, बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपनियों को या बाहर की बड़ी कंपनियों को भी छूट दे दी कि वे खुले बाजार में अनाज खरीद सकते हैं। यह बात सही है कि उससे किसानों को अच्छा दाम मिला, क्योंकि मैं स्वयं किसान हूँ और किसानों के बीच में काम करता हूँ। मुझे मालूम है कि जो सरकारी खरीद एजेंसियाँ हैं, उनमें किस प्रकार की लापरवाही, किस प्रकार का भ्रष्टाचार और किसानों से उनका कैसा व्यवहार होता है कि वे बेचारे मजबूरन, विवश होकर औने-पौने दाम पर, बाजार के जो सेठ हैं, बनिये हैं, उनको अपना अनाज दे देते हैं। ये लेते ही नहीं हैं और जो भी प्रॉफिट, बोनस का पैसा या जो दूसरा पैसा है, वह सब कमीशन में चला जाता है और वह बेचारा बाजार से भी कम दाम पर अपने अनाज को, अपने उत्पाद को बेचने के लिए विवश होता है। मान्यवर, यहां पर तो यह हुआ कि सरकारी मशीनरी या सरकार के जो क्रय-केंद्र थे, वे खुले ही नहीं और बाहर के जो निजी क्षेत्र के लोग थे, उन्होंने खूब खरीद लिया और जब खरीद लिया, तब सरकार की नींद खुली और तब तक काफी मात्रा में गेहूँ खरीदा जा चुका था। सबसे विचित्र बात यह है कि आठ सौ, नौ सौ, साढ़े नौ सौ में और कहीं-कहीं एक हज़ार रुपए विंगटल का जो गेहूँ खरीदा गया, वहीं गेहूँ फिर बारह सौ या साढ़े बारह सौ रुपए में देकर बाहर से मंगाया गया। गया कहीं नहीं, गेहूँ यहीं का था, केवल कागज़ों में हेराफेरी हो गई और इस प्रकार से उसमें बेहद कमीशन और मुनाफा कमाया गया। आज भी सोलह सौ रुपए विंगटल देने की बात कही गई है, तो खाद्य सुरक्षा गारंटी की जो बात यह सरकार करती है, इसकी पोल तो खुल गई है।

मान्यवर, दूसरी बात यह है कि अभी प्रधान मंत्री जी ने भी यह बात कही कि जो हमारा विकास हो रहा है, जिसके संबंध में यहां, खास तौर पर जो ट्रेज़री बैंचों के सदस्य थे, उन्होंने बड़े लुभावने आंकड़े दिखाएँ अखबारों में भी यह बात छपी है और उन्होंने स्वयं इस बात को स्वीकार किया कि जो विकास है, उसका आधा भी जो आधी आबादी है, उसका फायदा नहीं पाती और दूसरी तरफ कृषि के बारे में वित्त मंत्री जी ने भी यह चिंता व्यक्त की कि जी.डी.पी. में उसका जो शेयर है, उसका हिस्सा है, वह घटकर साढ़े अठारह प्रतिशत हो गया, जबकि साठ सैकड़ से ज्यादा आबादी का हिस्सा खेती पर आश्रित है। तो आखिर यह खेती की हालत क्यों हुई? बहुत सी कमेटियाँ बना दी गई - स्वामीनाथन कमेटी बनी, राधाकृष्णन कमेटी बनी, हमारे जो सेनगुप्ता जी हैं, इनके अनऑर्गेनाइज्ड सेक्टर के अध्ययन के लिए कमेटी बनी। कमेटियाँ बहुत बनीं, ज्ञान बहुत हासिल किया गया, परंतु उसके बाद भी ले-देकर मामला वही हुआ, नतीजा कुछ नहीं निकलता, तो मुझे महाभारत की वह कथा याद आती है, जब दुर्योधन ने कहा कि ऐसा नहीं है कि मुझे धर्म या अधर्म का ज्ञान नहीं है, परंतु हमारा जो धर्म है, धर्म के प्रति हमारी प्रवृत्ति नहीं है और अधर्म के प्रति हमारी निवृत्ति नहीं है। तो वही है यह! सूचनाएं इकट्ठी करेंगे, जानकारी हासिल करेंगे, परंतु मान्यवर, हर प्रकार की गुलामी से तो लड़ा जा सकता है, मगर जो दिमागी गुलामी होती है, उससे लड़ना बहुत कठिन है और(समय की घंटी)... महोदय, मैं दो मिनट में अपनी बात खत्म करूंगा। महोदय, यहां पर यह दिमाग बन गया है कि जब तक जो कारखाने हैं, जो बड़े उद्योग हैं, जो बड़े उद्योगपति हैं और जो विदेशी पूंजी है, बिना इनके, इस देश का विकास नहीं होगा और आप जानते हैं कि जब से यह नई अर्थ नीति

बनी है, जब से एक वर्ग विशेष, एक प्रतिशत भी कम उसकी संख्या है, वह मालामाल हो गया। क्यों मालामाल हो गया? क्योंकि उसका सरकार से, सरकार के अफसरों से, पूरी व्यवस्था से इतना नज़दीकी रिश्ता है और यहां जो सत्ता के लोग हैं, वे आंख मूंदकर लुटाते जाते हैं। अभी कल ही माननीय अमर सिंह ने यह मामला उठाया था, दूसरे लोगों ने उठाया था कि बिना टेंडर के रिलायंस इंडस्ट्री को दस हजार करोड़ रुपए का, छत्तीस हजार करोड़ रुपए में एलॉट कर दिया गया। अभी आपने देखा कि कल लखनऊ में समाजवादी पार्टी के, जो इसी सदन के सदस्य हैं, कंचल साहब, वे फुटकर व्यापारियों को लेकर रिलायंस के आउट-लेट के सामने प्रदर्शन किया, क्योंकि बड़े-बड़े उद्योगपति ये हर काम करेंगे, ये गैस भी बनाएंगे, ये पेट्रोल भी तैयार करेंगे, ये कपड़ा भी बेचेंगे और ये सब्जी भी बेचेंगे - तो ये जो पूंजीपति हैं, ये bull हैं, सांड हैं। अगर इनको आप अंकुश में नहीं रखेंगे, तो जो यहां का गरीब आदमी है, विशेषकर जो किसान है, वह बरबाद हो जाएगा। आप जानते हैं कि...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसमापति: तिवारी जी, आपका टाइम ज्यादा हो गया है। आपके सात मिनट से तीन मिनट ज्यादा हो गए हैं।

श्री बृजभूषण तिवारी: बस एक मिनट में मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं।

इसलिए इस खेती के विकास के लिए खाद की जो सब्सिडी है वह सब्सिडी किसानों को नहीं मिलती। उस सब्सिडी का सीधा फायदा बड़े कारखानेदार उठाते हैं। पब्लिक सेक्टर के जो कारखाने हैं वे आज बन्द हैं। निजी कारखाने खुले हुए हैं और वे ही चल रहे हैं और वे यह फ्रॉड करते हैं कि कागज पर तो उत्पादन ज्यादा दिखलाते हैं और उस उत्पादन की आड़ में सरकार की जो सब्सिडी है वह हड़प जाते हैं। आज जबकि 40 फीसदी खाद हमें बाहर से मंगाना पड़ता है। तो इस सम्बन्ध में एक तो यह व्यवस्था हो कि जो सब्सिडी है वह किसानों को सीधे मिले, किसानों को उनकी फसल का लाभकारी मूल्य मिले और जो बैंक का नेटवर्क है उसको कर्ज से निबटारा दिलाने के लिए गांव तक फैलाया जाए और उसी के साथ ही साथ जो जमीन है उसके सुधार का भी काम करना चाहिए। आप देखिए कि 60 साल में जमीन का बंटवारा नहीं हुआ और छः महीने में किसानों की हजारों एकड़ जमीन जबर्दस्ती लेकर उनको विवश कर बड़े-बड़े पूंजीपतियों और उद्योगपतियों को सेज के नाम दे दिया गया।

श्री उपसमापति: समाप्त करिए।

श्री बृजभूषण: महोदय, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि यह जो नीति है वह इस देश को बरबाद करने की है, किसानों को उजाड़ने की है, बेरोजगार नौजवानों को मारने की और इस देश को रसातल पर ले जाने की नीति है। इसलिए मैं सरकार से चाहूंगा कि वह इन विषयों पर गंभीरता से विचार करे और इसको सही रास्ते पर ले जाने की कोशिश करे।

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN (West Bengal): Thank you, Sir. It is the first batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants, 2007-08. While I stand up to support the Appropriation (No.3) Bill, I would like to express some views on the present scenario of economic situation of our country and on this Appropriation Bill along with the Supplementary Demands for Grants. I have seen that there is an additional expenditure for Rs. 2412.14 crores. There is another point in this para that it would be met by savings of Ministries/Departments or by enhanced receipt; the recovery is nearly Rs. 10,000 crore. May I know from the hon. Minister what is the nature of

the savings and from which Ministry this saving would accrue? My apprehension is this. There is a discussion of consolidation of public finance with the lowest fiscal deficit. So, it should be clarified here. Sir, everybody is talking about the growth of the GDP of our country. It is absolutely right that it is now 10 per cent. Very recently, our Prime Minister told in a meeting that it is nearly 10 per cent. But, I should share that it is not being translated to the common people. Very recently one of our esteemed colleagues, Shri Arjun Kumar Sengupta, submitted a report to the Prime Minister. It was a Committee appointed by the Government of India. He told, with your permission, I will quote only two lines, "Over the decades while the percentage of the population below the poverty line has come down, in 2004-05, 77 per cent people, totalling 836 million, had an income less than twice the official poverty line or below, Rs. 20 per day per capita". This is the situation of our countrymen. So, it is not translated to the common people in their livelihood.

My second point, Sir, is regarding the price rise. Sir, WPI, the Wholesale Price Index, declined in August. CPI, not the Communist Party of India, Consumer Price Index, steadily increased. I would like to know from the hon. Minister why the prices are increasing. So, there is a gap between demand and supply. The Government failed to control the prices. Why is the vegetable market so hot? See the price of potato, onion, and cauliflower in the Delhi's vegetable market. The price of cauliflower is Rs. 40 per Kg and onion between Rs. 22 and Rs. 25 per Kg. What kind of situation is this?

In agriculture, since Independence, there is the lack of proper attention; there is the lack of proper investment; and there is this lack of productivity. In this Appropriation Bill, there is a mention of National Food Security Mission. In this, there is a provision for increasing the production of wheat, rice, pulses, etc. But the productivity of major crops per hectare yield long since has declined. We are doing nothing. I do not know whether it will serve our purpose and the yield per hectare will go up. I demand that the Government should pay more and proper attention to this sector.

As I have already mentioned, one of our esteemed colleagues, Prof. Swaminathan, provided a report to the Government of India. It is very unfortunate that this report is not yet discussed here. In this respect, I again demand to discuss this report as also the report of Mr. Sengupta.

We have read and seen in the newspapers about the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana. On several occasions, our Prime Minister, and other Ministers also, said that every village would be electrified by 2009. What is the fund requirement? It is Rs.25,000 crore. The Ministry of Power has been given Rs.500 crore. What is the progress in it? Are we in a position to complete this programme by 2009? This is my specific question to the hon. Minister. Yes, it is a fact that India is now a country of billionaires. The number of billionaires in the list is increasing. The figure is now changing. It is now 34 or 36. At this moment, I am not able to recall the number revealed in the *Fortune* magazine, 2007. But what about providing potable water to every house? What about reducing child mortality rate? What about reducing rate of under-nourished children? What about reducing maternal mortality rate and under-weight babies? What about the sanitation programme of our country? There is a big gap between promise and performance.

On education, in 2005-06, it was promised that five lakh classrooms would be built and 1.5 lakh teachers would be appointed. After that, we have seen that only two lakh classrooms were built and 75,000 teachers were appointed. The teacher-pupil ratio is now 1:42. In the meantime, in the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, the funding pattern has changed. In this perspective, I would say that it is not proper. Earlier, it was 75:25 and now it is 50:50. I urge upon the Government to go back to the earlier status.

Sir, I have seen in the Appropriation Bill that there is a proposal for additional grant for the construction relating to the Safdarjung Hospital and the RML Hospital. We get ourselves treated frequently at the RML Hospital. So I have no objection to the upgradation of the Safdarjung Hospital and the RML Hospital. One thing I would like to ask the hon. Minister is this. What about the six AIIMS-like institutions in our country? It was promised in 2005-06. In the Budget Estimates, it was given Rs. 250 crore. But I have seen in the Revised Estimates that it was reduced drastically to Rs. 6 crore. In the Budget Estimates 2005-06, it was Rs. 75 crore and in the Revised Budget Estimate, it was Rs. 10 crore. My impression is that the Government is not in a position to fulfil its commitment. In the Budget Estimates 2007-08, an amount of Rs. 150 crore was provided for that particular purpose. So, I would like to know what happened to that promise. What is the reality?

Another question that I would like to ask from the Hon. Finance Minister is this. So for the sub-plan for the development of minorities in our country, in the last Budget, I am very much aware about the announcement of the Finance Minister. He has done a lot in his Budget speech regarding the development of minority sections of our country. But, I would say that the Union Budget 2007-08 does not mention any proposal for the sub plan for the minorities on the lines of the Special Component Plan for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes sub plan which, in fact, was one of the most important proposals of the Left parties. Out of the Union Government's proposed Plan outlay of Rs. 2,05,100 crore for 2007-08, only Rs. 500 crores, nearly 0.24 per cent, is earmarked for minorities while the minorities constitute more than 15 or 16 per cent of the total population. So, I would like a specific answer in this regard.

Sir, I will not take much of the time. I have only two points. Sir, I have seen the Appropriation Bill. I would like to ask one thing from the hon. Finance Minister. It is Budget-specific: He has to tell us that the Budget deficit will be two per cent as against 3.8 per cent earlier. Sir, the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, in, its 2007-08 report have said that GDP will be nine per cent, but, there will be some risk. What is the risk? Is it the Budget liability? I suppose, as I know, in the three heads, there may be liabilities. Firstly, bonds issued by oil companies, secondly, special security issues of FCI and thirdly, the fertiliser subsidy. All together, in these three heads, it will be Rs. 44,138 crore plus the deficit which is mentioned in the Budget speech. It was Rs. 1,56,320 crore, if it is taken together. Where is two per cent? It becomes 4.7 per cent. So, where is the FRBM Act? It will aggravate the deficit with the States. If it is a debt State, it becomes 8.3 per cent. This is the situation.

Sir, I am concluding with these words that it is absolutely right that India now is the fourth largest economy in the world by PPP. India has the fifth largest foreign exchange reserve. But, the growth needs to be more and more comprehensive. We must address the issues relating to education, health and poverty at the grass-root levels. With these words, I thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now, Shri C. Ramachandraiah. Your Party has got two minutes. But, I know that in two minutes, nobody can speak. So, take five minutes and complete.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH (Andhra Pradesh): Thank you, Sir. I stand to support this Bill which is seeking the Supplementary Demands with some observations. Sir, the additional expenditure that has been incurred is around Rs. 20,412 crores, a major portion is from the Department of Fertilisers. Rs. 15,000 crores have been requested for additional expenditure. Sir, for these Rs. 15,000 crores, a narration has been given, that is, the Supplementary Grants is required for the following purposes: subsidy on imported decontrolled fertilisers, subsidy on indigenous decontrolled fertilisers, subsidy on imported urea and subsidy on nitrogenous fertilisers, put together around Rs. 15,000 crores. As a providing combination through issue of special securities to the fertiliser units to the tune of Rs. 7500 crores, a detailed narration is given which does not entail cash outgo. The net cash outgo will be around Rs. 6554 crores. It gives an inference that the Rs. 7500 crores worth are being issued as bonds or securities or whatever it is, to fertiliser companies. Sir, my first question is: Why has it not been contemplated when we had submitted the original proposals in the Budget?

The second thing is, oil bonds which are being issued from time to time, and the security bonds which are issued to the fertilizer manufacturing companies, will they be taken into consideration while you are considering or calculating the fiscal deficit? Sir, my apprehension is, to show to the nation that the FRBM targets are being maintained by the Finance Minister, it is a well-meaning endeavour, I should appreciate. But why has the Parliament—I do not know which word I can use—been kept in the dark? If the payments are being made, it will be shown as a liability; it is just to be shown as a liability before making the payment. And now, we are issuing the bonds, and as far as my knowledge about the Government Accounting goes, they are not being taken into consideration while you are calculating the fiscal deficit. So, why is it being done? What purpose is it going to serve except to prove to the nation that we are maintaining the fiscal deficit? That will not serve much purpose. As I have been telling, strict maintenance of these targets need not be necessary in an expanding economy, and I feel that it is a total window dressing of the Budget.

Secondly, Rs. 729 or 730 crores have been provided for the Indian Telephone industry for waivers, writing off the loans and other things. So, my request is, what is the policy of the Government as far as sick units in the public sector are concerned? The Government is in total confusion about disinvestments. They proclaim something. Then they go back and they will justify. Of course, I do not want to go into the compulsions of the coalition politics, which every coalition is facing in this country, which has become the order of the day. But, the Government should have a clarity. I do not advise that you should go this way or that way. In whichever way the Government is going, you cannot be selective or you cannot be partial as far as disinvestments is concerned. So, my request to the Minister is, what exactly is the plan about the Indian Telephone industry? Whether it is being revived or whether continuously the budgetary protection will be given to these units. I am very pointed because I do not want to take much time. I refer to one report of the Committee on Liberalisation of Foreign Institutional Investment. The report was

3.00 P.M.

submitted by Dr. Ashok K. Lahiri and two others. It is a Committee appointed by the Government of India. In this report it was recommended, and I quote:

"In view of the recent concerns of some unregulated entities taking positions in the stock market through the mechanism of participatory notes issued by FIIs, the issue was examined by the Ministry of Finance in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India and SEBI. Following this consultation, in January 2004, SEBI stipulated that PNs are not to be issued to any non-regulated entity, and the principle of "know your clients" may be strictly adhered to," and to what extent this concept of "know your clients" is being adopted in the banks. Sir, recently, I have seen in one transaction where in respect of 30,000 accounts, the refund orders have been issued in respect of the 30,000 accounts created in one single account that led to the scam. "SEBI has indicated that the existing non-eligible PNs will be permitted to expire or to be wound-down on maturity or within a period of 5 years, whichever is earlier. Besides, reporting requirement on a regular basis has been imposed on all the FIIs." This conveys that the Report has been accepted by the Government, and SEBI has issued the guidelines. But I read in the newspaper an article written by Sucheta Dalal: "It is estimated that over 40 crore of PNs have been issued abroad by foreign brokers and are actively traded in some markets." Of course, apprehensions have been expressed. These subscriptions came...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ramachandraiah, you have to conclude. You know that it is difficult for those who are making good points, but there is no time.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: I will conclude, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Tax evaded domestic money. Sir, tax evaded domestic money has been routed through these PNs. ...(Interruptions)... You can give the reply, Sir. Sir, these are all the...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, don't see towards Mr. Narayanasamy.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Mr. Narayanasamy is very eager to introduce his Private Member's Bill, but for that, after 3.30, time is there.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no; you want to have the reply of the hon. Finance Minister also. Without his reply, if you want to participate.....

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: I admit, Sir, that the economy is on strong fundamentals, and F.M. was very optimistic to get a ten per cent growth. We welcome it. We should achieve a growth rate of double digits. That is only the solution. F.M. should also take into consideration some constraining factors like rate of inflation. Oil prices have gone up 70 plus. And strong rupee. Strong rupee, I welcome it though it is not being welcomed by software companies. Sir, these constraining factors he has to also take into consideration. My request, Sir, is that regulator has to be made very, very strong in this country till this total transformation takes place. Unless this

transformation is completed, regulator has to be provided with full autonomy. And they should be more strengthened. Then only we can achieve the target.

And the second thing, Sir, of course is inflation. Last time also, I made a proposal about it. For increasing inflation, F.M. alone should not be made responsible. A separate Department has to be constituted to contain inflation. It covers the Commerce Department, the Agriculture Department and the Finance Ministry. As far as the Finance Ministry is concerned, they will indulge in these reactions, increasing the CRR ratio and setting the liquidity to the market. To that extent, they are successful. However, the shortcomings in the supply side...(Time Bell)... These are all the things which have to be taken in a holistic way. A separate Department has to be constituted to take care of inflation. Inflation is going to be the biggest enemy, the constraining factor to achieve this growth rate. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Arjun Kumar Sengupta. I just want to remind you about the time constraint.

SHRI ARJUN KUMAR SENGUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, in fact, if I had not been given the time constraint; I would have, probably, given a most reasoned defence of the Finance Minister's position. I can assure you that my defence of the Finance Minister's position would have been much better than many other defences that you would have actually talked about. Unfortunately, since I have this time constraint, I will be talking about a few things and, I hope, the Finance Minister would forgive me if they sound critical, but with constructive criticisms because I am as much interested in the success of the Finance Minister as he himself or anybody else in the Congress Party is.

Sir, I would like to start with a simple point that the Finance Minister is a Finance Minister of a party or a Government which has come to power on a clear assurance that this Government will be fighting for, standing for promoting the welfare of the *aam admi*. It is not against growth. In fact, growth is very much welcome, but the criterion of the success of this Government is what it is doing for the *aam admi*. In 2004-05 when the elections were fought, the leader of the Congress Party went to the polls, talking about the difference between the Shining India and the India of the common masses. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH (Jammu and Kashmir): Sir, I am on a point of order. The hon. Member said "the Finance Minister of the Congress Party". I would like to correct him. He is Finance Minister of India, not only of your party.

SHRI ARJUN KUMAR SENGUPTA: Your point is well taken. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH: Your party might have elected. ...(Interruptions)... When he sits on the Treasury Benches as Finance Minister, he is the Finance Minister of India. Don't forget that.

SHRI ARJUN KUMAR SENGUPTA: That point is very well taken. I have very limited time. Let me make my points.

The whole question is that, at that time, it was not very clear who is the *aam admi*. We have now gone into a detailed analysis of this and we have been able to

identify 77 per cent of our people who can be identified as *aam admi* who are living on an average *per capita* per day *consumption expenditure* of around Rs. 20. *A little more than Rs.20 is the per capita consumption expenditure.* This particular group of 77 per cent also contains 88 per cent of the Dalits, 80 per cent of the OBC and 84 per cent of the Muslims. I may be one or two points here and there, as far as the exact numbers are concerned. An overwhelming portion of the socially downtrodden and deprived population belongs to this group of 77 per cent. What we have to see is whether the Finance Minister has been successful in delivering to this group of people on the basis of which this Government was formed.

I am afraid, a lot of things have happened. In fact, it is true that the total expenditure on the social programmes that the Finance Minister has provided has gone far beyond what had happened before. But we find, again and again, that whatever has happened, it has by-passed this poor downtrodden people. I have no time to go into the details. But the fact of the matter is that unless you adopt programmes which are targeted to this group, focussed on this group, you will not be able to deliver. If I may submit, yes, we are, of course, growing at a very high rate and it is a very good thing. But this high rate of growth is practically inevitable in India. All that the Government will have to do is to see that the reforms are not regressed and are not changed. In a country with this kind of rate of savings, in a country with this kind of foreign exchange, in a country with this kind of domestic market, nobody can prevent a high rate of growth. We have found that 24 per cent of our population has a huge consumption growth. That provides a large market in a world where import duty has come down and the whole world is inclined to come here, foreign investors and foreign good producers. Here, the twenty-four per cent pushes us very far. By the way, the rate of savings has increased. The rate of savings of this 24 per cent has increased. Seventy-seven per cent of our people have no savings at all. They just survive. They can't save anything. This is India. It is very clear today that India is divided today between the shining and the downtrodden. The question is what we are doing for these downtrodden people, I can mention a number of things. I don't want to get into that. But some of the programmes will have to be now pinpointed. We have now suddenly entered into a mode of elections, What are we going to do? The time is very limited. But in this time, I would request the Finance Minister, to consider immediately to have a set programmes which are directly focussed on and targeted to them. The National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme (NREGP) is one of the programmes which is directly targeted to these people. It must be expanded. He is trying his best. But I think it can be expanded further. The other programme is the social security for the unorganised workers. One illness in the family, one hospitalisation, one death of the bread-earner, one old age is sufficient to drive a poor family to destitution in our country and the Social Security Scheme must provide protection for them. These schemes are available. These schemes have been worked out and the Finance Minister must now come out openly to support them and say that we are for this poor people, for their social security.

On the question of agriculture, I am absolutely certain that the Finance Minister and the Prime Minister have taken many steps to improve productivity of our agriculture. Unfortunately, almost all of them have gone beyond the reach of the small and marginal farmers who constitute 84 per cent of our agricultural household.

I have tried my best to find what has been the credit situation of these people. We have 2003-04 figures which are terrible. But after that, in spite of doubling of the credit, very little information is available, which I can say, like the national survey, I can build upon. But the stray evidences show that there is a total mismanagement there. Very little credit is going to the small and marginal farmers. If a special scheme is not taken, adopted and moved in that direction, nothing will happen. During Shrimati Indira Gandhi's time, there were special programmes for small and marginal farmers. They have all been given up. They have all been amalgamated with others. We are finding only the bigger farmers to get the benefits. All the credit goes to the bigger farmers; all the fertilizer subsidies go to the bigger farmers. These are facts of life that we can actually find. I am putting forward this argument. It is perfectly possible to work out a number of such schemes, for example, industrial growth. Phenomenal industrial growth is taking place now. I am saying phenomenal deliberately - 8 to 9 per cent. But do you realise that this rate of growth of large industries produce no jobs? It is a totally jobless growth that we are having in our manufacturing sector; whereas, the job producing micro sector, small sector, artisans, etc., are striving. They do not have the raw material; they do not have the skill; they do not have the credit. We have SEZ programme. There is nothing against that. There may be some kind of problems. But they are meant for the rich people. Why can't we have SEZ programmes for the artisans' clusters? Why can't we have SEZ programmes for the poor, small and marginal units? That would give you an indication that this Government is committed to these poor people. I can go into the details. The Finance Minister is aware of that, but I do not want to go into that.

Sir, I would like to make two more points before I end. One is the Public Distribution System. This is one thing which will definitely have an impact on our poor people. Now this Public Distribution System has to expand. It has to cover not only foodgrains but other materials also. How do you do that? I remember the Finance Minister mentioned to my friend, Shrimati Brinda Karat, that there is a difference between the CPM line and his line because he is a liberal and they are talking about State activities. Sir, I would like to request him to be a liberal in this particular case. - Now, a very simple point. Let us have the Minimum Support Price at an attractive rate and let the FCI come to the market to take grains from any farmer at MSP, at any time in the season. If it is not immediately in the harvesting season, at a later date with some interests it can be provided. It is a pure market game. But they should also be allowed to sell to private traders. There should be no restrictions that you cannot sell to these people or that people because that is the only way to assure whether the farmers are getting better price. There is no problem at all if the farmers are not selling to the FCI, but selling to someone else. They are doing so because they are getting more money. But then the FCI, should be in charge of the Public Distribution System. How is it possible to do that because they may not be able to procure enough? This is where the Finance Minister can use this huge amount of foreign exchange reserves. He can tell the FCI, Go ahead. Only play a proper market game, import, do forward contracts so that you can get your foodgrains from outside only for the Public Distribution System, only for the buffer stocks. If you allow the FCI to play, this game like any other trader, you will be able to find a proper answer to this question. You can help the farmers to get more money and, at the same time, you can control the price.

Sir, the Finance Minister keeps saying that we do not have much money, which is correct. There is a budget constraint. We must accept that. We cannot accept on that point any kind of relaxation; because otherwise, the whole system might collapse. But then if I come to the details, is it really that difficult for the Finance Minister to accept that even after trying his best with all the resources he has covered, he is unable to fund enough to spend on proper programmes? Please accept that if you had one more percentage of deficit financing, it would give you Rs. 44,000 to Rs. 45,000 crores in your kitty. What will happen? I want to emphasise on this point I am not supporting this. I am saying, do not make a fetish of your FRBM which we have imposed on ourselves for the purpose of discipline. But there are occasions when you may like to shift your ground not because of anything else, but because if that money is required to finance these pro-poor programmes, if that is required to finance social security programmes, if that is required to meet the unemployment problems, then this is very much worth considering. I am saying this because, with that kind of increase — I have done my exercise; he has very competent people in his office; just do this exercise — let us know what will happen to our country if there is one per cent increase in deficit financing. Nothing will happen to inflation. Something can happen to the interest rate, but not much. The country can actually accept it, at eight to nine per cent of growth rate. This is not going to do any great damage if we do it for one or two years. That gives you immediately an amount of money. I am only saying this because if you say that we do not have money for helping the poor, for giving these kinds of programmes to the poorer people because none of the items of expenditure can be given up and we have an FRBM, then, I am saying, in that case, please look at your FRBM. Heavens will not fall if you accept one per cent additional deficit.

My final point, Finance Minister Sahab, is, please come up at this stage to the defence of the position on which you have become Finance Minister. That is all I want; we want the delivery to the poorer sections of the people and that is the way to move ahead in the future.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I stand before you to express my party's concern on this Bill. Time is precious and time must be precious for the Government also. The UPA Government came to power with great expectations. We were hearing for some time that we were a 'Shining India'. When they were in power, we heard about 'India Shining'. Now, we talk about 'India Rising' and 'India moving towards a double-digit GDP growth', 'faster growth'; that has become the *mantra* of the UPA Government. But the Government has been continuing the same neo-liberal paradigm of development. This has widened the gulf between the rich and the poor in our country. I do not want to get into all the statistics. I must refer to what Shri Arjun Kumar Sengupta has said in his report. He says that 77 per cent of our population lives with a daily consumption level of Rs. 20. That shows the level of disparity that has come into effect in our country after this neo-liberal economic policies were introduced. That is why I sincerely feel that the UPA Government will have to go in for mid-course corrections. There is a need for mid-course correction. This is not a simple political statement I am making on the floor of the House. I sincerely believe that the UPA Government should go in for mid-course correction of its policies because the same policies cannot continue. And here I must point out a few things for consideration.

I take up agriculture. The Government claims a target — what they call ‘desired target’ — growth rate of 4 per cent in agriculture. But agriculture has become increasingly non-remunerative. Our farmers do not get remunerative price for their produce. They are in the grip of indebtedness. That is one of the major reasons for the continuous distress of farmers. Agriculture is in very deep crisis. Farmers do not get loans at a cheaper rate of interest. Now, even at 7 per cent loans are meant as short-term loans; they are advanced for crops; they are not given for the entire agricultural operation. And I don’t know why the Government is not giving some consideration to the recommendations made by the National Commission on Farmers where we find some very genuine recommendations in the interest of agriculture. Even if you take the question of subsidy, these subsidies are not given directly to farmers. The conditions of small and marginal farmers are miserable. The plight of these sections is really miserable. The condition of agricultural workers is still worse. It is the promise made by the UPA Government in its National Common Minimum Programme that this Government will come out with a protective, comprehensive central legislation for agricultural workers. We don’t have a national minimum social security for poor and tiny people in this country. I don’t know how far this Government can allow this situation to continue. On the one side, this Government claims that it is the Government of *aam admi*, or the Government of common people, poor people; on the other side, if you take the actual practice, that does not go in tune with their claims or promises. Take the conditions of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes or the Other Backward Classes and minorities. Still they are looking for some support from the Government. The so-called sub-plan for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes — in actual terms, many people have pointed out — is not enough. In fact, there is no such plan in practice for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. But, we claim that there is a sub-plan and we are demanding sub-plans for minorities also. Unless you address the concerns of Dalits, Adivasis, Muslims and Other Backward Classes, it cannot claim that it is for the common people of the country. What is the job of the Government? For whom is this Government there in the office? It is not that we can claim that we are producing some billionaires or some trillionaires and showcase them. This is the advantage of the Neo-Liberal policies. In fact, these Neo-Liberal policies have created some tiny islands of prosperity and some super-richer people in the country. The vast ocean of poverty must be understood by the Government. It should be understood by the Government that the conditions of people are worse. When I say this, I don’t say that the UPA Government has not done anything. The UPA Government has brought the NREGA; the UPA Government has passed the RTI Act; the UPA Government has put the entire disinvestment programme on hold because of the resistance from the Left. But, it is not enough. A lot more could have been done by the UPA Government. Why the UPA Government failed to address these concerns of the poor people? That is my question. Now, when we talk about allocations and other things, the UPA Government should realise these things. Because of time constraint, I am not going into other issues. But, there are several issues which have been touched by my previous speaker from the Left. In fact, I must endorse whatever has been spoken by my colleague from the Left. Even for the social sector, the National Common Minimum Programme claims...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: You are supporting your colleague from the Left and not others. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI D. RAJA: I am doing this because we have some common positions. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि: डिसइन्वेस्टमेंट को जो ऑन होल्ड किया, यह DMK की धमकी के कारण हुआ था। ...*(व्यवधान)*... NALCO, Neyveli Lignite Corporation. का डिसइन्वेस्टमेंट, जो चिदम्बरम साहब ने किया था, सरकार ने किया था, DMK की ओर से, करुणानिधि की ओर से धमकी आई, इसलिए वह ऑन होल्ड हुआ है।

SHRI D. RAJA: ...*(Interruptions)*... You talked about disinvestment, and I am coming to the DMK. ...*(Interruptions)*... When the Neyveli Lignite Corporation was listed for disinvestment, the DMK came out strongly against that disinvestment. That is what from the Left we have been fighting. There are other forces also who align with the Left in protecting the interests of the public sector. What I am trying to say is, now the Government will have to concentrate and should have concentrated on other issues like social sector. The National Common Minimum Programme promises that six per cent of the GDP will be spent on education.

Now, what is happening to education or Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, or the right to education? All we talk, But when it comes to actual practice, what is happening? That is what the Government will have to address.

The National Common Minimum Programme again declares two to three per cent of GDP will be spent on health, Now, what is happening? What is the spending on health? What is the spending on education? On the question of price rise, inflation has been raised. I hear what the Finance Minister keeps on telling, "Whatever fiscal measures, monetary measures required for controlling, moderating the inflation are being taken." But, actually, it does not reflect on the overall price situation in the country. The prices keep shooting up and the common people are finding it very difficult. In this regard, the public distribution system should be streamlined and strengthened and the Government should take necessary measures on how to strengthen the public distribution system.

Finally, Sir, because of time constraint, I am just running. The poor and the toiling people need support and there is a need for some kind of national minimum social security for the poor and the toiling people. The NREGA must be universalised. It is good that the Prime Minister spoke on Independence Day that the NREGA will become a country-wide programme. But in the last Budget, only Rs. 700 crores was increased for the 330 districts. I do not know with this *ad hoc* approach or tokenism, how can we move forward. When we think of India to emerge as a real economic power, when we think of 21st century should be India's century, this approach cannot help us. The overall approach should be changed. The Government should go in for mid-course corrections, the neo-liberal economic paradigm must have some very tangible drastic shift and the same neo-liberal pursuit policies cannot help a country like India. As a developing country like India, it needs some policy shift and the UPA Government should realise with a sense of urgency. When the UPA Government completed three years, when it has entered the fourth year, it is a very crucial year. This Government needs to amend its policies, needs to go in for mid-course corrections. Otherwise, whatever claims that have been made in the National Common Minimum Programme, they will remain claims, they cannot become a reality. The people or the common toiling people cannot forgive this Government and this is what I would like to say. Thank you.

श्री हरेन्द्र सिंह मलिक (हरियाणा): उपसभापति जी, आपने मुझे इस बिल पर बोलने का मौका दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ। माननीय मंत्री जी ने औद्योगिक उत्पादन में वृद्धि, GDP में वृद्धि, निर्माण में वृद्धि और इश्योरेंस, व्यापार, होटल, real estate, इन सब में वृद्धि की बात की है, इसके लिए मैं इन्हें बधाई देता हूँ।

मान्यवर, मैं देखता हूँ कि हिंदुस्तान गांवों का देश है, कस्बों का देश है और शहर की बाहरी आबादी में जो रिवर्सा खींचने वाला रहता है, उसका देश है, उनकी आमदनी में कितनी वृद्धि हुई, मुझे प्रसन्नता होती यदि इसका उल्लेख भी किया जाता। ग्रामीण अंचलों में कितने अस्पताल बनाए गए, कितने स्कूल खोले गए, यह विचार का विषय है। वृद्धि, करप्शन में भी हुई है, इसको नकारा नहीं जा सकता है। मैं 1985 में यूपी. में MLA था, आप ही की सरकार के चीफ मिनिस्टर श्री नारायण दत्त तिवारी जी ने हमें बुलाकर हमारी पीठ थपथपाई थी कि आप लोग सरकार की कमी को उजागर करके हमारी मदद करते हो, क्योंकि करप्शन हम नहीं करते, करप्शन अधिकारी करते हैं। यदि हम पार्टी के दृष्टिकोण से ऊपर उठकर देखें तो अभी कल ही इसी सम्मानित सदन में 26,000 करोड़ रुपए के करप्शन की बात हुई। 10,000 करोड़ रुपए का रिलायंस का मामला, यह बड़ा अजीब सा किस्सा है। एक माननीय सदस्य ने यह विषय उठाया कि इस पर निश्चित रूप से गंभीरता से विचार होना चाहिए और यह देखना चाहिए कि बड़े औद्योगिक घरानों के लिए कितना पक्षपात किया जा रहा है। मुझे एक प्रेस के आदमी ने अभी बताया, मैं भी जानता हूँ कि हिंदुस्तान के अंदर पेट्रोल और डीजल के भाव, सरकार तय करती है, लेकिन उन्होंने पेट्रोल और डीजल का भाव खुला छोड़ दिया, जो चाहे वह भाव बेचे। वह आज भी गाड़ी लेकर जाता है, रिलायंस के यहां से 2 रुपए लीटर फालतू देकर तेल लेकर आता है। किसके लिए यह पालिसी थी? क्या आपका HPCL, BPCL, IPCL ये सारे उसी भाव में बेच रहे हैं जो आपने तय किया है? मेरा आपसे अनुरोध है कि हम लोगों में एक अंतर भी है। माननीय मंत्री जी को बड़े मन से समझना चाहिए कि जो राजनीतिक वर्कर सड़क पर, पगडंडी पर पीटकर आता है, उसके मन में हमारे बड़े अधिकारियों के मुकाबले जनता के प्रति ज्यादा दर्द होता है, ज्यादा जवाबदेह होती है। वे बुद्धि में हमसे ज्यादा हैं, बड़ी डिग्री हासिल किए हैं, मगर उनका दर्द और उनकी संवेदनशीलता हम लोगों से कम है और उनके कारण ऐसा हो रहा है। वे संवेदनशील नहीं होते।

मान्यवर, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि हमारा देश कृषि प्रधान देश है। हमारा ज्ञानवर्धन होगा, मंत्री जी अपने उत्तर में हमें बताएं कि कितनी नई सिंचाई परियोजनाएं इस हिंदुस्तान के अंदर लागू की गई हैं? ऊसर भूमि सुधार योजना हो, बंजर भूमि सुधार योजना हो, जो जल भराव से हर साल भूमि खराब हो जाती है, उस भूमि को उर्वरक बनाने के लिए बांध आदि का काम किया गया हो या कितनी बीज संवर्धन ईकाइयां लगाई गईं, ताकि हम नए-नए बीज पैदा कर सकें? यहां तो साउथ और नॉर्थ में अंतर है। पवार साहब के क्षेत्र में गन्ने से शुगर की रिकवरी 13 परसेंट है, उत्तर प्रदेश में 9 परसेंट है और हरियाणा और पंजाब में 8 परसेंट रह जाती है। हम नई तकनीक नहीं ला पा रहे हैं, इसके लिए हमें काम करना चाहिए ताकि किसान का स्तर ऊपर उठ सके।

मान्यवर, जहाँ तक फूड प्रोसेसिंग की बात है, तो किसान का आलू पचास पैसे किलो बिकता है और जब वह चिप्स के रूप में बाजार में आता है तो दो सौ रुपए किलो हो जाता है। यह अंतर क्यों है? सरकार ने एक गलती और की है। मैं आपसे अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ, आपने किसान का बहाना करके निजी कंपनियों को खाद्यान्

खरीदने की अनुमति दे दी। यह गलत है, इससे किसान को कोई लाभ नहीं है। जिस समय फसल कटती है, उस समय किसान की जेब हमेशा खाली होती है और इसलिए वह अपना खाद्यान्न बेचा करता है। उससे जमाखोरी को बढ़ावा मिला है और जमाखोरी करके आपकी सरकार को बदनाम करने के लिए कंपनियाँ artificial कमी पैदा करती है, इससे बाजार भाव एकदम ऊपर उठ जाते हैं और आज यही हो रहा है। अगर आपकी एजेंसी खरीद करे, तो निश्चित रूप से भाव पर कंट्रोल रहेगा। इसलिए आप निजी कंपनियों का मोह त्याग दीजिए।

आप SEZ ले आए। SEZ से किसको फायदा है? मान्यवर, यह जो Democratic set-up है, हमने सुना था कि जनता की सरकार, जनता के द्वारा, जनता के लिए है। SEZ किसके लिए है? SEZ में जो आपने छूट दी थी, वह आम जनता तक नहीं पहुंची है। वह चंद औद्योगिक घरानों को छूट पहुंचाती है। जो जमीन आप देते हैं, वह जमीन एक लाख रुपए में बिकती है। उसके बाद डेवलपमेंट आप करते हैं, छूट आप देते हैं और फायदा दर्जन, दो दर्जन और दस दर्जन औद्योगिक घरानों को होता है। बताइए, आम आदमी को उसका क्या फायदा मिला? महोदय, मैंने आपसे पहले भी अनुरोध किया था कि आपने हिमाचल में, उत्तरांचल में छूट दी, पंजाब के, हरियाणा के और वेस्टर्न यूपी के उद्योग खत्म हो गए। इधर से उद्योगपति ने उद्योग उखाड़ा और हरिद्वार में लगा दिया। आपकी छूट चली गई, उसको फायदा हो गया। जनता को क्या मिला? जिस जनता की सरकार है, उस जनता को क्या मिला?

मान्यवर, एक अनुरोध मैं आपसे करना चाहता हूँ। हम पढ़ते थे कि इंदिरा जी जेल भी गई, हम उनका बड़ा सम्मान करते हैं। उन्होंने बैंकों का राष्ट्रीयकरण किया था। एक आम आदमी के घर में, युवा मतदाता को कहा कि बैंक राष्ट्र की संपत्ति होगी। आपने प्राइवेट बैंकों को छूट दे दिया, आपके नेशनलाइज्ड बैंक मर जाएंगे। कारण यह है कि जो आपका जनोपयोगी काम है, उसको तो नेशनलाइज्ड बैंक करेंगे, चाहे वह IRDP हो, TRYSEM हो, किसान को सस्ते ब्याज दर पर ऋण देने की बात हो और जो लाभ के काम हैं, उन्हें सरकारी बैंक नहीं, प्राइवेट बैंक्स करेंगे, विदेशी बैंक्स करेंगे (समय की घंटी)। महोदय, अभी तो एक ही मिनट हुए।

श्री उपसमापति: नहीं-नहीं, पांच-सात मिनट हो गए।

श्री हरेन्द्र सिंह मलिक: महोदय, आपने उन पर बिल्कुल अंकुश नहीं लगाया। मैं आपके उस कदम की तारीफ करता हूँ कि आपने कहा कि हर घर में पासबुक होगी, पर आप सरकारी बैंक की पासबुक तो हर घर में रखवा देंगे, लेकिन विदेशी बैंक पांच सौ रुपए, पांच हजार रुपए से कम रहने पर पैसा काटता है। देश हमारा है, कानून उनका है, इसका क्या मतलब हुआ। मान्यवर, इन पर अंकुश रखें, नहीं तो वास्तव में मैं जिसकी तारीफ करता हूँ, आपकी बैंकिंग इंडस्ट्री बहुत अच्छी है, वह बैंकिंग इंडस्ट्री खत्म हो जाएगी।

मान्यवर, आपने किसान को बहुत ऋण दिया, आप इसके लिए बघाई के पात्र हैं। हम लोग आपके आभारी हैं कि आपने सस्ता ऋण दिया, परंतु इसके साथ-साथ मैं आपसे अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि जब एक आदमी कार खरीदता है, तो उसके लिए उसकी जमीन, उसका घर गिरवी नहीं रखा जाता है, लेकिन जब एक किसान ट्रैक्टर, ट्रॉली, आदि खरीदता है, तो उसकी जमीन गिरवी क्यों रखी जाती है? आप उस चीज की रिकवरी करें, जिस चीज पर आपने ऋण दिया है। एक धन्नासेठ व्यक्ति का कार्यालय या इंडस्ट्री जब नीलाम होती है, तो उसका घर नीलाम नहीं होता है, जबकि

किसान का घर, जमीन और खेती दोनों ही नीलाम होते हैं, ऐसा क्यों होता है? इसको रोकिए। आप फसली ऋण देते हैं, फसल बीमा इश्योरंस आपका नौ परसेंट बढ़ गया। आपकी पार्टी ने कहा था, पिछली सरकार में भी आपने कहा था कि आप कृषि फसल का बीमा कराइए, ताकि किसान प्राकृतिक आपदाओं से बच सके। मान्यवर, यह ऐसा काम है, जिसमें आपका कुछ लग नहीं रहा है, कोई अतिरिक्त भार नहीं पड़ रहा है और किसान को इससे लाभ होगा और रिकवरी भी होगी। अगर उसकी फसल का बीमा होगा, आप 75 परसेंट उसके उत्पादन का देंगे, तो निश्चित रूप से आपके बैंकों की रिकवरी हो जाएगी।

मान्यवर, रीयल एस्टेट का मामला है, आपने कहा है कि रीयल एस्टेट को बढ़ाएंगे। मेरा आपसे दो-तीन बातों का विनम्र अनुरोध है। एक तो रीयल एस्टेट में दिखवाइए कि पैसा किसका लगा है? कितने लोग हैं, जो फ्लैट खरीदने के बाद उसमें बसने जाते हैं? सारा ब्लैक मनी है। आज मैं कहने में संकोच नहीं करता कि रीयल एस्टेट में ब्लैक मनी लगा है।

मान्यवर, एक बात मैं शिक्षा और स्वास्थ्य के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। शिक्षा का मामला है, अभी आप ही के यहां एमिटी यूनिवर्सिटी है। मेरठ यूनिवर्सिटी में एक आदमी एक साधरण क्लर्क था और आकर उसने यूनिवर्सिटी खोल ली। आपके यू.जी.सी. से बड़ा बजट उसका है। पैसा कहाँ से आता है? एक-एक लाख रुपए, दो-दो लाख रुपए फीस, कैपिटेशन फीस अलग से और मान्यवर, एक शर्म की बात हुई कि हमारे सम्मानित साथी स्टिंग ऑपरेशन में फंसे। उनके विरुद्ध कड़ी कार्यवाही आपकी पीठ से हुई, आप सदन का सम्मान बचाकर रखना चाहते थे, किसी ने कोई ऐतराज नहीं किया, पर इनकम टैक्स विभाग सो रहा था यहीं नोएडा में? पिछले साल स्टिंग ऑपरेशन में, दस-दस लाख रुपए प्रत्येक दाखिले में लेते रहे एक दर्जन से ज्यादा इंस्टीट्यूट पकड़े गए और इनकम टैक्स विभाग ने कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की, कोई 'असेसमेंट' उनके खिलाफ नहीं किया। AICTE ने यह कह दिया कि एक साल तक ये मैनेजमेंट कोटे से दाखिले नहीं कर सकेंगे। मान्यवर, आज गरीब का बच्चा दाखिला नहीं ले पाता। आप देखें की AICTE की स्थापना आपने की, केवल तनखाह देते हैं आप उसके लोगों को... (समय की घटी)... और सबसे ज्यादा पैसा वे ले रहे हैं। एक ए.बी.एस. स्कूल स्टिंग ऑपरेशन में फंस गया और उस स्टिंग ऑपरेशन में फंसने के बाद यह हुआ कि मैनेजमेंट सीटें, जाएंगी, तो बड़ा अच्छा तरीका उन्होंने निकाला कि बराबर में एक नया स्कूल खोल दिया। एक दिन AICTE का अधिकारी जाता है और इंस्पेक्शन करने के बाद कहता है कि स्कूल अधूरा है, इसलिए अब की बार दाखिले नहीं होंगे और जब काउंसिलिंग पूरी हो जाती है, तो हिंदुस्तान में दो दर्जन ऐसे स्कूल मैडिकल और इंजीनियरिंग के हैं, जिनको उसके बाद मान्यता दे दी गई, ताकि वे टोटल सीट्स मैनेजमेंट कोटे में रख लें। यह आपकी जांच से परे है। मान्यवर, आदमी का खर्चा उसकी आमदनी बता देता है और जो लोग...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: मलिक साहब, खत्म कीजिए।

श्री हरेन्द्र सिंह मलिक: मैं समाप्त कर रहा हूँ। मान्यवर, किसान समाप्त न हो जाएं, इसलिए थोड़ी सी बात कह रहा हूँ।

श्री उपसभापति: नहीं, किसान समाप्त नहीं होंगे।

श्री हरेन्द्र सिंह मलिक: मैं आपसे अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि आप घोषणा कीजिए कि जो ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में अस्पताल बनाएगा, जो शिक्षण संस्थाएं खोलेगा, जो बच्चों को निशुल्क शिक्षा देगा, जो चैरिटेबल ट्रस्ट होगा, उसको हम इनकम टैक्स में छूट देंगे।

आप छूट दीजिए, SEZ मत बनाइए। आपके रहते हुए ग्रामीण अंचल में अस्पताल बनाने पर इनकम टैक्स में छूट मिलेगी, बीमार वहां जाएगा। आप जानते हैं मान्यवर, शायद आपको दर्द का पता नहीं होगा, कितनी महिलाएं प्रसव पीड़ा में मां बने बिना, अपने बच्चे का मुंह देखे बिना, उचित दवाई के अभाव में दम तोड़ दिया करती हैं। आज आपकी सड़कें मोटरेबल नहीं हैं और उसके बावजूद हम SEZ बना रहे हैं, एयरपोर्ट का विकास कर रहे हैं, किसके लिए? कितने लोग एयरपोर्ट पर जाते हैं? मान्यवर, मेरा अनुरोध है कि गांवों का भारत है और भारत की तरफ देखें तो कांग्रेस के इतिहास को भी देखिएगा। अफसरशाही से कांग्रेस का इतिहास नहीं बना था, लोगों के सम्मान से कांग्रेस का इतिहास बना था, कांग्रेस के पुराने नेताओं की जो परंपरा रही है, उसके आधार पर गरीबी उन्मूलन का काम कीजिएगा, यही मेरा आपसे अनुरोध है। मान्यवर, फिर मैं दोहराना चाहता हूँ कि किसान को बचा लीजिएगा, किसान अगर नहीं रहा, तो कोई नहीं रहेगा, यह देश नहीं रहेगा। आपको चाहे हम शिकायत करें, चाहे इस पक्ष के लोग शिकायत करें, चाहे उस पक्ष के शिकायत करें, अगर हम आपसे शिकायत करते हैं, तो हम आपकी मदद करते हैं, आपकी सरकार की मदद करते हैं, उसे गंभीरता से लीजिए। उन लोगों के खिलाफ जांच कराइए, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to Shri Ramdas Agarwal and eight other hon. Members who have participated in this debate. I am sorry that the debate is a very short debate, only about two hours. And, I realise that I would have to, with the same discipline, reply in about 5-10 minutes. The Supplementary Demands for Grants is for, approximately, a little over Rs. 20,000 crores, under which we ask for cash outflow of Rs. 10,000 crores. Each of the heads, for which we ask more money, is a head, I believe, justified. On which, there is really no quarrel or complaint. Mainly, Rs. 15,000 crores have been provided to fertilizers, out of which Rs. 6,550 crores have been provided by cash and the balance by way of bonds, which I will address in a moment. This is really a measure to ensure that our farmers are not denied fertilizers in time and in adequate quantities. Rs. 1,300 crores additional Central assistance is for externally aided projects. Each of the externally aided projects is implemented in one State or the other in this country. Therefore, Rs. 1,300 crores have really been transferred to the States for implementing their projects. Out of Rs. 800 crores, Rs. 200 crores is for the National Food Security Mission; Rs. 300 crores is additional reimbursement of losses on procurement of mustard; and remaining is additional Central assistance to State Plans. So, the entire Rs. 800 crores is, again, agriculture related. Rs. 352 crores have been provided to revive ITI, which is the part of the Plan we have, now, to revive ITI. Rs. 300 crores have been provided to settle pending claims of exporters. Rs. 300 crores have been provided for the Sampurna Grameen Rozgar Yojana's additional requirement. Rs. 236 crores are for establishment of ITIs and for the skill development initiative. Each one of them is related to a sector of India's economy — agriculture, industry, food security, Grameen Rozgar Yojana, exports — for which all of you have spoken, and all of you have said, "Deserves support". So, I don't think that we are asking money for anything which is unjustified. There are three other items also, which, I think, are also equally justified. Rs. 200 crores are for the additional battalions of the ITBP; Rs. 145 crores are for the Commonwealth Games; and Rs. 106 crores are for additional relief to the Gujarat communal riot victims of 2002. So, simply on the basis of justification, I think, every pie, which I ask, is justified; every pie, which I ask, is for a worthwhile cause.

It is true that we are issuing bonds for about Rs. 7,550 crores towards fertilizer subsidy. But it is not for the first time that the bonds are being issued. For example, bonds worth Rs. 7,732 crores were issued to bail out the UTI from 1999-2003; in 2002-03, bonds worth Rs. 299 crores were issued to help exporters who had lost money in Iraq; between 2001 and 2004, oil bonds worth Rs. 9,349 crores were issued to oil companies. So, what we are doing is nothing unusual. Bonds are issued. We can only provide a certain amount of cash. Where we cannot provide cash, still money has to be provided to either the FCI or the oil companies or the UTI. Bonds had been issued in the past and bonds are being issued here.

Sir, I don't want to get into an ideological debate, but I must defend that it is liberal economic policies that have brought about a paradigm shift in this country, a dramatic transformation in the State of India's economy. I know some friends won't agree with that. They will characterise us as 'neo liberal'. I don't know what 'neo liberal' is. I understand the liberalisation that we began in 1991. And, clearly, by any account, by any measure, by any standard, the GDP growth, the foreign exchange reserves, savings, investments, production, productivity, incremental capital output ratio, per capita income, India's economy, in 2007 is many, many times stronger than what it was in 1991 or pre-1991.

Sir, I make no apology for liberal policies, but liberal policies do not mean that the policies should not be inclusive. Liberal policies do not exclude the poor people. Liberal policies are not intended to keep out the poor, keep the poor always poor and help only a small section of the people. How would you test a Government? I have been asked what have you done for education; what have you done for health care. This debate has to be done at two levels. The first is how much toll we set by these sectors and how much money we provide. That is the first level of debate. The next level of debate is how is that money being used. Has it been used efficiently, prudently, wisely and delivered goods and services to the targeted sections? Let me deal with the first part first. I am giving two sets of figures in two columns. The first set talks about the last year of the NDA Government. The second set of figures talks about the fourth year of the UPA Government. This is not meant as a criticism of anyone; this is a statement of facts. You may draw your own inferences. For agriculture, in 2003-04, Rs. 3262 crores were provided; in the current year, we are providing Rs. 8090 crores. For education, one hon. Member also put a question, in 2003-04, Rs. 7024 crores were provided; in the current year, we are providing Rs. 28,672 crores. It is four times the amount that was provided only four years ago. For health sector, Rs. 6,983 crores were provided in 2003-04; this year, we are providing Rs. 14,384 crores. For drinking water, Rs. 2,750 crores were provided; this year, we are providing Rs. 7,560 crores. One question was put about Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. In 2003-04, what was provided was Rs. 1951 crores; in the current year, it is Rs. 10,671 crores. Sir, I can go on with such figures. The point is, money is being provided. I think Dr. Arjun Kumar Sengupta hinted as much. Money is being provided. We have been able to raise large resources and collect more taxes. I compliment taxpayers. They have become more compliant with tax laws. The tax administration has become more efficient. We are collecting more revenues. We are providing them revenues. After we allocate all tax revenues and non-tax revenues, we will still borrow Rs. 1,50,948 crore this year to provide for our Plan. Sir, no one can say we are not providing adequate money. So, I think, at the first level of debate

this Government deserves credit, that is, providing money. Now we go to the next level of debate. Despite all this money, why are the roads not being built faster? Today, I saw a Statement by the Minister of Rural Development that roughly 20-25 per cent of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana is not quality road, is sub-standard. Each one of us has a State, a district, a constituency. We know that there are sub-standard works in road building, substandard works in desilting of tanks, sub-standard buildings are put up for schools, sub-standard works in PWD. The point is this cannot be addressed in the Ministry of Finance. This cannot be addressed in Delhi. This has to be addressed by the implementing agencies. Everyone of these programmes is implemented at the State level, either by the District administration or by Department of the State or by a specialised agency. There are difficulties ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: What about the review? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Just a moment. There are problems. There is some amount of corruption. There is a great degree of inefficiency; that is why, we said we are no longer satisfied with outlays. We are concerned about the outcomes and at our insistence every Ministry is now placing before Parliament what is called an Outcome Budget. In the month of May-June, an outcome Budget is placed. But, I think, the Parliament should call each Ministry and Department to order and debate the outcome Budget. In fact, the time spent on debating the Supplementary Budget should actually be devoted to debate the outcome Budget. Each Ministry must be asked to explain what the outcomes are, and if they fall short of outcomes, they must be asked to explain why they fall short of outcomes. My earnest plea, Sir, is, we must be proud of our growth. China is proud of its growth. There are 120 countries which envy our growth. If China can be proud of 10 per cent or 11 per cent growth, why should we not be proud of 8 or 9 per cent growth? It is this growth which is giving us revenues; growth is the fountain head of all these revenues. If India was growing at four or four-and-a-half per cent, we will not have these revenues at all and we would not be able to allocate this money. So, my earnest plea is, growth is an imperative; inclusive growth is equally imperative. We must work on inclusive growth. Growth must become a given in this country. This country must grow at eight to nine per cent over the next 20-25 years, and we must repair our system so that this growth becomes inclusive growth.

Sir, now let me very quickly answer the points raised by a number of Members on a number of issues. There was a reference to Swaminathan Committee report, a reference to what we are doing in agriculture. There is lack of time, but I will quickly read a portion from the Swaminathan Committee Report. In paragraph 1.2.1, the report says and I quote, "Fortunately, several initiatives have been taken during the last two years, i.e., two years of the UPA period — because the Government report is of October, 2006 — to reverse the downward trend in agricultural production and to find permanent solution to agrarian crisis." Dr. Swaminathan lists eleven measures taken by this Government, namely, first, Bharat Nirman; second, National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme; third, National Horticulture Mission; fourth, Expansion of Agricultural Credit; fifth, Lowering of Interest Rates; sixth, National Rainfed Area Authority; seventh, National Fisheries Development Board; eighth, Changes in the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee Act; ninth Integrated Food Law; tenth, Warehouse Receipt Act and eleventh, Knowledge connectivity

through 100,000 rural farming service centres. Sir, measures have been taken and the Prime Minister on the 15th of August announced two major measures, namely, a National Food Security Mission which will cost us about Rs. 4800 crores and additional Central assistance to States for agriculture which will cost us Rs. 25,000 crores. The Cabinet has cleared it; we have announced it and part of the money that is provided is for the National Food Security Mission and for the Additional Central Assistance to States. We are doing, I believe, from the fiscal point of view, enough for agriculture. Now what needs to be done is, better seeds, better fertilisers, better water management practices, go back to the old training and visit extension work. All this has to be done at the ground level and I think, there is an equal responsibility — and I say equal responsibility upon the State Governments and the Central Government — to implement these measures so that agricultural growth can increase, at least, to four per cent. Sir, what is the problem of our agriculture? The problem of our agriculture is that there is stagnation in the area under irrigation. The total area under foodgrain cultivation has stagnated between 120 million and 125 million hectares. There is stagnation in production. The production of wheat has stagnated between 68 million and 73 million tonnes. Then, there is stagnation in the production of rice. The production of rice has stagnated between 85 and 91 million tonnes. This is for the period 1998-99 to 2006-07. We want to reverse this stagnation. Area under foodgrain must be expanded; production must be enhanced and productivity must be enhanced, and that is why the Prime Minister and the Government have announced additional Central assistance and a National Food Security Mission. I am sure the results would be visible if we implement them sincerely and efficiently.

Sir, apprehensions were expressed about a number of issues. For example, reference was made to an EPZ in Surat which was converted to an SEZ. My information is, the Surat EPZ was converted to an SEZ on 1st November, 2000 along with Kandla and two others. ...*(Interruption)*...

Reference was made about Minimum Support Price of wheat and paddy. In 1998-99, MSP for wheat was Rs. 550 and when the NDA laid down office, it had been increased to Rs. 630; in a period of six years it went up from Rs. 550 to Rs. 630. Last year we gave Rs. 750; in a period of three years we have increased it by Rs. 120. The MSP for paddy in 1998-99 was Rs. 440. When the NDA laid down office, it was Rs. 550. We have raised it from Rs. 550 to Rs. 645. So, I think our Government's approach to MSP has been liberal and when we take this decision, we take into account the CACP recommendation and we also take into account the felt requirements of our farmers and we fix an appropriate MSP. It cannot be said that our Government has been parsimonious or niggardly in fixing an MSP for our farmers.

Sir, there was some reference to India's capital market being owned or dominated by foreigners. That is not correct. FII inflows cumulative until 31st July was 60 billion US dollars. The market cap of BSE is Rs. 35,45,000 crores; the market cap of NSE is Rs. 33,67,000 crores. As a proportion, FIIs holding in the BSE is only 15.4 per cent and in NSE it is 16.2 per cent. The bulk 85 per cent of the market cap is held by Indian investors, big and small.

Sir, there was some reference to the Economic Advisory Council's Report that RD target is unlikely to be achieved. One of the things of which I am truly proud

4.00 P.M.

of is fiscal discipline. I recognise Dr. Arjun Kumar Sengupta's argument that we could stretch the fiscal deficit by another per cent and he asked me — not that he does not know the answer; he knows the answer better than I do — what will be the consequences if fiscal deficit is stretched by one per cent? I would not get into an argument on that; we shall debate what will happen if fiscal deficit is stretched by another per cent. But the fact is, the NDA inherited a fiscal deficit of 4.8 per cent and after six years: reduced it to 4.5 per cent. In fact, even that 4.5 per cent is due to a lucky Finance Minister like Mr. Jaswant Singh, because in the previous year, instead of reducing the fiscal deficit, it was left hanging at 5.9 per cent. Anyway, I give credit for the entire six years from 4.8 per cent to 4.5 per cent. We have reduced it from 4.5 per cent and this year, we will achieve the target of 3.3 per cent. So, we are adhering to the FRBM Act passed by Parliament. FRBM Act was not passed by this Government; it was passed by the previous Lok Sabha and approved by the Rajya Sabha then.

On the Revenue Deficit side, NDA inherited 3.1 per cent and left it at 3.6 per cent. So, it was not fiscal discipline, it was fiscal indiscipline! Be that as it may, we have reduced it from 3.6 per cent and this year, we hope to achieve 1.5 per cent. The question that was asked is pertinent — can I eliminate this 1.5 per cent next year? I am going to try; so far I have been on target, I am going to try to eliminate revenue deficit. But if the revenue deficit takes one more year to eliminate, I am sure Dr. Arjun Kumar Sengupta is not going to complain! So, it may take one more year to eliminate revenue deficit but the fiscal deficit target of 3 per cent will be achieved in 2008-09, and I am going to make every effort to eliminate revenue deficit by 2008-09. Having said that, I will seriously examine Dr. Sengupta's suggestion that we must be a little more accommodative in providing resources. But my view is that we are not constrained by lack of resources. In fact, if we look at what we provided for the Plan, I find several Ministries are not able to spend the money allocated to them in the beginning of the year. At the end of the year, there are savings. In fact, in this very supplementary Budget I am showing about Rs. 9000 crores savings coming from one Head or another which we have already been able to identify and, therefore, we are providing another Rs.9000 crores expenditure. I do not think that money is a constraint. But let me assure everyone that if we are able to finalise any new programme meant for the poor, meant for the unorganised sector, meant for the neglected sections of India, meant for the marginalized people and the money is required, I will not hesitate to take whatever steps are necessary to find the money and to provide the money. I will not hesitate to come to Parliament and say, this is the money I want, please vote the money. In fact Rs. 25000 crore is additional; Rs. 4800 crore for National Food Security Mission is additional to the Budget and I have not hesitated to come to Parliament. I am not an ideologue in that sense. I am liberal but I am pragmatic and I am willing to come to Parliament to ask for more money if we are able to finalise plans and programmes for which money is required. I won't take more time dealing with other matters. I think I have dealt with most of the major issues. Yes, inflation is a concern. But please remember that fiscal policy or monetary policy works only on core inflation. Core inflation is defined as "Inflation after netting out fuel and food prices." Fuel is not under our control. Crude oil is 72 dollars a barrel. We don't fix the prices of crude oil. We have to bear that

burden. Food is a matter of supply and demand. As long as production stagnates and productivity stagnates in foodgrains, in pulses and in oil seeds, there will be pressure on prices. But the fiscal and monetary steps that the Government and the RBI have taken have paid dividends and have yielded results. We have brought down W.P.I. inflation to 4.05 per cent. In 1979-80, inflation was 17.1 per cent; between 1991-95, it was 11.1 per cent and between 1999-2004, the average inflation was 4.9 per cent. This year we have brought down inflation to 4.05 per cent. There is indeed pressure on prices because of mismatch of supply and demand. We are not growing enough foodgrains; we are not growing enough vegetables; we are not growing enough fruits and we are not growing enough oilseeds. To meet the shortfall, we are importing. But we cannot import potatoes and tomatoes. They have to be grown in this country and brought to the market. There are supply bottlenecks; there are transport bottlenecks. These are matters which must be addressed by the Ministries and Departments concerned and by the State Governments concerned. I cannot address tomato and potato prices through fiscal and monetary policy. I can only address headline inflation. We are addressing headline inflation. Headline inflation or core inflation has been brought down to 4.05 per cent. I will not hesitate to take further fiscal steps and further monetary steps to keep inflation under control. But the supply side has to be augmented. If we really want long-term price stability, we must grow more wheat, grow more paddy, grow more pulses, grow more oilseeds, grow more fruits and grow more vegetables. This is one of the reasons why the National Food Security Mission has targeted 10 million tonnes extra rice, 8 million tonnes extra wheat and 2 million tonnes of extra pulses for which we are allocating a little over Rs.4000 crores. We are confident that we will gain mastery over agriculture. I will do my best as Finance Minister to go to the help of farmers, farming and the farming community. With these words, I request that the Appropriation Bill be returned.

SHRI D. RAJA: I appreciate the reply given by the Finance Minister. But it is surprising to listen to him when he said that we do not understand liberalism. Of course, we understand. But the point is, he claims that policies are liberal. Liberal to whom? We want that policies should be liberal and compassionate to the poor and toiling people. That is what we are asking and that is what you claim. But, you touch your heart and tell what is the feeling of common people...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Whatever he has to say, he has said. I think there will be no more discussion...*(Interruptions)*... Now, the question is that ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, I just want to ask one question. I want to know from the hon. Finance Minister regarding the age limit for senior citizens. There are two different age limits for other sectors and for Income Tax sector? Can the Minister make it uniform?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Actually, there is no uniform age limit. I have a sheet of paper which shows different age limits for different purposes. The age limit for Income Tax is there — If I remember — either in the Act or Rules and it is 65 years. At the moment, there is no proposal to change that age limit. But, since a younger man is asking me to look at it, I will look at it.

श्री उदय प्रताप सिंह: सर, डी. राजा साहब ने जो प्वायंट उठाया है, वह concern पूरे सदन का है। हर आदमी ने उसकी तरफ इशारा किया है। हम यह जानना चाहते हैं कि ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: उन्होंने इसका जवाब भी दे दिया है। ...(व्यवधान)...

Mr. Narayanasamy, your own Bill is there for consideration...(Interruptions)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, respect Shri D. Raja because...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, don't go into this...(Interruptions)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, Shri D. Raja is talking about common man. We are all concerned about common man's problems. I would like to highlight one point which has been harping on in this House for long time. The hon. Finance Minister is giving sufficient funds under 14 flagship programmes, which he has mentioned in his speech. Right from Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme...(Interruptions).... It has been given to the State Governments. In the State Governments, there is pilferage of funds; there is corruption...(Interruptions).... Sir, I am telling about second part...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति: नहीं, यह बहस हो गई नारायणसामी जी। ...(व्यवधान).... He has answered second part also.

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि: सर, नारायणसामी जी जो कह रहे हैं, वह सरासर गलत है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: यह क्या हो रहा है ...(व्यवधान).... Mr. Narayanasamy, please, sit down.

SHRI ROBERT KHARSHIING (Meghalaya): Sir, in his statement, hon. Minister has said that he has no control over the prices of vegetables, over inflation. But, from November, 2006, till July, 2007, the RBI, by buying \$ 28 billion, has caused huge inflation. It is on the website. May I know when...(Interruptions)....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He has replied to that at length. No more questions. Now, the question is:

“That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2007-2008, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

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

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

The Schedule was added to the Bill.

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

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

That the Bill be returned.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up Private Members' Legislative Business. The Farmers (Old Age Pension and Removal of Indebtedness) Bill, 2007. Shrimati Sushma Swaraj. Not present. The Dalit and Tribal Girl Child (Special Educational Facilities and Welfare) Bill, 2007. Shrimati Sushma Swaraj. Not present. The Orphan, Exploited and Underprivileged Street Children (Care, Protection and Welfare) Bill, 2007. Shrimati Sushma Swaraj. Not present. The Citizens Affected by Cyclone, Super Cyclone or Tsunami in Coastal Areas (Compensation, Rehabilitation and Welfare) Bill, 2007. Shri B.J. Panda.

The Citizens affected by Cyclone, Supre Cyclone or Tsunami in coastal areas (Compensation, Rehabilitation and Welfare) Bill, 2007

SHRI B.J. PANDA (Orissa): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the protection of distressed citizens including farmers, fishermen, traders and common man affected by cyclone, super cyclone or tsunami or other natural calamity in the coastal areas of the country by providing adequate compensation, rehabilitation and welfare measures initiated by the State and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI B.J. PANDA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2007 (Insertion of New Article 50A)

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK (Goa): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2007 (Amendment of the Seventh Schedule)

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK (Goa): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Sir, I introduce the Bill.