

in higher education is very high in Tamil Nadu. I appreciate what the hon. Member here said. But it was because of our former Chief Ministers, *Puratchi Thalaivar*, MGR, Jayalalitha and Edappadi Palanisamy that more engineering colleges were established. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, I wish to talk about rape cases in Tamil Nadu. The number of cases of rape has increased in Tamil Nadu. If you take into account the statistics in Tamil Nadu after the new Government assumed office, rape cases have increased. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have got limited time.

(MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*)

Sir, I appreciate the demand for more money for Tamil Nadu, but the present DMK Government has failed to fulfil the promises made at the time of elections. Four years are over. Electricity bills have increased, property tax has increased and registration fee has increased. The present DMK Government has failed to fulfil the election promises. Coming to the housing scheme, the Central Government as well as the State Governments are providing funds, but the money is not sufficient. The money allotted for each house is very less. For better quality, the allocation needs to be enhanced. Poor people are not able to get good houses and are suffering. Our leader, Edappadi Palanisami, has always insisted that the Central Government as well as the State Government must increase the allocation for construction of houses for the poor people, especially those living in the rural areas, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, so that they get good houses. I would request the Minister to consider all these points. Thank you, Sir.

Panel of Vice-Chairpersons

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ramji Lal Suman; five minutes. Before that, hon. Members, I have included the names of Shri Rajeev Shukla and Dr. M. Thambidurai in the Panel of Vice-Chairpersons to help the Chair, in addition to the earlier Panel. Shri Ramji Lal Suman.

THE UNION BUDGET, 2025-26– *Contd.*

श्री रामजी लाल सुमन (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सभापति जी, यह 2025-26 का जो बजट है, यह निराश करने वाला बजट है। इसमें विशेष रूप से ग्रामीण अंचल की उपेक्षा हुई है। मनरेगा एकमात्र