

Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav. It is a very important issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... He is raising a very important issue, "Demand to increase the amount of MPLADS Funds to Rs. 20 crores per year."

Demand to increase the amount of MPLADS funds to rupees twenty crores per year

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, आपकी असीम कृपा से मुझे यह अनुमति मिली है। सर, सभी संसद सदस्यों के सामने बड़ा संकट है और खास तौर से जो लोक सभा के लोग हैं, उनमें एक-तिहाई MPs सिर्फ MPLADS की वजह से चुनाव हार जाते हैं, क्योंकि लोग यह समझते हैं कि पता नहीं, MPs को कितना पैसा मिलता है और एक प्रधान आता है, जो 10 करोड़ का काम दे जाता है। रोजाना 100-200 लोग MPs के खिलाफ हो जाते हैं। जब MPLADS शुरू हुई थी, तब एक किलोमीटर सीसी रोड, 3.5 मीटर चौड़ी, 13 लाख में बनती थी, जबकि यह अब 1 करोड़ 10 लाख में बन रही है। पहले हैंड पंप 15 हजार में लगता था, एस.पी. सिंह जी ने बहुत लगवाए, जबकि अब फिरोजाबाद-इटावा-मैनपुरी में यह 85 हजार में लग रहा है। यह स्थिति है कि उत्तर प्रदेश में MLA की निधि 5 करोड़ है, दिल्ली में 10 करोड़ है, केरल में भी 5 करोड़ है। ब्रिटास जी बता रहे हैं कि केरल में 7 करोड़ है। उत्तर प्रदेश में एक लोक सभा क्षेत्र में 5 Assembly segments हैं, 3 में यह 6-6 करोड़ है - फतेहपुर, शाहजहाँपुर और उन्नाव में और बाकी में 5-5 करोड़ है। अगर MPs, MLAs, सबको मिला दिया जाए, तो वहाँ यह एक लोक सभा क्षेत्र में 25 करोड़ से लेकर 30 करोड़ तक है। इसमें MPs का 5 करोड़ है। सर, 5 करोड़ में एक दिक्कत और है। माननीया वित्त मंत्री जी बैठी हुई हैं। उसमें 18 परसेंट GST है। इस तरह से 4 करोड़ 10 लाख बचा। मैं उत्तर प्रदेश की बात कर रहा हूँ कि एक MP एक Assembly segment में एक किलोमीटर सड़क एक साल में नहीं बनवा सकता। This is the problem. सबके सामने समस्या है, इसलिए मैं यह कह रहा हूँ। दूसरी बात यह है कि दिल्ली से जाने वाले पैसे के बारे में लोग यह समझते हैं कि यह तो free का है और वे मनचाहा estimate बना देते हैं। अगर हम खुद एक पानी की टंकी लें और submersible लगाएँ, तो एक हजार लीटर के लिए यह एक लाख में बन जाएगी, लेकिन वहीं जब इसे सरकार हमारी निधि से बनाएगी, तो यह 5 लाख में बनेगी। इसमें कोई भी monitoring system नहीं है। पहले एक technical cell हुआ करती थी, जिसको काम सौंप दिया जाए, तो सब ठीक होता था। सर, समय नहीं है, मैं सिर्फ तीन सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ। पहला यह है कि इस निधि को बढ़ा कर 20 करोड़ प्रति वर्ष किया जाए; दूसरा, इसको GST से मुक्त रखा जाए और तीसरा, estimate और quality की जाँच के लिए technical cell बनाई जाए। अगर यह संभव नहीं है, तो आप सांसद निधि को खत्म कर दीजिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by the hon. Member, Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav: Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha), Shri Mohammed Nadimul Haque (West Bengal), Smt. Jebi Mather Hisham (Kerala), Shri A. A. Rahim (Kerala), Shri Ashok Singh (Madhya Pradesh), Shri Haris Beeran (Kerala), Shri Jose K. Mani (Kerala), Shri R. Girirajan (Tamil Nadu), Dr. John

Brittas (Kerala), Shri Niranjana Bishi (Odisha), Shri Meda Raghunadha Reddy (Andhra Pradesh), Shri P. Wilson (Tamil Nadu), Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala), Shri Ravi Chandra Vaddiraju (Telangana), Shri Imran Pratapgarhi (Maharashtra), Shri Prakash Chik Baraik (West Bengal), Shri G.C. Chandrashekhara (Karnataka), Shri Neeraj Dangi (Rajasthan), Shri Digvijaya Singh (Madhya Pradesh), Shri Anil Kumar Yadav Mandadi (Telangana), Shri Subhasish Khuntia (Odisha), Smt. Ranjeet Ranjan (Chhattisgarh), Shri Pramod Tiwari (Rajasthan), Ms. Sushmita Dev (West Bengal), Smt. Sagarika Ghose (West Bengal), Shri Abdul Wahab (Kerala), Dr. Faiyaz Ahmad (Bihar), Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha (Bihar), Shri Sandosh Kumar P (Kerala), Shri P. P. Suneer (Kerala), Shri Ramji Lal Suman (Uttar Pradesh), Ms. Dola Sen (West Bengal), Smt. Mausam B Noor (West Bengal), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Shri Ajit Kumar Bhuyan (Assam), Shrimati Sulata Deo (Odisha), Dr. Radha Mohan Das Agrawal (Uttar Pradesh), Sh. Brij Lal (Uttar Pradesh), Shri Muzibulla Khan (Odisha), Shri Debashish Samantaray (Odisha), Dr. Fauzia Khan (Maharashtra), Shri Golla Baburao (Andhra Pradesh), Shri Sanjay Yadav (Bihar) and Shri S. Selvaganabathy (Puducherry).

Members have associated. I am so happy that Members have associated either to increase or get rid of it.

Hon. Members, I am reminded of Constituent Assembly debates where one of the distinguished Members, Shri Sidhwa, was reflecting on the power of Parliament to remove Judges. He said, 'It is very good to arrogate power without examining other elements, but trust me' — he reflected — 'the number of Judges will grow. We will not be able to fructify even one.' On placatory mechanisms, on appeasement, which is often known as freebies, this House needs to deliberate. I will be open to a structured discussion after consulting the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition, because the country grows only with CapEx being available. Electoral process is such that these have become electoral allurements and thereafter, the Governments that came in saddle found themselves very uncomfortable, so uncomfortable that they wanted to revisit their thoughts. There is urgent need for a national policy so that all investments of the Government, in any form, are used in a structured manner for larger good. Therefore, the second part of the suggestion, of a very experienced Member, is also very critical. If the leaders will agree, I will call them in my Chamber and deliberate. This is a very serious issue. Another issue is that our Constitution provided for Legislature, with MPs and MLAs, but did not have a uniform mechanism. So, you will find Legislatures, in several States, giving perks and salaries to Members of the Assembly, much beyond that of Members of Parliament. And, even the pension variation for a former Member of the Assembly is on a scale of 1:10. If in one State,

one is getting one rupee, in another State, the pension is ten times. Therefore, these are areas where legislation can deal with the issues, and it will help the politician, it will help the Government, it will help the Executive and it will also ensure high quality of investment. Otherwise, as Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav said, nobody checks inflated bills. ...*(Interruptions)*... One minute. The second aspect which we can club is subsidies. Subsidies, if required in areas like the farm sector, should be direct. That is the practice in developed countries. I checked up with the U.S. mechanism. The U.S. has one-fifth of farm households as our country. But the average income of a U.S. farm household is more than the general income of a U.S. household and that is because the subsidy to the farmer is direct, transparent without any intermediary. We will discuss this subject with the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition for making some suggestions. Now, Shri Vaiko.

Concern over frequent attacks and arrest of Indian fishermen by Sri Lankan Navy

SHRI VAIKO (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the past 40 years, 843 fishermen have been attacked and killed by the Sri Lankan Navy. On January 25th, about 45 days ago, 34 fishermen in three fishing boats from Rameswaram were arrested by the Sri Lankan Navy on charges of fishing across the border and imprisoned in Jaffna.

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*)

They were produced before the Kilinochchi Court and fined lakhs of rupees. Those who could not pay the fines have been re-imprisoned by the Sri Lankan Government. On 2nd February, 2025, more than 1,000 fishermen went to sea in numerous fishing boats. Among them ten fishermen from Thangachimadam were fishing in a fishing boat off the Gulf of Mannar when the Sri Lankan Navy arrested them and confiscated the fishing boat. On 19th February, Sri Lankan Navy again arrested 42 fishermen for crossing the border and imprisoned them. Eight boats were also confiscated. I would demand an action to stop the inhuman treatment. Sri Lankan Navy wants to destroy our fishing industry. What for is our Navy there? They are sitting like a lame duck in the ocean. We are also tax payers to the Indian Government. Are Tamil fishermen orphans? Till date, in 40 years, 843 fishermen have been killed by the Sri Lankan Navy. Hon. Finance Minister should spend some time and meet them. Shri Jaishankar should meet them. For what purpose is our hon. Prime Minister going to Sri Lanka? Is it to express condolences to the Sri Lankan Government and the Navy? What for is he going there? No day passes without any attack. Even today, at