

Leishemba (Manipur), Shri Brij Lal (Uttar Pradesh), Dr. Anil Sukhdeorao Bonde (Maharashtra), Dr. Sumer Singh Solanki (Madhya Pradesh), Dr. Kalpana Saini (Uttarakhand), Shrimati Geeta alias Chandraprabha (Uttar Pradesh), Ms. Kavita Patidar (Madhya Pradesh), Shri Ram Chander Jangra (Haryana), Ms. Indu Bala Goswami (Himachal Pradesh), Shrimati Sumitra Balmik (Madhya Pradesh), Shrimati Maya Naroliya (Madhya Pradesh), Shri Jose K. Mani (Kerala), Shri Mahendra Bhatt (Uttarakhand), Shri Kesridevsinh Jhala (Gujarat), Shri Samik Bhattacharya (West Bengal), Shri Madan Rathore (Rajasthan), Shri Pradip Kumar Varma (Jharkhand), Shri Mayankbhai Jaydevbhai Nayak (Gujarat) and Shri Subhash Barala (Haryana).

माननीय श्री पी. विल्सन।

**Demand for holistic approach towards delimitation of constituencies for the
Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies**

SHRI P. WILSON (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, this is about impending danger of delimitation, in the year 2026, as set out in the Constitution. Delimitation was conducted after each Census in the years 1952, 1962 and 1972 to ensure fair representation of all States. However, a significant disparity appeared while some States embraced family planning policies, others ignored the issue allowing their population to grow unchecked. To address this inequality, 42nd Constitution Amendment froze delimitation based on 1971 Census data for 25 years, thereby safeguarding the States which managed their population from losing political influence. The freeze on fresh delimitation was extended through the 84th Constitution Amendment following the recommendation of the National Population Policy in the year 2000, which expected stabilization of population growth across all States by 2026. The Constitution Amendment aimed at providing motivation for States to actively pursue the goal of population stabilization.

In May, 2000, under the chairmanship of hon. Prime Minister, the National Population Commission was established to implement the National Population Policy to achieve population stabilization. However, in the last ten years, the National Population Commission has become defunct leading to a significant failure with regard to its mandate of uniform population stabilization. Data shows that States like Tamil Nadu have a Total Fertility Rate (TFR) of 1.7 and Kerala has a TFR of 1.8 indicating that these States have successfully stabilized their population. In contrast, Uttar Pradesh has a TFR of 2.4 and Bihar has a TFR of 3.0, which suggests that these States continue to experience exponential population growth. This also suggests that

the original reasoning for lifting the freeze in 2026 is no longer valid. Implementing delimitation at this point would unfairly penalize States that have successfully managed their population while rewarding those that have not done so. The consequences could be disastrous for States like Tamil Nadu and others that have effectively controlled their population. If Parliament's strength is increased based on 2026 Census, States like Rajasthan, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh are projected to gain more than 150 additional seats collectively. In contrast, Southern States like Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana will gain only 35 seats collectively.

Sir, if the current 543 Lok Sabha seats are retained and redistributed based on 2026 Census, Tamil Nadu would lose 8 seats while Uttar Pradesh and Bihar would gain 21 seats collectively. States that have effectively implemented the National Family Planning Policy will face penalties which will result in loss of political representation and bargaining power. This shift will favour the States that have not adhered to the National Family Planning Policy.

Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, why should we forfeit our rightful representation and political leverage and why should the States which neglected National Family Planning Policy be rewarded with increased representation? This is nothing short of a political coup against those States that have remained committed to our national vision. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Shri M.K. Stalin, has rightfully raised alarm about this impending injustice and has called for a meeting on the coming Saturday, the 22nd March, 2025. If the Constitution is not amended before 2026 to extend the freezing, the delimitation will kick in and automatically be done from 2026 onwards. I urge the hon. Prime Minister, through the hon. Chairman and this august House, to address the issue and clarify the Government's stand and propose measures to protect the States. ... (*Time-bell rings*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by hon. Member, Shri P. Wilson: Shri R. Girirajan (Tamil Nadu), Shri Haris Beeran (Kerala), Shri Sandosh Kumar P (Kerala), Shrimati Jebi Mather Hisham (Kerala), Shri Niranjan Bishi (Odisha), Shri A. A. Rahim (Kerala), Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha), Shri N. Chandrasegharan (Tamil Nadu), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Shri Subhas Chandra Bose Pilli (Andhra Pradesh), Dr. Fauzia Khan (Maharashtra), Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala), Shri Ravi Chandra Vaddiraju (Telangana), Dr. M. Thambidurai (Tamil Nadu), Shri Prakash Chik Baraik (West Bengal), Shri Meda Raghunadha Reddy (Andhra Pradesh), Shri P. P. Suneer (Kerala), Shri Vaiko (Tamil

Nadu), Shri Jose K. Mani (Kerala) and Shri Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharyya (West Bengal).

Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury on the 'Issue of rise in Gold Loans and Financial Distress amongst Women'; not present. Shri Brij Lal.

Demand to convert Bansi Railway Station into a Junction and extend the railway line up to Kapilvastu, Uttar Pradesh

श्री बृज लाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभापति महोदय, मेरी मांग भगवान बुद्ध की जन्मस्थली कपिलवस्तु को बांसी, जो वहां से नई रेलवे लाइन गुजर रही है, उसको जोड़ने के संबंध में है। सर, कपिलवस्तु, भगवान बुद्ध की जन्मस्थली है। 1972 में archaeological survey of India ने वहां पर खुदाई की और उसमें महाराजा शुद्धोदन का महल मिला और साथ ही साथ वहां पर भगवान बुद्ध का एक अस्थि कलश भी मिला, जिसको आज यहां दिल्ली म्यूजियम में रखा गया है। वहां एक चावल का carbonized form मिला। काला नमक राइस, जो भगवान बुद्ध का प्रसाद माना जाता है और वह राइस आज भी वहां पर पैदा होता है और मैं योगी आदित्यनाथ जी को बहुत-बहुत साधुवाद देता हूं कि उन्होंने उस राइस को वन डिस्ट्रिक्ट, वन प्रोडक्ट में रखा और आज वह एक इंटरनेशनल ब्रांड है, उसको हम एक्सपोर्ट कर रहे हैं।

जब ब्रिटिश काल था, तब अंग्रेज उस राइस को लंदन एक्सपोर्ट करते थे और रेलवे लाइन गोरखपुर से उसका बाजार रेलवे लाइन बनाई थी, जिसका काम उस राइस को गोरखपुर से कलकत्ता और कलकत्ता से लंदन की मंडियों भेजना था। यह महत्वपूर्ण तीर्थ स्थल है। वहां से लुम्बिनी, नेपाल मात्र 12-14 किलोमीटर है। बस्ती से बांसी और फिर कपिलवस्तु लाइन, रेलवे डिपार्टमेंट से पहले से ही अपूव्ड है, पिक बुक में है, लेकिन वह abeyance में है।

उपसभापति महोदय, एक रेलवे लाइन खलीलाबाद, बांसी और वहां से बहराइच जा रही है, उस पर काम शुरू हो गया है। अब बांसी से कपिलवस्तु के बीच की दूरी मात्र 40 किलोमीटर है। मैं आपके माध्यम से रेल मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करना चाहूंगा कि वह लाइन जो खलीलाबाद, बांसी होते हुए बहराइच जा रही है, तो बांसी को जंक्शन बनाया जाए और बांसी जंक्शन से कपिलवस्तु को जोड़ा जाए, जिससे दुनिया भर में जो भगवान बुद्ध के अनुयायी हैं, बुद्धिस्ट हैं, उस तीर्थ स्थल पर जा सकें। उससे उनको सुविधा मिलेगी ही, साथ-साथ हमारे पर्यटन को भी बढ़ावा मिलेगा और वहां से जो लुम्बिनी जाने वाले लोग हैं, जो आज वहां एरोप्लेन से आते हैं, उनको सीधे भगवान बुद्ध की स्थली कपिलवस्तु जाने की सुविधा मिल जाएगी और कपिलवस्तु से सीधे लुम्बिनी चले जाएंगे। इससे हमारा जिला सिद्धार्थनगर, जो पिछड़ा जिला है, उसमें पर्यटन को बढ़ावा मिलेगा और साथ ही साथ बुद्धिस्ट टूरिस्ट्स को वहां जाने में सुविधा मिलेगी, धन्यवाद।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by hon. Member, Shri Brij Lal: Shri Shambhu Sharan Patel (Bihar), Shri Baburam Nishad (Uttar Pradesh), Dr. Sikander Kumar (Himachal Pradesh), Shrimati Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara (Gujarat), Shri Ram Chander Jangra