

LOK SABHA

—
SYNOPSIS OF DEBATES
(Proceedings other than Questions & Answers)

—
Tuesday, April 5, 2022 / Chaitra 15, 1944 (Saka)
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***MATTERS UNDER RULE 377**

- (1) **SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA** laid a statement regarding need to set up world class sports infrastructure in Ambala Parliamentary Constituency, Haryana.
- (2) **SHRI MUKESH RAJPUT** laid a statement regarding need to equip airstrip at Mohammadabad in Farrukhabad Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh with modern facilities and start flights services from there.
- (3) **SHRI TIRATH SINGH RAWAT** laid a statement regarding need to restore attachment of coaches from Kotdwara, Uttarakhand with Mussoorie Express.
- (4) **SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SONI** laid a statement regarding construction of under bridge/overbridge in Raipur Parliamentary Constituency, Chhattisgarh.
- (5) **SHRI RAMDAS TADAS** laid a statement regarding conversion of railway line into broadgauge in Wardha Parliamentary Constituency, Maharashtra.
- (6) **SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA** laid a statement regarding need to provide houses under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana to all the eligible families in Amreli Parliamentary Constituency, Gujarat.
- (7) **DR. SANGHAMITRA MAURYA** laid a statement regarding holding Youth Programmes in Uttar Pradesh.
- (8) **SHRI MOHAN MANDAVI** laid a statement regarding setting up of a Steel plant in Bastar, Chhattisgarh.
- (9) **SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL** laid a statement regarding measures to reduce Maternal Mortality Rate.

* Laid on the Table as directed by the Chair.

- (10) **SHRI SATYADEV PACHAURI** laid a statement regarding need to construct houses under PM Awas Yojana on National Textiles Mills Lands in Uttar Pradesh.
- (11) **DR. DHAL SINGH BISEN** laid a statement regarding cessation of reservation benefits to people belonging to Scheduled Tribes after their conversion to other religions.
- (12) **SHRI RANJEETSINHA HINDURAO NAIK NIMBALKAR** laid a statement regarding need to provide funds for construction of canal in Madha Parliamentary Constituency, Maharashtra.
- (13) **SHRI GOPAL SHETTY** laid a statement regarding setting up of a National Sports University in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- (14) **SHRI RAVNEET SINGH** laid a statement regarding severe shortage of supply of fertilizers.
- (15) **SHRI VIJAYKUMAR ALIAS VIJAY VASANTH** laid a statement regarding implementation of Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana and Model Fishing village in Kanniyakumari Parliamentary Constituency.
- (16) **SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN** laid a statement regarding inclusion of Thiruvangad Sri Ramaswamy Temple in the PRASAD Scheme.
- (17) **SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI** laid a statement regarding saving small and medium railway contractors.
- (18) **SHRI C. N. ANNADURAI** laid a statement regarding portal of PM Awas Yojana (Rural).
- (19) **SHRI BELLANA CHANDRA SEKHAR** laid a statement regarding increase in NDRF funds for Andhra Pradesh.
- (20) **SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT** laid a statement regarding exempting railway catering services from GST.
- (21) **DR. ALOK KUMAR SUMAN** laid a statement regarding INCLUSION OF Gopalganj district, Bihar under Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan.
- (22) **KUMARI CHANDRANI MURMU** laid a statement regarding disinvestment of LIC.
- (23) **SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN** laid a statement regarding old Pension Scheme.
- (24) **SHRI NABA KUMAR SARANIA** laid a statement regarding submission of report of the Committee for demarcation of new boundaries of the Bodoland Territorial Region.

- (25) **SHRIMATI RAKSHA NIKHIL KHADSE** laid a statement regarding Par-Narmada-Tapi river linking project.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Re: Situation in Ukraine

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN *initiating said:* The simmering discontent on various issues between Ukraine and Russian Federation erupted into a war when the Russian Federation declared a special military operation in Ukraine on 24th February, 2022. And, after 40 days of declaration of a military operation in Ukraine by the Russian Federation, things have unraveled to a reasonable degree of catastrophic dimensions of the conflagration. So, I would like to ask the Government about the current geopolitical impact and the stand of India in respect of the Ukraine crisis. I would also like to say a few words about the Operation Ganga. I do admit the fact that the Government did a good job in bringing more than 20,000 people back to India. But I would also like to make some critical observations regarding the Operation Ganga. The first critical observation is that the evacuation programme would have been better if early cautious steps were taken to commence the operation as other countries did. The advisories of the Ministry of External Affairs and the Embassy in Ukraine regarding the crisis was lacking clarity and direction. Another strategic flaw in Operation Ganga is that priority should have been given to evacuate the students from bunkers in Sumy, Kharkiv, and Kyiv, instead of those in western Ukraine where there was no conflict or fighting. With the students back to India, now the Government's priority should be how to recoup the loss to thousands of the students. So, I think that the Government of India should take initiative in resolving their issue with the National Medical Commission. Now, the second point which I would like to make is about the diplomatic stand of India in the current crisis. I know very well that it is a tricky position. The geopolitics has literally polarized with the collective stand of NATO with the West and Russia with its support mainly from the East. At this juncture, India's political stand on this issue is of paramount importance and significance. I fully agree and appreciate the stand taken by the Government of India in the Ukraine crisis. However, I would like to know from the Government whether this war is resulting in formulation of a neo-geo-political consensus in the West and the East. I would also like to know the political stand in this respect as far as India is concerned. Coming to India-Russia relations, India has a long-standing

relationship with Russia in terms of both political and strategic relations. Similarly, coming to the economic impact of the crisis definitely, it has to be taken very seriously. So, I would propose that India should take the initiative in mediation to resolve the dispute and restore peace. And, I am sure that India enjoys that stature and goodwill with all concerned.

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: A horrendous tragedy is unfolding in Ukraine since 24th February, 2022. After 40 days of war, 4 million people have been displaced, over 4,000 civilian casualties have taken place and indeterminate number of armed personnel both Ukrainians and Russians have been killed in the conflict. This conflict in Ukraine will redefine the global world order just as World War-I, World War-II and the Cold War did. So, we may be once again witnessing to a new history being created in the world. But, who is responsible for the situation in Ukraine? Undoubtedly, the first coercive step was taken by Russia, but Russia has been a trusted friend of India and it has been a long-standing ally. But then, friends also have to be told if they are wrong. Ukraine also unfortunately, it seems, miscalculated. They should have been far more sensitive to Russian concerns and the eastward expansion of NATO. Thus, under these circumstances when the world seems to be in a flux and even around India there seems to be turmoil, I would like to commend the Government. The Government so far has been very cautious and circumspect. Unfortunately, the geopolitical situation as it has evolved post the collapse of the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe has also made India take a position going back three decades. Under these circumstances, I would like to recommend to the Government that the strategic autonomy, the Nehruvian principles of nonalignment are the principles that are worth going back to. However, I would once again like to commend the Government for extricating Indian students from an extremely difficult and precarious situation.

SHRI BRIJENDRA SINGH: The current conflict in Ukraine is perhaps the most important geo-political event since the pulling down of the Berlin Wall in November, 1989. This war in Ukraine has exposed the limitation of the world order. But does it indicate a move towards a new world order? Everyone is concerned as to what will happen to the world economy and not just economy of a region or a few countries, but the ramifications it will have across the world. We are talking about a country which is engulfed in a war. It is not as if the Government did not issue advisories. These were exceptional advisories which were issued in the month of January and registration was opened up. More than twenty thousand Indians registered themselves with the Indian Embassy. But, the situation was so fluid that no one knew for sure that war is actually going to happen. All efforts were made to coordinate with Ukraine and Russia and also other neighbouring countries of Ukraine. So to expect a

very easy way out, is to expect the moon. I have to say that there are children. So, it was our bounden duty to get them home and we have got them home. The future of these students hangs in balance now. This House owes a debt of gratitude to all those who were involved in Operation Ganga. Also, we owe a debt of gratitude to the countries who have cooperated with us in this regard which includes Russia, Ukraine, Poland, Moldova, Hungary and Romania. The way NATO was going about and expanding its boundaries towards the doorsteps of Russia, there were going to be consequences to the disadvantage of Ukraine. It is a full-scale war. As they say, you can start the war but how it will end, no one can predict and same thing seems to be happening here also. Our Foreign Policy is in very good and strong hands. Everyone is recalibrating its standing, recalibrating its friendships and relationships across the world. Impact on the economy is going to be on us. It is going to be world-wide.

DR. T. SUMATHY (A) THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN: Disturbing images are coming from Ukraine. India should take the moral responsibility as a mediator between Ukraine and Russia. India has to adopt a diplomatic tight rope walk with its time-tested relationship with Russia. That is on the one side and our membership in the US-led QUAD alliance is on the other side. Also, it is fear about the China-Russia-Pakistan axis. I pay homage to a dear Indian student who has lost his life in the war. I would like to congratulate the Government for the speedy steps taken in the transportation of our Indian citizens, especially our students back home safely. Our Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu also wrote a letter to you requesting for immediate evacuation of Tamilian students. While we appreciate Operation Ganga there were a few lacunae in them. The cut-off percentage of NEET rises dramatically. Indian medical students who have been transported to India are facing uncertainty. The Government needs to take redressal measures for that. India owes moral responsibility of mediation to end the war. Ukraine is a UN-member State. Declaring war on it by a permanent member of the UN Security Council is itself a violation of the UN Charter. The International Court of Justice has condemned it.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: The Trinamool Congress, normally intends to extend support to the Government's decision when it is related with matters of external affairs. We are concerned about those medical students who have come back from Ukraine. The attack on Ukraine by Russia is a disastrous step. Nearly 3,000 civilians have been killed or injured in this war. The cost of direct damage to Ukraine's infrastructure amid Russia's ongoing invasion has reached almost an estimated figure of 63 billion dollars. We expected that the war would be stopped. But it did not. India's

responsibility was aimed at evacuating the Indian citizens from Ukraine and it did so. It was a good step. We can initiate dialogue to end the war.

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI) *intervening said:* I had the privilege of being nominated as one of the four special envoys to the countries around Ukraine. When situations of tension escalate, timing is of the essence. All hon. Members have supported the Government's evacuation efforts. In the month of January itself, we were preparing ourselves for an eventuality of the kind that unfolded. A Government cannot direct private citizens, who have gone of their own volition to leave a place. The advisory issued on the 15th of February and the subsequent advisories on 20th of February and 22nd February had the effect on 4000 of our young friends leaving Ukraine pursuant to those advisories. In this intervention, I am going to stay totally clear of issues of foreign and security policy. I want to confine myself to Operation Ganga. This was an operation which the hon. Prime Minister personally took meetings on and the Minister of External Affairs personally took charge on. We were worried about the welfare of each one of our citizens through the Prime Minister's involvement in Delhi and through the External Affairs Minister who was in touch with all of us. Thus, out of about 22,500 people, 400 left as a result of the advisories and another 18,500 successfully evacuated and I think this is not a small achievement. The Operation Ganga will rank as one of the most well coordinated and successful humanitarian evacuation missions undertaken by any country anywhere. I also want to say that the advisories were both focused and clear. So far as the rise in oil and gas prices is concerned, it shot up to 130 dollars a barrel in the global market when the military action took place in Ukrain. We have raised the price of petrol by Rs. 9 whereas the international price has shot up. In USA, the increase in prices of gasoline in terms of percentage is 51 per cent. In Canada, the difference is 52 per cent, in Germany and UK, it is 55 per cent, in France, it is 50 per cent, in Spain, it is 58 per cent and Sri Lanka, it is 55 per cent and in India, it is just 5 per cent.

SHRI PINAKI MISRA: There is no question that the Non-Alignment Movement, which has been the bedrock of our foreign policy for the last 75 years-plus has stood us in good stead, has given us great respect world-wide and has managed to keep us deftly clear of many conflict situations wherein otherwise there was a potential for us getting roped in. I commend this Government for having continued the same policy and even giving credit where it is due sometimes. There is something that India will have to strongly consider on at least two or three issues. Firstly, the Western World as well as our Quad partners in the East, has come together on one platform and therefore, there is

some degree of isolation that India possibly has to contend with on that score. That is a matter of some concern which, I have no doubt, the Government is fully mindful of. Secondly, now clearly the Russia-China axis is going to be formidable axis. With Russia Being very much dependent on China virtually for its existence because with the kind of savage sanctions that have been imposed and these sanctions are going to go on for a very long time. They now desperately need China to bail them out financially and economically. Therefore, China's position in our sphere of the world is going to become infinitely stronger and infinitely more powerful. Therefore, we have to now contend with that fact very carefully. I think there is possibly some expectations also in some quarters that the Government would go the extra mile in playing peacemaker in these times. The problem of almost 22,000 students coming back to India is a very serious and critical issue. We need to seriously reflect on how we are going to burnish our own infrastructure in this country to ensure that our children do not have to go abroad for much cheaper education. Moreover, this is the time for India to really step up very aggressive export drive to ensure that we gain something from the ashes of this war in terms of our own domestic economy. Everybody expects under the leadership of the Prime Minister for the Government to be more proactive both in the resolution of this conflict as well as in order to able to milk this to our advantage both financially and economically, particularly in the geopolitical context.

DR. SHASHI THAROOR: if we look at the humanitarian situation and the evacuation, I think there is no doubt that we are all incredibly grateful for the success of Operation Ganga and the return of some 23,000 Indians, mainly medical students, back home in India. The fact that we registered the students was useful, but we did not have enough domestic transport arrangements in Ukraine. A lot of the students had to walk very long distances to get to the border points eventually and that is something we will have to bear in mind for future situations. I do want to mention one more good thing which is the timely and appropriate humanitarian aid that India has sent to Ukraine. I congratulate the Government for having taken that initiative. Broadly speaking, a couple of unfortunate statements were made by people associated with the Ruling Party during the travails of our people. These statements really reflect poorly on the commitment of our nation to our people stuck in distress abroad. Now, the concern is how do we manage to help them catch up with the education that has been disrupted as a result of this tragic situation, the war and the evacuation. I think the Government should really do two things. It should take immediate action to see what can be done to have remedial instruction available to these students ideally in Indian medical colleges. The second thing they need to do is use the revelation of 23,000 medical students in a country like Ukraine to realise how badly we need to rethink our approach to medical education and the shortage of

Government seats. The Government really has to use this opportunity to establish an adequate number of Government medical institutions. We have heard so many promises over the last eight years that AIIMS will be introduced in every State. My own State has received that promise from three successive Health Ministers. We are yet to see the foundation stone of an AIIMS being laid in Kerala. Let us now move on a war footing. My second concern is about our stand at the United Nations. In the initial statements at the United Nations we failed to mention any of the principles that we have stood for in the world for the last 75 years. We did not mention the UN Charter, we did not mention State's sovereignty, we did not mention the inviolability of border and we did not mention even the inadmissibility of the use of force when it comes to resolving international disputes. Finally, I would say that now our position has been calibrated, our line is going to be tougher, I want to stress one thing that refusing to condemn Russia is not the same as endorsing what Russia has done. The Ukraine has exposed India's strategic vulnerabilities in a tough neighbourhood, but nothing else. We had been developing, maintaining a relationship with Russia, while developing the strategic partnership with the QUAD, with the US, Japan, Australia. Suddenly, the three QUAD members have taken a very different position on Ukraine than what we have. At the same time, there are some real concerns about the larger implications. We are seeing Russia and China getting more and more close to each other and if Russia is weakened as a result of this misadventure. Then China will have the upper hand in that relationship. In these circumstances, the neutralisation of Russia or even Russia coming along with China is a matter of great concern for us. I think, it is important for us to take a step forward and offer ourselves in mediating capacity. Why can we not perhaps reach out to both Moscow and Ukraine? This is something the Israelis have been doing, the Turks have been doing. Why not India which prides itself on good relationship with both the capitals, try a constructive role in this area?

DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH: First of all, I would like to start by saying that it is a failure of the United Nations. The United Nations continues to fail this world. I would like to thank the Government for bringing our children back from Ukraine. It is very easy to say that we should play a mediation role in the situation today where two major powers, America and Russia are at loggerheads. Russia felt threatened. This is what we should not ignore. It is essential that the war must end. How do we end it? I would request the Foreign Minister and through him, to the hon. Prime Minister, that we must take major steps, not small steps, but major steps in de-escalating that war and finishing that war. Unless we do that, we will not be able to tell the future generations that India played its part. We are friends with America and we are friends with Russia. We are not enemies of any of these countries. It was because of the foreign policy of keeping neutral

with friends on all sides that we could move forward and take this country from out of poverty and bring it to the level of a developed country. Therefore, my request to the Foreign Minister would be, please move faster so that at least people will say that Gandhi's nation has saved this world.

SHRI SHYAM SINGH YADAV: It is not permissible to invade a country due to concern for its security. Even though we have had a policy, we have been non-aligned, but if Russia invaded Ukraine, India should have at least condemned. Secondly, there were Indian students there. It was very important to realize that there would be a war. Before the war started, we should have taken out our children who were studying there. Thousands of people are being killed in Ukraine. Large buildings, hospitals, military bases, goods and roads were destroyed. Ukraine's leadership should have compromised in this case and found its way out.

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SADANAND SULE: We are judging people -- who is right and who is wrong. But truly, what is really right in any war is something I have never understood. I would like to thank the Ministry of External Affairs for doing a wonderful job during the COVID pandemic and then, executing 'Operation Ganga' successfully. One thing that the Ministers should not have done was the jingoism that came at the end of it. It was very painful. We are not doing any favour to our children by bringing them. They are our children. I think, it is very unfortunate to judge our children. Children look for opportunities. We, in this House, must make sure that we do not make unfortunate and callous statements in regard to our children. What I would like to highlight in this entire discussion is the Russian military imports and in the foreign policy, we constantly talk about Atmanirbhar Bharat. There are a lot of Indian companies. There is one company which happens to be in my own Constituency, Bharat Forge, which really wants to work in defence exports and making India Atmanirbhar. It is 'new order world' which has come up. We will very soon have to react and see how indigenous company products need to be brought out and all our Indian companies to be helped. Our relationship with Russia is wonderful but even if we have a good relationship with somebody, if there is something which we feel is not good, I think it is our moral duty to raise it. I would like to put it on record, it is not just the Russian Foreign Policy but even for what we did with America and with all super powers, we have done exceptionally well as a country. The children have come back. What are the specific interventions that the Government proposes to do for the future of all our children who have come? We are trapped in a peculiar situation. In all our neighboring countries there seems to be some instability. It is going to be slightly difficult for the Government. I expect the MEA to show a lot of understanding.

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

intervening said: Today we are discussing an issue under Rule 193 on the situation in Ukraine arising out of a military conflict between Russia and Ukraine. Some hon. Members have raised certain queries and the hon. Minister for External Affairs will reply to them appropriately. But there are certain points that have been raised on which I will respond because during this discussion and outside the House also many issues are being raised which are not at all necessary. Therefore, two voices should not be raised about foreign policy. If such a thing is said in the Indian Parliament, it also affects the image of the country. So, I think, there are some things, there are some policies in which we should unite. I want to say to you very politely that whatever the Government does in such a fighting situation, it does for the country. The embassy staff worked round the clock day and night and made arrangements for everyone's food and lodging needs. By risking our lives in the war situation, we have done the work of bringing everyone from there within a systematic arrangement. Many people have praised the efforts of the Government of India. It is our duty and if there would have been any other Government, it would also have done the same thing. Students from institutions located on the Ukraine border also acted as activists. The Government is not working here to praise itself for the achievement, in fact, it is our responsibility. On behalf of the Government of India and the Parliament, I thank the entire teams there, the disaster management team, the foreign affairs representatives, the security staff, the airport staff and all others.

DR. M. P. ABDUSSAMAD SAMADANI : I appreciate the evacuation process undertaken by the Government with admirable diplomacy. Necessary regulations have to be made to settle these students, who have returned from Ukraine, and to enable them to continue their studies in our country. The Non-Alignment and commitment to international justice should go side by side. Colonialists and imperialists are attacking nations after nations. That is why, international confrontations are taking place in different parts of the world. My suggestion is that our Government should work hard for bringing a mediatory atmosphere. It is high time to create an atmosphere of peace and to work together to bring nations together.

SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY : I congratulate our hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister of External Affairs for the safe evacuation of the Indian individuals from Ukraine as a part of the Government's 'Operation Ganga'. Now, our Government should do something for these students so that their study is not affected. It should also increase the number of medical seats in our country. The war is still going on. But, our Indian Government has taken a pragmatic view. We need to adopt a balanced approach while giving statement on a situation like Ukraine-Russia. There are a number

of imported items like crude oil, wheat and fertilizers, for which we are dependent on Ukraine. The cost of these items has gone up. The Government has to see the ways by which this war can be stopped totally.

***SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN:**

DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE : I congratulate the Government for starting Operation Ganga. The geopolitical tension between Russia and Ukraine has led to steep increase in prices of global commodities, including prices of crude oil, gas, edible oils, and fertilizers. As per the feedback received from industry, the exports of some products like pharmaceuticals, telecom instruments, and coffee and tea from India are likely to be affected. Evacuation means bringing a person out from the area of crises. But here, the students had to walk several kilometres and pay exorbitant amount to hire vehicles to reach the borders. Actually, our Government acted late. The tuition fee in private medical colleges in India ranges from Rs.60 lakh to Rs.1 crore. This is far beyond the capacity of middle-class people. Therefore, the students look for relatively less cost-effective institutions in other countries. We are actually unable to provide medical education at affordable rate inside the country. It is important to see that the career of these young students does not suffer. Efforts should be made for the continuation of their studies in Ukraine once the situation improves. The Maharashtra Government is working on a policy to create a remedy plan for such students. The curriculum of the first two years in Ukraine does not include medical knowledge. Such students can appear for NEET and re-start their studies. It is estimated that out of 18,000 Indian students enrolled for medical education in 33 universities in Ukraine, around 2,000 students are from Maharashtra. I request the Government to follow the Maharashtra Government's model and carry out a complete analysis for rehabilitation of these medical students. Indian Drugs Manufacturers' Association has said that the prices of raw materials derived from benzene or other petroleum products would rise due to the ongoing conflict. India should act as a mediator. India, with its position of just and rational approach to international problems, can support such a process and establish our country as a strong power in international affairs.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA) *intervening said:* This is a sensitive issue. We may belong to different political parties but Nation should be first for all of us. When a war situation emerges in any country then, it is a matter of a serious concern. In the inter-connected world today if something happens somewhere then it impacts all the countries. When this war started,

* Please see supplement.

India issued the first advisory before any other country. Not only the first advisory rather four advisories were issued later. As the first servant of our country, our Prime Minister took over the command. I along with Shri Hardeep Puri were dispatched to Romania and Moldova. Hon. Minister of External Affairs had assigned me this job. Our hon. Prime Minister directed both of us that we should board the last flight bringing back the Indians from those countries. Our hon. Prime Minister spoke to hon. Presidents of five countries as Ukraine shares its border with five countries. A control room was set up in the Ministry of External Affairs working 24X7. I would like to inform the hon. Members that many countries shut down their missions their but India alone kept its mission open their till the last person was evacuated safely. Our mission had 58 personnel deployed their but our hon. Minister of External Affairs deployed 47 more personnel there. One female officer of our mission kept standing on the border and said that she would not leave the border till the last student is evacuated safely. We need to convey our sincere thanks to such anonymous individuals and overseas Indians. The Wipro and the Zenpack set up a call centre and a medical health centre within short period of eighteen only. I would also like to convey my heartfelt thank to the hon. President of Romania and the officers because they opened their domestic airport for our planes and we could evacuated safely 2000 students from the border. This got possible only because our hon. Prime Minister had spoken to the President of Romania. I would also like to thank all the Airlines. The Airlines manifested exemplary sensitivity and undertook 90 sorties to bring back 23,000 students to the country safely. Some people may find room for politics even when our country is facing daunting challenges. Our Government always puts the Nation first and this reflected in the whole evacuation exercise.

SHRI THOMAS CHAZHIKADAN: War anywhere is a tragedy. The war in Ukraine has put the people of our country to great hardships especially the Indian students and their families. I appreciate the efforts taken by the Government to bring back Indian students through Operation Ganga Mission. But in the initial stage, the response from the Government was not so appreciable because the advisory given by the Government was that whoever wants to come back may come. So, there was a belief among the students that they can remain there. This should not have happened. I would like to bring to the notice of the Government to the future of these students. The Government should take steps to ensure about their future studies. The crisis of Ukraine should open our eyes, and the Indian medical education system should rise up to the mark.

***DR. THOL THIRUMAAVALAVAN:**

* Please see Supplement.

PROF. SOUGATA RAY: The Ukraine crisis is one of the biggest foreign policy challenges we have faced in the last 50 years ever since the Bangladesh crisis passed away. As many as 20,000 Indians were stranded in Ukraine. We brought back 13,300 Indian by 63 flights. We need not have self-praised ourselves. It was the duty of the Government and they did a good job. But the war continues. What has been lacking during this whole crisis is a proactive role by the Indian Government and by the Indian Prime Minister. We wanted to see a Nehru or Krishna Menon in action.

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UTPAL KUMAR SINGH
Secretary General

** Supplement covering rest of the proceedings is being issued separately.

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NOTE: It is the verbatim Debates of the Lok Sabha and not the Synopsis that should be considered authoritative.

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Not for Publication

For Members only

LOK SABHA

**SUPPLEMENT TO SYNOPSIS OF DEBATES
(Proceedings other than Questions & Answers)**

Tuesday, April 5, 2022 / Chaitra 15, 1944 (Saka)

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Re: Situation in Ukraine

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***SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN :** Ukraine situation has taught two lessons to India. Students are unable to pay hefty fees for getting education and privatization of education has made this dent. That's why students have been forced to go to foreign countries to pursue their education. I urge that this problem should be addressed. Secondly, we don't have aircrafts with us that led to delay in evacuation of Indian people from Ukraine. India has no aircraft owned by it as Air India was sold to Tata. The reason behind this is the privatization policy of this Government. Nehruvian Non-Alignment policy is the need of the hour.

***DR. THOL THIRUMAAVALAVAN:** The war of Ukraine should definitely be stopped. The Government of India should take a stand that this war should come to an end. The Government of India has done a commendable job in bringing back the stranded people and students from Ukraine to India. But at the same time, these students are facing some difficulties in continuing their studies. There should be arrangements made by the Government to ensure that Indian students continue their studies in the Russian medical colleges. Arrangements' should be made by Union Government to

** Speeches made by other hon. Members have already been included in the Synopsis (Main).

* Original in Tamil

import Crude oil from Russia. I urge that vacancy of House Surgeons should be raised and fixed at 20 per cent for the medical students who studies abroad.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: I was going through a book that has been very recently published –‘Little Russia, White Russia and Great Russia’. That clearly defines the nationalism fervour that actually was created for the last 500 years in Russia, that means of Belarus, of Ukraine and also of the present Russian Federation. My limited point is to speak about the students, especially the medical students, who came back from Ukraine and the problem they are facing. When Burma was separated from India during the colonial times, a special provision was made for students who were studying in Rangoon or in other paces who came back to India. There was a one-time settlement under which they were adjusted in different medical colleges, so that those students could complete their course. After partition, the students who came back from Dhaka, Karachi and Lahore were accommodated in different medical colleges throughout the country. That was a one-time settlement. The medical students who have come back from Ukraine can be accommodated accordingly. It would not put too much of pressure on those students. When there was Covid-19 outbreak in China, the students were forced to come back to India. We have our National Medical Commission. This issue needs to be addressed by the Government, and this needs to be discussed inside this House.

SHRI RITESH PANDEY: In the conflict that is going on between Russia and Ukraine, thousands of people have been killed and lakhs have been displaced. Weapons manufacturers are working to earn a lot of profit by selling weapons. Japan and Germany have spoken of rearming themselves. Europe is rearming itself. Today again a war is going on between us, which we are witnessing in Ukraine. The entire international community has completely failed to stop this centuries-long conflict which has turned into a war. Today, the policy of India is that this war should be stopped by getting this whole issue peacefully and diplomatically resolved. India has to show great skill to deal with this matter. We believed in a completely fair foreign policy and we are still following it. Inflation is increasing in our markets. Be it the price of metals and petroleum or the price of food items or the price of fertilizers, there is an increase in the price of everything.

DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY: Thank you, Chairman Sir. I congratulate and thank for the historic work done by Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs Jaishankar ji, Honorable Minister Scindia ji, Honorable Minister Rijju ji, Honorable Minister Hardeep Singh Puri ji and V. K. Singh sahib ji Under the leadership of Prime Minister. As I heard the debate, it seemed that India's foreign policy was made only after 1947 and Nehru ji founded it. Earlier there was no foreign policy at all. When 5000 people of Poland were

looking for shelter everywhere during the Second World War, then the Raja of Jamnagar gave shelter to those 5000 people of Poland in Gujarat. It is because of the same Gujarati connection that the Polish government supported our students, our people. So foreign policy didn't start with Nehru ji. When Bharatiya Janata Party formed the government in the year 2014-15, it said that now our foreign policy will run on the basis of Panchamrita. Panchamrita means we will live with dignity. Today foreign policy will be governed by dialogue. Honorable Prime Minister has such power, this country has such power that it can save itself in this war and can also stop the war. We have signed an FTA with Australia for the first time. Foreign policy should be discussed in this country, who made China our neighbor? You say that we always abuse Nehru, we abuse Congress. The British, while leaving, had made three agreements with the three countries. Since there was a concept of the buffer state, our border did not touch the border of China anywhere. When China was trying to invade Tibet, people kept on pleading with the Government of India from 1950-51 and on the basis of your Panchsheel principle, you not only got China the membership of the Security Council on the basis of Hindi Chinese brotherhood, you also gave Tibet to it. You just said that we abstained. What did you do when Russia attacked Afghanistan in 1978? They are misleading the country and the House. Be it the question of 1962, whether it was the question of 1965 or of 1971, Russia always supported us. In 1998, when the Indian government conducted nuclear test, with whom did Ukraine vote and with whom did Russia vote, please tell this to the House. Evacuations have taken place in this country before. This happened for the first time whether there were poor or rich, Hindu or Muslim, Sikh or Christian, the Government of India, under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister, brought everyone back without discrimination. The country is safe under the leadership of honorable Modi ji. Honorable Modi ji follows the principle of "Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah, Sarve Santu Niramaya".

SHRI JAYADEV GALLA: The situation in Ukraine is not self-made like we are seeing in Sri Lanka today. Vladimir Putin's dream is becoming Ukraine's nightmare. The threat of chemical war is also a major concern. Russia unfolded its hybrid war against Ukraine. The stand taken by India, be it at the UN Security Council or at QUAD Foreign Ministers' meeting at Melbourne is welcome. This is the stand of India, that cooperation and collaboration will help douse the conflict between Russia and Ukraine and ensure long-term peace and stability in the region. With pressure mounting from the West led by the US, we have to make a very difficult strategic choice between principles and values on one side and pragmatism and interest on the other. The time has come where we need to move closer to the US and the QUAD Summit in May this year is one such opportunity for India. We have been adopting a non-aligned approach. We have

taken sides or worked closely with world powers only when national interest is involved. In the conflict between Russia and Ukraine, I do not see any national interest involved. I have a few economic bullet points. More than 500 million dollars' worth of exporters payments are stuck in Russia due to sanctions. Ukraine is the third largest producer and exporter of maize and Ukraine and Russia are also top two exporters of sunflower oil which we import. Russia is also the world's second largest exporter of muriate of potash fertilizer which we import. Out of 5.09 metric tonnes that we import, one-third come from Belarus and Russia. Ukraine is the third largest supplier of urea to India. We are also importing crude oil from Russia, Exports from India like medicines, tea, etc. to Russia are impacted due to shipment concerns and there is also shortage of containers. A carefully calibrated stand by New Delhi has created a distinctive space for diplomacy by not only maintaining equi-distance between the two powers but also moving towards a multipolar world.

SHRI REBATI TRIPURA: First of all, I would like to thank Hon. Prime Minister and the Minister of External Affairs, Jayshankarji and his team for safely evacuating everybody from there. This operation was named Operation Ganga. This operation was carried out on the humanitarian ground. Wherein, the Government of India has provided assistance to bring back not only Indian citizens but medical students and citizens of many countries including Pakistan and Bangladesh from there. About twenty three thousand medical students were brought from there. Among them, 13 students from my parliamentary constituency were also pursuing study in Kharkiv. Four of these students were evacuated and the Ministry of External Affairs did a lot of work to bring the rest of the students from there. India should play an active role to end Ukraine and Russia war.

SHRI S.C. UDASI: Our Government led by Shri Narendra Modi has acted swiftly and decisively with all its diplomatic strength to ensure the safety of our citizens in the war-torn country of Ukraine. Under Operation Ganga, we have evacuated more than 22,500 citizens back to our motherland. I sincerely thank Shri Narendra Modi, Dr. S. Jaishankar, Indian Embassies in Russia, Poland, Ukraine, Hungary, Romania and Slovak Republic for this achievement. I also thank Shri Basavaraj Bommai, our hon. Chief Minister for his timely intervention. He set up a nodal office to coordinate with the MEA and the Indian Embassies abroad to facilitate safe evacuation of our citizens. Several citizens, mainly medical students from my constituency were also stuck in the war zone. One of them, Mr. Naveen Shekharappa, who was studying in Kharkiv, unfortunately lost his life. We were able to bring the mortal remains of Mr. Naveen Shekharappa back home due to the intervention of Narendra Modiji and Jasishankarji, I wish to take a minute to discuss what Mr. Shekharappa Gyangoudar told me when I visited their family.

He questioned about the future of the students who have returned from Ukraine and he discussed about the structural changes needed in the education system of our country. We have to find a solution to this problem.

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY : Sir, it sounds like music that the statesmanship of Pandit Nehruji has been remembered again given the contemporary political and diplomatic situation prevailing across the world. Shri Kiren Rijiju rightly said that whoever in the government, they should have fulfilled this responsibility, we are fulfilling the responsibility. That is our tradition. Still why do we debate? If there is any mistake, alerting the government, advising the government, this is the duty of the opposition, which we do. First, I would say that Could we explore any idea that Indian Parliament could pass a unanimous resolution to suggest both the warring countries of Russia and Ukraine that they may restrain from their present situation? Jaishankar ji is a tall and capable foreign minister. I want to ask him a couple of questions, First, does the Ukraine-Russia conflict really test India's Foreign Policy resilience?, What are the complications outlining India's restraint?, Will it affect India's efforts to engage with Eurasia?, Will India's stance affect the growing synergy with the West as well as the Quad in the Indo - Pacific?, Whether any adverse impact may have been occurred due to the sanctions insofar as India's stance is concerned. Advisories sent out by the Indian Embassy were also vague. Indian students were reportedly harassed at borders crossing out of Ukraine in retaliation for India's abstention during the UN Security Council Resolution against Russia's invasion. One of our students has also died in Kharkiv. What strategy should we adopt to deal with the new situation, arisen due to the restrictions? We are told that there is a war between Russia and Ukraine, so the oil prices are increasing. On the other hand our finance minister is saying that we get discounted oil and we buy discounted oil. In ordinary circumstances, India imports only three per cent of its crude oil from Russia. If cheap Russian crude imports will translate into cheaper fuel prices for the citizens, is yet to be seen. We have an age-old relation with Russia. We do not have only buyer or seller relationship with Russia, but we have joint researches, joint developments with Russia, such as BrahMos Sukhoi T-90 tank etc. Rajnath Singh ji himself says that Modi ji have done such a work in the war between Ukraine and Russia that he is being applauded all over the world. I want to know that what did he do that he is being applauded all over the world?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (GEN. (RETD.) DR. V.K. SINGH) *intervening said:* I listened to the whole debate. Many times, it seems that we give much weightage to the things after hearing from the media and various other things rather than facts. So far as the policy

issues are concerned, the manner in which the Government has worked on these issues since the year 2014, it has given a kind of confidence. The situation of every evacuation is different. The manner of working in each situation is different. Please don't compare these. What will be the foreign policy in today's circumstances will depend on the situation existing today. Our NGOs, overseas diaspora and overseas organisations also played a major role in providing help. Our Prime Minister has also played a big role and he hasn't sought any credit for this exercise. Wars result in great amount of disinformation. We don't know what is happening. Different media people raise issues in different ways. Finding out truth among these is a very difficult task. I think you have a very capable Government which is handling the current situation in a better way. Let it handle the situation.

The Discussion was not concluded.

**THE CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES)
ORDERS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022.**

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ARJUN MUNDA) moved that the Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 to omit Bhogta community from the list of Scheduled Castes in relation to the State of Jharkhand and the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 for inclusion of certain communities in the lists of Scheduled Tribes in relation to the State of Jharkhand, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : I would like to appeal to the Hon. Minister that he must understand the real problems being faced by the people belonging to Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe communities. Recently, the rights of the Scheduled Tribes in Gujarat were being denied by the State Government of Gujarat which has decided to go ahead with Par-Tapi-Narmada river-linking project. This ecological disaster is likely to result in displacement of thousands of Adivasis. This project will result in eviction of thousands of tribal people in that area, but the Ministry of Tribal Affairs is keeping quiet. According to a report by the National Water Development Agency, about 6,065 hectares of land area will be submerged due to the proposed reservoirs of the Par-Tapi-Narmada river-linking project. A total of 61 villages will be affected. The main issue here is that the ancestral lands and houses of Adivasi families will be submerged when the reservoirs will be created. No amount of compensation can compensate their loss of culture, their lineage, their heritage, and their collective

memories. The performance of states in granting rights to tribals under Forest Rights Act since its promulgation should be examined. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs should ensure that the FRA is being implemented for the benefit of tribals by all the State Governments but there is no progress in implementing FRA. Many of the State Governments are not ready to implement FRA. The Government of India is not taking any initiative to implement FRA. The Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act for protection of Scheduled Tribes has not been implemented properly. The tribals are still victims of the upper caste people. The backlog in vacancies for appointment of Scheduled Tribes is not being filled up regularly. There is no proper recruitment. The PoA Act is not being properly implemented for the protection of Scheduled Tribes. I would request the Hon. Minister to protect the interests of the Scheduled Tribes in the country.

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH : The Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2022 has been brought in to exclude the bhogta community from the Scheduled Castes list of State of Jharkhand and to include bhogta, deshvari, ghaju, daultamandi (dwalbandi), patbandi, raut, mazia and khairi (kheri), tamaria, tamaria and puran community in the list of scheduled castes. A community that has been considered tribal since 1872 Sensex was left out in an order issued in 1950 and sub-caste of the same has been added. The ST Commission has recommended it. It is clearly written in the Bihar Gazette, Hazaribagh about the Kharwar community that it is the Bhogta Tribes. The heroic land of Palamu has been constantly fighting against the foreign invaders, Muslim Mughals and the British and they refused to convert, so they did not get the facility. The movement that took place in Palamu was not a soldiers' struggle but it was common people movement. Now I want to talk about the Joint Parliamentary Committee. The committee are of the opinion that no person who has given up the tribal faith or faith and has embarrassed either Christianity or Islam shall be deemed to be a member of scheduled Tribes. That report of JPC in 1967 needs to be discussed again. The report of the Joint Select Committee was generally approved unanimously or with a few modifications, but 234 amendments were proposed by the Government in it which were more than that report itself. The word Hindu never relates itself to the rituals of belief, religion and sect but it is the geo-cultural concept of centuries old geo-cultural concept of the eternal nation. It entwined all the sects and beliefs of people born in India, that's why Supreme Court has called it a way of life.

DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR S. I rise to speak on the Bill to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders, 1950 brought to omit Bhogta community from the Scheduled Castes list and to add a few communities from the State of Jharkhand to Scheduled Tribes list. Sir, in Tamil Nadu, we have three per

cent reservation even for the Muslim minorities. In order to render social justice and affirmative action, I urge upon the Union Minister Shri Arjun Munda to expedite the process of inclusion of Kuruma, Kuruman, Kurumba, Kuruman Gounder, Kurumban, Kurumbar as synonyms of Kurumans which is already enlisted. There is a long-pending demand for inclusion of a community called Lambadi in the list. In Tamil Nadu, there is a total of two-lakh Lambadi population. I urge upon the Minister to have them also in that list. The Scheduled Tribes do not have the caste surname to their name because it is a privilege.

SHRIMATI PRATIMA MONDAL : I am honoured to participate in the discussion on the Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendment) Bill, 2022. These socially deprived people live a precarious life, unable to still fulfil their bare necessities of life. Although our Constitution has provisions for reservation for these socially deprived people, they have benefited from reservation only in a limited manner. But we need to put in efforts to make these people become a part of mainstream society. The Bill seeks to remove Bhogta community from the list of Scheduled Castes and include it in the Scheduled Tribes list along with other communities. Inclusion of more castes and making laws are not enough. More funds are required to be allocated. Most importantly, implementation is to be looked after. Numerous innocent Adivasis have lost their lives by being mistaken as Maoists. The hon. Minister must look into the matter of the undertrials and their current situation. The tribals have witnessed continued encroachment upon their resources both at individual and community level. This needs to be stopped immediately and the lands that were taken away from them should be handed over to the original landholders. Finally, I would like to mention here that under the leadership of our hon. Chief Minister, the Government of West Bengal has largely been successful in abolishing Maoist activities by implementing several developmental projects. Women from Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities are receiving Rs. 1000 per month under the 'Lakshmi Bhandar' scheme. It is a symbol of women empowerment. People above the age of 60 years are also receiving Rs. 1000 under 'Jai Johar' scheme, which is meant for Scheduled Tribes, and 'Taposili Bandhu' scheme, which is meant for Scheduled Castes. Finally, on behalf of the All India Trinamool Congress, I support this Bill.

SHRI N. REDDEPPA: The Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendment) Bill, 2022 was introduced in Rajya Sabha on February 7, 2022. The Bill amends the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 and the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950. The Bill amends the schedule to the Scheduled Tribes Order to include certain communities in the list of Scheduled Tribes in Jharkhand. The schedule to the Scheduled Castes Order is being amended to omit the

Bhogta community from the list of Scheduled Castes in Jharkhand and the community is instead being included in the list of Scheduled Tribes in the State. The addition of castes in the Amendment to the list of Scheduled Tribes will channelize the flow of outlays and benefits from the general sectors in the Central Ministries/Departments for the development of Scheduled Tribes in proportion to their population. In keeping with the vision of '*Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas*', the focus on development of tribes and conservation of their heritage has become a priority.

SHRIMATI APARAJITA SARANGI: I support the Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendment) Bill, 2022 which seeks to omit the Entry of Bhogta community from the list of Scheduled Castes and also, it seeks to bring in certain communities in the list of Scheduled Tribes. We must remember Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's remarks that a free society in India is a far distant possibility till the ill-treatment and suppression of one class by the other is there. Equality could also be a fiction nonetheless one should settle for it as a governing precept. We have to have equality in the society. Celebration of birthday of Birsa Munda, setting up of Eklavya Model Residential Schools and announcing scholarship by Prime Minister Modi's Government to the 30 lacs students of these schools shows its commitment towards tribals. Antodaya, Jal Jeevan Mission and Swachh Bharat Scheme are some of efforts being made for upliftment of tribals and downtrodden.

DR. ALOK KUMAR SUMAN: With the passing of the Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendment) Bill, 2022, these communities will definitely have economic and educational development and they will get the benefit of development. SC/STs are still at a backstage in the flow of development, it is necessary to bring them into the mainstream. A distinguished member in the Constituent Assembly had said that the credit for India's independence will be given to Mahatma Gandhiji and the credit to codify India's independent regime will be given to Dr. Ambedkar, the great architect of our great Constitution. There is much more to be done by the society in our country. Many people from the disadvantaged sections do not know about their rights and the various programmes being run by the Government in their interests. These communities should be informed and made aware about welfare schemes.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: The State Government of Jharkhand has requested to transfer Bhogta community from the list of Scheduled Castes to the list of Scheduled Tribes and to include certain communities. From the Odisha point of view, I would say that we have Bhogta community in Odisha also. A task force was formed in 2015 under the chairmanship of the Secretary of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and that Task Force examined the proposals for inclusion from various States including 107

proposals from Odisha. In its Report notified in 2014, it recommended inclusion of the following ten communities of Odisha in the ST list of the State on priority basis. Puran community of Jharkhand has been approved. This community of Odisha should also be added. The other communities are Bhagata/Bhukta/ Bhogta or Bhokta , Durua, Kalanga, Nakasia, Paba, Khandayat Bhuyan, Tamudia or Tamadia, Chapua Kamar and Kandhia. These are the ten tribes that have been recommended by the Task Force and this list is pending with the Ministry. When are these communities going to be included in the ST list? Odisha Government has sent 107 proposals and the Task Force identified ten tribes of them. Similarly, I have spoken last time about Saara community. They should be included in the scheduled Tribes. On the inclusion of communities in the SC list of Odisha, since 1978, proposals for inclusion of different Castes/ communities are being submitted to the government of India at different points of time. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister as to when these communities are going to be included in the SC list of Odisha.

SHRI RAJENDRA DHEDYA GAVIT : Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) order (Amendment) Bill, 2022 aims to delete Bhogtaa Community from the list of Scheduled Castes in Jharkhand and to include Bhogtaa, Deshwari, Ganjhoo, Dautalbandi (Dwalbandi), Patbandi, Rout, Maajhiyaa, Khauri(Kheri), Tamariyaa (Temadiyaa) and old communities in the list of Scheduled Tribes. There are around 14 such villages around Narmada where the aboriginals are struggling. Many villages of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra are submerged in water. My request to you is that Bhagwan Birsa Munda should be awarded with Bharat Ratna.

SHRIMATI SANGEETA AZAD: On behalf of Bahujan Samaj Party, I strongly support the Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendment) Bill, 2022. This Bill has been brought to omit the Bhogta community of Jharkhand state from the list of Scheduled Castes and to be included in the list of Scheduled Tribes and also include certain other communities like Deshwari, Ganjhu, Daulatbandi, Patbandi, Raut, Majhia, Khairi, and Tamdia. For the welfare of Scheduled Tribes, a provision of more than 12 percent of the budget has been made in the budget for the year 2022-23. Earlier in Uttar Pradesh, there used to be zero balance admission, now the same has been discontinued. If the people of SC and ST had money to deposit fees, they would not be seeking scholarship. I demand that, as in the past when admission was given on zero balance, in the same way admission should again be given on zero balance and scholarship should be given to provide education to the people of SC and ST.

SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO : To include from Scheduled Caste to Schedule Tribe and on serial No. 16 of Scheduled Tribes, Bhogtaa, Deveshwari,

Ganjhoo, Daulatbandi, Rout, Majhiyaa, Kharwar are to be included. On serial No. 26 of Scheduled Tribes, Tamaria caste has to be included. Kudmi cast was in the tribe from year 1913 to 1931. Raghunath Mahato ji participated in year 1769 to 1805 in the Chuaar revolt in freedom struggle and sacrificed himself. Kol revolt in 1820, Santhal revolt from 1855 to 1856, Munda revolt under leadership of lord Birsaa Munda from 1885 to 1900 took place. Kudia community participated in independence. Kudmi tribe, about 2 crores population in Santhaal division in many districts of Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal under Chhota Nagpur have been demanding to include in tribes list, was included in tribe list in 1931 but were removed without any notification in 1950. As per H.H. Rizley in year 1891, Kudmis of Chhota Nagpur and Orisha were totally different from those of Bihar and other joint provinces, and considered to be of Dravid species. Totem or total symbols also depict them of David progeny. The Kudmi community neglected since years may be enlisted.

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR HANSDAK: I rise to speak on The Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendment) Bill, 2022 on behalf of my party JMM. A proposal to amend the Constitution to include Bhogta caste in the Scheduled Tribes has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha. This has been done against the wishes of the Bhogta caste, because of which there is a lot of resentment among the people of Bhogta caste. At present, Bhogta caste has the status of a Scheduled Caste in Jharkhand, due to which the people of this caste get an opportunity to represent in the Legislative Assembly and Panchayat Samiti, but after the above amendment, the representation of Bhogta caste will neither remain in the Legislative Assembly nor in the Panchayat. Majhia and Khairi castes should be enlisted in the list of Scheduled Tribes of Jharkhand State.

SHRI P. RAVINDHRANATH : While speaking on the Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendments) Bill, 2022, I would like to mention here the case of three major tribal communities i.e. Narikuravars, Bagada and Kuruman. The State Government has already recommended their inclusion to the Central Government in Scheduled Tribes Classification which is still pending. I demand for inclusion of these three communities in the Scheduled Tribes list of the Central Government. There is an urgent need to provide all the constitutional guarantees envisaged in the Constitution of India to enable the above communities to lead a life of equality and dignity with other citizens of the country.

***SHRI K. NAVASKANI:** It is so unfortunate that even after 75 years of Indian independence; the Union Government is unable to have a clear stand who are all Scheduled Castes and Tribes in the country. In my State of Tamil Nadu, since 1965, the State Government has been continuously demanding for including Narikkuravars (Narikkuravas) in the list of Scheduled Tribes. Narikkurava, Kuruvikkarar, Kurumbar communities in Tamil Nadu are socially, economically and educationally backward without employment opportunities. Several fishermen communities in my Ramanathapuram constituency have been demanding for including them in the list Scheduled Tribes. They should be included in the Scheduled Tribes list so as to uplift them and to provide reservation facilities for them. If privatization is continued the reservation facilities extended to the weaker sections will be denied in private sector. I want to say that this Government should give up privatization.

DR. K. JAYAKUMAR: The Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendment) Bill,2022 has already been passed in both the Houses. There was a suggestion made to the Minister on the Bill that a comprehensive Bill could be brought, rather than bringing in two or three or four Bills for every State separately, That will reduce the work, and also that will solve the problems. The Government made an observation that the Centre is concerned about the development of tribal people. the NITI Aayog has given the guideline as to how the Budget should be drawn for the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people. There is a reverse migration because of privatization . Public Sector Undertakings are for giving employment , making availability of goods at an affordable price, area development ,etc,

***DR. THOL THIRUMAAVALAVAN:** I welcome this Constitution Scheduled Castes and Tribes Order (Amendment) Bill brought to add certain sections of people from the Jharkhand in the list of Scheduled Tribes and removing them from list of Scheduled Castes. Kurumbans, Lambadi, Badugars, Narikkuravar communities of Tamil Nadu have been continuously demanding for inclusion in the Scheduled Tribes list. I urge that these sections of people should be added to the list of Scheduled Tribes. I demand the Government that a law should be legislated to prevent honour killings in our country.

DR NISHIKANT DUBEY: Our Government has brought the Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendment) Bill, 2022 for the castes that had not been declared Scheduled Tribes for the last 75 years and those castes that had been converted from Scheduled Tribes into Scheduled Castes. When the Constitution was passed on 26th November 1949 and the castes that were treated as Scheduled Tribes, did

* Original in Tamil.

not appear in the notification published in 1950. A Committee headed by Shri Hrishikesh Panda was constituted in the year 2013. A caste is included in the list of Scheduled Tribes on the recommendation of the concerned state. The report stated that Santhals were not living in Santhal Pargana by the year 1810. Therefore, they should not be conferred the status of tribes. There were Pahadiya, Khaitaudi and Ghatwal living in Santhal Pargana. That is why Khaitaudi and Ghatwal do not appear in the Scheduled Tribes' list. This is a historical omission and they should be incorporated in this list. I request the Government of India that all those castes which have been excluded from the list of Scheduled Tribes without any reason, should be included in the same list on the basis of the report of the above Committee. Bhogta Community has been incorporated in this list, so delimitation should be implemented on the lines of the present Act.

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: The Constitution Amendment Bill for the registration of tribes has been brought by the Hon. Minister. I would like to urge the Hon. Minister that the Government should make efforts to provide education in their mother tongue and preserve their cultural heritage.

TRIBAL AFFAIRS MINISTER (SHRI ARJUN MUNDA) *replying said:* Under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister, the commitment towards the development of tribal community and tribal areas alongwith the work of removing all such problems, discrepancies, is in progress . The resolution of the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' should be that the tribals of the country should be seen connected to the main stream of the country and move forward in all areas once we complete 100 years of independence. The budgeting policy for tribals was made in the 70s as to, how the state would make provision for the budget, what kind of developmental programs would be planned and on the basis of tribal sub-plan, the state would spend those amounts and implement identify or prioritize the plans or will. But that was never followed. Even after the Lokur Committee was formed in the year 1965, the then government did not comply with that recommendation. On the basis of the report that came to us, we asked all the states to give their recommendations. Those recommendations are received by the Union Government through the states and the Union Government refers to the RGI waiting for it to be taken from the anthropological site, because the work of the census data is looked after by the RGI. After that the Commission visits the field and re-evaluates everything. The government is seriously looking into all the caste related matters of honorable members, how to bring everything on the basis of merit. We are doing our work by meeting all such parameters and the work of adding a new dimension of development is being done under the leadership of Hon. Prime Minister. I understand that this is a historical period, when we are concerned about the overall development of the tribals . the concern for the multidimensional development and the preservation of all

their social, economic, cultural heritage and progress in education. I propose that this Bill be passed.

The Bill was passed.

Utpal Kumar Singh
Secretary General

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NOTE: It is the verbatim Debate of the Lok Sabha and not the Synopsis that should be considered authoritative.

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