

LOK SABHA
SYNOPSIS OF DEBATES
(Proceedings other than Question & Answers)

Wednesday, December 21, 2022/Agrahayana 30, 1944 (Saka)

***MATTERS UNDER RULE 377**

- (1) SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL** laid a statement regarding construction of 'Ram Gaman Marg' from Ayodhya to Chitrakoot.
- (2) SHRI SANJAY SETH** laid a statement regarding need to recognise the services of Lt. Baneshwar Rai, the Azad Hind Fauz soldier and provide adequate Government benefits to his family.
- (3) SHRI TOPON KUMAR GOGOI** laid a statement regarding development of roads from Sibsagar to Sonari and Namtola to Sapekhati in Assam as National Highways.
- (4) SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO** laid a statement regarding need to restore concessions in railway ticket fare to senior citizens and to general public travelling in the special trains introduced during Covid-19 Pandemic.

* Laid on the Table as directed by Chair.

- (5) **SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY** laid a statement regarding need to accord approval for development of roads as National Highways in Pali Parliamentary constituency.
- (6) **SHRI SURESH PUJARI** laid a statement regarding enquiry of a private compnay by a Central team for causing environmental pollution in Jharsuguda district in the Bargarh Parliamentary constituency.
- (7) **SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SONI** laid a statement regarding irregularities in implementation of 'Har Ghar Nal se Jal' scheme in Chhattisgarh.
- (8) **SHRI HOREN SING BEY** laid a statement regarding demand for Autonomous states.
- (9) **SHRI BASANTA KUMAR PANDA** laid a statement regarding environmental clearance to the Upper Jonk Irrigation Project in Nuapada district, Odisha.
- (10) **DR. DHAL SINGH BISEN** laid a statement regarding better railway connectivity to Balaghat and Seoni districts in Madhya Pradesh.
- (11) **SHRI JAMYANG TSERING NAMGYAL** laid a statement regarding construction of Roads in the Union territory of Ladakh.
- (12) **SHRIMATI JASKAUR MEENA** laid a statement regarding provision of service line on Delhi-Mumbai N.H. in Dausa Parliamentary constituency, Rajasthan.
- (13) **DR. MANOJ RAJORIA** laid a statement regarding the need to construct a National Highway from Rajakhera in Dholpur district to Etawah in Uttar Pradesh.
- (14) **SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SINGH** laid a statement regarding the need to deploy units of Army and Central Police forces in border areas of Araria, Bihar to steps up vigil on cross border smuggling.

- (15) **SHRI VIJAYKUMAR ALIAS VIJAY VASANTH** laid a statement regarding development of Tourism in Kanniyakumari district.
- (16) **SHRI DEEPAK BAIJ** laid a statement regarding the need to construct Dalli Rajhara-Jagdulpur-Rowghat railway line in Chhattisgarh.
- (17) **DR. SHASHI THAROOR** laid a statement regarding increase in use of banned narcotics substances in Kerala.
- (18) **DR. T. R. PAARIVENDHAR** laid a statement regarding establishment of a National Small Crops Research Centre in Perambalur Parliamentary constituency.
- (19) **SHRI RAGHU RAMA KRISHNA RAJU** laid a statement regarding inclusion of Rajaka Community of Andhra Pradesh into Scheduled Caste Category.
- (20) **SHRI POCHA BRAHMANANDA REDDY** laid a statement regarding establishment of an Agricultural Disaster Compensation Fund.
- (21) **SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MONDAL** laid a statement regarding installation of Solar Submersible Water Pumps in Bardhaman Purba Parliamentary constituency.
- (22) **SHRIMATI APARUPA PODDAR** laid a statement regarding creation of Indian Medical Administrative Service Cadre.
- (23) **SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT** laid a statement regarding need to increase the income limit of beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act, 2013,
- (24) **SHRI MAHABALI SINGH** laid a statement regarding return of deposits to the people who have invested in Sahara India Group.
- (25) **ADV. A. M. ARIFF** laid a statement regarding grant of increased pension to EPF Pensioners.

- (26) **SHRI P. RAVINDHRANATH** laid a statement regarding skilling of women construction workers.

STATUTORY RESOLUTIONS

(i) Re: Approval to amend the Eighth Schedule of the Finance Act, 2002.

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY) moved that in pursuance of Section 147 of the Finance Act, 2002, this House hereby approves of notification No. 25/2022-Central Excise, dated the 31st August, 2022 [G.S.R. 671(E) dated the 31st August, 2022], which seeks to amend the Eighth Schedule to the Finance Act, 2002, in order to revise Special Additional Excise Duty on Aviation Turbine Fuel.

The Motion was adopted.

(ii) Re: Approval to amend the Second Schedule of the Customs Tariff Act.

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY) moved that in pursuance of Section 8 (1) of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, this House hereby approves of notification No. 49/2022-Customs, dated the 8th September, 2022 [G.S.R. 689(E) dated the 8th September, 2022], which seeks to amend the Second Schedule of the Customs Tariff Act, in order to levy Export duty on specified types of rice.

The Motion was adopted.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193 - CONTD.

Re: The problem of drug abuse in the country and steps taken by the Government

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Drug abuse is a menace to the society. It is rapidly spreading amongst the adolescents and youth; and our future generation is under threat. The adolescents who abuse drugs are reported to have a higher rate of physical and mental illness. Drug abuse is a complicated problem because it is

linked with other serious crimes such as organised crimes, human trafficking, and money laundering. Government of India should come out with a national action plan for drug abuse. Though it is a matter concerning the States, the Government of India, can take this initiative to have a national action platform so as to address the issue of drug abuse. There is a need for counselling and rehabilitation centres throughout the country. Out of the total number of cases reported in the Union Territories, 55 per cent of the cases are from the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. What does it indicate? It means that it is having link with anti-national terrorist forces. It is astonishing to see that a literate State like Kerala is facing such a menace. 80 percent of the cases, reported in Kerala, are in the age group of 10 years to 15 years. That means, they are targeting the school children. I have two suggestions in this respect. The first suggestion is that an intensive awareness campaign has to be brought in. The second suggestion is that this should be included as a subject matter or a paper in the school syllabus. The Schedule of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 should be amended. The availability of banned drugs is the main reason for having this abuse. So, the root cause has to be identified and needs to be cut off. Stringent actions must be taken against this so that there is no scope of availability of drugs. A Monitoring and Review Committee must be constituted at the Parliamentary Constituency level so that the people's representatives can also be a part and parcel in combating the drug abuse issue. Without having any political differences, we have to fight against this menace otherwise, the future generation of our country will be spoiled and their intellectual capacity will be disturbed.

SUSHRI SUNITA DUGGAL: Everyone is discussing drugs abuse, but no one has discussed the steps taken by the government against this menace. Our government has prepared a State Action Plan through which CARE has been launched, in which provisions of coordination, awareness; rehabilitation and enforcement have been made. Our Haryana government has undertaken this work. On May 29, 2020, the Haryana State Narcotics Central Bureau was created and a five-tier structure has been created through this Bureau which comprises 7538 Village Mission Teams, 1710 Ward Mission Teams, Cluster Mission Team, Sub Division Mission Team, District Mission Team. Along with this, it has 50 per cent representation of the public functionaries and the other 50 percent are from amongst the common people. Alongside, I would like to say one thing that the

term drug addicts should not be used because they are children and if they fall into it for one or the other reason; they should be called drug victims. We have made a 'Dhaakad' programme under which five children will be identified in a class. Those children will identify drug victims and the child leading from the front in a spirit of directional leadership shall be termed as Senior Dhakad. Thanks to this initiative, as many as 802 cases have been detected in Sirsa within a brief period of 17 months.

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: Today it is quite conspicuous to us that different types of arms and drugs are being smuggled from Myanmar to the North East. All kinds of trafficking is taking place in the North East in such an alarming proportion that a corridor has evolved there. I would like to know which modern surveillance system has been used by the Government to nab big mafias. What instruments have you used for financial tracking? How is the transaction of crores of rupees being done for the narcotics trade and what is the source of such transactions? Is it being transacted through crypto or bank account or *benami*? We will have to take the services of various non-government organizations in our bid to organizing street plays and different types of campaigns in the villages to convince the students that they should steer clear of drugs. We want sports to be promoted. I organize fitness race in my constituency to create awareness about the ill-effects of drugs. I have so far organized two-three races for the youth against drugs. These drugs are like a cancer. The one who gets trapped in this drug abuse should not be treated as a criminal, but as a patient. In the same way we have to lay emphasis on strengthening police and border security and along with this we should also lay emphasis on rehabilitation.

DR. S.T. HASAN: As we know the way drug trafficking is taking place and the trade of drugs is gaining ground will harm the future generations and it is going to undermine our country. Certain conspiracies are being hatched against us at international level. It is on record all the heinous crimes have been committed in the influence of intoxication. We know that all such things do not take place in Middle East countries because the laws are very strict there. That's why there is a need for a strict law in our country. Any influential person threatens someone that he will be sent behind the bars under the NDPS Act. This type of intimidation needs to be stopped.

SHRI MANOJ TIWARI: So far as drug abuse is concerned, a lot of discussion has taken place, but now our effort is that some concrete steps should be taken in this regard. There should be strict action should be taken on drug peddlers and traders to deal with such a situation. But the youths who have got trapped in this due to deception or other reasons, should be treated like victims or sick persons. He should be helped to recuperate. Here, I would like to bring it to the notice of the Hon'ble Home Minister that there are some areas dominated by illegal infiltrators in Delhi. The drug trading is flourishing on a large scale in these areas. The police should take action at such places with full preparation. The way in which the Government is making efforts to check both the supply and demand of drugs should be appreciated.

SHRI RITESH PANDEY: Drug abuse is a serious issue and we should do whatever possible to stop it. We have seen that the demand and consumption of heroin went on increasing in my constituency, Ambedkar Nagar during the last three years. We are also aware of the fact that 70 per cent of drugs are smuggled through Afghanistan and the sea route. There is also a big issue as to whether it is bootlegging or drug abuse in our country; somewhere or the other all such illegal activities get protection from the police forces. I would like to request that such a law should be enacted that if the police personnel are involved in these activities, strict action should be taken against the police personnel as well. In addition to that, the salaries of the constables should also be increased especially so that they could not be lured to be involved in these activities.

SHRI PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI: Drug abuse brings an individual, family and society to a naught. Our Government has zero-tolerance for smuggling of these narcotic drugs. According to a survey, intoxication is the reason for more than 90 percent of accidents. Can't we stop drug abuse? A law needs to be enacted for this purpose and there should be a penal provision for the one who violates the law. The illegal drug trading generates black money and also poses a threat to the security of the country. This provides support to terrorism. To build a new India, our country should be made drug free and for this purpose there should be a central legislation.

SHRI BENNY BEHANAN: This discussion itself gives a strong message that our Government and the august House are concerned about drug abuse. The use of drugs and alcohol has a negative impact on a community, and it is well recognized that substance abuse is a major cause of premature death and disease. According to data from the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), ten crore people in the country are currently dependent on various narcotics. There are reportedly 1.58 crore children in the nation that are addicted to drugs between the ages of 10 and 17 as well. The huge inflow of marijuana and heroin is increasing the availability of drugs to even school students in Kerala. According to the most recent data produced by the National Crime Records Bureau 3,060 kg of drugs were seized from various locations throughout Kerala. According to the law enforcement officials, 1,3694 kg of marijuana had been smuggled into the State for street sale. Even young children in schools are used as tools for peddling drugs. The way forward is to primarily cut the supply of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances through strict monitoring of the maritime regions and the bordering areas. The Governments should simultaneously ensure that the domestic production of illicit liquor and drug should be strictly monitored and stringent measures should be envisaged to penalise the violators. For that, the narcotics and excise departments should be strengthened. This apart, the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act should be stringently followed. Education curricula should be designed to cause awareness among people regarding the use of psychotropic and alcohol. NCERT recommended that school textbooks should include information on drug misuse and its harmful effects so as to sensitize children at their young age itself. I would urge parliament to invoke the Gandhian principles of prohibition of intoxicating drinks and drugs as Government's policy and, therefore, endeavor to prohibit the use of intoxicating drinks and drugs in India.

SHRI DILIP SAIKIA: I would like to request all the Hon'ble members that no one should speak on this issue to score political mileage. . From 2006 to 2013, a total of 1,256 cases were registered across the country and from 2014 to 2022, it increased to 3,172, with an increase by 152 percent. The number of drug peddlers apprehended from the year 2006 to 2013 is 1,363 and from the year 2014 to 2022, their number is 2,888, meaning thereby there has been an increase of 260 percent. For the rest of the drugs, the figure is 1.52 lakh kg from the year 2006 to 2013 and has increased to 3.33 lakh kg between the year 2014 and 2022. India bears the

epithet of being a country of the youth since 60 percent of our population is yet to be on the wrong side of 40, but sadly, among the teenagers 9 out of 10 happen to consume drugs in some form or the other. In Assam alone, 4,666 cases have been registered. So far drugs worth Rs 1,114 crore have been seized and destroyed. A slew of initiatives having been undertaken for the physical and mental development of the youth, under the stewardship of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, must be espoused by all the State Governments and the Union Territories and the programs be rolled out in a collaborative spirit seeking periodic guidance and assistance from the Union Government. . Let's come together to trample down the monstrous ugly head of this proliferative disorder eclipsing the lives and career growth of our youth.

PROF. SOUGATA RAY: Drugs are the biggest problem the world is facing today. The total trafficking is worth a staggering 650 billion dollars. In India, 22,000 people die because of drugs. We need a national movement for removal of drug abuse. We need a total consciousness campaign. We need urgent action by the Government of India.

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SOM PARKASH): The youth of Punjab are badly facing the onslaught of drug abuse. Due to untrammelled penetration of trafficking of drugs in Punjab, law and order situation has deteriorated. Drugs worth Rs. 60 thousand crore are transacted in Punjab. This issue has been discussed many times in the Punjab Legislative Assembly also, but only to end up in hurling allegations over one another allowing precedence of political consideration over finding a remedy to the issue. No one evinced due indulgences when it actually came to the resolution of the problem which is why the problem in Punjab has assumed horrific proportion vis a vis the rest of the States. If one really intends to embark on some definitive solution to the issue of drug addiction in Punjab all of us cutting across party lines will have to act in cohesion cutting across party lines and launch a massive awareness programme to equip our youth with a hidden curriculum in order that they may refrain themselves from indulging in the consumption of drugs. Allegation and counter allegation shall get us nowhere. . Our goal is to save Punjab. If the country has to be saved then Punjab needs to be saved first.

Collaboration, coordination and cohesion are the key factors to be employed as potent tools to bring about transformative change in the state of affairs.

SHRI RAHUL RAMESH SHEWALE: A UN report says that the number of drug users in India is likely to increase by 40% in 2022 as against 2009. A 2019 report by AIIMS states that 160 million Indians consume alcohol in India. According to NCRB, every day 21 deaths in India are attributed to the consumption of drugs. Of these, there were 7,860 people who had committed suicide due to drugs. Medical store operators are engaged in cloaking profits by ruining the young generation. There are about 41 types of cough syrups in the market. Most of them contain the salt called codeine phosphate which is banned. This medicine cannot be purchased without a medical prescription, but in some pockets of the country this illegal trade is thriving beyond measure in gross violation of these rules.

SHRI P. RAVINDHRANATH: As per the data published by the National Crime Records Bureau, about 13, 69,944 kilograms of drugs were seized in India in the year 2020 alone. I would like request the Government to mandate all schools of the country for compulsory classes on the ill-effects of drugs and substance abuse as a part of academic curriculum from Class 5th onwards. The synthetic drugs like LSD and MDMA have also entered the market, and these drugs cannot be detected easily. I request the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to provide Artificial Intelligence technology to all the enforcement agencies, including those guarding borders, airports and seaports for detecting trafficking of drugs. My concern is about the use of Dark Net and crypto currency in illegal drugs trade. I would like to request the hon. Minister to bring suitable amendments in legislation to provide that all evidence in favour of the accused shall be supplied to the accused for defence. Such fair disclosure will also save judicial time. I would like to request the Government to establish national monitoring committee to take action against the misuse of anti-drugs laws by officials. Every citizen, parents and teachers have to take responsibility to stop the menace of drug abuse in the country. Citizens should become the eyes and ears of the enforcement agencies for drug elimination.

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Definitely it is a matter of great concern for the country and the world. It is not only harming a single person, but the entire generation. For the first time in the country, the way in which about 30,000 kg of

narcotics have been destroyed at four places, it is a proof that now we are not only pro-actively arresting the carriers in the country's de-addiction campaign, but also are trying to destroy every such thing. It is reported by AIIMS that almost 80 percent of the parents are unaware of their children's drug addiction. According to a study, most of them come to know about this after one or two years when their children are fully enslaved by it. Crime has increased by 33% in Punjab and it is happening on a large scale. Government of India is taking many measures for this purpose. We have launched e-portal, launched Service Information of Management System Portal, 2019, working in NDPS, created National Fund to control drug abuse and launched a project 'Sunrise Scheme'. Today it is spreading to the district level, in the capitals. We all have to take a pledge to check this menace.

SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU: According to the Comprehensive National Survey on the Extent and Pattern of Substance Use in India, 2018, 14.6 per cent consume alcohol, 2.8 per cent consume cannabis and 2.1 per cent resort to opiates. In a country with a population exceeding 130 crores, these numbers should worry all of us present over here. In fact, 1.58 crore children aged between ten years and seventeen years are addicted to substances in the country. The number of alcohol consumers aged ten years to seventeen years amounts to 30 lakhs while cannabis users in the same age group are about 20 lakhs. In order to tackle this issue, we need to understand our geography and the geopolitics behind it. The governance structures need to approach it as a public health problem. It is a disease that needs to be tackled through rehabilitation instead of revenge. Instead of a compulsory imprisonment for the possession of small amounts of drug as per NDPS Act, a de-addiction treatment and rehabilitation strategy should be adopted by the Central Government. One important aspect of the problem is the farming of ganja in the country. In order to wean these farmers off weed, there is a need to provide alternative sources of income to them which will help to curb the drug menace.

SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Following the zero tolerance policy towards drug abuse under the leadership of Prime Minister, we have taken initiatives to check the supply of drugs. The Special Drive to deal with the drug menace was launched on June 26, 2022 and The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has been made the nodal agency by the Government of India for the de-addiction

drive. Our government is taking stringent action on organised crimes, human trafficking, money laundering and on the trade of drugs. India is working towards to end this menace.

SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN: Drug abuse has infected our society from street children to Bollywood superstars. The incidence of drug abuse among children and adolescents is higher than the general population. There is a steep increase in the use of drugs among children and a drastic increase in crime rates relating to drugs in Kerala. Sensitization to prevent drug abuse must be included in school and college syllabus. The Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances Act must be amended to give stringent punishment to the drug peddlers. The de-addiction of child and adolescent drug-addicts must be given topmost priority. A separate department to combat drug menace may be constituted under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. The NDPS Act should be amended.

SHRI JUGAL KISHORE SHARMA: Drug abuse is more prevalent especially in the border areas. The money that comes from it is used to fund terrorist activities. These drugs are also being used to destroy the future of our youth. Medical drugs are easily available. The state governments will also have to take strict steps against it. The Union Government is seriously working to check the misuse of these drugs. Rehabilitation centres should be opened and facilities should be provided to the children in these rehabilitation centres against drug abuse.

SHRI LAVU SRIKRISHNA DEVARAYALU: Many countries have taken stringent action against the drugs but the results are not to be seen on the ground. There is a lack of availability of de-addiction and rehabilitation centres across the country. At the same time, there is a poor budget utilisation. NDPS Act is very stringent. I would request the Government to come up with a law so that compensation is given to the people who are unlawfully arrested. Narcotics Control Bureau has been doing a fantastic thing. Government should focus more on the issue of drugs which are coming from other countries.

***DR. AMAR SINGH:**

DR. RAJDEEP ROY: Drug trade along with cross-border terrorism today has crossed two trillion USD which is almost four per cent of the GDP of the world. I have seen the other side of the drug users, and how the families and the individuals being destroyed, to control all this, a very humanitarian approach needs to be taken, and our Government has done exactly this. The Government of India has taken steps to stop the temping down of cross border trafficking.

SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL : The efforts are to be revamped that are being made for de-addiction of children from drug abuse and in respect of those who have faced this problem and also addicted to it because it is also preventive and remedial also and their rehabilitation should also be discussed.

MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COOPERATION (SHRI AMIT SHAH) *replying said:* The House has been discussing a serious problem since yesterday and on behalf of the Government, I would like to thank the Members who have expressed their valuable views on this issue. All the Members have acknowledged that this is a serious problem. The profits earned from this drug trade are being utilised for the funding of terrorism. In the year of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, Hon'ble Prime Minister has put forward the resolve of drug-free India in front of the entire country. I would like to assure the House once again that the Government has a zero tolerance policy on the drug trade and funding of terrorism through it. The spread of drugs not only hollows out our future generations, but also destroys millions of families and creates many types of social disturbances in respect of law and order situations. The presence of this dirty money within the country's economy hollows out the country's economy. The Hon'ble Prime Minister has given the goal of drug-free India to the Department of Home Affairs and no stone will be left unturned to fulfil this goal. The Union Government, all the State Governments and Union Territories will have to fight this battle together. The entry of drugs will also have to be checked from the borders; the entry of drugs will also have to be stopped from airports and ports.

* Please see supplement.

The Department of Revenue will also have to act aggressively as part of the in toto plan vigilantly. The Narcotics Control Bureau and all the state's anti-narcotics agencies will also have to work on the same. Along with this, the Department of Social Welfare and Department of Health will also have to stay together for rehabilitation and de-addiction efforts. Only if we address all its dimensions and connect all dimensions equally in this fight, then our dream of drug-free India can come true. As far as the fight against drugs is concerned, all the state governments of the country have fought this battle seriously by extending full cooperation to the Union Government. So, at least, it's an issue on which there is no difference of opinion. So far as border trade is concerned, we do not have any trade with Pakistan right now through the border. There is no question of drugs coming through the border. But the drug comes through drones and smuggling. They build tunnels and supply drugs. The drug is consigned through ports and airports. Closing the trade will not solve the problem. Wherever they explore new ways, we have to eliminate those ways. As far as the law is concerned, through this House I would like to make the policy of the Government of India public. Those who consume drugs are victims. One ought to be sympathetic to them. At the same time one must turn severe on all those involved in drug trafficking. We also have to create a social environment to ensure pace setting of the premise of attaching stigma to all those consuming drugs. All the Hon'ble MPs would also have to make a concerted effort for the rehabilitation of such people in such conducive climate that their recognition and social identity may be restored in a dignified manner. As far as strictness on drug trade is concerned, we cannot see any confiscation of the drug in isolation. If even a small packet of drugs is seized, the point of its origin must be investigated, only then the entire network will collapse. Sometimes there are inland borders and inter-state borders; it has to be investigated across the border as well. NCB and NIA are two such agencies for that purpose. NCB is empowered to conduct investigation across India without any territorial restriction. If that investigation goes beyond the borders of the country, the NIA is ready to help. All the three agencies i.e. state agencies, NCB and NIA are successfully taking pains to demolish the entire network. There is a need to launch a comprehensive campaign aimed at the dual purpose of creating mass awareness and putting in place a coevalar coordination of all the agencies meant for monitoring the peddling of drugs.. Unless there is co-operation, coordination and collaboration, we cannot win this battle. This is not a fight of one department; it is

not a fight of one government. Whether it is the state governments or the central government, all the departments have to fight this battle in tandem with one another.. One of the major initiatives taken by the government in this regard is setting up of a four-tier NCORD in the year 2019 for strengthening the institutional structure in this regard. Coordination has been established through these NCORD committees right from district level to the national level. At the Centre also we have dissected it in the binary form. Now the legislature has a ligand to the executive organelles. The District level functionaries are, by far, the most important ones. Unless DCP, Collector, Social Welfare Officer and Health Department officials sit together and discuss it at their level, we are not going to succeed. We have been trying for one and a half years, but as few as 32 per cent districts have, so far constituted committees to this end. Chief Ministers of all the States and the Union Territories are requested to form district level NCORD committees in their respective states. NCB is the nodal agency that functions in concord with all other agencies. An NCORD portal has also been developed which is operated by the NCB. This portal is designed for data integration.. This portal has inter alia facilitated the availability of truth table in respect of the data being provided right from the ground level. The annual report of the NCB handbook also comprises certain dos and dont's. In a way, the government has come up with such an innovative system that there is a single digital platform to gauge the details for the use of officials. The General Assembly of Interpol was held in our country. On that forum also India strongly put forward a suggestion to develop a digital platform for the sharing of data with the Interpol in respect of Narcotics, Terrorism and terror funding through involvement in Narco trade. The NCB cadre has also been reconstituted. A National Integrated Data Base on Narco offenders has also been developed. We have also mapped the chart of the drug network displaying the route of drug trafficking in all the states including earmarking of districts potentially running the risk of coming under the dark net work of drugs and the States concerned have been communicated. Under NDPS, we have given powers to the Border Security Force, SSB and Assam Rifles to file cases as the agencies cannot work without power. Agencies have to be empowered and I firmly believe that agencies should be empowered. Likewise, the Indian Coast Guard and all coastal police stations in the states have also been empowered. We have also empowered the Railway Protection Force. We have also hired a lot of experts for financial investigation. Over and above, we have also circulated the procedure for

the attachment of properties at the district level. We have made a very precise strategy for money laundering channels, hawala transactions and dark net. There was a shortage of dog squads at airports and ports to apprehend such people, so we have prepared a very large number of dog squads by breeding our indigenous dogs and we are also giving them to the states. We have also formed a dedicated anti-narcotics task force. An Anti-Narcotics Task Force dedicated to states and Union Territories is also there to assist the states. Many of the dual-use drugs will be included in the restricted category so that their use can be banned. A high-level task force has also been formed to prevent smuggling through the sea route. We do not want to leave a single corner from where the illegal drug trade enters India. As far as illegal farming is concerned, we have developed some software, we are using drones. The first pilot project has been completed in Manipur. We have made a similar program for other states as well. The study group of our Ministry of Home Affairs has charted out a very good roadmap for the States in this regard. Work is also being carried out to rein in the dark net and crypto. Distinct training modules have been developed to take care of divergent needs specifically for Narcotics which are designed to serve the purpose of rehabilitation, electronic analysis of the data in a piecemeal manner and above all for striking a coordinating chord with NCB being the umbilical one. An agreement has been signed between NCB and National Forensic Science University for forensics of narcotics. The Government of India is setting up about 6 regional narcotics labs in the country, to thwart the possibility of undesired delay in testing samples. As far as the campaign of drug-free India is concerned, more than 14 crore children belonging to more than 2.7 lakh educational institutions have already taken the oath of de-addiction. Through the National Online Pledge for de-addiction, efforts are underway to associate around one lakh academic institutions and thus align more youth to it.. Those who do not follow FCRA law will be strictly punished. Those who want to change the demography of the country and want to use FCRA for this purpose cannot be permitted to do so. Strict punitive intervention shall be there to deal with such instances. About 341 Integrated Rehabilitation Centres have been set up with the devolution of funds by the Union Government and 300 centres are being set up with a design to equip it with the best global practices of rehabilitation.. We have adopted a strategy to engage the maximum number of youth for causing mass awareness against drugs. We have also started 41 addiction treatment facilities in government hospitals. We have an action plan to build more 75 addiction treatment

facilities. 72 outreach dropping centres have also been set up. I have also held region-wise meetings with Chief Ministers of all states on drug abuse. Regional meetings have been organised to sensitize the officers of the states. We had fixed a target on the occasion of 75 years of Independence that we will destroy 75,000 kg of drugs within 60 days. Today I am happy to say that in 60 days we have destroyed more than 1, 60,000 kg of drugs. This is a government, which makes efforts and takes it to its logical end. Whatever goal we set, we accomplish it. We have decided that we will not let the youth of this country be ruined by drug addiction. It is getting its results. The statistics confirm the efforts. We have registered 13,000 cases by putting the cases of dealers and smuggling in the serious category. In the last five years, we have notified 61 new psychotropic substances, which were not included earlier in this category. I request the entire House that we should not politicize this issue. Also, Governments of all the states should come forward. We are also very keen to strengthen the campaign launched by the states. All the State Governments, the Union Government, the entire people of the country and all of us public representatives should work together to make this campaign a success.

HON'BLE SPEAKER: Hon'ble Members, the discussion which was going on for two days in the House on the situation arising out of drug abuse in the country has drawn to a close today. Hon'ble Members from either sides and of all the political parties have made a significant contribution in the discussion held on an issue of great substance. The entire House has expressed serious concern over this issue. The Government has also expressed its commitment to act in a collaborative spirit to combat the proliferating consumption of drugs which is adversely affecting the lives of youth in particular. All the democratic institutions and elected Hon'ble Members of the country are obliged to protect the youth of the country from such evils and thus ensure their bright future. Therefore, this House resolves that as the representatives of the highest democratic institution of the country, the Hon'ble Members will work in a collective spirit to put an end to the evil engulfing the youth of the country by launching a massive public awareness campaign across the country. This House unanimously resolves to make India a drug-free nation.

The discussion was concluded.

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

(Amendments made by Rajya Sabha)

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ARJUN MUNDA) moved that the following amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 and the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) (Uttar Pradesh) Order, 1967 be taken into consideration.

The Motion was adopted and the amendments were agreed to.

THE CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED TRIBES) ORDER (FIFTH AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022.

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ARJUN MUNDA) *moved that* the Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 for inclusion of certain communities in the list of Scheduled Tribes in relation to the State of Chhattisgarh be taken into consideration.

SHRI DEEPAK BAIJ *initiating said:* Today the Constitution Order (Fifth Amendment) Bill, 2022, an amendment Bill pertaining to the five states, has been moved, in which our Chhattisgarh state is also mentioned. In all, 12 castes of Chhattisgarh have been included in the list of Scheduled Tribes. For this, I would like to thank the Hon'ble Minister. According to the 2011 census, the tribal population in Chhattisgarh is around 78 to 80 lakhs. After the inclusion of 12 castes in the list, Chhattisgarh has now 42 tribes. We had frequent meetings with the Government, and the Hon'ble Chief Minister and people from many communities approached the Hon'ble Governor. After that, a major decision was taken by the Chhattisgarh Government by calling a special session of the Legislative Assembly and presenting the reservation Bill and passing it after extensive discussion. In that reservation Bill, provisions were made to provide 32 percent reservation to tribals, 27 percent to Other Backward Classes, 13 percent to

Scheduled Castes and 4 percent to General. But till date the reservation Bill is pending in the Raj Bhavan. Till date, the Hon'ble Governor has not even signed it. I would like to ask through the House under whose pressure is the Hon'ble Governor. Is he under pressure from the Union Government? The reservation is definitely a serious issue. So, it must be signed. The Union Government should definitely assist the state on this issue. Nagarnar Steel Plant is in Bastar. The Government is privatizing that too. If it is privatised, where will we go for getting the jobs even after having the reservation policy? I would like to ask the Hon'ble Minister whether he will set any criteria for reservation in the private sector. You are privatizing a Government Undertaking; Will reservation policy be applicable there? Earlier, seven types of minor produce were procured in tribal areas like Bastar whereas, now Chhattisgarh Government is procuring 65 types of forest produce on support price. I would request that the Mehra and Mahara castes of Bastar should be included in the list of Scheduled Castes. Bastar is a tribal-dominated area. So, a central university and a tribal university should be set up here.

SHRI ARUN SAO: Chhattisgarh has been blessed by nature. There are big rivers like Arpa and Payari, mountains, forests and mines of various minerals ranging from coal to diamond. Bastar and Surguja are known for their vast beauty of nature. The struggle was going on for 25-30 years regarding the proposal to include 12 castes in the list of Scheduled Tribes. Apart from Bastar and Surguja divisions, people of this community also live in the districts of Gariaband, Mahasamund, Dhamtari, Balod, Rajnandgaon etc. The government is working to nurture the talent of the tribals through TRIFED. Narendra Modi has added to the pride of the tribal society by declaring the birth anniversary of Lord Birsa Munda ji that is the 15th November as the National Tribal Pride Day and facilitating a daughter of the tribal society to reach the highest post of the constitution for the first time. When our government was in the State for 15 years, we had established a separate authority for the systematic development of Surguja and Bastar. Our then government had also done a lot of work in the field of education. We started Malkhamb Academy in Narayanpur. We also created facilities for the children for big games. But the present government is unable even to maintain them. With the passage of this Bill, lakhs of tribal brothers and sisters will get justice.

DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR S.: There is a long-standing demand from the State of Tamil Nadu that certain more communities should be included in the Scheduled Tribes List. The Kuruman Tribes are dwelling throughout the State of Tamil Nadu. They are called by its synonym names but all are one and the same. The State Human Rights Commission also directed both the Central and the State Governments to include Kurumans ST Synonym names in the ST List. In 1936, Kurumans was included in the SC List and it was in the Backward Tribes List in 1955. The RGT has ignored all the documentary evidence, flouted the Court order, and agreed for inclusion of Kuruman alone along with Kurumans. I urge upon the hon. Minister to take immediate action and include all the names in the ST list. There is another community which is called the Lambadi community which is there in many other States like Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. They are classified in some other States but when it comes to Tamil Nadu, they are not in the ST List. So, I would urge upon the hon. Minister to include the Lambadi community into the ST List.

SHRIMATI APARUPA PODDAR: India is home to about one-third, that is, 104 million tribal people of the global tribal and out of indigenous population, 42 per cent of children are reported to be underweight. Healthcare system and the number of specialists posted in tribal areas are worse than scarce. There are very narrow roads in hilly areas. So, bike ambulances should be provided in those areas. Digital divide is a great issue in the tribal areas. Sports infrastructure facilities in tribal areas are negligible. We should also try to change their way of livelihood, provide them good quality hospitals, schools, sanitation, and safe drinking water. Simply including them in the Tribal List will not work. In Chhattisgarh, there is a demand for many years to include Mahara or Mahar in SC List and Amnit in ST List. This demand has been pending for a long time. There is a need to conduct socio-economic caste census. Malnutrition among the ST is the most sensitive and a very worrying part. The atrocities against the STs have increased by 6.4 per cent in 2021. So, we seek justice for these Adivasi people and ST people.

***DR. SANJEEV KUMAR SINGARI:**

* Please see Supplement.

SHRI RAJENDRA DHEDYA GAVIT: A member from Maharashtra is demanding the inclusion of the non-tribal Dhangar caste in the Scheduled Tribes. There are about 47 tribes in Maharashtra. They have been provided 7.7 percent reservation. The Tribal Research and Training Institute, Pune and Tata Institute of Social Sciences have also clarified that the Dhangar caste cannot be accorded the status of Scheduled Tribe in the State. There are several districts in Maharashtra where small children of tribals are suffering from malnutrition while the Dhangars are better off economically, socially and educationally. The matter pertaining to fake Scheduled Tribe certificates in Maharashtra is very important. I would request that strict action should be taken in such cases.

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UTPAL KUMAR SINGH
Secretary General

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

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