

RAJYA SABHA

Parliamentary Bulletin

PART - I

(TWO HUNDRED AND FORTY SEVENTH SESSION)

No. 5429]

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 2019

Brief Record of the Proceedings of the Meeting of the Rajya Sabha held on the 4th January, 2019

*11-01 a.m.

1. Obituary Reference

The Chairman made a reference to the passing away of Dr. Rajat Kumar Chakrabarti (ex-Member).

The House observed silence, all Members standing, as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.

11-04 a.m.

2. Papers Laid on the Table

The following papers were laid on the Table:—

1. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Communications (Department of Telecommunications), Notification No. G.S.R. 1211 (E), dated the 14th December, 2018, publishing the Flight and Maritime Connectivity Rules, 2018, under sub-section (5) of Section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

2. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Telecommunications Consultants India Limited (TCIL), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

* From 11-00 a.m. to 11-01 a.m., some points were raised.

- (b) Performance Review of the above Company, for the year 2017-18.
- (ii) (a) Sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Performance Review of the above Company, for the year 2017-18.

3. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (a) Twelfth Annual Report of the National Statistical Commission (NSC), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18.
- (b) Action Taken Report on the recommendations contained in the above-said Report.

4. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, under Section 55 of the Aadhaar (Targetted Delivery of Financial and other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016:—

- (1) No. 13012/79/2017/Legal-UIDAI (13) (No. 2 of 2018), dated the 31st July, 2018, publishing the Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) (Sixth Amendment) Regulations, 2018 (No. 2 of 2018).
- (2) G.S.R. 1135 (E), dated the 20th November, 2018, publishing the Unique Identification Authority of India (Form of Annual Statement of Accounts) Rules 2018.

5. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Coal India Limited (CIL), Kolkata, [Volume-I and Volume-II (Part 1, 2 and 3)], along with that of its subsidiary companies, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company and its subsidiary companies.

- (ii) (a) Sixty-second Annual Report and Accounts of the NLC India Limited (*formerly Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd.*), Chennai, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the Neyveli Uttar Pradesh Power Ltd., Lucknow, a subsidiary company of the NLC India Limited, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (c) Twelfth Annual Report and Accounts of the NLC Tamilnadu Power Limited (NTPL), Chennai, a subsidiary company of the NLC India Limited, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (d) Review by Government on the working of the above Company and its subsidiary companies.
 - (iii) (a) Ninety-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), Bhadradi Kothagudem, Telangana, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
6. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—
- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Coal Mines Provident Fund Organization (CMPFO), Dhanbad, Jharkhand, for the year 2015-16, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Organization.
 - (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above.
 - (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Coal Mines Provident Fund Organization (CMPFO), Dhanbad, Jharkhand, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Organization.

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) above.

7. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under Section 85 and sub-section (4) of Section 62 of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001:—

- (a) Annual Report of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority (PPV&FR), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority (PPV&FR), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Authority.

8. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Financial Services), under sub-section (4) of Section 23A of the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976:—

- (1) G.S.R. 6254 (E), dated the 21st December, 2018, regarding amalgamation of Madhya Bihar Gramin Bank and Uttar Bihar Gramin Bank into a single Regional Bank, which shall be called as Dakshin Bihar Gramin Bank with its head office at Patna under the sponsorship of Punjab National Bank, with effect from the 1st day of January, 2019.
- (2) G.S.R. 6255 (E), dated the 21st December, 2018, regarding amalgamation of Punjab Gramin Bank, Malwa Gramin Bank and Sutej Gramin Bank into a single Regional Bank, which shall be called as Punjab Gramin with its head office at Kapurthala under the sponsorship of Punjab National Bank, with effect from the 1st day of January, 2019.

9. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Financial Services), Notification No. G.S.R. 2 (E), dated the 2nd January, 2019, publishing the Amalgamation of Vijaya Bank and Dena Bank with Bank of Baroda Scheme, 2019, under sub-section (6) of Section 9 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970; and sub-section (6) of Section 9 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980.

10.(1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—

- (a) Forty-sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the Goa Meat Complex Limited, Panjim, Goa, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.

(2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

11. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—

- (i) (a) Thirty-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
- (ii) (a) Sixty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL), Pune, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.

12. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs) Notification No. G.S.R. 335 (E), dated the 5th April, 2018, publishing the Consumer Protection (Administrative Control Over the State Commission and the District Forum) Regulations, 2018, under sub-section (1) of Section 31 of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

13. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution), under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:—

- (1) G.S.R. 780 (E) Ess. Com./ Sugar, dated the 14th August, 2018, publishing the Levy Sugar Supply (Control) Amendment Order, 2018.

- (2) S.O. 5258 (E), dated the 12th October, 2018, publishing the Sugarcane (Control) (Second Amendment) Order, 2018.

14. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department), Notification S.O. 5196 (E), dated the 10th October, 2018, publishing the Conduct of Elections (Amendment) Rules, 2018, under sub-section (3) of Section 169 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

15.(1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (5) of Section 18 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987:—

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), New Delhi, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

(2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

16. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (i) (a) Sixty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Law Institute (ILI), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (ii) Two Hundred Seventy-first Report of the Law Commission of India on the Human DNA Profiling –A draft Bill for the Use and Regulation of DNA-Based Technology (July, 2017).
- (iii) Two Hundred Seventy-second Report of the Law Commission of India on the Assessment of Statutory Frameworks of Tribunals in India (October, 2017).
- (iv) Two Hundred Seventy-third Report of the Law Commission of India on the Implementation of 'United Nations Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment' through Legislation (October, 2017).
- (v) Two Hundred Seventy-fourth Report of the Law Commission of India on the Review of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971 (Limited to Section 2 of the Act) (April, 2018).

- (vi) Two Hundred Seventy-fifth Report of the Law Commission of India on the Legal Framework: BCCI *vis-à-vis* Right To Information Act, 2005 (April, 2018).
- (vii) Two Hundred Seventy-sixth Report of the Law Commission of India on the Legal Framework: Gambling and Sports Betting Including in Cricket in India (July, 2018).

17.(1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (3) of Section 29 of the Central Agricultural University Act, 1992:—

- (a) Annual Report of the Central Agricultural University, Imphal, Manipur, for the year 2016-17.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above University.

(2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

18.(1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 30 of the Central Agricultural University Act, 1992:—

- (a) Annual Accounts of the Central Agricultural University, Imphal, Manipur, for the year 2015-16, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above University.

(2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

19. A copy in (English and Hindi) of the Statement giving reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited (J&K HPMC), Srinagar, for the years 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18, within the stipulated period.

11-06 a.m.

3. Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy

Shri Manish Gupta laid on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy (2018-19):—

- (i) Forty-second Report on 'Stressed/Non-Performing Assets in Gas based Power Plants' pertaining to the Ministry of Power; and
- (ii) Forty-third Report on 'Hydro Power' pertaining to the Ministry of Power.

4. Statements of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy

Shri Manish Gupta laid on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Statements of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy (2018-19):—

- (i) Action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I of the Twenty-ninth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Energy on action taken by the Government on the Recommendations contained in the Twenty-sixth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Demands for the Grants of the Ministry of Power for the year 2017-18; and
- (ii) Action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I of the Forty-first Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Energy on action taken by the Government on the Recommendations contained in the Thirty-eighth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Demands for the Grants of the Ministry of Power for the year 2018-19.

5. Reports of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

Shri Ramkumar Verma laid on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (2018-19):—

- (i) Twenty-eighth Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty-seventh Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the subject “Implementation of schemes for Beedi workers with particular reference to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes” pertaining to the Ministry of Labour & Employment.
- (ii) Twenty-ninth Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Twelfth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the subject “Representation of SCs/STs in Services and Redressal of their grievances and credit facilities being provided by IDBI Bank to SCs/STs” pertaining to the Ministry of Finance (Department of Financial Services).

6. Statement of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

Shrimati Wansuk Syiem laid on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the final action taken Statement of the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter I of the Twenty-first Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes regarding action taken by the Government on the Eleventh Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on “Reservation for and Employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)” pertaining to the Ministry of Communications (Department of Telecommunications).

11-07 a.m.

7. Statements by Ministers

1. Shri Parshottam Rupala, Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, laid on

the Table, a statement (in English and Hindi) regarding Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the Twenty-ninth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture on "Impact of Chemical Fertilizers and Pesticides on Agriculture and Allied Sectors in the country" pertaining to the Department of Agricultural Research and Education, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

^ç2. Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of State in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, the Ministry of Shipping and the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, laid on the Table, a statement (in English and Hindi) regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Two Hundred and Sixtieth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on Demands for Grants (2018-19) pertaining to the Ministry of Shipping.

11-08 a.m.

8. Motion for extending the tenure of Committee on Welfare of OBCs

Shri Vijay Goel, Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, moved the following Motion:—

“That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha to suspend the para 3 of the Motion adopted by Lok Sabha on 22.07.2014 and to extend the tenure of present members of Rajya Sabha on the Committee on Welfare of Other Backward Classes (2018-19) upto the last day of the tenure of the present Lok Sabha, as adopted by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on 20.12.2018.”

The motion was adopted.

^ð11-13 a.m.

9. Matters raised with Permission

1. Shrimati Jaya Bachchan raised a matter regarding lack of representation of women in Parliament.

^ç At 11-57 a.m.

^ð From 11-10 a.m. to 11-13 a.m., some points were raised.

Shrimati Thota Seetharama Lakshmi, Shrimati Shanta Chhetri, Shrimati Jharna Das Baidya, Shrimati Vijila Sathyananth, Dr. Sonal Mansingh, Shrimati Kanimozhi, Shrimati Viplove Thakur, Shrimati Kahkashan Perween and Shrimati Sampatiya Uikey, also spoke.

11-38 a.m.

2. Shri Ram Kumar Kashyap raised a matter regarding delay at toll plazas leading to wastage of fuel and pollution.

11-40 a.m.

3. Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad raised a matter regarding ban on operation of boats in Ganga River in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.

11-43 a.m.

4. Shri K.K. Ragesh raised a matter regarding rebuilding efforts after floods in Kerala.

11-46 a.m.

5. Shri Madhusudan Mistry raised a matter regarding need for opening of border at Svirgam in Banaskantha district, Gujarat.

11-49 a.m.

6. Shri Swapan Dasgupta raised a matter regarding need for constituting a committee on clause 6 of Assam Accord.

11-52 a.m.

7. Shri Partap Singh Bajwa raised a matter regarding Electric Vehicle Policy

11-54 a.m.

8. Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy raised a matter regarding need to release Andhra Pradesh fishermen held hostage by Pakistan.

11-56 a.m.

9. Shrimati Shanta Chhetri raised a matter regarding need for a Circuit Bench of Calcutta High Court at Jalpaiguri.

♦ 11-58 a.m.

10. Shri Ravi Prakash Verma raised a matter regarding measures to prevent accidents due to Fog on National Highways.

△ 12-00 Noon

10. Starred Questions

Starred Question Nos. 241 to 255 were orally answered.

11. Unstarred Questions

Answers to Unstarred Question Nos. 2561 to 2720 were laid on the Table.

1-00 p.m.

The House adjourned and re-assembled at 2-30 p.m.

2-30 p.m.

12. Private Members' Resolutions — Negatived/Withdrawn

(1) Further discussion on the following Resolution moved by Shri Tiruchi Siva on the 10th August, 2018, continued:—

"Having regard to the fact that:-

- (i) according to the Census of 2011, the population of widows in India is 4,32,61,278 which accounts for 7.37 percent of the female population in India, which is the largest population of widows in the entire world;
- (ii) widowhood in India is not an ideal social condition and remarriage of widows is a rare phenomenon as widows in India face problems on economic, social, legal and health fronts;
- (iii) most of the widowed women do not have any formal training or education and as a result they are not able to find any employment to earn their livelihood and the conditions are worse

♦ From 11-57 a.m. to 11-58 a.m., see item at Sl. No. 7 (2).

△ From 11-59 a.m. to 12-00 Noon, some points were raised.

for those widows who belong to the unorganised sector, which constitutes 70 percent of India's population;

- (iv) customs in the Indian society are still engrained in age old practices where death of the husband is a social phenomenon in the society which affects every aspect of the life of the widow and many of them suffer a social death;
- (v) the old structures of joint family are being transformed into new structures of nuclear family which are not able to support the widows as around 72 percent of the female population above the age of 60 years is dependent population;
- (vi) around 60 percent of the population of widows is in the age group of 70 -74 years, who require appropriate health care facilities, but contrary to that healthcare of widows is considered as a taboo and they do not have access to basic healthcare;
- (vii) widows are given property rights under the Hindu Succession Act, 1956, but most widows are unaware of these rights and they suffer from the conflicts for the inheritance of property;
- (viii) a study conducted by the National Commission for Women in 2016 on the condition of widows in Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal stated that 84 percent of women who live in *Swadhar Greh* homes had no access to any family property and 15 percent had no access because their children or other family members had taken away the property;
- (ix) religious places like Vrindavan, Mathura, Varanasi, etc., have become home for a large number of destitute widows from all around the country who have been left by their kiths and kins and are solely dependent on the state for their food and shelter and do not have any means of livelihood;
- (x) currently the Central Government does not have any specific scheme for the welfare of widows except for the Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme whereas *Swadhar Greh* Scheme and Short Stay Home Scheme are not specifically meant for widows and cater to all categories of destitute women; and
- (xi) there is no specific law or scheme addressing needs of the widows in the country, despite the fact that it has the largest population of widows in the entire world which must be

recognised as a special category of destitute women, as they suffer from mental trauma and social pressures,

this House urges upon the Government to :—

- (a) bring a suitable legislation for the welfare of the widows in the country, which is able to address their social security needs;
- (b) extend adequate financial assistance at par with current living standards to the destitute widows;
- (c) frame a policy that enables widows to get appropriate legal aid and health care;
- (d) initiate awareness programmes to make people more sensitive to the social pressures faced by widows in the country; and
- (e) conduct a relevant study regarding the condition of the widows in the country and use the study report to take necessary steps for their welfare."

2-30 p.m.

Dr. Virendra Kumar, Minister of State in the Ministry of Women and Child Development and Ministry of Minority Affairs, concluded his speech.

2-38 p.m.

Shri Tiruchi Siva replied to the discussion.

2-57 p.m.

The Resolution was put to the vote of the House and the House divided—

Ayes — @ 23

Noes — @ 35

3-02 p.m.

The Resolution was negated by the House.

@ Subject to correction.

3-03 p.m.

(2) Dr. Vikas Mahatme moved the following Resolution:—

"Having regard to the fact that:-

- (i) policies regarding the use of affirmative action and reservation benefits for the upliftment and the benefit of the most deprived, backward and marginalised groups have existed since independence, with a reservation percentage of 15% for Scheduled Castes (SC), 7.5% for Scheduled Tribes (ST) and 27% for Other Backward Classes (OBC) in public sector employment, Central Government aided educational institutions along with other affirmative programmes;
- (ii) despite the long history of the reservation benefits in India, the existing method of implementing the policy has failed to incorporate the weakest groups into the mainstream society and has created a sense of dissatisfaction among the groups who have been denied adequate reservation benefits;
- (iii) according to a consultation paper prepared by the Commission to Examine Sub-Categorisation of OBCs, which has been cited in various newspaper reports, around 97% of all reservation benefits at the central level for OBCs have been acquired by about 25% of OBC groups, and 37% OBC groups have not received any representation at all, based on an analysis of 1.3 lakh central jobs given under OBC quota over the last five years and OBC admissions to central higher education institutions in the last three years;
- (iv) according to the same report, 994 OBC communities have only received 2.68% benefits, while 10 OBC communities have availed of as much as 24.95% of jobs and admissions;
- (v) there are certain communities such as the Yadav, Kurmi, Jat, Saini, Thevar, Ezhava and Vokkaliga, that have acquired most reservation benefits, at the expense of other groups; and
- (vi) despite the abolition of the cruel practice of untouchability, prejudice and discrimination persists among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and although reservation in central government jobs and educational institutes has been provided to them, the

representation of SCs and STs in public sector employment and central education institutions remains poor,

this House, urges upon the Government to:-

- (a) recognise that the existing method of implementing reservation policies is flawed, as it assumes that every group and individual classified as an SC, ST or OBC, is equally backward and deprived which is not true and we continue to treat unequals as equals;
- (b) adopt a new method of implementing reservation benefits, namely the "Weighted Indexing System", which will prioritise reservations by taking into account the relevant social and educational criteria to assess the backwardness of every individual and assign a score to every individual belonging to an SC, ST or OBC group without changing the existing percentage of reservation benefits or the list of castes in SC, ST or OBC;
- (c) appoint a Commission, whose primary function will be to determine the criteria for assessing backwardness, which will include, but not be limited to, educational qualification of parents (literate, illiterate etc.), family background, gender, place of residence (rural or urban), and create a statistical formula to determine the Weighted Indexing System score for every individual;
- (d) entrust the said Commission with other related functions, such as ensuring all posts reserved for SCs, STs and OBCs in Central Government institutions are being filled by the most deserving individuals and preventing discriminatory treatment of individuals based on their Weighted Indexing System score; and
- (e) conduct surveys at regular intervals to examine the backwardness of individuals and communities to check whether the Weighted Indexing System is being implemented effectively and also ensure that the criteria for assessing backwardness is flexible, so as to change the same based on the prevalent social and economic conditions."

The following Members took part in the discussion:—

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| 3-30 p.m. | 1. | Shri B.K. Hariprasad |
| 3-46 p.m. | 2. | Mahant Shambhuprasadji Tundiya |

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| 3-58 p.m. | 3. | Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad |
| 4-05 p.m. | 4. | Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha |
| 4-15 p.m. | 5. | Shri T.K.S. Elangovan |
| 4-22 p.m. | 6. | Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah |
| 4-34 p.m. | 7. | Shri Ram Kumar Verma |
| 4-40 p.m. | 8. | Shri Javed Ali Khan |
| 4-47 p.m. | 9. | Shri Sanjay Singh |
| 4-55 p.m. | 10. | Dr. Jitendra Singh, <i>Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Space</i> |

5-04 p.m.

Dr. Vikas Mahatme replied to the discussion.

5-17 p.m.

The Resolution was withdrawn by the leave of the House.

5-18 p.m.

13. Special Mention

Dr. Subramanian Swamy made a Special Mention regarding need to relax the construction guidelines for private people in the vicinity of Air Force and Navy establishments.

5-20 p.m.

The House adjourned till 11-00 a.m. on Monday, the 7th January, 2019.

DESH DEEPAK VERMA,
Secretary-General