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-VKK/BHS-PSV/4B/6.00

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (CONTD.): Secondly, this Bill, in toto, has accepted the National Knowledge Commission 2007 recommendations. Thirdly, the recommendations made by Yashpal Committee, as stated in the Report, have also been incorporated in this Bill relating to renovation and rejuvenation of higher education. Therefore, this Bill has to be supported and it has to be passed by the Parliament. However, I have two concerns about this.

One is that while this Bill grants additional autonomy, it does not address an important suggestion made by the Bhargava Commission. That is one thing.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Vijayasai Reddy, please.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, there are only two issues.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, it is 6 o' clock now. If you all wish, we can complete this Bill and then.....(Interruptions)... Only three speakers are there. One Mr. Raja and two *praja*; so, there would not be any problem. ...(Interruptions)... So, please could I have the permission of the House to continue? ...(Interruptions)... Shri Vijayasai Reddy. ...(Interruptions)...

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SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Sir, we have withdrawn our speakers. Let the Ruling Party withdraw their speakers also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: To my knowledge, there is nobody from there. So do not worry. I will keep in mind what you have said. Mr. Reddy, one more minute. Then, Mr. D. Raja and then one more Member.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, the second aspect which I want hon. Minister to consider is that the Bill, if passed, the management of the IIM funds will be done by Board of Governors whereas in the case of IITs and All India Institute of Medical Sciences, it is quite contrary. There, it is the Central Government which approves the usage of funds. There is a distinction. I do not know whether advertently or inadvertently the Government is making such a distinction.

Thirdly, the Bill, if passed, the IIM's Director pay will be determined by the Board of Governors whereas in the case of IITs and IIMs it is quite contrary. Probably, my question to the hon. Minister is this. Is the Minister planning similar bills and similar amendments with regard to IIMs and AIIMS also? That is all, Sir.

(Ends)

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MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Vijayasai Reddy. Mr. D. Raja, you have three minutes time please.

SHRI D. RAJA (TAMIL NADU): Thank you Sir. This is a very important Bill. I would like to make a few specific points and a few general issues.

One is that this Bill provides autonomy to 20 institutions. How do we understand autonomy? This autonomy cannot be an absolute one. This autonomy can remain a relative one. Why I am saying this is because today the institutions of higher learning are passing through very critical time. They are all tense. There are issues related to ensuring and safeguarding academic freedom. There are issues related to social discrimination in the institutions of higher learning. How are you going to ensure the academic freedom in these institutions? How are you going to end social discrimination in these institutions? How is autonomy going to help achieve these two goals? This is one issue.

Second issue is related to chapter 3 of the Bill where you talk about Board of Governors. When we say, the Board of Governors, you talk about representation to women, representation to Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes. How are you going to monitor that because in all public sector institutions I come across the routine answer - non-availability of eligible

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candidates, non-availability of suitable candidates and this should not be an excuse to eliminate anybody coming forward or getting into that Board of Governors. How are you going to monitor it? How are you going to ensure that there is representation to SCs and STs and there is representation to OBCs also? Why not? Today, we are discussing about a separate Commission for OBCs.

(Contd. by RL/4C)

-BHS/RL-VNK/6.05/4C

SHRI D. RAJA (CONTD.): And, there is a Bill going to come. How are we going to ensure that because these are all sections which have been deprived for ages together and they need to have that? That is one thing, and you should think of that in Chapter III. The students also should have participation in the policy making bodies of these institutions. Having said that, Sir, finally, I come to some of the general issues that providing education, providing healthcare, providing decent dwelling for all of our citizens must be the concern of any Government if we say that that Government is a welfare Government and that State is a welfare State. That must be the concern. Now, are we in a position? For instance, for education, what is the spending? It is not even 6 per cent. The Kothari

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Commission way back in 1960s asked for 6 per cent of GDP to be spent on education.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Rajaji, please conclude.

SHRI D. RAJA: I am completing, Sir. Now, we are in 2017 and we should talk of spending 12 per cent, 15 per cent on education. We are approaching the Budget Session. As a Minister, you should take up this issue in the Cabinet and the whole House will support you. We will support you. There should be more spending on education. Sir, having said that, when we look at the education as a whole system, one should not try to make it an issue which divides people. For instance, in search of Indianness, in search of Indian mind, we cannot go back to the past. The golden age does not lie in the past. The golden age really lies in the future.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, Rajaji, please conclude.

SHRI D.RAJA: That is how humanity advances and as Indians, we should also understand that we should move forward and continue to move forward towards the golden age. These are the issues that the Government should address.

(Ends)

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MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Anil Desai. Shri Anil Desai, you have three-and-a-half minutes.

SHRI ANIL DESAI (MAHARASHTRA): Sir, I rise to support the Indian Institutes of Management Bill, 2017. I personally congratulate the HRD Minister for taking this very important Bill which will take our education to a great height. The IIMs, as they are known, are premier institutes in the country, be it IIM Bangalore, IIM Ahmedabad, IIM Kolkata. These institutes have really contributed towards producing some good talents. Now, talent scouting, whenever it takes place in these institutes, of course, every candidate who is enrolled in these institutes comes out and really gets good opportunities in the corporate world. But, the thing which needs to be taken care of is that these brains, these intelligent stock, which is coming out of these institutes, which is low in number, be retained in the country. The usual practice is that after their completion, they are career-oriented and they fly to their destinations. I think, the Minister should be having some idea as to how to make use of it.

Then, another point, which I would like to make, in this, is that all the things have been taken care of. It is a very comprehensive Bill which is being enacted like if the Government has given the autonomy to these

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institutes but kept a good check by way of introducing CAG audit, and other balances also have been done to see that they remain in their domain of work and really contribute handsomely to the economy. Apart from what has been said about the reservations for the faculty, for the Board of Governors, those who will be there in every gurukulam, the major thing is that opportunity should be evenly given to the students because fees are so high and it is a very secluded or very, very distinct nature of education what you get. And, as has been said by Shri Naresh Agrawal, who made a point that students who come from rural areas, they don't enough opportunity. So, economically backward sections should also be given that kind of opportunity, those who have talents. Talent scouting should be done on that basis.

(CONTD. BY DC/4D)

-RL/DC-NKR/4D/6.10

SHRI ANIL DESAI (CONTD.): I think in this way the Minister has taken a step in this direction. Whether it is the State of Maharashtra, our university education also needs to be taken care of. Though education is a Concurrent subject, but as he comes from Maharashtra, he knows what is happening in Mumbai University. Not only the standard of education is

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deteriorating, but, overall, education has got a stigma, which needs to be corrected and this is high time. We can depend upon hon. Javadekarji, who handles HRD, that he will definitely do good to the Mumbai University. With this, I support this Bill. Thank you.

(Ends)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Jairam Ramesh. You have just two minutes.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (KARNATAKA): Sir, I have only one question to ask of the hon. Minister. Sir, the crux of this Bill is Section 10 and the whole Bill, the innovation in this Bill is the Board of Governors. We are really giving to the Board of Governors all the powers of the Government and this is to be welcomed. However, the question I have is: Who will appoint the Board of Governors and what is the criterion that you are going to adopt? In Section 10, it is very clear. However, these institutes already have Boards; IIM, Calcutta has a Board, IIM, Bangalore has a Board. Every IIM has a Board. So my question to the Minister is: Will these Boards stand disbanded once this Bill comes into effect or whether the existing Board will get converted into the Board of Governors? If the existing Board gets converted into the Board of Governors, then, I am afraid, if you look at the provisions of Section 10, the entire existing Board has to be recast to bring it in consonance with

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Section 10. There is a transition problem. We are not starting IIMs afresh. We already have a large number of IIMs with existing Boards. I would like the hon. Minister to clarify, one, what happens to the existing boards; two, how they will become consonant with Section 10; and, three, how will transparency be ensured in the selection of Board members. Sir, my request to the hon. Minister is, for the selection of Board, only academic scholarship and professional excellence should be the criterion. Political affiliations, ideology should be irrelevant. Only academic excellence, professional excellence and qualification should be the criteria. So how do you ensure transparency in the selection of the Board members because they are going to determine the future of these institutes?

(Ends)

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): Sir, I am very happy that all the Members who spoke today, starting from Prof. Rajeev Gowda, Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabuddhe, Shri Naresh Agrawal, Shri N. Gokulakrishnan, Shri Md. Nadimul Haque, Shrimati Kahkashan Perween, Shri Prasanna Acharya, Shri K. Somaprasad, Shri Vijayasai Reddy, Shri D. Raja, Shri Anil Desai and Shri Jairam Ramesh, all have supported this. So, this is a new beginning and

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that new beginning is its degree-granting power. They will now be doing Ph.Ds also. So the hurdles on the paths of students will go and that is the first benefit, which is welcomed by everybody. Second is autonomy. We must start believing in our best institutes, their leadership and management, and this is the beginning of it. Many people raised the question that what will happen to other institutes. So, we are also thinking of according graded autonomy to the best institutes depending on their quality benchmarks, on their NAAC ranking, on their MBA ranking. Depending upon the ranking, accreditation and on marks, we want to give grant, more freedom to the best institutes. क्योंकि हमारे देश में ऐसा होता है कि यदि हम साधु को सामने रखकर नियम बनाते हैं तो चोर को अवसर मिलता है और चोर को सामने रखकर नियम बनाते हैं तो साधु को तकलीफ होती है। देश में जो अच्छे institutes हैं, उन्हें freedom होनी चाहिए और इसीलिए graded autonomy की कल्पना की गई है। जिन 20 विश्वस्तरीय universities का selection होने वाला है, जिसमें 100 से ज्यादा हमारे पास applications आई हैं, यह quest for quality है, quest for excellence है। It is a good and healthy competition, which we are bringing and, therefore, they will also get complete freedom like what we are giving here. So, it is not one of the things.

(Contd. by KR/4E)

KR-DS/4E/6.15

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR (CONTD.): It is a theme which we are taking. Second, एक शंका व्यक्त की गई है और मुझे लगता है कि हमारा एक माइंडसेट होता है। हमारे बच्चे जब बड़े होते हैं, तब हम कितना विश्वास करते हैं? हमारे मन में यह रहता है कि आज़ादी तो देनी चाहिए, लेकिन कितनी आज़ादी दें, कितनी autonomy दें। As parents we must trust our children and teach them good thinking process and get them educated. We must believe in them and trust them. The same philosophy applies here as a nation. We must believe in our best academic institute only then will we really produce results. तो यह Self-perpetuation होगा क्या? Many suggestions have been given. I have noted every suggestion. रूल्स भी तुरंत बनेंगे। उसमें बहुत delay करने की बात नहीं है। जैसे ही आज हम यह बिल पास करेंगे, तो यह जल्द ही कानून में परिवर्तित होगा और साथ-साथ ही उसके रूल्स भी आएँ, यह हमारी कल्पना है, ताकि पिक्चर क्लियर हो।

जैसा कि जयराम रमेश जी ने पूछा, तो मेरा आज यह मानना है और जो क्लियर है कि जो existing Boards हैं, वे Boards of Governors रहेंगे, लेकिन उनमें गवर्नमेंट के जो चार रिप्रेजेंटेटिक्स हैं, वे निकलेंगे। उनमें चार alumni लाने के रूल्स हम तैयार करेंगे। वैसे ही, अगर उनमें Scheduled Castes-Scheduled Tribes नहीं हैं या उनमें women नहीं हैं, तो उनको लाने के लिए नियम में जो प्रोविज़न होगा, वह होगा और

उतना ही बदलाव होगा। आज सारे बोर्ड्स सिरे से खाली कर देंगे और नये नियुक्त करेंगे, यह कल्पना नहीं है, बल्कि जो existing Boards हैं, उनको ही आगे चलाएँगे। यहीं से यह शुरू होता है। That is the way out.

अनेक लोगों ने एक बड़ी बात कही कि गरीब छात्रों का क्या होगा। मैं गरीब छात्रों के बारे में निश्चित रूप से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि no institute will deny opportunity for good student who is meritorious, got admission after passing the CAT and eligible for admission will not be denied education only because he is poor. तो यह कभी नहीं होगा। इसके लिए तीन योजनाएँ हैं। पहला, जो एजुकेशन लोन मिलता है, वह IIM के छात्रों को adequate loan मिलता है और उसका जो इंटरेस्ट है, वह उनकी शिक्षा के काल से एक साल ज्यादा, यानी moratorium, उतने साल सरकार इंटरेस्ट वहन करती है। That is big interest subsidy. Every year we are granting hundreds of crores, and major beneficiaries are IIM graduates. Those whose parent's income bracket are below Rs.4.5 lakh per annum will be given this benefit. So, they will get interest-free loan. So, they can pay back.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, in moratorium time who will pay the interest? For the first four years, the Government is paying interest as far as period is concerned. Once the period is over, you are giving one year moratorium. I

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am told that banks are insisting that period's interest has to be paid by the student.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: No.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Government will pay.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Yes, the Government will pay. That is very clear and if there is any complaint, you can send it to us, we will definitely look into it because our nodal bank will follow it up. So, we will do that.

One more important aspect was that of students' participation. Yes, that is a good suggestion because we have come out of students' movement. So, students' participation is essential. Since it is essentially a two-year programme, we can make them participate in different programmes also because every year students would be changing. But the Board remains for five years. So, that is the issue.

Regarding periodic evaluation, as I said and Mr. Acharya ji also said, this is the best combination of autonomy plus accountability because when we are giving funds there has to be accountability to the C&AG and the rules of each institute will also come before the Subordinate Legislation. Therefore, Parliament's scrutiny will be there.

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Regarding diversity and inclusion, yes, I am all for positive, pro-active inclusive politics where we have social affirmation. Therefore, for the Ph.D. programmes we must encourage students. I am happy that participation of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribe and OBC students is increasing in all higher learning institutes. The registration of students has really picked up and practically all seats are filled.

(Continued by 4F/KS)

KS-MCM/4F/6.20

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR(CONTD.): The actual problem is that on passing out of these Institutes, students immediately get many offers from outside and, consequently, they get employed elsewhere. Therefore, academic referrals, teaching, will also have to be inculcated and promoted. That is also noted. Thus, points raised by all the hon. Members have been noted and would be kept in mind while framing the rules.

Sir, I thank the whole House for supporting the passage of this historic law.

(Ends)

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MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, the question is:

That the Bill to declare certain Institutes of management to be institutions of national importance with a view to empower these institutions to attain standards of global excellence in management, management research and allied areas of knowledge and to provide for certain other matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 4 were added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Clause 5 of the Bill. In Clause 5, there are three Amendments (Nos. 1, 2 and 3) by Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy. He is absent.

Clause 5 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Clause 6. In Clause 6, there is one Amendment (No. 4) by Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy. He is absent.

Clause 6 was added to the Bill.

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MR. CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Clause 7. In Clause 7, there is one Amendment by Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy. He is absent.

*Clause 7 was added to the Bill.
Clauses 8 & 9 were added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Clause 10. In Clause 10, there is one Amendment by Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy; he is not present.

Clause 10 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Clause 11. In Clause 11, there is one Amendment (No. 9) by Shri Ripun Bora. Mr. Bora, are you moving?

SHRI RIPUN BORA: No, Sir; I am satisfied with the reply given by the hon. Minister. So, I am not moving the amendment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Ripun Bora.

*Clause 11 was added to the Bill.
Clauses 12 to 27 were added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Clause 28. In Clause 28, there is one Amendment (No. 10) by Shri Ripun Bora. Mr. Bora, are you moving it?

SHRI RIPUN BORA: No, Sir. I am not moving it. The Minister has already replied to this.

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MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

Clause 28 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 29 to 36 were added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Clause 37. In Clause 37, there is one Amendment (No. 11) by Shri Ripun Bora. Mr. Bora, are you moving it?

SHRI RIPUN BORA: No, Sir. I am not moving it. I am satisfied with the Minister's reply.

Clause 37 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 38, 39 and The Schedule were added to the Bill.

(CONTD. BY KGG/4G)

KGG-SC/4G/6.25

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Sir, I move:

That the Bill be passed.

The motion was adopted.

(Ends)

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MESSAGES FROM LOK SABHA

- (i) **The Repealing and Amending Bill, 2017**
- (ii) **The Repealing and Amending (Second) Bill, 2017**

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SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report to the House the following messages received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha:-

(I)

“In accordance with provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Repealing and Amending Bill, 2017, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 19th December, 2017.

(II)

“In accordance with provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Repealing and Amending (Second) Bill, 2017, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 19th December, 2017.

Sir, I lay a copy of each of the Bills on the Table.

(Ends)

SPECIAL MENTIONS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Friends, यह friends वाली आदत बचपन से बन गयी है। Hon. Members, I have some Special Mentions. They have to be laid on the Table of the House. Please bear with me for a few minutes; it would be over.

Shri Santiuse Kujur is absent; Shrimati Sasikala Pushpa is absent; Shri Ram Kumar Kashyap is absent. ...(Interruptions)...

HK/9A

***DEMAND FOR ABOLISHING CONTRIBUTORY PENSION SCHEME AND
REVERT TO OLD PENSION SCHEME**

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (ANDHRA PRADESH): Sir, pension is a social security cover after retirement from Government service and it is misnomer that it is given as charity; rather, it is the right of every employee. Even if one looks at Supreme Court judgement of 1982, it becomes clear that pension is required for self-respect, living independently and sobering without any problems. But, instead of making OPS stronger, Government succumbed to World Bank's pressure and replaced OPS with CPS.

***Laid on the Table.**

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After shabby implementation of CPS, employees are demanding to revert to OPS because there is no clarity on payment of benefits after retirement or on sudden death of an employee. And, if you look at teachers, they are in more pitiable condition that even after deducting 10 per cent share and 10 per cent from Government, there is no guarantee that they would get minimum pension.

In OPS, Government itself pays gratuity and commutation based on approved calculation. But in CPS there is no guarantee how much pension employee gets even after paying employees' share value up to retirement. Government cannot give any guarantee except depending on share market. And, pension benefits like gratuity, family pension, commutation and GPF were removed under this. Secondly, every employee has to pay 30 per cent as income tax on amount received after retirement.

There are 56 lakh employees. Out of which, 1.8 lakh are in Andhra Pradesh under CPS Scheme. All employees in States and UTs are agitating to revert back to OPS. I also strongly feel that their demand is genuine and demand the Government of India to immediately revert back to OPS without further delay.

(Ends)

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (TELANGANA): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

KSK/9B

***DEMAND FOR CREATING SEPARATE MINISTRY FOR FISHERIES**

SHRI K.K. RAGESH (KERALA): Sir, I would like to submit the need for establishing a separate Ministry for fisheries while considering the extensity of the current and potential activities in the fisheries sector in India. According to National Fisheries Development Board, Government of India, the sector is engaging about fourteen million people in different activities. Constituting about 6.3 per cent of the global fish production, the sector contributes to 1.1 per cent of the GDP and 5.15 per cent of the agricultural GDP. Fish and fish products have presently emerged as the largest group in agricultural exports of India, with 10.51 lakh tonnes in terms of quantity and Rs.33,442 crores in value. This accounts for around 10 per cent of the total exports of the country and nearly 20 per cent of the agricultural exports.

***Laid on the Table.**

More than 50 different types of fish and shellfish products are exported to 75 countries around the world. Globally, Indian fisheries have third largest position in fisheries, and second in aquaculture. However, the fisheries sector is prone to the unhealthy tendencies such as exploitation of fishermen by middlemen in the market. The current facilities for processing and value addition are not sufficient to ensure sustainable income to the fishermen and the increasing market opportunities. Further, the sector is prone to constant turbulence caused by natural calamities and climate change. A separate Ministry at Centre for Fisheries would be helpful to co-ordinate the activities in the sector towards giving holistic attention to the fisheries and allied activities in India.

(Ends)

...(Interruptions)...

**DEMAND FOR INCLUDING MAHAR, MEHARA, MEHAR AND MAHARA
CASTES OF CHHATTISGARH INTO CATEGORY OF
SCHEDULED CASTES**

श्री पी.एल.पुनिया (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, भारत सरकार द्वारा 18 दिसम्बर, 2002 को एक "भारत का राजपत्र" जारी किया गया था, जिसमें मध्य प्रदेश की महार, मेहरा, मेहर, महारा जाति को अनुसूचित जाति में शामिल किया गया था। अभ्यावेदन की

कार्यवाही 1996 में की गयी थी और छत्तीसगढ़ का गठन वर्ष 2000 में हुआ था। इस कारण इन जातियों को छत्तीसगढ़ में अनुसूचित जाति को दी जा रही सुविधाएं नहीं मिलीं।

छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य में महार, मेहरा, मेहर, महारा जाति सामाजिक, धार्मिक एवं सांस्कृतिक रूप से अनुसूचित जाति श्रेणी की हैं। इन्हें अनुसूचित जाति में शामिल किए जाने के लिए छत्तीसगढ़ शासन द्वारा 2008 एवं 2009 तथा 13 जून, 2016 में प्रस्ताव बनाकर सामाजिक न्याय एवं अधिकारिता मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार को भेजा गया, लेकिन अभी तक इन लोगों को न्याय नहीं मिल सका है।

अतः मेरा आपके माध्यम से निवेदन है कि सामाजिक, आर्थिक रूप से पिछड़ी महार, मेहरा, मेहर, महारा जाति को छत्तीसगढ़ में अनुसूचित जाति में शामिल करने की तत्काल कार्यवाही की जाए, जिससे इन जातियों को आरक्षण का लाभ मिल सकेगा तथा विसंगति दूर हो सकेगी, धन्यवाद।

(समाप्त)

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (TELANGANA): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

(Ends)

RL/9C

***DEMAND FOR REMOVING CAP OF RUPEES TEN THOUSAND
IMPOSED ON REIMBURSEMENT OF EDUCATION FEE OF CHILDREN
OF MARTYRS IN COUNTRY**

SHRI ANIL DESAI (MAHARASHTRA): Sir, it is totally unfair on the part of the Defence Ministry to impose a cap of Rs. 10,000 on the education fee reimbursement for children of martyrs from 1st July, 2017 following the recommendations of the Seventh Pay Commission. I am surprised as to how our Government which claims to be pro-poor can act in such a manner to the widow and children of the persons who sacrificed their lives for the safety of our people and the nation. We must and should always be grateful to their martyrdom.

More than 10,000 Armed Forces personnel died in India between 1994 and 2017 according to the South Asia Terrorism Portal. Jawans across the country face threats at many levels. Apart from action on the nation's frontiers, counter-insurgency operations across States hit by separatist

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movements and social unrest often leave a soldier's family without a bread winner.

On the one hand, we shower lakhs of rupees to a cricket team or winners in any game but on the other hand, we are deciding to withdraw education reimbursement for the children of a Shaheed and deny them more than rupees Rs. 10,000, the cost of education, hostel and books. It is not graceful at all. A gesture to convey the country's gratitude and support towards the children and widows of soldiers who have laid down their lives for the nation may cost the exchequer a few crores, but discontinuing it sends out a wrong message.

I urge the Government to remove the cap immediately and convey our Armed Forces and Paramilitary Forces that the people and the Government of the country is and will always be grateful for their sacrifice.

(Ends)

KLG/9D

*** DEMAND FOR TAKING STEPS TO PROTECT CHILDREN
FROM HARMFUL AND VIOLENT ONLINE GAMES**

श्री नारायण लाल पंचारिया (राजस्थान): महोदय, मैं सरकार का ध्यान ऑनलाइन गेमों से बच्चों को होने वाले जोखिम की ओर आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ। ऐसी ही एक गेम "ब्लू व्हेल चैलेंज" है। इसमें बच्चों को भटका कर उन्हें खतरनाक टास्क करने के लिए प्रेरित किया जाता है। इसमें अपना हाथ गोदने से लेकर आत्महत्या करने तक के टास्क दिए जाते हैं, जिससे अब तक दुनिया भर में लगभग 130 बच्चों की मृत्यु हो चुकी है।

ऐसे ही एक मामले में जयपुर का एक स्कूली छात्र ब्लू व्हेल गेम का टास्क पूरा करने के लिए स्कूल और घर छोड़ कर मुम्बई पहुंच गया। यद्यपि पुलिस द्वारा समय पर कार्यवाही के कारण उस छात्र को मुम्बई से सुरक्षित बचा लिया गया, परन्तु देश के अन्य भागों में कुछ अन्य मामलों में हम इतने भाग्यशाली नहीं रहे।

इसके अतिरिक्त कई अन्य गेम हैं, जो बच्चों की मानसिकता पर बहुत प्रतिकूल प्रभाव डाल रहे हैं। इन गेमों में बच्चे वर्चुअल दुनिया में चोरी करना, गाड़ी छीनना, ट्रैफिक नियम तोड़ना, पुलिस से भागना और अन्य हिंसक कृत्य सीखते हैं, जिससे वास्तविक जीवन में भी उनमें हिंसक प्रवृत्ति विकसित होती है।

सरकार ने इस स्थिति से निपटने के लिए कदम उठाए हैं, जैसे ब्लू व्हेल के लिंक को इंटरनेट से हटाया गया है, स्कूलों को इस विषय में और संवेदनशील होने के दिशा निर्देश जारी किए गए हैं। मैं इन कदमों का स्वागत करता हूँ, साथ ही सरकार से मैं यह अनुरोध करता हूँ कि ऐसी कोई व्यवस्था बनाई जाये, जिससे इस प्रकार के हानिकारक और हिंसक गेम बच्चों तक पहुंच ही न सकें।

(समाप्त)

(Followed by KLS/4H)

KLS/4H-6.30

**COMPLAINT AGAINST AN AVIATION COMPANY
AND DEMAND TO TAKE REMEDIAL MEASURES
TO REFORM AVIATION SECTOR IN COUNTRY**

SHRI AMAR SINGH (UTTAR PRADESH): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the functioning of the Jet Airway's aircrafts which have been involved in several incidents of ground collisions, tail strike, etc., during the current year. Besides these complaints, there are complaints against its pilots who are often late on duty which has resulted in the inordinate delay of flights causing great inconvenience to passengers. This has also been reported in the Press several times but no action has been

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taken against the management as such incidents are being frequently repeated. Attention is also invited to the audit report of the United Nations Aviation Watchdog which has placed our country's aviation sector on its list of 13 worst-performing nations which has tarnished the image of our country's aviation sector.

I would request the hon. Minister to inform the house about remedial steps taken in the matter.

(Ends)

GSP/9E

***DEMAND FOR ADDRESSING PRIVACY ISSUES AND OTHER
IMPLICATIONS DUE TO AADHAAR BEING MADE MANDATORY FOR
SEVERAL WELFARE SCHEMES**

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA (WEST BENGAL): I would like to draw the attention of this House to the mandatory nature of Aadhaar, resultant exclusion of poor and the needy from the benefits of several welfare schemes and the issue of fake Aadhaar cards being printed. From various reports, it has been noted that duplicate Aadhaar cards have been issued to the same persons.

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Recently, a case came up in Maharashtra where it was found that names of around 100 farmers were linked to one Aadhaar number. In addition to cases where illegal immigrants were found with an Aadhaar card, a terrorist of Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammed was also identified with one. This problem exacerbated after this Government mandated that Aadhaar be linked to basic services such as mobile phone or bank account.

Recently, a young girl in Jharkhand starved to death because Aadhaar is mandatory for availing food grains from PDS outlets. Such denial of government benefits is in direct violation of section 7 of the Aadhaar Act. In July, it was found that a major telecom operator who used Aadhaar for SIM activation had its data breached and personal information of over 100 million Indians was leaked.

I urge the Government to follow the Supreme Court's order of 2013 and make it clear to the public that Aadhaar is voluntary. The Government should also call up stakeholders and find out the flaws in the current UIDAI system, which cause privacy breach and exclusion.

(Ends)

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (TELANGANA): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member. (Ends)

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MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu, you are associating yourself with each and every Special Mention. ...(Interruptions)... *Sab ka saath, sab ka vikas.* ...(Interruptions)... Hon. Members, I am happy that the House sat beyond 6 o' clock and then today we were able to pass two Bills. I would like to compliment all the Members for their contribution in this.

The House stands adjourned till 11.00 a.m. on Wednesday, the 20th December, 2017.

...

The House then adjourned at thirty-three minutes past six of the clock till eleven of the clock on Wednesday, the 20th December, 2017