

**RAJYA SABHA**

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**\*SUPPLEMENT  
TO  
SYNOPSIS OF DEBATE**

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**(Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)**

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**Monday, February 06, 2017/ Magha 17, 1938 (Saka)**

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**MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS -  
*Contd.***

**SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:** Whatever has been stated on behalf of Government in the Presidential Address, are false promises only. Today, the farmer is feeling himself cheated. He is not getting even his cost price. There is no mention of this fact in the Presidential Address. There is no trace of crop insurance in the entire country. Bundelkhand is reeling under distress. There is dearth of drinking and irrigation water. But, there is no mention of Bundelkhand in the Address. The youth of the country is in distress at present. All the small scale industries have been closed after demonetization. Crores of people have become unemployed and fled to their homes. Today 'MNREGA' is also in a bad plight. You are not providing funds for 'MNREGA'. The government of Uttar Pradesh has recommended Kashyap, Kahar, Nishad, Kewat, Mallah, Dhimar and Tirah to be defined by the Government of India. This is up to the Government of India to remove their discrepancies. You have to provide for more trains. The way unemployment and inflation is increasing in the country is a matter of concern today. You had

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**\*This Synopsis is not an authoritative record of the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha.**

promised that you will control inflation and remove unemployment. We want to request you to concede all of our proposed amendments.

**SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY:** I have carefully gone through the Hon. President's speech but I did not find even an iota of reference to the special-category status that was promised to the State of Andhra Pradesh. I have proposed some of the amendments and I request this august House to add the same to the Presidential Address. The special-category status is, in fact, a sentiment of the people of Andhra Pradesh. This was the assurance that was given by the then Prime Minister, Manmohan Singh ji, on the floor of this House. In the year 2014 the Union Cabinet passed a resolution granting the special category status to the state of Andhra Pradesh. This Government has not implemented it on the pretext that the 14th Finance Commission has opposed it and the neighbouring States are also opposing it. What is the sanctity of the decision taken by the Union Cabinet then. It should be implemented. Now as far as the question of special package is concerned Central Government never said that it was a Special Package for Andhra Pradesh. Finance Minister merely said that he was giving some concession to the state of Andhra Pradesh. Not just Andhra Pradesh every state in India is entitled to state's share from the Pool of Central Taxes. So there is nothing new or unique or extra what is being offered to the state of Andhra Pradesh. There is a provision that if two-third of the members elected from a particular party go out of the party it would be construed as a split and therefore it will not attract disqualification proceedings. So whichever party is in power it always takes undue advantage of this. There is need to introduce an amendment in this regard. The Women Reservation Bill should be implemented in order to empower the women.

**SHRI JOY ABRAHAM:** The President's Address to the Joint Session of Parliament is a Constitutional obligation. Unfortunately, this has become a mere ritual and now, it is just a narration of the programmes one by one. There is no new policy statement. It is unfortunate that all Central schemes are named in Hindi only. No English equivalent is given there. My humble

submission is that all the Central schemes should be supported by an equivalent English name so that the masses can understand its full implications. It has been said that this is a historic Session on account of the advancement of the Budget cycle and merger of the Railway Budget. In fact, the Railway Budget is sidelined and there are just some references. It is a public utility service and needs a special consideration. Therefore, there should be a separate Railway Budget in future. The Address gives a rosy picture of good crops, good monsoon and good rain . But the fact is that, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and other Southern States are reeling under drought. As far as demonetization is concerned, the rationing of currency was not anticipated. There was not sufficient preparation, there was not sufficient foresight. So, for the common man, it was a tragedy and the common man suffered the most. To compare demonetization with surgical strike is really an insult to our Armed Forces and their supreme sacrifices. The target may be black-money, the target may be fake currency, the target may be corruption, but, unfortunately, the target was the common man. We saw long queues, several hardships and currency rationing.

**DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA:** The Hon'ble President's Address relates to social concerns of the Government, its financial management, development works, foreign policies and all told, this is an account of works executed in the interest of nation. We have also tried to bring out something good out of the challenges, the anomalies that existed. The steps taken by the Government to achieve the sublime goal of going forward while carrying everyone with it, have got reflected in the President's Address. It was not an easy thing to carry out the surgical strike. If a challenge is posed before us, we must keep on expressing that we possess the ability to accept that challenge and we have done so. People power plays vital role in the development of a nation. This power has created an environment, an awareness in the society and the country and on account of this people power, one crore and two lakh people have forgone the gas subsidy which they used to get as central assistance. It benefitted the poor and the deprived people. I would also like to say that 'Swachh Bharat

Abhiyan' which has now turned into a mass movement, has certainly spread throughout India. The people, themselves, have accepted the measures taken to ban open defecation in the villages. The welfare of Dalits, suppressed people, exploited people and the deprived people of poor class, farmers, labourers, youths is the goal of a welfare state, our democracy. The benefits of 'Jan-Dhan Yojna' have reached to 26 crore people during this Government. The activities of public safety have been initiated through this scheme and 13 crore people have been brought under the social security sector, which is certainly an innovative effort. Under the 'Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojna' 5.6 crore loans of rupees two lakh crore have been provided. The health security of children has been talked about under the 'Indradhanush Yojna'. A number of schemes have been undertaken to remove the gender inequality. The consequences of the bold decision taken by the Prime Minister regarding black money and corruption are, certainly, going to be pleasant and protective for the people, all the money will reach to the poor at lower interest.

**SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:** We were expecting that the President's Address would include all. We cannot move further by taking only few people with us, by ignoring some in the society. How much black money has been recovered, to what extent terrorism has decreased after the decision of demonetisation, What are the data in this regard. It has been told about the cooking gas that energy scheme has been initiated and work of supplying gas in the kitchen has been under taken on a large scale. In fact, the amount they have spent to supply domestic gas is less than what they have spent on publicity. A lot of publicity is made about open defecation but the ground reality is that the open defecation is still rampant in almost every village. Today, the farmers in the country are in deep crisis. Unfortunately, the decision of demonetisation was taken on 8th November when our crop was to reach in the market, we got less than half of the price for the crops and we got into trouble. We didn't have money even for the rabi crops. No relief was provided to the farmers in Maharashtra where the number of farmer's suicide is the highest. Before coming to power they had given an assurance of providing reservation to women but

unfortunately this Government didn't provide any relief to the women. It is essential to provide reservation to women.

**SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS:** I am absolutely disappointed with the raw deal given to the State of Telangana. The Government has declared its intention to carry everyone with it, wherein the guiding principle is cooperative federalism. In the process the Union Government expects the cooperation of the various States also. Our Chief Minister supported the Government and the Prime Minister on various occasions, more so at the time of demonetization in the larger interest of the nation though it caused setback to common man. The helping hand of the Union Government is very much needed at this hour to rebuild the State which has been formed after 60 long years of struggle. It may be mentioned that being a new State, it is taking up so many schemes so fast. While extending top priority to irrigation and drinking water, other welfare schemes too have been accommodated in the State Budget. I only wish that the Government of India watches it and help the State Government accordingly. It is time for Union Government to fulfil the promises made in the State Reorganisation Act. But at this crucial juncture, when a liberal allocation of funds is rightly due to the State, the Union Budget 2017-18 have plunged us in to utter disappointment. I appeal to the Union Government to take serious steps in the direction of bifurcation of High Court. I also appeal to the hon. Prime Minister to consider adoption of 'Kaleshwaram Irrigation Project' as a National Irrigation Project. No mention has been made about the OBCs in the President's Address, I also request the Government of India, the Prime Minister specially, to consider forming a separate Ministry for the OBC's. We were all expecting that AIIMS would be announced for Telangana.

*Discussion not concluded.*

**SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,**  
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