

Dr. Mohammad Jawed

MATTER UNDER RULE 377 OF LOK SABHA

Aligarh Muslim University Financing

Aligarh Muslim University Centre, Kishanganj was established by the Government of India in the year 2013 keeping in view, shortage of educational institutions in Seemanchal region. The objective of the centre is to provide higher educational facilities to the students of Kishanganj and its adjoining districts.

In the year 2014, UPA government had allocated an amount of Rs. 136.82 crores during XII plans for establishment of Kishaganj Centre for students of Bihar against which only an amount of Rs. 10 crores have been released.

Delay in sanctioning staff is acting as an impediment for the teachers to fulfil their assigned duties and hindering the intended educational activities of the institution. I humbly request you to kindly sanction the post of teaching and non-teaching staff for the authorities to commence their teaching duties in the AMU Centre, Kishanganj.

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Floods in Bihar

In light of the recent floods due to uncontrolled and non-regulated flow of water from river basins around Bihar, several districts have been hit horrendously leading to the destruction of their homes and livelihood. The flood-affected blocks are facing substantial damages and erosion of embankments is leading to the flow of water into residential areas and farmlands as well. It is a matter of grave concern for the rural population of Bihar that their homes and livelihood have been uprooted because of the lack of pre-planned flood containment measures that should've been taken at the earliest.

The affected areas require urgent attention for minor developments to contain the floods in the region to save the livelihood of the rural population inhabiting these areas. Capacity and Confidence-building measures need to be discussed at the earliest under the purview of National Disaster Management's Flood Management programme.

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Embankment erosion in Kishanganj due to floods

In light of the recent floods due to uncontrolled and non-regulated flow of water from river basins around Bihar, several districts have been hit horrendously leading to the destruction of their homes and livelihood. The flood-affected blocks are namely Kishanganj, Pothia, Thakurganj, Dighalbank, Bahdurganj, Tehragaach, Kochadhama, Baisa, Amour, Baisi, and Dagarwa. It is a matter of grave concern for the rural population of Bihar that their homes and livelihood have been uprooted because of the lack of pre-planned flood containment measures that should've been taken at the earliest.

The affected areas require urgent attention for minor developments to contain the floods in the region to save the livelihood of the rural population inhabiting these areas. Capacity and Confidence-building measures need to be discussed at the earliest under the purview of National Disaster Management's Flood Management programme.

Therefore, we are calling the attention of the Ministry of Jal Shakti to please divert their attention towards this matter of recent flood damage in parts of Bihar and devise programmes for rehabilitation and flood containment measures in the region.

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Poverty Rate in Kishanganj, Bihar

In the Niti Aayog's MPI, Kishanganj's poverty rate was calculated at 64.75% implying the increasing number of non-income earning population of Kishanganj, Bihar. Keeping this in mind, the expansion of employment opportunities has to be of paramount importance. Bihar's unemployment rate increased 31.2%, rising to 46.6% in April 2020, according to a survey conducted by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE). In this regard, the government should set-up food processing units, SMEs in the ply-wood industry, tea processing plants, jute industry, inter alia to increase the employment opportunities in Kishanganj, Bihar.

Per capita income of Bihar was INR 41,000 in FY 2019. Bihar had the lowest per capita in the last decade, since FY 2012. The average earnings of an individual are rapidly declining amidst stark unemployment; thus, the government has to augment investments into the economy of Kishanganj to increase the employment rate and give opportunities to the youth of Kishanganj.

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Excessive damage due to overflow of Mahananda River

Kishanganj's farmlands and homes around the Mahananda river bank have been deeply affected by the erosion in recent times. A study conducted by the University of North Bengal in 2021, concluded that the scores under the Bank Erosion Hazard Index of the Mahananda River have been ranging from 0.75 to 44.30 which indicates high to very high-vulnerable areas under fluvial erosion. These erosion statistics indicate that recurrent floods in Kishanganj are affecting people's lives due to flooding of houses, floodwater being soaked up by grains, and agricultural produce being ruined in the farmland causing financial distress.

The government of Bihar proposed the Kosi-Mechi interstate river link project to manage excess streamflow in the Mahananda river. The project had to be started post techno-economic-environmental clearances in 2020 but there is no update on the project from either NWDA or Ministry of Jal shakti and till when will this project be concluded.

Shri Gurjeet Singh Aujla

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Death of Farmers

In light of the recent protests against the 3 Farm Bills put forth by the Union Government in the Parliament, the Union Government is claiming to have no record of farmers' deaths in the ongoing protests at the borders of Delhi. While several reports put forth the data of over 400 deaths, the issue has become impossible to repudiate.

Taking cognizance of these deaths is of paramount importance to this Parliament considering the perennial protests on the borders of Delhi against the farm laws. The matter must be taken up for debate in the house to reach a laudable conclusion to uphold the democratic spirit of our country.

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Farm Laws

In light of the protests against the three Farm Laws introduced in the Parliament of India, the ad-hoc committee on Farm laws and consultative committees of the Parliament are not able to mediate and reach a mutually acceptable conclusion on the discrepancies of the farm laws. Therefore, the matter concerning these laws should be rectified and concluded at the earliest by the representatives of the people in the Parliament.

The Supreme Court's decision to stay the implementation of the three farm laws brings into question the longevity of the dialogue between the government and farmers' unions. The stakeholders in Farm laws, that is, farmers have expressed their concerns over a period of 9 months and urgent remediation should be prioritized by the Parliament of India.

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Farmers Protests

In light of the recent protests against the 3 Farm Bills put forth by the Union Government in the Parliament, hundreds of farmers have lost their lives at the Singhu and Tikri Border while sitting in protests. It is a matter of grave concern for the nation that farmers are sitting at the borders of Delhi since December 2020 with no near-sighted conclusion to appear. Long standing protests need urgent resolutions to uphold the democratic spirit of dialogue and remediation between governing authorities and citizens.

The farmers are exercising their right to protest against the farm laws which could have ramifications, hitherto, in the history of implementation of farm laws in India. The Parliament should adjourn the



existing debate in the house and immediately move towards the discussion of protests due to farm laws in India to settle the conflict.

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Hike in Fuel Prices

In light of the recent hikes in Fuel Prices in Punjab and rising costs of production and transportation, the state's population is struggling to meet ends due to the exponential rise in the cost of fuel up to Rs. 103.52/litre (Amritsar, Punjab). The rising cost of petrol and diesel is directly proportional to the rising costs of production and transportation since it is used as a raw material in several industries w.r.t secondary and tertiary sectors of the economy.

Since the demand and supply of oil are getting restored to equilibrium in the international market along with sufficient supply from OPEC and Saudi Arabia, the reason for the hike in fuel prices is incomprehensible. The energy costs associated with the utilization of fuel are a worrying cost for the environment as well since sufficient green energy alternatives are not available in India.

Therefore, we are calling the attention of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to please divert their attention towards this matter of rising prices of fuel in India and the negative externality costs associated with it which is a major cause of distrust and discomfort among the manufacturing, transportation, and energy industries in India.

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Erosion of Ravi Banks

In light of the terrible state of Ravi Banks in the Ajnala sector, it is a matter of grave concern to look into the state of the river banks which could break at any given point of time due to uncontrolled and non-regulated flow of water. If not resolved, it could damage one of the Border Outposts of Border Security Force (BSF) in its entirety, which would endanger the establishments under the Border Area Development Programme. It is a matter of grave concern for the population of the Ajnala sector that their homes and livelihood could be uprooted because of the lack of pre-planned flood containment measures that should've been taken at the earliest.

Capacity and Confidence-building measures need to be discussed at the earliest under the purview of National Disaster Management's Flood Management programme to deter damage to thousands of acres of farmland and residential settlements.

Therefore, we are calling the attention of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and Ministry of Jal Shakti to please divert their attention towards this matter of damage of river banks and devise programmes for rehabilitation and flood containment measures in the region.

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Taking Cognizance of the death of farmers due to protests

In light of the recent protests against the 3 Farm Bills put forth by the Union Government in the Parliament, the Union Government is claiming to have no record of farmers' deaths in the ongoing protests at the borders of Delhi. While several reports put forth the data of over 700 deaths, the issue has become impossible to repudiate.

Taking cognizance of these deaths is of paramount importance to this Parliament considering the perennial protests on the borders of Delhi against the farm laws. The matter must be taken up for debate in the house to reach a laudable conclusion to uphold the democratic spirit of our country.

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Transfer status of Chandigarh solely to Punjab

To demarcate precise jurisdiction in terms of law, financial stability and application of rules under the state government, the transfer of Chandigarh to the state of Punjab is imperative in the status quo. The issues concerning the people of Chandigarh have to be dealt by the concerned state government with a single state jurisdiction over the area of Chandigarh instead of shared jurisdiction. Therefore, the matter has to be discussed with precise details in the Parliament of India at the earliest.

In 1970, the Union government gave the entire jurisdiction of Chandigarh to Punjab as per a formal notice but serious discrepancies obfuscated the transfer and to support the newly formed state of Haryana, Chandigarh's jurisdiction had to be shared. Hence, prompt action has to be taken now to fulfil the demand of transfer of capital's jurisdiction.

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Inflation in Q3 of FY2021

In light of the rising Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation in India, the consumer spending is declining at a rapid rate which could lead to overall fall in the GDP of the country. The inflation rate in the 4th fiscal quarter stands at 5.8% which is higher than last quarter's calculation of 4.5% as per RBI. Therefore, the matter concerning the exponential increase in inflation, that is, 28.89% from the 3rd to 4th quarter is alarming and future of economic recovery should be prioritised and concluded at the earliest by the representatives of the people in the Parliament.

Although the GDP in the fourth quarter stands at 8.4%, economists analysed that consumer confidence which is directly proportion to their trust in spending is rapidly declining that can be harmful for the economy and increase inflation in the future. Thus, this matter has to be addressed in the Parliament of India at the earliest.

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Loans

State Level Bankers' Committee estimates a total of INR 77,753 crores given to farmers as loans by private entities, cooperative banks and farmers' welfare societies at an annual interest rate of 8-10% starting from market cost of INR 10 lakh/acre. In the process of private banks awarding loans, land and property of farmers is kept as collateral and the loan has to be paid off with compounded interest which has pushed less informed and poor farmers into debt traps.

Farmers have to be availed with comprehensive policies to take loans for crop diversification to shift from the wheat and rice cycle and produce other cash crops that can yield additional disposable income to the farmers. Therefore, to avoid mass loss of lands from the hands of farmers and protection of farm produce, Parliament of India must discuss the conditions of waiving off loans and providing additional incentives from crop diversification to increase the disposable income of farmers.