

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, September 3, 1996¹ Bhadra 12, 1918 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *In the Chair*]

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am not able to understand anything.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh) : Today the Gujarat Legislative Assembly was going to discuss the Motion of Confidence but the Hon. Deputy Speaker of the Assembly ... (Interruptions) adjourned the House. We want to condemn the conduct of the Hon. Deputy Speaker. The Legislative Assembly was to meet today but the Hon. Deputy Speaker adjourned the House before the commencement of the session. He has no right to adjourn the House. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir We ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please speak one by one [English]—I am not following what you are saying ...

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please, sit down. I am not able to understand what you are saying. Please, sit down.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, this can be raised after the Question Hour ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down. One Member may speak.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : How can they discuss Gujrat here? ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Then you go on speaking.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I do not understand what you are speaking...

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am unable to make out the issue. One Member may speak.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : They have already raised the issue. They can raise the matter during Zero Hour.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let the Hon. Member speak.

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, generally, it is not our tendency to interrupt the proceeding at the commencement of Question Hour. But, if the House does not take cognizance of the unusual situation which has arisen there, the business transacted here will become meaningless. The session of Gujarat Legislative Assembly was to commence today and the Government of Gujarat was to seek the vote of confidence at about 1 p.m. Since the Hon. Speaker of Gujarat Legislative Assembly, is very sick, he could not preside over the proceedings: However, he had already given his ruling that he did not recognize the group of 46 M.L.As and the Government would seek the vote of confidence today at 1 p.m. As soon as the session of Gujarat Legislative Assembly started, the Hon. Deputy Speaker, instead of asking the Government to seek the vote of confidence, adjourned the House sine-die.

* Not Recorded

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : They cannot discuss Gujarat here. *(Interruptions)* This is highly derogatory. You cannot discuss the conduct of either the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker of the State Assembly in the House ... *(Interruptions)* The rule does not permit it. The rule is very clear. You cannot discuss the conduct of the Deputy Speaker of the other House ... *(Interruptions)* Sir, your conduct cannot be discussed in any of the State Assembly neither the conduct of the Deputy Speaker nor of the Speaker of the State Assembly can be discussed here

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : He is right ... *(Interruptions)* What Shri Dasmunsi has stated is right. But, we want to apprise you of the issue here so that the situation is well understood first ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI P.M. SAYEED (Lakshadweep) : Sir, you should give your ruling as to whether you have suspended the Question Hour or not?

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will allow you also, but first listen to him. You can also speak.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : The incident which took place in Gujarat Legislative Assembly is the murder of democracy and a conspiracy. If the leaders of Congress Party from Gujarat come here and meet the Hon. Prime Minister ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, have you received a formal motion to suspend the Question Hour? ... *(Interruptions)* They can raise this issue during the Zero Hour

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down. Question No. 441—Shri Manikrao Hodiya Gavit.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : No issue can be raised during the Question Hour without bringing a formal motion to suspend the Question Hour. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Let them raise this issue during the Zero Hour. Let the Question Hour continue. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, confidence or lack of confidence in the Government has to be determined in the Assembly. We cannot decide it outside. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you give your ruling that it cannot be raised in the Question Hour. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I am not discussing the conduct of the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, not at all ... *(Interruptions)* You asked me as to what the facts are. I was just presenting the facts before you. ... *(Interruptions)* We are not discussing the conduct of other Assemblies. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have already asked Mr. Manikrao Hodiya Gavit to ask Question No. 441.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

11.12 hrs.

[English]

Pilferage of Coal

*441. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways have at any stage made an assessment of the loss of coal by pilferage, while in transit from the coal fields to destinations;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof, and

(c) the preventive measures taken to cut down such losses and the extent to which it involves the railway staff and the Railway Protection Force en route?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the table of the Sabha

STATEMENT

(a) to (c) Railways do not undertake the assessment of loss of coal due to pilferage enroute, as the coal is moved at owner's risk predominantly in open wagons. Railways also do not supervise loading at collieries not provided with weigh bridges, and unloading at the destination.

The Railways have a system of preventing theft/pilferage of coal and other commodities in stations, yards and in transit. Railway Protection Force is deployed in the yards to prevent pilferage of all the commodities transported in Railway wagons including coal. The other preventive steps taken are as follows :

1. On sections which are identified as vulnerable for theft/pilferage, goods trains including coal rains are escorted by armed RPF staff.
2. Intensive beat patrolling is also undertaken in major yards and affected sections/areas.
3. Crime Intelligence Wing of the RPF is activated which collect criminal intelligence and on the basis of which