

Member, objecting to the introduction and so, I am allowing that. It is not a debate where I have to allow everybody. How can you do that? Shri Rawat has given a notice and therefore, I have allowed him to say his point. I cannot allow everybody to speak here.

Now, Shri Ramoowalia please.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Sir, I have heard with rapt attention the views and concerns expressed by some of the hon. Members of the House about the inclusion of Koch-Rajbongshi people in the list of Scheduled Tribes. It can be considered at the time of consideration stage when the discussion will take place on the Bill, in the coming days. But you have directed me to briefly explain why the Government is introducing the Bill so, I will not take much time of the House. I know the constraint through which we are to pass today because other issues are very important. (Interruptions) The Ordinance was issued on 27th January, 1996. As the period had expired, the Ordinance was promulgated again.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Why?

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Because the Parliament was not in session.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Please tell us what is the urgency in it? The demand for inclusion has been made in the case of many other castes also.

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to him.

(interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Please listen to me. (Interruptions) Let me complete. I am coming to urgency.

Now if my Government allows the present Ordinance to lapse then after 3rd July, the Koch-Rajbongshi people would have neither been in the list of Scheduled Castes nor in the list of Scheduled Tribes. They would have been nowhere. So, I seek the permission of the House to introduce the Bill.

You have already directed the Government. I assure you that my Government will take into consideration the sentiments expressed by every member of the House during the discussion. The Government is not only concerned with but is also committed to the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes so I may be allowed to introduce the Bill. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am helpless. Mr. Nitish Kumar, you have been presiding over this House for a long time.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : No, there is a point. If any caste is included in the list the population may increase but reservation is not being increased in that proportion.

MR. SPEAKER : Rule, 72 is very clear. At this stage, it can be opposed on the ground that the Bill initiates legislation outside the legislative competence of the House.

The matter has not been opposed on the ground of legislative competence of this House.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister is permitted. Anyway it can be introduced with the leave of the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the inclusion of Koch-Rajbongshi in the list of Scheduled Tribes specified in relation to the State Assam."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : I introduce the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : At the time of discussion of the Bill, amendments can be brought.

15.19 hrs.

STATEMENT RE CONSTITUTION  
(SCHEDULED TRIBES) ORDER (AMENDMENT)  
THIRD ORDINANCE, 1996—LAID.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Third Ordinance, 1996.

15.20 hrs.

(Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (South Delhi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, please allow me to speak only for two minutes. I would like to share my personal happiness with the House which I am feeling on