

Jo samajh ke chale vo bhava sagar paar,
 Tan ke diyana man ke baatti,
 Prem ke tel dal ke kshama ke lou jalaye,
 Shanti daya ke kare aarti,
 Dharma ebam satya ke jyoti jala ke
 Guru andhakar day mitay.

Advising the human society Baba Guru Ghasi Das ji said that man may scale any heights, he cannot live without truth, kindness, forgiveness, love, courage and peace. Instead of bothering for the present he should think of the future and follow the Truth.

The Central Government should honour the sentiments of crores of devotees of Baba Guru Ghasi Das ji and declare 18th December a public holiday as it has done in the case of birthday of other greatmen in the country. The whole society will feel proud if this is done.

SHRI NAND KUMAR SINGH CHAUHAN (Khandwa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to wrong policy of the Government on newsprint all newsprint mills of India are on the verge of closure. Sir, there are as many as 6 paper mills in the public sector and 22-23 paper mills in the private sector.

12.05 hrs.

(Mr. Deputy Speaker *in the Chair*)

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, due to wrong policy of the Government on newsprint almost all the mills are on the verge of closure.

The foreign companies are hatching a conspiracy and supplying paper to India at a very cheap rate. Now they are supplying this paper at Rs. 15,000 per tonne. When all the paper mills in the country will be closed, they will raise the price to Rs. 30-35 thousand per tonne. This problem cropped up when the Government abolished import duty on paper. Due to this, lakhs of people are becoming jobless. They are facing starvation and the Government is paying no attention to this.

The newsprint mill in Nepa Nagar in Madhya Pradesh is the oldest mill in the country which was set up by the former Prime Minister, late Shri Jawaharlal Nehru. It has since been closed and 15,000 workers of this mill have been rendered jobless. Alongwith this other newsprint mills are also on the verge of closure. Their workers will also become jobless. The Government should reconsider its policy on newsprint. It should increase duty on import of paper so that the policy will be beneficial to the country. The Government should not be in a hurry so that lakhs of people could be saved from starvation and joblessness.

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): Thank you, Sir.

The country will be celebrating, in the next year, the birth centenary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from

23rd January. I request the hon. Prime Minister, through the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, that whatever the plan of action the Government is going to announce regarding it may be announced in this Session. Parliament is in session. The hon. Prime Minister is the Chairman of this Committee. He should announce immediately in this House the plan of action of the Government regarding celebration of the birth centenary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Secondly, the Government should declare 23rd January as a national holiday to pay homage to the great son of the soil.

Sir, the people of the country want to know whether Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose is alive or not because in the latest report from Moscow it is reported that after the plane crash in Japan, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose went to Moscow. We are having this document. That is why, may I request the Government to realise the sentiments of the people of the country? We are going to celebrate the birth centenary next year. The Government should investigate the matter and we should know about the tragic missing of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. The people of the country want to know the truth. So, I would request the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to react in this matter. The Government should investigate the matter so that the people of the country should know as to what happened to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs should request the hon. Prime Minister to announce in this House about the plan of action. Parliament Session is going on. He should announce it within this Session because there will be no Session before 23rd of January. This is the Winter Session. That is why I am making this submission. I think the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs should react... (Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): Sir, 23rd January should be declared a holiday on an all-India plan... (Interruptions) You should make a request to the Government that 23rd January may be declared a national holiday. It is not declared as such. It is declared a holiday only in West Bengal... (Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, the Prime Minister should announce about the national holiday in the House... (Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, we are approaching you to kindly request the Government to consider this proposal of declaring 23rd January, 1997 as a national holiday... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central): It must be there... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : You should make a request to the Government to consider this proposal.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, as we are celebrating the centenary year of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, 23rd January, 1997 should be declared as national holiday. You can make this request to the Government

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : The Leader of the House is there. He can respond to it.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Netaji was the Leader of not only of Bengal, but also the whole country.

[English]

Therefore, let the Government say something. Paswanji, please say something.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please listen to him.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I shall convey the hon. Prime Minister your observations and sentiments of the House.

[English]

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat) : A National Committee has been formed, but the National Committee did not finalise the programme of celebrations. Sir, it is not the question whether celebrations will be held or not. The Government has so far decided to celebrate it. The question remains : how do we celebrate it? Sir, I request you to ask the Government to announce the method, manner and action programme for the celebrations of birthday centenary of Netaji.

Secondly, the mystery of his disappearance is also a matter of great interest for our countrymen. Our countrymen should know what happened to him during his last days. Sir, this is an inalienable right of every citizen of the country to know about the whereabouts of, to know about the fate of, to know about the happenings to a great leader like Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL MUNI-CHAUBEY (Buxar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, talks had been going on with the previous Government regarding centenary celebration of Subhash Chandra Bose. The previous Government had recommended that the proposal should be looked into. Nothing can be more disgraceful than to say that it would be looked into whether or not to celebrate the

centenary of Subhash Chandra Bose and the statement by the Minister that he would convey this message to the Prime Minister is equally shameful. The entire House is unanimous on this issue. At least with regard to Subhash Chandra Bose, there is no difference of opinion among the people of this country and the leaders of various political parties. Therefore, the centenary should be celebrated unanimously and as Shri Chitta Basu has stated action plan should be announced as to how this centenary would be celebrated. Therefore, there is nothing to convey on this issue. The House is unanimous on this issue. No party or individual can have a different opinion on this issue. There, the action programme should be announced without any further delay.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I would like to say one thing. The House is unanimous that the birth centenary should be celebrated. There cannot be any difference of opinion on this point. How to celebrate the preparation to this would depend on the message to be conveyed by Mr. Ram Vilas Paswan.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government should not be misquoted. Two issues have come before us. Firstly, the issue was to observe the birth anniversary as a National Holiday. We are of the opinion that there are certain great personalities of our country like Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, Baba Saheb Ambedkar for whom we have been consistently raising demand. As far, the national holiday is concerned, birth anniversary of no national leader is observed as a national holiday or public holiday except that of Mahatma Gandhi ji.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : This was done in respect of Baba Saheb Ambedkar in this House itself.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : The birth anniversary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru is observed as the Children Day not as a public holiday.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : It is there in respect of Baba Saheb Ambedkar.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I personally feel that this should be done.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : This should be done in this case also.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : As far the Government is concerned, it has its own rules, regulations and procedures. That is why, I had been stating that this was the one issue and the other issue was whether Netaji is alive or not. A reference has been made to the Khosla Committee that this Committee has become obsolete and need to be refurnished. On these two issues I have stated that the feelings expressed by the House would be conveyed to the Prime Minister. Just now other colleagues Shri Lal Muni Chaubey has stated that there is some sort of controversy as to whether or not to celebrate the birth centenary. I feel that there is no controversy in regard to celebrating the birth centenary. It will be celebrated with official pomp and show. How

to celebrate this centenary, this aspect is being looked into by the Government...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : All are unanimous on this issue. One more should be ensured that neither there is any difference of any opinion nor it should be there about Netaji. He was not only a National Leader but an international leader. But I would like that the Government should formulate a policy, as you have mentioned, about the national leader like Baba Saheb Ambedkar, Babu Jagjivan Ram and other national leaders. The leader of all political parties should sit together to take a decision on this issue.

[English]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : That is the main thing.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Baba Saheb Ambedkar is a respectable and honourable personality which deserve to be worshipped. But as far Subhash Chandra Bose is concerned, he belongs to the pre-independence period of Gandhiji. No other personality can be compared with Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the nation and Subhash Chandra Bose.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, Gandhiji, Netaji and Ambedkar Saheb all had their distinct personalities. There should be no difference in regard to them.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Your views have been recorded.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is well known that our country is an ancient country and has a long history of struggle. During this period of struggle, ignoring the feelings of the crores of people the name of the country, names of the provinces, various cities were changed. But I am pleased to see that the Government for the past years have changed the name of Bombay to Mumbai, Trivandrum to Thiruvananthapuram and Madras into Chennai.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please be brief.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Sir, the people of Gujarat feel that the major city of Gujarat, Ahmedabad, which is represented by me for the last three years, its ancient name was Krunavati. Municipal Corporation of Ahmedabad has unanimously forwarded this name. The State Government has forwarded this proposal to the Union Government. On my and others request, Jaffar Sharief had named the Ahmedabad-Bombay train as Krunavati Express. I would like to say that as this issue is associated with the people's feelings, the name of the city should be changed to Krunavati without any further delay. I would like to request through you that

when the Government have received the proposal from the State Government, then the Government should make an announcement to this without any delay and the name of Ahmedabad should be changed to Krunavati. I shall be proud of this decision and would compliment the entire House on behalf of the people of Gujarat.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, names cannot be changed on communal lines

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : What is the problem? I could not follow anything.

[Translation]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Names should not be changed on communal lines.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have called Shri Bangarappa now

[Translation]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : The change of names in this manner shall be a wrong policy...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have not allowed anyone else except Shri Bangarappa. Nothing will go on record. Only Shri Bangarappa is allowed and none else

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA (Shimoga) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, recently, the President of China visited this country. Whenever a foreign dignitary visits another country, talks are held on different important issues. It may be relating to the border issue, as far as China and our country is concerned or the missiles' supply to Pakistan by China or trade and commerce. But I find that no statement was hitherto made by the Government on the floor of this august House or in the Upper House, that is, the Rajya Sabha. This House has got paramount importance under the Constitution. Whenever foreign dignitaries visit this country and talks are held at a high-level, immediately a statement on those talks should be made in this august House. Hitherto, I find that nothing of that sort has been done.

Therefore, I am seeking you indulgence and want to know whether the Government has made up its mind to come out with a clear statement about when and what kind of talks were held between the President of China and the Hon. President or the hon. Prime Minister of our country, what were the matters that were discussed, and whether the missiles' supply to Pakistan by China was discussed or not.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Bangarappa, two items have been listed in your name and you can raise only one issue. So, only this issue is allowed.