

According to the provisions of Rule 56 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, the motion for adjournment of the business of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance may be made with the consent of the Speaker.

As the Statutory Resolution seeking approval of the President's Rule in Uttar Pradesh has already been included in the List of Business, the Members would have an opportunity to raise the matter during the discussion on the Statutory Resolution. Rule 56 of the Rules of Procedure has to be read with rule 58 specifically. Rule 58, sub-rule 7 says and I quote :

"The Motion shall not deal with any matter which is under adjudication by a court of law having jurisdiction in any part of India."

I want to inform the House that I have an official communication from the Government of Uttar Pradesh that so far as the constitutional validity of the Governor's action is concerned, the issue is already pending before the Allahabad High Court.

In view of these facts and after hearing the Members who have moved this Motion and the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, I withhold my consent to these notices of Adjournment Motion.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : The sub-judice matter is different.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Madam, thank you for your cooperation.

(Interruptions)

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Sir, what about the Zero Hour today?

MR. SPEAKER : The convention is that whenever there is an Adjournment Motion before the House, there is no Zero Hour. I am sorry.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to me. I want the consensus of the House.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI (Jhansi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir seven persons have been killed in Jhansi as an oil tank caught fire there.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, I know that. I have received your notice on it.

[English]

All the notices received for Zero Hour will stand valid for tomorrow.

As per the List of Business, we have to now take up the Calling Attention Motion and after that Matters Under Rule 377. The Prime Minister is then supposed to give reply to the discussion on Andhra Pradesh cyclone, which will be around 1430 hours.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Why don't you allow me to continue? I am in the midst of giving some information.

The Minister of Agriculture, who has listened to the entire debate and who has visited the site also, would like intervene before the Prime Minister gives a final reply. But since the same matter is to be discussed in the Rajya Sabha immediately after Lunch, you cannot expect the Minister to be at both the places at the same time. At 1600 hours he has to make a Statement on Orissa. So, my request is - if the House agrees - the Prime Minister can reply later on and before him the Minister of Agriculture may be allowed to intervene for 15 minutes. We can take up the Calling Attention Motion after that. The Minister's intervention will conclude by 1300 hours. We will then break for Lunch. At 1400 hours we can have the Calling Attention.

12.46 hrs.

### DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

#### Situation arising from Cyclone in Andhra Pradesh

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you and this House for providing me 15 minutes' time to speak. I would like to wind-up in 15 minutes and then the hon. Prime Minister would reply to it in detail.

12.47 hrs.

(Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

I thank all the Members who have taken part in this debate and given constructive suggestions. I thank you all for your criticism as it was in the right direction.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Members have raised several issues and given good suggestions regarding the Safety arrangements at the time of occurrence of cyclone. I thank you all for this. Now, I would like to raise one point that...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Nalanda) : Sir, please call the House to order.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : During this debate, the hon. Members from Pondicherry criticised the Government for not providing sufficient funds. I agree with him, but the problem was that the report was received here on 22nd and after a decision taken yesterday night about sending at least Rs. 1 crore, orders have been issued today. There were some problems in sending this money as it belonged to Union Territory and it could have been sent only through the Ministry of Home Affairs. We would have sent the money immediately if we had it. However, we accepted your criticism and acted accordingly.

You have also discussed the issue regarding the mode of assistance. I would first take up Andhra Pradesh. It was mentioned that Rs. 50 crore were being given to the State Government as advance central assistance.

[English]

The entire amount of Rs. 93 crore in the Central contribution to the Calamity Relief Fund of Andhra Pradesh has been fully contributed.

Income Tax exemption up to 100 per cent allowed for contribution to Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister's Cyclone Relief Fund.

From Prime Minister's Relief Fund, Rs. 4.85 crore contributed towards the relief of the families of the bereaved whose number was 970 at that time. The number is still increasing. Some dead bodies are being found.

Families of all those who have lost their kith and kin would be compensated at the rate of Rs. 50,000, as you know, from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund.

A sum of Rs. 4 crore was released by the Ministry of Surface Transport for this purpose.

The Ministry of Power has made available a loan amounting to Rs. 30 crore from REC for restoration, repair and reconnection of the sources of electricity etc.

Orders have been issued for procurement of paddy with relaxations to the quality, as I have already mentioned in my statement. Fifty thousand tonnes of rice has been released as *ad-hoc* allotment for the public distribution

system. An additional allocation of 10,000 litres of kerosene has also been done for this purpose.

- Accelerated devolution of Central taxes and ways and means advance amounting to Rs. 331 crore was offered to the Andhra Pradesh Government so that the liquidity position of the State Government to undertake relief operations is enhanced.

SHRI P. UPENDRA (Vijayawada) : Can I interrupt you for a while, Sir? All these are given in the form of loans. Nothing is given as a grant excepting the money given from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund. Rice is made available on payment; kerosene is made available on payment...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Fifteen minutes time has been given and if I don't give a satisfactory reply, then you should complain. However, if you interrupt me four times, from where will we create additional time. Funds can be given any number of times but it is difficult to create additional time. Now I would like to submit that in the Question Hour also, it was stated that we have before us two cases—one is pertaining to Orissa and the other one is concerned with Andhra Pradesh and these cannot be solved within the confines of Tenth Finance Commission. It is a complicated problem. It is a procedural matter which can not be solved in a day. The Tenth Finance Commission is binding on all of us. That's why the same liquidity fund as given to others would be given to these states. It is true that if we adjust a certain amount of fund, that State is going to lag behind. At the time of such occurrences as the cyclone hitting Orissa, the State lags behind by five years. So we have to make a separate arrangement. But for that also, some time should be given. We are not kings. We are the Ministers but our hands are also tied by rules. Hence you should give us some time. Now I will tell you as to how I am saying all this. It is because you have mentioned it that's why I am saying all this. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we had a meeting with the Prime Minister and accordingly we have started drawing funds out of the budget allocated to various departments and passed by you. I have sent two officers of my department and have sent Director, Agriculture to Andhra Pradesh. All the three officials have submitted a joint report about the number of coconut trees and cashewnut trees that have been damaged and taking into account the damage reported, we have decided to give you Rs. 63 crore out of our own budget. This is over and above any other assistance, but for this purpose. Finance Minister's permission would have to be sought for adjustment of funds. The Finance Minister has gone abroad. We have informed the Cabinet that he has said so. The Finance

Minister, at the time of departure had said that if we are going to allocate money out of our own budget, the approval would be given. However we could not have stated so in the statement because as long as we do not get the formal approval, it would not be appropriate to come out with it. Since you are concerned about it that is why I told you that we are going to take such and such steps. We give the compensation at the rate of one hundred rupees per tree damaged or destroyed and also propose to give them additional money per hectare.

SHRI P. UPENDRA : How many trees have been damaged?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Should we count the trees? You may count them.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI (Khajuraho) : Is there no administration?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : It will take time. The trees would be counted later on. Right now we have roughly worked out the number of trees per hectare and multiplied that and on that basis we gave 63 crore rupees. If there is a slight variation in the figure, the accountants are there to work that out. The House should not be concerned as to how we have got the total number?

I am not aware whether there has ever been such a precedent in our country where an assistance amounting to Rs. 63 crore has been offered by the Ministry out of its own budget. Even then if you do not appreciate the gesture, I fail to understand the reasons therefor. If you tell us to count the stars in the sky, how much time we would require to count stars. That is why I told you... (*Interruptions*) You have got the right to criticise but I am telling you that we have sent our officers. We have taken their help. We are working in collaboration with both the teams. We do not distrust anyone. We have drawn money to give compensation for the boats and nets damaged in this disaster and as soon as we get the money, we will start distributing it. This is a matter connected with my Ministry.

The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh is very concerned and worried about it. It is true that he intimated me that very night. Both the time, he has contacted me and has asked to do something about it. Last time also I had gone there and this time also I went there. However this time I had to go to Rome to attend Food Summit Conference. There also my prime concern was as to what kind of help can F.A.O., an agency of U.N. extend in this matter. They also offer help in such matters. We had a talk with them through our Indian officer. The agency directed its officer Mr. Roznagar. I went to Andhra Pradesh along with that officer so that report is submitted as soon as possible and we get some financial assistance. I am hopeful that we will get

10-12 crore rupees from F.A.O. which will be spent for rehabilitation in Andhra Pradesh.

We were told there that World Bank also extends help. We had a talk with them also through our officer, Mr. Godbole. They asked as to when do we require the financial assistance. We told them that as soon as it could be arranged. They said that they have with them a report prepared at the time when cyclone had hit Indian Coast earlier and that they can give 50-60 million dollars as an assistance given at secondary stage of the earlier disaster. They also asked for a letter which was given to them. We hope to get assistance from them very soon.

We are constantly in touch with them. Our Finance Minister is already there. The information given to the House that 200 million dollars are being given as assistance is incorrect. There is no such offer at present. Whatever amount we may get as assistance from foreign agencies will be spent to help the affected people. Whether the matter pertains to Andhra Pradesh or Orissa, we will extend all possible help.

Hon'ble Kumari Uma Bharati has asked as to why should we resort to begging. We are not begging. You are mistaken if you think so. We are members of these Organisations and also given contributions. We have been a member of World Bank from the very beginning. There too, money of our country is deposited. Our money is deposited in F.A.O. That's why, we are asking for our own share, we have not sought assistance from any nation. We do not beg for help. Though I am very much aware that this will lower the dignity of the nation, that is why I am not in favour of asking for help. I share your thoughts. I am also aware that some people belonging to Brahmin community say that begging is their birth-right. I also know that Shankaracharya had said... (*Interruptions*)

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : Whatever Hon'ble Minister has said just now is an insult to the sages. Saying such a thing is an insult. Even if he has said such a thing in a tone of mockery but the way he has spoken, is insulting. Earlier too, on one or two occasions he has made fun of sages in this House. I would like to inform Shri Mishra that the sages do not subsist on alms due to lack of financial resources.

13.00 hrs.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please avoid it.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : Rather they subsist on alms having renounced ample wealth. Subsistence on alms is a part and parcel of their renunciation. If India is asking for alms, it would not be called a sage but a

begger. I would like to enlighten Shri Mishra that if he has even a little knowledge about the Hindu culture and traditions, he might be aware that there is a great difference between a begger and a sage. A begger is a person who is afflicted by poverty. He does not have any resources and that is why is compelled to beg. A sage is a person who leaves his home renouncing all the worldly wealth and comforts. There is a great deal of difference in both the situations. I feel pity at the lack of knowledge displayed by Shri Chaturanan Mishra that such an elderly person does not know the difference between a sage and a begger.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : When you have challenged me, I would like to tell you that I too know all this. Although I may not be following all the traditions but I too belong to a Brahmin family.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please do not record all these things

(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Shankaracharya had said, "Kartal bhiksha Kartal vaasa tadāpi na munchchat pyasa pyasa." Those who go around asking for alms utter these very words. About sages, it was said that, "udar Nivarattam bahukrit vesham." I have not spoken the first line of this 'shloka'. These people live on beggary. But leave all this. I am not going back to that topic.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : These words must have been spoken about such people who are imposters. No such words have ever been spoken about those who are true sages.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I have not said anything about true sages.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This will not go on record.

(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I have already told you that they have asked for separate allocation from J.R.Y. In this way, ten crore rupees are being drawn.

\* Not Recorded.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : There is a difference between sages, saints and beggers.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : We have asked them to place separate demand for funds under JRY.

[English]

"HUDCO has announced a special package of Rs. 19 crore of which Rs. 50 crore is a grant and Rs. 140 crore is a loan at a concessional rate of interest for reconstruction of completely damaged houses or for repair of partially damaged houses in the district. In addition HUDCO have offered 10 centres for the cyclone affected district with a grant assistance of Rs. 1.5 crore."

[Translation]

In nutshell, you all have suggested to construct big houses for their safety. The general feeling among the Members that only Rs. 50 crore had been provided and if the Centre had not given this money, it was their will, is not correct. We have provided whatever we could. As soon as we get foreign assistance, we will give it to the State Government. If it is the only cause of resentment, You let us know the requirement and we will provide you the money. It is a matter of 10-20 days. However, it must be ensured first that no one dies of hunger. The counting work can be done later on.

Shri George Fernandes said as to why did we not invoke upon the countrymen for help. We have already invited trade Unions for a meeting which is to be held tomorrow. The hon. Members know very well that if we do not take the consent of trade Unions, we cannot extend help even for a single day. It is our endeavour that the whole nation work on a holiday and the money earned on that day is donated to relief fund. We are earnestly waiting for that moment and seek your help in this regard. We take all the parties into confidence and wherever I go, I always endeavour to do so.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I also wanted to stress on that very point. Please invoke upon the entire nation.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I have called upon the entire nation.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : You have not called upon the entire nation.

\* SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I have invited all the trade Unions and taken their consent. After holding a meeting with them, we shall come out with details before the House. In the meantime, you may request for allotment of time. I want to tell you that we can take up relief and rehabilitation work, but as far as the

compensation is concerned, it involves a lot of complication. If we take the case of compensation for a coconut tree which takes six years to grow and gives fruit, it will be much higher if calculated at the rate of Rs. 15 per fruit. My Government has not provided this much compensation to anyone so far, nor can it afford to provide. I shall reiterate that if we give the above compensation for six years, then why should we not provide compensation to Orissa for the entire paddy crop? Then there are Assam, Rajasthan, Bihar and West Bengal also. It will be a discrimination against others. Do not force us to indulge in such acts which may take us to Tis Hazari Court.

The only option left in this regard is that a crop insurance system should be implemented. I agree with your views. I had written a letter earlier. You had suggested for submission of a scheme with village as a base but I have submitted a scheme considering Panchayat as a base. The Ministry of Finance is considering it and it will take time...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. UPENDRA : It is pending for many years.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Not for a long time. It was submitted just three weeks back...*(Interruptions)* Kumari Uma Bharati and Shri P. Upendra raised a point that there were some mistakes in the information broadcast through radio. Yesterday, I circulated a chart for the perusal of the hon'ble Members...*(Interruptions)* If you need more, we shall provide that. You may see if there is any mistake.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Arrangements should be made there to provide information to the poor...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : You rise frequently...*(Interruptions)* You do not listen...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : It is not a matter of rising. You said that information had been given through radio and T.V....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : You take your time, but please listen to the discussion...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : You got the information broadcast through radio and T.V. but the question was to provide information to the common people...*(Interruptions)* it was a question of their life and death...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : What should we do. You have a right to speak and we can only listen quietly. Hence we will keep quiet. If there is something wrong in the timings, you can see yourself. I had told the Minister of Information and Broadcasting that very day to ask for an enquiry in this regard. The problem is that the fishermen leave for fishing early and remain

therefor 8-10 days. Therefore, how can they be informed through radio? We are thinking of providing one wireless set to each boat. However, it is not an easy task. If you want to hold discussion on this issue then listen to me. We have made efforts in this regard. When the Deputy Finance Minister of Japan met me in Rome, I had requested him to provide a 'Mothership' which will be anchored in the mid sea and the fishermen could catch fish. In this way, processing of fish will also be done and there will be no wastage. We are not inviting any Multi-national Company in this regard. Whenever any crisis arises, the fishermen can come back to the Mothership for shelter. This ship is very costly. Perhaps we may get it as gift. If it does not materialise, we will present a budget in this regard. We have no other option.

One hon'ble lady member said that the number of the deceased is not certain. When some one gives us details, we will act accordingly. A point was also raised about National Disarmament Management.

[English]

Already a committee has been set up.

[Translation]

It was set up in the meeting held last week. Secondly, one hon. Member referred to the maintenance of reservoir after first calamity had occurred.

[English]

I have already ordered on that very day.

[Translation]

You may get it enquired into whether the fund for maintenance was allowed or not.

[English]

It was used for that purpose.

[Translation]

There is no discrimination regarding all party committee. The hon. Members of the BJP might be knowing that we sent them letters specially. One hon. Member said that he did not get the letter regarding his constituency. I enquired into this aspect. Letters were sent to the hon. Members of all the parties stating that whosoever wanted to accompany me in helicopter, they were most welcome for extending suggestions rather than criticism. We give patient hearing to positive criticism. However, the criticism is not going to harm us anyway. Yesterday, a point was made about Pondicherry and I acted on it in the night itself. The film stars and sportpersons can also help us. I was informed today morning that Shankaracharya of Kanjivaram had himself



reached Andhra Pradesh alongwith 3 trucks loaded with relief material. Further, this junior Shankaracharya was about to reach Orissa.

The hon'ble Members also raised a point related to science. We are equally concerned about it. We cannot stop cyclone. It is not in my control. Moreover, it is not directed by the rules of the House. A meeting of scientists of Asia-Pacific region was being held here. We had made an appeal to the scientific committee if it could help us in growing small coconut trees and that the crop is ripe before the cyclone comes. This matter was also raised in the World Congress. We are neither scientists nor magicians. I, on your behalf, have already asked them to take steps in this regard.

A point regarding national calamity was also raised. In that connection, I as well as the hon. Prime Minister had declared it a national calamity. National calamity means providing assistance first from the Relief Fund and then mobilising it from public. Members of Parliament and MLAs have also donated their one month's salary and we are also urging upon employees and others to come forward in this regard. As regards crop insurance, no country of the world, even America provides full compensation. Therefore, it will take time to decide as to what can be done in this situation. At this point of time, I assure you that nobody will be allowed to suffer or die for want of money. The hon. Members can approach me and tell me about their grievances. I shall try to arrange money from other sources.

[Translation]

With these words, I would like to request you again to explain us in a concrete way as to how it should be done.

As the announcement was made Umaji impressed upon it. She had also narrated a story about a husband, wife and a thief. I would like to convey my thanks to her for the story... (Interruptions)

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the way Mishraji is cutting Jocks in the House, is very shameful or him... (Interruptions) You must be aware of it that I sleep with my brother and my sister-in-law. I have also slept with my parents. Such things happen in all families. It is a different thing if it is not so in your family. I used to sleep with my parents. Presently, I sleep with my elder brother and sister-in-law... (Interruptions) I am very sorry that you are continuously cutting jokes of my being a lady and a Sadhu. This is unbecoming of a person like you holding such a high post. Unless and until the hon'ble Minister seek apology I will not sit here in the House. He will have to apologise... (Interruptions) It should not go on record... (Interruptions).

[English]

13.14 hrs.

At this stage, Kumari Uma Bharati came and stood on the floor near the Table.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That will not go on record

[Translation]

(Interruptions)

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : If the hon'ble Member is hurt, then I beg pardon from her... (Interruptions) If anything is there in the record then it may be expunged and I have no objection to it. If you are hurt then I have admitted, but all are not like you... (Interruptions)

[English]

13.14½ hrs.

At this stage, Kumari Uma Bharati went back to her seat.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Mishra come to the point.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I have already finished my points. I am concluding with a request to the House that this House should advise me correctly I will do everything.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now the House stands adjourned for lunch till 2.15 p.m.

13.15 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fifteen Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.24 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Twenty-Four Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

(Shri P.C. Chacko in the Chair)

## RE : AGITATION OF DALIT CHRISTIANS FOR RESERVATION

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : Sir, I have a matter to be raised. Just at some distance... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please be seated.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : There was a rally... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, this is no Zero Hour. Shri Thomas.