

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : We do not want to learn human rights from these people. They are teaching us human rights. There, the people are conscious.

DR. ASIM BALA (Navadwip) : When the Congress State President is supporting the Left Front Government's action, how can she say like that?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Umaji, please take your seat. I have allowed him.

*[Translation]*

DR. LAXMI NARAYAN PANDEY (Mandsaur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I would like to draw your attention towards an important issue. Some days ago, the Government of Madhya Pradesh struck a deal with a company of South Africa for mining diamonds and requested the Central Government to give clearance to a contract in this regard which is highly objectionable...*(Interruptions)* Some representatives of South African Company had also visited Raipur but the people demonstrated at Mana airport and pressed them to go back. The way the Madhya Pradesh Government is going to make a contract with that company is against the interests of India. Our companies and corporations are capable of doing such jobs. They also have got the technique for such jobs. Even then the way the Madhya Pradesh Government is doing this thing is anti Madhya Pradesh and anti nation as a result of which there is great resentment among the people. By raising this issue in the House I would request the Central Government not to make any contract with South African Company and save the interests of the nation and also an enquiry should be made into whole episode...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : This is a different subject Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Yes this is a different subject.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Please, allow us also to speak...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please let him speak.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this House had discussed a few days before...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a very important issue of Madhya Pradesh...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH (Vidisha) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a top leader has a mine in Madhya Pradesh...*(Interruptions)* A conspiracy to mortgage the interests of the country is being hatched by awarding a contract to a multinational company of South Africa. Ignoring the feelings of the people of Madhya Pradesh the Chief Minister Shri Digvijay Singh hatched a conspiracy to mortgage the interests of Madhya Pradesh and nation by making a secret pact with a South African company. He is going to award a contract to that company for Diamond mines. I urge upon the Government of India that this contract should not be awarded at any cost. Our own companies can perform such work. The people of Madhya Pradesh are agitating against it. Through you, I demand the Central Government that this contract should not be awarded to this company at any cost. And the entire episode should be inquired into.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is alright. Your point has been recorded.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, it is not a matter of record. It also has the recommendations of the Prime Minister, merely going into record will not do...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI (Raigarh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir what is the reaction of Government of India in this regard. Whether the Government of India also supports the stand taken by the Madhya Pradesh Government.

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : I would like to know the reaction of Government of India in this regard. The Government must give a clarification.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : You should give a clarification.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down, you have made your submission.

*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please let me say something.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Kindly listen to the Minister.

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, under the Mines and Minerals Act the State Governments have certain powers, where the Central Government's powers are limited and the

State Government has the power. In such case, how can the Central Government intervene?

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Minister has given the reply. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir this is a question of the interests of Madhya Pradesh... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Sir, we will sit down. What happened to our issue?... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Formalities have been completed. You had your say and the Minister had given some reply. Please take your seat now.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is an important issue. It does not mean that the issues forthcoming are not important therefore you should not devote your time on a subject only.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please let Mr. Panigrahi have his say.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : We will not keep mum in this regard at any cost... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There should be an end to every subject. Please take your seat now.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It's alright, you please sit down. The Minister has replied. Now what do you want?

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : A secret agreement is being made... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You have raised your point and has also replied to it.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No, I am sorry

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is enough.

SHRI E. AHAMED : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Minister wants to respond... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If they are ready to listen me then only I can express myself. Should I listen to you or them?

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record from now onwards.

(Interruptions)\*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing is going on record. What is the use of talking? Please take your seat now.

(Interruptions)\*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Pandey Ji, you are a senior Member. You had your say. The Minister gave his reply. What else do you want? You may not be satisfied with his reply.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You are wasting the time of the House. I am sorry. Please take your seats.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have taken note of the feelings that have been expressed by the Members and I will convey them to the concerned Ministry.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Panigrahi.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please take your seat, Gentleman. I have not called your name. I have called his name.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Sir, the House is well aware of the serious drought situation prevailing in Orissa which is a backward and poor State. We had in this House discussed this topic a few days earlier. Sir, we also expressed our gratitude to the hon. Prime Minister and the Minister of Agriculture who visited some of the worst drought affected areas in Orissa. When the Prime Minister visited Orissa, he made an announcement of financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 50 crore. Of course, this is a very meagre amount compared to the seriousness of the situation. He was very quick to make this announcement. About a month's time has elapsed meanwhile, but that amount of Rs. 50 crore is nowhere seen. It has not reached the Government of Orissa as yet. It was expected the next day. But one month's time

\* Not Recorded.