

parties have called for Maharashtra bandh today. Railways, Airlines, bus-service, shops everything is closed today. Industries are getting closed because of wrong policies of the Government of Maharashtra. Several Industries are planning to go out from Maharashtra. It has created a dangerous situation for labourers. According to old policy, if an industrialist or an owner of an industry, where above 100 labourers were employed, wanted to closed down the unit, it was mandatory for him to take permission from the Government. But, now the Government of Maharashtra have amended said Act and now as per latest provision, if more than 300 labourers are employed in an industry, permission is required before closing down such industry, but if the number of labour employed is below 300, then there is no need to take such permission from the Government. This decision of the Government of Maharashtra has put entire industrial world and the labourer class in crisis. All political parties have declared a state wide bandh in protest of this decision. Today, anti-labour policies are being framed all over the nation, consequently entire labour force has started feeling itself insecure. To protect the interest of labourers there is need for the Union Government to interfere in this regard.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I urge hon. Prime Minister to make a statement in the House to protect interest of labourers. I am making this demand in the House.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Prime Minister should make a statement...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Rawale, I cannot compel the hon. Prime Minister.

Now, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have called Shri Dasmunsi.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will give you the floor one-by-one.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV (Purnea): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, during Question hour you had said that you would give me a chance during Zero Hour...*(Interruptions)* It is a very important matter.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pappu Yadav, you will get a chance. How can give the chance to all the hon. Members?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You will get a chance, Shri Pappu Yadav. You sit peacefully and observe the proceedings.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Are all other things unimportant?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pappu Yadav, I will not approve of your conduct here. I will give you a chance.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Mohan Rawale, you are also disturbing the House.

[Translation]

You get up every now and then, you would not give chance to others.

12.09 hrs.

**RE: NEED TO WITHDRAW CERTAIN
CIRCULARS OF DEPARTMENT OF
PERSONNEL AFFECTING INTERESTS
OF SCs/STs IN SERVICE MATTERS**

[English]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE (Solapur): Sir, I have requested Shri Dasmunsi...*(Interruptions)* I should be given an opportunity to speak about an issues concerning the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have given the floor to Shri Shinde.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order, please.

[Translation]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you and the hon. Prime Minister. In view of the importance of this matter, hon. Prime Minister is present in the House since this matter relates to promotion and general employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Former Prime Minister, Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi once took up this issue and launched a nation wide drive to fill backlog vacancies of SCs/STs. Present Prime Minister had also taken similar decision. An assurance was given in this regard during the conference of National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission that we will never go to the well. During our Golden Jubilee we have assured that we would not go to the well. But, when atrocities were being committed on scheduled caste and scheduled tribe servicemen, we became so agitated that all Members including from BJP and all other parties went to the well. I wanted an assurance in the interest of service of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from hon. Prime Minister, who gave it promptly, therefore, I am grateful to him. As far as 3-4 OM's issued by the Department of Personnel are concerned, hon. Prime Minister made good efforts for withdrawing one of these circulars. But how much time you would take in withdrawing rest circular. Three, six and eight months have passed, even cabinet decision was taken once, but orders are not being issued. I would only say that it is Prime Minister wish and will, and I will not blame him. He wants to help dalits. I would like hon. Prime Minister to take steps in this direction, then only I would believe that the Prime Minister and the Government have soft corner for SCs, STs and other minorities. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, even the Prime Minister has said, but we do not know what happens in the Department. Not commenting unnecessarily, I would like to say only this much that I am interested in our people getting justice and employment. I urge hon. Prime Minister to assure as to when orders withdrawing OM's would be issued so that the injustice being done to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees comes to an end.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pravin Rashtrapal, Shri Manikrao Gavit, Shri Ramdas Athawale and Shri K.H. Muniyappa have given notices on the same subject. I allow them to associate themselves on this issue.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Yes, I have allowed them to associate themselves on this issue.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please, go back to your seats. The hon. Prime Minister is on his legs.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Hon. Prime Minister, please withdraw the OM...(Interruptions)

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue raised by hon. Shindeji is very important. There is no difference of opinion over this issue between the Government and the opposition. The Government desire that the condition of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should improve. Justice should be done to SC/ST employees and justice means that we should try to rectify the system whereby injustice has been done to them or they have been neglected. The policies have been framed with this objective. But often, these policies are challenged in court of law. The House may remember that the Government twice brought Constitution (Amendment) Bill, which was passed with consensus since there was no difference of opinion about that. The third point raised by him is regarding jobs. The matter is under consideration of the Government. The problem is that the matter is in the court before the Constitution Bench. We expect a favourable decision from there very soon. Government is committed in this regard. We wanted to bring such a bill prior to the current budget session of the Parliament, however, we are making efforts once again and seek your support in this regard...(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central): Sir, Maharashtra Government is adopting anti labourer policy...(Interruptions) Unemployment is on the raise among the labourers. Hon. Prime Minister is present in the House, I would like to have an reply from him...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I cannot compel the hon. Prime Minister to get up and react for anything and everything.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV (Purnea): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am drawing your attention continuously for the last 5 days towards the issue of Bihar. Bihar has become a serious issue for the country. Yesterday also 6 persons belonging to Dalit community were killed in district Sasaram. 5 days ago, 213 houses of most backward and dalit people were set on fire in Jangltola and a child was thrown into fire. There is no exaggeration of saying that Bihar Government is protecting the culprits. The situation in Bihar is so worse that since Panchayat elections have started and three level of Panchayati elections are still to take place, more than 200 people have already been killed. It is difficult to say that how many murders will take place but no village in Bihar has been left where incidents of firing is not taking place, where communal riots are not erupting and where frenzy and terrorised atmosphere is not being created. Not only the criminals also but the Government machinery, Government workers and Ministers and MLAs are also involved in it openly. Candidates are being murdered there. Election Commission restrained a Minister from visiting a constituency but he avoided it and reached there and was even involved in firing. Situation is so volatile there that no representatives of people is safe there and it is really difficult to express the actual situation prevailing there...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, I have given the floor to Shri Pappu Yadav. Please do not interrupt him.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: I demand an enquiry from the Union Government. Shri Pramod Mahajan is present in the House. I am tired of raising this issue again and again. I have requested to hon. Home Minister time and again...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please speak about what you want from the Government.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: The House should protect Bihar. A report on the situation of Bihar should be sought from the Bihar Government. It is obvious that the report sent by them will not be authenticated, therefore, a Parliamentary Committee or a Committee of the Ministry should be sent there. The Central Government should be apprised of the situation prevailing there and stringent action is required to be taken in this regard. People's representatives are not safe there. Security of Members of opposition is withdrawn and they are threatened to be killed. Conspiracy was hatched to kill Shri Anawarul Haque, Sushil Modi and Shahabuddin...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pappu Yadav, you have raised the matter. Now you resume your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pappu Yadav you have submitted your views to the Government.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, large number of houses have been set on fire, MPs and MLAs are being threatened...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pappu Yadav I have given you the floor but you will have to obey the Chair. I called you.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am talking about the problem of Bihar...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have to take serious note of your conduct. I have called you. You have already taken up the matter. Do not interrupt like this.

...(Interruptions)