

Title: Kidnapping of a famous film actor Shri Rajkumar and others by the notorious gangster Shri Veerappan.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA (SHIMOGA): Mr. Speaker Sir, I thank you for having permitted me to raise a very important issue relating to the kidnapping of a very famous film actor, last night, in a village which is there in Tamil Nadu and also borders the State of Karnataka. His name is Dr. Rajkumar who is a famous actor and famous singer well-known in each and every house of Karnataka State and outside also. Sir, he is also a *Dada Saheb Phalke* awardee. He has acted in hundreds of films for more than 55 years and is still working. He is respected like anything by all the people cutting across all the cross-sections of the society in the entire State of Karnataka and outside also.

Sir, last night, somewhere between 9.30 and 10 o'clock, he was in his house in a village called Kajnoor. That village is in Tamil Nadu but borders Karnataka State. He comes from that village. He was having his dinner with his wife, son-in-law and attendants. There were so many people around them. The information that we have got is that at that time, the notorious person, Shri Veerappan personally went there alongwith his people numbering about 8,10 or 12 with weapons in their hands and entered into that house which just adjoins the main village of Kajnoor. That house is just on the outskirts of that village. He was there in his house which is a farmhouse also.

He took Dr. Rajkumar, his son-in-law, Shri Govind and two or three of his attendants. It seems that he told the wife of Dr. Rajkumar that he was taking him and she would come to know why he was taking him. Then, he gave a cassette saying that she just went through what he had said in that cassette later on after he took Dr. Rajkumar out of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: In the 'Zero Hour', you can mention about the incident briefly and not in detail because there are other Members also who want to speak.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA : Sir, I am sorry. I do not want to take much of your time.

Then, they were taken away forcibly. Last night, this matter was brought to the knowledge of Shri S.M. Krishna, the hon. Chief Minister of State of Karnataka and a message was also flashed to the Government of Tamil Nadu. In the entire State of Karnataka, the situation is gripped under high tension. Already, the State Government has declared holidays in schools and colleges in the entire State of Karnataka. They have done it today. Already, the law and order situation is creeping not only in Bangalore city but also outside Bangalore city, at several other places. This is a very serious and very big issue also.

Then, I spoke to our hon. Chief Minister, Shri S.M. Krishna today morning. He has already flown to Chennai to meet Dr. Karunanidhi, his counterpart in Tamil Nadu, to have a discussion. Sir, the State Cabinet has also informally met and discussed it. The Home Minister is in charge and Shri S.M. Krishna is also in charge. All the State Government and the people of Karnataka State have now become concerned about this incident.

Sir, on the Veerappan issue, I do not want to take the precious time of this august House. Previously, the State Governments of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka duly assisted by the then Central Government, which was a coalition of several political parties, conducted a joint operation to nab him. The Central forces were involved in the operation to nab Veerappan, and the Centre has given full assistance to the two States, namely, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. But all these efforts to nab Veerappan have gone in vein. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Muniyappa, you can associate yourself with Shri Bangarappa because you have given notice on the same matter.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA (SHIMOGA): Now, the entire thing has become a big issue. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You have not given any notice.

â€¦ (व्यवधान)

श्री बसुनगौडा रामनगौड पाटिल (यत्नाल), (बीजापुर) : महोदय, हमने भी नोटिस दिया है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आपका नोटिस नहीं है।

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: Sir, I think, the Central Government has also come to know of this. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basangouda Patil, you can also associate with him because the subject is the same.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA : I know, Sir, the Central Government has got this information and they are in touch with both the Governments of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. The Home Minister is not here. We would like to know as to

what exactly is the situation that is prevailing there, after the kidnapping of Dr. Rajkumar.

MR. SPEAKER: Does the Government want to say something on this?

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA: Sir, I am raising this issue just to highlight the situation in Karnataka. With your kind permission, I am leaving for Bangalore today. The situation is taking an alarming turn in the Karnataka State.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bangarappa, please understand the anxiety of other Members also....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basangouda Patil, you can also associate with him.

â€¦(व्यवधान)

श्री रघुनाथ झा (गोपालगंज) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह राज्य का मामला है या अंतरराष्ट्रीय मामला है?

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA (KOLAR): Sir, I have given a notice. My request is that whatever assistance is required by the State Governments of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka for taking necessary steps to get the release of Dr. Rajkumar should be provided, and the Centre should also deploy the paramilitary forces....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basangouda Patil, you can also associate with Shri Muniyappa.

â€¦(व्यवधान)

श्री बसुनगौडा रामनगौड पाटिल (यत्नाल), : अध्यक्ष महोदय, कर्नाटक के सुप्रसिद्ध डा. राजकुमार का अपहरण हो गया है।â€¦(व्यवधान) सरकार वीरप्पन को गिरफ्तार करने में विफल हो गई है, इसलिए कर्नाटक में तनावपूर्ण वातावरण बना हुआ है।â€¦(व्यवधान) दलितों पर अत्याचार हो रहे हैं।

â€¦(व्यवधान) कल रात कर्नाटक में डा. राजकुमार का अपहरण होने के बाद बहुत तनावपूर्ण वातावरण बना हुआ है। मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करूंगा कि वह इसके बारे में सदन को उत्तर दें।

â€¦(व्यवधान)

श्री रघुनाथ झा : महोदय, यह राज्य का मामला है, राष्ट्र का मामला है या अंतरराष्ट्रीय मामला है, यह जरा बता दिया जाए।...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions) *

* Not Recorded

अध्यक्ष महोदय : झा जी, आपका बिहेवियर हाउस में अच्छा नहीं है। हम बार-बार बोल रहे हैं कि आपका बिहेवियर हाउस में अच्छा नहीं है, आप समझ लें।

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Sir, the issue raised by Shri Bangarappa, Shri Basangouda Patil, Shri Muniyappa, Shri Putta Swamy Gowda is a very, very serious issue. The South Indian film industry, particularly those who follow the Kannada films know that Dr. Rajkumar is a living legend. Therefore, the shocking news of his kidnapping by the notorious gangster Veerappan will naturally not only create shock waves in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, but also in the minds of those who are interested in the film industry.

Sir, I really share the anguish and anxiety expressed by the Members in this House. The Union Home Minister has already taken up this issue with the Chief Minister of Karnataka. They had a talk in the morning. The Union Home Minister has also talked to the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. The Chief Minister of Karnataka, as told by Shri Bangarappa, has already left for Chennai so that both the Chief Ministers could come together and draw a joint strategy.

Sir, from the Central Government side, Shri Ananth Kumar, who is a Cabinet colleague of mine, is also leaving for Chennai today and would be reaching there in the evening to share his thoughts, responsibilities and make efforts to get Shri Raj Kumar back as early as possible.

As I said, on behalf of the Central Government, I have already talked to the Union Home Minister. On his behalf I can say that the Central Government is ready to offer any kind of help that is needed by both the Chief Ministers to get Shri Raj Kumar back safely and as early as possible.

Sir, at the same time, I would like to take this opportunity, and if this House permits, I can say on behalf of this House that we would appeal to the people of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu that though the incident is very serious – it

is almost hurting them – yet it is our responsibility to maintain peace and harmony in the State as – the Central Government, the State Governments of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu – the three Governments are unitedly trying to get him back. We should also appeal to all the people to maintain peace so that it helps all of us. Thank you...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sudip Bandopadhyay.

श्री मोहन रावले (मुम्बई दक्षिण मध्य) : अध्यक्ष जी, वीरप्पन को केन्द्र सरकार गिरफ्तार क्यों नहीं करती है। वह हिंदुस्तान के बाहर तो नहीं है। (ब्यवधान) उसने पुलिस अधिकारियों की हत्याएं की हैं। एक आदमी स्वको नचा रहा है। (ब्यवधान) कर्नाटक पुलिस उसको गिरफ्तार क्यों नहीं करती। क्या वह भी उसमें इन्वोल्व है। (ब्यवधान)