

**Title: Regarding a meeting of the officers of the Ministry of Rural Development called by the President of BJP at his residence.**

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (CANARA): Sir, I wish to raise a matter of great concern for all of us.

There are certain rules of procedure in running the Government or Ministries. The Papers have reported the other day about this and this has not been contradicted so far. I know that it is a fact because the officers have told me about that. It is a fact that the President of the BJP, Shri Venkaiah Naidu, the former Minister of Rural Development had called a meeting for which the department issued a notice summoning all the officers of the Rural Development Ministry for a meeting at his house. When the Secretary pointed out that this would be violation of rules, the notice was withdrawn. But the meeting took place.

The report has come stating that the functioning of the Rural Development Ministry was reviewed by the President of the BJP at the meeting held in his house from 8.30 a.m. up to 11.30 a.m. I am saying that in that meeting, where even the Minister of Rural Development was not present, points including the budget available to the Ministry for publicity aspect, etc. were discussed.

**संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा श्रम मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री विजय गोयल) :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, जो इस सदन के सदस्य नहीं हैं, उनके बारे में यहां बात करना ठीक नहीं है।

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : All the officers from the level of Directors to Secretaries were present at his house. If it is false, let them deny it in the House. But I will produce the proof. The officers have come and informed me of what had happened in that meeting. This is a violation of all norms, where the President of BJP has summoned the officers of the Government of India to his house and held a meeting. I want a reply from the Government; I want an answer as to whether or not this is a fact. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Sir, this is a very serious issue. ...(*Interruptions*)

**अध्यक्ष महोदय:** यदि आप नहीं बैठेंगे तो मैं आपको बोलने की इजाजत नहीं दूंगा। Otherwise, I will adjourn the House.

**कुंवर अखिलेश सिंह (महाराजगंज, उ.प्र.) :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं उत्तर प्रदेश के गन्ना किसानों का मामला उठाना चाहता हूं। **â€**(**व्यवधान**)

**अध्यक्ष महोदय:** आप इस मामले को कल उठाइए। मैं मिनिस्टर साहब को जवाब देने के लिए कहूंगा।