

Demanded withdrawal of the show cause notice issued by the Central Government regarding the duty levied on tapioca starch by the Central Excise Department during 1996.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record now except what Dr. Saroja says.

*(Interruptions)**

DR. V. SAROJA (RASIPURAM): Sir, I want to raise an important matter.

About 800 starch and sago manufacturing small-scale industries are located in Namakkal, Salem and Periyar districts. ...*(Interruptions)*

श्री राजेश पायलट (दौसा): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह सही बात है कि यह स्टेट सब्जेक्ट है और इसे यहां डिस्कस नहीं कर सकते हैं, लेकिन मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो यहां शून्य काल में मुद्दा उठाया जाता है, उसे क्या आप अपने सचिवालय के माध्यम से संबंधित मंत्रालयों को भेजते हैं? क्योंकि होता क्या है हम यहां बोलकर चले जाएं और अखबारों में छप जाए, तो वह मामला सरकार के ध्यान में आ जाता है, नहीं तो नहीं आता है। इसलिए क्या आप इसे अपने सैक्रेट्रिएट की तरफ से संबंधित मंत्रालयों को भेजने की व्यवस्था करेंगे या यह जाता है?

***Not Recorded.**

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : यह तो जाता है।

श्री राजेश पायलट : आप कन्फर्म कर लीजिए कि जाता है या नहीं। यदि जाता है, तो ठीक है। यदि नहीं जाता है, तो आप अपने सचिवालय के माध्यम से भेजने की व्यवस्था कराएं।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Minister who is sitting here will be taking note of it.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : I do not think so. Are you taking note of what is said in the 'Zero Hour'?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: From the very beginning, the 'Zero Hour' is going on record.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : We will have to improve it. Otherwise, what is the point in hon. Members shouting here during the 'Zero Hour'?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It has to be taken up in a different forum.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : We will have to improve the system.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We can take it up.

DR. V. SAROJA : Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, about 800 starch and sago manufacturing units are situated in Salem, Periyar and Namakkal districts. In about 85,000 hectares of land, the small and marginal farmers are cultivating tapioca. This is the raw material for sago production. About five lakh farmers are directly and indirectly involved in this small scale agro-based industry.

During 1996, the Central Excise Department levied a duty on tapioca starch and it continued. The question was referred to the Ministry of Finance and a clarification was sought. The Ministry, in the budget Circular No.10/76 dated 10.5.96 is understood to have clarified it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Dr. Saroja, please conclude now.

...(Interruptions)

DR. V. SAROJA : I urge upon the Government to withdraw the show cause notice issued by the Central Government immediately. ...*(Interruptions)* and to withdraw the order issued by Central Excise Department for living duty on wet-starch, the intermediate product of the Sago.

श्री हरीभाऊ शंकर महाले : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपने मेरा नाम नहीं बुलाया।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आपका स्टेट सब्जेक्ट है।

श्री हरीभाऊ शंकर महाले : यह क्या बात है? *â€¦*(व्यवधान) क्या महाराष्ट्र भारत का हिस्सा नहीं है। *â€¦*(व्यवधान) यह क्या न्याय है? *â€¦*(व्यवधान)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आपका ही नहीं बल्कि पांच मैम्बर्स का स्टेट् सब्जैक्ट है।

â€¦(व्यवधान)

श्री हरिभाऊ शंकर महाले : मैं नोटिस देने के लिए सुबह साढ़े आठ बजे आता हूं।

â€¦(व्यवधान)

SHRI VAIKO : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, just now, Dr. Saroja has raised an important issue concerning the people of Tamil Nadu, especially the people of Salem and Namakkal. It is a genuine demand. We have already made a representation to the Finance Minister. The Finance Minister has also promised to consider that demand. So, I support the demand that is very genuine and the Government should consider it. ...(*Interruptions*)