Fourteenth Loksabha

Session: 4 Date: 23-03-2005

Participants: Chatterjee Shri Somnath, Swain Shri M.A. Kharabela

Title: Regarding changes in the guidelines for MPLADS schemes.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, recently, a circular has been issued by the Ministry of Programme Implementation regarding the guidelines of the MPLAD Scheme. It says that if non-utilisation certificate for more than Rs. 1 crore is not sent by the District Magistrate, then no further instalment will be released from MPLAD fund. This has put the hon. Members into a lot of difficulties. Sir, even though this financial year is going to end, the second instalment of Rs. 1 crore has not been released. It is the general impression of the intelligentsia and most of the members of the media that, probably in the beginning of the year, the hon. Prime Minister of this country bought 800 big suit cases, stocked with Rs. 2 crore of hot cash, gave them to all MPs and asked them to spend it as they like. It is not like this. Excepting making some suggestions to the District Magistrate, we do not have anything else to do. The estimate is being prepared by the District Magistrate. The work order is being issued by him. He makes the cheque payment and executes the work. He does everything in this regard.

Now, there is a provision in the MPLADS guidelines that, within 45 days, the estimate has to be prepared. If the estimate is not being prepared within 45 days, then we cannot do anything. There is no time limit as to when this work will be executed. If the Magistrate or the Collector does not complete it within a reasonable time, then we cannot take any action against him.

The impression goes outside and so-called social scientists say that the MPs are useless and they are incapable of executing their job. In that case, where do we go?

That is why, my appeal to you is, the Ministry should be asked to release Rs. 1 crore in every six months and the execution of work should be left to us. Some method should be found out for this so that at least, if it is not executed on time, then we should be eligible to take some action against the DM or the officers. I am not demanding that the amount should be increased. Through you, I appeal to the Government on this point. In the Business Advisory Committee also, I had appealed to you to kindly ask the Minister to see that we should not be held responsible for something on which we do not have any power. This is my appeal to you.

MR. SPEAKER: Your position is shared by us.

... (Interruptions)

13.00 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please hold patience. Today, I received 46 notices.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I wish you could ration the time sitting here. Out of 46 notices, I find that 12 notices are from those hon. Members who have already raised one matter in this week. We have adopted this rule, not myself. Our leaders and the BAC have decided that only one matter will be allowed per week. Leaving those 12 hon. Members, I have already called 34 hon. Members today. Even then some hon. Members are pressing to raise some matters knowing well that they have already raised their matters this week and they are not entitled to raise any further issues. Some of them have no relevance.

But I am allowing one matter because of its importance though the hon. Member who wants to raise this matter has already raised a matter this week. I am allowing as an exception, not as a precedent. I am allowing Shri

Ramji Lal Suman, provided he completes it in one minute.

... (Interruptions)

श्री गणेश सिंह (सतना) : मैं एक महत्वपूर्ण मामला उठाना चाहता हूं। ...(<u>व्यवधान</u>) रीवांचल एक्सप्रेस चार संसदीय क्षेत्रों को क वर करती है। ...(<u>व्यवधान</u>)

MR. SPEAKER: You want to raise a matter relating to the Ministry of Railways, when we have already had 35 hours of discussion on the Ministry of Railways! Sorry, I will not allow it. I have called Shri Suman to speak. Shri Ganesh Singh, I have not called you.

... (Interruptions)

श्री गणेश सिंह: हम इसके बारे में किस से निवेदन करें? ...(व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदयः आप बैठ जाइए।

...(<u>व्यवधान</u>)

MR. SPEAKER: Just a minute. I can assure you that I will not give you time unless you sit down immediately.

... (Interruptions)

श्री राकेश सिंह (जबलपुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे बोलने का समय नहीं दिया गया। ...(व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: You can go on shouting till the end of the day. I will not succumb. Knowing the rule, you have given the notice in your name. Why can it not be given in somebody else"s name? You are not trying to follow the rules and procedures of the House.

श्री चन्द्रमणि त्रिपाठी (रीवा) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने भी नोटिस दिया था और उसमें मेरा नाम है। (व्यवधान)

श्री गणेश सिंह: मेरा एक महत्वपूर्ण मामला है। मुझे बोलने का समय क्यों नहीं दिया जा रहा है?...(<u>व्यवधान</u>)

MR. SPEAKER: You are creating disturbance and disorderly scene in the House. You cannot have priority.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded. Only Shri Ramji Lal Suman's speech will go on record.

(Interruptions) ... *

श्री गणेश सिंह : मुझे बोलने का समय नहीं दिया गया, इसलिए मैं दुखी होकर सदन का बहिकार करता हूं। ...(<u>व्यवधान</u>)

13.01 hrs.

(Then Shri Ganesh Singh and Shri Rakesh Singh left the House.)