Fourteenth Loksabha

Session: 4
Date: 12-05-2005

Participants: Chatterjee Shri Somnath

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Title: Need to conserve water resources and constitution of Parliamentary Forum on Water.

12.06 hrs.

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OBSERVATION BY THE SPEAKER

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MR. SPEAKER: May I make a statement with your kind permission?

Hon. Members, we are all aware how crucial the conservation of natural resources in general and water resources in particular is. It has grown in importance, of late, with crisis after crisis afflicting the majority of living beings in our country and the world as a whole.

A recent tragic news report about a 12-year boy's death in a stampede where people fought for few litres of water from a tanker in Delhi highlights the gravity of the situation. Fall in the level of ground water table at an alarming rate is adding to our difficulties. I am sure, we, being the elected representatives of the people, can do our bit in the Nation's efforts to solve this problem. On my part, I have decided to offer the premises of the Parliament House and the Speaker's House in Delhi, where I am a temporary occupant, and my residence in Kolkata for rain water harvesting. I am also going to ask the concerned Ministries to take up the project of providing the facilities for harvesting rain water in all the residential and official premises under the control of the Speaker. I shall also be writing to the Ministry of Urban Development to take up similar projects for the Government accommodations. Let us hope the system of rain water harvesting will be in place before the onset of the monsoon. This move, I hope, will inspire all concerned to take up similar initiatives all over the country. I shall also take up this matter with the concerned Ministry for inclusion of offering rain water harvesting systems under MPLADS.

I have decided to constitute a Parliamentary Forum on Water so that we can all effectively discuss the problems in a structured manner and can discharge our obligations to the nation with result-oriented approach. I have no doubt that in this edeavour the hon. Members on all sides will render their active support and will carry the message to their constituencies so that the conservation of water does not remain a slogan. These efforts, if continued consistently, will surely go a long way in replenishing the ground water and mitigating the problems of water shortage.

Let us all hope for a very good monsoon, a rich harvest of crop as well as rain water.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOOGHLY): This is a grand idea. There should be a full-fledged discussion in the House itself ... (*Interruptions*)

श्री रामजीलाल सुमन (फ़िरोज़ाबाद) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह सुझाव अच्छा है...(व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: Shall we wait for the next Session?

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM): In Andhra Pradesh, we have solved this problem long back.... (*Interruptions*)

श्री देवेन्द्र प्रसाद यादव (झंझारपुर) :अध्यक्ष महोदय, सदन में इस पर चर्चा होनी चाहिए। पानी को लेकर यह महत्वपूर्ण सुझाव है, इस पर पूरी डिस्कशन होनी चाहिए...(<u>व्यवधान</u>)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the Speaker's statement is becoming controversial. It is very unfortunate.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS (PALGHAT): Sir, there is nothing controversial.

MR. SPEAKER: You are supporting me. Thank you very much.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: I am not only supporting you but also saying that there should be a powerful law enacted by this House to check the unlimited ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Very good. Make your suggestion when we have a full discussion.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we come to item 18. Shri M.P. Veerendra Kumar. Nothing else will be recorded.

(Interruptions)* ...

श्री रामजीलाल सुमन : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरी आपसे प्रार्थना है मुझे दो मिनट का समय दें। राजस्थान और मध्य प्रदेश में बड़े पैमाने पर बाल वि वाह हुए हैं...(<u>व्यवधान</u>)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : हम आपको एलाव करेंगे।

...(<u>व्यवधान</u>)

श्री रामजीलाल सुमन : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं दो मिनट में अपनी बात खत्म कर दूंगा...(<u>व्यवधान</u>)

* Not Recorded.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : तब शून्य काल में क्या होगा?

...(व्यवधान)

श्री रामजीलाल सुमन : अध्यक्ष महोदय, कॉलिंग अटेंशन थोड़ा बाद में ले लीजिए...(व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: You have raised an important issue. I will allow you and give you full opportunity.

... (Interruptions)

श्री रामजीलाल सुमन : अध्यक्ष महोदय, हम दो मिनट में अपनी बात खत्म कर देंगे।...(व्यवधान)

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (सम्भल) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, एक महिला के हाथ काट दिए गए...(व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: Somehow, we have got the impression that if we can speak on an inappropriate time, our issue becomes important. I do not know why it should be.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramji Lal Suman, I will give you full opportunity. It is an important matter.

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(Interruptions)
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SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, my issue is also important.

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing else will be recorded except the statements of Shri Veerendra Kumar and the hon. Minister.

(Interruptions)* ...

^{*} Not Recorded.