

Participants : [Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal](#)

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Title: Problems being faced by Beedi workers in the country.

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL : Sir, I have to mention about one important legislation passed under the NDA regime.... (*Interruptions*) This is a very important issue which I want to raise. During the NDA regime, on 30th April, 2003, the then NDA Government through the Health Ministry, through Shrimati Sushma Swaraj, brought in a legislation about Cigarette Regulation, Production, Supply and Distribution (Amendment) Act.... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rajagopal is raising an important issue.

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव : आपने इनको बोलने की अनुमति दी है।... (व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इस बारे में कुछ भी रिकार्ड नहीं हुआ है, एक लाइन भी रिकार्ड नहीं हुई है।

* Not recorded

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL : They had brought in a legislation which has affected lakhs of people, lakhs of women-folk who are living in the backward region of this country and the backward region of Andhra Pradesh. ... (*Interruptions*) Lakhs of people were affected. ... (*Interruptions*) Lakhs of beedi workers were affected. That legislation was actively supported by the TDP. Shri Yerrannaidu actively supported that Bill. Now, they are changing the tune. [\[R20\]](#)

Now they are changing their tone, tune, colour and language just because of the bye-election in Karim Nagar. ... (*Interruptions*) They are responsible for the passing of this legislation. Mr. Kharabela Swain of the BJP also fully endorsed this legislation, he not only fully endorsed this legislation, but he also wanted more restrictions especially on beedi. In fact, Shri Yerrannaidu of TDP fully supported the Bill, he not only supported the Bill, but he was also in the Chair at the time of passing of this Bill. But now they talk in a different tune in Karim Nagar, they talk differently in Hyderabad and they talk differently in Delhi and in Parliament. ... (*Interruptions*) Day in, day out they keep changing their colour and tune. They have never been consistent. It is only the Congress which is consistent throughout wherein our leader, the Congress President Shrimati Sonia Gandhi

had, at the time of passing of this legislation, written a letter to the then Government expressing her concern about the welfare of womenfolk of *beedi* industry and poor people in various regions of India, especially the backward regions. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Jagannath, I have called you to speak, but you are shouting from here.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please go to your seat.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL : Sir, now I request the Union Government to modify this legislation and also the G.O. No. 297 so as to reduce the size of warning and removal of human skull and dead body symbols from beedi packets. ... (*Interruptions*) Sir, we need to differentiate and distinguish between the most hazardous, more harmful and less harmful things. We always use the human skull symbol where 440 volts high tension electricity wires are there, but we do not use the skull symbol on domestic batteries. Similarly, we cannot use the human skull symbol on beedi packets, that too covering three-fourth of a beedi packet. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

... (*Interruptions*)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप अपनी बात कह चुके हैं। आप बैठ जाइए।

...(व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप बैठ जाइए।

...(व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: I don't think the House can run in this way. Nobody listens to the Speaker.

The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.00 p.m.

12.21 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen of the Clock.

14.01hrs

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at one minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

(Mr. Speaker *in the Chair*)