Fourteenth Loksabha

Session: 9
Date: 27-11-2006

Participants: Mollah Shri Hannan

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Title: Reported privatisation of UNI.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (ULUBERIA): Sir, I rise to raise a very serious matter. You know that in our country the United News of India is one of the prime news agencies in the country. It was created by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in 1961. This institution serves our country, gives news impartially and very effectively. There is a competition between the UNI and the PTI. The UNI was doing well. It was earning profit. It was given huge land in New Delhi and the other big cities. It was given huge properties under Section 25 of the Companies Act. It was exempted. Its share cannot be sold.

ससापति महोदयः आपकी क्या मांग है?

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: I demand one thing from the Government. Now, the UNI is planning to privatise it. It is going to be sold to one Zee Telefilms, a private television company. They are going to acquire the UNI. There are 350 reporters, 1100 employees who will be in trouble. So, I demand that the UNI should be saved. The Government must take note of it. The UNI should not be sold to any private man. This is my demand.