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Title: Alleged use of black money in 20-20 IPL Cricket tournament.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (PANSKURA): Sir, today, I am raising a different matter. I am raising a matter on cricket. It is about 20-20 matches that are now being played.

Sir, I have a deep apprehension that the great game of cricket, played by Sir Don. Bradman, is being reduced to a game of gamble in many parts of the world and now today in India. Earlier, it used to be five-days' match and then it became one-day match. Now, there is a tabloid version of cricket and it is 20-20 played for only three hours a day. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: A lot of people are going to see those matches.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Yes, Sir. That is the tragedy. The question is that it is all being done for money. They are borrowing ideas mainly from the United States of America. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Cricket! It is not from the United States of America.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : No, they are thinking of it. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Some recreation is necessary. Shri Swain, please listen.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : I may inform my hon. friends that there is a talk going on in the United States. ...(*Interruptions*) There is a talk going on. Therefore, I am saying that they are borrowing ideas from America, England and from Australia. This game is being played, but see how it is being played. I compliment Shri Sharad Pawar because earlier he opposed it, but now he has **retreated**. He has retreated and he has agreed to hold the IPL Tournament in India.

Sir, eight teams have been franchised. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: This cannot be done like this. You raise the issue. There cannot be a discussion. I cannot allow it.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Eight teams have been franchised and players are being purchased like in a cattle market and the highest price fixed is Rs. 5 crore. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: We all know that.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mohan Rawale does not object to it.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : According to our information, a sum of Rs. 4,000 crore is being spent on the game.

Sir, my question is this. The cricket is being taken over not by the players, but being taken over by the industrial houses, by wine merchants and by private airline magnates. Open gambling and open betting is taking place.

Sir, I have three questions. I am concluding. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You want to raise three questions. This is not 'Question Hour.'

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : I would like to know whether the Government will find out the source of funds, wherefrom the money is coming. In a poor country like India, we are spending Rs. 4,000 crore on cricket.

Secondly, should the game of cricket be allowed to lose its nobility?[\[a14\]](#)

MR. SPEAKER: You support cricket.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : My third question is: "Should gambling and betting be allowed openly in the market, in the street and also in the play ground." I appeal to you that this is not the Indian tradition. We are falling a victim to consumerism, to a tabloid form of cricket which has nothing to do with sports.

MR. SPEAKER: At least, afraid of you, the Finance Minister might have fled.

...(Interruptions)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जो इसके फेवर में हैं वे भी अपना नाम दें और जो विरोध में हैं, वे भी अपना नाम दें।

...(व्यवधान)

श्री सैयद शाहनवाज़ हुसैन (भागलपुर): आपने चीयर -गर्ल्स के बारे में कुछ नहीं बोला। ... (व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उस बारे में छोड़िये, वे भी बेवारी कुछ कमाने आई हैं।

...(व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: I am sure the hon. Finance Minister will be suitably informed about your strong opposition to cricket. Now, Shri Hannan Mollah.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I should have said, the money part of the cricket.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : I am a cricket lover. I used to play cricket. I used to go to the ground.

MR. SPEAKER: Why did you not continue? Now, Shri Hannan Mollah.