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Title: Issue regarding Land Acquisition Bill.

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, the 'Zero Hour', Shri H.D. Devegowda.

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA (HASSAN): Hon. Speaker, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the Land Acquisition Bill which has been promised by the very same House, by the Leader of the House himself. It is because, there are various legislations. The Union Government has got its own legislation for the various Departments at the Government of India level. ...(*Interruptions*)

13.11 hrs.

(Shri Francisco Cosme Sardinha *in the Chair*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, those who are leaving, please do not speak on the way.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA : It is ultimately going to destroy the farmers by not only giving less compensation but also by taking extra land in the name of, so-called, foreign direct investment. My senior colleague Krishna *ji* is sitting here. For Bangalore Mysore Infrastructure Corridor project, 1,70,000 acres of land has been notified. I do not know whether it has come to your knowledge. It is only 18,000 acres or 18,800 acres but unfortunately 1,70,000 acres of land has been notified in the preliminary notification. Today, it has been misused by the project promoter. On the other day, I raised this issue when the issue relating to the Adjournment Motion came up. On that day, I was sitting on the back seat. I was so badly hurt how things are going on; 1,70,000 acres of land has been notified in the preliminary notification....(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, please maintain decorum.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA : They have already entered into Rs. 10 joint development agreement, Krishna *ji*, for Rs. 20 crore per acre of land which was given for Rs.10/ on lease basis per acre per year. You both, former Chief Ministers are here; Mr. Kharge *ji* is here. I have given only one instance. I do not want to elaborate it. In the last Session itself, the Leader of the House, Mr. Pranab Mukherjee promised to introduce the Land Acquisition Bill. In this Session also, we have not heard about it. I would like to know whether the Government is interested to bring the Comprehensive Land Acquisition Bill. We want to know about the mind of the Government because you are going to protect the Yamuna Expressway farmers. Rajnath Singh *ji* went there; he protested; and he went to jail. Our young leader Shri Rahul Gandhi went there and protested it. But, in Karnataka, nobody bothers. With all due respect to the Chair, I would request, at least, let our senior Ministers – all the three of them are sitting here – respond on behalf of the Government as to when they are going to bring the Comprehensive Land Acquisition Bill to put an end to this type of illegal activities for the so-called real estate business. They mint money. For the so-called foreign direct investment road work agreement that you have signed, Rs. 2000 crore have not been spent. Already Rs. 8000 crore worth of land has been sold under the joint development agreement.

If anything is untrue, I am ready to take the punishment in this very House, whatever punishment you want to give me. I am sorry to say but the Government cannot neglect this issue. The promise that the Leader of the House has made must be fulfilled. Nearly 924 farmers have committed suicide in the last three months in Karnataka. Our friends are here and I am going to blame them.

I would like to thank Shri Advani *ji*, who took a firm decision to say goodbye and have a new man in Karnataka. I must compliment him for this.

I would humbly request and appeal the Government that either the Leader of this House or the Parliamentary Affairs Minister, who is also here and a good friend of mine, should bring a comprehensive Land Acquisition Bill in Parliament.

I would also like to request that farmers' issue should be discussed separately in this Session. There are three or

four days left now. Many of us are coming from the farmers' community. Everyone is interested in this discussion. Let us discuss the situation of farmers for two or three days. We know as to what is going on in Vidarbha. I do not want to make it an issue. Every one of us is concerned with the farmers. Please apply your mind according to your own promise and bring the Land Acquisition Bill in Parliament.

I want to sincerely express my thanks to the hon. Speaker for allowing me to have a Special Mention, particularly on this issue.