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Title: Alleged reports regarding money being paid to secure candidature for election to second chamber.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (GHATAL): I am rising a matter of great public importance. Indian Constitution provides for Second Chamber. In Indian Parliament, we have Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. In some of the States, there are Second Chambers but some States, there is no Second Chamber. West Bengal has no Second Chamber. The whole country knows that elections to Second Chamber is going to take place very shortly. I draw the attention of the whole House and the nation to the election process of that particular Second Chamber.

We have discussed about corruption in the House. All the parties condemn corruption. We had passed the Lokpal Bill and the Government is committed to pass that Bill in the other House before the end of this Session. I hope the Government will do it.

The Election Commission, on a number of occasions, had drawn the attention of the country on the role of money power. During the Assembly Elections held in five States recently, the Election Commission had taken effective steps to curb the role of money power. We all appreciate the role of the Election Commission. But now, reports are coming in, very sensitive reports are coming in that huge volume of money are being paid to secure candidature for that particular election to the Second Chamber. People having huge money, whether legitimately or illegitimately, are making huge contribution, political contribution or contribution at a personal level to the people who matter in the choice of candidature. The reports are so dangerous that Non-Resident Indians from different parts of the world, including the Gulf, had dawned over the Sub-Continent to be in the fray and money is being paid to enter a legislature.

Madam, I am a Member of this Lok Sabha for the last 7-8 years. I was in the Rajya Sabha for 16 years. I know what a great privilege it is to be in Parliament, either in the Lok Sabha or the Rajya Sabha, what a great responsibility we are asked to discharge and what a great dignity it is. We take the oath that we shall discharge our duties, keeping the spirit of the Constitution, without fear and favour. But if the election process is so vitiated, if people with big money are allowed to enter the legislature, then that is going to seriously jeopardize the democratic system of the country. It is a great stigma on Indian democracy. It is a great danger for Indian democracy.

I cannot name more because the parliamentary rules do not allow me to name the legislature, to name the party and the people behind it.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): But you are naming everyone.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : I am not naming. People know that. I can give you one example. ...(*Interruptions*) I know a particular member of that legislature who does not belong to my party, who was extremely effective, but he has not been given the ticket and somebody else, who is a businessman, has been given the ticket. ...(*Interruptions*) I cannot do in a way you want me to do. I can say that outside.

Therefore, it seems there is a gap between the cup and the lip and there is a gap between what people say in the House and what people do outside. This duplicity, hypocrisy in the parliamentary system and in the political parties must end once and for all.

I appeal to everybody, to the nation and to the Election Commission to take a note of it and stop this barbarous attempt to manipulate the parliamentary system through dubious means. This is the point I am making.

श्री शरद यादव (मधेपुरा): अध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं अपने को श्री गुरुदास जी द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRIMATI PUTUL KUMARI (BANKA): Madam Speaker, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Gurudas Dasgupta.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : I cannot name...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: You have finished. Please take your seat now.

...(*Interruptions*)

अध्यक्ष महोदया : इतना उत्तेजित क्यों हो रहे हैं? गुरुदास दास गुप्ता जी, अब आप बैठ जाइए।

â€¦(बख़्त)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY): Please name...(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : I cannot do it. I will oblige my friend outside. Everybody knows, it is an open game...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing else will go on record. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions) â€¦\*

श्रीमती पुतुल कुमारी : अध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं श्री गुरुदास दास गुप्ता जी द्वारा उठाये गये विषय के साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करती हूँ। कृपया अनुमति प्रदान की जाए।