

Medical Sciences, New Delhi for the year 1995-96.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2345/97]

12.03 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

Fourth Report

[English]

SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU (Madurai) : I beg to present the Fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have given an adjournment motion...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (South Delhi) : I would like to say something about the Women Reservation Bill...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I make you one request.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : I have a very important matter...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down. Please take your seat. I will allow everybody one by one. I would request you all to please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please take your seat. Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev will speak now. I have allowed him on Adjournment Motion.

[Translation]

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : I have given a notice in regard to the judgement given by the Patna High Court on the imposition of President's rule in Bihar...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am just going to check it.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : On the request of Shrimati Sushma Swaraj, the Prime Minister has agreed to reply. After that, you can call me. You can ask Shrimati Sushma Swaraj to speak now.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Sontosh Mohan Dev, lot of thanks to you. My purpose will be served if all my male colleagues adopt the same attitude. Mr. Prime Minister has accepted my request with a very liberal attitude. I would like to submit through you...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Everyday will get a chance. Why do not you have some patience? I will allow one and all.

12.05 hrs.

RE: CONSTITUTION (EIGHTY-FIRST AMENDMENT) BILL

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (South Delhi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Women's Reservation Bill has been lingering since the last three Sessions. At the end of each Session the Government says that it would bring the bill at the start of the next Session. Such things are going on for the last three Sessions. Without retreating into the past I would only like to tell the Prime Minister that this Bill was brought here for consideration only on the last day of the previous Session. It was put forth with great difficulty but some how it was presented. Going by the rules the bill should have been considered at the very beginning of Session but time and again it was said that it will be decided in the BAC and then it would come up for discussion in the next week. At last Smt. Geetaji said that an understanding has been reached that the bill will come up on the 11th and the 12th instant. It meant that discussion will be held on

[Shrimati Sushma Swaraj]

the 11th and the 12th and then voting will also be done and the Bill shall be pursued further. But yesterday the Bill was at item no. 28 and even today it is the last item. It shows that the Government does not have the intention to discuss this Bill nor does it want voting on it. I would like to tell the Prime Minister that all the procedure has been completed. The Bill has already been sent to the Joint Select Committee and its recommendations have also been received. All party meetings have also been convened. He has already decided to get this Bill passed. Then, what is the reason for which the Bill comes as the last item in the list of Business? We have only one day i.e. today at our disposal. Tomorrow will be a day for Private Member's Bill and on the 15th August this Session will come to an end. What is his intention behind not getting the Bill passed? The Prime Minister should respond as to how long such mockery with the women of the country shall continue and why does he not get this Bill passed. The Prime Minister should respond to it for a minute only and then my purpose will be served...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Why can you not listen to me? Please listen to me.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Lodha, your adjournment motion is under consideration of the Hon'ble Speaker.

[English]

He will let you know soon about it.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : Sir, you know that the Business Advisory Committee yesterday unanimously decided that the discussion on this Bill would be taken up in this Session itself...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Prime Minister is standing here to respond...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Will the Government say something in regard to Women's Bill?

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please listen to the Prime Minister.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : Sir, I rise to respond positively to the spirit of the interventions

that have been made not only today but ever since this issue came up. I have repeatedly reaffirmed my faith in this. And I reaffirm it again. I believe and I feel that the women in India must come up not only socially but also politically. And women's empowerment is an important belief in itself. I do not have to really carry conviction on this because, I think, my hon. friends will accept that. The difficulty is not about my faith in it; the difficulty is not about my commitment on this but the difficulty basically is about the type of various objections or various suspicions or various doubts that have been raised. I do not want to run down anybody. I do not want to say that somebody is wrong or somebody is right. In this House, Sir, whenever we have said in the past, whenever we have thought of a far-reaching social measure, we have always felt that a consensus was extremely important. Therefore, I would be dishonest if I try to take refuge under this thing or under that thing, on the technical ground or non-technical ground. The reality is this. I do not mean disrespect to anybody when I say this thing. One may like to confess it or may not. But I want to confess it. My confession is that in every political party, there are two opinions...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : No...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Yes...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : There are no two opinions in the Left. The Left is identical in this...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Let me complete it...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Let him complete.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let him complete. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Let me complete. The point that I am trying to make is that basically there are many respectable exceptions and I respect those respectable exceptions. I know that there is no division in the Left. I know that...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Why are you so impatient.

(Interruptions)

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : I will be letting down the individual Members for the privacy and confidence that they have reposed in me if I tell you what they say when they come and talk to me. And I repeat that except the Left, there is division in every Party...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : We are not going to accept that...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will allow all the Members. Please speak one by one.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Baramati) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Prime Minister has given a wrong statement about my party. Any individual may have some other opinion in this regard but the opinion of my party as a whole is that the Prime Minister should bring forward the motion and we will support that. We are of this view today and shall hold the same in future also...(Interruptions) It was very much there in our manifesto but I assure that we would support the motion if the United Front Government brings forward the Bill to provide 33 percent reservation to women. We will support it and shall issue whip for the same ... (Interruptions)

[English]

Such a statement made by the Prime Minister himself is the most unfortunate thing. I will request the Prime Minister to withdraw that statement...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : The Prime Minister must withdraw this statement categorically. He may take the responsibility for his own Front but he should not cast aspersions on any other Party. He will have to make it clear. It is not a question of an individual. It is the question of a political institution. The Congress Party made it clear in its manifesto as also on the floor of the House twice that it would issue a whip. We stand by it. How can the Prime Minister say that the Left is clear on it and others are not clear on it? The Prime Minister must categorically withdraw it first. We will not accept it.

[Translation]

DR. GIRIJA VYAS (Udaipur) : Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government will have to make its intention clear. The Prime Minister cannot pass the buck to others. The Prime Minister should manage the United Front instead of levelling charges on other parties ... (Interruptions) The Prime Minister should develop a willingness to manage the United Front. Showing helplessness that he is surrounded by 14 parties is not going to serve the purpose. He should not impose his mistakes on others... (Interruptions)

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : They are shedding crocodile tears here. Women belonging to backward classes are more backward. If he wishes to remove backwardness among women, then give reservation to those women who belong to the backward classes and then we shall accept that he really wishes to improve their lot... (Interruptions) Sir, in politics reservation is not going to benefit anyone nor it is going to benefit anyone in

future. If you are a sincere well-wisher of women, then give all the Janta Dal tickets to women, I will welcome that. If he is a well wisher of women, he should allocate hundred per cent tickets of his party to women candidates... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Iliyas Azmi, you have already had your say. Please take your seat. Let Shri George Fernandes speak. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : If this reservation is given... (Interruptions) It will cause bloodshed and nothing else... (Interruptions) use of force and police will not check it.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Will you sit down now?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Iliyas Azmi, please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : It will pose a setback to the movement launched by Baba Saheb Ambedkar.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Why do not you allow him to conclude?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : They are conspiring to destroy the society. However, we would not allow them to succeed in it.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Nalanda) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I raise an objection to the statement of the Hon'ble Prime Minister on two counts. First, he has said that except Left parties, all other parties have divergent views on this issue. I do not agree to this view. As regards the role of our party in and outside this House, we have made it very clear on the comments made by Shri Nitish Kumar, our representative in the Select Committee... (Interruptions) We are supporting this Bill. We have already given an amendment on this Bill and a notice to this effect has been received by us. Our amendment demands special reservation for backward classes among women... (Interruptions) In case, the House rejects our amendment, even then we will vote for the passage of the Bill. This is the stand of our party. There may be lack of consensus among various other

[Shri George Fernandes]

parties on this Bill, but I am sure that the opposition have no objection to the introduction of the Bill in the House today itself. Rather, the dissension is there in their so-called United Front. They must admit this fact. Instead of delivering sermons, the Bill should be introduced in this House right now and we do not have any objection in this regard.

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, I have great respect for my friend, Shri George Fernandes. His social attitudes are well known all over the country. His commitment to the gender equality is well known. I respect him. His commitment to the cause is known as is mine. So, both of us are on the same side so far as the commitment to the gender equality is concerned. But Shri Fernandes is a Member of this House for a long time and his parliamentary skills are unrivalled. There is no doubt about that. And, he has said what I have said. He has confirmed that

[Translation]

the amendment repeat the same thing which are short listed for division...(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Perhaps, he has not understood my point or he is deliberately distorting the facts. I said that we would vote for the Bill. Let the Government introduce the Bill and we would vote for the passage of the Bill. Our support is not linked with the acceptance of our amendment. Even if our amendment is rejected, we would support the Bill...(Interruptions) You may reject our amendment, but we will get this Bill passed.

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, I want a guarantee from him that he will pass it without an amendment. Will he?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Yes. That is what I am telling. I think, he does not understand Hindi. I will tell him in English.

What we are saying is that we have given an amendment. If that amendment is defeated — even if it is defeated — we will vote for the Bill in its original form and see that it is passed. That is my position and my party's position...(Interruptions)

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Will you kindly listen to me...(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : My support is not qualified. Yours is qualified.

[Translation]

This is what we want to say. This is our view. Even if you don't accept this view, we will get this Bill passed...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Kindly listen to me...(Interruptions)

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat) : He is very clear in his attitude...(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I have not bartered away my right...(Interruptions)

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, I want to repeat what I said in the beginning. One, that I stand committed to the idea of gender equality and empowerment of women. That is the main point and I think, most of us do it. There are reservations on various dimensions of it. I am not going to comment on that whether they are right or wrong, but there are. Some are suspicions, some are doubts, some are mind-sets and some are legacies of the past.

That is why I said in the beginning and I repeat that this is a major social measure. That is why I said, persuasion and also accommodation of various points of view are very much called for. If the Government is not coming forward to push it to a majority area, it is primarily because we feel that when a major social change is coming, that major social change does require that we understand each other's point of view. Shri George Fernandes has one point of view. I may have some different view. Shri Nitish Kumar is totally violent on this issue. I will not repeat it because I have experienced it last time. Therefore I will not repeat it now.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : I am the most nonviolent person; I can never be violent.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Therefore what I am trying to say is that let us move in this direction. I have requested the Speaker also that with his help and assistance we can get together and evolve a consensus. That will be very useful.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Our position is crystal clear. It is abundantly known and we are unanimous in that point. I must reiterate that we cannot associate ourselves with this Bill unless and until reservation is also extended to the OBCs and the minorities. Let there be no mistake about that. We grow eloquent on the question of justice to OBC, on the question of justice to minorities.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Have we started the discussion on the Bill? If that is so, let us start the discussion...(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Why do they feel shy in empowerment of the depressed OBC and the depressed minorities? That is a demand of the social justice. Why are the House and the Government shy in the empowerment of the OBC and the minorities? Sir, we have 39 women here in the House; but only four are from the OBC. Why do you not empower the OBC also to politically raise them up? Then the question of the minorities is also very clear over here. Social justice demands that we must be fair. This is the time when we must come up for the political empowerment of the OBC and the minorities. Unless and until that is done, the Muslim League will not associate itself with this Bill which will further perpetuate the social and political inequalities in our country...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Everyone will get a chance one by one. Shri Surender Singh, I will allow you.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : At this stage we can only discuss whether the discussion on the Bill should start or not; not the merits of the Bill. The hon. Prime Minister has expressed. I believe his doubts about the fate of the Bill if it comes up for discussion. I am thankful to him for he has admitted that with the Left there is no problem...(Interruptions) The Congress leader has said on the floor of the House that his party is united. Yesterday, Shri Jaswant Singh said that his party was supporting this Bill. I am requesting the hon. Prime Minister and everyone here. I suggested yesterday also; we may not pass it by tomorrow; let the discussion start, let every party express its views. Expression of view will come up during the discussion.

Amendments are there; they will be there. Let us take them up at the appropriate time when the amendments ought to be taken up, that is, after the first reading. Therefore, at this stage, let us speak on the merits of the Bill. I am appealing to the entire House through you. Let this discussion start. Once the discussion starts, differing view points of various Parties will come up. Why are you trying to stop it? This is a House for discussion and deliberation. It is our job here to convince each other, to get to hear the other's points of view. Ultimately, some decision will come up.

We have been trying - everybody has been trying - to arrive at a consensus. But consensus has not been possible outside the Chamber. Let the process continue. I am appealing to the hon. Prime Minister and also to the hon. Speaker. Let the process of reaching consensus through discussion continue. Let the discussion start. That will show the commitment of this House that an important measure is not stifled in a manner as somebody is suspecting. People are suspecting that it is being done. Therefore, in the name of a consensus,

I am appealing to the hon. Prime Minister. Let the discussion start. Let it be carried over till the next Session. We would not mind that. But our commitment to this issue should not be allowed to be diluted...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, let Shri Chatterjee tell me if there has even been reservation for women in communist countries like Russia and China, of which they claim to be the follower?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have allowed Shri Surender Singh now. I will allow you later.

[Translation]

SHRI SURENDER SINGH (Bhiwani) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, so far as this Bill is concerned, the Prime Minister has rightly said that except Left parties, there is dissension in every other party. I support this Bill. However, my condition is that the amendment given by Shri George Fernandes should be included in the Bill and the Bill should be redrafted. When many of our friends belonging to various parties speak and hold discussion among themselves, the senior leaders of our party this House keep mum on certain matters. This reservation for women will not be restricted to 33 per cent because if the Bill is adopted, nobody can stop women from contesting election from the remaining 67 per cent seats. I, therefore, urge you to, atleast, ensure 33 per cent reservation for men. The OBCs and weaker sections could be included in it because the issue of reservation is such that it would not come up again and again, nor there would be any amendments.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, no whip would be issued from here for the leaders of all parties and back-benchers like us whose votes matter. If Shri Vajpayee issues a whip we will abide by it because his party is a disciplined force. However, those sitting on middle benches seem to be confused. Shri Pawar should turn back and let me know about his views. I would also tell Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev that if there is confusion, it is among the middle benchers and not among us. So far as treasury benches are concerned, Gujarat Saheb will make his best efforts. However, when he speaks, the Members sitting behind him raise their hands very high. I would, therefore, suggest that another committee of this House should be constituted and that another committee of this House should be constituted and that could reconsider the Women Reservation Bill. The revised Bill should include Shri George Fernandes is suggestions and suggestions of other back-benchers. If

[Shri Surender Singh]

any party issues a whip, it will face difficulty as everybody knows that we have to go. The Hon'ble Members would agree to my view that women could not be stopped from contesting elections from the remaining percentage of seats after passage of this Bill. Hence, it needs a thorough review. There should be no objection to the inclusion of OBCs, weaker sections ...*(Interruptions)* I suggest that it should be reconsidered properly before the next Session starts. We are ready to give them more than 33 per cent, provided there is no restriction for others.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Your suggestion had also come for the ex-Prime Minister earlier. Today's suggestion is also very good and the House must take it into account.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI (Khajuraho) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Hon'ble Prime Minister just now said that there is no consensus and therefore, he is unable to bring forward the Bill in the House. I would like to associate myself with the view of Shri George Fernandes that if there is any confusion, it is among the Members sitting behind Gujral Saheb.

Secondly, there is division Shri Gujral Saheb also as to from which party he is the Prime Minister...*(Interruptions)*

The Hon. Member of Parliament are divided over Shri Gujral itself in this regard. Neither he is able to tell about his party affiliation nor any party is claiming that he belongs to it. I know about the hon. Prime Minister before he joined politics. I hold him in high esteem. I have a regard for his courage, patience and sobriety. Besides, personally, I had association with him. I am surprised at this gesture. I would like to know from the Prime Minister, through you, as to what pressure is he facing? What is he afraid of? Everyone, even those who are closely associated with him know that he had a liberal outlook about women. What are the reasons behind not tabling this Bill for a debate in the House? Let the Bill come up for a discussion in the House. I am also one of those who are supporting OBC or minorities. I am also of the view that there is a difference between a woman breaking stones and a woman driving esteem car and also between a woman sitting in an airconditioned bedroom and a woman working in the fields. I like Shri Banatwalla very much when he raises demands for women. If Banatwalla Saheb is ready to oppose the discrimination between man and woman regarding divorce, marriage, succession Act personal law and 'purdah' practice openly and announces that no Muslim woman in India will remain in Purdah...*(Interruptions)* If he announces that every Muslim woman in India is entitled to enter the

mosque...*(Interruptions)* I would like to state that this discussion should cover his motion also...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let her conclude.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when I speak on the point, he appreciates and he claps and when I speak on the topic...*(Interruptions)*, he raises an objection like this.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I request the hon. Prime Minister to bring forward the Bill for a discussion right now. That Bill should cover all the points in this regard. Let there be a consensus in the House on this issue. The hon. Members of my party would not violate the dignity of party line at any rate...*(Interruptions)* I want to make the hon. Prime Minister aware about it. He made a mention about the attitude of left parties since he is closely associated with them but he should keep in mind the interest of other parties also. We do not have difference of opinion over this issue as has already been stated by Shri George Fernandes. Please bring forward the Bill for a discussion in the House so that everyone may put forth his views. In the end, there would be a division but my party is not likely to violate the dignity of party line.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to request the hon. Prime Minister...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will allow every one - one by one.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I fail to understand as to what will be the outcome of this discussion.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If one person from each party speaks over it, it would take much time because there are many parties.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There are more than 32 political parties.

[Translation]

what would be the outcome if one person from each party speaks...

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam) : We have got many other issues to discuss. We have been notice for them...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV (Purnea) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the question raised by the hon. Prime Minister has anguished our colleagues from the Congress party the most. Today itself, an hon. Member of Congress party hailing from Nagaland had a clear demand on the women Bill that until the question of OBC and minorities is included in it, the said Bill would have no meaning. Our friends from the Congress party and our senior most colleague Shri George Fernandes have said much about it. I know that the intention of the Samata Party is to provide 33 per cent reservation for OBC and minorities. But the party with which George Saheb shares his common interest, wants to please both of them. The persons sitting on the front benches and Kumari Uma Bharati wants to please both of them. She also wants to please backward classes for their votes. She has nothing to do with minorities. So far as women, Bill is concerned, it was hotly debated in the House yesterday. Surendra ji made a demand for setting up a committee again. So far as the United Front is concerned, the hon. Prime Minister has proved by including five women Ministers in his cabinet that he was a staunch supporter of women' cause. The Samajwadi Party which is a part of United Front is not different from the Left parties. But we support the cause of OBC and minorities them anybody else. There would be compromise on this. We do not want the House to be divided. The hon. Prime Minister should introduce this Bill after a small committee set up for the purpose makes suitable amendments in it?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV : **

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is not related to that...

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (South Delhi) : What is it**...*(Interruptions)* why are you making personal comments like this...*(Interruptions)* Please expunge this comment...*(Interruptions)* What does this mean? What has started?...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will see the record.

(Interruptions)

** Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please listen to me. Will you please listen to me?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You are making such statements which have nothing to do with this Bill.

[English]

I am going to remove all those things from the record.

[Translation]

Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you expunge it from the record....*(Interruptions)* He is passing personal comments...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down now.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shrimati Sushmaji, I am removing those things from the record.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV : I would like that before introducing this Bill, O.B.C.'s and minorities may also be included in it...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There are some other important issues also to be raised in Zero Hour. If you will act like this, I will not allow anyone to speak on other important issues.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Sufficient discussion has taken place on this issue.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN (Mumbai North East) : What should be done, it is being discussed in parts...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : Sir, there are other important issue...*(Interruptions)* Sir, you may please control the House and allow other hon. Members to speak on other important issues...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Will you allow anybody to speak or not?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Ahamed, I have allowed Shri Fatmi to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Ahamed, nothing is going on record. Please take your Seat.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing has gone on record. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me a chance. I would like to assure the House as well as the Government on behalf of our Party, Rashtriya Janta Dal that we are also not against the Reservation for Women Bill. We have categorically stated already that women should get full respect whether it is in the political field or in the social field. But we have got only one objection and that is that women belonging to backward classes and minorities may be included in it. Here, Left Front and Congress Party is discussing on this issue. Today, they are making announcement that 33 percent reservation should be made for women. I would like to ask the Left Front whether there is even a single lady member in their Polit Bureau? Similarly, elections were held in the Congress Working Committee just two days ago, I would like to ask the Congress Party as to why any woman had not been elected in CWC? Then, what type of political reservation would you like to provide them?...*(Interruptions)* These people want to make wrong propoganda in the country. These people do not want to give respect and honour to women in any field.

So far as the Bhartiya Janata Party is concerned, they have said it clearly in the House today that provision should be made for reservation for backward classes also. If you try to find out the views of the members of Bhartiya Janata Party on this issue, you will come to know that the people of backward classes and dalits are against the manner in which this bill is being brought in the House. Whatever the Prime Minister has stated is correct. There is a difference of opinion in the entire House as well as in every political party. George Fernandes has also said this thing. He also wants that

Not Recorded.

provision should be made for reservation for women of backward classes and minorities. Therefore, I would like to say once again that I welcome this bill but it should be introduced with amendments in which women of backward classes and minorities may also be included.

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (Patiala) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, our party's view point is clear on Reservation for Women Bill. We give respect and honour to women and we support the bill to give rights to women. I am not able to understand that when hon'ble Prime Minister has stated that the House is not unanimous on this issue. why then it is being discussed for the last three days. There are many other important issues which can be discussed. Why the Government do not become unanimous on this issue? First of all, I would like to ask that if ever a woman had got right to cast her vote first time in this country that was during the elections of the Head of Shiromani Gurdwara Managing Committee which were held after fighting of the Gurdwaras against the Britishers. I feel very distress that today our hon'ble Prime Minister is expressing his inability on the issue of reservation for women bill and the Government has changed the Act of Shiromani Gurudwara Managing Committee in an over night. Last year when elections were held, reservation was provided and at that time nobody asked about it.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : I would like to say that the Government should pay attention towards these minorities also in this country who do not get reservation in the Parliament. There are certain minorities in our country who do not get opportunity to come in the Parliament. How many people belonging to sikh community live in Uttar Pradesh? None of the Member of Parliament from Uttar Pradesh belongs to sikh community. No member belonging to sikh community is included in the minority commission in Uttar Pradesh. Only in the state of west Bengal a sikh has been included in the Minority Commission in this country. I would urge upon the Government that if you have to raise the issue of reservation, first of all, I would like to ask that who has imposed a ban on the entry of women in Parliament? All women can also represent in Parliament. When restriction has not been imposed, then I think there is no need of reservation. If it is required, they why she don't get chance to come in the Parliament? Survey should be conducted in this regard? A Committee should be constituted to find out that who do not get opportunity to represent in the Parliament.

Wherever there are minorities they should get reservation. Amendments should be made in it and a Committee should be constituted to provide reservation for the minorities as well as for women.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am rising with a heavy heart and sadness...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It is a serious issue. Please listen to him.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have allowed Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev only.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : On 4th July this year, a young boy and social worker, 35 year old, Shri Sanjay Ghosh was kidnapped from Majuli in Assam. Subsequent to that, an outfit of terrorists, ULFA, claimed that he had been kidnapped by them.

Shri Ghosh, a very well-educated boy, coming from a very well-off family, decided to do social work. His organisation, AVARD, was doing work all over the country, especially in remote areas of the North-East. It is most unfortunate that when there is a unified command in Assam, that is, the Army and the Police operated jointly, he has not been traced out until four days back. Many confusing news appeared in the newspapers. Ultimately, it had been found that the ULFA said that he had died as he had a fall from a cliff while the Army operation was going on.

I would like to draw the attention of the Government and this august House to the activities of the terrorists. When they try to do something against social outfits or organisations, they try to say that they want India without corruption. This boy, Shri Ghosh, used to work in this area.

A project which could be done by the BDO in Rs. 3 lakh, the organisation of Shri Ghose used to do in Rs. 50,000. That was why the contractors and the corrupt officers who are hand glove with ULFA, kidnapped him. The Chief Minister of Assam himself has said that a percentage of the money which goes to rural areas has to be paid to ULFA, without which no work can be done. This young boy's intention was to get the money released and utilise it in proper manner. He has been killed now. Most unfortunately, the Army is saying that the civil administration is responsible for this and the civil administration is saying that Army is responsible. I am not going to speak against anybody.

What I would like to say is that the tea industry is coming out of Assam. Reliance wanted to set up a Gas Cracker plant, which was sanctioned during Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao's time, but they have decided to come out of Assam. Technocrats who are posted in Oil India and ONGC are refusing to go to Assam. There is a rule of terrorists there. Every officer is forced to pay a percentage of his salary to the terrorists.

This death has caused a furore all over the country. Yesterday in Delhi, young boys and girls numbering about 10000. took out a procession and gave a memorandum to the Hon. Speaker and to all the political parties. I am glad that the Home Minister is here. He has given an order that Paresch Baruah must be arrested. An international warrant has been issued to that effect. But, where was the Home Ministry when kidnappings and killings were taking place every day? Paresch Baruah is known even before. Why did the Home Ministry not do this before? This is the question being asked by the people. I would like to say that the Government must take drastic steps against those terrorists who do not want civilised and honest social workers to work in the North-East. I appeal through you to the Government to make a statement in the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri I.P. Hazarika.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR (Dibrugarh) : Sir, it is a very serious issue. In the North-East...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All your notices are there. I will allow.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have not allowed you.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have called Shri Hazarika.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA (Tezpur) : Sir, the Home Ministry has issued...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What is this going on?

(Interruptions)

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Birbhum) : Sir.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing of what he is speaking will go on record. Please take your seat. Nothing is going on record.

(Interruptions)*