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Title: Introduction of the Central Goods and Services Tax Bill, 2017.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE, MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Madam, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to make a provision for levy and collection of tax on intra-State supply of goods or services or both by the Central Government and the matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

HON. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to make a provision for levy and collection of tax on intra-State supply of goods or services or both by the Central Government and the matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

अब आप बोलिए, हम कमेंट मना तो नहीं कर रहे हैं।

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): Madam, I am not objecting to the merit of the Bill. I am only going into the procedure which has been adopted by the Government. As per Rule 72 (2):

"[(2) Notice to oppose introduction of a Bill shall be addressed to the Secretary-General {specifying clearly and precisely the objections to be raised} and given by 10.00 hours on the day on which the motion for leave to introduce the Bill is included in the list of business.]"

It is the right of a Member to raise objection to each and every Bill introduced by the Government. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: I am not saying 'no' to it.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL : Just now, we have received the Supplementary List. The Government has enough time because this has been passed by the Cabinet on Wednesday itself. The Government has enough time. The Government is curtailing the right of the Members for raising objection on this Bill. We are opposing it. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: You can oppose it.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL : We have to be given sufficient time for opposing. Therefore, I am opposing the way in which the procedure has been adopted by the Government. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: I shall now put the question.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL : Please give a ruling on that. Whenever a point of order has been raised, we need a ruling from the Chair. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: You have opposed that. आपने अपोज किया न, दैट्स ओके।

â€¦(ब्यवधान)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL : I am not opposing the introduction. I have raised a point of order under Rule 72 of the Rules of Procedure. I need a ruling from the hon. Madam.

HON. SPEAKER: You have opposed the introduction of the Bill.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL : I raised a point of order. It is not appropriate. ...(*Interruptions*) I am not opposing the introduction of the Bill. On Friday, hon. Minister has given a List of Business for this week. In that list, GST Bill was not included. In the Supplementary List of Business which has been given just now, he is mentioning about the four important Bills for introduction by the Government. ...(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): Madam, 24th was Friday. The List of Business for 27th was issued on that day. The Bill was vetted by the Legislative Department and the Law Ministry late in the evening. It was circulated in the midnight to the hon. Members and it was uploaded on the e-portal of each and every Member. It was uploaded on that very night. So, there was no opportunity. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Why did you not include it in the List of Business? ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: This is not like cross-questioning. I am sorry.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Madam, the Revised List or the Supplementary List can be issued when the Secretariat is working. Saturday and Sunday were holidays.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Just as you have put it on the website, why did you not include it in the List of Business? ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Venugopalji, you have opposed it. I am giving me ruling. I am telling you.

...(Interruptions)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : दो सदस्य एक साथ नहीं बोल सकते।

â€¦(व्यवधान)

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): Madam, I am not on the merits of the Bill at all, it has been passed in the Inter State Council, the Cabinet has taken a decision. I am objecting to these midnight manouevresâ€¦(Interruptions)

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Madam, what is this? ...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Do not use such words. There is nothing like that.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: Madam, the Minister on Friday moved the motion on Government Business for the coming week. If it was uploaded on the midnight of Friday, then why did it not come in this List of Business for today? What will happen now?

Why is this being sought to be introduced today? That is because the Minister knows that there is a Business Advisory Committee meeting called by you which will be chaired by you at one o'clock today. So, they will come in a hurry, we will have the Bill tomorrow and then we will discuss it immediately. Madam, we need time for such an important item of business.

Madam, please do not upset the balance in Parliamentary procedure where Members should be given sufficient time to deliberate, to think, to put objections, whatever. That is what my friend Mr. Venugopal has put forward very articulately and eloquently. Madam, you should give a ruling on this.

HON. SPEAKER: I am giving a ruling.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: The House should not be suddenly jolted into action by midnight manouevres.

HON. SPEAKER: There is nothing like that.

आप सब जानते हैं कि जब हमने शुक्रवार, 24 मार्च को लिस्ट ऑफ बिजनेस ईश्यू किया था, उस समय हमारे पास यह बिल नहीं था, बाद में आया। बाद में आने के बाद हम इस बिल को आपकी लिस्ट में शामिल नहीं कर सके। It was not included in today's List of Business, I can understand that. But the Bill was circulated on Saturday morning. Therefore, now I have permitted the Minister to introduce the Bill. शनिवार सुबह सबको सर्कुलेट किया गया था।

...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: I am giving you the reasoning. इसलिए लिस्ट ऑफ बिजनेस में इनक्लूड नहीं किया गया, मगर सर्कुलेट हुआ था, शनिवार सुबह सर्कुलेट हुआ था। इसलिए आज वे बिल इंट्रोड्यूस कर सकते हैं। मैंने वेयर दे दिया है।

â€¦(व्यवधान)

श्री मलिकार्जुन खड़गे (गुलबर्गा) : मैडम, यह क्या है।...(व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : मैंने बताया है कि यह सर्कुलेट हुआ है।

â€¦(व्यवधान)

HON. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to make a provision for levy and collection of tax on intra-State supply of goods or services or both by the Central Government and the matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: I introduce** the Bill.

12.12 hours