

**Title:** Requests the Government to inquire into the arrival of fact finding mission of US Customs officials for ascertaining child labour in India's carpet industry.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (PANSKURA): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I fully sympathise with you. If even the leaders stand up in this way, then it is impossible to conduct the House. This does not behove of parliamentarians. The people outside do not like this kind of behaviour on the part of hon. Members of the House.

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\* Not Recorded

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)\*

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, how can you conduct this House?

... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)\*

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (PANSKURA): I am sorry, if the House is like this, it is impossible for anybody to conduct the proceedings. I fully sympathise with you.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It will be impossible for anybody to control this House.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : This does not behove of us because when we go outside, we find that people are extremely disgusted with us.

The point I wanted to raise is a point which deals with the question of the national sovereignty of India. A so-called 'fact finding mission', comprising of three customs officials of the United States of America have arrived in India for ascertaining whether the produce of India's carpet industry is qualified for export. Swami Agnivesh, Chairperson of Bonded Labour Liberation Front sent a protest letter against this to Shrimati Vasundhara Raje, the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs but he did not receive any reply.

This is the first time that such a visit has been allowed by the Government of India. Obviously, this visit is connected with the social clause of the WTO. This means, they want to blockade our carpet export by saying that we are employing child labour. It is our business and we shall try our best to save child labour. Whether any violation of human rights has taken place in child labour is the concern of the International Labour Organisation and not of the WTO. This kind of a visit tantamounts to violation of the sovereignty of our country and I demand that the Government should consider it from that point of view and stop any such so-called 'fact finding' by the US officials.

श्री बासवराज पाटिल सेडाम : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, लगभग एक साल से मैं एक समस्या उठा रहा हूँ कि सिकन्दराबाद से बाम्बे जाने वाली हुसैनसागर एक्सप्रेस चित्तापुर रेलवे स्टेशन

... (व्यवधान)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOOGLY): I want to say something on the same point.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: But your name is not on the list.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : My name is at No.25.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am sorry. Your name is there.

प्रो. जोगेन्द्र कवाडे (चिमूर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, कलोई गांव में एक नाबालिग लड़की से साथ बलात्कार किया गया, मैं इस तरफ आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ।

... (व्यवधान)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: His name is there. Please allow him to him speak.

>SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Today, this US team is visiting Mirzapur. We have repeatedly expressed our concern about the imposition or pushing through of the social clause in violation of the multilateral arrangement as per the WTO guidelines. Our export of carpets is going to be severely affected as a

result of this. Child labour is an issue about which this House is very much concerned. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: She has already explained it in depth. You have only to say, 'I endorse'. That is all.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : I join her. The Government should make a statement on this very serious issue. Today, this US team has violated all the guidelines and is trying to push through the social clause. (Interruptions)

डा. विजय सोनकर शास्त्री (सैदपुर): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इसी विषय पर हमको भी बोलना है।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : इस पर बोलने के लिए उन्होंने नोटिस दिया था लेकिन आपने नोटिस नहीं दिया है।

डा. विजय सोनकर शास्त्री : आप तो हमारे यहां के ही हैं।

... (व्यवधान)

यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न है।

... (व्यवधान)

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\* Not Recorded

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर आप नोटिस देते तो मैं आपको इसी तरह ऐलाऊ करता।

... (Interruptions)

\* Not Recorded

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)\*