

Twelfth Lok Sabha

Session : 2

Date : 04-07-1998

Participants : Singh Shri Rajo,Radhakrishnan Shri Varkala,Nitish Kumar Shri

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Title : Announcement regarding suspension of Rule 331(g) (d) of the Rules of Procedure in its application to the Demands for Grants (Railways), 1998-99.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY **THE CHAIR**

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MR. CHAIRMAN : The next item is discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants (Railways.) for 1998-99.

The Demands for Grants (Railways) for the year 1998-99 were referred to the Standing Committee on Railways for reporting to the House before those

are taken up by the House for discussion and voting. I have to inform the hon. Members that the Committee has, so far, not presented its Report to the House.

Since very little time is available for passing of the Railway Budget, the House has to suspend Rule 331(g)(d) of the Rules of Procedure in its application

to the Demands for Grants (Railways), 1998-99. I hope the House agrees to suspend the Rule.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demands for Grants.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, there is no convincing reason before the House. Why could the Committee not present the Report?

[Translation]

SHRI RAJO SINGH (Begusari) : The Committee has submitted its report. Things would go wrong if you try to avoid this procedure.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : It should not become a precedent.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Just a minute please. Fifteen minutes are given for giving Cut-motions. Now, it is five minutes to six o'clock. I think, the Cut-motions can be given on Monday only.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJO SINGH : Sir, the Committee has submitted the report. You cannot pass the Demands lor Grants by avoiding the Committee Report. The whole thing will go haywire. It can be passed on Monday...
(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : Sir, I would submit that it should be taken up on Monday. He is a new Member that is why he may not be aware. It is possible that the Committee may have prepared the report but it has not been presented. It is possible that Committee has done its work.

SHRI RAJO SINGH ; Mamata Banerjee is the Chairman of the Committee. She is not present so it might not have been presented.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : We are not objecting to what you say. It is the job of the Committee to present ■ he report before the House. The Government has no

connection with it as you are saying. The Chair has said that it may be taken up later on. It is your choice. But I request that it should be taken up on Monday.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It would be taken up on Monday, Even otherwise also, there is no time left now.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Sir, when we have been asked to suspend the rule, there should be convincing reason from the Treasury Benches as to why the Committee did not meet.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have taken the sense of the House that it should be suspended.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : It should not be a precedent.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not a precedent. It is always like that.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Why did the Committee not meet?

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is not the Chair's business to ask.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : The House should know about it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is not my business.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Sir, the House must know as to why the Committee did not meet.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Whatever might have been the reason, the Report of the Standing Committee has not been submitted to the' House. Therefore, the House has no other option but to suspend the Rule in order to pass the Demands.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : But the House must know the reason.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, the House stands adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Monday, the 6th July, 1998.

17.56 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the . Clock on Monday, July 6, 1998/Asadha 15, 1920 (Saka)