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Title: Shri Deepender Singh Hooda and Smt. Kirron Anupam Kher made a submission regarding alleged injustice meted out to the stalking victim due to negligence of Chandigarh police in taking timely action.

श्री दीपेन्द्र सिंह हुड्डा (रोहतक) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपने महिला सम्मान से जुड़ा हुआ एक महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दा उठाने की मुझे अनुमति दी है।

यह मुद्दा बहुचर्चित वर्णिका कुंडु मामले का है। चण्डीगढ़ में यह जो घटना घटित हुई, जिसमें एक महिला का दो लड़कों ने गाड़ी से पीछा किया, जबरन गाड़ी रुकवाकर, जबर्दस्ती उसकी गाड़ी की खिड़की खोलने का प्रयास हुआ। पूरे देश के सामने यह मामला आया। जब यह मामला आया, उसके बाद जिस तरह की कार्रवाई हुई, कुछ पक्षपात की बातें उत्पन्न हुई कि पहले उतनी धाराएं लगाई गयीं, फिर उनको हटा दिया गया। डीएसपी के अलग-अलग दो बयान आए, थाने के अंदर जिस तरह से खातिरदारी की गयी, इन सभी बातों को लेकर प्रश्न उठे। सीसीटीवी कैमरे की जो फुटेज उपलब्ध हो पाई, उनको लेकर संशय हुआ, लेकिन कल चण्डीगढ़ पुलिस ने दोबारा इस केस की इनक़ायरी को आगे बढ़ाते हुए कार्रवाई की है। आरोपी को गिरफ्तार किया गया है और उस पर धाराएं लगाई गयी हैं।

मैं आपके माध्यम से तीन बातें सरकार से कहना चाहूंगा। यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण एवं संवेदनशील मुद्दा है और आज पूरे देश का ध्यान इस मुद्दे पर है। पहला कदम चण्डीगढ़ पुलिस ने जरूर बढ़ाया है, मगर इसकी जांच को जब तक न्यायसंगत निएकएन तक लेकर नहीं जाते, तब तक सरकार और प्रशासन पर पूरे देश की नजर रहेगी। इस मामले में जब न्याय होगा, तभी देश में ऐसा संदेश जाएगा कि कानून सबके लिए बराबर है। इस मामले में न्याय मांगने के लिए मैं खड़ा हुआ हूं। हम न्याय से ज्यादा कोई मांग नहीं कर रहे हैं, हमें न्याय से ज्यादा कुछ नहीं चाहिए, मगर न्याय से कम भी देश स्वीकार नहीं करेगा। अगर कहीं ढिलाई हुई या निपेक्षता में कमी आई तो देश दोबारा उसी तरह उठ खड़ा होगा, जैसे पहले खड़ा हुआ था। ...(व्यवधान) अब सरकार ने दोबारा वे धाराएं लगाई हैं, इसका अर्थ है कि सरकार ने यह स्वीकार किया है कि प्रारम्भिक जांच में कोई न कोई चूक हुई है। वह चूक कैसे हुई, किन अधिकारियों ने की है? क्या उन पर कोई दबाव था? सरकार को इन बातों का जवाब देना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान) मैं एक बात और कहना चाहूंगा। ...(व्यवधान) जब एसडीएम द्वारा पीड़िता का धारा 164 का बयान हुआ। ... (व्यवधान)

श्री गणेश सिंह (सतना) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह राज्य का विषेय है। वहां कार्रवाई हो रही है।...(व्यवधान)

श्री दीपेन्द्र सिंह हुड्डा : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, उस बयान के समय कोई महिला अधिकारी नहीं थी। आज सरकार की ओर से पूरे देश में ऐसा निर्देश जाए, ताकि ऐसे संवेदनशील मामलों में विश्वास का माहौल बने। ...(व्यवधान) Let me finish it as it is an important issue. सर, अगर मैं कोई राजनीतिक बात करूं, तो आप उसे काट दीजिए। ... (व्यवधान) Sir, I am not raising any political point. Let me finish it as it is an important issue.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is not a debate.

श्री दीपेन्द्र सिंह हुड्डा : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, ऐसा निर्देश पूरे देश में जाए कि अगर ऐसी कोई पीड़िता सामने आती है और जब उसका बयान लिया जाए तो पुरूषों अधिकारी के साथ महिला अधिकारी भी उपस्थित हों। सरकार की ओर से ऐसा निर्देश पूरे देश में जाना चाहिए। ...*(व्यवधान)* एक बात सामने आई है कि जैसे ही यह मामला सामने आया, कुछ लोगों ने पीड़िता का चरित्रहनन करने का काम सोशल मीडिया पर शुरू कर दिया। उनकी पुरानी तस्वीरें दिखाई गयीं और कहा गया कि आरोपियों के साथ उनकी तस्वीरें हैं, जबकि उन पुरानी तस्वीरों में आरोपी नहीं थी और वे तस्वीरें फेक पाई गयीं।...*(व्यवधान)* इस तरह से पीड़िता का जो चरित्रहनन किया गया। ...*(व्यवधान)*

Sir, I will speak in English also so that you can understand. There is a slander of the character of the victim who had come forward to speak.

The social media has slandered her character and this has become a trend which needs to be stopped. It is so not just in this case. Rising above political lines, if a victim comes forward for a complaint, something needs to be done against the people who question her character, who put her old and fake pictures by questioning her character. They are questioning as to what she was doing at 12 o'clock at night. One person asked as to what she was doing at 12 o'clock. My question is, what was the boy doing at 12 o'clock? Why do we not ask that question?

Let me complete. I am not raising any political issue. The entire nation is watching. I am not saying any political point....*(Interruptions)* The people who have resorted to character assassination need to be booked under appropriate sections of the IT Act.

One of the spokespersons of the BJP made a tweet and later on said that her account was hacked. One Minister of the BJP had tweeted something which is highly objectionable. One person of the BJP has said, 'What was she doing at 12 o'clock? I will make my last point and conclude. They asked as to what was she doing at 12 o'clock. Is there a rule in this country that a woman cannot go out after a certain time? If there is a rule in this country, they should specify that time. If there is a rule, we should be made aware

महिलाओं को सुरक्षा प्रदान करने की जिम्मेदारी सरकार की होती है। ...*(व्यवधान)* It is not your responsibility to ask the woman. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri M.B. Rajesh, Adv. Joice George and Shri Bhagwant Mann are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Deepender Hooda.

SHRIMATI KIRRON KHER (CHANDIGARH): Thank you very much Sir for allowing me to speak. ... (*Interruptions*) I did not interrupt you. Sit down now. Enough Shri Deepender Hooda, do not politicize it. ... (*Interruptions*)

I would like to thank the Chandigarh police for their very prompt action in saving this girl and for the PCR arriving at the spot the minute she called. I would like to thank them for this. The people who are criticizing this must also realize that there is a procedure to the investigation. When this girl was giving her statement in front of the Magistrate under Section 164 of the CrPC she did not mention the word 'abduction'. The police was forced to drop that charge. Then, they found the CCTV footage. They got the witnesses. They did all that. They themselves had sent the girl for recording her statement under Section 164 of the CrPC. ... (*Interruptions*) The hon. Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh gave clear instructions to the officers, to the Governor and to the Home Secretary saying no political pressure should be entertained, no phone calls and do what is right. I myself have spoken against stalking in this very House four days ago. I myself as a woman, as a mother, and as the hon. lady Member of Chandigarh have stood up for the rights of the girl. I have criticized voices that have said, 'What was the girl doing outside at 12?' Let us not have selective amnesia. I do not want to politicize this issue. It is a social problem. It is not just in my party or your party. It is there across the party lines. You need to remember all the old instances and the statements of the Coal Minister, of the J.D.(U) President, of the Samajwadi Party President, who have made sexist and misogynous remarks about women when the Bill for stalking was brought in Parliament.

I have a suggestion to make to those people who say, 'girls should not be allowed at night'. Firstly do not make excuses that it is an old photo. So what if it is a new photo? What is wrong in a girl going out at night? What is wrong in a girl having a drink or enjoying her life with people? You see there are different societal norms. There is a progressive India and there is a very regressive India. We do not as a party ever talk against the rights of women. ... (*Interruptions*) I just want to say one line.

I think that 'girls should not be allowed to go out at nights' is a wrong concept. It is the boys going out at night are causing the problem. So, boys should not be allowed to go out at night and girls could go at any time. ... (*Interruptions*) Thank you for letting me speak.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Dr. Manoj Rajoria, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel and Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shrimati Kirron Kher.

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR): Sir, the dignity and honour of every woman of this country is sacrosanct. There is no question about it. It is the duty of all the Governments under the Constitution of India to protect and to safeguard the life, honour and modesty of a woman. At the same time, in this case of Chandigarh, the Government as well as the police has taken prompt action. Immediately, the rule of law has taken its course and we have full confidence that whoever has committed any wrong will be punished. There will be no let off.

At the same time, I urge upon our friends of the Congress Party that they should not politicize this issue. I would also urge upon them that it is a sensitive issue. When the Chandigarh Administration is taking prompt action, they should not colour it in a political manner. Shri Deepender Singh Hooda is an esteemed colleague. He understands the severity and seriousness of the matter. When our hon. Member Shrimati Kirron Kher, who is a woman Member of Parliament representing Chandigarh Constituency is on her legs and putting forth the facts before the House, I expect Venugopalji, Deepender Singh Hoodaji and all our esteemed colleagues to lend their ears to her submission also because that is a view point. She is also presenting the facts as she was there all through when the entire incident happened.

So, I assure the House that law will take its course and the Government is taking appropriate action. Even the victim, who has complained, has, in the beginning, appreciated the prompt action taken by the police and the administration.

SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA (HISAR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also want to speak on this matter.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is not a discussion. I will allow you to raise your issue later.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will call you afterwards. Please wait.