

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Listen, what all the Minister of Home Affairs has said... Please take your seat.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have really decided to allow many of the back-benches to speak today. But all of you are speaking together. So, nothing is being recorded.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please say it one after other.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Let me help you.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Enough is enough. Now please be silent for two minutes. Do not rise to speak like this. You should also not speak while sitting. If all of you rise one after the other then it will be difficult for me to conduct the proceedings.

[*English*]

Now let me know how do I conclude, how do I conduct. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have no objection to continue like this. For all the time to come, you continue like this; I have no objection.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): The hon. Minister had promised to make a statement about Bihar. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. What are you doing?

Shri Sunil Dutt, you please speak.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Nitish Kumar, Please be silent and also ask your colleagues to be silent.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SUNIL DUTT (Bombay North West): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful that you gave me an opportunity to speak. You can call me that I am one of the back benchers that you gave me this opportunity. In this august House, we have discussed so many problems prevailing in our country. We have discussed Bofors. We have discussed Baburi Masjid-Ram Janambhoomi. We have discussed drought. We discussed so many other burning problems that are prevailing in our country.

The first and foremost thing is that we missed one of the finest days, that is Earth Day, that was on 22nd April. That was taken over by Bofors. Nobody mentioned about Earth Day on that particular day. (*Interruptions*)

On this Good Earth what onslaught is happening, it is before us. We call a human being a rational animal. We are talking about rational animals. But we have never talked about animals. We have never ever mentioned about animals. We have been talking about drought. We have been talking about people who are not getting water. We have never ever mentioned about the animals not getting water, animals not getting fodder and how the animals will survive because the drought is everywhere.

I would like to bring to the notice of this august House that we are not talking about the wild life. We are talking about the wild life in the zoos. We have 41 zoos that are run by the public sector. We have three zoos in the private sector. The condition of zoos is one of the most rotten. In such conditions out animals are living in the zoos. Nobody is talking about the zoos today. We have a national policy on this that all these animals should be in bigger cage so that they live in

comfort. You must see the conditions in which the animals are now living. I wish that some Members sitting in this august House must visit the zoo and see the conditions of the animals, how they are being treated and how they are dying. There are so many deaths in zoos. The animals in the zoos suffer from various diseases. They suffer from tuberculosis, they get paralytic attacks, they have sores and yet there is no treatment. There are no tranquillising drugs to make them faint so that the doctors can go near them and treat them. We find our zoos in such conditions.

I would also like to mention here that the zoo is not meant for entertainment of the public alone. It has other serious aims of conserving and propagating endangered species, sensitising people through education regarding the importance of wildlife and conducting research on animal behaviour. But just see the way how visitors behave when they go over to zoos. They show chappals and sticks to the animals and they throw stones at them. This sort of bad behaviour should not be allowed. If the visitors misbehave with the animals, they must be punished and put behind the bars. *(Interruptions)* You are human beings. Please listen to me when I am talking about animals. We have committees of Members of Parliament visiting Babri Masjid, Ram Janambhoomi, etc. In the same way, Members of Parliament should also visit zoos and see the conditions in which the animals are living. This is my humble submission Sir.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): Sir, you must comment on this issue.

MR. SPEAKER: Well, this is a very good issue and we would like to thank Sunilji for raising it. It is our duty to see that what he has said is followed and implemented. I think everybody joins him.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Trichur): Sir, I want to raise the issue on drought.

MR. SPEAKER: I will call you later.

*I am going to call Krishna Sahiji. But she may not get up until and unless I sit down in my seat. I know what she wants to raise on the floor of this House.*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: You have given a ruling also.

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: First let me conclude. You speak later on. Please listen to me. If you do not listen to me and continue with your point, you will reach nowhere. Krishna Sahiji wants to raise one matter on the floor of this House. This is the hour when we transact the business that is not listed. Now, there are provisions of the Constitution which stipulate that you cannot discuss certain issues even if you give two days' notice. I am afraid what she is going to say, will lead to something which is going to be very very complicated. And it is going to lay a very bad precedent in the country. It may create more and more complications...

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Unless I complete, please do not get up.

That is why I am asking this House whether this House would like to discuss such matters without giving the notice. Even if the matters are complicated, even if the Members are agitated over certain points, there are certain norms which have to be followed in the House. If you do not follow those norms and if you respond to the incident without considering its implications in the long run, they are going to create complications among various institutions. We have to decide whether it would be necessary to discuss those issues or not. It would be necessary for senior Members in the House and all those who have long term interests of the country and its institutions in mind, to consider it and then do it. I am not saying, "Don't do it." I am also not saying, "You do it." I am just warning about the