

15.44 hrs.

STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER

FINDING SOLUTION TO THE ISSUE ON SHARING OF WATERS BETWEEN STATES

Title: Statement regarding the latest developments pertaining to the sharing of water by Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan & Himachal Pradesh.

THE PRIME MINISTER (DR. MANMOHAN SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform the House that the Central Government shares the concerns expressed regarding the latest developments pertaining to the sharing of waters between the States concerned. We have to find the lasting solution to resolving this matter protecting the unity and integrity of the country and the interests of the States concerned.

I have, therefore, invited the Chief Ministers of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh for a discussion to find an amicable solution to this problem. The Leaders of the Opposition of both the Houses also called on me this morning and while expressing their grave concern assured me their full support in resolving the issues.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Satisfied.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please wait for my observation.

श्री मोहन रावले (मुम्बई दक्षिण-मध्य) : इसमें महाराष्ट्र का कोई जिक्र नहीं है। (व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: You are only concerned about Maharashtra. I am equally concerned about Maharashtra. It is an important part of the country. Every part of the country is to be looked into.

The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has already assured the House that within a day or two a statement would be made on the Maharashtra situation.

...(Interruptions)

श्री मोहन रावले : प्रधान मंत्री जी यहां बैठे हुए हैं। (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rawale, you promised me something and are doing something else.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Prime Minister is here, the Leader of the House is here and the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is also here.

You have heard the concerns of the Members. It is entirely for you to decide about their request. You may take such action as you think best. But the expression of their view has been there. It is entirely for you to decide.

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are very keen that this House should run smoothly. I have great respect for the sentiments expressed by the hon. Members, and I may assure them that I will myself make a statement, but I need some time to study the issue....(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Is it regarding Maharashtra?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यस, महाराष्ट्र के बारे में कहा है।

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Sir, I would just like to make a submission. If the hon. Members had told us that they wanted this statement only from the Prime Minister, there was no need to waste the time since morning. Since morning, I am present here and all of them were speaking together. I frankly admit that I was unable to make any head or tail of what they wanted...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I hope, you sympathise with the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Prime Minister has assured that he would make a statement. But before that he wants to study the matter properly.

प्रो. विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा (दक्षिण दिल्ली) : प्रणव मुखर्जी साहब का स्टेटमेंट ठीक नहीं है। यह सुबह से ही तय हो गया था। (ब्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: Prof. Malhotra, your observation has been recorded.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: As the Leader of the House, I expect that I would get a notice from the leaders of the Opposition... (Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Right from the morning we have been asking that the Prime Minister should make a statement... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Okay, every issue has been satisfactorily resolved.

श्री चंद्रकांत खैरे : हमारे भी लीडर यहां हैं, उन्होंने कहा था।

MR. SPEAKER: All hon. Members are keenly interested to discuss the Railway Budget also. Now, these two issues have been resolved today for the time being, I hope.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, we cannot give him the notice straightaway. The notices should go through you... (Interruptions)

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: No notice was received by us. If we had received this, we would have responded immediately.

MR. SPEAKER: Very well.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The Prime Minister has said it.

आपकी मांग मान ली गई है, तब भी आप खुश नहीं है। अब हर मिनट में नई-नई मांग तो नहीं उठाई जा सकती।
