

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Today the Government must speak something on this subject, otherwise what will we say in their meeting? Therefore, something must be stated in this august House on behalf of the Government.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The Government has assured on the floor. I was sitting in the Chair. It is stated that they are thinking of increasing the salaries.

[Translation]

Then tell us that you will leave no stone unturned in providing them some sort of help.

SHRI D.J. TANDEL (Daman and Diu) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the fishermen all over India have been staging dharna; since the 2nd instant in protest against the permission of fishing given to foreign companies by the Government of India. A Dharna is also being staged at Jantar Mantar in Delhi. This issue was raised by hon. Members in this august House on 2nd also but no assurance has been given so far by the Government to resolve the problems of fishermen.

12.07 hre.

(Mr. Deputy Speaker in the chair)

The fishermen are staging dharna at Porbandar also and we are getting lengthy telegrams everyday in this connection but no statement has been given so far by the Government in this regard. The Government claims that foreign companies are allowed for fishing upto a particular distance. But, it is not true. The foreign companies are fishing in India and violating our laws. Today fishermen are worried everywhere i.e. in Orissa, Maharashtra, Karnataka etc. The Government should make a statement in this regard, give assurance to fishermen staging dharna so that their problems may be solved at the earliest. If the Government fails to take any step immediately, the fishermen are ready to go to the Prime Minister's residence and demonstrate there because the Government has not expressed any concern over their plight.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Dwarakanath Das please.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North) : I may please be allowed to speak.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Naik, if every one wants to speak, those whose name is in the list will be denied their opportunity. It is also true that if every one wants to speak on the same issue, it will be a general discussion.

SHRI RAM NAIK : I have also given notice.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : When your turn comes, I shall definitely call you. Now, I shall call Shri Dwarakanath Das.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (Jagatsinghpur) : Please allow me to say just a few words Sir. As mentioned by the hon. Member, the issue regarding these fishermen's problems was raised twice in this House. They are on hunger strike, but the Government is callous.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Ministers are here. They are hearing what the Members are saying. You please sit down.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY : I demand that this matter should be taken up immediately. The Government must respond now. They are issuing licences to every body and it is causing a lot of problems...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have called Shri Dwarakanath Das. You please sit down.

SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS (Karimganj) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there is a huge backlog of SC/STs in C & D categories of services in North-East Frontier Railways. Government assurance on the floor of the House of wiping out of backlog in a phased manner was simply a paper solution, and till date has borne no fruit. Due to de-casualisation, the names of SC/ST casual labourers were struck off from the live Register, but subsequently they were not enrolled. Moreover, this backlog in C & D categories is due to non-recruitment of SC/STs as agreed upon as well as for depriving promotions to them.

So, I urge upon the Government to look into the matter and to wipe out the backlog of SC/STs through recruitment and allow promotions in services due to them...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This uncheduled programme goes on upto 1 O'clock. Therefore, it is upto you to accommodate some of your friends. Do not deny them the opportunity to speak. Everybody gives notice two or three days before, since some of their names come in the and, they are denied of the opportunity. There is a lot of unrest among some of the hon. Members. Kindly cooperate and help the other friends also to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Next time, with the permission of the House, we shall call the names from the end of the list.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there is a project called the Heavy Water Plant at Talcher which is under my Parliamentary constituency in Orissa. For the last, more than two years it is under closure. Heavy water, as you know, is very much essential for our defence preparedness. That is a defence requirement. Thus, this project assures