

situation stabilised.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

12.00 hrs.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY SPEAKER

TELEVISING OF LOK SABHA  
PROCEEDINGS

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Members, the question of televising the proceedings of the House was discussed with the Leaders of the Parties and Groups, the Ministers of Parliamentary Affairs and Information and Broadcasting, the concerned officers of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, the CPWD and the Lok Sabha Secretariat. The matter was briefly and informally discussed at the meeting of the Leaders of Parties and Groups also. It has been considered by the General Purposes Committee of Lok Sabha. It has also been considered at a joint meeting of the General Purposes Committees of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 26 November, 1991. The consensus arrived in these meetings was as follows:

- (i) that the proceedings in the House may be televised.
- (ii) that, at the initial stage, the Question Hour may be televised.
- (iii) that, at later stages, proceedings relating to legislation and the financial and other important matters may be televised.
- (iv) that the detailed modalities in this regard may be worked out by the agencies concerned and approve by the Presiding Officer.
- (v) that the matters which are held by the Presiding Officer as unparliamentary and not in

keeping with the decorum of the House may not be televised.

(vi) that a trial for televising the proceedings may be held on any day as may be decided by the Speaker.

(vii) that the actual televising of the Question Hour may be started on a day as may be decided by the Presiding Officer.

(viii) that, as and when necessary, the matters pertaining to it may be considered in the Business Advisory Committee.

(ix) that since the time available at the initial stages is limited, the televising has to be done to fit in the available slot.

(x) that the telecasting may be done on an experimental basis.

(xi) that further necessary steps in this regard may be taken on the basis of the experience in this respect.

I hope these arrangements will receive the approval of this House.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.  
(*Interruption*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE-  
(Dum Dum): Sir, I am afraid, more and more utterances will be declared unparliamentary, than otherwise... (*Interruption*)...

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Sir, the Zero Hour is the most important period, what do you propose to do about that?... (*Interruption*)...

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Sir, who will be the controlling authority? Will it be the Government or the Legislature?

MR. SPEAKER: It will be the Legislature. televising it.

...(Interruptions)...

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Sir, who will edit the portion when you say something is unparliamentary? (Interruption)

I want to know whether it will be seen and approved by the Secretariat or by the officials of Information and Broadcasting Ministry who are televising.

MR. SPEAKER: Do not worry. It is the responsibility of the Secretariat.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: What is secretariat? It is automatic. Whatever you consider unparliamentary is excluded. Nobody else is involved in this.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): sir, I want to know whether sleeping is parliamentary or unparliamentary because it does happen. Some Members may be shown sleeping. That should be taken as unparliamentary.

MR. SPEAKER: I think my learned predecessors have decided that sleeping with snoring is unparliamentary!

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, can we be forewarned as to when it is going to start?

MR. SPEAKER: We will let you know. We will circulate the note.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: On that occasion I am sure, Sir, you will continue with your strict impartiality and give us chance.

MR. SPEAKER: Tomorrow trial and then we will see.

SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK (Buldana): Nirmalji, today we are not

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Moreshwar Save.

[Translation]

SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE (Aurangabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through this House, I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government to the severe drought in the Marathwada region of Maharashtra. Seven districts of this region, namely Aurangabad, Beed, Jalana, Latur, Usmanabad, Nanded and Parbhani did not have any rains for the last three months. It has resulted in destruction of both the Rabi and Kharif crops. The farmers are facing acute crisis of fodder and water. In this region, the water table has also gone down too much and most of the ponds have gone dry. Consequently, the crisis of drinking water and fodder for cattle has arisen. Even the fields are not being irrigated. The Maharashtra Government states that according to law, this region cannot be declared drought-affected up to 20th December. As it has not been declared drought affected, relief measures have not been initiated so far.

Therefore, I demand the Government to declare this region drought-affected urgently and the grant-in-aid of Rs. 300 crore should be provided by the Centre to the State Government. Rural employment Guarantee Programme should be launched to provide employment to the rural farmers and agricultural labourers. Fodder for the cattle should be arranged. Arrangement for drinking water through water-tankers should be made in the villages. Moreover, the collection of outstanding loans against farmers should be stopped and other taxes waived.

[English]

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN (Tirunelveli): Sir, through

you I would like to draw the attention of the Railway Ministry to the decision of the Government to remove the existing age old metre gauge line from maniyachi junction to Madurai Junction, thereby a great injustice is done to the entire people of southern districts of Tamil Nadu. These people will be deprived of their traveling right straight to the State Capital, Madras, so far enjoyed from the British days.

So, under the pretext of conversion of B.G. line, the existing M.G. line should not be removed. The B.G. line, from Karur to Tuticorin, the new project, should be a parallel line to the existing M.G. line thereby giving the facility of the new B.G. project to have a new direct link with northern parts of our country without removing the existing M.G. line direct link to Madras, thereby justice will be done to the people of the southern districts of Tamil Nadu.

**SHRI G.M.C. BALAYOGI** (Amalapuram): Sir, the recent heavy rains and floods in Andhra Pradesh caused heavy damage to standing crops. The estimated loss of crops is about Rs. 200 crores. The Konaseema area, particularly my constituency Amalapuram in East Godavari District, considered to be the Rice Bowl of Andhra Pradesh, faced the brunt of these heavy rains. Thousands of acres of agricultural land were submerged in river and rain waters. Many people who took loans for purchasing fertilisers are facing lot of problems in repaying the loans.

I draw the attention of the hon. Minister for Agriculture to see that the FCI is instructed to purchase the discoloured paddy. Secondly, seeds pesticides and fertilisers may be supplied at subsidised rates to the farmers in the area and proper compensation may be given to the farmers to recover from the loss. The proposed crop insurance should be made available on the basis of survey numbers of their individual land holdings, not taking district as a unit. Then only the crop insurance or loan insurance can be useful to the farmers.

[Translation]

**SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN** (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention in brief to the problems of the Adivasis living in various parts of the country. Today, the most distressing situation is that the condition of the Adivasis has become miserable to an extent that they are reported to be dying of starvation at several places.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I visited Karnataka on the 20th. There is a Gopal Gowda Katta colony in Dadadail village in Mysore district where eight Adivasi boys and a woman died of starvation during the period from June 22 to July 22. They were rehabilitated in the colony there from forest. But no road leads to that place. We walked three kilometres to reach there with a journalist. They have no means of livelihood. They work from dawn to dusk in fields as daily wage-earners only for three months. The daily wages of Rs. four to a woman and Rs. five to a man are paid.

I am saying all this for bringing it on record. The Government should investigate whether it is true or not. The name of the woman who died is Kulamma. She was 45. The children who died were in the age group of 2 to 5. Their names are Basava, Ratna, Mahadevi, Rajappa, Chelavi and Mara. These eight children died of starvation. The day we reached there, we found that there was no school what to speak of health. They drink water from a nearby pond. They have no means of their livelihood. I have just cited an example here. Similarly wherever there are tribal areas in any State, their plight is the same even after 45 years of independence. They are out of the mainstream. This is not merely a state issue. Therefore, I urge the Government of India that it is not a matter of any State but it is a matter of the tribals for whom the Government should chalk out programmes for their employment for the preservation of their culture and for saving them from starvation. All the State Chief Ministers should be invited to discuss the severe problem of Adivasis seriously and announce the amount of compensation to the starvation victims. But programmes should also be chalked out to prevent the further spread of starvation.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): Mr. Speaker, Sir, since 1947 we are taking pride that 1943 famine of Bengal will not take place any more; it was not taking place. If the situation has turned to this position that people are dying because of starvation and that too at that end of the spectrum, then the tribals, woe will befall us. So, the Government of India must do something about it. We cannot just allow these things to happen. It is shocking to hear that even today the people are dying because they cannot have food and because they do not have income. Are we going back to pre-1947 days? The Government must respond to this matter. That is my humble request through you.

MR. SPEAKER: If starvation deaths have taken place whether of Advasis or other persons, it is a grave matter. Let us first of all know what is the fact and if it is a fact, then proper remedial measures should be taken by the State Government as well as the Central Government after ascertaining the reality and the facts.

SHRI BASU DEV ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, in Tripura, a number of people have died of starvation. The State Government has taken no steps to save the lives of tribal people of Tripura.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Acharia, if you have understood what I have said, then you would not have raised it again.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speakers, Sir, it should not be confined only to Karnataka. Just as the Tripura incident has been pointed out, there has been a very long, disturbing and harrowing article in *Frontline* about starvation deaths in Andhra Pradesh. Therefore, the Government of India should come to Parliament with a comprehensive scheme.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Speakers, Sir, Ram Vilasji has raised this matter and he referred particularly to Karnataka and news has come about

Andhra Pradesh also. We have already referred to the starvation deaths in Tripura in the House. Dr. Ram Chandra Dore has raised it last week. But there has been no action, no response. Therefore, now you have made this observation. I hope, the Government would take it seriously in respect of these starvation deaths all over India. We have also raised it.

These important matter were raised. I find, Shri Arjun Singhji generally responding. This a very serious matter. Probably he was not here. Others were probably dozing. But something should be done. (*Interruption*)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not correct. Allow him to speak.

SHRI BASU DEV ACHARIA: Neither the State Government nor the Central Government has taken any step to save the lives of the people in Tripura.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman-Nicobar Islands): The hon. Member, Shri Nirmal Chatterjee has rightly spoken that after 1943 we had taken a pledge that there would be no starvation deaths. And the Congress Party and the Congress Government, after independence, all these years, have pursued this policy. That is why, Sir, it is absolutely necessary that when some starvation death reports are coming in, the Central Government should enquire whether it is really starvation death or some other diarrhoea death or some other disease-related death. The twenty-point programme and the other programmes which are there are meant for the poor people. By persuasion, through Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, IRDP etc., everywhere the Government has ensured that there is no starvation death.

If there is anything reported so far whether it is in the tribal area or non-tribal area, this should be enquired into by the Government properly and they should report it to Parliament so that once for all, it should be clear that there is no politically motivated kind of insinuation against the Government. (*Interruption*)

SHRIBASUDEB ACHARIA: Starvation death has been reported in Andhra Pradesh, in Karnataka and in Tripura. In spite of that, the Government is silent. (*Interruption*)

MR. SPEAKER: When important issues are raised and if all the members stand up and speak, the importance of the issue is lost.

We do not know what to do in the matter. That is why, when it was pointed out, from the Chair I said, let us find out and let us take the measures. Even after that if you insist and persist in saying things, I do not know what is going to come out of it. And if you want to speak on that, I have no objection, but I am allowing Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Whatever charges have come, let there be an enquiry and let the Government come again and report.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Whatever charges have come, let there be an enquiry and let the Government come again and report.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Who will inquire? (*Interruption*) This was raised in this House during the Budget Session. The Government did not make any enquiry. What enquiry would you make?

SHRI CHITTA BASU (*Barasat*): We are happy to note that you have yourself made certain remarks.

MR. SPEAKER: I have not made any derogatory remarks!

SHRI CHITTA BASU: The pertinent question is, who will hold the enquiry. Does the Government propose to let the enquiry to be gone into by the State Government or any other agency? Therefore, there is grave doubt because the State Government generally do not accept their fault. Therefore, the purpose for which we have made the remark will be defeated.

Therefore, I would request you to kindly

indicate what kind of agency should be there for proper enquiry.

MR. SPEAKER: I am not enquiring into it.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Let there be a House Committee which will enquire into.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (*Jagatsinghpur*): Whenever the question of starvation death is raised, either this Government or any other Government have denied it. Therefore, the whole fact of starvation deaths remains under the carpet. This has been the habit in this country for several years. You already commented that it is a grave matter and that it should be enquired into. We want the Government to set up an independent mechanism by which it should ascertain the facts wherever starvation deaths take place.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Arjun Singh is responding on behalf of the Government. Let him respond.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): Sir, I am very grateful to you that in consonance with the wishes expressed by the hon. Members, you were kind enough to give a direction and I would assure you that direction will be carried out fully. Now on the basic question of these incidents happening and how to ascertain the facts and then apply the remedies, I must confess my own experience in the matter is that there is lot of difficulty in coming to the truth and I would like to join the House in this effort that in cases of such lamentable lapses where people die of starvation, as is alleged, there must be some machinery in which every one has a stake. It is not a question of my coming to you with a report that I get from any State. I am glad that the hon. Leader of the Opposition has put the entire issue in perspective that this does not relate to a particular State. This is not a political issue. But the fact remains that if an allegation like this is made, one must go to the root of the

[Shri Arjun Singh]

matter and any lapse on account of anybody must be addressed to immediately with whatever consequences may follow and in this respect, I would like to assure through you the House that I will take up this matter with the hon. Home Minister and also with the Prime Minister and, if necessary, I will request them to talk to some of the Senior Members of the House to evolve such machinery so that on such issues there is no controversy in the House and then we can say what has to be done.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I could have spoken about the whole nation but I have cited an example of the place which I visited myself on the 20th and took stock of the situation. It should be inquired into and then I may be informed.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: This is what I have stated.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: It is a fact but you are talking of making a law. The hon. Members have mentioned about such reports according to their information. I have cited an example about one place only. The hon. Member is citing example about Tripura. It should be inquired into the report laid on the Table of the House.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: I have not said that information will not be collected on what Shri Paswan has stated. The information would rather be collected first on that.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: The Government should made a statement whether it would inform the House in this connection. Through you, we have raised the issue.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You raised the matter. I allowed other Members to speak. I asked the Government to look into it and to take remedial measures. The leader of the house

got up and said that he would certainly do it and he would try to evolve a method which will not leave any doubt in such matters. After that also, if you continue doing that, will it be all right?

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Sir, I want to raise one matter.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal): In the case of Orissa, 5000 people died of starvation. Even the Deputy Speaker had to get up in the House and say that the white paper was misnomer. I request through you the Leader of the House to take it up with the Leader of the Opposition and with the Prime Minister, this case of 5,000 tribals dying of starvation in Orissa, Koraput district which was denied and the Deputy Speaker of the Orissa Assembly had to put the record straight.

MR. SPEAKER: I think hunger, life and death should be treated above politics and this matter should be dealt with in that manner only, wherever it takes place, in this State or that State. Shri Advaniji has said the same thing and the hon. Leader has said the same thing. It should be death within that manner and if there is scope for improvement, certainly let us apply our mind and evolve a method to see that such things do not happen.

(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Sir, the starvation deaths, when they are reported or alleged, may shake our conscience a bit, no doubt. But the point is that there are vast numbers of people in this country who are living in conditions of chronic starvation. Everyday they may not be dying but they are living in conditions of chronic starvation. With a daily wage of Rs. 4/- that the woman was earning, what do you expect her to eat or to give her children to eat? Therefore, a much more basic question is involved.

MR. SPEAKER: That is exactly the problem that we will address to. Certainly we will discuss it when we discuss the economic

situation.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: When are you going to discuss it?

MR. SPEAKER: We are going to fix the time.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: We must give priority to this issue.

MR. SPEAKER: We will fix the time.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH (Sheohar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of happiness that the Prime Minister of our neighbouring country Nepal Hon'ble Shri Girija Prasad Koirala is likely to visit India on his first foreign tour very shortly. His visit is significant for these two neighbouring countries. In Nepal's democratic history, the contribution of Koirala family has been unique.

Not only Shri Matrika Prasad Koirala or Late Shri Bisheshwar Prasad Koirala, but also their family members have been the source of inspiration for Nepal and for the long democratic struggle of people of Nepal but they also participated actively in India's freedom struggle.

12.27 hrs.

*[SHRI P.M. SAYEED in the Chair]*

Late Shri Bishweshwar Prasad Koirala and his elder brother Shri Matrika Babu had been put into Indian jails of the British imperialists during decisive moments of India's freedom struggle. Late Bishweshwar Prasad Koirala was called the Gandhi, the Jawahar and the Jai Prakash by the people there.

Late Shri Bishweshwar Prasad Koirala was closely associated with India's Socialist Movement. He was a prominent office bearer of the Congress Socialist Party in my state

Bihar. Moreover, he was a close associate of Shri Jai Prakash Narayan. Geography, history, turn of events and civilisation bind both these countries together. It would be suicidal if these factors are ignored. Nature, mountains and rivers have built a bridge between the two countries. We may utilize these sources very conveniently for bringing about basic changes in the living standards of the citizens of both the nations. The World Bank has estimated that nearly ten thousand mega watt hydroelectricity can be generated as a boon from the Himalayas in Nepal. Similarly, certain Indian rivers originate from Himalayas ranges in Nepal. These rivers are as good as life line for North Bihar and North-East Uttar Pradesh. These rivers may prove very beneficial with the mutual cooperation of these two friendly countries.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Hari Kishore Singh, it is Zero Hour. you cannot make a speech now. Please conclude.

*[Translation]*

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, my constituency is on the Indo-Nepal border. The river Baghmati whose origin are the golden crests of snow-capped Himalayas. When it enters the plains on its serpentine way touching the holy feet of Lord Pashupatinath and pours down large amounts of water not only in the area in my constituency but in my village Chamanpur also which sometimes proves as a boon and sometimes as bane for the lives of the citizens of the plains of these two nations. Therefore, I would like to urge the Government to discuss decisively all the points relating to the river-group of Baghmati, Adhwara, Kamala Balan and Koshi and Pancheshwar and Karnali projects with the Hon. Prime Minister of the friendly country Nepal during his visit to India so that both the nations may benefit equally in accordance with the SAARC spirit.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, on this occasion, I would like to welcome the new High Commissioner of Nepal. His Excellency Shri

[Shri Hari Kishore Singh]

Chakra Vastoiami and wish that during his tenure the friendship between India and Nepal will be strengthened further.

\*SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHVAN (Palakkad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I draw the attention of the House to the serious situation arising out of the spread of Cholera in the Palakkad district of Kerala. It has already claimed to lives and is spreading to many parts of the district. The industrial belt of Kanjikode, Chittur, alakkad taluqs are badly affected. The main reason is that there is shortage of drinking water and people drink contaminated water. During Rajiv's period, we were give a technology mission for providing drinking water in Palakkad. But the previous CPM Govt. did not implement and thus, the people did not get the benefit of the mission.

None that this fatal epidemic is spreading immediate steps should be taken to arrest it. The centre must send a study team immediately to Kerala to find out the cause of the recurrence of Cholera, and also suggest measures to wipe out this menace. Also, the technology mission should be further extend and funds should be provided so that the object of this mission could be achieved....(Interruption)....

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Mavattupuzha): The situation in Kerala is such that it will face a great crisis.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: If your name is there I will call you.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Centre has to take immediate action in this regard because of the scarcity to get wagons for taking rice

from Punjab and Assam to Kerala. The Kerala Government is facing a great crisis to distribute adequate quantities of rice. I request that the Government of India should take immediate action to make available sufficient number of wagons as well as to take all steps in this regard to make available sufficient quantities of rice for distribution in Kerala.

Also the Andhra boiled rice which is preferred in Kerala is to be distributed there. Kerala Government has, in fact, increased the ration and is giving fifty kilograms of rice per head, per month at a stage when the cost has gone up. I would urge upon the Government to give support to the Kerala Government in this regard and to take immediate measures in this regard. (Interruption)

[Translation]

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL: I may also move to that side since you are not calling my name. (Interruption)

MR. CHAIRMAN: His name is there in the list. He has given notice.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL: You are not giving me an opportunity. (Interruption)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: All those hon. Members who have given their names to the Speaker and whose names the Speaker has admitted, I am only going through that list. There is no addition from my side.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE (Jhalawar): I want to bring to the notice of the House something which is of great importance and which was reported in the 'Indian Express' three days ago. It conforms

the exchange of hardcore militants for the release of hostages, a particular case which happened in Rajasthan. Recently the Home Minister Shri S.B. Chavan had lambasted the National Front Government when Shri Mufti Mohammed Sayeed's daughter Rubaiya was released in exchange of some terrorists. But he himself has written to the Rajasthan Chief Minister Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat for the release of two hardcore Punjab terrorists. These were supposed to be exchanged in lieu of a relative of Shri Buta Singh, in fact, a nephew of Shri Buta Singh. The two militants whose release the terrorists had demanded are under detention under the TADA Act in Rajasthan. Shri Shekhawat turned down the Union Home Minister's request because our party categorically refuses to succumb to any pressure from militants. However, the hostage Shri Ranjit Singh who is Shri Buta Singh's niece's son was freed last week after the Centre took up the issue with the Punjab administration.

In a letter on 31st August 1991 to Shri Shekhawat the Home Minister wrote:

"It is understood that the kidnapers are demanding release of two terrorists who are under detention of the State Government of Rajasthan for the release of the boy."

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please be brief.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Yes Sir. But it is very important.

He says: "Kindly instruct the police authorities for expediting the release of the boy from the captivity of the terrorists of Punjab."

On 29th August, Shri Buta Singh had written to the Home Minister saying that:

"I talked to Shri Shekhar, DG, Rajasthan Police, who informed me that these two terrorists were detained under TADA for their alleged involvement in arms smuggling. The kidnapers have threatened to kill the boy unless these two terrorists are

released."

These are quotes from the letter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yesterday Shri Buta Singh was not allowed to refer to this controversial matter. Kindly keep it in mind.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: I have taken the permission from the Speaker. I should be allowed to finish it because it is very very important.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I know that; but you should not bring in the controversial aspect of it.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: I have done it with the permission of the Speaker.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I don't think the Speaker has given you permission to bring in some controversial matter. Please avoid such matters. Yesterday he had objected to this matter.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Shri Rajendra Shekhar was asked to enquire into the matter by Shri Shekhawat and the names of the two terrorists Gurnal Singh alias Ajeet and Dharampal Singh alias Dharma came up. Shri Shekhar told us that the two detainees had been involved in a daring gun-running operation. The duo were part of a gang of 11 who hid arms secured from Pakistan in salt bags, which they then carried in trucks from Jaisalmer in Rajasthan into Punjab. The report stated that it has come out of interrogation that the two terrorists were active in suing the international border at Jaisalmer to smuggle arms and ammunition, and that a section of the local population were providing support to them. Because of this Shri Shekhawat turned down the Union Home Minister's request.

We would like to remind the House that at the time when the Janta Government was under pressure to release Mufti Mohammed Sayeed's daughter, there was a huge hue and cry by the Congress Party about a particular policy laid down. The Congress

[Shrimati Vasundhara Raje]

argued then that the ruling National Front was putting pressure and was putting personal interest above the national interest. I wonder about this kind of dual policy. Because this is a very very serious matter concerning Rajasthan where two very major terrorists are involved, I would like to know whether, with this kind of duality of policy, Whether they will be able to carry out what they profess. So, I would like your direction on this, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have also given a notice. What I want to say is that it has appeared in the Indian Express and it is a very serious matter. I support whatever has been said now.

[English]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pall): Ask the Home Minister to make a statement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot go on like this.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not allowed to speak like this. Kindly take your seats. Even in Zero Hour there is a procedure to be followed. Please resume your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please don't interrupt.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot talk like that. Kindly be seated when I am on my legs. There is a procedure to be followed even during Zero Hour. The Speaker has already laid down some policy and you have to adopt it. Please be seated. You are not allowed to do like that!

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Khurana, you must know that when I am on my legs, you cannot do that. If you do not consider the ruling given by the Chair, how can I do it? I have called the former Speaker to speak and you cannot disturb him like this. now, Shri Rabi Ray.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to raise an issue which is not only of national but of international importance. House has already expressed its unanimous opinion on the issue but it is a matter of deep concern that Aung San Suu who is recipient of Nobel Peace Prize and a citizen of our neighbouring Country Burma and who is likely to become Prime Minister or Head of State after elections, is still languishing in jail. Through you, I would like to submit that Government had remained silent about her release till she was awarded Nobel Prize but it is a matter of happiness that now the Prime Minister has issued a statement pleading for her release.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the House as well as of the whole country to the fact that her husband Shri Michael Aris, a visiting Professor in Harvard University has issued a statement to the effect that he had not received any correspondence from his wife Shrimati Aung San Suu for the last sixteen months. I would like to know from the Government whether Prime Minister considers it enough to issue a statement in favour of her release? Countrymen have so far no knowledge about her release. Sir, you must be knowing that as to how the Army Junta Government has violated all human-rights in Burma and though Aung San Suu's party won the majority in the elections but she was not allowed to come in power. We all know as also the whole world that U.S. Government is supporting her. Even though Aung San Suu is being backed by U.S. Government even then military junta Government has not yet released her.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we all know that China is supporting Military Junta. Therefore,

through you, I would like to appeal to the Central Government to wake up from its deep slumber and keeping in view the cordial relations that both countries had been having for centuries, the Government, the people and the parliament of this country should take initiative in its own interest in seeking the release of Aung San Suu so that democracy is once again restored there. Therefore, I would like to submit to the Prime Minister that he should not remain content just with issuing a statement seeking her release but should use diplomatic pressures so that she may become Head of the State. It is a matter of concern that a Nobel Prize recipient is not being released. Our Government should take positive steps to secure her release particularly at a time when the Prime Minister of China is to pay a visit to this country in near future and China is supporting the Military junta there. At this juncture Prime Minister can take up this issue with the Chinese Prime Minister so that both can demand her release. This is a question of international importance and the whole House is demanding her release.

[English]

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU (Dharmapuri): Honourable Chairman, Sir, this is a very serious matter affecting three poor people of Tamil Nadu. Majority of people in Tamil Nadu get their rice through public distribution system.

The Central Government has now communicated to the Tamil Nadu Government its decision to cut down the Central rice quota from December, 1991 from the present level of 81,000 tonnes to 65,000 tonnes. At a time when more than 3 lakh hectares of standing paddy crops have been washed away by the recent floods, this cut in rice quota would seriously affect the poor and common man.

The harvest festival Pongal is to be celebrated in Tamil Nadu in January and with no harvest due to the floods and with this cut in rice quota, there would be no

festivity in Tamil Nadu.

It is high time the Government of India think in terms of increasing the rice quota to tide over the food problem in the State caused by the floods. At least the Government of India should maintain the present level of allocation of 81,000 tonnes. It is a must if not at least increasing it. Through you, I would urge upon the Government to give an assurance to the people of Tamil Nadu that rice quota will not be diminished and it should be increased.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shree Sidal.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): Kindly look to this side. (Interruptions) Kindly allow me some time. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are going to reduce the time.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: Sir, it is a very important matter. We are saying that we have not raised this matter properly to create international opinion to secure the release of the Burmese leader who is in jail. Now it is really painful to see that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You will get the time.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: No, no. (Interruptions) What is that? We have a duty. We have a moral responsibility. We are a democracy.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Who denies that, Mr. Saifuddin Choudhury?

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: That is what you are going to do.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are calling in an orderly manner.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: You are taking other matters also. (Interruptions)

[Shri Saifuddin Choudhury]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: No.  
(Interruptions)

Let it continue. What it is coming out of that?  
(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Saifuddin Choudhury, this is Zero Hour. It has also been regulated here. You know it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: You are a wise man. You know that matter is important.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: May I point out to you, Sir, that you are not bound by any list when you are on the Chair? You can apply your discretion. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not know whether I am wise or not.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You are the speaker now. (Interruptions)

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You see, this is arranged in an orderly manner. I am going accordingly.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): There are some issues on which all sides wish to respond. This is one of the issues, Sir. We want to support that. It should be made known to the Government and to the people. (Interruptions) This is a common issue. That is what I am saying.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: I think, Sir, this does merit your kind attention though it is not on the schedule. A matter has been raised by the former Speaker, Shri Rabi Ray. It is an important matter on which the whole House feels agitated. (Interruptions) Therefore, Mr. Somnath Chatterjee or Mr. Saifuddin Choudhury or I would like to associate myself with the views expressed by Shri Rabi Ray because a military junta has been there in spite of the fact that the people have elected some representative. And they are in detention. If the whole House associates, then that would also have effect. So, we would like to know the Government's stand.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chatterjee, in the morning, you might have met the Hon'ble Speaker. Zero Hour is also accordingly regulated. He has given most of the names. What I am calling here is according to his judgment. I am not calling on my own. I am only calling according to the order given.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Advani, what I suggested was this. Since I called another hon. member, let him finish. I did not say that I will not give any chance. To that extent my friend Mr. Saifuddin Choudhury could not have patience and that is the whole trouble. Now, when I have called him, let him finish. I am also like you, a Member here for long. I know the mood of the House. Accordingly, we will go ahead.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: Even in the past, it had happened that even names were not there. But on an important issue, other Members are allowed.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is true.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you mean to say that those matters which are now detailed here are less important?

SHRI S.B. SIDNAL (Belgaum): Sir, it is learnt that the trade unionists will be going on strike tomorrow because of the mis-conceived idea about the public sector and its policy. Despite the clarification given by responsible persons of the Government of India, it may not create any impact on the

(Interruptions)

strike of the trade unions called on all-India basis. This strike is estimated to cause a loss of Rs. 300 crores. This loss is too heavy for the country to afford at this juncture. I request the hon. Speaker to appeal, on behalf of the House, to the trade unionists to call off the strike immediately and come to the negotiation table to talk with the Government to save the heavy loss. *(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI (Kodarma):

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the International Trade Fair, which is organized every year in Pragati Maidan, has its own importance. People from all parts of the country as also from the world visit the Fair. In Himachal Pradesh Pavilion apple juice, the date of use of which Rad explored was sold as a result of which people contracted various diseases and had to be hospitalised. A complaint to this effect was lodged in the nearest police-station but it was disclaimed by the police authorities that they had any information in this regard whereas a copy of the complaint was available with the complainant. This is very bad on the part of the Home Ministry. West Bengal has enacted a legislation to the effect that if some food articles are found to be contaminated the person responsible shall be liable to life-imprisonment. Similar law should be enacted here so as to safeguard the life and property of the people. Otherwise, it will give a bad impression about the country to the foreigners who will get a negative picture of this country. Our Government is maintaining silence towards such an incident involving International Trade Fair. I would like to draw the attention of the whole country to such incidents. Government should take stringent actions against the police officers responsible for showing laxity in this case and also ensure that the name of International Trade Fair is not spoiled.

KUMARI UMA BHARTI (Khaipurah):

Mr. Chairman, Sir, a survey was conducted for laying Lalitpur-Singrauli railway line during the regime of Janta Party in 1979-80. Then

the matter remained shelved for ten long years. It was again considered in 1989-90. I raised this issue again and again. The then Railway Minister assured me that the survey was being conducted and they were thinking on positive lines. This railway line is proposed to be laid down from Lalitpur to Singrauli in Sidhi district. I have held talks with the concerned officials. Many assurances have been given both verbally and in writing but no survey has yet been started.

Hon. Chairman, Sir, since both these districts fall under my constituency, therefore, on behalf of the people of my constituency, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to this problem. Here I would like to emphasize that former Railway Minister had given me assurances to the effect that the survey would be conducted and Government was thinking on positive lines about the project. Therefore, through you I would like to inform the Government that we would do our best to get budgetary allocations this year for Lalitpur-Singrauli line even if we have to resort to agitation for this purpose. We will get this line at any cost. We would adopt do or die attitude. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VARMA

(Shajapur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, if a debate starts on this topic other matters will remain undiscussed. Would we get any chance to speak?

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not a debate. You please be seated. I have assured you that you would get an opportunity.

[*English*]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: I think you for giving me time and including me, other Members also will be interested in associating themselves with this very serious matter that has been raised by hon. Shri Rabi Ray. Burma is a country in our neighbourhood and as a democratic country, we are concerned that the elected representatives there, are given their due power. The Military Junta usurped power and the people's leader is in jail, suffering a

[Shri Saifuddin Choudhury]

lot. How can we help the people of Burma? It is not a question of interfering in the affairs of another country. It has a got a universal aspect. As a democratic country, we cannot remain silent when democracy is being butchered in another country. We can play a role in terms of creating an international opinion. We can also make the international community more active in really ensuring that the Military Junta is defeated and the people are given back their power. In this Sir, as a leading country of democracy, India has a big role to play. Though a statement has come from our Prime Minister, I think we should really make our opinion felt in a more vigorous way in the international community and in other for a and ensure the people of Burma get a democratic governance to decide their destiny.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): It is natural that the House is expressing its concern. Our Government's policy has also been very well known that we are in favour of a democratically elected House and we desire that the people's representatives should be allowed to function freely. I will suggest one thing. Let the hon. Speaker call a meeting of the leaders of all political parties and let our House really express its unanimous opinion on this. Since the elected House is not being allowed to function in Burma, it will be good if an appeal from this House goes there and it will certainly have a greater weightage. This is my suggestion and if the Government has no objection, this can be the unanimous opinion of this House. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): I think the last year's Report of the External Affairs Ministry of our Government has mentioned only the developments in Burma. It is not the question of interference in the internal affairs of any foreign country. As we do not want that there should be any interference from any sources into our internal affairs, naturally we also do not want to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries. But Sir, the events in Burma are not merely a question

of internal affairs. If you allow me to say so, it relates to the flagrant violation of human rights and human rights have no frontiers of their own. It relates to the blatant negation of the people's mandate and it relates to the denial of the basic principle of parliamentary democracy.

13.00 hrs.

Therefore, Sir, it is not the question of ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are not discussing the whole issue. The hon. Member has suggested something and you can make some points only because other Members also want to speak on this.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: This Parliament certainly wants to uphold the human rights, the fundamental principles of parliamentary democracy and the principles of peoples' mandate. Therefore, Sir, it is an appropriate case that this Parliament expresses its opinion and demands the release of Suukyi and restoration of democracy in Burma by allowing the elected representatives to resume the Parliament.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to associate myself and my party with the sentiments expressed by the former Speaker in this House. Prime Minister has also expressed his views in this regard. We are of the view that if we convey our feelings by passing a resolution in this House it would not be considered interference in this internal affairs of any country. The Government has been elected there. Therefore, it is a question of Democracy and Human rights and the House is unanimous on these points. I would like to submit that it would be a good indication, if we pass a resolution in this House.

[*English*]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Sir, I would like to associate my party, the Communist Party of India, with the sentiments

expressed by my friend Shri Rabi Ray. Mrs. Augsaon Suukyl's father was along with me in 1940 at Ramgarh because before 1937 we were under the same rule. So, we have got that heritage also. Lokanaya Tilak wrote Gita Rahasya in Mandalay jail and Bahadur Shah Zaffar was in prisoned there. We have got all these relations with them. In addition, democracy or the murder of it has its chain reaction. We have always preferred democratic rule. So, wherever there is an assault on the democracy-whether we gain or lose we must stand for it. You must, as the presiding officer of the House today, take the unanimous opinion of the House and this should be made known to the countries of the world. We want her release and restoration of the democratic rule in Burma.

**SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:** Sir, I fully endorse and associate myself with the hon. former Speaker of this House. He has raised a very important issue. Sir, India has always expressed its solidarity for the democratic people of the world, wherever it may be and more so for the people of Burma.

Sir, I come from a place which is very near to Burma. I would like to inform the House that in recent days when many incidents had taken place where the people of Burma were repressed by the Burmese military, Junta, I know how the Government of India expressed its sympathies for these people.

Sir, that is why I would like to request that in these conditions, the Government and particularly the hon. Speaker should formulate a Resolution and the entire House can unanimously adopt it. It should go to all over the world that the Indian people have expressed their solidarity for the people of Burma for the restoration of democracy in that country.

**SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT (Rajapur):** I fully agree with the hon. Members that the situation in Burma is of a very serious concern. I also agree that this House and the people of India should express solidarity

with the people of Burma as far as the situation in that country is concerned. But we must proceed with the caution because we have a long border with Burma. We have insurgency for so many years in the States bordering Burma.

But as far as they are concerned, we must see that whatever action we take we should not participate action which will damage the national interest. (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT:** Are you asking for a specific action?

**SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:** Not action.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Diplomatic action.

**SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT:** As far as the House and the people are concerned, we agree that we must express our solidarity. But we should not take any action which would precipitate and affect our national interest.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I would request the Parliamentary Affairs Minister to react to this.

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM):** Mr. Chairman, Sir, we definitely join in the sentiments expressed by the whole House unanimously on the question that a country which was really a part of us before independence, with whom we have all fought, many of our senior freedom fighters came from that country and to see that the elected representatives are really not allowed to do their duty in a democratic form is rather unfortunate. But how exactly the Resolution should be drafted in a unanimous form and whether it should come from the Chair or whether it should come from the Government which is something which we should discuss, if

[ShriRangarajan Kumaramangalam]

possible, in the Speakers' Chamber and we can definitely move a Resolution. I am sure the Leaders will agree.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think we will leave at that. In the Speaker's Chamber, the Leaders of all the Parties will assemble and then draft a Resolution and the House can adopt it unanimously.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: My notice was for a different question. (Interruptions) I have given a notice for a different question. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: (Shajapur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a matter of urgent public importance. The printing of notes in Bank Note Press, Dewas, Madhya Pradesh has been suspended frequently. During the last month of September printing work remained suspended for twenty nine days as the employees went on strike. This press prints the notes of higher denomination of Rs. 50/- Rs. 100/- and Rs. 500/-. In both the shifts about 2500 employees are working.

At present printing of notes has suffered set back due to the strike restored to by the supervisors w.e.f. 10.11.91. Only 15 lakh notes are being printed daily instead of sixty lakh notes. At represent sale and purchase of Soyabean and cotton is in full swing in Malwa region and as a result of shortage of big notes, bank-officials and traders are facing great difficulties.

I would like to know from Government the reason for not accepting the demands of the employees? Why are they forced to resort to strike again and again? Madhya Pradesh High Court has ordered that overtime allowance be paid at double rates under section 51 of Factories Act and

Supreme Court has also rejected the appeal of the management against it. Even then management is not following the orders of the Supreme Court.

I would like to urge the Government to give up its rigid attitude and accept the demands of the employees in Public interest so that the printing of notes may start again. I would like the Government to take action against the management for violating the orders of the High Court and the Supreme Court and the demands of the employees should be accepted immediately with a view to end the strike.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): An hon. member from the Ruling Party has made certain observations regarding the strike which is going to take place tomorrow, industrial strike. And it has been commented that it is not in the national interest. I want to make the position very clear.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You want to say that it is the national interest.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: It is in the national interest because the policy against which this industrial strike has been called and is going to be held is against the interest of this country. There is a total sell out; there is a total surrender of the economic independence of the country to the multinationals and the IMF. (Interruptions)

Unemployment is increasing; inflation is rising in this country. Factories have been closed down. Sickness is increasing in industries. So far as prices are concerned, they are soaring. Nothing has taken place except this country's dignity has been mortgaged to the foreign countries and the IMF.

I would appeal through you to the Government that they should see reason and change and withdraw this dangerous, anti people, anti-national policy so that the

strike can be averted and the people of this country can at least have a little stake in the country's future and the progress. What is happening today? (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have taken more than one minute.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The working class and the common people of this country are under a serious challenge and threat and they will fight and fight till the end until they are victorious. (*Interruption*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will not allow you to convert this issue into a debate. Will you kindly be seated?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: The working-class does not want this strike. It is a political strike; it is motivated by political parties; it is to malign the Government. The working-class is not against this industrial policy; they do not want to go on strike; it is the political parties which want it; it is their manoeuvring; they want to take a political leverage out of it. (*Interruptions*) The Eastern Europe have seen how the entire economic system has been broken down because of the so-called progressive policies? (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: This matter is also not going to be debated. Now the hon. Minister wants to react to it.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is Zero Hour. At One O' clock, we ought to have adjourned the House for lunch, but we are continuing for another matter which was brought before the House by the former Speaker. Therefore, every section of the House expressed its opinion. We have taken a decision also. Let us not convert this issue to be a matter to be discussed by every section of the House.

Now, the Minister is on his legs. Let us hear him whatever he wants to say.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: Mr. Chairman, I am sure, tomorrow, they would have again another replay. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We must give effect to the voice of the people outside; we must express their views in this House. You are a minority Government; don't forget that. You do not represent majority of people in this House. (*Interruption*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): You ask them what they have done in Bengal. They have finished everything. Now they want to finish the whole country. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: The prices have gone up by 20 per cent. (*Interruptions*) This is what is happening in India. You will agree that it is an insult to our country and it is against that insult that we are going on strike on the 29th.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you kindly listen?

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am a little surprised that those who talk of democratic norms do not believe in allowing free right of expression. I find that I have just now been strangled by loud voices of senior members on the other side. This is a very serious matter, the matter which has been raised by Shri Somnath Chatterjee. I think it is necessary to draw the attention of the House through you that when we came to Government the economic situation of the country was dire. We had a situation where the balance of payments position was critical.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): That is because of the wrong policies pursued for the last ten years.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: I do not want to blame anyone at this moment, who was at fault and who is not at fault, statistics and history will speak of it. But as at the moment, we have made it extremely clear, the Prime Minister has, and so has every other Minister concerned, that there is no attempt either to de-nationalise the public sector or to privatise it. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please let him say whatever he wants to say.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Today there is a report on ITDC.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly co-operate with the Chair.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: Would you listen? Please do not go by newspaper reports. Unfortunately there has been a very conscious political attempt to mislead. I am not saying who is misleading. Definitely, there is a political plot to mislead but I am at this moment not trying to trade charges.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No running commentary, please.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: All I am saying is, that it is in the interest of the public sector, it is in the interest of industry, in the interest of working classes that you do not encourage or support the proposed strike tomorrow, because the strike tomorrow will only strengthen the hands of those who are campaigning consciously against the working classes and against the public sector. If you want to and if you are interested in ensuring efficiency, all that we are saying is that unviable units must be made viable. We are not saying that they should be closed down. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Motion for Election to Committee.

(*Interruptions*)

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## ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

13.19 hrs.

**Joint Committee on Offices of Profit**

[*English*]

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA  
(Karnal): I beg to move:

"That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (3) of Rule 254 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, one member from among themselves, to serve as a member of the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit for the unexpired portion of the term of the Committee *vice* Shri C.K. Kuppuswamy resigned from the Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (3) of Rule 254 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, one member from among themselves, to serve as a member of Joint Committee on Offices of Profit for the unexpired portion of the term of the Committee *vice* Shri C.K. Kuppuswamy resigned from the Committee."

*The motion was adopted.*

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