

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, I would like to make a submission that after that ruling, it so happened that the Insurance Regulatory Bill, which was initiated by an Ordinance, was referred to the Standing Committee. I would also like to make a submission...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am not aware of the later situationon.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Yes, Sir. He is right...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : On the Depository Bill, there was an Ordinance and this Depository Bill was fully considered by the Standing Committee. Therefore, I humbly request that at least...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Well, I will go through all the records again.

(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Sir, what about these whose names are listed for Zero Hour?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am speaking about you.

(*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : My submission is that these Bills be withdrawn today. We have not yet started the discussion. Let these be deleted from today's List of Business...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will again go through all the relevant records.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : They are listed in the List of Business and on listing, the Bills would come up. At that point of time, if the Member has any objection and if he is asking him to refer them back to the Committee, he can do so but standing in the Zero Hour, talking about the List of Business and asking a particular item to be deleted, I do not know how we can do it. We cannot do it like that.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Hon. Member, I raised it before the Questions were taken up because it refers to the List of Business. To that, he will give a ruling. He referred to the List of Business...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please take your seats now.

(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV (Purnea) : Sir, yesterday also I had risen to speak.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am not allowing you. Please take your seat. Will you please take your seat? Please take your seat. Please sit down. Why do you not sit down? When I allow you, only then you can speak. Please keep quiet now.

[Translation]

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' (Almora) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for the last many months i.e. since August, 1996 supply of ration, particularly wheat, rice, sugar and kerosene has not been made to the entire hilly region of Uttar Pradesh. Adequate quantity of foodgrains is lying in the FCI godowns but the same is not reaching the people of hilly regions in the State. Due to this wheat and rice is not available to the people living in Dharchula, Munsayari, Kapkot, Bageshwar, Garnd. solt and other regions closed to Himalaya which are predominantly inhabited by the tribal people.

Sir, there is not much agricultural land in these areas and a starvation like situation has arisen there. I fear that Kalahandi like situation and situation prevailing elsewhere may arise in these areas also. Every kind of imbalance exists in the hilly regions. Foodgrains are not available there. People should have got 10 kg. of foodgrains per unit but they are getting only two-three kg. of foodgrains per unit. The situation is very horrible there, people are crying for food. Despite drawing the attention of the Government repeatedly, no action has been taken so far thereon. I, through you, demand a through investigation into the various foodgrain scams and supply of foodgrains which is not reaching hilly parts of the State and, at the same time, request that the supply and delivery of full quota of ration be ensured in these areas. With these words, I conclude and extend my thanks to you.

SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to raise a very serious matter. On the 27th January, a dacoity took place in Dadar Bhagalpur Express between Dhanouri and Urain railway station. Nine coaches of the train were looted. Four persons were killed in the incident when they were trying to protect the ladies from molestation by the miscreants. Among the dead were Shri Kamala Das, an employee of the Chittranjan Rail Coach Factory and his wife Smt. Sumitra Devi, Shri Shankar Yadav, a worker of Jamalpur factory and Shri Umesh Varnwal, a businessman of Jamalpur, who died in the hospital. Jamalpur remained closed in protest against this incident. A huge procession was taken out by the angry people in Jamalpur. They were fired at by the policemen in which six persons were injured. Monghyr, Lakhisarai and Pahelgam remained closed against this incident. Jamasampur and Bhagalpur also remained closed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my submission is that after Independence, such an incident never took place. I do not know if any such incident had taken place during the time of Britishers. But to the best of my knowledge, no such incident had taken place even during that time

also. The incidents of rape, murder and dacoity have taken place simultaneously. I regret that the Minister of Railways is sitting here, but he is keeping quiet. He should make a statement on this incident. Janata Dal is in Power in Bihar and at the Centre also.

Neither the Bihar Government nor the Centre have given any amount of compensation to the kith and kin of the people killed in the incident. They have not been given even a single penny. The logic extended by the Ministry of Railways is that as per the prescribed rules, they give compensation only to those persons who are killed in the terrorist activities. But what is the justification for not giving any amount of compensation to the people travelling in a train and killed in a train dacoity. Today, the whole of Bihar is in the grip of terrorism. The Minister of Railways says that the law and order is a subject of the State. But I want to ask him as to who is ruling in the state of Bihar? Whether it is not the Janata Dal which is in power in the state?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This is Zero Hour. You have to be very brief in this Hour.

SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL : Please, let me complete my point...*(Interruptions)* In the last six months, seven incidents of train dacoity have taken place only in that particular section, but no action has been taken on any of them. Not even a single person has been given any amount of compensation. If law and order is a subject of the State which has failed to protect the lives of the people as they are being killed there like this and the Union Government is fully aware of it, then at whose mercy they are left? What for Article 356 is there? Is it only for Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mandal ji, this is not a Budget speech. This is Zero Hour.

[English]

You have to conclude. Please conclude now. Others also have to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Vinay Katiyar. I have called another hon. Member now. Shri Brahamanand Mandal, please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL : If the Bihar Government fails to provide security to the people of Bihar, if it is unable to protect the lives of passengers travelling in trains, then the Centre should dismiss that Government.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please take your seat. Shri Vinay Katiyar. You may please sit down. At least there should be any limit for it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL : The Government should institute a judicial enquiry into the incident in order to find out as to who are the guilty persons involved

in the case...*(Interruptions)** At whose mercy the Centre Government have left the people of Bihar? ...*(Interruptions)* People should not be left at the mercy of their fate. If the Hon'ble Home Minister is unable to do something, he should tender his resignation. I demand that (i) compensation should be given to the people killed and injured in the incident, (ii) Bihar Government should be dismissed (iii) a judicial inquiry should be instituted to probe the cases of train dacoity and Jamaspur Police firing incident...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Whatever submissions have been made by the Hon'ble Member, I have nothing more to add in that. But a very serious matter is under discussion. Earlier, only a few coaches were looted but now the entire train is being looted. Today the honour of women is not safe, the dacoits are molesting and raping them during the incident of train robbery. This is a matter of serious concern. I would urge upon you to kindly take up this matter with the State Government and find out some security measures for the safe travelling of our passengers. You just can not run away from your responsibilities by holding someone else responsible for the act...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH (Balua) (Bihar) : What is the reaction of the Minister of Railways on this incident of train dacoity and killings ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : I want to bring this point on record. A few days back, our Railway Minister had made a statement on the operation of our train services, on the situation of law and order and on the incident of train robbery. Now the House is in session. Therefore, I through you, urge upon the Railway Minister to make a full fledged statement over this issue and let us know as to how far the Centre is accountable for such incidents. What are the Government's policies for giving compensation to the affected people in such a situation? He should come up with a categorical statement on this issue. The entire country, particularly Bihar, is facing such problems as far as the operation of train services is concerned. In view of this, may I know about the proposed steps to be taken by the Government in this regard? You can not run away from your responsibilities just by making a statement publicly. You will have to take stern action. Boards portraying Gandhiji are displayed here and there at different railway stations mentioning therein that in case someone was found travelling without a ticket, he would be penalised or jailed. I want to know from the Railway Minister that when the passengers do not feel safe inside the trains, the honour of our women is not safe as they are being raped, fish-plates are being removed in order to derail the trains, the incidents of train dacoity are taking place and when such incidents are occurring daily then what are the actions proposed to be taken thereon by the Ministry of Railways? Railways is their property and hence, he is accountable for every incident. I would urge upon you to kindly give instructions. Please, do

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

not keep mum. He wants to run away from the responsibility by keeping mum. He should come out categorically on this issue...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Train dacoity is a serious matter.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Why do you not allow me to speak? Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Do you want to challenge me also?

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Do you not allow even me to speak? Please sit down now.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : We want to reply to his question as he has accused the State Government...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You go on shouting. Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing is going on record.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa) : Sir, this is not correct. You must take some action...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Is it enough? Please take your seat now.

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to raise a very serious matter here. The Hawala Scandal which has taken place recently...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please listen to me. If you do not allow even me to speak, what will happen? Please keep quiet.

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I want to draw the attention of the House as well as of Government towards a very serious matter. The Hawala

Scandal which has taken place recently has adversely affected the economy of the country...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down do not cross the limits

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Jena, is there any limit? Can you not control you Members?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : A question regarding State Government was raised by the hon. Member which was provocative and so the hon. Member wanted to give his clarification. If you give him one minute time to speak...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Can it be without permission? He does not allow even me to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will not allow him.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will not allow him today.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Sir, the Minister of Railways should say something. It is not a matter of State Government alone. The entire train is being looted and women are being raped. He should say something.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : The point is very simple. Since the matter is raised by Shri Nitish Kumar and other hon. Members, and if that is an important matter concerning the State of Bihar, a Member from the State of Bihar should also be allowed to speak...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : The matter does not relate to Bihar Government. The matter has been raised regarding the train dacoity where women have been raped and the train was stopped for an hour.

[Translation]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Please go through the records if the question relates to Railways and there is no reference to Bihar Government then you can delete it.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please listen to me.

* Not recorded

[Translation]

I have said that the matter is serious. When decoity and every other thing has taken place in the train there cannot be more serious matter, than this

[English]

The Government should take notice of it.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : The only point is that there should not be any remark regarding Bihar Government. That is my point.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Pudukkottai) : Why do they not ask it from the Minister of Railways...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I would like to draw your attention towards corruption and scandal. There was a case of hawala scandal in the country recently and now a more serious hawala scandal has taken place. We have raised a matter here regarding Indian Bank Scam in the last session. That matter has been referred to the courts and is now under its supervision. I do not want to comment over it but, another scam has come to light. Some of businessmen here have collectively sent billions of rupees outside the country. I am not saying all this. This statement has been made by the Director of the Finance Corporation of India Shri Jaidev Agarwal in 'Jansatta' of 1st February recently that Rs. 570 billions have been sent outside the country through Export-Import channels. If there is any truth in his statement I would urge upon the Government and demand that the matter be thoroughly investigated. This sum of Rs. 570 billions, which was sent to America was reviewed by three economists there who disclosed that this amount has been deposited there illegally and it has come through Import-Export channels from India. If this illegal transaction to America had not taken place, the external debt of the country which is to the tune of 19 billion dollars would have come down to 16 billion dollars...*(interruptions)*. You are supporting corruption. This matter does not pertain to you. You talk about yourself. But the external debt burden of 19 billion dollars would have come down to 16 billion dollars if this money had not gone outside the country and the payment on account of interest would also have reduced by 15 percent.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can not read from written material. You just have to mention your point in brief during zero hour.

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I will conclude in one minute. Our foreign Exchange Reserve would have increased from 25 billion dollars to 40 billion dollars and rupee would have gained value against dollar in the country. Therefore, I would urge upon the Government of India to take action against those businessmen who have sent money outside the country in the last three years through illegal means and also make a statement in this regard.

[English]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE (Jadavpur) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have been observing what has been going on in the House for the last half-an-hour or so. That is why, we need more women in the House. We cannot compete in lung power with our male colleagues. I am trying to raise an important issue. But I am being drowned by all the shouting of the men around me.

Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the House to the dangers of dual pricing of foodgrains, the policy which the Government has just initiated. The Government's decision to help the poorer sections of the people is very well intentioned. But is the Government aware of the serious and far-reaching problems it would create? Firstly, how are we going to identify millions of people below the poverty line which is an impossible task? Secondly, foodgrains meant for the poor usually get into the hands of undesirable people and land up in black market. That has been our experience in the past. Last, but not the least, the huge burden of food subsidy which the Finance Minister has taken upon himself will certainly result in inflation. Thus, instead of helping the poor, we might end up in increasing the sufferings of the people. I would like to know if the Government has taken adequate safeguards against all these three points that I have raised. I thank you for giving me the time.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL (Sadar-Delhi) : The incident of bomb blast in Delhi is a very serious...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have already allowed you.

SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS (Karimganj) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there are many sick and weak tea gardens in Assam, particularly in Southern Assam. The condition of sick and weak tea gardens of my constituency of Karimganj in Southern Assam is very serious. Some of the tea gardens have already been abandoned by this time and some are going to be abandoned.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Please give me a chance too.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Since you have already spoken, you will not get a chance now.

[English]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : No, I have not spoken...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS : Sir, I have drawn the attention of the Government regarding this matter on several occasions. But nothing has been done to revitalise the sick and weak tea gardens. What is more pathetic is that the tea labourers of such tea gardens are living in inhuman conditions without their weekly