

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; in any case we are not going to finish this item today. So, there is no point in allowing one Member to speak now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we take up the Private Members' Business.

15.35 hrs.

[English]

**Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions
Thirty-Sixth Report**

DR. VISHWANATHAM KANITHI (Srikakulam): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Thirty-sixth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 15th December, 1994."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Thirty-sixth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 15th December, 1994."

The motion was adopted.

15.36 hrs.

[English]

**Resolution Re: Enlargement of functions of National
Commission for Backward Classes—Contd.**

MR. CHAIRMAN: We now take up further discussion on the Resolution moved by Shri R. Anbarasu. Kumari Mamata Banerjee.

[Translation]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, six hours have been allotted for it and five hours have passed now. Therefore, the reply of the hon. Minister should be fixed for 4 o'clock so that he concludes by 4.30 p.m.

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South): Mr. Chairman has already started Private Members' Resolution.....(Interruptions).

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: What is wrong Madam. I do not understand what is wrong. I am saying that one more hour has been extended and it should finish by 4.30 p.m. That is what I am saying.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The balance time is 58 minutes, we can see after that.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, I rise to support the Private Members' Resolution moved by Shri R. Anbarasu on 5 August, 1994. In this Resolution he has said that the National Commission for Backward Classes

be empowered to suggest ways and means for the development and to monitor various welfare schemes of the Central Government for other backward classes and that a Parliamentary Committee be constituted to consider the reports of the Commission.

Sir, I fully endorse the views expressed by the hon. Member because though our Government has constituted this National Commission for Backward Classes and other commissions like National Commission for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, National Commission for Minorities, in reality the problem is that the advantage which the people should get, are not getting as it is not reaching the grass-root level. That is why my suggestion to the hon. Minister would be that there must be a monitoring committee to monitor whatever funds Central Government is spending on programmes like 15 Point Programme for Minorities, developmental programmes for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as well as for other backward classes so that it can be seen as to whether the funds are being utilised properly or not. So, may I suggest that a Parliamentary Committee be constituted to look into such grievances?

Sir, it is a fact that Government have already reserved 27 per cent quota for OBCs as per the recommendations of the Mandal Commission. But, there are some other backward classes, in different States, who have not yet been covered. They have not been published in the list for the Other Backward Classes. As a result of which they are now deprived of the benefits. Therefore, may I request the Minister to look into this matter and find out as to how many State Governments have already published the list for OBCs and how many have not published this list up till now so that they can get the opportunities according to the Government policies?

Sir, though there are so many programmes for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes I have seen in areas like Midnapore, Zoo and Jhargram that the tribal people do not eat rice for 11 months out of 12 months. I visited these areas without the knowledge of the administration so that people can speak frankly and can tell their grievances.

For 11 months, they do not eat rice because they do not get it. They only eat some Kukura, some type of orange, some type of forest fruit. I have visited the whole Jharkhand area in Midnapore, Bankura, Purulia and Hooghly districts. I know the problem of Bihar also. In Bihar also, there is a long-standing demand for Jharkhand people that there should be some special autonomous council for the Jharkhand people. I think, the demand is very genuine. Wherever they people are living below the poverty line—whether it may be in Bihar, in Orissa, in Andhra Pradesh, in West Bengal or in other parts of the country—they should be helped. Even whatever the grievances the people of Uttarakhand are having, you will appreciate that we have to look after them in a very sensitive manner.

I have a personal opinion on this because I have visited North Bengal also. In North Bengal, for Darjeeling, our Government has given Autonomous Council. But Siliguri is the gate way of Northeastern region. Seventy per