

**IDBI Assistance to Industries**

1137. SHRI A. INDRAKARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India has provided assistance to large and joint industrial houses;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith assistance provided during each of the last three years, company-wise;

(c) whether this amount has been released for various new projects of such companies in an unequitable manner;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the terms and conditions laid by the IDBI in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available and possible under the rules.

12.00 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE: INTERNATIONAL  
WOMEN'S DAY

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur) : Sir, we went to raise women's issue today.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Bombay-South Central) : Mr. Speaker Sir, a cricket match is being held in Bangalore and the Pakistan Cricket team is arriving to participate in it...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : First, let me speak on International Women's Year.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Thousands of people are being killed in bomb explosions in India now a days...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You may speak on it later please.

[English]

SHRI SOM\* NATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Sir, we totally repudiate what he has been saying.

MR. SPEAKER : Let me first regulate the business. Well, please take your seats. Yesterday, I was asked by the lady Members of the House for a time to say certain things on this important day. I think, the House would be interested in hearing the hon. Prime Minister, and then we continue with the business.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Sir, the lady members have been encouraged by some male Members.

MR. SPEAKER : They are fully supported by all the Members.

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL (Amravati) : Sir, today, 8th March, is historic day which is observed as 'International Women's Day' all over the world. On this occasion, to further augment the status and well-being of women, as our commitment in spirit of our Constitution, we propose the following Resolution in this august House.

"Incentives be given to girls for education so as to prepare them to exercise their equal rights and perform their responsibilities in the society. Proper and comprehensive education be given right from the primary stage so as to inculcate in the minds of boys and girls, proper attitude of equality respect and responsibility towards each other. Media be impressed upon not to project women in any form which is derogatory, obscene and vulgar. Adequate reservation of seats for women's representation in the State legislatures and Sir, I thank you because you were responsible and you have helped us in putting this suggestion.

MR. SPEAKER : You should not telling to the house that I was instigating you.

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL : Sir, I am not telling anything, I am just thanking you. Excuse me Sir, I have not yet completed.

MR. SPEAKER : The other hon. Members are also of the same view.

SHRIMATI PRATHIBA DEVISINGH PATIL : Yes Sir, I thank everybody for that.

"To achieve the above objectives and to monitor the progress and also to suggest ways and means to implement the policies and projects meant for improving the status of women, a Standing Committee of both the Houses of Parliament be constituted." This is my resolutions. May I say something?

MR. SPEAKER : You may say very briefly please because one or two other members may say and we go other item.

[Translation]

**SHRIMATI PRATHIBA DEVISINGH PATIL :** This day is being observed as International Women's Day all over the world. Right from archaic and Vedic ages we have strived for Right to the glory and dignity of women in the country. When freedom movement launched at the call of Mahatma Gandhi, our women folk also endured all sort of hardships and stood shoulder to shoulder with their male counterparts in the fight against the foreign yoke. The women were imprisoned, baton-charged and crushed under the boots of the British police, yet they remained undaunted. A volley of bullets was showered at a thirteen year old girl marching ahead with the tricolour in her hand who fell down on the ground, yet holding her tricolour aloft. This speaks volumes for our history of struggle for independence.

We will be doing great injustice to the women who were equally instrumental in freeing their country if somebody denies them their right to partake of the fruits of independence and progress. Therefore, I say that as a household is run by a man and a woman, likewise the chariot of our society, composed of 50 per cent women, cannot be run if one of its wheels--the women is weak, illiterate, ignorant and incompetent; our country cannot progress and we cannot claim to have achieved all round development.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are aware that two hon. Members of U.K. Parliament had visited our country some days ago. They delivered very good speeches in the Parliament House Annexe and we cross-questioned them. When asked whether they would like to follow our suit of giving 30 per cent reservation to women in the Panchayati Raj System, they said that no such system prevailed in their country. It gave us a feeling of pride to think that we are the pioneers in championing our menfolk. All the social reformers right from Mahatma Gandhi have given priority to glorifying the status of the women as their first step in social reforms. But it gives me immense pain to note that the way woman is projected on the silver screen is derogatory to their dignity and self respect. It may be said that it is an art....

**MR. SPEAKER :** Yours is an all encompassing and very positive resolution.

**SHRIMATI PRATHIBA DEVISINGH PATIL :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the shortage of time I would only like to say that the producers of such indecent films aim solely at filling their coffers caring least for the adverse impact their pornography leaves on the minds of the youth of our society. Therefore, a Committee of the Members of both Houses of Parliament should be constituted to look into the matter. At a time when the term of the present Lok Sabha is going to expire how any Joint Committee can be constituted? We should rise above

our day to day political inclinations in discussing this issue related to the glory of our nation, dignity of women and the development of the country. The Eleventh Lok Sabha, when constituted, will also consider it. Some of us may be re-elected whereas some others may not be but there will be this Parliament, its dignity and our ideals will be upheld. Let the 10th Lok Sabha take the credit of taking a historical decision on this historic day.

**KUMARI UMA BHARTI . (Khajuraho) :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very important day today. Shrimati Pratibha has put forth all the aspects before the House. Through you, I would like to impress upon the hon. Members of all political hues present in the House that the right and responsibility of amending the laws and initiating social reforms are vested with the Members of Parliament themselves. Despite making all endeavours for social reform even after 49 years of independence, women not getting the facilities that they should have got. There should be a campaign not only for ensuring them 'Equal Rights' but 'Equal Respect' as well. This necessitates provision of educational opportunities to women and more than that the economic independence. Despite being educated, women have to gulp down the venom of contempt if they are not economically independent. Hence, there is need for making a provision of economic independence of women so that they can earn 'Equal Respect'.

Mr. Speaker, sir, my second submission is that many times a person accused of outraging a woman's chastity lives a respectful life after undergoing the punishment whereas the woman-victim of the incident is relegated to a living corpse. Therefore, through you, I demand that a provision should be made to directly award death sentence to a person accused of rape in certain specific circumstances so as to check such incidents.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, 'Tandoor' incidents are taking place in this country. On the one hand our country is known for maxims like 'Yatra Narayastu' Pujayante Ramante Tatra Devata'. i.e. the angels dwell in the place where women are worshipped and on the other the limbs of a woman are amputated and toasted in a tandoor. This does not portray a rosy picture of our country abroad.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, similarly dowry deaths are taking place in our country. Women are scared of dowry demands and this fact maligns the country's image abroad. Therefore, stringent measures should be taken to check dowry practice and award punishment to the rapists. Shrimati Pratibha has rightly said that perverted images of women are projected in the films as well as in the small screen advertisements. A woman model is used for every ad-be it a cigarette ad, a blanket ad. or a shoes' ad. On the one hand we are talking of women's self-respect and on the other projecting their derogatory image. This tendency should be checked in both films and television.

Lastly, I would like to request the hon. Members, through you, that the House should consider the issues of economic independence, equal respect and equal educational opportunities to women and the provision for awarding death sentence to the rapists.

SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI (Maharaj Ganj) : I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by my sisters Pratibha Tai and Uma Jee. I have recently returned from Beijing after attending the Women Conference and today for the first time on this international day I am feeling that women form such a part of the society which just cannot be ignored. We need your support for implementing the decisions taken in the conference as they are the means to ensure women's participation at all levels. A female child like a male child is born in the similar conditions but it is a fact woman who is considered as an embodiment of knowledge, virtue, peace and prosperity in this country is oppressed. She is not treated as an individual she is always seen as mother, daughter or daughter-in-law of someone. Women constitute 50 per cent of the total population and if they are given 50 per cent share in the property and right to education I am sure most of our problems will disappear. Laws are there for us but in spite of that atrocities on women are increasing in our country and the figures stand testimony to it. There has been four times increase in the number of cases of dowry deaths from 1991 to 1993. 837 cases were registered in 1991 and this number shot up to 5817 in 1993. It proves that the increase is rather five times not four times. This is all due to discriminatory laws. Women constitute 50 per cent of the total population. We do not need alms. We want political participation. We do not want 33 per cent reservation of seat as alms give us 50 per cent participation. Let this 33 per cent reservation go to the oppressed section of women. I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Hon. Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me opportunity. First of all, I would like to extend our greetings to women all over the world who are fighting for their equality, social and political justice in their countries. I also extend my heartfelt greeting to our male colleagues, who I hope really not only in words, but in deeds, through their election candidature will show how far they support the 30 per cent reservation.

Lastly, because the time is very short, I would like to say one thing. Due to the big fight outside the Parliament and inside, we have a number of good laws.

But unfortunately the implementing machinery still remains very weak. That is why while fully supporting Pratibha Tai's Resolution as well as some other contentions which have been made, I demand that the implementation machinery be strengthened, women's commission be given more power and at lower levels also women's commissions be formed.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur) : Thank you Sir. While fully supporting Pratibha Tai's Resolution, I would like to add one or two words to it. Let us not forget that 8th March is observed as international Women's Day initially because in 1857 it was the women textile workers of America who, fighting for a better wage and better working hours, started their struggle. Therefore, this is the day on which we should remember the large number of women in our country and in other countries who are working in factories, who are working in the unorganised sector, who are working in the agricultural sector, who are working in the various ways, being exploited by the system that there is

Sir, in this regard I think while we support the proposal for reservation of seats at the level of State Legislature and Lok Sabha, I would like to say that unless we can diminish the injustice that is being meted out to women, unless we can strengthen the political participation of women at the grassroots and reverse the deleterious effects that the structural adjustment programme is having on women's lives, without land reforms with equal rights, without land for women reservation by itself cannot serve the purpose that we are trying to serve. Therefore we should say that it should be supplemented by empowerment of women by encouraging the equal participation of women at the economic level, at the political level from the very grassroots.

The last point that I would like to make is that we do not think that in a country where we find that communal violence is on the increase, in a country where political violence is on the increase, women can be made immune to violence whether they stay at home or whether they go out.

But we would like the law implementing machinery to be strengthened so that exemplary punishments are meted out to those culprits who are found to be violating women, and particularly, laws should be strengthened with regard to abuse against children, particularly girl children.

MR. SPEAKER : Very briefly, please.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI LOVELY ANAND (Vaishali) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, today is International Women's day and our elder sister Smt. Pratibha Patil has spoken a lot about it. The other women members have also expressed their views. I have also been given an opportunity to speak. I am very happy for the same.

I want that women should get their rights and not reservation. Women have made more sacrifices by displaying their heroic deeds than their male counterparts to save the country. When needed they have given a befitting reply to enemies with sword in their hands. It is possible only for women to discharge the dual responsibilities of maintaining their household and looking after the national affairs. Therefore, they do not require reservation, they have not come for alms with a begging bowl, rather they should be given their right due and 50 per cent participation.

I would like to say again through you that when girls are born, they are made slaves in their houses no matter whether they are with their parents or brothers. They do not get full rights in the house of their husbands after their marriage unless they become widows. Therefore, I want that they should be given full right in their in-laws' houses before they become widows and during the life time of their husbands.

With these words I conclude.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY (Allahabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have also given notice. I should also be given an opportunity to speak.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Well, if you all agree to the Resolution which has been moved, you can say that you endorse it and that would be okay.

.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARTI : They should also be asked to speak something about women. Please, ask Atal jee also to speak on it. The Prime Minister should also be asked to speak on it. Our male colleagues should also be asked to speak on it.

[English]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : Sir, on behalf of the Government I would like to assure the House that we are entirely in agreement with the spirit of the Resolution. Steps have been taken for years and years. And every year, we are taking new steps in order to empower women, starting with education, going into property relations. And now starting with the Panchayats and other bodies, wherein politically their rights have been recognized by giving reservation and I hope that this reservation will extend to other bodies in course of time. I cannot say just now, but I think it could happen. So, I would like to say that we are entirely in agreement with the Resolution. And whatever the lady Members and other Members, those who are thinking on the subject deeply for years and years, whatever, they suggest, those suggestions will receive very earnest consideration by the Government.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if Devdasi system is not discussed today, then it will be a matter of shame. Date of interview had been announced for the recruitment of Devdasis in Orissa in the month of September and Orissa's.....(Interruptions)\*

If we go through the history of Devdasi system, it is full of tears....(Interruptions)\*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is not going on record.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY : Women were called for interview for working as Devdasis. Mr. Prime Minister, I urge upon you to take steps to root out the Devdasi system and make women self-reliant. More powers should be given to Women Commission. Women Commission should instil fear among men folk it should work as a helpful institution only then its purpose will be served. More constitution of Women Commission and holding meetings in camera will not yield results. The reservation issue is now over due, it should be announced so that 30 per cent women could be seen here in coming days.

\*Not Recorded

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Well, I would like to congratulate all the lady Members who have supported this Resolution by making the speeches as well as by endorsing the spirit in the speeches. I should be allowed to say that all of them agree with the spirit and the principle of the Resolution. Not only that, but it is not disclosing anything to the House which should not be disclosed. All the leaders of all the parties have in principle explained to me that they agree to the principles which are contained in the Resolution. Over and above, the hon. Prime Minister has made it very explicit what is the stand of the Government. I am sure this House unanimously agrees to accept in principle what has been stated in the Resolution by thumping the desks.

*The Resolution was adopted by thumping the desks.*

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (South Central Bombay) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, bomb blasts are taking place at various place in the country.....(Interruptions)\*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : At least one day allow us to conduct the business in a proper manner.

.....(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER : No.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore) : It should not be recorded.....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera) : Sir, we oppose this. This should not go on record.....(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : The poisonous allegations should not be recorded.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : I am walking out in protest .

*Shri Mohan Rawale then left the house.*

12.28 hrs.

MOTION RE : EXPRESSION OF DISSATISFACTION OF THE GOVERNMENT'S FAILURE TO ANSWER CHARGES RELATING TO THE 'HAWALA CASE' AND TO ALLEGATIONS ABOUT ILLEGAL PAY-OFFS TO SOME MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT -CONTD.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will request the hon. Prime Minister to say a few words.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V.NARASIMHA RAO) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a detailed factual reply will be given by my colleague Mrs. Alva. Meanwhile in a very brief intervention, I would like to say that the Government has never sought to interfere in any manner with the investigation. The hon. Supreme court has been overseeing the various stages of the investigations and CBI has been acting under the directions only of the Supreme Court.

AN HON. MEMBER : From when?

SHRI P.V.NARASIMHA RAO : Right from the beginning. In its order dated 1.3.1996 the Supreme Court observed and I quote,

"To eliminate any impression of bias and avoid erosion of credibility of the investigations being made by the CBI and any reasonable impression of lack of fairness and objectivity therein, it is directed that the CBI would not take any instructions from or report to or furnish any particulars thereof to any authority personally interested in or likely to be affected by the outcome of the investigation into any accusations.....(Interruptions)

Sir, I would like to be heard. Now that there has been so much insistence on my speaking here, I would like to be heard.

This direction applies even in relation to any authority which exercises administrative control over the CBI by virtue of the office he holds without any exception.

We may add that this also accords with what the learned Solicitor-General has very fairly submitted before us about the mode of functioning of the CBI in this matter.

We also place on record, the further statement made by the learned Solicitor-General on instructions from the CBI Director that neither the CBI Director nor any of his officers has been reporting to any authority about any particulars relating to these investigations.