

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kindly have your seat. When I am on my legs, you should not stand.

So, the Government would take notice of that. But it is not fair that you go on speaking and denying others the same opportunity.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There are also others. There are 13 or 14 names. It is not possible.

[Translation]

SHRIPRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have a request, please allow me to speak for one minute... We don't get a chance to speak. Please ask the Ministers to solve the problems, of our areas.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: They definitely do so...

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: Please let me know the way in which we can tell our problems to them? *(Interruptions)*... When we approach the Ministers, we are not allowed to see them. How shall we highlight the problems of our area? Later on, it would be difficult for us to win the elections?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Bhogendra Jha.

SHRIBHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am rising today on an issue not concerning any particular constituency or even a State. Today, Sir, a very disturbing case has come which affects our freedom, self-reliance and economic independence. *(Interruptions)*.

Sir, the American Government has threatened India on the issue of Patent Rights. Since several years there has been the issue of General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT) and the Intellectual Property Rights. Recently, in Delhi itself the scientists... *(Interruptions)*.

So, Sir recently the agricultural scientists

including the Vice-Chancellor of Punjab Agricultural University and others have gathered in Delhi. Their apprehension is that in the field of new varieties of seeds like wheat, rice etc., on those issues, the multinational seed companies will usurp our rights and there is going to be a great restraint on our research and development. So, through you, I urge upon the Government to announce in this House that the Government of India will not surrender to the US dictates and the Government of India shall stand firmly in defense of national interests on the issue of patent rights and intellectual property rights.

Sir, I also support the issue raised by my hon. friend Shri Chandra Singh Garwali was a prominent hero of our national liberation movement and particularly I am happy that he joined the Communist Party in Andamans. So, a postage stamp must be issued in his name on his 100th birth anniversary, this year.

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to assure the hon. Member through you, though it has already been done by Shri Arjun Singh when he was here, that in no way will our Government succumb to any of these forces as he is alleging, whether it is world Bank or I.M.F. We will ensure that the sovereignty, both political and economic, is always maintained and any way, when the economic discussion takes place, he can say all that he is saying today.

SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR (Baillia): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, unfortunately, this issue is being taken very lightly by the Government and by the House and the hon. Minister, just when my friend was raising this question, was trying to ridicule it. The problem is not that. The Press report indicates that you people have made certain commitments and there is no contradiction from the Government. You say that the House would discuss about the economic situation on the 16th. You discuss something in the House after discussing in New York and Washington

and after committing the whole nation to certain decision which is disastrous and ruinous to the future of this country. I do not want to raise this issue in a light manner. The Government should come clean that they had not made any commitment to the multinationals, to the IMF and to the World Bank before they come to discuss this matter in this House and come to some positive decision. They discuss the whole thing here, but the news item comes from Washington every day that they had made certain commitments and there is no contradiction from the Government of India. There can be nothing more shameful for the country and there cannot be a greater effrontery than what the Government of India is indulging in today.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARA-MANGALAM: Sir, I have a lot of respect for the former Prime Minister, the hon. Member of Parliament, Shri Chandra Shekhar. I think he should not misunderstand. The Government is not taking this statement by the hon. Member, Shri Bhogendra Jha, in any way lightly. I can assure him, through you, that it is a very serious mention of matters; if I may say, even in one way a charge. But, I will only assure him that in no way will this Government ever sacrifice either the political or economic sovereignty of the nation. With regard to the IMF conditionalities, it has been made clear on the floor of the House that those terms will be placed on the Table of the House by the Finance Minister. We have earlier also discussed in various committees, especially in the BAC, that the discussion would take place on the 16th and on the 16th, I am sure all these issues that have been raised will be met by the hon. Finance Minister one by one, in detail, who is the appropriate person to really meet them.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, now the Minister has said that the conditions which were accepted by the Government of India, vis-a-vis IMF will be placed on the Table of the House by the Finance Minister. Sir this is just to remind this House that Mr. Chandrashekhar has raised this issue in the very beginning and said that when he was the Prime Minister even those conditions were not brought to his notice. Since then persistently in this House we have been asking the Government that those conditionalities should be placed

on the Table. Now, he says when we are going to discuss new economic policy, you can raise this issue.

Now I want to know from the Government very categorically as the date has been fixed perhaps the 16th for the discussion of the new economic policy, will the Government next week on Monday place those conditionalities on the Table of the House so that the House in the light of those conditionalities can discuss and there can be a meaningful discussion.

On what Mr. Bhogendra Jha has said and raised he did not contradict it. He is making only a general statement that the Government is not succumbing politically or economically. What we are saying is the Government is succumbing at every step on every front. Therefore this is a sell out of the country not only in economic field but in various fields, our culture, media, education, political and economical.

Therefore I will seek your protection that please let there be a categorical statement that next week early Monday or Tuesday the Government must place on the Table of the House those conditionalities which have been agreed upon with the IMF.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Please you do clarify one thing. Has any understanding or hint has been given on the issue of patent, on the issue of intellectual property rights? Otherwise please do not make a general thing again and again.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARA-MANGALAM: I am sorry. I would like to make it very clear to the hon. Members that when you raise specific issues, small issues, whether it is done or not done—in the overall gambit of the allegation that there has been a sell out — on the overall gambit of the picture, I can respond and I did respond. With regard to the specific issues, it has to be the appropriate Minister who will respond. It is not that I cannot but if I had the proper notice in advance, I could have also responded, and I would have got the information. But, at the moment, I do not have information on the specific thing because one must have a little notice to go into details and to find out

I can say this much that in overall, there

is no question of sell out. There would never be such a question with our Government. But with regard to IMF conditionalities, the paper would be laid. It has already been made by the Finance Minister..
(*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: When will he do it? / ready five months have elapsed. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR: I am not asking about those conditionalities. Carla Hills came here and made a statement. Today the spokesman of the U. S. Administration made a statement. The Government of India is keeping quiet. Who is Carla Hills to direct the Government of India and the people of India to pursue a particular policy and that too coming in Delhi and making it? It is against all norms of democratic behaviour and diplomatic courtesy. An ordinary official comes from Washington, makes a statement and give directive to the Government of India and to the people of India.

Today a spokesman of the U.S. Administration makes a statement and the Government of India keeps quiet on this. Is there any sense of dignity in the nation or not?

They have every right to sell away the country as long as they are in power....

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No.

SHRI CHANDRASHKHAR: This is what they feel. But the only question is whether certain norms will be observed in this country or not. People coming from foreign countries and making a statement....

[*Translation*]

SHRI KRISHAN DATT SULTANPURI (Shimla): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is no point of order, but only disorder.

SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR: There is no point of order on it. Please do not act in a manner which will stop the functioning of the House.

[*English*]

I want to know whether we are going to

observe any rule or not. My Guruji is sitting here. I shall like to ask him.

Is there any diplomatic etiquette? Will that etiquette be observed in this country or not?

If others come and make a statement which is totally derogatory, whether it is right, good or bad, those statements are not contradicted either by the Foreign Office spokesman or by the Prime Minister's Office or by the Finance Minister or by any Tom, Dick and Harry in the Government of India. What other citizens in this country should do?

I would like to know whether those statements are point to be unchallenged, the statements from the foreign spokesmen, without any reaction from the Government of India or, the Parliament and the Members of Parliament are going to take notice and object to it even if the Government does not object to this type of statement.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): I had no intention to participate in this discussion. But it has turned to be serious due to Shri Chandrashekhar's (*Interruptions*) Shri Bhogendra Jha had raised an issue about which the whole country is worried. The Government has to take a firm decision about it. Majority of the M.Ps had signed on the statement which states that country should not be cowed down on the issue on intellectual Property Rights. Hon. Minister gave an assurance that no compromise would be made. But Shri Chandrashekhar's allegation is serious. I do not know as to what did Ms. Carla Hills say But I demanded on behalf of my party to bring to light IMF conditionalities, when the discussion on the Budget commenced. The hon. Minister of Finance did not accept it then Now he is ready to do so. It is good. Hew told at that time that no condition was imposed on us. Later and IMF official came here and he said that no question arose to impose any condition, and our country was willingly accepting them all. I saw a programme about it on the T. V.

I agree with Shri Yadav's suggestion that if the conditions had been placed on the Table of the House, the discussion would

have been meaningful. As far as Shri Chandrashekhar's allegations are concerned, they are serious in nature. (Interruptions) If something is said against the dignity of the country, it should be protested. It is right that we are facing an economic crisis and depend a lot on foreign aid. But it should be got in the manner that our pride and sovereignty, about which the hon. Minister mentioned, should not be compromised. It will be better if Shri Chandrashekhar informs the House as to which statement of Ms Carla Hills he is referring to ..(Interruptions)

SHRI RABI RAY: Shri Kumaramanglam is present here and I thank Shri Bhogendra Jha and Shri Chandra Sekhar for raising this issue. Perhaps you were present in the House on 29th, the day when strike was observed when I placed Ms Carla Hills' statement. I am quoting Ms Carla Hills. She made a statement in Washington on 28th that India was running towards economic Reforms and she hoped it would continue and India was being given the period of three months about Patent laws. The Special Article 301 would not be imposed till February. Shri Chandra Shekhar again became suspicious today. I do not know why? Shri Kumaramanglam is our friend. Perhaps he is also suspicious. I am again informing the Central Government that they will do nothing about the Patent Law especially about Article 301, because it will be imposed after February. I have been reading for six months that the Government is deliberately making a compromise with the economic independence. You please think that we are living in India. It is a country of Gandhiji, and Jayaprakash Narayanji. Ours is a very great and sovereign country. We are 80 crore in number. Ms. Carla Hills, who is not even a Minister but only an officer, how can she direct us. It is a matter of shame. Have we no status? Though the Prime Minister is not present here, does it not trouble Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev also who is present here. Where are we going and to what extent? We are facing these things after so many years of independence. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you are the guardian of our rights and as you sit on Speaker's Chair you become guardian of the country. Consultative Committee attached to the Ministry of Industry is holding its meeting today. We will raise this issue there but we will get the stock reply. Why did the Government not think of making *suo*

motu statement? It seems that the Government does not bother for self-respect. It is an important question. Ataji has mentioned it just now. You can find everything about it in the newspaper "Hindu". Only this newspaper published it. I raised this question on the very day it was published. Working class have been against it. A message should be issued in which the Ministers, who are present here, should make a statement that they do not accept Ms. Carla Hills directions. Outeconomic Sovereignty should be protected in the context of patent law.

[English]

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARA-MANGALAM: I would like to make one thing very clear. With due respect to all the senior leaders who have voiced their views in this regard, I want to make one thing clear.

SHRI BHOGENDRRA JHA: We have fought for freedom. We do not want to lose it.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARA-MANGALAM: Well, I have been the beneficiary of that. I do not deny that. I am a post-freedom child. But still I hope you would appreciate that we do belong to the post freedom generation. That is right. But I would like to only go on record to say categorically that with regard to the IMF conditionalities and papers, the Finance Minister has informed in the past. I would also like to make it clear that the reason why we wanted to have the discussion at the appropriate time was to find the time and see that the papers are there in time before the discussion starts so that you can make use of that during the course of the discussion. This is regarding to that aspect.

SHRI BHOGENDRRA JHA: They are threatening us with ultimatum.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARA-MANGALAM: I would like to make one thing very clear. The hon. former Speaker and presently Member of Parliament Shri Rabi Ray, I am sure, would appreciate that on the matter of what every officer of other Governments say, if the Government is going to come out with a *suo motu* statement in Parliament, I think it is a bit too much.

SHRI RABI RAY: I am very sorry.

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane): Is it not an insult to our freedom?

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARA-MANGALAM: Shri Ram Kapse, would you allow me to speak (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I am inclined to agree with the Minister for a change.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARA-MANGALAM: That way, I am obliged. If I may submit that with regard to Patent Laws, we have made it very clear - earlier, discussions have taken place etc. that our Government has not got any proposal in its mind for changing the Patent Laws as of now. That is the real position now. With regard to the issue as to whether we accept this as a pressure, or not, we can make it very clear that no Government can pressurise our Government to accept any condition, under any terms of pressure. If we do agree to anything at all, at any particular time, it shall be agreed to only if it is in the interest of our people and in the interests of our country. And with regard to Paris Convention, we are very clear in our minds. We have already stated our policy in advance that we have our patent law and that patent law stands as it is. And that is the position. I am making it very clear so that you can disabuse anybody, who is under the impression that we are changing this or that. At the moment, no such proposal is in existence.

13.26 hrs

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

[*English*]

Review on the working and Annual Report of Rajasthan state Dairy Development Corporation Ltd, Jaipur for 1990-91

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(i) A statement regarding review by the Government on the working of the Rajasthan State Dairy Development Corporation Limited, Jaipur, for the Year 1990-91.

(ii) Annual Report of the Rajasthan State Dairy Development Corporation Limited, Jaipur, for the year 1990-91 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No LT 942/91]

Notification under Multi State Cooperative societies Act, 1956, Review on the working and Annual Report of Uttar Pradesh State Agro Industrial Corporation Ltd Lucknow for 1984-85 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy of the Multi-State Cooperative Societies (Registration, Membership, Direction and Management, Settlement of Disputes, Appeal and Revision) Amendment Rules, 1991 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 666(E) Gazette of India dated the 7th November, 1991 under sub-section (3) of section 109 of the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984. [Placed in Library. See No LT 943/91]

(2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Uttar Pradesh State Agro