

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