

MISS MABEL REBELLO (Madhya Pradesh) : Sir, my Special Mention has not come up. I am sitting here. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not in the list. You have done once in this week. So, it is for the next week.

MISS MABEL REBELLO: Sir, it is approved for today. ...*(Interruptions)*... For next week, it is a different issue. It has been approved and it has been given to me. There is some lapse somewhere.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will find it out.

MISS MABEL REBELLO: That is what I am trying to say, Sir. All right, if you say, I will not make this Special Mention.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no; if it has been approved...

MISS MABEL REBELLO: Since the Office has approved it, and they have sent a copy to me...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Anyway, you read it.

MISS MABEL REBELLO: There are many other Special Mentions.

SHRI KARTAR SINGH DUGGAL (Nominated) : Sir, it is also approved.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it also approved? ...*(Interruptions)*... You also read it.

### **Need to tackle drinking water crisis in India**

MISS MABEL REBELLO (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, what a problem in India? Portends of the impending water crisis are now clearly visible in many parts of India. The *per capita* availability of water in the country has been reduced to less than 1000 cubic metres. It was 5000 cubic metres at the time of Independence, when our population was only 35 crores. In India, around 18,365 rural habitations are not covered by any water supply programme, and 1,53,981 rural habitations are partially covered, as per the

2001 estimations. Rajasthan is the State where the highest number of rural habitations are still uncovered or partially covered by water supply schemes. According to experts, about 2.5 million Indians will have no access to safe drinking water by the year 2010. More than 50 per cent of the urban dwellers don't have proper water supply facilities. Slum-dwellers are the major victims of this menace, as water availability is very poor there. Even potable drinking water is not available to more than 10 per cent of the urban population. The existing urban water supply scheme is insufficient to meet the problem of water scarcity in urban areas, as these services do not cover the entire population. There is a need for appropriate mix of Central and State Governments' investment and strengthening of the operational and maintenance system for effective water supply. Development of technology for water harvesting, drought proofing measures, and production of drinking water is also essential. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to take innovative initiatives to find a permanent solution to this very important problem -- water problem. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI (Nominated): Sir, I also associate myself with this Special Mention.

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with this Special Mention.

श्री बालकवि बैरागी (मध्य प्रदेश): मैं इसके साथ अपने को एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

श्री राजू परमार (गुजरात): मैं भी इसके साथ अपने को एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

डा. फागुनी राम (बिहार): मैं भी इसके साथ अपने को एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

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## GOVERNMENT BILLS

### THE PREVENTION OF FOOD ADULTERATION (EXTENSION TO KOHIMA AND MOKOKCHUNG DISTRICTS) REPEAL BILL, 2002

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): Sir, I move: