"SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY (Karnataka): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All Members associate. Shri Rajeev Shukla.

## Problems of Indian Workers in us

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA (Maharashtra): Sir, I am raising a very important issue about the problems being faced by Indian workers in America. Hundreds of Indians working in shipyards in Mississipi and Texas have been subjected to torture and human trafficking by US and Indian recruiting agencies and employers. These workers are reported to have paid huge sums of money to recruiters on false promises that they would be given work-based permanent residency in America. Instead, they have been given short-term guest workers' visa and are made to work in unsatisfactory and exploitative conditions. It is also alleged that the Indian Embassy in America has not taken serious note of the issue even though repeated complaints have been made. Therefore, these workers are reported to have begun a Satyagraha and they are moving on foot from New Orleans to Washington D.C. to confront the Ambassador for not considering the case seriously. What are the steps being taken by the Government to resolve this issue? What are the proposed measures to fight such cases in the future?

Sir, this is a very serious issue. Most of these Indian workers with false promises by the recruiting agencies are being deceived and cheated and all these agencies are minting money. Our Ambassador to Washington is not taking any notice of it. He is not trying to help them. So, the Foreign Affairs Minister must be asked to look into it personally so that these Indian workers could be helped. This is our demand.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD (Bihar): Sir, I associate myself with this matter.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes. You may please associate yourself with the matter.

PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATR!YA (Gujarat): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY (Karnataka): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Special Mentions to be laid. Shri Shreegopal Vyas.

## **SPECIAL MENTIONS**

## Demand to take Action Against Violent People Working Against the Interests of Scheduled Tribes in Kandhmal, Orissa

श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, उड़ीसा के कंधमाल जिले में अनुसूचित जनजातियों के हितों को आधात पहुंचाने मतांतरित लोग हिंसक उपद्रव कर रहे हैं। इन्हें कई भूतपूर्व अधिकारियों का प्रश्रय है। ये भी मतांतरित हैं।

दुर्गापूजा आदि प्रसंगों पर पीड़ित लोगों को राहत पहुंचाने गए एक 82 वर्षीय स्वामी पर प्राणघातक आक्रमण भी हुआ है। आक्रमणकारी तत्वों को भड़काया जा रहा है।

मेरा सरकार से निवेदन है कि वह जनजातीय (अनुसूचित) लोगों के हितों की ऐसे तत्वों से रक्षा करे एवं इन्हें प्राप्त होने वाली विदेशी सहायता की जांच करे।