

उपसभापति: अभी मंत्री जी गवर्नमेंट बिजनेस के बारे में बता रहे हैं। बोलिए मंत्री जी।

ANNOUNCEMENT RE: GOVERNMENT BUSINESS FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, THE 16TH DECEMBER, 1996

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATES-WARLU): Madam, with your permission I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing Monday, the 16th December, 1996 will consist of:—

1. Consideration and return of the Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 1996 as passed by Lok Sabha.
2. General discussion on Uttar Pradesh Budget for 1996-97.
3. Consideration and return of the following Bills as passed by the Lok Sabha:—
 - (a) The Uttar Pradesh Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 1996.
 - (b) The Appropriation (Railways) No. 4, Bill, 1996.
4. Consideration and passing of the Coal India (Regulation of Transfers and Validation) Bill, 1995.
5. Consideration and passing of the following Bills as passed by Lok Sabha:—
 - (a) The Constitution (Eightieth Amendment) Bill, 1996.
 - (b) The Constitution (Eighty-first Amendment) Bill, 1996.

RE. DEMAND TO TAKE UP LOKPAL BILL, ELECTORAL REFORMS BILL AND WOMEN RESERVATION BILL

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL (Rajasthan): Madam, what about the Lok Pal Bill? What about the Electoral Reforms Bill?

श्री० विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा (दिल्ली): मैडम, इस सेशन के लास्ट तीन दिन बाकी हैं लेकिन लोकपाल बिल, महिला बिल, इलैक्ट्रोल रिफार्स बिल नहीं आए हैं, जबकि बार-बार इन्होंने वायदा किया था कि इनके यहां ले आएं, पास करेंगे, इसी सेशन में हो जाएंगे। यह गवर्नमेंट अपने वायदों पर मुकर रही है। आफ्टर आल यह क्यों नहीं ला रहे हैं। अभी कई इलैक्शन आ गए, बाई-इलैक्शन भी है, सारी कंस्टीट्यूंसी का दोबाग से सर्वे होना है, इलैक्शन कमीशन भी बनना है।(ब्यवधान)....

उपसभापति: महिला का बिल भी नहीं आ रहा है। महिला की बात हमेशा भूल जाते हैं(ब्यवधान)....

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Madam, the Government had assured the House that they would come forward with a legislation regarding agricultural workers. What has happened to that?(Interruptions)....

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA (West Bengal): Madam, may I say one thing? There was a commitment from the Government that the Bill about 33 per cent reservation for women would be passed. I still remember that the hon. Prime Minister came to this House and made a commitment that the necessary amendment would be done to give 33 per cent reservation to women. To do it properly, a Joint Committee was set up. The Joint Committee has already given its report. Even after the Prime Minister had made categorical assurances on the floor of the House repeatedly and in the background of most of the National political parties agreeing to it and in the background of the Government saying that it would be done, now at the fag end, we have been given to understand by the announcement of the Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs that the Government is suffering from indecision. If the Government is suffering from indecision, no such categorical assurances should be made. After making a categorical assurance, if the Government goes back, the motive of the Government would be a matter of suspicion for the people. People would

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feel that under this pretext or that pretext the Government is going back, the Government is withdrawing. Let the hon. Prime Minister come to this House. Why is there so much secrecy? Why is there so much misunderstanding, misgiving, when the Government speaks of transparency? The Governments should be transparent in its motive. There should be a direction from the hon. Chairperson asking the Prime Minister to come to the House and clarify the position. Why have we been left to guess? Why should there be speculations when the Parliament is in Session? The Government is frequently changing its position. Why should it be through backdoor? I request the hon. Chairperson to direct the Prime Minister to come to the House and clarify the position. This uncertainty regarding half of Indian population will not be taken lightly. I request you to kindly give a direction from the Chair(Interruptions)...

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Make an announcement that reservation of women ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN (UTTAR PRADESH): There was a categorical assurance from the Prime Minister on Uttarakhand(Interruptions)...

श्री ओ०पी० कोहली (दिल्ली): मैडम, उत्तरखंड के बारे में बार-बार भाषण होते रहे हैं, उन्होंने उसे मुला दिया है।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: How many directions do you want me to give?(Interruptions).... A few Members are talking about women and there are others who are trying to scuttle it by bringing Uttarakhand (Interruptions)....

SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: No, we are not trying to scuttle it(Interruptions)....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You be united on one issue, then go to Uttarakhand (Interruptions)....

SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: What about the commitment made on the floor of the House?(Interruptions)....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us finish one issue', then we can go to the next. When the issue of women is being discussed, three Members get up and talk about Uttarakhand. That itself makes it evident that Members are concerned about something else. I do not say that Uttarakhand is not important. Let one matter be settled first. Then you go to Uttarakhand (Interruptions)....

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Let the Prime Minister clarify his position regarding the commitment made about 33 per cent reservation for women(Interruptions)....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to give my direction. One Member asked me to give my direction. If you sit down, I will give my direction; otherwise, the House will be the most undirected House (Interruptions)....

विपक्ष के नेता श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: सदर साहिबा, मुझे माफी के साथ यह अर्ज करना है कि विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा जी ने सबसे पहले बीमेन का सवाल उठाया था।

الاعتراف سلكندر بخت: صدر صاحبہ - بھج
مافی کے ساتھ عرض کرنا ہے کہ وجہ کمزور
میں نے سب سے پہلے ویمین کا سوال اٹھایا
فتا-]

उपसभापति: वही तो मैं कह रही हूँ।

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: और मैं यह अर्ज कर रहा हूँ कि यह जो तीन आदमियों ने उत्तरखंड का सवाल उठाया, यह सतीश अग्रवाल जी के खड़े होने से पहले उठाया था। इसलिए कि उन्होंने बीमेन का सवाल उठाया सतीश अग्रवाल जी ने स्कावट डालने के लिए उत्तरखंड के बारे में भी प्रधान मंत्री जी ने एक दफा नहीं, छह दफा कमिटमेंट किया है और उसके बाद भी

Bill

اشرفی سلکدر بخت: اور میں یہ عرض کر رہا ہوں کہ یہ جو تین آدمیوں نے اتراکھنڈ کا سوال اٹھایا۔ یہ سٹیٹس اگروال جی کے ٹکڑے ہونے سے پہلے اٹھایا تھا۔ اس لیے کہ انھوں نے وہیں کا سوال اٹھایا سٹیٹس اگروال جی نے رکاوٹ ڈالنے کیلئے... تو اظہار... اور اس کے بعد میں بھی پردھان معززی جی نے ایک دفعہ نہیں۔ چھو دفعہ اسٹیٹمنٹ کیا ہے اور اس کے بعد میں... []

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA (Bihar): With your permission can I say a few words?

The Government is silent about it. The women's issue is a very important issue. Mr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra was the first Member who raised the women's issue.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is what I am saying that things get diluted if everybody tries to bring every other matter at the same time. Mr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra and Mr. Gurudas Das Gupta raised it. Mr. Agarwal also raised the issue and requested me to give some direction to the Government. Before I can give my directions, Members want to take me to Uttarakhand... (Interruptions)...

SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: No, Madam... (Interruptions)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is on record. Please do not argue. Let me tell the Government something on the issue of women. Then let us go to Uttarakhand. There are other issues also. We have only four days. Let us find out. I can only give directions. Actually Kamla Sinha has taken permission to raise the issue. I believe there is going to be some silent demonstration outside... (Interruption)...

[] Transliteration in Arabic Script.

मैडम, इसी सदन में प्रधान मंत्री जी ने आश्वासन दिया था कि महिलाओं को देश भर की विधान सभाओं में और संसद में, वास्तव में उन्होंने यह कहा था कि विधान मंडलों में और संसद में 33 प्रतिशत आरक्षण दिया जाएगा और यह भी कहा था कि इतना ही नहीं, हम तो महिलाओं को 30 प्रतिशत आरक्षण नौकरियों में भी देंगे। यह उन्होंने स्वयं कहा था। इससे पहले भी उनके पब्लिक ऐड्रेस हुए हैं और उनका यह कमिटमेंट भी था। एक महिला विधेयक तैयार हो कर आया भी था। वह ज्वाइंट सलेक्ट कमेटी में गया, मैं भी उसकी एक सदस्य थी। ज्वाइंट सलेक्ट कमेटी ने कुछ संशोधन भी किए। वे संशोधन कुछ छोटे-मोटे थे और उसके कुछ रिक्मण्डेशन्स भी हुए। उसके बाद वह ज्वाइंट सलेक्ट कमेटी की रिपोर्ट सरकार को सौंप दी गई। तो अब सारे देश की महिलाएं यह जानना चाहती हैं कि उस विधेयक का क्या हुआ? आज उसी बात को लेकर देश भर के विभिन्न महिला संगठनों से जुड़ी हुई करीब दो-ढाई सौ महिलाएं दोपहर दो बजे से तीन बजे और तीन बजे से चार बजे तक दोनों सदनों की गैलरियों के बाहर बैठेगी और महात्मा गांधी जी की प्रतिमा के पास मौन प्रदर्शन करेगी। तो सरकार से हम जानना चाहते हैं कि उस विधेयक का क्या हुआ? प्रधान मंत्री के आश्वासन, क्रमन्विनियम प्रोग्राम के आश्वासन और हमारी सरकार के कमिटमेंट का क्या होगा, यह हम सरकार से जानना चाहते हैं।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us not bring it as a party issue. Everybody is united on this. It is across the party line. I do not want the women's issue, to be again destroyed by party lines. It is one issue. Women's issue is above party line. Women are above everything in my opinion. So please don't destroy it.

DR. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY (West Bengal): Madam, I associate myself with this issue.

SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY (West Bengal): Madam, I would also associate myself with this issue.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me give a direction. As the Prime Minister

made a statement on the floor of the House and he is also a Member of the Rajya Sabha, I think in the fitness of things and in the seriousness of the situation, his commitment and sentiments are with the whole 50 per cent of the population of this country. I think it is proper that you convey to the Prime Minister that the Members want to know and he should make his position clear, whatever it is. If he has got any difficulty, let him come and tell the House. The House should be taken into confidence. It is a major issue which was raised in the House and he made a commitment on the floor of the House. The House is not going to sit for more than a week. So, when he comes, please convey it to him.

SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Madam, you have been very kind on the Uttarakhand issue. It is very clear that the Prime Minister did make a statement, did make a commitment that it is going to come very soon. Now this is being diluted. Even Mulayamji in today's statement has said that he is for it. Definitely there are several Ministers who are for Uttarakhand, including the Railway Minister. But still the Bill has not been brought to the notice of the House nor is there any activity on that point. Rather, I see there are a lot of contradictions in the minds of some of the Members of the United Front on Uttarakhand issue. After all, this thing should be made very clear, whether this Bill is coming or not and what the policy of this Government on Uttarakhand is.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Another matter which was raised here was about labour. Shri Gurudas Das Gupta and other Members have been raising it in this House. Mr. Narayanasamy has raised it.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Madam, I crave your indulgence for a minute.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: But it should be very short.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Yes. Madam, I should inform the House that for the last ten years this House and Parliament have been unanimously demanding that there should be a legislation for the agricultural workers who are at the moment nearly 100 million in the country. As you know, Madam, on 21.8.1996...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Make it very short because we are not going to make a clarification.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: I will make it short. Madam, I would like to say that there was an All Party meeting. All the parties were represented and the parties unanimously told the Minister of labour and the Ministry of Labour has sent a Bill to the Government and that Bill is being scuttled. This is not only against the commitment but this is against all norms of commitment towards the people's welfare. It is absolute unprivileged. I think, Madam, the *Kulaks* lobby in the country is trying to scuttle the move to bring about a legislation for the larger segments of agricultural forces in this country. I wish the hon. Minister makes a statement....(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI JIBON ROY (West Bengal): Madam, there should be an All-India discussion about the Bill. There should be total unanimity over the Bill. And it is referred... (*Interruptions*)...There is no Bill for agricultural workers.... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: I am one with Mr. Gurudas Das Gupta on behalf of my party. This is only a breach of promise. It is a fraud on Parliament, fraud on India. They are not bringing a legislation with regard to agricultural labourers... (*Interruptions*)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. The Labour Minister is here... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH (Uttar Pradesh): Madam, I have a point of order.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is no point of order in this.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): I have given notice. The Minister has given an assurance to the House... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JIBON ROY: Madam, there is no Bill for the agricultural workers and ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: It is a fraud on the people. They make a commitment, they make an assurance and then they back out. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Labour Minister is here. Mr. Minister, you owe some assurance to the House, you owe some explanation to the House. If you are not prepared now, I can give you time till tomorrow.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): Madam, I can say even now.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you want to say something now,, it is fine. Whatever you have to say, please be brief in saying that. You tell us when you are going to do that. I had once given an assurance from the Chair. I want to abide by my assurance.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Madam, this question is agitating us for the last so many years. If I may recall, this issue has been under consideration of various Governments from 1970 onwards. After I gave my assurance to this House in the last Session, we formulated our proposals through the process of consultation and consensus. We approached the Cabinet for introduction of this Bill in Parliament. After that, the Cabinet directed us to come to it with a draft Bill. We drafted the Bill. During the formulation of the draft Bill, a lot of proposals had come to us. The process of consultation, as I said, included consultations with various trade unions also. The Law Ministry had also taken a meeting in my absence. The Law Minister had consulted the Department-

of Law also. While drafting the Bill, some legal and Constitutional issues have cropped up which are being sorted out in consultation with the Ministry of Law. In this regard, the Law Minister had taken a meeting also. I reiterate the Government's commitment to the cause of agricultural workers and I assure this august House that the present delays are only due to the complexity of the task on hand and because of some procedural requirements. They are being handled with all skill and discretion available with the Ministry.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE (Maharashtra): Skill! Expertise?

PROF. RAM KAPSE (Maharashtra): Madam, the Labour Minister has referred to a meeting...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This is not a proper way. I am not allowing anybody to interrupt him. Prof. Kapse, please sit down. There is no issue in this. Please take your seat ...*(Interruptions)*... Please take your seat. Let me hear clearly what the Minister is saying. Only after hearing him, I will be in a position to decide whether I should allow some more discussion on it or not because there are Special Mentions and Zero Hour Mentions. We cannot take the House for granted and give permission to all.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: I have myself talked to the Attorney-General to sort out the legal problems. He has agreed to reconsider the matter. I referred the matter to the Attorney-General. The matter is under process. I hope to come to Parliament with a copy of the Bill for its consideration very shortly.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: "Very shortly" means what? Is it during this Session or in the coming Session? This Session or the next Session? I am asking this question because you do not seem to be sure of introducing the Bill during the current Session. If you are not sure, then

tell us that it will not be possible for you to introduce the Bill during the current Session. If you say that, I would tell the Members that the Bill would be introduced only in the next Session.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: That is what I am saying, Madam. I have referred the matter to the Attorney-General. As soon as we get the report of the Attorney-General, we will approach the Cabinet. We have to go to the Cabinet again. I don't think it will be possible for me to get the Cabinet decision within the next three days.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Fine.. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Madam, let the Minister at least assure the House that we would bring forth the Bill in the next Session...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JIBON ROY: Madam, we are not asking him to introduce the Bill during the current Session. But let him give us an assurance...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No more discussion on it ...*(Interruptions)*... He has given his assurance to the House ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Madam, let him at least assure us ... *(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Gupta, enough is enough ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JIBON ROY: Madam, let there be an assurance...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Minister of Labour has volunteered and said that he is doing all this. He assured the House that he would bring forth the Bill as soon as possible. I am quite sure he cannot introduce the Bill within the next three days. Let us not live in a fools' paradise. We have got from his proper assurance, a promise that the Bill would be introduced as soon as possible.

SHRI JIBON ROY: Madam, we want a definite assurance from the Minister that he would introduce the Bill in the next Session.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Surinder Kumar Singla ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Thank you very much, Madam ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राजनाथ सिंह: मैडम, लोकपाल विधेयक के बारे में, उत्तराखण्ड राज्य के बारे में सरकार का जो कमिटेमेंट था।... (व्यवधान)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have called Mr. Singla ...*(Interruptions)*...I am not allowing any more discussion on it. Please sit down ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राजनाथ सिंह: मैडम, उत्तराखण्ड राज्य के बारे में और लोकपाल विधेयक के बारे में सरकार का कमिटेमेंट है। इनके बारे में सरकार का बिल ला रही है।... (व्यवधान)... इस सरकार का कमिटेमेंट है इसके बारे में जानकारी होनी चाहिए।... (व्यवधान)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I cannot say anything just now. Three issues were there. I have taken them up. I have conveyed the sentiments of the House to the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Please tell the Minister...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have already told the Minister. Mr. Raj Nath Singh, you are a very senior Member. You had also been in the Assembly. See, the moment I am co-operative, it becomes a bad day for me. Everybody takes advantage of it. There were three issues which were raised by the hon. Members. But cannot ask every Minister to come here and be present...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Shri Surinder Kumar Singla.