

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: We fully support it. The P. M. will take the initiative. I hope so.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Traffic congestion between Haryana and Delhi

श्री एस० एस० सुरजेवाला (हरियाणा) मैडम चेयरपरसन, मैं जन महत्व के एक मुद्दे की तरफ इस सदन के माध्यम से सरकार का ध्यान दिलाना चाहूंगा। हरियाणा, खास तौर से सेंट्रल हरियाणा, जिसके पांच बड़े महत्वपूर्ण जिले हैं—रोहतक, भिवानी, सिरसा, हिसार, जींद इन जिलों के लिए तथा पंजाब के अधिकतर जिलों के लिए जिनमें संगरूर, लुधियाना, पटियाला और दूसरे जिले शामिल हैं, इसी प्रकार से फाजिलका, अंबाला और राजस्थान के दूसरे इलाकों से दिल्ली को मिलाने के लिए एकमाल सड़क है आम तौर पर जिसको रोहता—दिल्ली रोड कहा जाता है। मैडम, यह सड़क बहुत नैरो है बहुत तंग है और सिंगल रोड है। इसके साथ ही साथ दिल्ली में नांगलोई एक जगह है, अगर आपको वहां से गुजरने का इत्तेफाक हुआ हो तो आपको मालूम होगा कि वहां पर परपेचुअल ट्रेफिक कंजेशन और ट्रैफिक जाम रहते हैं। कारण यह है कि यह सड़क नांगलोई बाजार के अंदर से होकर जाती है और इस सड़क को दोनों तरफ से दुकानदारों ने पूरी तरह से इन्क्रोच कर रखा है। इस बारे में दिल्ली सरकार पूरी तरह से सोई हुई है और न ही उधर बाई-पास बना है। नतीजा यह है कि सेंट्रल हरियाणा के इन जिलों में या पंजाब अथवा राजस्थान के जिलों में यहां से आने-जाने के लिए कोई दूसरा रास्ता नहीं है, इस सड़क पर इतना ट्रैफिक कंजेशन और ट्रैफिक जाम रहता है कि अगर आप समय पर पहुंचना चाहे किसी जगह पर तो उसकी कोई गारंटी नहीं है। आम तौर पर रोजाना वहां पर घंटों-घंटों तक बड़ी भारी लाइन लगी रहती है क्योंकि दिल्ली—पंजाब के बीच में, जहां का यात्रियों की बड़ी भारी गिनती है और उसके साथ ही साथ हरियाणा-दिल्ली-राजस्थान के बीच में ट्रक ट्रैफिक जो है—फूट ग्रेन की दे है, दूसरे ट्रेन हैं, उनका सारा ट्रक ट्रैफिक भी इधर से ही गुजरता है।

इसलिए, मैडम, मैं इस सदन के द्वारा सरकार का ध्यान इस महत्वपूर्ण मामले की ओर दिलाना चाहूंगा कि वह कृपा करके नांगलोई के ट्रैफिक जाम को ठीक करने के लिए वहां जा एन्क्रोचमेंट है, उसको खाली करवाएं क्योंकि वहां आम तौर से पुलिस भी ड्यूटी पर नहीं होती है। इसके साथ ही साथ मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूं कि वहां बाई-पास भी बनवाया जा सकता है और उसे बनाना चाहिए।

मैडम, यह पूरी सड़क आर्मी ट्रैफिक के लिए भी बड़ी महत्वपूर्ण है क्योंकि फाजिलका और अंबाला में, पाकिस्तान के बॉर्डर पर, जांट कैंट एरिया है, उनको यही सड़क दिल्ली से मिलाती है, उसके लिए यही एकमाल रोड है।

इसलिए, मैडम, मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि इस सड़क को जल्दी से जल्दी फोर लेनिंग किया जाए और जब तक यह फोर लेनिंग न हो जाए, उसके पहले नांगलोई और दूसरी जगह का ट्रैफिक जाम और ट्रैफिक कंजेशन जा है, उसको रिमूव किया जाए।

थैंक्यू मैडम।

AGITATION IN THE MINDS OF ARTISTS

SHRIMATI VYJAYANTIMALA BALI (Nominated): Madam, thank you for allowing me to make my Special Mention.

Madam, we are a great nation with rich ancient culture. Our artists have been renowned throughout the world from time immemorial. They have earned laurels throughout the annals of history. No doubt, the State by patronage of artists played a prominent role all through achieving these grand heights. But, unfortunately, today, things are not very happy for our artists. Only the other day, the House in a unanimous voice pointed out the plight of our sportspersons. Madam, you yourself had made certain observations clearly stating about the plight of our sportspersons. Today, I am pointing out

the sad plight of our performing artists. Madam, an artist is always in search of truth and he is a creator of values. He will produce richer and livelier canvas if he gets down to projecting universal values such as human dignity, sanctity of human life, integration of creation, social justice, peace and so on. *Ars longa vita brevis*. It means art is long while time is fleeting. It is because art is concerned with values that transcend time. Art is not about power. It is not about ideology. It is about human predicament in a chaotic world. For an artist, art is a liberating act. Art is an ensemble of various methods of establishing and assembling reality. Madam, I hope I am not sermonizing. But it is a fact. It is a reality which dawns and develops with time. So, this is the value of art and this is how artists help the society. But, today artists are in a quandary. They feel that they are a neglected lot. Madam, some time back, in the other House, I had raised a similar issue. I was pleading for giving recognition to the Society of Bharatnatyam Artists of India, ABHAI. It is an established artists' forum trying to protect the interests of artists all over the country. I would plead with the Government once again to give due recognition to the society. For quite some time, this Association has been representing to the Government. They have given various proposals and projects for safeguarding the interests of the performing artists who contribute a great deal to the cultural uplift of the country. Helping the performing artists with certain basic facilities would be in the interest of the nation as a whole. Artists are the most neglected lot in this country. While they contribute to the sensitive life of people directly or indirectly, it is the duty of an elected Government to facilitate them with basic requirements. Art and culture are an integral part of human life and performing art plays a vital role in the day-to-day life of people.

Now I would request the Government that professional artists with

proper identity, which could be worked out, be given the following facilities. Madam, I will be failing in my duty if I don't thank Mr. C. K. Jaffer Sharief, the Minister of Railways for the restoration of concession up to 40 per cent in the Railways. I consider this a valuable gesture towards helping artists.

SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM
(Uttar Pradesh): Is it in all classes or only second class?

SHRIMATI VYJAYANTIMALA BALI: In the second class. But it augurs well because the artists were in a quandary. He has restored it. We are grateful to him.

उपन्यास : इंटरवेंशन करना कुछ लोगों की सम्मति में शामिल हो गया है।

SHRIMATI VYJAYANTIMALA BALI: We will ask for more concessions in all classes. I would request the Indian Airlines to give concessions on the same lines as are given to sports persons, to eminent artists who travel abroad for giving performances, at least, four times in a year. The payments to top-grade dancers on the Doordarshan should also be restructured and should be made on a par with top-grade musicians. Madam there seems to be some difference as far as payments are concerned in the case of top-grade dancers and top-grade musicians. I would request the department to take note of this. There should be 100 per cent tax exemption on donations made to non-profit organisations. There should be tax concession on a par with exporters to artists performing abroad as they are propagating the rich heritage of the country. Madam, unhesitatingly I would say that these are the minimum demands of the performing artists and considering the great contribution that they make towards preserving and advancing our cultural values, I am sure the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, the Ministry of Civil

Aviation and Tourism and the Ministry of Finance would consider favourably all the suggestions made above. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: These are very good suggestions and that reminds me of two important issues which concern the great sons of India. We have just now talked about Shri Krishna Menon. We have also talked about artists. I must inform the House that we are celebrating the birthday of Guru Rabin-dranath Tagore in a befitting manner tomorrow at 7 o'clock.

There is going to be a function in the Parliament House Annexe. Invitations have been sent to all the Members along with the parliamentary papers. I hope all of you have opened the covers and seen the papers. Depending on the number of Members who attend the function, we would come to know how many of you have read the parliamentary papers and how many of you have kept the envelopes closed because we sent the invitation cards through our Distribution Branch. You are also invited for dinner.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI (Maharashtra): There is another function in the morning, at 9.30 a.m.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is also a Parliamentarians' function after Copenhagen. Tomorrow is the Parliamentarians' Day. They have to celebrate many things. Mr. Satish Pradhan has taken my permission. He will come after lunch. I have two names. One is Smt. Renuka Chowdhury and the other is Mrs. Chandrakala Pandey. I think we can finish these Special Mentions now. Now, Mrs. Renuka, please make a brief Special Mention.

**DROUGHT AND DRINKING WATER
PROBLEM IN ANDHRA PRADESH**

SHIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Andhra Pradesh): Madam, I am raising this issue with great concern because it needs foresight. It is not enough that we talk in Parliament on Central Government's economic reforms, liberalisation and globalisation, uplift of the poor etc. What is the use if we don't have clarity of thought and vision and be able to supply the fundamental needs of the people. Today in Andhra Pradesh, we have a peculiar situation. We have a State Government which has gone on record saying that the Chief Minister is willing to supply power to the farmers at a subsidised rate of Rs. 50/- flat. That is it. They should pay only Rs. 50/- flat for using power for cultivation. On the contrary, the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board has put up an advertisement in the leading dailies, in regional languages, telling the farmers to take a crop holiday for the summer crop. The advertisement says that the farmers should not raise the summer crop because the Board cannot supply power to them. The State Government has not come out with policy nor has it been reflected in the statement made by the APSEB as to what compensation they are going to give to the farmer community if they take a crop holiday for the summer crop. Six hundred mandals have been declared drought-hit and the people, the farmers in particular, have been rendered unemployed, for the first time in the history of Andhra Pradesh. Andhra Pradesh has an unfortunate history in the last one year and the tobacco growers—tobacco is the main crop of Andhra Pradesh—were also asked to take a crop holiday because China has stopped import of Indian tobacco because of our trade relations with China. All this comes down to the crux of the matter. If we don't supply water for cultivation and drinking water for the citizens of India, then how are we inviting the multinational companies to come and set up industries here, further depleting our existing power? All of you must