

[Shri P. R. Kumaramangalam]

(iii) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3540/93]

**THE COIR INDUSTRY (AMEND-
MENT) BILL, 1993**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES & AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): Madam, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Coir Industry Act, 1953.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Ma-
dam, I introduce the Bill.

**Re. T. V. coverage of debates in
Rajya Sabha**

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATA-
RAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Madam, I want to raise an issue and I am sure all the Members will agree with me. The debate on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address has been televised only in the Lok Sabha. I don't understand the reason why the Rajya Sabha is being consistently left out of the television coverage. If the coverage is going to be on the Motion of Thanks, the entire debate should be covered, in the Rajya Sabha as well as in the Lok Sabha. This is something which is going to be preserved for posterity. Madam, consistently an attempt is being made to reduce the position of the Rajya Sabha. I don't know who is responsible for all this.

Now when the Budget comes up, the argument is going to be that there the Lok Sabha is chiefly concerned with the Budget. So, therefore, they won't cover the Budget also. Madam, I think that this is very wrong. I would like the Government or the Minister of Information and Broadcasting of whoever is responsible to kindly come up with a statement and let us know.... (Interruptions)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pon-
dicherry): Madam, we want a direc-
tion from the Chair.

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA (Rajas-
than): Madam, the Minister of Par-
liamentary Affairs is here. He can
clarify the position.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATA-
RAJAN: Now the entire debate has
been covered in the Lok Sabha. I
don't see any reason why it could
not have been covered in the Rajya
Sabha also.

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Her
point is valid. Shuklaji should tell us
the reason.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI (Mahara-
shtra): Madam, with you sitting in
the Chair how can there be a step-
motherly treatment in the Rajya Sa-
ba? Please give a ruling. ... (Inter-
ruptions)...

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATA-
RAJAN: Madam, please give a direc-
tion.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I don't
think it is the responsibility of the
Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs be-
cause the Parliamentary Affairs Min-
istry does not look after the Parlia-
mentary job. The Rajya Sabha Secretariat
and the Lok Sabha Secretariat are
responsible for it. I will tell the Sec-
retary-General to take note of the
sentiments of the Members and we
should record it. This matter was
raised before also, I think, by Mr.
M.A. Baby in the last Session last
year and we had made the complaint
also. And I think this is absolutely
correct that the speeches made here
either on the Budget or on any other
subject are as relevant as those made
in other House and they should be
kept for posterity or for televising, if
and when necessary, as they do for
the Lok Sabha. So, I will ask the Sec-
retariat, we will discuss the matter
and a redressal of your grievance
would be done.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY
(Uttar Pradesh): Madam, ... (Inter-
ruptions)...

श्री एस० एस० अतलबख्तिया (बिहार) : महोदय, यह प्रिक्सेज का सवाल नहीं है। राज्य सभा और लोक सभा का जोइंट सेशन होता है और उसमें राष्ट्रपति जी भाषण देते हैं। अगर बजट की बात होती तो दूसरी बात है, मैं बजट के पीछे नहीं पड़ना चाहता। किन्तु राष्ट्रपति जी का यह भाषण जोइंट सेशन को एड्रेस किया जाता है। यहाँ पर इसको रिकार्ड न करने का मतलब राज्य सभा की अवमानना करना या अपमान करना है, ऐसा मैं समझता हूँ। मैं समझता हूँ यह हमारे अधिकारों का हनन है। मैं मांग करता हूँ कि यह प्रिक्सेज का मेटर है। यह साधारण बात नहीं है, इट इज ए मेटर आफ प्रिक्सेज। जब हम सेंट्रल हॉल में बैठते हैं और दोनों सदनों के सदस्यों के सामने राष्ट्रपति जी भाषण देते हैं और उसके बावजूद वह सिर्फ लोक सभा में रिकार्ड होता है और राज्य सभा में रिकार्ड नहीं होता है। इसका कारण क्या है? यह जो लोग कैमरा मैन हैं, यह डिसेजिन नहीं ले सकते हैं। कौन रिस्पोंसिबल है, किसने फैसला लिया है यह? यह इस सदन का अपमान है। इस सदन का अपमान और अवमानना जो की गई है, उसके लिए कौन जिम्मेदार है? उसके खिलाफ कदम कार्रवाई होनी चाहिए?

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA
(West Bengal): Madam ... (Interruptions)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I gave my ruling. I gave my direction... (Interruptions)...

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Madam, Mr. Shukla is here. The Parliamentary Affairs Minister is here. (Interruptions)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is not Mr. Shukla's responsibility. I am telling you, it is not the Parliamentary Affairs Ministry which decides. I know it. It is the Secretariat which is responsible. (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): Madam, I would like to respond to it. Madam,

I have heard the submissions made to you by the hon. Members. You know that these matters regarding television and other matters are handled by the Speaker. Therefore, I am going to bring the sentiments of this House to his notice and also ... (Interruptions)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him speak ... (Interruption)... Hon. Members, let us make a habit of listening to other people and then express our opinion. You will also be heard. Let him finish first... (Interruptions)...

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: I agree that this House has an equal right to be not only recorded but also to be televised. From our side we will emphasise these facts and particularly so in relation to major debates that take place in the two Houses, the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address, Budget and the Railway Budget. In the case of Budget, may be the lower House has certain additional responsibilities. But on the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address, proper arrangements should be made. I want to express my solidarity with these demands and I will see what we can do about it... (Interruptions)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Shukla, I would like to say that the Speaker is responsible for Lok Sabha. The Chairman and Rajya Sabha Secretariat are responsible for Rajya Sabha. I agree with the sentiments expressed that it was a lapse on the part of Rajya Sabha not to have recorded in spite of the demand made last year. Now the Secretary General has told me that he would take care of it and Budget and other speeches during the Budget discussion and the Railway Budget would be fully recorded. It is not the Parliamentary Affairs Ministry's responsibility. So we should absolve them of this unnecessary responsibility... (Interruptions)...

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA (Bihar): Madam, may I bring to your notice

the fact that when we had an important debate on the post-6th December situation in this House, I remember, the debate was videoed by the TV group but it was never telecast. This is also a lapse which has taken place. We really become the secondary chamber... (Interruptions)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Recording is the responsibility of Rajya Sabha Secretariat and telecasting is the responsibility of the I & B Ministry. Now we should know where to draw a line. We will find a way out. But the Parliamentary Affairs Ministry has got nothing to do with it.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: As far as we are concerned the whole thing is one process. That is the point I am making... (Interruptions)...

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Madam, the Government has a collective responsibility. The Members cannot run from pillar to post to find out which Minister is responsible. But the point is Government has to see that when the bicameral system is in operation nothing is done which goes against the spirit and letter of the Indian Constitution. It is not a question of our sentiments. We have an equal right. While replying to the debate the Minister was saying that in respect of Budget the other House has a priority. If this is the way hon. Ministers see to argue before the House, one can quite well understand what is at the back of their mind... (Interruptions)...

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: I also want to bring to your notice... (Interruptions)

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH (West-Bengal): Even if it is televised, who witnesses?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we have to take other things also... (Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Madam, I have the Chairman's permission to raise an issue today... (Interruptions)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think, Mr. Subramanian Swamy wants to raise on that matter.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: No. I had given in writing also to you that when I raised the question of the income-tax of Ms. Jayalalitha...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, I am not allowing you. See, Mr. Subramanian Swamy will show respect to the Members. We are on a serious issue. Let us discuss... (Interruptions)

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: It is a serious matter.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There are many issues to be raised in the House.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: I had raised it during the Question Hour. It was deliberately edited out.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we have got other matters... (Interruptions)

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Income-tax fraud is a very serious matter... (Interruptions)

SHRI S. MUTHU MANI (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Subramanian Swamy represents Uttar Pradesh. He has no right to talk about Tamil Nadu... (Interruptions)

SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA (Tamil Nadu): You did not allow PM's name to be mentioned in the House but Mr. Subramanian Swamy always uses our Chief Minister's name. Daily he brings in our Chief Minister's name... (Interruptions)

SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Several time he went to America. Where

did he get the money from? (Interruptions) He is flying to other nations also... (Interruptions)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I won't permit you... (Interruptions)

SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: What does Mr. Subramanian Swamy know... (Interruptions)

DR. JINENDRA KUMAR JAIN (Madhya Pradesh): Madam...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You are back, Dr. Jain. Welcome to the House.

RE. STARVATION DEATHS IN BIHAR

श्री यशवन्त सिन्हा (बिहार)

उपसभापति महोदय, मैं कोई दलगत राजनीति से संबंधित मामला नहीं बल्कि एक मानवीय मामला इस सदन में उठाना चाहता हूँ बहुत ही दुख और तकलीफ के साथ। खैटामियाँ जो हजारीबाग जिले के किरेदारी प्रखंड के रहने वाले थे उनका नाम भारत के इतिहास में स्वर्ण अक्षरों में नहीं लिखा जायेगा। शायद हम उनको कभी याद भी नहीं करेंगे। क्योंकि उन्होंने कोई ऐसा काम नहीं किया जिससे उनको याद किया जा सके। उनके साथ सिर्फ एक दुर्घटना घटी कि वह स्वतंत्र भारत में 45 वर्षों की आजादी के बाद सत दिन लगातार भूखे रहने के बाद दम तोड़ गये और मृत्यु को प्राप्त हो गये।

मैं उनके गांव में गया था। उनके परिवार वालों से मैं जाकर मिला। अभी जब हम होली की छुट्टियाँ मना रहे थे और देश होली की खुशियाँ मना रहा था उस गांव में मातम छाया हुआ था। न केवल खैटामियाँ परलोक सिधार गये भूखे तड़पते हुए बल्कि उस प्रखंड में, पूरे इलाके में बहुत से ऐसे लोग हैं जो आज भी बहुत मुश्किल से जीने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं और कब वे दम तोड़ देंगे यह कहना मुश्किल है। दो व्यक्तियों से खासतौर से मैं मिला। एक मोहम्मद हुसैन हैं और दूसरे मणि महतो हैं। ये दो लोग भूखे रहने के कारण दम तोड़ने के कगार पर हैं।

खैटामियाँ की जो विधवा पत्नी है उनको अब कोई देखने वाला नहीं है। जब मैं वहाँ पर गया तो वह मेरे कदमों में गिरने की कोशिश करने लगी। इसलिए कि उन्होंने समझा कि शायद मैं उनको कोई राहत पहुंचाने की स्थिति में हूँगा।

मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि हम सब इस सदन में बैठे हैं। यहां पर बहुत तरह की चर्चाएं हम करते हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि आजाद हिन्दुस्तान में 45 वर्षों की आजादी के बाद भी क्या यह स्थिति होनी चाहिए कि इस देश के विभिन्न भागों में लोग आज भी भूख से मरने को बाध्य हों। आज भी वे तड़पते हुए दम तोड़ दें इसलिए कि दिनोदिन उनको कुछ भी खाना नसीब नहीं होता है। मैं आपसे जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सांसदों की हैसियत से इस देश की सबसे बड़ी पंचायत में बैठकर हम उनके साथ न्याय कर रहे हैं या नहीं कर रहे हैं? काल हाडी का नाम दुनिया भर में मशहूर है इसलिए कि वहां लोग भूख से मरे, बिहार में पलामू का नाम दुनिया भर में मशहूर है कि वहां भी लोग भूख से मरते हैं। आज हजारीबाग जिले के इस खंड में पलामू से जिसकी सरहद मिलती है वहां लोग भूख से मर रहे हैं। देश के दूसरे हिस्सों में आज इसी प्रकार की बातचीत हो रही है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि केन्द्रीय सरकार इसके बारे में क्या कर रही है? मैं जानना चाहता हूँ इस सदन से कि हम सब यहां पर बैठकर क्या कर रहे हैं, क्योंकि मैं मानता हूँ कि इससे बढ़कर शर्म की बात हमारे लिए दूसरी कुछ नहीं हो सकती है कि हमारे यहां लोग भूख से तड़प तड़प कर मरें। वहां पर कोई भी अधिकारी, वहां पर कोई भी पंचायत का मुखिया, सरपंच इस स्थिति में नहीं था कि उनकी कोई मदद कर सके। बराबर सरकार की तरफ से एक ही एक्सप्लेनशन आता है कि वह हार्ट फैल्योर हो गया, वह बीमार चल रहा था। जो आदमी लगातार भूखा रहेगा वह रोग की चपेट में आएगा ही, यह सर्वविदित है और इसलिए मैं इस सवाल को यहां पर उठाना