

Jammu and Kashmir and Jawahar Institute of Mountaineering and Winter Sports (JIM), Pahalgam; and

- (ii) Hundred-nineteenth Report regarding laying of the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Kerala Land Development Corporation Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, Andhra Pradesh State Irrigation Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad and Andhra Pradesh Pradhamika Vidya Parishad, Hyderabad.

MATTER RAISED WITH THE PERMISSION

Plight of Tamils in Sri Lanka

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise with a heavy heart and a feeling of hurt and grief about what has happened in Sri Lanka and what is happening to the Sri Lankan Tamils now. I am aware of the fact that I am talking about a sovereign country, and we have special relations with Sri Lanka. But, going by the reports that are emanating from Sri Lanka, Sir, it is horrible. It is nothing less than a genocide, and the people are on streets. The women, the children and the elderly people are in a helpless position. The international media is not allowed to see the reality. So, I would like to request, through the House, to the Government to see that the Prime Minister takes a further initiative in this regard, call an all-party meeting, discuss the issue in-depth and then without affecting our relations with Sri Lanka see that the interests of the Sri Lankan Tamils are taken care. The people of the country, particularly in the South and Tamil Nadu are all silently weeping. I hope the Government will understand the gravity of the situation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. I think the Government will take note of that.
...(Interruptions)...

DR. K. MALAISAMY (Tamil Nadu): Sir, we want to associate ourselves with this issue.

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, there are no words to express the horror the Eelam Tamil population is undergoing in Sri Lanka.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You just associate yourself with the previous speaker.
...(Interruptions)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, we would like the Government of India to step in immediately. The 'hand' that is ruling the country today should extend a helping hand to the people of Eelam.
...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please just associate yourselves. ...(Interruptions)... Please just associate yourself, if there is anybody who wants to speak. ...(Interruptions)... Yes, Mr. Raja. ...(Interruptions)... No, no. ... Please, no. ...(Interruptions)... Thank you. ...(Interruptions)... Thank you, just one minute, please.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, while associating myself...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Somebody is already called. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. D. RAJA: Sir, while associating myself with that suggestion, I would like to once again request the Government in this regard. Yesterday also I spoke. It is a very serious situation. Our Government has a moral responsibility to impress upon the Sri Lankan Government to address the issue with all fairness, and there is a need for a political solution and there is a need for Tamil people in Sri Lanka to have a place...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please associate yourself. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, I associate myself and I would like the Government of India to take an initiative to call an all party meeting and the country should give a united message that the country is concerned over the situation in Sri Lanka.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Raja. ...*(Interruptions)*... No more on this subject. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please only associate yourselves. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Sir, I hail from that area. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing you, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please associate yourselves; that is all. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please stand up and associate yourselves. ...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the war may be over but the plight of the Sri Lankan Tamils is not yet over. ...*(Interruptions)*... Any aid, which is sent to Sri Lanka, it is not being utilised by that Government. ...*(Interruptions)*... I would request the Government, through you, Sir, to provide help to the distressed people. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: An important issue has been raised; you please just associate yourselves with it and the Government will take note of it. Thank you. ...*(Interruptions)*... Yes, Punji. ...*(Interruptions)*... Do you want to associate yourself? Just associate yourself. ...*(Interruptions)*... Just a minute please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Vijayaraghavan, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Look, I am afraid...*(Interruptions)*... Will you please resume your places? ...*(Interruptions)*... May I request you to please resume your places because if there is a noise, nobody is heard? ...*(Interruptions)*...

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Kerala): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the concern expressed by the hon. Members that innocent Sri Lankan Tamils are being tortured and the sufferings meted out to them is a matter of great concern for us. ...*(Interruptions)*... We want the Government of India to take necessary steps for their rehabilitation. The Government of India should take up this matter with the Government of Sri Lanka for their rehabilitation. ...*(Interruptions)*... We also associate ourselves with the feelings expressed by the hon. Members. ...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, the dimension of this human tragedy on Tamil women and children is something which requires our special attention and redressal. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The point has been raised.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, we have heard the reports of different degrees of assault....*(Interruptions)*... In that situation...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The point has been made, we are aware of it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: When we talk about help for these Sri Lankan Tamils, Sir, this particular dimension must also be highlighted. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA (Rajasthan): We all associate ourselves. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): Sir, a very serious issue has been raised. Sir, I will apprise the Government and the Prime Minister about the feelings expressed in the House and the Government will respond appropriately.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Yes, Mr. Balbir Punj.

Plight of Stranded Pilgrims of Kailash Mansarovar

श्री बलबीर पुंज (उड़ीसा): सभापति जी, मैं आपका बहुत आभारी हूँ कि आपने मुझे एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण विषय यहां सदन में रखने का अवसर दिया। सभापति जी, एक तारीख से, यानी एक जून से एक हजार से ज्यादा भारतीय तीर्थ-यात्री जो कैलाश मानसरोवर की यात्रा पर गए हुए थे, वे अपनी जिंदगी और मौत की लड़ाई लड़ रहे हैं। वे लोग 16 दिन का वीजा लेकर गए थे और उधर नेपाल में एक हाइवे बंद होने कारण पुलन करके एक जगह है, जिसे शायद तकलाकोट भी कहते हैं, वहां पर औरतों और बच्चों समेत एक हजार से ज्यादा लोग फंसे हुए हैं। सूचना यह है कि उनमें से 6 लोगों का देहांत हो चुका है और दुख की बात यह है कि उन एक हजार लोगों के बारे में हमारे पास यहाँ कोई जानकारी उपलब्ध नहीं है। जो भी जानकारी आई है, वह मीडिया की तरफ से और एक-दो टीवी चैनल्स की तरफ से आई है। मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से तीन-चार छोटे-छोटे निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ। पहला, ये दो देश नेपाल और चीन...

श्री सभापति: आप अपने बेसिक प्वायंट्स बताइये।

श्री बलबीर पुंज: मैं बता रहा हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are running out of time.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Sir, I will take less than 30 seconds. एक तो उन लोगों के बारे में यहाँ जानकारी उपलब्ध हो। उनके रिश्तेदार मारे-मारे फिर रहे हैं कि उनके बंधुओं का वहाँ क्या हुआ? उसके बारे में यहाँ कोई जानकारी उपलब्ध नहीं है। दूसरा, नेपाल और चीन की सरकारों से बात करके यहाँ से तुरंत दवाइयाँ और डाक्टर्स वहाँ भिजवाने का प्रबंध करना चाहिए। तीसरा, वहाँ भोजन और पीने का पानी उपलब्ध नहीं है। इसके साथ-साथ एक निवेदन यह कि अगर सरकार हवाई जहाज भेज कर उन लोगों को evacuate कर सके तो उनको evacuate करना चाहिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.