

SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION

Need to strengthen measures to prevent ragging in institutions of higher education

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA (Rajasthan): Sir, before I begin to speak on the subject of ragging, I want to make a request to the two senior Ministers. I request the hon. Ministers to inform everybody that our Indian system of not shaking hands is better than that of others; so, हाथ जोड़कर हम प्रणाम करें, यह भी आप promote कीजिए जिससे कि किसी तरह का infection न हो।

(THE VICE-CHAIRMAN, PROF. P.J. KURIEN, in the Chair)

Anyway, coming to my subject of ragging...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, that is 'my' subject because I am raising it and that is going to be discussed in the House. That is the whole problem, Sir; you can see that all these people have started ragging me even before I have started speaking on it. What do I do? And this is the attitude in the colleges and this is what is happening.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD (Bihar): But, hon. Member, you are being ragged by Members of your Party. That is an interesting scenario.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: You can also join, Sir. I enjoy ragging.

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA (Jharkhand): Sir, he is speaking against ragging and he says, "I enjoy ragging". What is this? You are speaking on a serious subject and you want to stop ragging in colleges and you are saying, "I enjoy ragging"!

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: I will now explain what is ragging. Then, you will also start enjoying a ragging. ...*(Interruptions)*... There are signs of ragging also. Anyway.

Sir, ragging is a menace which is developing by leaps and bounds. It is a menace which does not look to be that big or it is much bigger than what we can even imagine because many victims do not even complain. They just silently suffer, like I have been suffering because of Ahluwaliaji, right now! ...*(Interruptions)*... So, like me, they just suffer, as he says, only the degree differs. I am a victim and I am suffering. I am silently suffering. Like me, there are thousands and thousands of cases in the country. They do not inform about it. Sometimes, they feel ashamed of informing also.

Sir, in the dictionary, ragging means 'to tease', 'to play rough practical jokes'. That is the ordinary meaning of ragging. What is the meaning of ragging? In educational institutes, in common parlance, ragging means playing practical jokes on somebody or teaching some one lesson. According to Chambers English Dictionary, ragging is an outburst of organised horseplay, usually in defiance of authority: riotous festivity, especially of undergraduates in British universities, associated with raising of money for charity. Sir, the Readers' Digest Great Encyclopaedia Dictionary has mentioned, 'Ragging means a noisy, disorderly conduct, annual parade of students in fancy dress to collect money for charity, playing rough jokes or throwing into wild disorder a person's room, etc.

Sir, recently, the hon. Supreme Court of India has given a comprehensive meaning of ragging. The hon. Court has mentioned, Sir, 'ragging is any disorderly conduct whether by words spoken or written or by an act which has the effect of teasing, treating or handling with rudeness any students, indulging in rowdy or indisciplined activities which cause or are likely to cause annoyance, hardship or psychological harm or to raise fear or apprehension thereof in a fresher or a junior student and which has the effect of causing or generating a sense of shame or embarrassment so as to adversely affect the psyche of a fresher or a junior student'.

Sir, originally, ragging was a Western concept. In European universities, it was very common. It came to India, as many things we have adopted and it became bad to worse. Sir, man's perverted imagination knows no bounds. From what was intended to be good humour or harmless one to students, ragging today has assumed torturous, vulgar form and defy all norms of decency and morality. What kind of ragging is taking place nowadays? Dress code ragging. A fresh man is asked to wear all kinds of dresses. Sir, they call it a formal introduction. A formal introduction can be made more pleasant, but unfortunately, it has become a kind of introduction which, I hope, it does not happen. Verbal torture involves indulging in loose talks.

On sexual abuse, you will be surprised to know that seniors are mainly interested in juicy details such as the anatomical description of one's body parts, his sexual interest, etc. In many cases, freshers have been asked to strip before the seniors. I will give you specific examples a little later.

Sir, there are acts of playing fool. Freshers are asked to enact a scene from a particular movie. All these things are happening. There are kinds of hostel ragging. Outstation students who specially stay in hostels are the most vulnerable. They are asked to act from cleaning of the rooms of seniors to washing their clothes. Drug abuse is the worst. The new students are forced to try and thereby drive them into addiction.

Let us understand the psyche of a ragger. Ragging gives a kind of authority, a sense of authority, 'I have been able to do this on a junior.' I also have read, Sir, that once a student has been ragged, the next year, the ragged wants to rag the junior just to take revenge. This is also a continuity of ragging year after year, generation after generation. Ragging can be a means of retaliation. A senior who has some previous history of ragging, as I said, to rag gives him a sadistic pleasure! Sir, it is also a peer pleasure. Seeing most of their batchmates indulging in ragging, they are feared being left out. If most of them are ragging, if there is somebody who is a softer individual and does not want to rag, he is forced and then he also starts ragging.

Sir, ragging also has become a fashion statement. They feel pleasure thinking it to be a fashion and they claim, 'I have been able to rag so and so today in my college!' At this point, I would like to mention that ragging is not only in medical colleges or engineering colleges or in IIMs, but they have come down to the school level also, to class IX, class X, class XI! Ragging

has started at those levels. Innocent children are being ragged. The consequences of ragging are shocking, yet they are absolutely true. It is said that the road to hell is paved with good intentions. This truly stands apt in the case of what begins from a friendly introduction; in the name of ragging, it takes no time to assume disgusting perverted overtones. Let us examine some of those consequences. It leaves a permanent scar. The ragging leaves a permanent scar on the mind of the person who has been ragged. The victim declines into a shell. As I said, out of shame, out of fear, he declines into a shell. He does not come out of his room. His studies are affected. It demoralises the victim. He feels so helpless. Those instances of physical assault and grievous injuries are not new. Ragging also causes a great psychological stress and trauma to the victims. There are many dropouts. Because of ragging, children leave the colleges and their future is affected. There are extreme cases where incidents of suicides and culpable homicides have also been informed and they are on record. It affects the ragged and his family also.

I would now come to the plight of the victim's family. Can we imagine what happens to somebody's child who has been ragged? They not only have to meet a lot of medical expenses but also other incidental expenses to rehabilitate the child. And the rehabilitation may not ever take place. It does affect the educational institutions. They must understand but that severe media barrage in extreme cases if ragging lowers the character of the educational institutions and destroys the respect of those institutes. It brings bad name to the colleges; there is no doubt about it. Sir, you will be surprised that it affects the raggers also; it is not that they are left unaffected. It does not spare even the perpetrators; those found guilty of ragging may be suspended, blacklisted, or permanently expelled. We see the practice of ragging is not good for anyone, either for who is being ragged or those who are ragging. Sir, in India at the moment, we have four different Acts — the Prohibition of Ragging Act, 1966 applicable in the State of Tamil Nadu, the Kerala Prohibition of Ragging Act, 1998, the Maharashtra Prohibition of Ragging Act, 1999 and the Prohibition of Ragging in Educational Institutions Act, 2000 applicable in the State of West Bengal. These are the only four legislations, which are prohibiting ragging in the country at the moment. ...*(Interruptions)*... What does the Act say? Sir, the Maharashtra Prohibition of Ragging Act says, "ragging means, display or disorderly conduct, doing of any act which causes or is likely to physical or psychological harm or raise apprehension or fear or shame or embarrassment to a student in any educational institution." Sir, I remember a case of 1960. Even in a prestigious institute like IIT Kharagpur, a student jumped from the first floor and ran away after badly getting injured. I also know personally cases way back in sixties' when from IIT Kharagpur they just left. Those brilliant students could not become engineers to help our country. As I was mentioning it has gone down to the school level. I know a case in Bangalore. Sir, I mentioned about these cases in 2007 also. Unfortunately, it was probably not taken as seriously and the result is that if I give you the figures, ragging has been doubled in the last one

year itself instead of reducing. This particular case, which I am talking is about Class X. Students come from all over the world nowadays to India particularly they come from countries like Taiwan or from Korea or many other smaller and bigger countries. They have no respect for our institutions. Unfortunately, in this particular case this boy who had come from Korea was torturing an Indian student of Class X and it went on for six months. When I came to know about it, I went to the Principal personally, Sir, who was an Englishman himself. He explained to me and said that, "look, this boy has come from Korea. His parents are separated. He has a psychological problem. We should throw him out or we should try to correct him". Now, are you going to have correction institutes for these kinds of boys coming from all over the world? Are we responsible for them? These things have to be understood. I will mention what action has to be taken. These are the things, which are reaching very great proportions, and as a result our hon. President of India had to write to all the Governors. Every Governor in the country has been requested and I quote what she has written and this has happened only on Friday the 26th of June. A few days ago she expressed concern over the recent incidents of ragging in some colleges and asked the Governors to help wipe out the unseemly blot on the educational sector. She said the Governors' sagacious counsel and guidance would go a long way in furthering the cause of eliminating the scourge. She noted that the Supreme Court had already taken a strong stand on this issue. This is what I want to know from our Government. Why should the Supreme Court be required to intervene? Why should...*(Time-bell)*...I think, my party has enough time and they have told me to speak for quite some time. So, if you tell me, then, I will have to conclude quickly by giving only points. You just tell me the time, then, I will try to finish within those seconds and minutes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Your party has 43 minutes. There are two more speakers.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: I know that.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Earlier I informed you to take as much time as you want. At that time there was only one speaker. But, now, two more speakers have given their names. So you take five more minutes.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: I understand that. So let my party decide on that. If you kindly permit, we will not take more than 43 minutes totally. That is what is required. Sir, I just want to give you some statistical information. Academic Session of 2007-08, in the post Supreme Court order, the number of cases was 89, annual average over the last five years, that is, 2003-08 was only 46. That means they have been doubled, which I mentioned just now. Number of deaths is 11 in 2007 and 2008, annual average over the last five years was 5.6 only. This has also just doubled. Form of ragging is 21 per cent sexual, 43 per cent physical. Annual average over the last five years was 25 per cent sexual and 44 per cent physical. There is no change. Percentage

of ragging in Engineering colleges is 31 per cent, Medical is 17 per cent and others, 52 per cent. There is no change on this also. This is all post-Supreme Court order. Police intervention is only in 50 per cent cases whereas in the last five years it was in 54 per cent cases. This is nearly the same. Why I am giving these figures is that these give a glaring example of I would not say 'in action', but, I would rather say 'no action.' So, unless some serious action is taken, it is very difficult. What do we do? I will also come to that. Sir, a senior student should act as a mentor. This should be inculcated by college and by family. How do we do it? The parents should be held responsible. When any such case comes, we just say, 'punish the student.' No. Along with student, Sir, parents should also be held responsible. It is because they have not been able to bring them up properly, teach them properly. They have not been able to make him understand things in a proper perspective. That is why a senior student should be made as a mentor. At the same time, Sir, the management should also be held responsible, not the principal alone. In case of foreign students, they should compulsorily be deported back to their respective countries where their own country looks after them.

How do we punish students? The monetary punishment is not going to help. A rich man's son will pay monetary penalty and get away with the offence. But a poor man's son will not be able to pay. Money does not play any role in this. So, monetary punishment is no punishment at all. In my opinion, the punishment should be deterrent to the extent that the culprit is demoted by one year. The student should be asked to perform some constructive community service for year.

Sir, as you know, media will not listen to anybody. It will act if it can sell. It does not matter whether it helps the country or not. So, media may be advised not to glorify such cases. Yes, you are right. How do we act? That is why I said...

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Bihar): Sir, I just would like to ask, 'Is the House being ragged now?'...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Mr. Rudy, no. Please, do not interrupt...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Sir, I am just mentioning my point of view.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: At the most, the campus should be completely restricted and strict action should be taken against those students who take alcohol. There is a close relationship between drugs, alcohol and ragging. So, alcohol is to be completely, completely stopped. Even today morning, Sir, you must have seen that 9 students carrying cocaine have been arrested.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Mr. Bagrodia, your colleagues are left with only 13 minutes...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, Mr. Rudy wants to say something. I could not hear because I am hard of hearing. So, let me hear what he wanted to say.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): You don't listen to him. You continue with your speech.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: No, no, Sir. He wants to say something. I am ready to listen. Mr. Rudi, if you want me to yield, I will yield.

Sir, he is a very good friend of mine. I was in the Standing Committee on Transport and Tourism when he was the Civil Aviation Minister. He was very kind to me. I want to reciprocate now.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, you want to be kind to him. He does not need that.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Any way, Sir, I don't take much time of the House. I will mention a few more things very quickly.

There was a letter written on ragging. It is: 'Dreadful ragging at P.C. Chandra School of Business, Kolkata — Anisha Sekhar.' Sir, in this School all the juniors were subjected to harsh ragging by seniors. The principal offenders were so and so. Juniors were often asked to strip their clothes and then lighted cigars were thrown on their bare bodies. The four seniors mentioned above often landed in girl's hostel. I mean, these things are happening. Despite complaints, the management did nothing.

Sir, recently, you might have seen this, on March 12, 2009, Ms. Aman Kachus Dutt, a student of Agriculture Engineering, attempted to commit suicide after her hostel mates... allegedly made her dance nude, as a part of ragging. This is the police report. These are only some examples that I have been mentioning. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to curb the menace of ragging. The Central Government has set up an anti-ragging help line for which I compliment them. I would like to know how many cases have been reported on this help line. How many complaints come through this help line? Has it really helped? Or, is it only for record purposes?

Mr. Aman Kachru was ragged to death by drunk seniors. This is a report in the *Hindustan Times* of 21st April. The panel, comprising Dr. A.K. Aggarwal, Dean Maulana Azad Medical College and Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Principal, Ramjas College, has also indicted the administrative staff of the Rajendra Prasad Government Medical College for Kachru's death. The first year student succumbed to injuries inflicted on him by his seniors during the ragging session in the hostel on March 8th. These are all recent cases. Still if we don't open our eyes, I don't know what should happen in our country to open the eyes of the Government or the administration or the officers or the MPs or the public men or the parents or the senior students or the academicians? How can we open their eyes despite all these things happening?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Please wind up.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, I am thankful to you that, as usual, you have been very kind to me. But I request the Government to take up the whole matter very, very seriously. One

single death due to ragging is going to be a big blot on the face of our country. Forget about death, if even a single student is not able to complete his studies due to ragging, it is the responsibility of the entire country. All of us will have to accept that responsibility. Unless we have that kind of feeling, we are not going to help our youth in the country.

Thank you very much, Sir. I am sorry if I have taken extra time. But this is a very serious subject matter. And, for this, you will pardon me.

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA (Rajasthan): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, Mr. Bagrodia has given, in detail, a very logical exposition of ragging menace in the country. I agree with him on many points. And, to me, it appears that ragging is more infectious and contagious than the swine flu or the mad cow flu or the bird flu. We have been talking of swine flu just now. In a few words, it will be enough to say, your honour, that ragging is immoral, ragging is unethical, ragging is unsocial, ragging is illegal, ragging is inhuman, ragging is brutal, ragging is a social evil, ragging is a many-headed monster that is stalking our educational institutions, ragging is a ghost that is ravaging the peace and tranquillity of our educational institutes. The ragging is not an Indian phenomenon. It is a प्रदूषण, or, it is a kind of virus that has come from West. It is against the ethos and tradition of the Indian culture. Our culture in schools and *gurukuls* and in *vishwavidyalayas* was that of a family, where *guru* used to be the head, the father of the institution.....*Guru patni* used to be the mother of the institution. The Lord Krishna and Sudama, the richest and the poorest, the king and the lowliest man would study together, would live together, shared the same values and shared the same comforts. That was the culture of our country. Ragging is, virtually, shredding into pieces. Literally speaking, according to dictionary meaning, 'ragging' is shredding and tearing into pieces. It is known as shredding also. It is known as 'hazing' in the United States. They call it 'bullying' also. You may call it by any name, but ragging is something which is horrible, which is horrendous, which must be fought by everyone of us. It must be fought by the Central Government; it must be fought by the State Governments; it must be fought by all stake holders; it must be fought by institutional heads and it must be fought by all who want education to spread in the country in a right way and in the right form. Historically speaking, the first death by ragging was caused in Cornell University of USA in 1873 A.D. In India, it was initially a kind of interaction in the Army as well as public schools, which later on degenerated. Now, it is confined not only to the portals of medical or engineering institutions, but, as Shri Bagrodia rightly pointed out, it has also spread to the schools, 10 + 2 schools. There will be instances of ragging galore. And, I would like to submit with your permission, Sir, that we are suffering from a conspiracy of silence, as far as ragging is concerned. Neither educational institutions agree that it is widespread, nor does the Government publicly say that ragging has become a widespread menace. Until and unless we accept that it is widespread, we would not be able to fight it out. In America, ragging was used

as a revenge between the blacks and the whites. In India, it is a psychological aspect which I am pointing out, Sir. It is aimed, at times, against *dalits*, against under-dogs, under-rural boys, the poor. They become butt of a joke. It has a sociological aspect. It is really a horrendous scenario and with your permission, Sir, I would like to quote your honour what the definition of ragging is. I think it will be fair to assume that the Supreme Court has given an authoritative definition of ragging and I will quote with your permission from the judgement of the Supreme Court. "Any disorderly conduct, whether by words spoken or written, or by an act with the effect of teasing, tweaking or handling with rudeness any other student indulging in rowdy or indisciplined activities which causes or is likely to cause annoyance, hardship or psychological harm or to raise fear or apprehension thereof in a fresher or a junior student." Its aim and target is the fresher and junior students or asking the students to do any act or perform something which such students will not do in the ordinary course and which has the effect of causing or generating a sense of shame or embarrassment so as to adversely affect the physique or psyche of a fresher or a junior student. As very rightly pointed out by the Supreme Court, its effect is on the psyche and physique, body and mind and it causes a permanent scar on the mind of person who has been subjected to ragging.

The Supreme Court has rightly pointed out, "The cause of indulging in ragging is deriving a sadistic pleasure or showing of power, authority or superiority by the seniors over their juniors or freshers." Ragging can be stopped by creating awareness among the students. There is no other way out. Few measures have to be taken. Number one is, creating awareness among the students; number two is, creating awareness among the teachers; number three is, creating awareness among parents; and number four is, creating awareness in the State Governments and the Central Government. The Ministry of Human Resources Development must take it very seriously and ensure a uniform legislation for the whole country against ragging. Few States have taken steps which have been already mentioned, which is something commendable. Tamil Nadu was the first one to start it. Kerala followed it and other States have also followed it. But the Centre must come up to share and accept its responsibility.

Further, it has been stated by the Supreme Court, mandated rather, "Ragging is a reprehensible act which does no good to anyone, and, by simultaneously generating an atmosphere of discipline, by sending a clear message that no act of ragging shall be tolerated and any act of ragging shall not go unnoticed and unpunished — this is very important; this has been underlined by the hon. Supreme Court — we must ensure in the minds of those who do reprehensible act of ragging that they would not go unnoticed and they would not go unpunished." Raghavan Committee has gone into details, has given many measures, which I would not like to go into. It will take more of time but they are very vital and, in them, it has been said, "It should be made mandatory to get an FIR registered with the Police by the Head of the Institution where an act of ragging has taken place." I think, I won't exercise more of breath and

more of fuming but by mentioning one more definition which has been recognised. It has been formulated by certain universities as well as Society Against Violence in Education, a commendable NGO, “Ragging means, the doing of any act which causes or is likely to cause any physical, psychological or physiological harm of apprehension or shame or embarrassment to a student and includes teasing or abusing or playing practical jokes on or causing hurt to any student or asking any student to do any act or perform anything which he or she would not, in the ordinary course, be willing to do or perform.” Statistics have already been quoted but statistics are like ‘bikni-bathing suits’. What they reveal is suggestive, what they hide is vital. They show you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, only a tip of the iceberg. So many cases go unreported because of fear, because of shame, because of conspiracy of silence. Thirty-one deaths were reported in media between 2000 and 2007. Many have been seriously injured, many have been incapacitated and as far as Aman Kachroo’s case is concerned, the heart of the nation was with the bereaving parents when this young First Year student of Medical College died on 08.03.2009 when he succumbed to the injuries inflicted by his seniors who were in a drunken state. It was really reprehensible. This House must ensure — when you are in the Chair, your honour — that no more Aman Kachroos die. I would quote, with your permission, the case of Parameshwar who was a first year student and who, unable to bear severe ragging, had committed suicide. He wrote a letter to his father, “This is the last day of my life. Neither could I be a good son nor a good boy. I love you, babuji”. How many more Parameshwars do we still want to die before legislating and taking action against this widespread menace of ragging, — the monster of ragging? I would like to again quote Amit, who jumped in front of a running train on 11th October, 2005 because of ragging. “यह साल श्री डिग्री डॉक्टर है, जिसे रैगिंग कहते हैं। मैं इसे और नहीं सह सकता।” Is it not heart-rending for all of us? Is it not something of which we should take stock and come to a certain definite decision? How long would we keep debating on it, your honour? We can debate it *ad nauseam*, but this is the time to act. Here again, with your permission, I would like to quote what Supreme Court had to say: “The local community and the students in particular must be made aware of the dehumanising effect of ragging inherent of its perversity. Posters, notice boards and sign boards, wherever necessary, may be used for the purpose. Detailed instructions have been given. But till they are not followed, results would not come. Continuous watch and whistle over ragging must be kept to prevent its occurrence and recurrence and promptly we must deal with incidents of ragging brought to our notice and severely punish the guilty. Punishment should be through fast-track courts and through better legislation. Ragging has been in the form of rape; ragging has been in the form of buggery; ragging has been in such forms that we cannot even talk about them in a family; I mean, it has been disastrous. I think I have said enough with the hope that it would stir the conscience of this House as well as of the nation to ensure that we bring an end to ragging. May God bless our efforts and may your invocation from the Chair sum it up. Thank you, your honour.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Thank you, Pilaniaji. Now, Shri Moinul Hassan.

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN (West Bengal): Sir, my first observation is that, today, in our society, ragging does not need any definition from anywhere. When I was a student in a college and in a university, we used to hear from the engineering college campus that some ragging had been taking place there. But, today, one finds it almost every day in the front pages of newspapers whether the incident takes place in IITs, in IIMs, in other medical colleges, or elsewhere. The situation is so grave that it is now happening even in schools. So, my first point is that ragging now has spread like an epidemic throughout the country. Earlier it was a fun activity. But now it is a menace and it is a challenge before everybody to save our country, to save our educational institutions and to save our bright future. It is a challenge before everybody. I very much agree with the previous speaker that it is not less than an activity which we call 'antisocial activity'. It is happening in different sectors. I firmly believe that not only in the educational institutes but also in many working places these types of ragging incidents are taking place. As I was telling earlier, ragging disturbed our educational institutes and disturbed the future of our bright students. It is a national loss. So, we must combat this type of menace. Sir, the incident that took place very recently in March 2009 — death of 19-years old student Aman Satya Kachroo due to ragging — again has put question mark on all claims of the Government and various college administration that no ragging is going on in the Indian colleges. Aman Kachroo was the first year student of Dr. Rajendra Prasad Medical College in Kangra. He became the victim of ragging and negligence on the part of college authorities. Aman was beaten so badly by his seniors for reporting ragging incident to college authorities that he died in a few hours after injuries. For how many days will we wait to solve this menace? We must solve this problem to save our country, to save our beloved, to save our young talent and to save the nation. Sir, I have told about the ragging, which is happening. The term 'ragging' means different thing to different people. As I told earlier, during our student days, it was a fun. To some of us, it constitutes just fun and frolic activity including singing and dancing in front of seniors. But what is happening today? There are three-four types of ragging which are taking place throughout the campus. One is verbal; second is physical and the third is sexual. There are many types of this. With your kind permission, I would like to quote three-four lines that "the ragging is an act of aggression committed by an individual or a group of individuals, say A, over another individual or a group of individuals, say B, where A, by virtue of their being senior to B, somehow get the authority and audacity to commit the act and B, by virtue of their being new to the institution, are automatic victims." If it is happening so long, again I tell, the future of our country and the future of our nation will doom. So, it is a fact that aggression is a very debatable term, but this is going on. Ragging is going on throughout the country. I have cited one example,

4.00 P.M.

but I carry many examples. But one thing I would say that one institution, namely, CURE, has figured and collected some ragging incidents very recently. They have cited 61 incidents throughout the country. They have tabled it like this. Kind of ragging identified - 41; physical ragging - 25; physical and sexual ragging - 5; sexual ragging - 8; verbal - 2; not known - 21. They have concluded like this. It can be seen that 62 per cent reported cases were that of physical ragging, majority of which comprising beating the fresher. Sexual ragging cases comprised of another 33 per cent, where 13 per cent cases not only comprised of sexual abuse, but physical violence also. So, in the name of ragging, what type of violence is going on in the colleges in different parts of the country? That is my question. I have told you that I have many examples in which suicide was committed. In 2004, Bilaspur Medical College, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh, a first year MBA student, Lokesh Yadav, committed suicide by hanging himself from a ceiling fan after being allegedly ragged by senior students. He lost his life, and nation lost a bright student. Now, the basic question is what has to be done at different forums. I will come to this point later. I would like to quote another incident of Madan Mohan Engineering College, Gorakhpur. In 2003, a first year B.Tech. student, Sushil Kumar Pandey, committed suicide by hanging himself from the ceiling fan because of severe ragging. Same thing is happening every year throughout the country. We should do something right from the Government side, from the social aspect, as individuals, and as my learned friend, Shri Santosh Bagrodia, said even as M.P.s, we have some role to protect our nation, to protect our children, to protect our bright future. As I have told earlier, one non-Government organisation, namely, Coalition to Uproot Ragging from Education, is doing very well throughout the country. It is a very vulnerable situation to which previous speakers have referred. Sir, I suppose that rules and laws are not the only way out to get rid of this menace. We will try our best to build consensus throughout the country to stop this type of anti-social activity. It is correct that there is some role of parents, there is some role of management, there is some role of Administration. Nobody can deny their role in stopping this type of activity. So, we must do our best to fix our responsibility in this particular area. It was told by earlier speaker that hon. Supreme Court also intervened in this case. Situation is so grave that the highest forum of Judiciary has intervened in the matter and has given a judgement, and a sort of direction, to everybody. But, who heard it? Nobody listened to the direction from the highest forum of Judiciary. The situation is becoming grave every day. Very recently, hon. President has written a letter to all the Governors. I have seen in the newspaper that in different States, Governors have written letters to all the Vice-Chancellors because Governors are the Chancellors of the universities. What is to be done? Nothing. Situation is not improving. So, it is a fact that national consensus has to be built throughout the country. Everybody's role is there. Sir, it is a fact that psychological aspect of ragging is there. We must treat this type of psychological phenomenon properly.

In so many cases, young people get frustrated and commit this type of serious nuisance in various institutions all over the world. Sir, I will not take much time. I must say that it is not decreasing. On the other hand, it is increasing.

Only making laws or rules will not solve this problem. Every Indian, everybody who is working in the public domain must try his best in a united manner and face the challenge, face this menace. With these words, I conclude my speech. Thank you very much.

श्री आर.सी. सिंह (पश्चिमी बंगाल): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इस विषय पर संक्षेप में अपनी बात रखना चाहूंगा। पहली बात तो मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि आज का जो विषय है, यह appropriate नहीं है, क्योंकि Higher Education में ही रैगिंग का सवाल नहीं है, Junior colleges में भी रैगिंग का सवाल है। अगर इसको prevent करना है, तो इसको Junior colleges से लेकर Higher Education में prevent करने की जरूरत है। इसके बारे में मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि जून के पहले हफ्ते में माननीय राष्ट्रपति महोदया ने एक गम्भीर कंसर्न प्रकट किया था और उन्होंने तमाम गवर्नर्स (राज्यपाल) को एक पत्र लिखा था, जिसमें उन्होंने कहा था “to take steps to wipe out the unseemly blot on the educational sector” और इस डॉयरेक्टिव के बाद भी स्थिति में बहुत ज्यादा सुधार नज़र नहीं आ रहा है, क्योंकि यह जो strong message गया है, उसके बाद जो steps लिए जाने चाहिए थे, वे देखने में नहीं आए हैं। सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने और राघवन कमेटी ने भी Anti-ragging Committees to be formed in all the Colleges के बारे में कहा था, लेकिन लगता है कि तमाम कालेजों में इस तरह की व्यवस्था नहीं हो पाई है। इस पर सरकार को कड़े कदम उठाने की जरूरत है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि तुलसीदास जी ने कहा है कि—

‘लक्ष्मण बाण सराहिए, बिनु भय होई न प्रीत’...

तो एक ऐसा वातावरण बनाने की जरूरत है, जिसके चलते इस पर रोक लगाई जा सके और जो इन इंस्टीट्यूशंस में स्टेटवाइज़ Anti-ragging Committees बनाने की बात थी, उनको pressurize करके इन कमेटियों को बनाने की जरूरत है। मैं यह भी कहना चाहूंगा कि जिन कालेजों में pressurize करने के बाद भी यह रैगिंग नहीं रुकती है, तो उनका affiliation तक कैंसिल करने की बात सोचनी चाहिए, क्योंकि बिना डर के यह संभव नहीं हो पाता है। इसके बाद मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि UGC ने एक गाइडलाइन दी थी कि हमारे देश के किसी भी कोने में रैगिंग के जो victims हैं, वे अपनी complaints को toll free number पर रजिस्टर कर सकते हैं। लेकिन इस तरह की व्यवस्था शायद अभी तक शुरू नहीं हो पाई है। यह कब तक शुरू हो पाएगी, अगर मंत्री महोदय यह बताते तो शायद इस पर अगली कार्रवाई शीघ्र हो पाती। एक बात यह है कि हमारे जो regulatory bodies हैं, जैसे The Medical Council of India, The Dental Council of India, The Bar Council of India, The All India Council of Technical Education, ये जो guidelines frame करते हैं, उनमें भी इनको रैगिंग को कंट्रोल करने की जरूरत है। इसके बारे में क्या स्टेप लिए गए, उन्होंने क्या किया, अगर मंत्री महोदय से यह जानकारी मिलती तो बहुत अच्छा होता। एक आखिरी बात मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि 06 मई, 2005 को Prevention of Ragging in the College and the Institution Bill was introduced in this very House. However, for the reasons best known to the Government, the Bill is yet to see the light of the day. इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा कि current Session में क्या इस बिल को पास करा करके इसको implement करेंगे और इसको रोकने की कोशिश करेंगे? धन्यवाद।

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Thank you Mr. Vice-Chairman. Sir, my colleagues have spoken at length defining the evolution of ragging, various occurrences across the country, the actions taken, the wrath, the agony, the misery. Sir, I do not want to take much time. Instead of seeing ragging as an offence, I would like to see it as a social evil, a menace which is spreading and has become threatening to the entire society and the future generation. We are discussing here, I think, to find a solution. The outcome of any discussion must be a solution which is possible of implementation. Sir, the sage Thiruvalluvar who lived 2000 years ago and who has given solution of all the problems in the world to the human society has said that NOI NAADI, NOI MUDHAL NAADI, ADHU THANIKKAUM, VAAI NAADI VAAIPPA SEYAL. It means you find out the disease first, then find out the root cause of the disease, then find the solution to cure the disease and implement it. So also this ragging. The people who are involved in that have not come down from sky. They are one among us. Like terrorism, like Naxalism, this is also one thing. Though it does not affect the entire society, at least, the impact or the effect that has been created by those people who are involved in ragging is very treacherous. Sir, what I would like to suggest is, our educational institutions must not only prepare our children or students just from the examination point of view. They should prepare them for the future life. Through you, Sir, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister anybody who is involved in an offence or a crime which is against the moral value of this country, where are they from actually? Till the age of 14, a child is either at home or at school. Nowhere they have any exposure. So, the basic responsibility lies with the parents and the teachers. In those days, at school levels, we had a moral education class which taught the children as how to be a good citizen. Sir, I see this ragging as a significant index of the deterioration of the society, its social values and cultural demoralisation. So, at primary level school itself, I think, resorting to statutes should only be secondary. If statutes or laws could rectify an offence or could set right a society, all those offences which are spreading now in the country, would not have been there at all. So, basically the mindset of the children who are growing should be mended first. Our concentration on education should not only be in expanding the number of universities, not only in increasing the number of graduates, not only in spending money, Sir, it should be in the standard of education. It should not be imparted from the point of view of examination only. We pose ourselves as a developed country, a society which is educationally, economically, industrially and in many other facets developed. But, Sir, basically, we are deteriorating morally. We were known for our culture. Now it is on a decline. Our concentration should be more on that. At the primary school level, children must be taught about it. When a person is single, he never commits such offence. When he joins a group, he forms part of a mob. In teasing another person, who is inferior to him either educationally or otherwise, he finds pleasure. Where does it come from? Where was he taught all these things? Why was he not obstructed from developing such mentality? All these things have to be looked into. I do not want to elaborate on it.

Sir, through you, I submit to the whole House, my colleagues, and the responsible Ministers that our concentration must be at the ground level, at the school level. The children at primary and secondary levels must be taught about the values of our country, our society, our rich moral and cultural values. If they are taught and brought up in such a manner, the future offences like this, bad thing which we hate to the core, will not happen. So, apart from statutes, our focus should be on the other side which is wrong and which is going unnoticed and unaddressed. It is affecting the society.

So, my submission is, apart from legislating laws to curtail these things, the standard of education at the primary level must be enhanced with moral and cultural values. Thank you very much, Sir.

SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA (Orissa): Sir, much has been said about ragging and the incident. I do not want to repeat the same thing again and again. We have to see how we can prevent such a regime. Fortunately or unfortunately, we are discussing it in Parliament after Her Excellency The President of India already sent a letter to all the Governors and the Supreme Court also has given its comment. The matter is definitely very serious, because this involves students who are the real future of this country. It is a very important issue.

Here I want to mention one thing. If you closely look at the issue where ragging is happening and sometimes it is turning violent, you will find that it is done mostly by the professionals or dropouts who are inside the campus of university or the college. They are doing something other than the education. They have control not just over the students but also over the whole university, and even the management and administrator of that university. This is a very, very serious thing and I have a practical experience of it.

Some students are dropouts for years together. Sometimes it is seen that they have passed out of the college and engaged in some other activities. They are not leaving the educational institutes. The second point is that some people are doing business in the college or university. Sometimes the drug mafia are doing it very safely thinking that the police is not empowered to enter into the college campus. They think that that is the safest place where they can do the business in the name of ragging and they are also doing that.

The question is, we have to see whether it is on an increase, because the responsibility is not fixed. Because no action is taken either against the Principal or the university or the college or the Administrator. Suppose something happens in a district. The District Collector is held responsible for that and the Government takes action. Whether there is any possibility of taking action against the institution or the Principal or the Administrator or the Vice-Chancellor. Now, the point is, we don't have the legislation, the Central legislation. We have the legislation only in four States — Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Kerala. And, Goa also. I think, it is because there is neither a Central legislation nor a legislation in all the States. I think, it is a very

serious issue. Let us pass a resolution today in this House to prevent this sort of activities all over the country which has spread to all the universities and colleges. The Government of India should consider seriously bringing in a special legislation like IPC or Cr.P.C. to prevent all these things which are happening in our country. It is also because the society, guardians, legislators like us and the administration are not very serious about this. Today, we are talking about ragging. There are discussions and there is also some sort of instructions. Now, the hon. Supreme Court has made a comment about it. What I mean is, till today, we have taken it very lightly to create awareness among the people. It is very important to create awareness and to build up a strong public opinion against ragging. And, I think, that will serve the purpose and create awareness among the students and also among those who are doing all these things inside the universities and educational institutions. Sir, it is because now more and more private institutions are coming in the field of higher education. In other words, more higher education universities are being privatised and more deemed universities are being created. It is because the controlling and monitoring system is not working effectively. More ragging is happening in these universities, medical colleges, engineering colleges and institutes. Previously, there were limited number of engineering and medical colleges in our country. Now, there are a number of deemed universities and private medical colleges. So, I think, it is also one of the causes. These things are also there. Instead of being controlled, ragging is on the increase in our country day by day.

Now, Sir, my suggestion would be, first of all, in the colleges and universities, where these dropout students, professional, mafias are inside the universities, action should be taken to oust them from the university campus. A student after passing out a subject or a class or a degree should not be allowed inside. There should be no reason for which he should be allowed inside the university or college. Why should students, dropouts for 2-3 years repeatedly, be allowed to be inside the university? Even, in Delhi, you can find out. Whether it is JNU or Delhi University or medical college or engineering college, you will find hundreds of students or non-students inside the hostel in the name of somebody else. If you go into details, you will find that they are the real culprits for creating all sorts of violence, nuisance and also ragging inside the college and university. The first step which the Central Government and the State Governments should take is to oust them and ensure that no student after passing a degree or a dropout should be allowed inside the hostel or the university. The second thing is, the Government, the non-Government institutions and also the university, which are also talking about that, should have a national-level, State-level or district-level seminars, discussions, advertisements in the media, etc., to create awareness and build up a public opinion against ragging so that, at least, everybody should be aware and the students could also make up their mind and, at least, they must have the courage to face the situation. The third point is, we must have a national legislation in our country because only five States have this legislation. Other States do not have this legislation. So, we must have a national legislation so that those persons who are responsible should be punished.

And my last suggestion is this. Sir, these University Chancellors, Vice-Chancellors, Administrators or College Principals have not taken any action. If you go into the details of cases where such things have happened, where a person committed suicide or where a person was seriously injured, there also, till today, no action has been taken by the Institution to suppress this sort of ragging. Wherever these things are occurring, whether it is the Chancellor or the Vice-Chancellor, whether it is the Principal or the person concerned, should also be taken to task. Strong action should be taken against them. And as per the recommendation of the Raghavan Committee and also of the AICTE, which also, once upon a time, took a decision, in institutions, where it is happening, their recognition should be withdrawn and action should be taken against them so that those who are guardians of these institutions and the persons who are responsible for running such institutions could discuss these matters and take preventive measures to stop the menace of ragging. Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Thank you, Khuntiaji. Thank you very much. Now, Shri M. Rama Jois.

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS (Karnataka): Sir, I am really surprised that even after several decades of our achieving independence we are now thinking of discussing that particular subject of ragging, here, which should have been put an end to long back. It has been a British legacy. In our country, the question of ragging was something unknown. It is a bad habit or bad custom that had developed in England, which our students have followed. And I need not elaborate it because all my earlier speakers have said what are the horrible aspect of ragging, that is subjecting co-students to mental and physical torture. How has this sadistic pleasure developed in our students? In educational institutions, from our ancient times our ideal has been “विद्या ददाति विनयम्”, the education must imparts politeness and gentlemanliness. But, unfortunately, the students are indulging in ragging! And I know, from my own town, Shimoga, a student, who was studying in a medical college and was subjected to ragging; committed suicide. A number of students have left the colleges. And they have suspended their studies in medical and engineering colleges because of ragging. All this is happening. But I am surprised even more as to why the Administration is dragging the matter for all these years, in stopping this menace. Ragging has been going on not since yesterday or a day before yesterday. It has been going on for the last three-four decades. Unfortunately, the Administration has not taken any steps to stop this menace. And this matter, first, goes to some Raghavan Committee and, then, to Supreme Court! Is it such a complicated matter? Is it a simple thing? It is most inhuman activity; it should have been stopped in the beginning itself. Because we did not nip it in the bud, it has now grown into a poisonous tree. Steps should have been taken earlier. In fact, what is education? Education makes the student develop cultural values. That is what Adi Shankara has said: “Education does not mean thrusting some knowledge into the head of the students. But it

must reduce bad qualities and increase humanly good qualities in every individual.” That process is not going on. As a result, instead of developing culture, the students have become vultures and they are giving trouble to their own costudents! Unfortunately, in medical colleges, it is going on in a large scale. In fact, I had an occasion to address the students in my Hubli Medical College, when I was a Judge in the Karnataka High Court. Then, I learnt that ragging was going on there. Then, I said, “Such of the students who are indulging in ragging are unfit to undergo medical studies at all.” And I quoted since there is a famous Subhashita in Sanskrit:

“सज्जन हृदयम् नवनीतम् तदवीदंती कवयस्तद्वलीकम्।
अन्यदेहविलसत्परितापात् सज्जनो द्रवति नो नवनीयतम् ।”

The meaning is: a poet explains that the heart of a gentleman is as soft as butter. But this writer of Subhashita says, that is an insult to a gentleman because butter melts only when the vessel in which butter is kept is heated but the heart of a gentleman melts when somebody else is heated! If some other human being is suffering heart of a gentleman melts. Subjecting another human being to inhuman treatment, or, subjecting him to mental or physical torture and enjoying it is a totally inhuman culture. But such things are going on. In fact, in a judgement, which I delivered 20 years ago when I was a Judge of the Karnataka High Court, I stated that this must be stopped forthwith and the way to stop this is to have a Special Magistrate appointed for each college where there is a possibility of ragging, to hold the trial then and there and to rusticate such students from the college. If you rusticate a few students from the college and their education comes to an end, then that will create fear among others and deter them from doing that. But no action has been taken. Even those who indulge in ragging continue in colleges and get degrees. Such persons should not be awarded university degrees. Those who indulge in ragging can't be awarded degrees by the universities. Such a provision has to be made.

Another thing is that when we sow margosa (neem) seeds, we can't expect mango fruits. When we sow margosa seeds, we will only get bitter fruits. That is what has happened. In the education system we have not brought anything, as my learned friend has stated, to develop cultural values and to make a student better human being. We have not brought forth such a system.

Moreover, we have not implemented article 47 of the Constitution. Article 47 of the Constitution says that there shall be total prohibition on manufacture and sale of liquor. This is a Directive Principle of State Policy. Everyone of us has taken the oath that we will abide by the Constitution of India. Why hasn't that been stopped? Why hasn't article 47 been implemented? I read a report about 15 or 20 years ago in *Kannada Prabha*, a daily of Bangalore, that 75 per cent of the students in urban colleges were alcoholic addicts, and 60 per cent of the students in rural colleges were alcoholic addicts. These are the people who are indulging in ragging and other

criminal activities. Why we haven't implemented article 47 of the Constitution of India? When we file our nomination, we take the oath that we will abide by the Constitution of India. When we become Assembly Members or Parliament Members we take the oath that we will abide by the Constitution of India. Then, again, those who become Ministers take similar oath. We take the oath three times. But it is not being implemented. Mahatma Gandhi said, "So long as this evil of drinking is there in this country, there will be no cultural values", and, secondly, "the problem of poor people will never be solved. They will always remain poor". You give money to the poor people, whether it is for construction of house or for purchase of cattle or for whatever it is, all the money goes for purchasing liquor. This is also one of the root causes for ragging. Those who are indulging in ragging are mostly in a drunken state of affairs. They have no sense. Therefore, firm steps should be taken. In fact, as I have stated in my reported judgement, Government should appoint a Special Magistrate for a medical college or engineering college where there is likelihood of ragging and catches the culprits. There should be a trial then and there, within 24 hours, and they should be rusticated from the college for the whole of the course. Such stern measures can only bring an end to ragging. But, unfortunately, as I said, it did not happen. Is it a matter which should go to the Supreme Court or to a Raghavan Committee for a report or a matter on which that the President should address the Governors? It is like the Kannada proverb. You are taking a sword to remove something in your nail. This is what is happening. By introducing discipline in schools and colleges you could have stopped ragging long ago. But, unfortunately, we have allowed this to develop and now it has become a big poisonous tree and such a big problem that the President has to write to the Governors and the Supreme Court has to issue orders. In spite of all these, the things are not moving. "Where there is a will, there is a way". If there is a will to stop ragging on the part of the administration, certainly they can stop it by taking stern measures. Unfortunately, that will is not forthcoming. I appeal to the Government to take stern measures in order to stop ragging. Ragging must become part of the past history. Such a thing should never be allowed in any educational institution. Thank you.

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारे पूर्व वक्ता ने रैगिंग की कुछ परिभाषा बताई है और कहा है कि रैगिंग का मतलब मज़ाक है। मैं भी यही समझता हूँ कि इसका सही अर्थ मज़ाक ही है, लेकिन जब यह मज़ाक आगे बढ़ जाता है, तो फिर झंझट भी बढ़ जाता है। महोदय, हमारा यह कहना है कि आपने जिस तरह से रैगिंग के बारे में एक्ट बनाया है, या जो कानून बनाया है या जो सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने उस बारे में निर्देश दिए हैं, वह असल में रैगिंग नहीं है, बल्कि क्रिमिनल एक्शन है। अगर किसी इंस्टीट्यूशन में कोई आदमी विद्यार्थियों को टॉर्चर करता है, तो रैगिंग शब्द कहने से उसका थोड़ा बचाव हो जाता है कि चलो भाई, यह मज़ाक का शब्द है। जब इसका इंटरप्रीटेशन होगा तो मज़ाक शब्द ही आएगा और दूसरा कुछ नहीं हो सकता है। महोदय, हमारा यह कहना है कि वह क्रिमिनल एक्शन है, If anybody is doing ragging, he is committing a criminal offence. It should be dealt with under the Indian Penal Code, not under the Prevention of Ragging Act. सर, यह रैगिंग कहां पर होती है? यह बड़े इंस्टीट्यूशन्स में होती है। मैं जिस

बिहार प्रदेश से आता हूँ, हमने भी पढ़ाई की है और मुझे मालूम ही नहीं कि रैगिंग क्या होती है, वहां पर कोई किसी की रैगिंग नहीं करता है। यह बात पक्की है कि बिहार में कोई किसी की रैगिंग नहीं करता है, चाहे वह इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेज है, चाहे वह लॉ कॉलेज है और चाहे वह मैडिकल कॉलेज ही क्यों न हो। जो कोई किसी की रैगिंग करेगा, तो उससे बलवान तो वह सामने वाला ही है इसलिए वही उसकी रैगिंग कर देगा, इसलिए वहां पर रैगिंग नहीं होती है। जो बड़े घरों के लड़के पैसे देकर, बड़े इंस्टीट्यूशन्स में एडमिशन लेते हैं और जो वहां पर पहले से पढ़ रहे लड़के होते हैं, उनको पता होता है कि यह बहुत पैसे देकर आया है, इसलिए इससे कुछ माल वसूलना चाहिए। उससे माल वसूलने के चक्कर में, उसको तरह-तरह से टार्चर किया जाता है। सर, हमारा यह कहना है कि यह एक साइकलोजिकल चीज है। आप इसको कानून के माध्यम से खत्म नहीं कर सकते हैं, बल्कि इसको एक मनोवैज्ञानिक तरीके से ही खत्म करना पड़ेगा। अगर आप इसको मनोवैज्ञानिक तरीके से खत्म नहीं करना चाहते हैं, तो कानून बनाकर, किसी पर पैनल्टी लगाकर, किसी को सजा देकर खत्म नहीं कर सकते हैं। हमारे एक मित्र ने कहा है कि इसमें केवल फाइन नहीं होना चाहिए, बल्कि कोई पॉजिटिव सजा होनी चाहिए। कौन सी सजा! आप उनको जेल भेजकर क्या करेंगे? वे विद्यार्थी हैं, अगर आप उनको 6 महीने के लिए जेल भेज देंगे, तो इससे क्या फर्क पड़ेगा? सर, मेरा यह कहना है कि इसके लिए एक कानून बनना चाहिए, एक साइकलोजिकल ट्रीटमेंट होना चाहिए। यह केवल कानून बनाने से ही नहीं होगा, बल्कि जो इंस्टीट्यूशन्स के हैंड हैं, जो कमेटी के लोग हैं, उनकी इस बात की जिम्मेवारी देनी चाहिए कि इस तरह का कोई क्रिमिनल एक्शन नहीं होना चाहिए। As I have already said, it is not ragging, it is a criminal action. किसी को नंगा करके, उसकी पीठ सिगरेट से जलाते हैं, तो हम उसको कैसे रैगिंग कहेंगे लेकिन यह तो क्रिमिनल एक्शन है। इसलिए स्कूल में, कॉलेज में या मैडिकल कॉलेज में, जहां पर भी रैगिंग होती है, हमें उसके बारे में एक नियम जरूर बनाना चाहिए कि जो यह मज़ाक शब्द है, सताना शब्द है और सताना शब्द का हमें ज्यादा यह नहीं होता है....।

लेकिन जब रैगिंग का मतलब मज़ाक है, तो उस मज़ाक को मज़ाक तक ही रहना चाहिए, उसे बहुत एक्सेस में नहीं जाना चाहिए। सर, मेरा कितना समय है, यह बता दीजिए, मैं समय से ज्यादा नहीं बोलूंगा।...(व्यवधान)... नहीं, हमारे यहां का कोई आदमी इस तरह नहीं कहता है। सर,...(व्यवधान)...सर, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह रैगिंग इतनी भयानक हुई है कि कई लोगों ने फांसी लगा ली है, वे छत से कूद गए हैं, कई लोगों ने आत्महत्या कर ली है। यह बहुत मुश्किल समस्या है। इसलिए सर, रैगिंग के बारे में मैं यह सजेस्ट कर रहा हूँ कि स्कूल या कॉलेज में जब लड़के लोग आएँ, तो उनकी एक काउंसलिंग होनी चाहिए, एक विचार होना चाहिए, एक सेमिनार होना चाहिए, कि ऐसा कुछ काम नहीं करना। यह मेरा एक सजेशन है। इससे वह कानून की सेफ्टी नहीं लेगा। आप जितने कानून बनाएंगे, वे उसका वॉयलेशन खुद करेंगे, जब वह अखबार में छपेगा। मैं एक बात और कहना चाहता हूँ कि रैगिंग को बहुत ज्यादा एडवरटाइज करने की जरूरत नहीं है, अगर आप उसकी एडवरटाइज नहीं करेंगे तो दूसरे इंस्टीट्यूशन्स में इसका असर नहीं होगा। इसकी इतनी यादा एडवरटाइजमेंट होती है कि लगता है कि यह फ्लू की तरह फैल जाता है और दूसरे इंस्टीट्यूशन्स में इसका असर होता है। वे लोग समझते हैं कि हम रैगिंग करेंगे तो हम हीरो हो जाएंगे और हमारा नाम अखबार में छपेगा। इसलिए सर, हम लोगों को इस पर रिस्ट्रिक्शन लगानी चाहिए। सर, यह रैगिंग, It should be treated psychologically, not by imposing any penal action against the culprits. Thank you, Sir.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर (हिमाचल प्रदेश): सर, जो हिमाचल में हुआ, मैं उसके बारे में बताती हूँ। आज संतोष जी रैगिंग पर जो शॉर्ट ड्यूरेशन डिसकशन लेकर आए हैं, वह बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण विषय है, क्योंकि यह रैगिंग एक बहुत ही भयंकर रूप अपनाता जा रहा है। पहले, जैसा कि यह कह रहे हैं कि ब्रिटिश लीगेसी थी, तो यह शायद इसलिए बनाया गया था कि जो नए स्टूडेंट्स आते हैं, जो पहले से विद्यार्थी हैं, जो सीनियर हैं,

उनके साथ उनका तालमेल हो सके, उनके साथ इंटरैक्शन हो सके, एक दूसरे के साथ बातचीत हो सके, शायद यह परंपरा उस समय इसलिए शुरू की गई होगी। लेकिन आज यहां, 2009 तक पहुंचते-पहुंचते रैगिंग का रूप और स्वरूप बिल्कुल ही बदल गया है। यह इतनी भयानक बनती जा रही है, क्रिमिनली कह लीजिए कि यह एक बहुत भयानक स्थिति और रूप लेती जा रही है, जिससे कि आज, स्टूडेंट्स अपने आपको सुरक्षित नहीं समझ रहे हैं। यह बहुत बार कहा गया है कि यह रैगिंग क्यों हो रही है, किसलिए हो रही है, मैं यह कहना चाहती हूं कि रैगिंग का जो रूप आज आया है, इसमें सामाजिक और मनोवैज्ञानिक दोनों ही बातें हैं। आप कहाँ से, कौन से परिवार से आए हैं, आपकी आर्थिक स्थिति क्या है, रहन-सहन क्या है, आपके संस्कार क्या हैं, इन सब बातों का रैगिंग करने वालों पर बहुत असर होता है। एक यह सिलसिला है कि अगर मेरी रैगिंग की गई है तो मैं भी आने वालों की करूंगा। यह एक sadistic pleasure होता जा रहा है। यह स्टूडेंट्स को बिल्कुल विवश कर रहा है कि या तो वह कॉलेज छोड़ दे, यूनिवर्सिटी छोड़ दे या वे कुछ ऐसा करने पर मजबूर हो जाते हैं कि अपना जीवन भी खत्म कर देते हैं। इन्होंने हिमाचल के बारे में कहा, हिमाचल में ही सबसे बड़ा काण्ड हुआ है। हिमाचल में अमन काचरू की, राजेन्द्र मेडिकल कॉलेज में, उसके सीनियर्स ने रैगिंग की, उसे मारा, जिससे कि उसकी डेथ हो गई। जिसके लिए सुप्रीम कोर्ट को हिदायतें देनी पड़ीं। आज हमारे महामहिम राष्ट्रपति जी ने सभी गवर्नमेंट्स से कहा, जिसकी वजह से यह हाईलाइट हुआ। रैगिंग होती होगी। जब बच्चे प्रोफेसर्स को बताते हैं कि मुझे इस-इस तरह से किया गया, तो प्रोफेसर कहते हैं कि कोई बात नहीं, हमारे साथ भी ऐसा हुआ था। जो एक खामोशी थी, जो एक सहने की भावना थी, उसी ने आज यह रूप ले लिया है। अगर एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन, चाहे प्रिंसिपल, चाहे लेक्चरर, चाहे प्रोफेसर, इस पर उसी समय ध्यान देते, जब उनके पास शिकायतें आती हैं, किस तरह से रैगिंग हो रही है, किस तरह से स्टूडेंट्स का exploitation हो रहा है, किसी भी रूप में हो रहा है, चाहे वे लड़कियाँ हों, चाहे वे लड़के हों, जिनका यहाँ विस्तार किया गया है, मैं नहीं कहना चाहती, वह खत्म हो सकती थी। मैं यही कहना चाहूँगी कि इस भयंकर रूप को खत्म करना है, नहीं तो हमारी सोसायटी शान्तिप्रिय नहीं रहेगी, उसमें ऐसा वातावरण खत्म हो जाएगा।

आज कालेजों में दादागिरी की भी एक बात आ रही है। हमारी फिल्म इंडस्ट्री में दिखाया जा रहा है, उसमें ऐसा projection होता है कि कालेजों में कुछ दादा लोग हैं, जो जो चाहते हैं, करवा सकते हैं और वही लोग रैगिंग करते हैं। रामचन्द्र खूँटिआ जी ने बहुत अच्छा कहा कि जो old students हैं, चाहे वे drop-out हो गए हों, चाहे वे fail हो गए हों, उनको कालेजों, यूनिवर्सिटीज़ में आने का अधिकार बिल्कुल नहीं होना चाहिए और उनका आना बन्द कर देना चाहिए। वे भी आकर ऐसी बातें करते हैं, खास कर प्रोफेशनल कालेजों में। दुख होता है कि बच्चे प्रोफेशनल कालेजों में जाते हैं, इंजीनियर बनने के लिए, डाक्टर बनने के लिए, एमबीए करने के लिए, लेकिन जितनी रैगिंग उन प्रोफेशनल कालेजों में है, मैं तो यहाँ तक कहूँगी कि वहाँ के प्रोफेसर्स भी स्टूडेंट्स की रैगिंग करते हैं। वे भी उनको इतना तंग करते हैं कि अगर आपने हमारी बात नहीं मानी, अगर हमारा कहा नहीं माना, तो हम आपको fail कर देंगे। वे इतना mental torture करते हैं, physically ragging न कर पाते हों, लेकिन वे mental ragging करते हैं, mental torture करते हैं कि ऐसे प्रोफेसर्स के कारण प्रोफेशनल कालेजों के स्टूडेंट्स या तो उसे छोड़ कर चले जाते हैं या उन्हें एक ही क्लास में तीन-तीन चार-चार साल लगाना पड़ता है।

महोदय, मैं यह कहना चाहूँगी कि इसके लिए एक्ट बना है। हिमाचल में जब यह केस हुआ, उसके बाद उन्होंने भी कानून बना दिया है और दूसरे स्टेट्स ने भी कानून बनाए हैं। लेकिन कानून बनाने से बात नहीं होगी, जब तक हम यह awareness नहीं लाएंगे, तब तक कुछ नहीं होगा। कालेजों में जाकर, स्टूडेंट्स से बात करके उनको यह समझाया जाए कि रैगिंग करने से आपका भला नहीं होने वाला है।

जहाँ तक दादागिरी की बात है कि हमने ऐसा कर दिया, क्योंकि हमारे साथ भी ऐसा किया गया था, वे अपना अधिकार समझते हैं कि हमें भी रैग किया गया था, हमारे साथ भी ऐसा ही बर्ताव हुआ था, तो अब आने वाले लोगों के साथ भी हम ऐसा करेंगे। इसलिए मेरा suggestion यही है कि एक्ट जरूर बने, लेकिन साथ में

एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन को responsible बनाया जाए। हमारे यहाँ मेडिकल काउंसिल के लोग आए, सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने भी भेजा, मेडिकल कालेज में सभी जगह इन्क्वायरी हुई, लेकिन जो एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन है, प्रिंसिपल हैं, प्रोफेसर्स हैं, उनकी भी उतनी ही जिम्मेदारी है, जितनी स्टूडेंट्स की है। इसलिए उनको भी accountable बनाया जाए। एक्ट में यह प्रावधान रखा जाए कि जिस कालेज में, जिस यूनिवर्सिटी में रैगिंग का परसेंटेज बढ़ता है और ऐसा रूप होता है, उसका लाइसेंस खत्म कर दिया जाए। उसके प्रति ऐसा एक्शन लिया जाए, जिससे स्टूडेंट्स में यह बात आ जाए कि यह एक social evil है, यह एक सामाजिक बुराई है, इससे हमें कुछ मिलने वाला नहीं है और यह जो एक मजाक या रैगिंग की introduction वाली बात थी, वह उससे बहुत दूर पहुँच चुकी है। इसको खत्म करना बहुत जरूरी है, नहीं तो आज विद्यार्थी safe नहीं हैं। आपने मुझे समय दिया, इसके लिए आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर (महाराष्ट्र): महोदय, इस पर बहुत ज्यादा बोलने की जरूरत नहीं है, क्योंकि बहुत अच्छी चर्चा हुई है। अगर हम हमारे बच्चों को किसी इंस्टीट्यूट में दाखिल कराते हैं, तो मन में एक ही विचार आता है कि क्या वहाँ रैगिंग होती है और क्या वहाँ बच्चों को तकलीफ होगी। यह हर नागरिक के मन में, जेहन में उठने वाला सवाल है। लेकिन यह समझना चाहिए कि यह एक मानसिकता है। निर्बल पर बल दिखाने की मानसिकता का नाम है रैगिंग। दूसरे के दुःख में सुख मनाने का नाम है — रैगिंग, जूनियर की असहायता का फायदा उठाने का नाम है — रैगिंग, दूसरे की प्रताड़ना करने वाली सामंती मानसिकता का नाम है — रैगिंग। यह एक विषाक्त मानसिकता है और अगर इसे समाप्त करना है तो मूल से समाप्त करना पड़ेगा।

यहां पर मैं केवल इसके उपायों की चर्चा करूंगा। इसके लिए डंडा भी चाहिए, माहौल भी चाहिए और प्रबोधन भी चाहिए। महाराष्ट्र में हमने इसके लिए कानून बनाया है, लेकिन केन्द्र में अभी कानून नहीं है, इसलिए मेरी पहली मांग है कि केन्द्र में रैगिंग के खिलाफ पूरे 10 साल की सजा के प्रावधान वाला कानून बनना चाहिए।

दूसरा, प्रबोधन के अंतर्गत पाठ्यक्रम में एंटी-रैगिंग मैसेज देने वाला पाठ्यक्रम होना चाहिए। बहुत सारे बच्चे रैगिंग को एक फैशन, एक रूटीन समझने के कारण शामिल होते हैं, इसलिए सबको समझाना चाहिए कि this is not welcomed. यह रूटीन नहीं है, यह अपराध है, अत्याचार है। इस पाठ्यक्रम को करिकुलम में लाया जाना चाहिए।

तीसरा, इसके लिए एक हेल्पलाइन शुरू की जाए, क्योंकि बहुत सारे बच्चे ऐसे होते हैं, जिनका कोई लोकल पेरेंट नहीं होता। घर पर मां-बाप को यह सुन कर ज्यादा दुःख होगा, उन्हें यह अच्छा नहीं लगता, इसलिए वे फोन करके घर पर भी नहीं बताते हैं। उस शहर में उनका दूसरा कोई होता नहीं, जिसको वे बता पाएं, इसलिए रैगिंग के लिए एक हेल्पलाइन होनी चाहिए। हेल्पलाइन में पुलिस और डॉक्टर दोनों होने चाहिए। अगर आप ऐसी सेवा शुरू करेंगे तो बहुत उपयोगी होगी।

चौथा, होस्टल में जो वॉर्डन होते हैं, चूंकि वह एक तकनीकी पद नहीं है, इसलिए वह एक mentor की भूमिका में आना चाहिए। इसके लिए संस्था चालकों को प्रोत्साहित किया जाना चाहिए। मुझे मालूम है कि होस्टल के जो वार्डन्स होते हैं, उनको सब कुछ पता रहता है कि क्या हो रहा है इसलिए उनका भी इसमें मोटिवेशन होना चाहिए और उनको अधिक अधिकार देकर एक व्यवस्था कायम की जानी चाहिए।

इस तरह मुझे लगता है, एक तो पाठ्यक्रम के माध्यम से एंटी-रैगिंग माहौल बनाना, एक हेल्पलाइन जैसी सेवा की शुरुआत करना, एक वॉर्डन को ज्यादा अधिकार देकर, उन्हें मोटिवेट करके उसका निराकरण करना है और एक सख्त कानून बनाकर 10 साल की सजा का प्रावधान करना। अगर आप यह सब करेंगे तभी रैगिंग समाप्त होगी। मुझे केवल इतनी ही बात कहनी थी, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

श्री महेन्द्र मोहन (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद। यहां रैगिंग पर जो चर्चा हो रही है, यह बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण है। जैसा कि अभी कहा गया है कि सभी लोगों ने सारे बिन्दुओं को कवर किया है।

सबसे बड़ा सवाल जो इसमें है, वह यह है कि रैगिंग को समाप्त कैसे किया जाए? इसके लिए क्या-क्या किया जाए? मेरे विचार में इसके लिए सबसे अधिक आवश्यक यह है कि हम बच्चों के अंदर अनुशासन की भावना को लाएं। जैसा अभी यहां एक माननीय सदस्य के माध्यम से कहा भी गया कि जिन कॉलेजों में रैगिंग होती है, वहां पर एक ऐसा एंटी रैगिंग सेल बनाया जाना चाहिए, जिसमें सीनियर प्रोफेसर्स और सीनियर स्टुडेंट्स को इन्वॉल्व किया जाए ताकि जिस भी बड़े इंस्टीट्यूशन में किसी भी बच्चे के साथ यह कार्य होता है, उसे रोका जा सके।

आज रैगिंग ज्यादातर कहां हो रही है? मैडिकल कॉलेजिज में, इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेजिज में, प्रोफेशनल कॉलेजिज जैसे आईआईटीज में। यह बहुत ही दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण है कि आईआईटीज और मैडिकल कॉलेजिज के अन्दर आज बच्चे रैगिंग के कारण आत्महत्या कर रहे हैं, इसलिए इसके लिए अगर कोई ऐसा सेल बनाया जाए, जिसमें सीनियर प्रोफेसर्स और कुछ एक सीनियर स्टुडेंट्स हों, जहां पर उनकी शिकायत सुनी जाए। इसके बाद जब कभी रैगिंग होती है तो इसके लिए वहां के प्रिंसिपल्स को और वहां की मैनेजमेंट को जिम्मेदार बनाया जाए। जब तक उनके ऊपर यह जिम्मेदारी नहीं डाली जाएगी कि अगर आपके इंस्टीट्यूट या महाविद्यालय में रैगिंग हो रही है, तो आपके ऊपर भी ऐक्शन हो सकता है, तब तक इसे नहीं रोका जा सकेगा। केवल कानून बना देने से यह काम नहीं होगा। हमें यह भी देखना होगा कि उसका इम्प्लिमेंटेशन कैसे हो। जब तक इम्प्लिमेंटेशन सही रूप में नहीं होगा, तब तक हम इसको नहीं रोक पाएंगे। मैंने यह देखा है कि जिन-जिन अच्छे कॉलेजों या इंस्टीट्यूट्स के अन्दर रैगिंग पर कंट्रोल रहता है, वहां पर जब उन यूनिवर्सिटीज के प्रिंसिपल्स या वाइस चांसलर्स से बात हुई है, तो उन लोगों ने यही बताया है कि हम यहां कड़ाई करते हैं। जब वे कड़ा रुख अपनाते हैं, तभी वहां पर रैगिंग रुक पाती है। यह उसी प्रकार से है जैसे कि एक परिवार होता है। परिवार में काफी सदस्य होते हैं। अगर उस परिवार में उसके मुखिया का discipline होता है और वह अनुशासन के साथ रहता है तो उस परिवार के अन्दर रैगिंग नहीं हो पाती है वरना परिवार के अन्दर भी रैगिंग होती है। यह बात बिल्कुल सही है कि आज कल रैगिंग करने को भी एक सोशल स्टेटस मान लिया गया है कि भई मेरी दो साल पहले रैगिंग हुई थी तो अब जो नए बच्चे यहाँ आ रहे हैं मुझे उनकी रैगिंग करनी है। जितना उसे प्रताड़ित किया गया, जितनी उसे मानसिक यातना दी गई, उससे कहीं ज्यादा मानसिक यातना देने का प्रयत्न वह आने वाले नए बच्चों के साथ करता है। इसलिए इस ओर ज्यादा ध्यान दिया जाए और इसको रोका जाए ताकि यह किसी प्रकार से न हो सके।

आज रैगिंग का रूप सेक्सुअल ह्रासमेंट की तरफ भी बहुत चला गया है। पहले तो रैगिंग केवल रुपए-पैसे के लिए या मिलने-जुलने के बहाने कुछ खाने या पीने के लिए होता था, लेकिन अब जिस प्रकार की रैगिंग हो रही है, उसमें उसका विभत्स रूप सामने आ रहा है और उसके कारण ही ये कठिनाइयाँ आ रही हैं।

मेरा सरकार से केवल यही अनुरोध है कि इस सम्बन्ध में जो भी कानून बनाया जाए, उसमें रेस्पॉसिबिलिटी उस इंस्टीट्यूशन के सीनियर्स के ऊपर डाली जाए तथा वहाँ पर अनिवार्य रूप से एक एंटी रैगिंग सेल बनायी जाए। अगर इस पर भी किसी इंस्टीट्यूशन में रैगिंग नहीं रुकती है तो कैसे वहाँ पर सीनियर्स को भी इसमें सजा दी जा सके, इस ओर ध्यान देना चाहिए, तभी आप इस रैगिंग को रोक पाएँगे। अगर आप केवल यह चाहेंगे कि हमारे कहने से स्टूडेंट्स से रैगिंग रुक जाएगी तो यह नहीं होगा। इसके लिए हमें वहाँ पर भय पैदा करना पड़ेगा। एक कहावत है कि किसी भी गांव में हर आदमी के पीछे दारोगा या पुलिस नहीं लगाई जा सकती है। लोगों में पुलिस का एक भय होता है कि अगर हम ऐसा कोई गलत काम करेंगे तो हमें सजा मिलेगी। इसी प्रकार का भय वहाँ पर पढ़ने वाले बच्चों में पैदा होना चाहिए। इसके साथ-ही-साथ वह भय हमारे वहाँ के अधिकारियों में भी होना चाहिए कि अगर हमारे इंस्टीट्यूशन में रैगिंग होगी तो उसकी सजा हमें भी मिलेगी, उससे हमारा भी carrier खराब होगा। अगर ऐसा भय उस कानून के माध्यम से पैदा किया गया तो हम इस रैगिंग को रोकने में सफल होंगे। आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, today's subject 'ragging' is a very, very important one on which the hon. Members of Parliament have participated. Actually, it is a very shameful and sad one for the modern society when civilisation is advancing. It is sad to note how the students are still involved in ragging, that too in sexual abuse, physical injury, verbal abuse, and some students dying by committing suicide and attempting to suicide is really very, very unwanted and unwarranted in the present civilised society. Now, we should ponder on the ways to prevent this. The most important one is, firstly, we must inculcate in the mind of every student that ragging is totally unwanted and is a sadist affair, it is going to ruin their life also. So, how to give this up? The parents must teach this. I know, it is the responsibility of every institution or college, as per the Supreme Court as also as per several communications issued to the institutions. Still, they are not able to be successful. Why? Because, this thought did not come to them. When you give admission for any student, firstly, they must take an undertaking from the parents. This is my advice to the Minister for Human Resources Development for his consideration. It must be made a compulsory undertaking to be given by parents saying, 'Yes, we hereby declare that our child will not involve himself in ragging. You can give severe punishment in case our child is involved in ragging.' This undertaking should be given by parents and they must preach the child that if he involved himself in ragging, his future will be in doldrums.

Secondly, the Raghavan Committee has suggested, the Supreme Court has instructed, and so many things have come. Several States also have been very strict in curbing this menace. Andhra Pradesh also has recently taken a very strong decision. There would be severe punishment, the raggers would be sent to jail. Not only that, they are going to demonstrate presentation on the punishments if any student is involved in ragging.

So, firstly, you must investigate the reasons for ragging. Who is responsible? What is wrong with the students? The reason is, students feel it a pleasure, a fun just like bursting crackers. This is their thinking. Ultimately, it is emotional outbursts, frustration; and, some times, out of fascination, some times out of ignorance and over-enthusiasm. Because of these, they would commit acts which go beyond the limits and they involve themselves in criminal actions.

Therefore, in college classes, every lecturer, every teacher should spend five minutes in informing the student that ragging is a serious offence and that anybody involving would be severely punished. You should mind your job. If you want to come up in life and if you want to be successful in life, do not do it. This fear should also be inculcated in the minds of the students. In other words, parents should be involved; lecturers and teachers should be involved. Teachers while teaching their subjects must also inform that this is a serious matter. So, in conclusion, — since everybody has spoken, I do not want to repeat, — what I would like to again say is only what others have not told. The sadist mind should be vanished. How? The young students have sadist minds. How? If a student cries, the other student feels happy. That is how the motivation for ragging comes. In the films also, sometimes hero is involved in ragging the heroine and ultimately they love each other. This also misleads the students. A student thinks that if he also does ragging, she would also love him in return. Such types of scenes may not be encouraged in the films. I do not say you ban them because we also make films and we are also involved in

these scenes but it should not be encouraged. This is also the psychology of the students. In conclusion, the parents, the lecturers, the teachers, the colleges, the Government, and all other should be involved. In addition to warning of the punishment, you must impart good teachings to the students, preaching to the students by telling them that they should not involve in such things and spoil their lives. पाप भी जाना चाहिए। The consciousness of sin must be told to the students. The four words 'cautious', 'conscious', 'judicious' and 'meticulous' should be taught in every college at young age itself. Once again, I strongly plead that the Parliament has taken up this issue. The message will go aloud that the country, the people are very much firm that ragging should be discouraged, should be condemned and we must all work for antiragging. Thank you, Sir.

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि (उड़ीसा): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, रैगिंग जो शब्द है, इसका सीधासीधा कोई एक शब्द हिंदी में या किसी भारतीय भाषा में कहा जाए, तो कोई कह नहीं पाएगा। जो भी हो, यह दुर्भाग्य की बात है कि हमारी जितनी यूनिवर्सिटीज, एजुकेशनल कैम्पस हैं, वहां पर यह रैगिंग होती है। हम सब लोग यह जानते हैं कि देश का जो विद्यार्थी समाज है, वह सबसे प्रभावी समाज है और यह विद्यार्थी समाज देश का भविष्य है, क्योंकि देश का आगे जो निर्माण होगा, वह इन्हीं विद्यार्थियों के माध्यम से होगा।

महोदय, वर्ष 1947 से पहले जब महात्मा गांधी जी के नेतृत्व में या दूसरे नेताओं के नेतृत्व में देश की आजादी का आंदोलन चल रहा था, तो उस आंदोलन के लिए जो रिक्रूटमेंट होता था, वह विद्यार्थियों में से ही होता था। फिर उसके बाद, 30 साल बाद एक ऐसा समय आया, वर्ष 1974-75-76 में, जब इस देश में भ्रष्टाचार और तमाम बाकी सब इधर-उधर की बातें आई थीं, उस समय एक आंदोलन के रूप में समाज को एक ऑर्डर के रूप में लाने का काम हुआ था, तो लोकनायक जय प्रकाश नारायण जी ने विद्यार्थियों के आंदोलन के माध्यम से यह सब किया था। आज इस महान दिवस पर जब हम यहां रैगिंग के बारे में चर्चा कर रहे हैं, तो विद्यार्थी समाज का एक वर्ग, जब उन्हें शाम तक समाचार मिल जाएगा कि भारत के पार्लियामेंट में, इस राज्य सभा में इस पर चर्चा हुई है, तो वह वर्ग हमें गाली देना शुरू कर देगा कि देखो, पार्लियामेंटेरियन्स को देखो, सांसदों को देखो, इनके पास कोई काम नहीं है, इसलिए इन्होंने यह रैगिंग के ऊपर चर्चा कर ली। ये लोग रैगिंग के ऊपर तो चर्चा करते हैं, लेकिन पोलिटिकल पार्टीज जब चुनाव लड़ती हैं, तो रैगिंग के ऊपर चर्चा नहीं करते हैं। सत्ता में आने के लिए बूथों पर जो रैगिंग होती है, उस रैगिंग के ऊपर चर्चा नहीं करते, इस रैगिंग के ऊपर चर्चा करते हैं।

महोदय, आपके माध्यम से मेरा इतना निवेदन है कि सभी माननीय सदस्यों का, देश के विद्यार्थी समाज के साथ हमारा सतत संपर्क रहना चाहिए। कई युवा राजनीति करके यहां तक आए हुए हैं। यद्यपि सभी पार्टियों का सीधे-सीधे विद्यार्थी संगठनों से संपर्क नहीं है।...(व्यवधान)...

महोदय, हमारे यहां अखिल भारतीय विद्यार्थी परिषद है, एनएसयूआई है, एसएफआई है, एआईएसएफ है, ऐसे कितने ही सारे विद्यार्थी संगठन हैं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Your time is over.

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि: सर, पाइंट पर आ रहा हूँ। विद्यार्थियों के जो संगठन हैं, उनसे संपर्क में रहना चाहिए।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Hon. Minister will reply tomorrow. I adjourn the House to meet tomorrow at 11.00 A.M.

The House then adjourned at five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Friday, the 3rd July, 2009.