

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: You are not allowing me to speak. Ahluwaliaji said something and left. He does not want to listen to me.

Sir, 151 girls, who participated in this wedding on 26th June, they were tested for virginity. *(Interruptions)*. Let me speak. Sir, I have started by saying that this is a good scheme. I have complimented the State Government. But the scheme is meant for unmarried, poor family girls, single adults, divorces and also widows.

Now, there cannot be a more demeaning act than testing them for virginity...*(Interruptions)*... Let me complete. When one tribal girl ...*(Interruptions)*... This happened at the Shahdol district in Madhya Pradesh. When one tribal girl refused, the officer said, "If you refuse, you will not be able to come for the marriage ceremony." Then, she accepted it. Now, what Ahluwaliaji has mentioned that I have not read it, I have read everything. The Collector, Shri Neeraj Debe, has ordered for an enquiry. But he has also said, "It appears that the test was a precautionary measure." He himself has said, "Last year, one of the brides delivered a baby even when the marriage ceremony was going on." It appears that this particular officer also is a party to it, and this enquiry is only for the sake of it...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is over.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Let me complete. They wasted the time of the House. I request the Government to enquire into it. Only last week, I mentioned about HIV cases in Gujarat. I am now mentioning about this incident in Madhya Pradesh.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am calling the next speaker. ...*(Interruptions)*... The mike is also turned off. Now, Shri Vijayaraghavan. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): I have given a notice on this.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You associate yourself with it.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: I cannot associate myself with the way Santoshji has raised the issue because it seems to me that it is just becoming. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me finish what I was saying. A sensitive issue, concerning the dignity of young girls, cannot be reduced to some political matter. That is what is precisely sought to be done. Therefore, Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri A. Vijayaraghavan. ...*(Interruptions)*... You have associated yourself with it...*(Interruptions)* I am sorry to say that today you are all derailing whatever we had laid down earlier...*(Interruptions)* Nothing will go on record. Shri A. Vijayaraghavan.

Attacks on Nurses and nursing students in various parts of the country

SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Kerala): Sir, I would like to raise an issue related to the growing attacks on nurses and nursing students in different parts of the country. Sir, the nursing community from Kerala is working all over the world. And, in our country, they are rendering good service even in the remotest corners of India, and from all quarters, their work has been appreciated. Recently, the attacks, especially, the sexual assaults on this community, are increasing in different parts of the

country. And, being in this profession, they are very vulnerable. Recently, in Andhra Pradesh, five nursing students were sexually assaulted in a nursing college. It is unfortunate to note that this college is run by an elected representative. So, the situation is very much serious, and some action has to be taken immediately. Similarly, there are reports, even from Delhi, that there is mental torturing on these nurses, apart from sexual assaults on them at their work places. And they are not getting even the minimum wages. In such a situation, the Government has a responsibility to ensure the safety of the nurses and nursing students. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to give proper instructions to all the State Governments to ensure safety of the nurses, who are working in different parts of the country, and also ensure the safety of those students who are studying in nursing colleges. Similarly, Sir, no labour law is applicable to nursing homes in Delhi where these nurses are working. They are not getting minimum wages and they are suffering. There are various kinds of attacks on them. In some cases, action was taken against those nurses who were speaking in their mother tongue, Malayalam. This is the situation. Therefore, urgent steps must be taken in order to ensure the application of labour laws in the nursing homes in Delhi. We must ensure their safety and security and strong steps must be taken in cases of sexual assault against nurses and nursing students.

SHRI P.R. RAJAN (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD (Bihar): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member has said. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right. Some other hon. Members also associate themselves with what the hon. Member has said.

Naxalite attacks in Chhattisgarh

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश) : श्रीमन्, इस देश की संसद के दोनों सदनो में कई बार देश की आंतरिक सुरक्षा को लेकर बहस हुई है। दुर्भाग्य से नक्सलवादी, माओवादी या पीपल्स वार ग्रुप जैसे तमाम ऐसे संगठन हैं, जो इस देश के विभिन्न हिस्सों में हिसक गतिविधियों में संलग्न हैं। कल ही छत्तीसगढ़ के Rajnandgaon district में कई घटनाएं हुईं, जिससे एक IPS Officer सहित, एक जिले के SP सहित, 36 अन्य अधिकारियों और जवानों की हत्या हुई। आज भी असम में एक IED blast में एक कर्नल और उनके ड्राइवर की हत्या हो गई और यह देश के विभिन्न हिस्सों में निरंतर हो रहा है। अभी कुछ दिन पहले पश्चिमी बंगाल में लालगढ़ में पुलिस को माओवादी लोगों के खिलाफ कार्रवाई करने के लिए CRPF और पैरा मिलिट्री फोर्सिस को लेकर जाना पड़ा। यह दुर्भाग्य की स्थिति है