

to the resignation of Shri Digvijay Singh from the membership of Rajya Sabha *w.e.f.* the 5th April, 2009.”

The motion was adopted.

MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE COFFEE BOARD

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): Sir, I move the following Motion:

“That in pursuance of clause (b) of sub-section (2) of Section 4 of the Coffee Act, 1942 (VII of 1942), read with sub rule (1) of Rule 4 of the Coffee Rules, 1955, this House do proceed to elect, in such manner, as the Chairman may direct, one Member from amongst the Members of the House, to be a member of the Coffee Board, when it is reconstituted on the expiry of its present term on the 10th July, 2009.”

The motion was adopted.

MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE CENTRAL SILK BOARD

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): Sir, I move the following Motion:

“That in pursuance of clause (c) of sub-section (3) of Section 4 of the Central Silk Board Act, 1948 (LXI of 1948), read with sub-rule (1) of Rule 5 of the Central Silk Board Rules, 1955, this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one Member from amongst the Members of the House to be a member of the Central Silk Board.”

The motion was adopted.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Damage caused due to release of water from Ranganidi Dam of Bhutan

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA (Assam): Sir, the Brahmaputra is an ancient civilization of our country which is today under great threat due to the construction to the big river dam in neighbouring State, and in the Bhutan Kingdom. Sir, the release of excess water from the Kurichhu river dam of Bhutan is responsible for the floods in Nalbari, Rongia, Baksa and Barpeta districts of Assam. Sir, the release of excess water from Ranganidi dam is equally responsible for the floods in Dhemaji, Dhakuana and Lakhimpur districts of Assam. Sir, now, the construction of new big interstate dam, lower Subansiri hydro-electrical project, creating threat to the State of Assam and the other States of the North-Eastern Region. Sir, the proposed dam site is 2.3 kilometres upstream of Gerukamukh village of Dhemaji district of Assam. Sir, 160-meter high dam will submerge 3436

hectares of forest land and many important biodiversity pastures. Sir, the area is elephant corridor. This will make this area inaccessible. Sir, the dam will seriously affect River dolphin population. Sir, we are not opposed to the construction of dam for the power generation, but we are opposed to the construction of dam for the destruction of the wealth of Assam and the North-Eastern region. Sir, due to the effect of the dam, thousands of people will lose their homes, their cultivated land and their livelihood, and we have a doubt whether the environment assessment report of the big dam project which was prepared, was prepared according to the provisions of the notification or not. Sir, I request the Government of India to establish a river dolphin sanctuary in the lower region of Sutsarsiri river. Please save us, please save the Brahmaputra Valley civilization. We, the people of the North-Eastern region, we, the people of Assam, will not tolerate the destruction of the wealth of Assam and the North-Eastern region. We are not against the construction of dam, but we are against the destruction of the wealth of Assam and the North-Eastern region. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is over.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Right, Sir.

SHRI BISWAJIT DAIMARY (Assam): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All the Members from Assam associate with it.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA (Jharkhand): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA (Rajasthan): I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

Availability of the Report of the Ranganath Mishra Commission

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी (बिहार) : उपसभापति महोदय, सरकार ने अक्टूबर, 2004 में National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities का गठन किया। इसके चेयरमैन सुप्रीम कोर्ट के चीफ जस्टिस रह चुके श्री रंगनाथ मिश्रा बनाए गए। Commission of Enquiry Act के तहत गठित हुए इस कमिशन ने मई 2007 में अपनी रिपोर्ट दे दी। महोदय, जब यह कमिशन बना तो एक साल तक यह non-functional रहा। सरकार ने इसको कोई सहयोग नहीं दिया। उसके बाद दो सालों के अन्दर इस कमिशन ने अपनी रिपोर्ट सरकार को दे दी। सर, इसी हाउस में कई बार मैंने और दूसरे कई माननीय सदस्यों ने भी इस कमिशन की रिपोर्ट को हाउस में lay करने तथा उस पर बहस कराने की मांग की, लेकिन आज तक यह रिपोर्ट इस हाउस में lay नहीं की गई। महोदय, यह बड़ी तकलीफ की बात है कि इस बीच हमें पता चला कि जो information Commission है, जहां पर 10 रुपए का टिकट और folio लगा कर कोई भी सिटिजन जा कर वहां एक दरखास्त देता है और कोई सूचना लेता है, वहां पर इस संबंध में सूचना मिल गई। इस प्रकार हाउस को नज़रअंदाज किया गया। मैं इसे एक तरह से हाउस की अवमानना मानता हूँ। इसको नज़रअंदाज करके बाहर यह सूचना रिलीज़ कर दी जाती है, लेकिन हाउस में यह lay नहीं की जा रही है।