

चाहता हूँ कि उस रिश्ते को, चाहे वह रशिया हो या जो हमारे पुराने मित्र हैं, उनके साथ हमारे रिश्ते और मजबूत होने चाहिए न कि उनको कमजोर बनाने की कोशिश होनी चाहिए। चूँकि हमारा संदेश - हमारा जो रिश्ता रहे, पूरी दुनिया यह जाने ...**(समय की घंटी)**... रहता है, वह मजबूती के साथ निभाना चाहते हैं। उनकी क्रिटिकल सिचुएशन में हमें उनका साथ देना चाहिए। ईरान एक ऐसा देश है, जिसके साथ हमारा निर्यात-आयात चालू है। उसको और मजबूत करने की जरूरत है न कि कमजोर करने की। मैं सिर्फ एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ कि ...**(समय की घंटी)**...

श्री उपसभापति : आपका टाइम पूरा हो गया है।

श्री साबिर अली : हमको अमेरिका के दबाव में न आकर ईरान के साथ ...**(व्यवधान)**... हमें उसका साथ देना चाहिए।

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS (Assam): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA (Assam): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI MANGALA KISAN (Orissa): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI R.C. SINGH (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Next, Shri Sitaram Yechury.

Twenty-fifth anniversary of the Bhopal Gas Tragedy

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, I rise today, in this august House, to mention the 25th Anniversary of the Bhopal Gas tragedy. It is one of the worst man-made industrial accidents that the world has witnessed. Yesterday, the hon. Chairman made a reference to it with which we all had associated. So, I do not wish to repeat those points of conveying our homage and sympathies to those who died and those who are suffering with various deformities as a result of leakage of toxic materials and also the issue of criminal negligence of compensation still not being paid to these victims even after 25 years. The hon. Chairman has raised that yesterday. We all associated. I do not want to repeat those issues. But, at the same time, there are three other important issues which, I think, on the occasion of this anniversary, we must take note of.

The first one is, the toxic waste is still lying around the Carbide Plant. The waste is discharged into the solar evaporation pond and is contaminating the soil and ground water in approximately 5 sq. km. area around the plant. Both, the Central and the concerned State Government, displayed a total

neglect to the needs of the affected people and environment cleansing. This is something which needs to be taken into account.

The second issue is connected with the workplace safety of the employers. The disaster exposed the criminal negligence to workplace safety on the part of the employers' class. And, through the passage of last 25 years, such neglect to workplace safety has increased manifold and only the workers fell victim by way of increasing fatalities, injuries and physical disablement. During a span of one year, around 127 workers lost their lives in 11 workplace accidents at 10 locations owing to same criminal negligence in preventive safety despite there being couple of safety-related laws in vogue and, on none of these events of accident, not a single person has been punished for violation of these safety laws.

But, ironically, the most important thing is, in today's List of Business, there is a piece of legislation amending the labour laws which only increase the vulnerability. The most important issue is, instead of insulating ourselves from such accidents, reportedly, the Government is considering finalising the Nuclear Liability Bill which seeks to cap the compensation amount to be paid in case of an accident in a nuclear facility in keeping with the Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage. The amount of US \$ 450 million i.e., Rs. 2,000 crores, at which the compensation is likely to be capped, is exceedingly low when compared to the likely scale of losses in case of a nuclear accident. It is noteworthy that around the same amount was paid as compensation by the Union Carbide following the Bhopal Gas disaster, which, when divided among 6 lakh victims, amounted to only US \$ 500 i.e., less than Rs. 23,000 per head. The proposed Bill is reported to have provisions whereby the liability in the case of accident would lie with the operator i.e., the Nuclear Power Corporation and not the supplier companies. This is something which is not acceptable to us. Thank you.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by Shri Yechury. Thank you.

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by Shri Yechury. Thank you.

SHRI MATILAL SARKAR (Tripura): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by Shri Yechury. Thank you.

SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by Shri Yechury. Thank you.

SHRI P.R. RAJAN (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by Shri Yechury. Thank you.

SHRI SAMAN PATHAK (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by Shri Yechury. Thank you.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by Shri Yechury. Thank you.

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by Shri Yechury. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, yes. The entire House is associated with it. Now, Dr. Najma Heptulla.

RE. INTERNATIONAL DISABLED DAY

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Bihar): Sir, today is the International Disabled Day. I have given a notice for permitting me to raise this issue. But, it has not been accepted. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have given a notice on the International Disabled Day. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. Please, Mr. Rudy. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: It is very serious in India. But, we cannot raise that issue in this House! Sir, it is a social issue to which the Parliament should respond. On this International Disabled Day, 80 million people have been deprived of their opportunities. Anyway, Sir, if you do not permit, I will sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला (राजस्थान): सर, अगर इन्होंने बोल दिया है तो उसे रिकॉर्ड करा दीजिए।

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Sir, it is an important and social issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... It should be allowed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You see. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will tell you ...*(Interruptions)*... It is very difficult. When notice is given, it is the prerogative of the hon. Chairman either to allow it or reject it. I agree that today is the International Disability Day. I also agree that this day has social relevance. But, is not a matter of urgent public importance ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री कमल अख्तर (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति: नहीं-नहीं, आप बैठिये। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मैंने किसी और का नाम बुलाया है, प्लीज आप बैठिये। ...*(व्यवधान)*... इनके बाद आप बोलिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री कमल अख्तर: सर, मैं आपसे यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि हम लोग इस सदन में क्यों हैं? क्या जब कोई इंटरनेशनल मुद्दा होगा तभी आप हमें उसे उठाने के लिए परमिशन देंगे? मेरे क्षेत्र में एक नौजवान को पुलिस ने गोली मार कर हत्या कर दी। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आज तक पुलिस की गिरफ्तारी नहीं हुई। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति: इसका जवाब मैं चेयर से नहीं दे पाऊंगा। ...*(व्यवधान)*... देखिए, आप जो सवाल उठा रहे हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*... मैं आपसे गुजारिश कर रहा हूँ ...*(व्यवधान)*... इसका जवाब आपको चेयर ...*(व्यवधान)*...