

**STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS-Contd.**

**Agitation by Motormen of Central And Western Railway  
for Higher Pay and Allowances**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): Sir, the motormen of the Central Railway and Western Railway through their Joint Action Forum have been agitating for higher pay and allowances and other benefits for sometime. They have given a notice for hunger strike from 6.00 hours of 3rd May 2010.

The motormen are demanding higher pay than recommended by the 6th Central Pay Commission and additional allowances which are not in the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission. A Fast Track Committee is looking into their demands and is expected to submit its report by 15.06.2010. Further action on the issues would require consultation with and approval of the Ministry of Finance.

The Joint Action Forum of Motormen is not affiliated to any of the recognized Federations, Unions or Associations of the Railways. The motormen have also approached the Regional Labour Commissioner, Mumbai who has already initiated the conciliation proceedings. In its conciliation meeting held on 29.4.2010, the Regional Labour Commissioner (RLC) has advised the concerned employees not to resort to protest with effect from 3.5.2010 and had fixed the next date for further discussion on 12.5.2010. Any precipitative action taken during the conciliatory proceedings is unlawful under the Industrial Disputes Act. On account of disruption of suburban train services on 3.5.2010, fresh conciliation proceedings are taking place today, that is, 4.5.2010.

The Railways is having the best of industrial relations with its 14 lakh employees. All major decisions are taken in consultation with the recognized Federations. In the present case, the recognized Federations have not supported the agitation of the Joint Action Forum.

However, a little while ago, I got the information that the strike has since been resolved. Normal train operations will resume soon. The Railway also regrets the inconvenience caused to the people of Mumbai due to this strike. Thank you very much.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I would like to seek one clarification. Sir, there is a report that a number of motormen were dismissed and ESMA was declared. I would like to know whether the dismissal has been taken back.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: The hon. Member need not worry about it. The conciliation was due to the negotiations started by the Home Minister of Maharashtra, Mr. R.R. Patil, and they have come to the conclusion that all the police cases taken against them will be withdrawn by the Maharashtra Government and whatever the disciplinary action taken by the Railways against 20 employees only, that will also be withdrawn. ... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The strike has been withdrawn. Normalcy has returned. Now, further discussion on the working of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, before we take up the discussion, I may recall that yesterday, the House was adjourned because one of the Members had made irresponsible, obnoxious allegations against the Leader of the Opposition and other Members. The House was insisting that the Member should withdraw those remarks. The Chair has expunged it, but, at the same time, I have seen today that many of the newspapers also carried it. The Leader of the Opposition is also a responsible person. And, then, personally, none of us clarified yesterday, made any reference to that hon. Member except finding faults with the views expressed by that person on a particular issue of naxalism. That being the case, how can he just condemn the Leader of the Opposition and make a sweeping allegation? And, then, he is not ready to withdraw! So, Sir, it will be very difficult to cooperate with the Government, and also to have a smooth functioning of the House unless the Member withdraws his remarks. It is very, very objectionable. We never expect such things from a senior Member. ... *(Interruptions)*... He should say 'sorry' and, then, we can move forward.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA (Jharkhand): Sir, he should say 'sorry' to him. ... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: As far as the Chair is concerned, the remarks have been expunged. If the hon. Member is withdrawing it, we have no objection. ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: No, no; that is not accepted, Sir. ... *(Interruptions)*... You cannot be helpless that way. ... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not saying I am helpless. ... *(Interruptions)*... But the question is, it is not there on the record. ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: The Chair always takes care of the House, particularly the Opposition. ... *(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL,

PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): Sir, you have very kindly gone through the records, and you have expunged the remarks. I think, we had a very good debate. Let us concluded it with. ... *(Interruptions)*...

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA (Rajasthan): Who is allowing the debate? ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: No, Sir; we won't allow it. ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Why don't you give your advice to the hon. Members? ... *(Interruptions)*... Why don't you give your advise to the newly converted, reconverted Member? ... *(Interruptions)*... Why don't you give the same advice to him? ... *(Interruptions)*... We had a very meaningful, healthy debate yesterday, and the entire atmosphere is spoiled by the remarks of the hon. Member. ... *(Interruptions)*...

**श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि (उड़ीसा) :** उपसभापति जी, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): We cooperated today. ... *(Interruptions)*... Sir, he gave an assurance to the Member that they would sort out the issue. What is the thing they have sorted out? ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: If someone makes a sweeping remark against the Leader of the House, are they going to keep quiet, Sir? ... *(Interruptions)*... We respect the Leader of the House. We expect the same respect for the Leader of the Opposition. ... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is for all of us, for all the Members. ... *(Interruptions)*... The House has to observe certain rules. ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: I am sorry to say ऐसा नहीं चलेगा।

... *(Interruptions)*...

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: We will not allow the House to run. ... *(Interruptions)*...

**श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोड़ाभाई रूपाला (गुजरात) :** आप खड़े होकर बोलेंगे और हमें बोलने नहीं देंगे ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि :** सर ...*(व्यवधान)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, he gave us an assurance that he would sort it out. What is the settlement he has given? ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN (West Bengal): Sir, there is no harm in saying 'sorry'? ... *(Interruptions)*... There is no harm in saying 'sorry'. ... *(Interruptions)*... There is no harm in saying 'sorry'. ... *(Interruptions)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: If he is withdrawing, then, it is okay. ... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If the Members are not interested in the debate, ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: We have already participated in the debate. ... *(Interruptions)*... How can you say, Sir, that the Members are not interested? Members are very much interested. ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: If I refer to the yesterday's proceedings, the Member further said: "I demand the Chair." ... *(Interruptions)*... Sir, I read it. ... *(Interruptions)*... Sir, at page 732, it is stated, "SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: I demand the Chair to look at the record. I demand that the Chair, actually, study the points that I have made." ... *(Interruptions)*... "I demand that every single word be examined by the Chair." Normally, the people appeal to the Chair, request the Chair, but it is the Member who is demanding the Chair. ... *(Interruptions)*... See the audacity of the man, the way he is demanding the Chair. ... *(Interruptions)*... It is on record. It is not my. ... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If the hon. Member wants to withdraw, I have no objection. ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: It is the proceeding of the House. It is in the interest of the House, Sir. ... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is in the interest of the debate. ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: It is the proceeding of the House. ... *(Interruptions)*... He spoiled the entire atmosphere yesterday. ... *(Interruptions)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, it is in the interest of this debate. In the interest of the House in future, not only in the interest of today's debate. ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: He spoiled the entire atmosphere yesterday. Sir, we allowed the debate yesterday. ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: It bothered me yesterday. Tomorrow, the day after tomorrow, we will speak. ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, we have cooperated with the Government in debating the Finance Bill. ... *(Interruptions)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Otherwise, let us play "Vande Mataram". ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: You have seen, Sir, that in spite of our serious reservation on the petroleum price-hike, we were even cooperating with the Government because we know the responsibility of the Opposition. ... *(Interruptions)*... Otherwise, we would not have allowed the discussion on the Finance Bill. ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: If the Treasury Benches so desire, they can adjourn the House *sine die*. There is no problem. ... *(Interruptions)*... This behavior will not be accepted. ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, I have made a request. ... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11.00 a.m.

The House then adjourned at ten minutes past six of the clock  
till eleven of the clock on Wednesday, the 5th May, 2010.