

**CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC
IMPORTANCE**

**Discrimination and racial profiling faced by the students from the
North-eastern States in some parts of the country**

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the discrimination and racial profiling faced by the students from the north-eastern states in some parts of the country.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, there have been reports regarding racial profiling and discrimination against students from the North-Eastern States in various parts of the country. A number of students from the North-Eastern States reside in the metropolitan cities, like the National Capital Region of Delhi, Bengaluru, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Pune, etc., for a variety of reasons including educational and job prospects. While exact numbers are not available, it is clear that students and others from that part of the country are moving out to take advantage of the vast opportunities which are available in other parts of the country. It is their right to do so.

The recent death of Ms. Dana Sangma studying in Gurgaon, Haryana and of Shri Richard Loitam studying in Bengaluru and the allegations of racial profiling against Tibetans during the recent BRICS summit have caused disquiet and agitation among the North Eastern community, especially students from the region.

On the report of suicide of Ms. Dana Sangma on the campus of Amity University, Gurgaon on April 24, 2012, an inquest and a post-mortem were conducted. On the receipt of a complaint from the aunt of the deceased, FIR No.106 dated April 25, 2012 u/s 306 IPC and u/s 3 of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act was registered. The police is investigating the case.

In respect of the death of Shri Richard Loitam, as per the report of the Karnataka Police, a UDR No.24/2012 u/s 174 of CrPC was first registered on April 17/18, 2012. An inquest was conducted followed by a post-mortem examination on April 20, 2012. The final report is awaited. On receipt of a complaint from the father of the deceased, case no.229/2012 u/s 323, 302 read with section 34 IPC was registered in Madanayakanahally P.S, Bengaluru District against Shri Syed Afzal Ali and Shri Vishal Banerji on April 30, 2012. The investigation has commenced and the outcome is awaited.

During the BRICS Summit held on March 29, 2012 there was an apprehension that Tibetan groups would disrupt the Summit. Hence the Delhi Police detained some Tibetans and their supporters, some of whom were Indian citizens. During the checking process some Indians, including a few from the North-Eastern States, were also detained

for a short while and let off as soon as their identities were confirmed. The Police have categorically stated that there was no racial profiling of any section of the people.

The Government of India attaches the highest importance to development of the North Eastern region as well as prevention of atrocities against the Scheduled Tribes and will not countenance discrimination in any form. Under the Constitution, 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects and, therefore, the State Governments/UT Administrations are primarily responsible for the prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crimes arising out of discrimination.

Sir, as far as Delhi is concerned, measures have been taken by the Delhi Police in response to complaints. It is not correct to say that students from the North Eastern States in Delhi are more vulnerable as compared to students from other regions. In 2010, eight cases of offences against women from the North-Eastern States were reported, and, I may add, seven of these cases were worked out. All of them have been chargesheeted, and 11 persons were arrested. In 2011, seven such cases were reported, and, I may add, six have been challaned; one is pending investigation, and 10 persons have been arrested. All the cases were investigated and further proceedings are under way.

Three DCP-level officers have been designated as Nodal Officers to specifically address the problems faced by the students and other residents from North-Eastern States. These Nodal Officers hold periodic meetings with the students and residents of the North-Eastern States and address the issues raised in such meetings. Besides, a "North East Connect Cell", headed by a Joint Secretary level officer, has been formed in the Ministry of Development of North-Eastern Region to serve as a coordination point with Resident Commissioners of all eight North-Eastern States and with the students and citizens bodies of people from these States. An interactive website, devoted to the people hailing from the North-Eastern Region, has been developed by the Ministry of Development of North-Eastern Region in consultation with National Informatics Centre. We recently convened a meeting of the Home Ministers and Ministers of Social Justice of the State Governments on April 17, 2012 for the effective implementation of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. The Home Ministers promised to review the status and improve the implementation of the Act. An advisory has also been issued to the States on the measures to curb crimes against SCs and STs on April 1, 2010.

Sir, I wish to state categorically that any citizen belonging to the North-Eastern States is free to travel to and reside in any part of the country. They have a right to security and peace. Governments are obliged to ensure their safety and security. The Government of India will take every step to ensure their security and I am confident that all State Governments will discharge their Constitutional responsibilities and ensure the safety and security of all people residing within that State.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the hon. Home Minister has mentioned the three recent incidents which have recently increased the uneasiness and caused a lot of disquiet in the entire country. Two young lives of students from the North-East, in Manesar, near Gurgaon, and in Bengaluru, were recently lost, and at the time of the BRICS Summit, a very large number of North-Eastern students studying in Delhi, as also employed in Delhi, had a serious grievance that they were being profiled and picked up even temporarily by the Police.

Sir, the Partition of this country in 1947, when we discuss it, certainly brought a lot of bloodshed in the Western region. Punjab suffered, other areas suffered. But North-East suffered virtually in perpetuity. Because of the carving out of East Pakistan, which later became Bangladesh, it moved away almost a thousand kilometres in terms of distance. Now, the impact of this was that the developmental activities in the North-East have considerably suffered. Despite the efforts of various Governments, North-East has not grown in the same manner in which the rest of the country has. North-East also has a genuine complaint that certain Central Schemes and projects are endeavoured to assist them and various things have not really lived up to the mark.

My recent visit to some areas of North-East found that most of the States still do not have train service. Even in Assam where the facility is available, what we used to hear in the fifties' and sixties' in other parts of the country, the big issue is conversion of meter gauge into broad gauge, particularly to the Barak Valley. We have a highway project going on successfully in the rest of the country. The Mahasadak Yojana which was to really extend beyond West Bengal into the North-East, you can still see only built in patches and not usable. All this has considerably suffered. The educational infrastructure in the North-East has also suffered. I have been going through certain reports of studies which have been conducted with regard to educational institutions which we have established in the North-East. Now one of the comments if I just read out, just the broad points, in which they have said syllabus has not been updated for more than ten years, number of new courses have not been added, institute-industry interaction is not taking place, flight of faculty is taking place and adequate faculty is not available, quality and quantity of qualified faculty is declining at an alarming rate, number of Ph.D. holders have been reduced to minority in many cases, placement of students with industry becomes a weak thing. Now, all these factors have, therefore, contributed to really a large number of North Eastern students wanting to go to other parts of the country for education. Now while the reason for this is unfortunate but there is a sliver lining in this. Their interaction with the rest of the country contributes to national integration and it helps us really in understanding what their problems are. Sir, I remember when I was a student, the organization to which I belong used to carry on a programme in relation to North Eastern students experiences at inter-State level. Some of them used to come, their structured tours used to be organized, not many

were coming here to study at that time, they used to live here with families for a few days and we got to understand them. Now a situation is that we see it in the larger context and now we have dealt with hundreds and thousands of them. In fact, one recent study indicated that between 2005 and 2010, the number of people migrating for jobs from the North-East went up about 12 times. That was the figure. It was about 34,000 in 2005, and in 2010, it was 4,14,850. That is the pace at which it is increasing. The silver lining in this is, and if we see these students extremely charming personalities, polite, humble, very eager to interact with the rest of the people, they have to be made to feel wanted in the rest of the society. They have left a great impact in educational institutions to which they belong. But, at the same time, most of them want to have the benefit of higher education institutions of quality in other parts of the country. They want their educational profile and personalities to evolve and then they want to be a part of this great growth story which we talk about in the rest of the country. We have to admit and it is a genuine admission which everybody has to make that the growth in those regions has not been at the pace at which we would have expected it to be. Therefore, in search of education, in search of better quality employment, they have moved to different parts of the country. Therefore, I must note that I find a line in the hon. Home Minister's statement, when he says, "I wish to categorically state that any citizen belonging to the North-Eastern States is free to travel and reside in any part of the country. They have a right to security and peace." They also have a right to live free from any form of discrimination from any form of racial profiling. They have the rights to enjoy the fruits of development which in several other parts of the country people have now begun to enjoy, though to a limited extent. Under these circumstances. Sir, we need to assure all students and other citizens who have come from the North-East either in search of education or in search of jobs in this part of the country, that not only their safety and security is going to be maintained, even there is a lot that we have to learn from them.

Most of them are multi-lingual; they are multi-religious; they belong to different religious denominations. Therefore, we have a lot to learn from them. In this context, therefore, I would like the hon. Home Minister to consider, in addition to the steps that he has already taken, whether in these areas, where larger number of students are available whether in the Union Territories or in the States, a specific helpline for them can be created. We have data of surveys and studies done on the students of the North-East. One recent study says that 86 per cent of them have complaint, of some form or the other, of harassment. If the figure is as large as this, this is certainly alarming. This is an eye-opener. Therefore, must we not have a specific helpline in these major areas where these students are studying or these people are working? It is not a very costly exercise. I think, any State Government, if properly advised, will be quiet willing to do it. The Union Territories also can do it. I also think there is a need to sensitize the rest of the Indian society. When students from Jammu & Kashmir, from the North-Eastern

[SHRI ARUN JAITLEY]

States come and study here, or people come and work here, I think, it is extremely important for a larger national goal that their integration with the Indian society is further strengthened by virtue of the attitude of the society has for them. Therefore, within universities, within workplaces and within the society, and, I think, media, particularly electronic media, will have a huge role to play. We have carried out campaigns how tourists have to be treated. We have carried out campaigns how weaker sections of the society are to be treated. We have carried out campaigns how women are to be treated in the society. Therefore, in relation to this, I think, we need to carry out a campaign in India so that we can sensitize our own people on how, in such events, people who come from the North-East to study or work in these places, are to be treated. Finally, I would like to request the Government, through the hon. Home Minister that the areas where very obvious developmental activities, which have contributed to the neglect of the North-East, are pending—their roads, their railways, their connectivity, improvement in their educational institutions, etc.—the Government must, through the DONER, look into these matters very seriously. There are some areas which will take time, but there are some areas which are very easily doable. I think, top priority must be given to those areas.

Thank you.

श्री तरुण विजय (उत्तराखंड) : आदरणीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह सवाल भावनात्मक जुड़ाव का है, राजनीतिक का नहीं। अरुणाचल क्षेत्र और नागालैंड में मैं वनवासी कल्याण आश्रम और विद्यार्थी परिषद् के माध्यम से काम कर चुका हूँ। विद्यार्थी परिषद् ने पूरा प्रोजेक्ट चलाया है कि नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के बच्चे हमारे परिवारों में रह कर राष्ट्र की मुख्य धारा से जुड़ें। उनमें से एक व्यक्ति अरुणाचल का मुख्य मंत्री भी बना।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, वे लोग पूछते हैं कि क्या आप लोग पूर्वांचल के लोगों को हिन्दुस्तान का हिस्सा मानते हैं? क्या आपका हिन्दुस्तान कोलकाता तक खत्म नहीं हो जाता? जब हम दिल्ली आते हैं, तो हमसे रेलवे कारुंटर पर बुकिंग क्लर्क पूछता है, क्या तुम चीनी हो? क्या तुम बर्मा से आए हो? यह सुन कर गुस्से से खून खौल उठता है। वे बच्चे मेरे पास आ कर रोते हैं, क्योंकि हमने उन बच्चों के लिए छात्रावास भी खोला हुआ है। मेघालय का जो कारगिल हीरो है, दस साल से उसका परिवार भटक रहा है, उसके लिए मैमोरियल तक नहीं बनाया गया।

मैं सदन से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ, नागालैंड में कारगिल का जो महावीर चक्र विजेता हीरो है, कोई एक भी व्यक्ति उसका नाम बता दे ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन) : आप क्वेश्चन पूछिए।

श्री तरुण विजय : कोई यह बता दे कि किसी स्कूल में उसका जीवन चरित्र पढ़ाया जाता हो। हम लोग इंटिग्रेट नहीं करना चाहते।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन) : तरुण जी, क्वेश्चन पूछिए।

श्री तरुण विजय : आज अरुणाचल में तवांग के पास, मोंग के पास डैम के विरोध में एक भयानक विद्रोही आन्दोलन चल रहा है, लेकिन हिन्दुस्तान के किसी भी अखबार को फुरसत नहीं है कि वह उसके

बारे में लिखे। ढाई सौ लोग ब्रह्मपुत्र में मर जाते हैं, लेकिन पूरा मीडिया और तमाम लोग अपनी-अपनी चर्चा में मशगूल रहते हैं।

मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने जो सेल बनाया है, महोदय, उस सेल ने पूर्वांचल के बच्चे क्या कपड़े पहनें और क्या नहीं पहनें, इसका निर्देश pamphlet छाप कर जारी किया, जिसके विरोध में पूर्वांचल के बच्चों ने जन्तर मन्तर पर धरना दिया। उधर एक मात्र प्रदेश अरुणाचल है, जहाँ 'जय हिन्द' और हिन्दी बोली जाती है..

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन) : आप प्रश्न पूछिए।

श्री तरुण विजय : वहाँ पर आन्दोलन चल रहा है। मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि पूर्वांचल के कितने बच्चे शेष भारत में पढ़ रहे हैं, इसका आँकड़ा बताइए? पूर्वांचल की संस्कृति तथा सभ्यता, जो हिन्दुस्तान की सभ्यता है, जिसके बारे में डा. राम मनोहर लोहिया जी ने कहा कि यह 'यक्ष प्रदेश' है, यह रुक्मिणी का प्रदेश है और यह शिव का प्रदेश है। राम मनोहर लोहिया जी ने कहा कि हिन्दुस्तान के तीन सपने हैं- राम, कृष्ण और शिव और तब उन्होंने पूर्वांचल के उन बच्चों को जोड़ने को कहा। तो शेष देश के स्कूलों में उनके बारे में पढ़ाने के लिए, उनको इमोशनली इंटीग्रेट कराने के लिए, भारत सरकार की क्या योजना है?

SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS (Assam) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the hon. Leader of the Opposition has already explained, at length, on this issue. Sir, we the people of NE Region feel oppressed either ways. We want some assurance from the Government of India that we can also live as an Indian in this country. Sir, the two tragedies which took place, of Richard's death and of Dana's suicide, have triggered a spontaneous outcry of anger and outrage among the students, the fraternity of the North-Eastern region.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Put the question.

SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS : Sir, in Delhi many cases of woman molestation and harassment go unreported despite the fact that there is a North -East Helpline Cell. Sir, here, I would also like to mention one thing. Even during the regular road checking by the Delhi Police or by the security personnel, they ask the students and the service men from the North-Eastern region to show their passport instead of their official identity card, or, Driving Licence or college ID. Sir, such atrocities are happening every year. The hon. Home Minister must give an assurance that they also have a right to security and peace. The Government is obliged to ensure their safety and security. The Government of India should take every step to ensure their security. I have been putting this question, again and again, for the last five years. These assurances are being given for the last five years. Therefore, I demand an explanation from the hon. Minister; we need a special legislation for protecting the students belonging to the North-Eastern region from this kind of an insensitive behaviour. Thank you.

श्रीमती झरना दास बैद्य (त्रिपुरा) : सर, लीडर ऑफ अपोजिशन ने एक मुद्दा उठाया है कि दिल्ली में नॉर्थ ईस्ट से जो स्टूडेंट्स आते हैं, उनको सेफगार्ड देने के लिए होम मिनिस्ट्री क्या कर रही है। यह एक महत्वपूर्ण

[श्रीमती झरना दास बैद्य]

प्रश्न है। अप कहीं भी चले जाइए, मेट्रो रेल में जाइए, तो वहाँ भी उनका हासमेंट होता है, अगर होस्टल में वे रहें तो वहाँ भी उनका हासमेंट होता है, यानी सब जगह उनका हासमेंट होता है। अब तो हम लोग भी डरते हैं। हम लोग यहाँ नॉर्थ-ईस्ट से आए हुए हैं, इसलिए हम भी डरते हैं। वे जो ड्रेस पहनने के लिए कह रहे हैं, तो अब हमें अपना ड्रेस छोड़ कर जींस पहनना होगा। दिल्ली में ऐसा क्यों होता है? नॉर्थ-ईस्ट ऐसे ही अनडवेलप्ड है, यह आप लोग जानते हैं। लोग यहाँ जॉब के लिए आते हैं, अगर वहाँ उनको जॉब मिल जाती तो वे लोग यहाँ नहीं आते। सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट द्वारा हर मिनिस्ट्री से सर्कुलर भेज दिया जाता है। सर्कुलर भेजा जाता है, लेकिन जॉब देने से हम लोगों के डेवलपमेंट का जो पैसा है, वह काट कर रख देंगे। हमें जॉब भी नहीं देते, इसलिए वहाँ से हमें दिल्ली आना पड़ता है। यहाँ पर वहाँ की लड़कियाँ सेफ नहीं है। सिर्फ वे लड़कियाँ ही नहीं, बल्कि वहाँ के लड़के भी इधर सेफ नहीं हैं।

क्या दिल्ली में ऐसे ही चलेगा, होम मिनिस्ट्री क्या रही है? किसी लड़की का रेप हो जाए, मर्डर हो जाए, तो पहले FIR दर्ज करेंगे, उसके बाद कुछ करेंगे, लेकिन इसके पहले कुछ क्यों नहीं करते हैं? आप security क्यों नहीं देते हैं? ऐसा नहीं कर सकते हैं, जो एक circular निकाल दीजिए कि north-east के लोग दिल्ली नहीं आ सकते हैं। यह circular निकाल दीजिए।

SHRID. RAJA (Tamil Nadu) : Sir, I agree with the hon. Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Arun Jaitley, who has raised this very important and burning issue. I also agree with him that the North-Eastern Region remains relatively neglected for years.

As part of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs, I could closely scrutinize the development in the North-East Region. He is very correct when he said that there is inordinate delay in building infrastructure, in constructing Railway lines, in constructing National Highways, in establishing power plants, and all such things. I don't want to enter into it. Sir, there is DoNER Ministry. How is this Ministry going to be strengthened? I feel, certain experienced and committed Officers/Secretaries need to be deployed to look after the affairs of the North-East Region. Sir, I did understand the sense of alienation among the students and youth in the North-East Region. For the first time, when I went there in the late 80s, I heard, 'have you come from India? And, we are planning to go to India.' ...(*Time-bell rings*)... Sir, this is a very sad situation.

However, over the years, there is a change. The students, youth from the North-East, are going to other parts of the country. If you go to any interior place in Tamil Nadu or Puducherry, you can find young people from Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh or Nagaland working in hotels.

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

SHRID. RAJA : Sir, what I am trying to say is that the Government of India took such a long time to even give recognition to Manipuri language. ...(*Time-bell rings*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Please put questions.

SHRID. RAJA : Sir, I am coming to that. What I am saying is that we should be sensitive to the problems of the North-Eastern Region people. We should be more

accommodative and affectionate to the people of North-Eastern Region. Sir, when I say, 'we', I mean, 'the Government'; I don't mean 'India'. In India, we have that feeling. But the Government will have to show this; it should be visible.

Sir, having said that, I would like to make only one request. The North-Eastern people go to other places for jobs and they are being registered. In some States, instead of the Labour Commissioner doing that job, the registration is done by the Police, which leads to many complications because the Police also involve them in some cases of crimes. It leads to many complications. So, I want the Home Minister to look into the issue of registration of youth coming from the North-Eastern Region for jobs in other parts of the country.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Shri Pankaj Bora. Please just put questions only.

SHRI PANKAJ BORA (Assam) : Sir, since I will be speaking for the first time, I thought that probably, I will get some extra time.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Not in this case. So, please put questions only.

SHRI PANKAJ BORA : Sir, I am from Assam, North-East. I am thankful to the hon. Home Minister. He is a man who means business. I am confident that he will look after it. I am also thankful to the hon. Leader of the Opposition who raised this issue. My point is that the people of Assam and North-East are not begging for it. We are asking for what is due to us, legitimately due to us, and I am thankful that cutting across party-lines, everybody is supporting us but for this unfortunate incident of the death of young and capable 21-year old girl, Dana Sangma. I pray for the eternal rest of her departed soul, and, I hope that in future, Sir, we will, probably, get another chance to discuss about the development work of North-East. Thank you very much.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA (Assam) : Sir, I thank the hon. Home Minister for making a statement on a subject that is very important and very sensitive for the people of the North-Eastern Region, and he very rightly stated the facts about the recent cases, and the steps the Government has taken. But I still have a doubt whether we mean it seriously.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Please, put the question.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA : Sir, we are proud of our country; we are proud of the unity in diversity of our country; we are proud of the unity of the people of India. We are proud of that. But even then, why do we get to hear such news? Why do such incidents take place?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Please, put the question.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA : Sir, the hon. Leader of the Opposition has put the whole thing in the right perspective and he has compared it with effects of the Partition. The people of the North-Eastern Region are proud of the fact that even during the Partition days, when there were communal incidents all over the country, there was not even a single incident of communal violence in the North Eastern Region. We are proud of that. But even after that incidents have happened. The Government has taken some steps. Three DCPs have been made nodal officers in Delhi to look into these things, so that such incidents do not recur. ...(*Time-bell rings*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Please, put the question.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA : Sir, there is a North-Eastern Connect Cell in the DoNER Department. Has this been done, at least, in one year, two years or six months? What have they done? My question is, has it been done effectively? I would like to say to the hon. Home Minister that I appreciate the fact that this Cell has been created. But has it been made operational? What has been the outcome?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : No, no; please put the question. You cannot take time like this. Please conclude, Mr. Kalita.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA : My specific question is, what steps is the Government of India going to take through its various departments to make the people of other parts of India aware about the North-Eastern Region? We have come across cases where boys and girls or students coming from the North-East are asked by people from other parts of the country whether they come from China, Malaysia or some other country, whether they have a passport, and so on.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Please, take your seat. Don't give a lecture here. This is not the time for that. ...(*Interruptions*)... You will get the opportunity at some other time.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA : What steps is the Government going to take to make people from other parts of the country aware about the people of the North-Eastern Region? ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Please, sit down. ...(*Interruptions*)... This is not the time for lectures. It will not go on record.

DR. NAJMAA. HEPTULLA (Madhya Pradesh) : Sir, we could extend the House time till 1.30. What is the problem? Let the Members speak about their problems. It is a very important matter.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : There are still many speakers left.

1.00 P.M.

DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA (Madhya Pradesh) : Nobody in the country is bothered about people from the North-East, and even in the House their voice is not being heard!

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Everybody would get time, but there are many Members left to speak; I have got many names.

DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA : Sir, you may allow, at least, Members from the North-East to speak.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : I have allowed them time more than required. They have made their points. Now, Mr. Daimary.

श्री विश्वजीत दैमारी (असम) : सर, मैं इसमें दो-तीन बातें जोड़ना चाहता हूँ। सिक्किम की बात पर यहाँ होम मिनिस्टर साहब ने क्लैरिफिकेशंस दी हैं, स्टेटमेंट दी है और कमिटेमेंट भी दी है। ये सब तो ठीक है, लेकिन हमको इसके पीछे की वजह भी जाननी होगी। हमारे लीडर ऑफ दि अपोज़िशन इस हाउस में इसके बारे में ऑलरेडी बोल चुके हैं कि किस कारण नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के ज्यादातर लोगों को यहाँ पढ़ने के लिए या कोई काम ढूँढ़ने के लिए आना पड़ रहा है। सर, सच बात तो यह है कि हमारे नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में पढ़ाई करने के लिए sufficient colleges नहीं हैं। आज के जितने भी न्यू कोर्सेज हैं, उन्हें पढ़ने के लिए वहाँ के किसी भी कॉलेज में उनको introduce नहीं किया गया है। इन सारी समस्याओं के ऊपर होम मिनिस्ट्री को मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ ह्यूमन रिसोर्सेज या other ministries को advice देनी चाहिए, क्योंकि आज पूरे नॉर्थ-ईस्ट को होम मिनिस्ट्री ही चला रही है। क्योंकि वहाँ Indian Independence के बाद आंदोलन ही आंदोलन होते आ रहे हैं, इसलिए यह सारा कुछ होम मिनिस्ट्री से ही related है। मैं यह रिक्वेस्ट करना चाहता हूँ कि नॉर्थ-ईस्ट की इस समस्या को देखते हुए कुछ व्यवस्था लेने के लिए concerned Ministry को अगर होम मिनिस्ट्री instruction देगी, तो शायद बहुत सारी समस्याओं का समाधान हो जाएगा।

दूसरी बात, पूरे देश में जो पहचान की बात कही जा रही है, वह सही है। इंडिया के हर स्टेट के होटल्स में हमसे भी पासपोर्ट माँगा जाता है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन) : ठीक है, अब आप बैठिए। Now, Dr. Waghmare.

श्री विश्वजीत दैमारी : हमारी इंफार्मेशन एंड ब्रॉडकॉस्टिंग मिनिस्ट्री है, लेकिन सभी टी.वी. पर आप देखिए, उसमें वहाँ के लोगों की स्थिति के बारे में, किसी के राज्यों के बारे में कोई न्यूज नहीं दे रहा है। हमारे बारे में टी.वी. में भी नहीं दिखाई देता है कि हम क्या खाते हैं, क्या पहनते हैं, वहाँ के लोग कैसे हैं। इस तरह से कैसे पता चलेगा वहाँ के लोगों की स्थिति के बारे में। इसके लिए सारे न्यूज चैनल भी रेस्पॉंसिबल हैं। हमारे वहाँ की ये छोटी-छोटी चीजों की समस्याएं बढ़ती जा रही हैं। दिल्ली में सिर्फ ऐसी हालत नहीं हुई। फॉरिनर्स के ऊपर भी ऐसी स्थिति बनी है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि तब भी आज नॉर्थ-ईस्ट यह मुद्दा क्यों उठा रहा है। मैं चाहूँगा कि माननीय मंत्री जी इस विषय पर विचार करें और जवाब दें।

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE (Maharashtra) : Sir, Indian students are facing racial discrimination in Australia; we can understand it. Our students are facing racial discrimination in American Universities, we can understand it. Is it not an irony that students from North-East, our own States, are facing racial discrimination in Delhi and else where? What steps or what measures is Government going to take to check

[DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE]

this and to prevent this? I would suggest that more people from the North-East should be recruited in Police. That would be one advantage. There should be certain amount of reservation in admissions in the Universities for the students from these areas and they should be given scholarships. So, there should be a chance of national integration.

श्री मोहन सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दा नेता विरोधी दल ने सदन के सामने विचार के लिए रखा है। जब चीन के प्रधान मंत्री भारत आए थे, तो उस समय जिसकी भी फिजिक तिब्बती जैसी दिखती थी, उनको सड़क पर गिरफ्तार किया गया। मैं ऐसा समझता हूँ कि छः सौ, सात सौ गिरफ्तारियाँ हुईं और एक तिब्बती लड़के ने आग लगाकर आत्मदाह कर लिया। मैंने 1977 में बहुत दिनों तक असम में काम किया, तब किसी के दरवाजे में न खिड़की लगती थी और न दरवाजा ही बंद होता था। एक तरह साधारण सी लगाकर उस घर को ढक देते थे। अब इतना निर्दोष, इतना ईमानदार राज्य एकाएक धीरे-धीरे फ्यूरियस क्यों हुआ, इस पर हम सभी लोग जो देश चलाते हैं, उनको गंभीरतापूर्वक विचार करने की जरूरत है।

चूँकि समय आपके पास भी नहीं है, मेरे पास भी नहीं है, मैं एक बहुत संक्षिप्त सवाल माननीय गृह मंत्री जी से करना चाहता हूँ। पहले जो विश्वविद्यालय थे, वे नेशनल इंटीग्रेशन के सेंटर थे। हम लोग जब इलाहाबाद यूनिवर्सिटी में पढ़ते थे तो नागालैंड के लड़के, मणिपुर के लड़के और उड़ीसा के लड़के सब आकर के पढ़ते थे, एक इंटीग्रेशन होता था। अब सभी यूनिवर्सिटी का करेक्टर रीजनल हो गया। मैं माननीय गृह मंत्री से एक वाक्य का प्रश्न करता हूँ कि एन.सी.आर. में जितने भी मेडिकल कॉलेज हैं, इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेज हैं, यूनिवर्सिटीज हैं, क्या उनमें नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के लड़कों के लिए प्रवेश में कुछ आरक्षण का इंतजाम हिन्दुस्तान की सरकार करेगी?

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA (Assam) : Sir, we, the people of North-Eastern Region, are very good citizens of the country. I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Home Minister to his statement's Para 9 where he said, "I wish to state categorically that any citizen belonging to the North-Eastern States is free to travel to and reside in any part of the country." Here, I would like to add one more line. Every citizen of this country has equal right to stay in any part of the country.

Sir, the hon. Minister, in his statement, said that a citizen belonging to the North-Eastern State is free to travel. My suggestion is that like any other Indian citizen, every citizen of the North-Eastern Region should have equal right to stay in any part of the country and reside anywhere.

Sir, I am really thankful to the hon. Leader of the Opposition. I have experienced that every time we speak about the North-Eastern Region...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Please, conclude.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : Sir, just one minute. I am from the North-Eastern Region. Every time, we see Members speaking about the North-Eastern Region, but when it comes to sanctioning of any project for this Region, every Minister, every Government, forgets about this Region. Sir, there is no broad gauge line. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : No, this is not fair.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : I want to ask a categorical question from the hon. Home Minister. The harassment faced by the people of the North-Eastern Region in Delhi is not a new thing. Will the Home Minister instruct the Government of Delhi or the Delhi Police that there should be an officer in every zone with the specific responsibility to ensure equal treatment and safety of the people of the North-Eastern Region?

DR. CHANDAN MITRA (Madhya Pradesh) : I want to put only a question because all other things have been said by the hon. Leader of the Opposition and other hon. Members. Sir, the Leader of the Opposition has made a very valuable suggestion to institute a helpline for the students and residents of the North-Eastern Region. Will the Home Minister consider instituting, on the lines of Crimes Against Women Cell, a special cell for students and residents of the North-East, at least in Delhi, which is where the maximum number of North-Eastern students and residents stay? Can we have an assurance that such a cell will be instituted so that action can be promptly taken and will this cell be manned by police officers from the North-East?

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ (Odisha) : Sir, the intention, which the hon. Home Minister has expressed in para 9 of his statement, is a very laudable intention. But, unfortunately, when we look at para 5, we find that there is a contradiction between what he claims in para 9 and what he says in para 5. Sir, in para 5, he says, "During the BRICS Summit...". And then, he describes. I am not taking the time of the House by quoting it. There was discrimination and unjustified arrest of the North-Eastern people because of the way they looked and appeared. If that is not racial profiling, then what is it? I want to ask from the hon. Home Minister as to what action has been taken against those police officers who victimised the North-Eastern citizens here on the basis of their appearance. If he has not taken any action against those officers, then there is no point in making this claim in para nine.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD (Bihar) : Sir, my question is very straight and that is with regard to the problem the North-Eastern students faced in the wake of BRICS Summit. What is the guarantee that it will not happen again? Ultimately, the Delhi Police needs more sensitisation. They go more by their appearance than by their identity. That's the problem. And, whenever China will have a problem, the Tibetans will raise their protests here and the trouble will start for the North-East students again. Therefore, I would like to have that assurance from the hon. Minister.

SHRID. BANDYOPADHYAY (West Bengal) : Why is it that there is a difference of mindset between what you call the mainland India and the North-Eastern Region? May I request the hon. Home Minister to sensitise the students of Delhi, Bengaluru and other cities where a large number of students go, so that they can understand that

[SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY]

the North-Eastern Region students are as much Indians as we, in Delhi or Kolkata, are?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Now, Dr. M.S. Gill. Please put the question.

DR. M. S. GILL (PUNJAB) : Sir, this situation ...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Just one sentence.

DR. M.S. GILL : Sir, if you don't allow me to speak five sentences, I will not be able to convey ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : No, no. Then, no time. Just one question, that is all. ...*(Interruptions)*... I can't give you five minutes. Just one question. ...*(Interruptions)*... Then, 'no'. Please. Okay. Then, Mr. Ram Kripal Yadav, just put your question. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. That is over. ...*(Interruptions)*... You cannot do like this. Najma ji, please. I have to sit here and do the work. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राम कृपाल यादव (बिहार) : उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों के बच्चों के साथ जो भेदभाव बरता जा रहा है, जिसकी चर्चा माननीय नेता प्रतिपक्ष ने की है, यह एक महत्वपूर्ण संवेदनशील मुद्दा है। मैं समझता हूँ कि इसके मूल कारणों में जाना चाहिए कि किन कारणों से पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र के बच्चे उन क्षेत्रों में पढ़ नहीं पा रहे हैं और इधर देश के विभिन्न राज्यों, दिल्ली तथा अन्य राज्यों में बड़े पैमाने पर आकर अपनी शिक्षा-दीक्षा लेने का काम कर रहे हैं? इन मूल कारणों की तरफ सरकार को देखना चाहिए।

(उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. ई.एम. सुदर्शन नाच्चीयप्पन) पीठासीन हुए)

महोदय, अब तो स्थिति यह हो गई है कि सिर्फ पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों के बच्चों के साथ ही भेदभाव नहीं बरता जा रहा है, बल्कि देश के एक राज्य के बच्चे दूसरे राज्यों में जा रहे हैं, तो वहां उनके साथ भी भेदभाव बरता जा रहा है। बिहार जैसे प्रदेश के छात्र भी जब दूसरे प्रदेश में पढ़ने या काम करने के लिए जाते हैं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : Kindly make it a question.

श्री राम कृपाल यादव : सर, वहां भी उनके साथ इस तरह का भेदभाव बरता जा रहा है। मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि बड़े पैमाने पर ये बच्चे दूसरे राज्यों में कैसे आ रहे हैं? माननीय मंत्री जी से मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र के बच्चों की शिक्षा की उचित व्यवस्था उनके इलाके में हो, उनके राज्यों में हो, वे बाहर न आएँ, इसके लिए सरकार कौन-सी व्यवस्था करने जा रही है और यह कब तक हो जाएगी, ताकि इन समस्याओं का निदान हो सके? धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : Now, Mr. Thomas Sangma. Put your question. Please don't make it a debate.

SHRI THOMAS SANGMA (Meghalaya) : Sir, I represent the State of Meghalaya, and, if you talk of this incident, this particular girl belonged to my State.

Sir, first of all, I would like to thank the hon. Minister for assuring the House that every step will be taken to ensure security of our students residing in Delhi and elsewhere in the country but, I think, only ensuring the security of our students is not enough. There is a sense of alienation amongst the people of North-Eastern States. When I first came to this House as a Member of Parliament, I experienced this sense of alienation. I was asked whether I could speak Hindi, whether I could write Hindi. Yes, of course, I can. There are so many people who can speak Hindi. मैं हिन्दी बोल सकता हूँ, पढ़ सकता हूँ, लिख सकता हूँ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M.SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : Please put your question.

SHRI THOMAS SANGMA : Even I had the experience of this sense of alienation. I think, the Government should take every step to ensure that this sense of alienation is removed amongst the people of North East. I wish to take this opportunity to appeal to all the political parties also to see that this sense of alienation amongst the North-Eastern people is removed.

There is an opportunity coming before us. I think, it is not an appropriate forum to raise this issue, but at a time when the elections for the President are coming up, why not consider somebody from the North East so that this works as a step to remove the sense of alienation.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : Now, reply by hon. Home Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please. You can seek clarifications afterwards. ...(*Interruptions*)... No, no. It will be there only if it is missed out.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Mr. Chairperson, Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Leader of the Opposition as well as other Members who have spoken on this rather sensitive issue. I have no hesitation in saying that there is subtle discrimination against certain sections of the people. We cannot deny that. It is that catchy phrase, 'people like us', and, 'people like them'. Subtle discrimination is there. Some years ago, this discrimination was based on the language. People who did not speak the language of an area were considered as people who did not belong to that area. Sometimes, this discrimination is based on region. About 40-50 years ago, and, Mr. Bandyopadhyay would bear me out, anybody coming from south of the Vindhya was called a '*Madrasi*'.

Those things have changed now. Nobody calls anyone a *madrasi* any more. Things have changed. Now, what is happening is, as the Leader of the Opposition also pointed out, a very large number of North Eastern people, especially boys and girls, are coming to the rest of India, and that, I think, we should all welcome wholeheartedly. We should encourage them to come to the rest of India. We should encourage them to go to Delhi, to Mumbai, to Bengaluru, to Chennai, to Puducherry. And as this happens, the initial

[SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM]

reaction will be a sense of discrimination. But, I am absolutely confident that the good sense and the sense of tolerance that has permeated India through centuries will eventually prevail and the sense of discrimination will also disappear over a period of time. But, we are in the transition period now. We have, therefore, to take steps. This is why I said it in my statement, the steps we have taken. I am so happy that every section of the House has strongly pleaded that the sense of discrimination must be removed; sense of alienation must be removed. We must welcome with open arms the people of the North Eastern States who want to come to other parts of the country.

Sir, specific measures have been suggested and I will respond to them very quickly. The most common suggestions are helpline for North Eastern students and action against those who discriminate in a subtle manner by asking for passport, etc. Are the cells effective that we have created? Can you have reservation for students from the North East in Delhi institutions? Was there racial profiling during the BRICS summit? These were broadly the issues raised and I wish to respond briefly to these issues.

Firstly, Sir, after these matters were brought to my notice in 2009, we issued a clear standing order in Delhi Police and this standing order was replaced by an even a more comprehensive standing order on the 25th of October, 2010. I want to read just a few sentences from this. "There has to be a clear zero tolerance policy as far as crime against women in general and as far as North Eastern States in particular are concerned. Many problems including those such as stalking, sending SMSes, etc., can easily be nipped in the bud if the person concerned is contacted and firmly advised to behave himself and not to harass the individual concerned. If there is any complaint that any girl from the North East has reported regarding any cognizable offence or eve teasing or stalking, and no follow-up action was taken, then a very serious view will be taken against the police officer concerned and also the SHO who is expected to lead from the front." In Delhi, we have identified the areas where there is concentration of the North Eastern people. These are largely the North and North-West districts and areas around Delhi University. The police stations that have been identified are Model Town, Mukherjee Nagar, Civil Lines, Roop Nagar, Timar Pur. We have therefore, strengthened police presence there and strengthened police patrolling covering not only hostels but also the residential colonies. SHOs have been advised to hold regular quarterly meetings with the community leaders. Apart from University, there are some pockets like Munirka, Kotla, Satya Niketan near Dhaula Kuan where a substantial number of North Eastern people reside.

DR. CHANDAN MITRA : Around the JNU campus also, Sir.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Yes, yes, apart from the Universities, these are the areas where people from the North East reside. Again, the SHOs of these police stations

have been advised to hold at least a meeting once in two months and regular meetings with community leaders.

I have already spoken about the nodal officers. As far as helplines are concerned, I hope, the media will carry these numbers. The helplines are, for women, it is 1091. Then, there is 1090; then, there is 2331 7004. We will try to publicise these helplines. I think these helplines - 1090, 1091 and 2331 7004—are very well known. These helplines can be accessed. We have said that they must be manned round-the-clock and an English-speaking officer must always be available if the person calling does not speak Hindi or can only speak English. You will appreciate that in 2009 and 2010, a number of new steps have been taken. Now, what I propose to do is, since the North-Eastern children are going to other parts of India, I intend to issue this circular in a modified form as an advisory to all State Governments and State Police to adopt this and re-issue the circular to their own police in whatever form they want.

Sir, there were some complaints about the BRICS Summit. Now, anecdotal evidence can always be found on any occasion. Anecdotal evidence does not become unimpeachable evidence. I think the facts are important. Tibetans residing in India expressed their intention to protest. They have a right to protest. I am not denying that. But, I could not have allowed protest near the hotels in which the Heads of States were staying. We had earmarked some places for protest. There was no problem. But, where the Chinese Head of State was staying, I could not have allowed protest. I could not have allowed protest where the Heads of States were staying. I can't afford a security incident. In Germany, recently, there was a security incident when the Heads of States met. We can't allow a security incident and you know where the Oberoi Hotel is situated. There is a bridge overlooking the hotel and it is a pretty crowded locality. Therefore, inevitably, some Tibetans were taken into preventive detention or when they protested, they were taken into custody. I am not denying it. The number of Tibetans held was 962 in the whole of Delhi. Some of them had come from outside. Three Indians, not belonging to the North-East but supporting the Tibetan cause, were also held. So, it was 962 plus three. *(Interruptions)* Please wait a minute. Don't go by anecdotal evidence. *(Interruptions)* It was 962 plus three. Four persons from the North-East were questioned. Once their identity was established that they were not Tibetans, they were immediately released. I have got the names of the four persons. I have got the information where they were questioned and when they were released. Four persons were asked to reveal their identity. When their identity was established that they were not Tibetans, they were immediately released. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : Sir, this is an understatement. It was not four persons. In those days, the newspaper reports were full as to how many people were harassed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I have given the number. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : Please.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : Sir, this is an understatement. ...(Interruptions)... Delhi Police is the accused. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : Mr. Punj, let him finish. ...(Interruptions)... Let him complete. Then, you can seek clarification. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : There is nothing I can do. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : Mr. Baishyaji, please. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : Sir, I would like to say one sentence. ...(Interruptions)... Police people demanded passport from the North-Eastern people. When they showed their identity cards, police did not believe that. ...(Interruptions)... Police asked them to show their passports. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : Okay. Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I cannot say that this happened or that happened. I can only go by information given to me, information based on records.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : Sir, that is why, I am saying that the information that you have got, which you have given to the House, is not based on facts. ...(Interruptions)... You should look at newspaper reports. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : Okay. ...(Interruptions)... Please. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : That is hon. Member's view. I can't object to the hon. Member holding a view. I can only take a view based on facts that are available to me.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD : Basically correct. You kindly review the whole thing. What we are saying is that you assure the people of North East that the Parliament is also sharing their concern. That is all I am saying.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : My statement categorically gives that assurance. We cannot get into an argument here whether I am right or wrong. I can only base my statement on the information available to me from the record. These are given to me ...(Interruptions)... Sir, if I am interrupted like this how can I reply? ...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : Mr Punj, you have made your point.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : You are entitled to your view. People are watching us. I have given the facts based on the record. If the officer has given me false information, certainly action will be taken. ...*(Interruptions)*... I know that the officer has given it in writing. If he has given me false information, certainly action will be taken against him.

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

As far as Tibetans are concerned, I was monitoring the situation. At a point in the afternoon, I personally spoke to the Commissioner and said “All the Tibetans who are held should be immediately released”. And they were released.

As I said and I am willing to ask the record to be checked by one of my officers, only four people from the North-East were detained, questioned because their identity was doubtful. Once their identity was established they were let off. Nobody carries a passport when he is traveling in India. I also have a passport, but I don't carry when I travel. Identity has to be established. The four people were able to establish their identity either by student card or some other card and they were immediately let off. I have got the names of the four people.

Now, a number of people who were in the vicinity of the Heads of the State and who have no legitimate business to be in the vicinity because the road had been blocked, the bridge had been blocked, it is quite possible that they were asked to leave the place or asked not to take the road, or, asked not take the bridge; and some of them may have been students from the North East, but they were not detained for questioning, they would have been simply told, you cannot take this road, you cannot take this bridge because this is barred for traffic during those hours when the summit was taking place. Sir, no one, including the Tibetans was charge-sheeted. All of them were detained for a few of hours and were released. No one was charge-sheeted because I had given clear instructions that nobody should be charge-sheeted for either protesting or expressing a desire to protest. So, nobody has been charge-sheeted.

Mr. Tarun Vijay has sent me a note saying, “Will you remove the permission for the inner line permit? I don't have the facts. As I recall, the inner line permit regulations have been relaxed in a number of States but it is prevalent in some States. I think, only last year we have relaxed them in Manipur. We have relaxed them in some other States. But the inner line permit is constantly reviewed. After I took over, we have relaxed it in several States. I think, people from the North-East know that the inner line has been relaxed. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please listen, inner line permit has been relaxed in many States. But I cannot say that the inner line will be removed from everywhere

[SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM]

in the North-East. That is not possible. I have to balance the security and the requirements for promoting tourism. I have no numbers of children from the North East studying in the rest of India. No such numbers are available. I don't think it is possible to collect such numbers. Because that itself will involve some element of racial profiling if you do that. I think children should be allowed to go anywhere. I don't think we should ask whether you are from the North-East or not.

Now, I think, I have answered most of the questions.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : What about para 9 of the statement?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Para 9 must be read in the context of the Calling Attention Motion. I think, if you read it in that context, there is nothing objectionable in para 9. All I can assure this House and the people of the country is that I welcome the mingling of the North-Eastern students with the rest of India. I am very happy to see them in aviation industry, in the hospitality industry, in the retail industry, in malis, in shops and in nursing. We are happy to see them. We welcome them. I hope more and more of them will go to different parts of India. Thank you.

GOVERNMENT BILLS

The Tamil Nadu Legislative Council (Repeal) Bill, 2012

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the repeal of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Council Act, 2010 and to make consequential amendments in the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951 and for matters incidental and consequential thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Administrators-General (Amendment) Bill, 2011

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : Sir, I beg to move:

That the Bill further to amend the Administrators-General Act, 1963, be taken into consideration.

Sir, I urge the House to take this Bill for passing without a formal discussion. The Standing Committee has examined the Bill. It is a beneficial Bill for helping the people