

Demand to formulate a concrete policy for welfare of children of single women in the country

SHRI KANWAR DEEP SINGH (Jharkhand) : Sir, I would like to draw the kind attention of this august House to a very serious social problem. We have schemes for minorities, STs and SCs and economically weaker sections, but I am sorry to say that we do not have any scheme for the welfare of children of single women. Many women in our society are abandoned, divorced or living separately from their husbands along with their children. Many of them do not earn enough money to provide education to their children. Moreover, they are unable to get admission for their children due to non-availability of reservation even in Government schools and hence, they are forced to leave their children in the hands of fate. A large section of these women are living a miserable life and their children have no future. Though we have the Right to Free and Compulsory Education and the hon. Prime Minister has also emphasized that if we nurture our children and young people in the right education, India's future as a strong and prosperous country is secure. There are a very large number of children that are still deprived of basic education. Sir, from this august House, I strongly appeal to the Government to formulate some concrete schemes for this section of women, and also provide reservation in Government-run schools and aided schools for admission to the children of single women so to ensure compulsory education to every child.

Demand to protect cotton farmers in Andhra Pradesh from the adverse impact of introduction of Bt. Cotton seeds

SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY (Andhra Pradesh) : Sir, ten years ago, the Government of India permitted Monsanto to sell Bt. Cotton seeds saying that this would transform life of cotton farmer in India. But, after a decadal experience of use of Bt. Cotton, it is not the transformation for better has come in the life of cotton farmer, particularly in Adilabad district of Andhra Pradesh, but it is leading to suicides. Farmers with small holdings are finding economics of Bt. Cotton extremely difficult.

In the last 5-6 months, 23 suicides by cotton farmers reported in Adilabad district alone and, in majority of cases, farmers were caught in debt trap. Main problem with Bt. Cotton is that even if a single indicator in the gamut fails, farmer will be in shambles. Apart from this, farmer also needs weather conditions and market should also be in his favour so as to get some profit. Otherwise, he will be trapped in debt. The Government data itself proves that Bt. Cotton resulted in stagnant yields, pest resistance, evolution of new pests and disease attacks.

As per the estimates of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, out of 47 lakh acres planted with Bt. Cotton during Kharif 2011, crop failed in 33.73 lakh acres *i.e.*, 71 per cent. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has also reported that 20,46,000 farmers suffered due to failure of Bt. Cotton crop and lost Rs. 3,072 crores.

[SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY]

Hence, I request the Government of India to look into the issue seriously and take remedial measures to protect cotton farmers in Andhra Pradesh by providing them loans at 3 per cent and also take steps for marketing of their produce. Thank you.

Demand to provide full quota of reservation to people belonging to S.C., S.T. and OBC communities in Himachal Pradesh

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, हिमाचल प्रदेश प्राकृतिक सम्पदाओं से परिपूर्ण है। यह प्रदेश देव भूमि के रूप में पहचाना जाता है। पर्यटन की दृष्टि से इस प्रदेश की बड़ी महत्ता है, परन्तु इस प्रदेश में रहने वाली अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति तथा पिछड़ी जातियों की आबादी की दशा को देखकर ऐसा लगता है कि जैसे इन वर्गों की लाचारी, भुखमरी, अनपढ़ता, अशिक्षा तथा बेरोजगारी इनके लिए आज भी अभिशाप बनी हुई है क्योंकि इन वर्गों के सामाजिक, आर्थिक, शैक्षिक विकास के लिए कोई कारगर योजना प्रदेश की किसी भी सरकार ने नहीं बनाई, जिसके कारण इन वर्गों की स्थिति दिन-प्रतिदिन दयनीय होती चली गई।

मैं यहाँ यह भी उद्धृत करना चाहता हूँ कि बाबा साहब डा. भीमराव अम्बेडकर के द्वारा लिखित भारतीय संविधान के उपबन्धों के आधार पर प्रदत्त आरक्षण के अधिकारों की पूर्ति के लिए सरकार द्वारा की गई अनदेखी से इन वर्गों के लोगों में बहुत ही निराशा का भाव पैदा हो गया है। अनुसूचित जाति और जनजाति के वर्गों की जनसंख्या के आधार पर शिक्षा, राजनीति और नौकरियों में आरक्षण प्राप्त नहीं हो पा रहा है। यहाँ पर यह बात बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण है कि हिमाचल प्रदेश के पिछड़े समाज के लोगों को मंडल कमीशन की रिपोर्ट के आधार पर 27 प्रतिशत आरक्षण नहीं दिया गया है।

मैं इस विशेष उल्लेख के माध्यम से सरकार से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि हिमाचल प्रदेश में अनुसूचित जाति, जनजाति तथा पिछड़े समाज के लोगों को भारतीय संविधान में प्रदत्त आरक्षण के आधार पर आरक्षण कोटा पूरा करने का कष्ट करें। धन्यवाद।

Demand to resolve the issues relating to demarcation of boundary along Indo-Bangladesh border

SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY (West Bengal) : Sir, a Protocol to the agreement concerning the Demarcation of the Land Boundary between India and Bangladesh and Related Matters, 1974, was signed on September 6, 2011, during the visit of the Prime Minister to Bangladesh. The Protocol addresses the outstanding land boundary issues pertaining to the un-demarcated land territories in adverse possession. It is subject to ratification by the Governments of the two countries and shall come into force on the date of exchange of the Instruments of Ratification. The implementation of the Protocol will result in the exchange of 111 Indian enclaves in Bangladesh with 51 Bangladesh enclaves in India. Unfortunately, the matter has not been pursued any further and, as a result, more than seventy thousand people living in those enclaves do not have any identity. The Government of India does not give them any basic facilities like sanitation, electricity, water, health and education.

Sir, I would urge upon the Government of India to ratify the Protocol on top priority and take up the issue with the Government of Bangladesh through the diplomatic