

6.00 P.M.

[SHRI NARESH GUJRAL]

Besides, there are so many other PSUs which are bleeding the economy very heavily. Kindly privatise them as soon as possible and use this money for productive purposes. ...*(Interruptions)*... चलिए, अब उनको अपनी जरूरत नहीं है, इसलिए शायद कर लें।

Finally, Sir, there is a lot of speculation that you are about to declare a fiscal package for your home State, as was recommended by the Finance Commission. I welcome it. You must do so. But, kindly do not forget Punjab and Kerala in the bargain.

Now, I am concluding. Sir, the hon. Finance Minister has been a Member of this House or the other House now for almost 43 years and is likely to move to a bigger house very soon. I only hope that the best wishes of the entire House are with him. I do hope that before he demits office, he will take care of his State and my State. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Now, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan. He is not here. So, the discussion is over. The hon. Finance Minister will reply tomorrow. Now, we will take up Special Mentions.

SPECIAL MENTIONS – *Contd.*

***Demand to resolve the problem of proliferation of slums along the Mumbai coast posing security threats to the city**

DR. ASHOK S. GANGULY (Nominated) : I have been requesting the Bombay Municipal Corporation and the Maharashtra State Government regarding proliferation of new slums on the Haji Ali sea coast of Mumbai City. In response, the BMC has reported that whenever these slums are removed, they are immediately rebuilt and cannot be prevented from doing so because of lack of help from Mumbai Police. This is a serious matter related to coastal security, as was experienced on 26th November, 2008, during the terrorist attacks in Mumbai. In addition, these slums promoted by local slumlords are in gross violation of the coastal zone regulations. Due to absence of any response from the State Government, the BMC and Mumbai Police Commissioner, I am forced to bring this major security risk to the attention of the hon. Home Minister and the hon. Minister for Environment and Forests. I have also made two successive requests to raise this extremely important issue during the Zero Hour and have not been permitted to do so. I now request protection to raise and record this issue concerning National Security in the Rajya Sabha and request that immediate measures are taken to clean and protect the coastal areas off Mumbai coast from slums.

* Laid on the Table.