

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We have a published List of Business for today. We are working on that. If you want a change in that, that is a different matter. But, the Chair cannot suo motu take a decision. ...*(Interruptions)*... I cannot change like that. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is not the way. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: There is no change. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We can't do like that. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not saying that what you have said is not important. I am not saying that. The issue that you have raised is important. But, the Chair has to stick to some procedure. There is a List of Business with us. Let me go by that. ...*(Interruptions)*... You can raise it. ...*(Interruptions)*... Today, there is a List of Business. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no, please cooperate. ...*(Interruptions)*... You have made your point. ...*(Interruptions)*... Yechuryji, you have made your point. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, please cooperate. ...*(Interruptions)*... Rajaji, please cooperate. You have made your point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री साविर अली (बिहार) : सर, सिर्फ एक मिनट...*(व्यवधान)*...सर, सिर्फ एक मिनट...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please cooperate. ...*(Interruptions)*...साबिर अली जी, बैठिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... What can I do? ...*(Interruptions)*... Maitreyanji, I will be forced to adjourn the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...साबिर अली जी, बैठिए।...*(व्यवधान)*... Dr. Maitreyan, you speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... It will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, since you are not allowing this discussion after the Zero Hour and even when a discussion is going on, a decision has been taken by the Government, objecting to that, we are going to stage a walk-out.

(At this stage, some hon. Members left the Chamber.)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Dr. Maitreyan.

Retrieval of Katchatheevu and the recent stand of UPA Government on it

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, 1974 Agreement signed between India and Sri Lanka, between Shrimati Indira Gandhi and Shrimati Sirimavo Bandaranaike, on 26th June, 1974, had determined Katchatheevu as part of Sri Lanka and the islet was ceded by the Government of India unilaterally to Sri Lanka without the approval of both the Houses of Parliament for a Constitutional amendment in this regard. The stand of the Government of Tamil Nadu, led by Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi, is that Katchatheevu has always been a part of India geographically, culturally and historically, and needs to be retrieved back, keeping in view the livelihood interests and security of thousands of Indian fishermen.

The Tamil Nadu Assembly had passed a unanimous resolution in May, 2013 regarding the retrieval of Katchatheevu. My party General Secretary and the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu had filed a writ petition before the Supreme Court in 2008 to consider 1974 and 1976 Agreements which have been the root cause for the untold misery of Tamil Nadu fishermen, as null and void, in the absence of the mandatory Constitutional amendment required and to retrieve Katchatheevu back to India.

Against this background, the entire Tamil Nadu is shocked that the UPA Government has responded last Friday in the Supreme Court that retrieval of Katchatheevu from Sri Lanka does not arise as no territory belonging to India was ceded to Sri Lanka. This is the greatest Indian betrayal of Tamil Nadu.

I would like to draw the attention of the House to the debate on 23rd July, 1974 in Parliament when the statement regarding the 1974 Agreement was made by the then External Affairs Minister, Sardar Swaran Singh. In that debate the great Madhu Limaye said, he spoke in Hindi, I would like to quote that here:

“पांच साल पहले उस समय के विदेश मंत्री श्री दिनेश सिंह ने इस सदन में कहा था, Katchatheevu को जहां तक अपना मानने का सवाल है, यह बिल्कुल स्पष्ट है कि हम उसको अपना मानते हैं।”

The former Prime Minister of India, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, said, I quote that here: “देश की पीठ के पीछे भारत की भूमि को विदेश को देने का निर्णय कर दिया गया। अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह समझौता नहीं यह समर्पण है।” He again said, “Katchatheevu तमिलनाडु का एक हिस्सा है और भारत का भाग है। संविधान में बिना संशोधन किए क्या यह काम हो सकता है?”

When people have said like this, 40 years later the UPA Government is considering this country as the zamindari of the Congress Party.

The UPA Government's statement in the Supreme Court last Friday has once again proved that whether it is genocide of Tamils in Eelam, attack of Tamil Nadu fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy or the retrieval of the Katchatheevu, the Congress Party is anti-Tamil Nadu. The people of Tamil Nadu will give the Congress Party and whoever aligns with it, a befitting reply in the coming Lok Sabha elections. Once our new Government is formed next year, Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi will take all necessary steps to retrieve Katchatheevu back to India.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I will associate myself with the issue raised by Dr. Maitreya in three sentences. Number one, I strongly deplore the affidavit filed by the Government of India in the Supreme Court on Katchatheevu. Number two, Sri Lanka treats the Katchatheevu as a closed chapter. The Government of India should demand the reopening of the Katchatheevu Agreement, renegotiation of the Agreement. Number three, if the Government fails to do that the Government has the option to go to the International Court of Justice. This is a very important issue, as far as Tamil Nadu and India are concerned.

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the Government of India in its affidavit has said that the Katchatheevu has never been a part of the Indian territory.

I would like to point out that when India got Independence, the Katchatheevu Island had a survey number of 1250 at Ramanathapuram in Tamil Nadu. It belonged to the Ramanathapuram Zamin.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, it proved beyond doubt that this Katchatheevu was part of the Ramanathapuram Zamin. I request the Government to please understand the sentiments; and call an all party meeting about the renegotiation of Katchatheevu and revise your stand in the Supreme Court wherein you have filed a wrong affidavit. There is a reaction across the country.

SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY (Tamil Nadu) : Sir, let the Government react. It is a very important issue.

श्री जय प्रकाश नारायण सिंह (झारखंड) : महोदय, मैं इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री बसावाराज पाटिल (कर्णाटक) : महोदय, मैं इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री भरतसिंह प्रभातसिंह परमार (गुजरात) : महोदय, मैं इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

Outbreak of dengue in Guwahati and other parts of Assam

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA (Assam): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for allowing me to mention about the outbreak of dengue in Assam.