

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.
 - (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 2322/16/15]
- (ii)
- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Services Exports Promotion Council (SEPC), New Delhi, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.
 - (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 2323/16/15]

MATTERS RAISED WITH THE PERMISSION

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Zero Hour submission. Shri Anand Sharma.

Non-Reference of Bills to Standing Committees by Government

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Rajasthan) : Sir, I have given a notice to draw the notice of this august House about a matter which should be of collective concern for all the Members.

Sir, rules 268 to 274 provide for Department-related Standing Committees to be constituted. It was a well-considered decision of the Indian Parliament to set up the Standing Committees for which ten Members are nominated by the hon. Chairman of this august House and twenty-one Members by the hon. Speaker of the other House. To the committees — which are allocated to this House under Schedule 1 — the Chairmen are also appointed by the hon. Chairman of this House. Under rule 270, it is very clearly mentioned: (a) Each of the Standing Committee shall have the following functions to consider the Demands for Grants of the related Ministries; (b) the Bills pertaining to the related Ministries and departments are referred to the Committee by the Chairman or the Speaker.

Sir, the matter of concern is that the Standing Committees are virtually being made irrelevant. The legislative scrutinies are being bypassed. Fifty-one new Bills have been brought in, 43 of them, which include many Ordinances, have not been sent to any Standing Committee. So, it is a question of privilege of this House. The Standing Committees are elected Committees. If the Bills are not going to the Standing Committees

for scrutiny, what does the Government propose to do with the Standing Committees? Do we have Standing Committees? That decision has to be made by this House. If the Standing Committees have to continue, then, the legislative scrutiny cannot be bypassed. I personally feel that after all we are all responsible Members and those who are there in the Standing Committees – the Leader of the House also knows this; he has been in many Standing Committees – do a useful work. I can understand exceptional cases though every case cannot be exceptional that you will not send any Bill to the Standing Committees, and this House is helpless because you introduce it in the other House where there is a majority, brute majority, and no Bill gets referred and this House has no choice but then to ask for a Select Committee. Select Committee is not Standing Committee. So, the Government must make it clear, Sir, and we seek the protection that the Standing Committees in which Members of this House are represented, all the Standing Committees for that matter, have to meet, have to function, and the Government must come clear on that.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: What is your intent? Why are you avoiding the Parliamentary scrutiny? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This is Zero Hour. You can only associate. ...*(Interruptions)*...

(विपक्ष के नेता) श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद: सर, मैं इस विषय से अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

†جناب غلام نبی آزاد (جموں و کشمیر): سر، میں اس وقت سے اپنے آپ کو سمبڈھ کرتا ہوں۔۔۔*(مداخلت)*۔۔۔

SHRI D. RAJA (TAMIL NADU): Sir, we associate. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RITABRATA BANEJREE (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour Mention made by the Member. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K.K. RAGESH (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour Mention made by the Member. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Gujarat): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI PANKAJ BORA (Assam): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour Mention made by the hon. Member.

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर (हिमाचल प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करती

हूँ।

श्री हुसैन दलवाई (महाराष्ट्र): महोदय, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी (बिहार): महोदय, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री के.सी. त्यागी (बिहार): महोदय, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, we also associate ourselves with it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, all those who associate, their names will be recorded. ...*(Interruptions)*... You can only associate. ...*(Interruptions)*... Okay. All right. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. बैठिए, बैठिए! ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... You can only associate. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय आनन्द शर्मा जी ने जो बात कही है, इस पर हम सभी को गम्भीर होना चाहिए। श्रीमन्, स्टैंडिंग कमिटी का अपने आप में महत्व है। मुझे याद है, मैं देख रहा हूँ कि पूर्व प्रधान मंत्री मनमोहन सिंह जी भी फाइनेंस कमिटी के अब मेम्बर हैं, आडवाणी जी भी कमिटी के मेम्बर हैं, यानी इसका महत्व इतने सीनियर लोग भी समझ रहे हैं। मैं देख

रहा हूँ कि लोक सभा से जितने बिल पास होकर आ रहे हैं, वहाँ स्टैंडिंग कमिटी को भेजे ही नहीं जा रहे हैं। ऐसा लग रहा है कि जैसे एकतरफा — मैं लोक सभा पर आरोप नहीं लगाना चाहता, वह भी एक हाउस है, लेकिन उसके बाद हम लोग सेलेक्ट कमिटी में बैठते हैं। सेलेक्ट कमिटी और स्टैंडिंग कमिटी, दोनों में अंतर है। सेलेक्ट कमिटी एक हाउस की है, स्टैंडिंग कमिटी ज्वाइंट हाउस की है। या तो हम यहाँ पर ज्वाइंट हाउस का रिजोलुशन करें या फिर सेलेक्ट कमिटी ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can propose that also. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: मैं चाहूँगा कि सरकार इस चीज़ को देखे। जो परम्परा रही है, उस परम्परा को बनाए रखे और नियमावली के नियमों को ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Now, Shrimati Gundu Sudharani. ...*(Interruptions)*... No discussion on this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK OBRIEN (WEST BENGAL): Sir, I am on the point of the Business for today. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, let me finish because this is a*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: No, we need a response from the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Listen. Listen. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK OBRIEN: No, I agree with Mr. Sharma. Let them respond and I sit down.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is okay. That is up to them. If they want, they can respond. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, we want an answer. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. No discussion on this. This is a Zero Hour submission. What he did is a Zero Hour submission. I cannot allow a discussion on that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री शरद यादव (बिहार): श्रीमन्, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि स्टैंडिंग कमिटी का जो मैकेनिज्म है, शिवराज जी, जो कि स्पीकर थे और कांग्रेस पार्टी के थे, यह सदन की जो...

श्री उपसभापति: ठीक है, हो गया।

श्री शरद यादव: श्रीमन्, सुनिए।

श्री उपसभापति: यह जीरो ऑवर है।

श्री शरद यादव: ज़ीरो ऑवर भी हो जाएगा। मैं कोई लम्बा नहीं बोल रहा हूँ, एक-दो मिनट में अपनी बात कह दूँगा। संसद के जो दिन हैं, पहले मैं लोक सभा में था, वह आधे समय चलती थी, अब जो सरकारें आ रही हैं, उसके पीछे मुझे कुछ नहीं कहना। अब संसद की बैठकों के दिन लगातार घट रहे हैं। जब नरसिंह राव जी प्राइम मिनिस्टर थे, बहुत मेहनत करके — स्टैंडिंग कमिटी का मतलब मिनी पार्लियामेंट है। जब यहाँ वक्त नहीं मिलता था, तो देश के क़ानून बनाने के लिए उस स्टैंडिंग कमिटी की व्यवस्था को यहाँ लाया गया था। मैं सरकार से यह निवेदन करूँगा कि संस्थाएँ बड़ी मुश्किल से खड़ी होती हैं। संस्थाएँ जल्दी बिगाड़ी तो जा सकती हैं, लेकिन उन्हें बनाने में समय लगता है। स्टैंडिंग कमिटीज़ देश के हक में ज्यादा होती हैं। मेरा यही कहना है कि इसके बारे में विचार किया जाए। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Okay. Now Shrimati Gundu Sudharani.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, we want a response on this.
...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. OBrien.

SHRI DEREK OBRIEN: Sir, my point is on the Business Today.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: But I have already called Zero Hour.

SHRI DEREK OBRIEN: Please. I want to draw your attention to something important because we don't want this House to be taken for granted. Yesterday's List of Business had listed a discussion on the Working of the Ministry of Law and Justice to be initiated, as we had decided, by a Member of the Congress Party. Right? Now, two-three Ministries are going to be discussed, like the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, which were not listed till last night. Sir, today, 'Discussion on the working of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment' has been listed in the morning. It was given to the Trinamool Congress to initiate this discussion. Sir, at 10.30 in the night – and this is no fault of the Secretariat – we are getting a call saying that this is going to be listed in the Business, you may please give your name to initiate the discussion. Sir, for a serious discussion like this, (a) no one is prepared to speak today, and (b) the House is being taken for granted. The name of the person moving the discussion is not there because no name has been given. So, *zor zabardasti* is being done. Don't bulldoze. I would request the Government to plan this better and not push it at 10.20 p.m. and get the Secretariat and Secretary-General to call us. Please do not take up this discussion today. Please take up the discussion on the Ministry of Law and Justice and let us follow some basic rules and *parampara*. Thank you.

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I support the views expressed by the hon. Member. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... There is another point. When the subject is given to a Party to seek names for initiating a discussion, they should give their names in advance. They should not wait for the Secretariat to call. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: No, Sir. It is not listed. Please understand. The call came at 10.20 in the night. It is not even listed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: Sir, advance intimation must be given. He is very fair in his demand. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I got the point. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is okay. Agreed. Now, Shrimati Gundu Sudharani. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE (Rajasthan): Sir, let me say something.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is for the Government to say. You are from the Government side.

SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE: Yes, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*... But I can make my observation. ...*(Interruptions)*... As a Member, I have the right to say something on the issue.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You may give a Zero Hour notice then.

SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE: No, Sir. This is on what has come up. A lot of people have mentioned something on that.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You are from the Treasury Benches! ...*(Interruptions)*... You are from the Treasury Benches. So, you must be giving a reply to this question.

SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE: Sir, nobody can stop me from making an observation. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay.

SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE: Sir, an issue has been raised.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You could only join. That is what I am saying. You can join with this.

SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE: Sir, I am not going with them. An issue has been raised.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Then, you could raise it later. The Minister can reply.

SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE: Sir, an issue has been raised by Shri Anand Sharma, and he has talked about the Standing Committees.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let the Minister reply. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE: Sir, they are Ministers. They would naturally put their views across, but, as a Member, I am putting my views.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. You cannot do that now. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, he may associate.

SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE: Sir, I am not associating. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is the point you must accept! Now, Shrimati Gundu Sudharani.

Need for bringing all medicines under National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority

SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI (Telangana): Sir, medicines play a pivotal role in the life of a human being as they bring a person back from the death knell. The WHO defines medicines as those drugs that satisfy the healthcare needs of the majority of the population. They should, therefore, be available at all times in adequate amounts, in appropriate dosage forms and at a price the community can afford.

The Government of India has been, from time to time, bringing medicines under the National List of Essential Medicines and selling them to people at affordable prices. The authority for this purpose has been given to the NPPA. Now, the Government has brought 509 medicines under the Essential Drugs List. Apart from the NLEM, Government is also selling 504 medicines through the Jan Aushadhi stores at a cheaper price for the poor and downtrodden.

Sir, medicines are medicines. There should not be any distinction between essential medicines and other medicines as every medicine is a life-saver. This view has been substantiated even by the Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers in its recent