

intolerable situation for the poorer people in the country. I am asking the Government, through you, that the Government must in form this House on such a decision when the House is in session. People outside are crying. Everyday this is happening. Why is this stand taken by the Government? The Government must explain to this august House. That is my issue.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you have given a notice, then, I would have allowed you. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now sit down. Would the Government like to react? ...*(Interruptions)*... No. The Government is not reacting. Now, Mr. Vivek Gupta. ...*(Interruptions)*... Zero Hour, Mr. Vivek Gupta. ...*(Interruptions)*... You have not given a notice.

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी: सर, पाकिस्तान के अंदर जो सार्क की मीटिंग होने वाली है तो उसके संबंध में ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have already called Mr. Vivek Gupta. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Proposed shifting of the headquarters of the Tea Board from Kolkata to Guwahati

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, through you, I would like to raise an important issue here. This is regarding the alleged move by the Central Government to shift the Headquarters of the Tea Board from Kolkata to Guwahati. ...*(Interruptions)*... As you know, Sir, tea is one of the industries, which by an Act of Parliament, comes under the control of the Union Government. ...*(Interruptions)*... The genesis of the Tea Board of India dates back to 1903 when the Indian Tea Cess Bill was passed. The present Tea Board, set up under Section 4 of the Tea Act, 1953, was constituted on 1st April, 1954. Sir, since its inception, the Tea Board has been located in Kolkata. But, recently, what we are seeing is that the employees are being harassed; they are being shifted in batches to other offices; they are being made to wait compulsorily. This is the alleged move because a new Party has come to power in Assam; it is trying to favour Guwahati. There is an alleged move to shift the Tea Board Headquarters from Kolkata to Guwahati. Sir, I have full sympathies with Guwahati. Our heart goes out to Guwahati. But, Sir, it should not be done at the cost of Kolkata. We should not be made to suffer. The Tea Board Headquarters in Bengal is as good as is our hand to our body, and if you take away the Tea Board Headquarters from Kolkata, it would mean that you are chopping our hands away. There is another point. Is

[Shri Vivek Gupta]

this a part of a bigger design? This can only be seen from the fact that the Chairman of the Kolkata Port Trust and the Chairman of the Damodar Valley Corporation have been appointed without any consultation with West Bengal. All such big decisions, whether it is the appointment of Chairmen or the shifting of the Tea Board Headquarters, are being done without any consultation with the State Government and without taking into account the immense hardship that the State Government and the employees will face. Sir, I would also like to say that Bengal is not only just the headquarters of the Tea Board, it is the port area there, and all the auction houses have been there for centuries. You have the port, warehouses, and a lot of infrastructure been created. A lot of jobs are there. The Tea Board Headquarters may be a symbolic shift but the downward problems would be tremendous for the industry and everybody else.

SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member has mentioned.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY (West Bengal): Sir, I too associate myself with what the hon. Member has mentioned. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I too associate myself with what the hon. Member has mentioned. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE (West Bengal): Sir, I too associate myself with what the hon. Member has mentioned. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I too associate myself with what the hon. Member has mentioned.

SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I too associate myself with what the hon. Member has mentioned. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kalita, are you also associating? ...*(Interruptions)*... What is your problem?

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA (Assam): Sir, the shifting of Tea Board Headquarters to Guwahati is a good decision. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MS. DOLA SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I too associate myself with what the hon. Member has mentioned. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY (West Bengal): Sir, I too associate myself with what the hon. Member has mentioned. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर (बिहार): महोदय, मैं भी इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।
...(व्यवधान)...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, we all associate ourselves with what the hon. Member has mentioned. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): Sir, I have given a notice of breach of privilege against Dr. Subramanian Swamy. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I told you yesterday.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: From your office, a letter was sent to me. I replied to that. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, I replied to that. A copy was sent to me. I have not known anything. ...*(Interruptions)*... He has taken the names of my leaders. ...*(Interruptions)*... He must authenticate the documents. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Shantaram Naik, please listen. You raised this matter yesterday. Then, I had said it was under consideration.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: That is a different thing. This is against Dr. Subramanian Swamy. It is a different notice.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Privilege notice?

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Yes, and I am telling you, Sir, he has to authenticate the documents. He has taken the names of my leaders.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I got it. Sit down now. I have understood it. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down now. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is a Privilege Motion. The hon. Chairman is examining it. You will be intimidated. Sit down.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, let the Government respond to Shri Vivek Gupta's Special Mention on the shifting of the Tea Board Headquarters.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is for the Government. It is not for me. If the Government wants, it can. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is up to them. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: I am only requesting, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can always request. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Shri Shadi Lal Batra. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, through you, I request the hon. Minister to respond. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: 'Through me' means they know it. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Government knows it. ...*(Interruptions)*... I don't know. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KULITA: But, Sir, we feel that the shifting of Tea Board Headquarters to Guwahati is a good decision. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राजीव शुक्ल (महाराष्ट्र): सर, मेरा एक प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... सर, मेरा actual प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है, बाकी लोग तो प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर के नाम पर इश्यूज उठाते हैं। आपने, यहाँ पर एक व्यवस्था बनाई कि ज़ीरो ऑवर में सबको तीन-तीन मिनट्स का समय मिले, ताकि सभी लोग अपने ज़ीरो ऑवर के विषय यहाँ उठा सकें। लेकिन, यहाँ यह हो रहा है कि पहले तो बिना नोटिस के 20 मिनट का समय बरबाद होता है, फिर जब ज़ीरो ऑवर का कोई एक विषय उठाया जाता है, तो उस पर कई लोग खड़े होकर अपने-अपने कमेंट्स देने लगते हैं। इस प्रकार, तीन मिनट का ज़ीरो ऑवर 10 मिनट का हो जाता है और उसके बाद के विषय नहीं आ पाते।

श्री उपसभापति: आप ठीक कह रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री राजीव शुक्ल: इसलिए मेरा अनुरोध है कि आप ज़ीरो ऑवर के पाँच विषयों को ही अलाउ कीजिए, क्योंकि 12-14 विषयों को अलाऊ करने का कोई फायदा नहीं है। हम रोज़-रोज़ पौने दस बजे सुबह यहाँ आकर नोटिस देते हैं और उससे अजीब सा माहौल बन गया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Very correct. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: For just saying this, he has consumed five minutes! ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री हरिवंश (बिहार): महोदय, मैं भी इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर (बिहार): महोदय, मैं भी इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री संजीव कुमार (झारखंड): महोदय, मैं भी इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

MS. DOLA SEN: Sir, I too associate myself with what the hon. Member has said. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is a very valid point. But without notice, the Members are raising issues. That is the problem. Now, Shri Shadi Lal Batra.

Need for refund of money with interest to the investors collected by PACL Ltd.

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श्री शादी लाल बत्रा (हरियाणा): उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन और सरकार के संज्ञान में एक बहुत ही गंभीर समस्या को लाना चाहता हूँ। तकरीबन छह करोड़ छोटे किसान, दुकानदार और आम जनमानस ने एक कृषि एवं रियल एस्टेट की कम्पनी PACL India Ltd. के झांसे में आकर अपने खून-पसीने की कमाई, इस आशा से कि यहां पर फायदा होगा, जमा कर दी। अप्रैल,