

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, listen. ...(Interruptions)... Mr. Anand Sharma. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: आप प्रधान मंत्री जी को बुलाइए। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, let me go to Zero Hour. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी (बिहार): महिलाओं पर अत्याचार की बात है। ...(व्यवधान)...सर, इनके जवाब का उन पर कोई असर नहीं होता है। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you want a discussion, give a notice. ...(Interruptions)... If you want a discussion on this subject, please give notice. I am going to take up Zero Hour now. Shri Md. Nadimul Haque. ...(Interruptions)...

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Need to release pre and post-matric scholarships to minority students

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE (West Bengal): Sir, cooperative federalism demands. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Md. Nadimul Haque, you speak loudly. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Sir, cooperative federalism demands extensive interaction between the Centre and the States. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nothing else will go on record. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Feedback from the States must be given equal importance. ...(Interruptions)... It is sad that the present cooperative federalism is only in name. ...(Interruptions)... It is time we head towards 'Operative' federalism. ...(Interruptions)... Sir, today, I would like to draw the attention of the House to a very important issue that is the demand for release of Pre-matric/Post-matric/Merit-cum-Means Scholarships to minority students. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा (हिमाचल प्रदेश): इस पर पूरे हाउस का नोटिस हो गया। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: It is a matter of great concern that almost four lakh minority students from West Bengal have not received their scholarship for the year 2015-16. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: देश के प्रधान मंत्री ...(व्यवधान)... मन की बात करते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... हमने बार-बार सदन में यह कहा है। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I said, you give notice. ...(Interruptions)... I said, you give notice. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Despite being eligible...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You give notice. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: ...they were barred from the benefits because of technical glitches, like slow server speed, drop down menus not working or names of many educational institutions missing from the list while accessing the 'National Scholarship Portal', etc. ...(Interruptions)... Besides the technical problem, in certain remote places of West Bengal like Sunderbans, Purulia, Bankura and Darjeeling, people have limited access to computers and to good network connections. ...(Interruptions)... Sir, West Bengal has, recently, faced unprecedented floods in 235 blocks of 13 districts. ...(Interruptions)... Even after the State Government's effort to publicize and help the students with internet access, the benefits are being denied due to technical glitches in the National Scholarship Portal. ...(Interruptions)... Despite the State having already sent offline data, as sought by the Ministry, almost four lakh students are still outside the ambit of the Scholarship Scheme. Sir, our Chief Minister, Ms. Mamata Banerjee, had written to the Ministry of Minority Affairs in August last year regarding this. Even, I had, on May 5th, this year, raised this issue in the House and was assured by the then Minister of an early solution to the problem. Our Chief Minister, last week, had also written to the hon. Prime Minister on this matter. However, the problem still persists.

I urge upon the Centre to allow us, i.e., the State of West Bengal, to opt out of the National Scholarship Portal and let us disburse the scholarship funds electronically through DBT, with appropriate backward linkages to NSP, along the lines of disbursement of scholarships to SC/ST students.

Sir, I end with an *Urdu* couplet,

"सोचता हूँ कि अंजामे सफर क्या होगा।
लोग भी कांच के हैं, राह भी पत्थरीली है। "

† "سوچتا ہوں کہ ابانجام سفر کیا ہوگا
لوگ بھی کانچ کے ہیں، راہ بھی پتھریلی ہے۔"

Sir, I urge upon the Minister to respond.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

† Transliteration in Urdu script.

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

MS. DOLA SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

डा. अनिल कुमार साहनी (बिहार): महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो विषय उठाया है, मैं भी उससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री किरनमय नन्दा (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो विषय उठाया है, मैं भी उससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Ramachandra Rao...(Interruptions)... Shri Ramachandra Rao ...(Interruptions)... I will call you. ...(Interruptions)... अंसारी जी, आपका zero hour notice है, आप बैठ जाइए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... Shri Ramachandra Rao ...(Interruptions)... Shri Ramachandra Rao, I told you, yesterday itself that your privilege notice is being examined by hon. Chairman. So, you will be intimated about that. Sit down. Now, Shri Pramod Tiwari, what is your point? ...(Interruptions)... I know you have given ...(Interruptions)... I know ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, ...(Interruptions)... Sir ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, listen. ...(Interruptions)... I know you have given suspension notice. But the suspension notice is not being allowed. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Just a minute, Sir. ...(Interruptions)... सर, मेरा यह कहना है कि यह आज ही हो सकता है, इसके बाद नहीं हो सकता। एक साजिश और षडयंत्र के तहत यह देश हित से जुड़ा मुद्दा है। ऐसे तीन संभावित खिलाड़ी, जो ओलम्पिक पदक जीत सकते थे, उन्हें बारी-बारी डोप टेस्ट में फंसाया जा रहा है। अब यह बात उभरकर सामने आ गई है कि SAI के सेन्टर के किचन में दाल फ्राई करते वक्त कुछ मिलाया गया है, जिससे नरसिंह यादव, जिसने ओलम्पिक मैडल जीता था, उसे डीबार किया जा रहा है।**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes; I agree. That is a point.

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: सर, मेरा प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर यह है कि अगर वह डोप टेस्ट में फेल होता है, तो नियम 10 (4) के अंतर्गत एक क्लॉज है, जिसके अंतर्गत अगर उसकी बगैर जानकारी के दिया गया है, तो उसे उसका लाभ मिलना चाहिए अगर उसने सचमुच जानबूझकर लिया है, तो उसे सज़ा दी जाए।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If there is a conspiracy, ...(Interruptions)... Yes. I agree with you. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: मैं इसका समर्थन करता हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)... बगैर उसकी जानकारी के हमारे देश के खिलाड़ी के साथ विश्वासघात हो रहा है। ...(व्यवधान)... साजिश हो रही है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes ...(Interruptions)...

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: मैं आपके माध्यम से जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस पर सरकार का क्या पक्ष है?

श्री रणविजय सिंह जूदेव (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो विषय उठाया है, मैं उससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This is a very relevant point. This is a very relevant point because, as I understand, Mr. Yadav is to get a medal for our country. He is a material for Olympic Medal and, if it is a conspiracy, then, I think, it should be investigated. Since there is an allegation that it is a conspiracy, I do not know if this can happen like that. I do not know! But it is a very relevant point. ...(Interruptions)... Yes; Naqviji, please. ...(Interruptions)...

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी): सर, प्रमोद तिवारी जी ने जीरो ऑवर में minority के scholarship को लेकर एक बहुत ही important issue उठाया है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You are the Minister. ...(Interruptions)... You are the Minister, so you have to do it. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी: इससे पहले भी कई माननीय सदस्यों ने प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव ने, अहमद पटेल साहब ने इस बारे में हमसे रिक्वेस्ट की थी। उस वजह से स्कॉलरशिप की ऑनलाइन एप्लिकेशन की डेट हमने 31 अगस्त तक बढ़ा दी है। वर्ष 2015-16 में 56,27,000 छात्रों को प्री-मैट्रिक, पोस्ट-मैट्रिक और merit-cum-means स्कॉलरशिप दी जा चुकी है, जिसमें 1,537 करोड़ रुपये छात्रों को दिए गए हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री मो. नदीमुल हक: बंगाल के साढ़े चार लाख स्टूडेंट्स को स्कॉलरशिप नहीं मिली है, उनका क्या होगा? ...(व्यवधान)...

†جناب محمد ندیم الحق: بنگال کے ساڑھے چار لاکھ اسٹوڈینٹس کو اسکالرشپ نہیں ملی ہے، ان کا کیا ہوگا؟ --- (مداخلت) ---

† Transliteration in Urdu script.

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी: उसके बावजूद, अगर किसी भी तरह का कोई और सुझाव माननीय सदस्यों के पास होगा, तो मैं उनसे बात करूँगा और उसको करेक्ट करूँगा, हम आपको विश्वास दिलाते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... हम आपको विश्वास दिलाते हैं कि सभी छात्रों को, जो कि जरूरतमंद हैं, उनको स्कॉलरशिप मिलनी चाहिए, उसमें अगर किसी भी स्तर पर कमी होगी, किसी अधिकारी के स्तर पर कमी होगी, उसको हम करेक्ट करेंगे और उसके खिलाफ कार्रवाई करेंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: ठीक है। एक बात प्रमोद तिवारी जी ने भी कही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी: दूसरा विषय प्रमोद तिवारी जी का है। जो मुद्दा प्रमोद तिवारी जी ने उठाया है, वह निश्चित तौर से एक गंभीर मुद्दा है और हम इस संबंध में संबंधित मंत्रालय और मंत्री जी से कहेंगे कि वे इस पर आवश्यक कदम उठाएँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: हां, इसको जरूर करना पड़ेगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

Need for eliminating all unmanned level crossings in the country

MS. DOLA SEN (West Bengal): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the tragic incident that happened day before yesterday morning shook us to our very core. Reports are still coming in, but, at least, seven children were killed and several others injured as their school mini-bus was hit by a train at an unmanned railway crossing in Auraiye, Bhadohi, in Uttar Pradesh. The mini-bus of Tender Heart School was carrying students up to 10 years of age was hit by the Varanasi-Allahabad passenger train. On March, 2016 the Minister of Railways reported that there were 10,440 unmanned level crossings in the country as on April, 2015.

In 2014, a PIL was filed in the Supreme Court of India seeking the elimination of all unmanned railway crossings and, in the meantime, to ensure the safety of the children on unmanned railway crossings. Yet, as we are witnessing today, accidents and deaths at unmanned level crossings still occur with alarming regularity. Kids with hopes and dreams in their eyes, with courage and ambition in their hearts, have been taken away from us in a cruel twist of fate.

From 2009 to 2014, almost 43 per cent of all railways accidents were at level crossings. Of the 16 Railway Zones, more than 35 per cent of the level crossings are unmanned. From August, 2015 to January, 2016, there were 15 accidents at level crossings, resulting in the death of 26 people. Studies have shown that increasing train speeds and rapid motorization of rural roads have increased the cases of accidents at unmanned level crossings. A number of these accidents involve buses, often involving school children, leading to a disproportionately high number of fatalities when compared to a number of accidents.

It is important to draw your attention to the fact that when Mamata Banerjee was the Railway Minister, due to her untiring and sustained work towards rail safety,