

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is over.

SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: ...of equal pay for equal work is grossly violated in respect of CAPF personnel.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Bajwaji, time is over. It is not going on record.

SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Okay, Sir.

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

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI RAM CHANDRA PRASAD SINGH (Bihar): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

श्री विवेक गुप्ता (पश्चिमी बंगाल): महोदय, मैं भी इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Time over. Shuklaji, do you want to associate?

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA (Maharashtra): Sir, it is a matter of serious concern. The jawans of Paramilitary Forces live in the most miserable and pathetic conditions and they are compelled to put it on social media. I think some preventive measures must be taken. On the one hand, there is an issue of discipline and on the other hand, nothing is being done to provide justice to them. They are compelled to do that. So, I think, the Government should come out with a statement, and the Home Minister should make a statement on the floor of the House. This is what I demand.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. All right. Now, Shri Derek O' Brien.

Securing interests of the Indian IT Workforce creating value globally

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, the subject today is, 'Securing the interests of Indian IT firms creating value globally'.

Sir, this is a very important subject, and a few days ago, the Chief Minister of West Bengal was the first person to react on this. I just want to read two lines of that quote before I get into the meat. 'News about H1B visas is concerning. We must protect our IT companies and professionals. They are our pride. They are our inspiration. We stand by them. India is proud of its world-class talent and it is our

duty to secure their interests. We pledge our solidarity with our IT professionals across the world’.

Sir, I don’t want to get into discussing what this new executive order does but, suffice to say that it will fundamentally and adversely affect Indian IT companies. Now Indian IT companies don’t need our pity nor do they need our sympathy. They are very, very strong to stand on their own feet, and there is an alternative view, Sir, but I think it must be tabled as to what role these IT companies have played globally. Now, science and medicine doctors, technology, science professionals are always in short supply and it is well known that Indians across the world always come and top them up. No one is doing us a favour. It is because we are qualified to do what we do. Sir, there are three or four very important points to highlight here. Seventy-five per cent of ‘Fortune 500 companies’ have operational support from Indian IT companies. I am not only talking about the ‘Fortune 500 companies’, I am also talking about the thousands of other American companies which have this support. Sir, from 2011 to 2015 when the American job market had been growing at 1.7 per cent, those Indian companies, supporting American companies, were growing at 10 per cent. That is a huge contribution. Sir, if it even comes to tax, 20 billion is being contributed every year by these companies. Sir, there are millions of jobs which are being created as a result. So, we need to protect these companies. We fully believe that these companies can stand on their own feet. I don’t mean ‘protection’ in negative kind of way. There is an alternative view to suggest that these companies could be looking globally, elsewhere but I think we need to place on record that these companies play a positive role not only in the American economy but also across the world. Sir, these engineers, these software engineers, are truly a jewel in the crown of the Indian workforce, of the international workforce. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI K. T. S. TULSI (Nominated): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी (बिहार): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य के वक्तव्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right. All those who associate are welcome. Now, Shri Hariprasad.

NHRC report on the rape of 16 tribal women in Bastar

SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD (Karnataka): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this House about the slogan of the NDA Government '*Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas*'.

Sir, it has become a fashion in Chhattisgarh. Way back in 2012, Meena Khalkho, 14-year old girl, was raped and murdered by the Police force, and, later, she was branded as a 'Naxalite'. The then Congress President, Mr. Nand Kumar Patel, who was killed by the Naxalites had demanded for a judicial inquiry to this episode, and later in 2015, the Judicial Commission had submitted its report to the Assembly saying that 'Meena Khalkho was not a naxalite'. It is nothing but a *. Later, in 2013, Sir, we have witnessed Jalaimari *kand* where 40 children, aged between 6-13 years, in a tribal ashram were molested by the people in the ashram. Fortunately, the District Commissioner, DC, had exposed this episode but no action has been taken. Sir, recently, the *Indian Express* had reported the NHRC report indicting the State Government and the Police of raping of 16 tribal women in Bastar region, especially, in Bijapur region, in the whole of Bastar. Sir, I would like to stress upon the fact that in the whole of Bastar, there is no governance except on the National Highways. Way back in 2015, according to the Commission Report, in Pegdapalli, Chinnagelur, Peddagelur, Gundam and Burgicheru, the State Police personnel allegedly sexually harassed and assaulted more than 40 of them and gang raped at least two in Bijapur district of Chhattisgarh. It was also reported that belongings of many villagers were destroyed, stolen or scattered by the forces passing through these villages.

Sir, they talk about "सबका साथ, सबका विकास". In Bastar, it is not *vikas* but *vinash*. No action has been taken against the people or the Police who were responsible for such acts. NHRC has taken *suo motu* cognizance of the NGO which was fighting for the cause of the tribals. Instead of filing cases against the Police under The SC and ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, they have filed cases against the lawyers who were giving free legal aid to these tribals. They have filed cases against the NGOs, they have filed cases against the journalists, but they are yet to file a case against these Police officers. Unfortunately, despite such barbaric and beastly acts by the

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.