

- (ii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Two Hundred and Seventy-eighth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests on Demands for Grants (2016-17) of the Department of Biotechnology.
- (iii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Two Hundred and Eighty-sixth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests on Action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in its Two Hundred and Seventy-eighth Report on Demands for Grants (2016-17) of the Department of Biotechnology.

MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE COURT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALLAHABAD

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): Sir, I move the following Motion:—

“That in pursuance of item (e) of clause (1) read with clause (2) of Statute 8 of the Statutes of the University of Allahabad, this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one Member from amongst the Members of the House to be a member of the Court of the University of Allahabad.”

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

REFERENCES

Re. Coverage of the proceedings of the House by the media

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, मेरा एक प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order?

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: उपसभापति जी, पूरा देश यह अपेक्षा करता है कि इस सदन में जो भी कार्यवाही हुई हो, उस कार्यवाही को मीडिया के माध्यम से कम कम वह जाने। इधर मैं देख रहा हूँ कि यहां मीडिया वालों के लिए गैलरी बनाई गई है और मीडिया वालों को इसलिए बैठाया गया कि सदन की कार्यवाही में हम लोग जो भी भाग ले रहे हैं, उसमें जो भी चीजें उठा रहे हैं, वह जाने। सर, जनता में यह भावना बन गई है कि नेता लोग तो सिर्फ भत्ता लेने जाते हैं, तनख्वाह लेने जाते हैं, कुछ काम नहीं करते...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is the point of order?

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, मैं कह रहा हूँ कि यहां कल भी इलेक्टोरल रिफॉर्म्स पर बहुत इम्पॉर्टेंट मुद्दे उठे। हमारी nuisance तो मीडिया तुरंत छाप देती है, जैसे अगर हमने कोई ऐसी चीज की, वेल में चले गए, कोई नारे लगाने लगे, लेकिन अगर सकारात्मक डिबेट हो रही है, तो कुछ नहीं छपता। कल शरद जी ने भी यह बात उठाई थी, जब वे बोल रहे थे कि टाइम्स ऑफ इंडिया वगैरह एक लाइन भी नहीं छापेंगे, जैसा हम लोग रोज देखते हैं। श्रीमन्, जो इम्पॉर्टेंट विषय, जैसे कल हम लोगों ने इलेक्टोरल रिफॉर्म्स पर बात की...

श्री उपसभापति: मैं क्या करूँ?

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, यह पीठ निर्देश दे। पीठ को तो इतने अधिकार हैं, अगर हमें डांटने का अधिकार है, हमें निर्देश देने का अधिकार है, मैं नहीं कहता कि मीडिया को डांटने का अधिकार है। लेकिन पीठ कम से कम मीडिया को निर्देश दे कि मीडिया केवल negative चीजें न छापे, बल्कि सदन में जो भी positive चर्चा हुई है, उसको भी छापे, जिससे देश समझ सके कि यहां पर क्या बात हुई और क्या बात नहीं हुई। आपको इसका अधिकार है।

श्री उपसभापति: मीडिया ने इसे छपा है।

श्री शरद यादव (बिहार): सर, कल इतनी बेहतरीन ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: कल आपने मीडिया की इतनी आलोचना की, क्या वह पूरा छपना चाहिए?

श्री शरद यादव: मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ ...(व्यवधान)... कि इसी सदन में इन्हीं दीवारों के भीतर वह दफन हो गया। मैंने कहा था कि जो मीडिया है, वह मालिकों का हो गया है, मीडिया को जो आजादी मिली है, वह मालिकों को मिल गई है और मालिकों की आजादी इस लोकतंत्र को खत्म करेगी। कल मैं यह बोला हूँ, यह साबित होता है। किसी अखबार में, किसी मीडिया में, कहीं किसी तरह से बात नहीं आई है। इसका मतलब है कि मीडिया धंधेवालों, पूँजीपतियों की मुट्ठी में है। इसको उनकी मुट्ठी से निकालना चाहिए और इसके लिए कानून बनना चाहिए कि कोई व्यक्ति एक धंधा कर सकता है और यदि कोई मीडिया चलाता है, तो वह दूसरा धंधा नहीं करेगा। इस तरह से इस सदन का ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What can the Chair do? ...(Interruptions).. It is okay. Anand Sharmaji, what do you have to say?

श्री शरद यादव: नहीं, सर, इसको आप गम्भीरता से लीजिए। लोकतंत्र मरने वाला है। लोकतंत्र में सच्ची बोली बाहर नहीं जाएगी।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What can the Chair do?

श्री शरद यादव: आप कह सकते हैं। आप सरकार को निर्देश दे सकते हैं कि वह इसके लिए कानून लाए कि जो व्यक्ति मीडिया चलाएगा, वह दूसरा धंधा नहीं कर सकता है। लोग मीडिया के अन्दर-बाहर धंधा कर रहे हैं।

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN (Odisha): Sir, ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sit down. ...(*Interruptions*)... No discussion on that. ...(*Interruptions*)... Sharadji, I have understood. मैं समझ गया। Now, Shri Anand Sharma. Are you on the same point or something else? I am not allowing a discussion.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Himachal Pradesh): Same issue, Sir.

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Sir, ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. I am not allowing a discussion on this. If you want, ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, this country, as such, is governed by the Constitution of the Republic of India. The Constitution guarantees certain fundamental rights to the citizens, and those rights, particularly, under Article 19(1), the Right of Freedom of Expression, are also given to the media of the country. Now, it becomes incumbent. Media, particularly, the private media, besides the public broadcaster or the State broadcaster, plays an important role in a democracy in informing public opinion on important matters and on sensitizing public opinion, at the same time, in ensuring that there is a balance of narrative on important national issues. In a democracy, this is essential. On this issue, I don't think there is a difference of opinion. There was one, but the views of the Opposition matter a lot irrespective of the size or the strength of the Opposition, if democracy has to survive. What the Opposition raises are fundamental issues, which must get adequate projection.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, today, I would also like to make one point, that the freedom of expression, — let the media hear it — particularly, of the commercial media, is not the right which is given to the citizens, because that is commercial and citizen's right is non-commercial. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is okay. Sit down.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: No, Sir. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No discussion on this.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, I would like to make it very clear. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have made it clear. I have understood. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Please, Sir. ...(*Interruptions*)..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have understood your point. ...(*Interruptions*).. Everybody has understood. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Only the negative fanfare...*(Interruptions)*... of any disruption in the House is welcome. That is celebrated on the front page. But, if there is a constructive discussion on important matters, that is totally blacklisted. Therefore, I have to say one thing.*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SWAPAN DASGUPTA (Nominated): Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, I have to say one thing, particularly, on the issue of cross-holdings in the media.*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. You cannot make a speech.*(Interruptions)*... Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: There should be a discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*... Monopolies are being created. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no, please. ..*(Interruptions)*... Don't take too much of time. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: No, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*... Yesterday, we raised it. ..*(Interruptions)*... There has to be a discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. I have understood. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have understood the point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: There has to be a discussion on cross-holdings. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Jairam Rameshji, I will call you later. ...*(Interruptions)*... No more discussion on this.*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: The cross-holdings in the media,...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No more discussion on this.*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Creating media monopolies will destroy the democracy in the country. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SWAPAN DASGUPTA: Sir, someone who has ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: We are not blaming those ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No discussion on this, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Anand Sharmaji, please sit down. I have to take up Zero Hour.*(Interruptions)*... I have understood. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have understood your point. Now you can sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, yesterday,.....(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have made the point. ...(*Interruptions*)... No; this is not a disussion. ...(*Interruptions*)... How can I allow like that? ...(*Interruptions*)... This is not a discussion. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, we are all for the freedom of media. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SWAPAN DASGUPTA: Sir, ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Why are you interrupting me?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Anand Sharmaji, you have made your point. Why do you repeat? ...(*Interruptions*)... You have made your point. Why do you repeat? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: At the same time, commercial media, ...(*Interruptions*)... monopoly is, actually, hurting democracy. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; Anand Sharmaji, you cannot make a speech. ...(*Interruptions*)... Sit down. ...(*Interruptions*)... What is this? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, I am not making a speech. ...(*Interruptions*)... We demand a discussion on this. ...(*Interruptions*)..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. I am coming to that. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am coming to that. Now you sit down. ...(*Interruptions*)... Now you sit down. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: The I&B Minister is sitting here. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no, please. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Is there a thinking on cross-holding? ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री उपसभापति: आनन्द शर्मा जी, आप बैठिए। ...(*व्यवधान*)... आनन्द शर्मा जी, आप बैठिए। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: I will sit down, Sir. But the Minister should get up. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no, please. ...(*Interruptions*)... No, please. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: He gets up on every matter. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Anand Sharmaji, please resume your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SWAPAN DASGUPTA: Sir, ... *...(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: On what subject are you? ...*(Interruptions)*... On this subject, I don't want any more suggestion. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... You listen to what I am saying. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SWAPAN DASGUPTA: It will be a very dangerous day if the Government or the Parliament starts giving instructions. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... You sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... No; sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: यह आप क्या बात कर रहे हैं? ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह क्या बात कर रहे हैं?...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, the use of the word ... *...(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति: आप बैठिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... बैठिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... No, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now you sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, let me remind ...*(Interruptions)*... The House of Commons ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति: आनन्द शर्मा जी, आप बैठिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Anand Sharmaji, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now you sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Sir, Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no, I am not allowing you. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not allowing anybody on this. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. Already too much ...*(Interruptions)*... See, yesterday itself, when Sharad Yadavji raised this issue in the discussion, I said, we can have a discussion on a motion. So, if a proper motion is given, there can be a discussion. That is number one. Number two, there is no point in blaming the Media also. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me say. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री शरद यादव: हम पत्रकारों को नहीं कह रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: पत्रकारों को नहीं कह रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, you are not blaming. You are raising an issue. But the point is, there is a saying in Malayalam which I will translate into English. It is like this. It says, "If a dog bites a man..."

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, say it in Malayalam.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. I will say in Malayalam. It says, “ * ” I will translate it. It is, “If a dog bites a man, it is no news. But if a man bites a dog, it is a news.” So, if you sit properly, make a speech, there is no much news. But if you misbehave, then it is a news. ...*(Interruptions)*... However, I would like to add ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me add something. ...*(Interruptions)*... However, I would like to add that Media is the fourth pillar of our democracy. They should be responsible. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down. I am saying something. They should be responsible. What is responsibility? There should be honest reporting. See, if something happens and if it is exaggerated and published, it is dishonest. Likewise, if a news is black-out, it is also a dishonest reporting. Therefore, for the sake of democracy, it is expected that true reporting should be adhered to by the Media. That is all what I have to say. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, मेरा एक point of order और है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; no, point of order.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, point of order है।...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति: क्या है यह? और कितने point of order हैं? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, बस यह लास्ट point of order है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... This is the last. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति: और कितने point of order हैं? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, आज दिन भर का यह लास्ट point of order है, जो हम सबसे जुड़ा हुआ है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

माननीय उपसभापति जी, हमने कई बार इस सदन में एमपीज़ के वेतन-भत्ते का मामला उठाया, लेकिन उस पर कोई निर्णय नहीं हुआ। आज अखबारों में छपा हुआ है कि पूर्व एमपीज़ के वेतन-भत्ते, पेंशन, रेलवे सुविधा आदि भी ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति: अभी कोई डिस्मिशन नहीं हुआ है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह आप क्या बोल रहे हैं? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: श्रीमन्, गवर्नमेंट का नोटिस हो गया है और चार हफ्ते में गवर्नमेंट को जवाब देना है। यह तो ऐसा लग रहा है कि जैसे हम लोग कोई खज़ाना लूट रहे हों। एक्स एमपीज़ बेचारे असहाय हैं। हमारे हरदोई में एक एक्स एमपी के लड़के और पोते पेंटिंग का काम कर रहे हैं, मज़दूरी का काम कर रहे हैं, इतनी गरीबी से वे गुजर रहे हैं। मैं उनका नाम भी लेना चाहूंगा, श्री मणिलाल जी, जो एक्स एमपी हैं।

* Mr. Deputy Chairman spoke in Malayalam.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; it is in court.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: जब एक्स एमपी या एमपी इतनी बुरी स्थिति में रह रहे हैं, अगर उस पर हमारी इमेज इस तरह खराब की जाएगी और इस तरह उनकी सुविधाएं बंद कर दी जाएंगी ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति: कोर्ट ने जो ऑर्डर किया है, इसमें हम क्या करेंगे? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: मैं नेता सदन से चाहूंगा कि वे इस पर कुछ जवाब दें। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Every MP is not a multi-millionaire. ...*(Interruptions)*... Even the PAs are getting more pay than the MPs. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति: आप लोग बैठिए। लीडर ऑफ दि हाउस बोलना चाहते हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप बैठिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... सुनिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: After the Seventh Pay Commission, salaries of.. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will call you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Sir, before the Leader of the House responds, I wish to say something.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: On this subject?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Yes, Sir, on this subject.

Sir, with the greatest of respect, I was astonished to read today in the newspapers an observation made that 80 per cent of all ex-MPs are *crorepatis*. Now, I did not know that a survey had been done of ex-MPs and I did not know that the survey had resulted in 80 per cent of ex-MPs becoming *crorepatis*.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY (West Bengal): What about ex-IAS officers?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, normally observations get made in the Judiciary. It is part of the judicial process.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Don't criticize the Judiciary. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR (Uttar Pradesh): Why not, Sir? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, please hear me out. ...*(Interruptions)*....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You could go and seek remedy in the court itself; you cannot criticize the Judiciary. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: Sir, the Parliament is supreme. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, when a Supreme Court Judge says that 80 per cent of ex-MPs are *crorepatis*, I think this is a very serious issue and, with the greatest of respect, I have to say that this is an astonishing statement to come from the highest in the land, which is one of the pillars of democracy that you spoke about. So, I would request the Leader of the House to take note of the statement and the sentiments of the Members of the House, because we would all be ex-Members some day or the other and I am sure, 80 per cent of us are not *crorepatis*.

SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: Sir, how many Judges... ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, hon. Leader of the House. ...(Interruptions)...

THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Sir, it is unquestionably a clear constitutional position that public money can only be spent with the authority of Parliament and, therefore, Parliament is the one and only authority that determines how public funds are to be spent. This is an authority of Parliament. No other institution can really exercise that power; it is only the Parliament which can exercise that power. Therefore, who is entitled to pensions what the quantum of pensions is, and so on, is an area which exclusively falls within the domain of the Parliament. That is the position of this Government. I understand the sentiments expressed by the hon. Members and the Government would always stick to this position. I think, as part of an inter-institutional discipline, this is a constitutional position which all institutions will eventually have to respect.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. That is clear. Now, Zero Hour submissions; Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I wish to make a point of order under Rule 267. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Not allowed. Mr. Ritabrata Banerjee, sit down. ...(Interruptions).... Sit down, Mr. Bajwa. I would call you later. I would give you time. Please sit down. ...(Interruptions).... Mr. Ritabrata, I would call you later. Now, Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Need for import duty on wheat and pulses

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दा, माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी के समक्ष, यदि वे यहां दो मिनट रुके रहें, तो