MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES (AIIMS), BHUBANESWAR

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE; THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): Sir, I move the following Motion:—

"That in pursuance of Section 4(g) of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences Act, 1956 read with sub-section (1) of Section 6 of the AIIMS (Amendment) Act, 2012, the Members of 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 All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Bhubaneswar, subject to the provisions of the Act."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Regarding offer of US President on mediation on Kashmir dispute between India and Pakistan

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have received notice under Rule 267 by Shri Anand Sharma and Shri D. Raja regarding the offer of US President on mediation on Kashmir dispute between India and Pakistan. Considering the Motion, I have decided that I will not admit it under Rule 267. But I will take it up in Zero Hour. After I received the notice, and later on the LoP and some leaders also met me on this issue because it is an important issue, I told them that I will get in touch with the Government and find out the response of the Government. Because in addition to this, there is a statement in the media from the Government also. Then I spoke to the Minister. The Minister is here. So please just mention it and then the Minister will respond. ... (Interruptions)... It is a sensitive issue. ... (Interruptions)... Your Leader is here. ... (Interruptions)... The country's unity, integrity and national interest are involved. So we should be seen in speaking in one voice. Because international community should also know.. So, Mr. Anand Sharma, if you just want to mention it..

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Himachal Pradesh): Sir, the entire country was shocked last night to hear the US President, Mr. Donald Trump, telling the Prime Minister of

Matters raised

Pakistan, Shri Imran Khan, that the Prime Minister of India at the G20 Summit, which was held recently in Osaka, requested him, 'Will you agree to mediate?' And then 'I asked him on what' and he said 'on Kashmir' ... (Interruptions) ... It has gone on for many years. ... (Interruptions) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not the way. ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Then he asked the Pakistan Prime Minister, "Since the Indian Prime Minister has requested me, will you agree?" To which the Pakistan Prime Minister responded in affirmative and told the US President that Pakistan will also agree and he went on to say that billion people will bless him.

Sir, India's position has been consistent, firm and clear on Pakistan and also on PoK. Both the Houses of Parliament, this House and the Lok Sabha, have in the past passed unanimous resolution. On what the hon. Chairman has said, we fully realize the enormity and the sensitivity of the matter that India speaks in one voice. There is no intention to divide. But it is a head of state of the most powerful country talking about the head of the Indian Government, the Prime Minister conveying something which has serious consequences for us. Because we have always maintained, whether it was Shimla Accord, later Lahore was a Declaration, between the two Prime Ministers when the Shimla Accord was reached that this is a bilateral issue of Jammu and Kashmir and India will not accept any third party mediation. I have to submit it, through you, Sir, to the Government. Since it is the President of America informing the Pakistan PM about Indian Prime Minister saying it, Parliament is in session, I submit to you that the Prime Minister must respect Parliament and come to the House and clarify this. ... (Interruptions) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri D. Raja. ... (Interruptions)... Please sit down, Mr. Kareem. ... (Interruptions) ... Sit down please, Mr. Kareem. ... (Interruptions) ... You have not given any notice. ... (Interruptions) ... Please sit down. ... (Interruptions) ... Otherwise, ... (Interruptions) ... It is totally unbecoming... ... (Interruptions) ... On such a sensitive issue ... (Interruptions) ... You have not given notice. I am calling people ... (Interruptions) ...

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM (Kerala): Sir, I have given... (Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can give any notice after the time is over.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, agreeing with you that nation should speak in one voice and Parliament should speak in one voice, we are raising this issue. And it is a serious issue.

The stated position of the country remains to be "no third party mediation on Kashmir; no third party mediation on the issues which are there between India and Pakistan". They are all bilateral issues. We should sort them out bilaterally. That is the position so far India has got. Now, is there any change? The US President, not Secretary, claims that the Prime Minister of India has asked him whether it is possible for him to negotiate or mediate. And he has said this to the Prime Minister of another country. In such a situation, I think the denial given by the officials of the Ministry of External Affairs is not enough. The Prime Minister should come and tell the Parliament and the nation. ... (Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, Mr. Raja. Now, the Minister for External Affairs.

SHRI D. RAJA: The Prime Minister should clarify what transpired between them. ... (Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please Mr. Raja. You have raised the issue. Issue has come before the House. Let us hear the Government version. He was also there when the meeting took place.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (DR. SUBRAHMANAYAM JAISHANKAR): Sir, yesterday evening, after the House had adjourned, we heard remarks by President Donald Trump in a meeting with Prime Minister of Pakistan, Shri Imran Khan, to the Press that he is ready to mediate if requested by India and Pakistan on Kashmir issue. I would like to categorically assure the House that no such request had been made by the Prime Minister to the US President. ... (Interruptions)... I repeat that no such request was made by the Prime Minister to the US President. Sir, I would also reiterate that it has been India's consistent position that all outstanding issues with Pakistan are discussed only bilaterally. I would further underline that any engagement with Pakistan would require an end to cross-border terrorism. Sir, let me conclude by emphasizing that the Shimla Agreement and the Lahore Declaration provide the basis to resolve all issues between India and Pakistan bilaterally.

I hope, in view of my very specific and categorical responses, there is no confusion in the mind of anybody on this issue. Thank you, Sir. ... (Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Zero Hour. ...(Interruptions)... Shri Rakesh Sinha. ...(Interruptions)... Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Don't make a national issue into a political issue. ...(Interruptions)... Please don't make a national issue into a political issue. ...(Interruptions)... This is not the way. ...(Interruptions)... You have more confidence in the American President than the Indian Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister! ...(Interruptions)... What are you talking? ...(Interruptions)... Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... This will not go on record. ...(Interruptions)... Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... I urge you all to please sit down in the national interest. ...(Interruptions)... This is not good. ...(Interruptions)... We are sending a wrong signal. ...(Interruptions)... Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Now, Shri Rakesh Sinha. ...(Interruptions)... Let everybody else sit down. ...(Interruptions)...

Need to protect Kanwar Lake Bird Sanctuary in Begusarai, Bihar

श्री राकेश सिन्हा (नाम निर्देशित) : सभापित महोदय, मैं एशिया की सबसे प्रसिद्ध झील...(व्यवधान)... मैं कांवर झील की स्थिति के बारे में सदन का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This was not a motion. It was a Zero Hour mention. ... (Interruptions)... Please sit down. ... (Interruptions)... Let everybody sit down. ... (Interruptions)... In the national interest, please sit down. ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Himachal Pradesh): Sir, the LoP wants to say something. ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, in the national interest, allow us to speak. ... (Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is nothing to speak now. ... (Interruptions)... There is a clarification categorically made by the Government. ... (Interruptions)... We believe our Government. ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, let the LoP speak. ... (Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am going to do that. ... (Interruptions)... Why do you worry? ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, you said, 'national interest'. ... (Interruptions)...