

**Impact of the Foreign Trade Agreements signed by previous Governments and
their adverse effect on India's Foreign Exchange and GDP**

SHRI T.G. VENKATESH (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, our country entered into foreign trade agreements a decade ago. Now those agreements are becoming a terrible blow for industries. Domestic industries are dying. I give you some examples. Whatever is being imported from Bangladesh, especially chemicals and other things, it has almost zero duty. But whatever we export to Bangladesh, it bears 25 per cent export duties plus other duties, which, in total, is costing almost 40 per cent. The funny thing is that we entered into these agreements a decade ago to benefit Bangladesh and other countries. But, realistically, it is not benefiting Bangladesh. It is the Chinese industries which are getting benefit in Bangladesh. These Chinese industries in Bangladesh are exporting to India. Hence, pharma industry, chemical industry and other industries in India are going to be closed. Similarly, if you take Malaysia, Indonesia and other countries, we import raw materials from these countries. These countries mainly supply palm oil, PFAD and other oil by-products, as raw materials, not only to India but to the whole world also. At the same time, they are also supplying finished products globally. They are dumping raw materials in India and the customs duty in India is only 5 per cent. Malaysia is converting the same raw materials into finished products and exporting to India and there is zero duty on it. I give you another example. On soap noodles which India is exporting to Malaysia, there is zero duty. But on the same raw material that they are exporting to India, we are applying 5 per cent duty. How will the industry run in this country? Definitely, we have to review the foreign trade agreements entered into a decade ago. Otherwise, whatever efforts the hon. Prime Minister or hon. Industry Minister make, nothing is going to benefit this country. Our industries are badly affected by these agreements. Again, you see the power cost in India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your allotted time is over. Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao.

Need for building pressure on Pakistan for strict action against Hafiz Saeed

SHRI G.V.L. NARASIMHA RAO (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to raise this very important issue of global terrorism that really poses a huge threat to humanity. My particular submission is about farcical investigation and prosecution of a global terrorist, Hafiz Saeed, in Pakistan. A lot of cases have been recently filed after Pakistan had been put once again on the

grey list by the Financial Action Task Force. And, even the so-called hearings in the Anti-Terrorism Court are being held in camera without the media and the public being allowed to see what is being happening in this trial. It is important because Hafiz Saeed is designated as a global terrorist. He has been banned by the UN, and also by US, UK, India and many other countries. If this is the way by which investigations are done, with regard to someone designated as a global terrorist, I think it only calls for serious international scrutiny. I call upon the Government of India to build pressure in all possible forums including the Financial Action Task Force, where every country is expected to deliver on 27 parameters, in terms of controlling terror through curbing terror financing, and Pakistan had been dealing with only five of them. This desperate action on the part of Pakistan is to actually mislead the international community into believing that Pakistan is serious about acting against terror. So, these attempts to dupe the international community must be exposed. In the name of NGOs, non-Governmental Organisations, global terrorists have been obtaining funds and giving them for terrorist activities. So, I would like to bring to the attention of the Government that such internationally noted terrorist should be tried, if possible, in International Court, because Pakistan has never been serious about bringing to justice people involved in acts of terror outside Pakistan. Hafiz Saeed is the mastermind of 26/11 attacks in Mumbai. It is important that such global terrorists are tried not in their home country because we know Pakistan is actually providing refuge and patronage to such elements. I hope this House joins me in condemning actions of Pakistan on letting such people go scot free. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by hon. Member.

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

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

SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by hon. Member.

श्री लाल सिंह वड़ोडिया (गुजरात): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

डा. अनिल जैन (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

डा. सी.पी. ठाकुर (बिहार): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती कान्ता कर्दम (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करती हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up Special Mentions. Shri Kailash Soni, not present. Now, Dr. Sasmit Patra.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Demand for a National Programme for providing Land Rights to slum dwellers

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, the slum dwellers in the cities today are the reason for which the cities move, breathe and live. Despite living for decades, they do not have any ownership on the land where they settle when they come in. They usually lose their lands due to Government evictions or real estate mafia. They need to have protection and be provided the land rights on which they have been residing in the cities. Realizing the problem, the hon. Chief Minister of Odisha, Shri Naveen Patnaik launched in May, 2018, the Jaga Mission. The Jaga Mission is acclaimed as the world's largest slum land titling project, benefiting a million urban poor living in the slums, with promises to provide self-respect and freedom from the perpetual fear of eviction. This Mission executed in collaboration with Tata Trusts and Normal Foster Foundation, was launched for providing land tenure to slum dwellers and transforming all slums in the State to liveable habitat. Odisha recently won the World Habitat Award, a global recognition for its ambitious initiative - Jaga Mission. This award is given by World Habitat, a UK-based organization, in partnership with UN-Habitat. It was also awarded with the India Geospatial Excellence Award for technological innovation in transforming lives of urban poor. We hope that in light of such innovative programmes like Jaga Mission of Odisha, the Union Government will bring about a national programme for providing land rights to slum dwellers in India. This would provide security and dignity to their lives.