

**Need to stop privatisation of Numaligarh Refinery, Assam**

SHRI RIPUN BORA (Assam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I want to draw the attention of the Government and more particularly of the Petroleum Minister and the Finance Minister...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have two minutes and Mr. Baishya will have one minute.

SHRI RIPUN BORA: Sir, the people of Assam are emotionally attached with the Numaligarh Refinery because this is the product of the historic Assam Accord of 1985 where a six year long agitation took place. During that agitation, more than 855 people died, thousands were jailed, houses were burnt and so on. At the end of this Accord, this refinery was established. This is one of the profit-making refineries in Assam. This refinery has been providing employment to thousands of people. Directly or indirectly, our youth have been employed there. This is one of the major constituents of the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. Now, the Government of India is going to privatise the BPCL, and as a part of this, the Numaligarh Refinery is also going to be privatised. The demand of the entire people of Assam is that at any cost privatisation should not be done. It should be stopped. Sir, lots of civil society organizations and so many student and political party organizations are already on the streets demanding to stop privatization. So my request to the Government is that for the interest of Assam this move of privatization is to be stopped immediately.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Shri Birendra Baishya.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, we would like to associate ourselves with it.

**श्री सभापति:** जिन्होंने पहले नाम दिया है, मैंने पहले उनको बुलाया है, फिर बाद में आप लोगों का नाम भी include किया जाएगा। Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA (Assam): Sir, it is known to everybody that Assam is an oil-producing State. Asia's first refinery was established in Assam Digboi. But all the time, whichever Government was here, they have an eye on Assam Refinery. In UPA time, there was some attempt made by the then Government to destabilize, against the sentiment of people of Assam, the Digboi Refinery. Now, the same thing is going to happen in Numaligarh Refinery. Numaligarh Refinery involves public sentiments of people of Assam. Sir, it is not only a profit-making industry, it is also having a very high agreement with the neighbouring country, Bangladesh. Numaligarh

Refinery is exporting products to Bangladesh also. Sir, they are not only making profit, in social life, in economic life of people of Assam, they also play a very important role, and the Government of India recently invested thousands of crores of rupees for expansion and development of Numaligarh Refinery. Not only that, Sir, Numaligarh Refinery has a planning. From by-product of bamboo, they want to make some oil products. So, in the interest of the country, this refinery is very important.

My request is the Government is, please respect the sentiments of people of Assam. At least, don't privatise the Numaligarh Refinery because recently the Government of India has decided to invest near about four thousand crores of rupees for the expansion of the Numaligarh Refinery. Thank you, Sir.

**श्री हुसैन दलवाई** (महाराष्ट्र): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM (Kerala): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI K.K. RAGESH (Kerala): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha.

#### **De-recognition of NIOS-D.El.Ed. degree**

**प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा** (बिहार): सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार और खास तौर पर मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय का ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ। इससे पहले जो मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री थे, उस दौर में NIOS से D.El.Ed. की डिग्री का काफी प्रचार-प्रसार किया गया। इसमें तकरीबन 4 लाख अभ्यर्थी निकले। अब कहा जा रहा है कि यह in-house वालों के लिए था, जबकि विज्ञापन में ऐसा कही नहीं था और मुक्त विद्यालय से हुआ। अब कहा जा