

Need to withdraw the draft Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2020

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Sir, my Zero Hour submission is about withdrawing draft Environment Impact Assessment Notification 2020 which has raised a lot of public concerns and protests. During the lockdown period there was a concerted attempt to issue this notification, but it has been held back because of these public protests and concerns. The draft EIA notification is dangerous on four grounds. It is anti-democratic because it reduces the role of the public and does away with any assessment by local impacted communities. Second, it is anti-public health because it is giving away the right for the environmental impact assessment and is regularising environmental violations. It is anti-federalism because it is taking away the powers of States and centralising everything in the Centre and finally it is anti-jurisprudence because the notification exceeds the mother Act, the Environment Protection Act of 2020. I urge upon the Government to resist the temptation to using this crisis as an opportunity for weakening environmental laws and put this draft EIA notification, which is dangerous, into a complete cold storage. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You want the Government to withdraw the Environment Impact Assessment 2020. That is your suggestion.

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by Shri Jairam Ramesh.

SHRI M. V. SHREYAMS KUMAR (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Jairam Ramesh.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Jairam Ramesh.

SHRI RAJEEV SATAV (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Jairam Ramesh.

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Jairam Ramesh.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Jairam Ramesh.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Himachal Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Jairam Ramesh.

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE; THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): Sir, Shri Jairam Ramesh had written about the same. ...but the issue is not simple. ... and 230-odd office memoranda were also issued. And this is absolutely just collecting all the facts and adhering to the High Court decision and Supreme Court decisions. As far as public hearing is concerned, we have exempted only two new categories – small industries and more importantly ...*(Interruptions)*... So, I deny the charges.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prakashji, there are two ways.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: I deny the charges.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please hear me. There are two ways. One is debate if time permits. Otherwise, the Minister can call the interested Members to have a discussion, because nothing is finalized; it is only a draft.

Now, Sardar Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa. Not present. पंजाबी भाषा के वक्ता हैं। श्री हरनाथ सिंह यादव जी, आप संक्षेप में बोलिए।

Need for a law to control rising population

श्री हरनाथ सिंह यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय सभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से जनसंख्या वृद्धि के कारण उपस्थित भयावह संकट की ओर सरकार तथा सदन का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। जनसंख्या वृद्धि की विस्फोटक स्थिति के कारण देश में उपलब्ध संसाधनों व समग्र विकास और सभी प्रकार की सेवाओं के मध्य भारी असंतुलन पैदा होने के कारण देश एक गहरे संकट में फंसा चला जा रहा है। जनसंख्या वृद्धि के अभूतपूर्व दबाव के कारण आज हम बेरोज़गारी, खाद्य समस्या, कुपोषण, आवास, निर्धनता, कृषि व ग्रामीण विकास में भारी अवरोध, जल संकट, पर्यावरण संकट एवं मानवीय स्वभाव में निरन्तर बढ़ते तनाव जैसी अभूतपूर्व स्थिति से जूझ रहे हैं। जनसंख्या के भारी दबाव के कारण सामाजिक ताने-बाने पर भी बहुत खराब प्रभाव पड़ रहा है। साम्प्रदायिकता व जातीय गोलबन्दी बढ़ रही है, जो आगे चल कर देश की एकता, अखंडता, सार्वभौमिकता, सामाजिक समता और समरसता के भाव को भारी क्षति पहुंचा सकते हैं। जनसंख्या वृद्धि की अभूतपूर्व स्थिति के कारण आज वायु, जल, पृथ्वी, खाने-पीने के समस्त भोज्य पदार्थ ज़हरीले हो गये हैं, जिसके कारण देश जानलेवा गम्भीर बीमारी का घर बन गया है।

श्री सभापति: धन्यवाद हरनाथ सिंह जी, वह बढ़ती हुई आबादी के ऊपर पाबंदी लगाना चाहते हैं। Law to control rising population. बस इतना ही है, विषय समझ में आ गया है। श्री कनकमेदला रवींद्र कुमार जी आप बोलिये।