

GOVERNMENT BILLS

The Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021

and

Amendments for reference of the Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021

Bill to a Select Committee

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, I move to the Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021. ...(*Interruptions*) ... Shri Kiren Rijiju to move a motion for consideration of the Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU): Sir, I move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Minister, do you want to speak briefly on the Bill? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI KIREN RIJIJU: Yes, Sir. ...(*Interruptions*)... This is a very important Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record except what the Minister speaks. ...(*Interruptions*)...(*Interruptions*)... I have clarified it. ...(*Interruptions*)...प्लीज़, Business Advisory Committee की meeting की सूचना पहले भेजी गई थी और पहले भी ऐसी मीटिंग्स होती रही हैं।..(**व्यवधान**)..

श्री किरन रिजिजु : महोदय, यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण बिल है। हमारी डेमोक्रेसी, हमारे चुनाव की जो प्रक्रिया है, वह सब electoral process पर निर्भर करता है। ..(**व्यवधान**)..

श्री उपसभापति : प्लीज़, आप लोग placards न दिखायें और अपनी सीट्स पर जाएं। ..(**व्यवधान**)..

श्री किरन रिजिजू : Electoral process को चुस्त-दुरुस्त करना और उसमें जो कमियां हैं, उनको दूर करना सरकार की भी जिम्मेदारी है और Election Commission की भी जिम्मेदारी है। Election Commission समय-समय पर सरकार को रिकमंडेशन भेजता है और इस बार चार प्वाइंट्स को लेकर हम यहां पर आये हैं। जब इन पर चर्चा होगी और उसके बाद जब मैं reply करूँगा, तब मैं इस सदन के माध्यम से इन चारों प्वाइंट्स के बारे में briefly देशवासियों को बताऊँगा।...(व्यवधान)... फिलहाल मैं यह अपील करना चाहता हूँ कि चूँकि यह बहुत important Bill है, इसलिए सब इसका समर्थन करें और इसको सर्वसम्मति से पारित करें।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you. ...(Interruptions)... Motion moved. ...(Interruptions)... There are five Amendments by Shri John Brittas, Shri Tiruchi Siva, Shri Shaktisinh Gohil, Dr. V. Sivadasan and Shri Derek O' Brien for reference of the Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021, as passed by Lok Sabha, to a select committee of the Rajya Sabha. ...(Interruptions)... Members may move their Amendments at this stage without any speech. ...(Interruptions)... Shri John Brittas, are you moving? ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, I am moving. I am moving because this is going to tamper with the democratic process. I move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951, as passed by Lok Sabha, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha, consisting of the following Members:-

1. Shri Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharyya
2. Shri John Brittas
3. Shri Jose K. Mani
4. Shri M. V. Shreyams Kumar
5. Shri Tiruchi Siva
6. Dr. V. Sivadasan
7. Shri K.C. Venugopal

with instructions to report by the last day of the first week of the next Session (256th) of the Rajya Sabha.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Amendment moved. Now, Shri Tiruchi Siva.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951, as passed by Lok Sabha, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha, consisting of the following Members:-

1. Shri John Brittas
2. Shri T. K. S. Elangovan
3. Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha
4. Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad
5. Shri Jairam Ramesh
6. Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Ray
7. Shri M. Shanmugam
8. Shri Tiruchi Siva
9. Shri Vaiko
10. Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav

with instructions to report by the last day of the first week of the next Session (256th) of the Rajya Sabha.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Amendment moved. Shri Shaktisinh Gohil.

SHRI SHAKTISINH GOHIL (Gujarat): Sir, I am moving my Amendment. This is very undemocratic way in which the Bill is introduced. I move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951, as passed by Lok Sabha, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha with instructions to report by the last day of the first week of the next Session (256th) of the Rajya Sabha.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The names of the Members on the Select Committee are not provided by Shri Shaktisinh Gohil at this stage. The Amendment becomes infructuous and would be deemed as not moved. Dr. V. Sivadasan. Are you moving your Amendment?

DR. V. SIVADASAN (Kerala): This is undemocratic Bill. That is why I am moving, Sir. I move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951, as passed by Lok Sabha, be referred to

a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha, consisting of the following Members:-

1. Shrimati Jharna Das Baidya
2. Shri John Brittas
3. Shri M. V. Shreyams Kumar
4. Shri Tiruchi Siva
5. Dr. V. Sivadasan
6. Shri K. Somaprasad

with instructions to report by the last day of the first week of the next Session (256th) of the Rajya Sabha.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now, SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN, are you moving your Amendment?

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, please hear me out. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. V. Sivadasan, Amendment moved?

DR. V. SIVADASAN: Yes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. ...(*Interruptions*)... Derek O'Brienji. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, please. ...(*Interruptions*)... You cannot take away my right. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: I have raised and two other Members have raised; we have raised point of orders. Please, ऐसी परंपरा है।...(*व्यवधान*)... What is your ruling? ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have clarified it. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: What is your ruling? ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have clarified it. ...(*Interruptions*)... I have clarified it already. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Where is that thing on the point of order? ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The names of the Members on the Select Committee are not provided by Shri Derek O'Brien at this stage. ...(*Interruptions*)... The Amendment becomes infructuous and would be deemed as not moved. ...(*Interruptions*)...

The questions were proposed.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: No, no, Sir. ...(*Interruptions*)... Don't do this. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The motion for consideration of the Bill and the Amendments moved thereto are now open for discussion. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Sir, he is on a point of order. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Himachal Pradesh): You have to dispose of my point of order. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...(*Interruptions*)... Dr. Amee Yajnik. ...(*Interruptions*)... Dr. Amee Yajnik, please go to your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)... आप बैल में हैं।...(**व्यवधान**)... Please go to your seat and speak. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please go back to your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please, I request all of you, Members जो बैल में खड़े हैं, कृपया वे अपनी-अपनी सीट पर जाएँ।...(**व्यवधान**)... Shri Venkataramana Rao Mopidevi. ...(*Interruptions*)... केवल आपकी स्पीच ही रिकॉर्ड पर जाएगी। Please speak. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI VENKATARAMANA RAO MOPIDEVI (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on such an important Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)... Elections are the cornerstone of any democratic society and hence, this endeavour of the Centre to introduce electoral reforms, especially in the run-up to assembly elections in 5 states, is a well-intentioned move. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please let him speak. ...(*Interruptions*)... Do not obstruct. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI VENKATARAMANA RAO MOPIDEVI: Many of the proposed reforms will smoothen the electoral process and streamline the voter enrolment procedure in the country. ...(*Interruptions*)... At the same time, some of the amendments under the Bill require further scrutiny and reassessment; otherwise, they may be counteractive to the established principles of free and fair elections. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...(*Interruptions*)... Mr. Derek, you are a senior Member. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please go back to your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am requesting. ...(*Interruptions*)... कृपया आप सब लोग अपनी-अपनी सीट पर जाएँ।...(*व्यवधान*)...

SHRI VENKATARAMANA RAO MOPIDEVI: Sir, now, the positives about this Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)... Multiple cut-off dates for entry of new names in electoral rolls. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please go back to your seats. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI VENKATARAMANA RAO MOPIDEVI: The current cut-off date of 1st January has deprived many youngsters of the right to vote since they may turn 18 years old after the cut-off date in a particular year. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please let the House run. ...(*Interruptions*)... जो वैल में हैं, मैं उन सबसे रिक्वेस्ट करता हूँ कि वे अपनी-अपनी सीट पर जाएँ और बिल पर डिस्कस करें।...(*व्यवधान*)... देरेक जी, सेलेक्ट कमेटी में भेजने का अधिकार आपको है और आपने इसके लिए मोशन मूव किया हुआ है।...(*व्यवधान*)... Please go back to your seats. ...(*Interruptions*)... I have clarified. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please do not disturb the Chair. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI VENKATARAMANA RAO MOPIDEVI: With the introduction of three additional cut-off dates of 1st April, 1st July and 1st October, those turning 18 after 1st January will get an equal opportunity to get their names included in the electoral rolls and exercise their right to vote. ...(*Interruptions*)... Next is, gender neutrality in election laws. ...(*Interruptions*)... Currently, the election laws provide for the wife of a man

serving in the armed forces to register as a service voter but the husband of a woman serving in the armed forces does not have this right. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...(*Interruptions*)... Nothing else is going on record. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI VENKATARAMANA RAO MOPIDEVI: By replacing the word "wife" with "spouse", the Bill now allows the husband of a woman serving in the armed forces to register as a service voter as well. ...(*Interruptions*)... Coming to suggestions, first is, anomalies in Aadhaar would percolate into electoral data. ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, the logic behind linking of *Aadhaar* database with the electoral database is to ensure error-free electoral rolls by preventing duplicate entries. ...(*Interruptions*)... But this is a flawed logic for two main reasons. ...(*Interruptions*)... First, *Aadhaar* is a proof of residence that can be obtained even for non-citizens also, whereas the right to vote is restricted only to citizens. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री उपसभापति : जो मेम्बर बोल रहे हैं, कृपया उन्हें obstruct न करें। ...(**व्यवधान**)... I will name ...(*Interruptions*)... Please go back to your seats. ...(*Interruptions*)... Let him speak. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI VENKATARAMANA RAO MOPIDEVI: The linking of *Aadhaar* with electoral rolls will result in the inclusion of non-citizens in our electoral rolls. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...(*Interruptions*)... आप वैल में खड़े हैं। ...(**व्यवधान**)... Please go back to your seats. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please go back to your seats. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI VENKATARAMANA RAO MOPIDEVI: Second, there have been numerous reports of fake/duplicate *Aadhaar* cards across the country. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री उपसभापति : वैल में खड़े होकर चेयर से बात करने की परंपरा नहीं है। ...(**व्यवधान**)... Please go back to your seats. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI VENKATARAMANA RAO MOPIDEVI: The linking of *Aadhaar* to "clean up" electoral rolls is counterproductive if the *Aadhaar* database itself has fake/duplicate entries. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): I want to ask whether this is democracy *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record except जो मेम्बर बोल रहे हैं। ...(**व्यवधान**)... Please. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI VENKATARAMANA RAO MOPIDEVI: Second is, concerns regarding excessive delegated legislation. ...(*Interruptions*)... The Bill provides that a name cannot be excluded from electoral rolls due to the inability of a person to furnish *Aadhaar* details. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please go back to your seats. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI VENKATARAMANA RAO MOPIDEVI: But this is subject to two conditions. First, the person must provide "sufficient cause" for not providing *Aadhaar* details; second, the person must furnish alternate documents instead of *Aadhaar*. ...(*Interruptions*)... But the Bill is silent as to what constitutes "sufficient cause" and "alternate documents". ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री उपसभापति : यह आप सब कर रहे हैं। ...(**व्यवधान**)... Please let it go on the record. ...(*Interruptions*)... आप लोग अपनी-अपनी सीट पर जाएं और बहस होने दें। ...(**व्यवधान**)... यह आपको अधिकार है। ...(**व्यवधान**)... प्लीज़, प्लीज़ ...(**व्यवधान**)...

SHRI VENKATARAMANA RAO MOPIDEVI: Instead, it gives the Centre power to prescribe these details by making rules. ...(*Interruptions*)... The power to prescribe these essential details regarding "sufficient cause" and "alternate documents" should not be delegated to the Centre but should vest with the Parliament so that they can be subject to 'parliamentary scrutiny and debate. ...(*Interruptions*)... Hence, these details must be included within the main text of the Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)... Third is, Prescribing strict COVID-19 protocols for upcoming elections. ...(*Interruptions*)... While we are on the subject of electoral issues, I would also like to broach the subject of the upcoming assembly elections. ...(*Interruptions*)...

* Not recorded.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is over. ...(*Interruptions*)... Your time is over. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please conclude. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI VENKATARAMANA RAO MOPIDEVI: With the new Omicron variant of COVID-19 spreading rapidly across the country, strict COVID-19 protocols must be laid down by the Government to ensure that political rallies and poll campaigns do not turn into super-spreader events. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please conclude. ...(*Interruptions*)... Shri Venkataramana Raoji, please conclude. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI VENKATARAMANA RAO MOPIDEVI: All efforts must be made to ensure that the COVID-19 mismanagement that occurred during the 2021 assembly elections is not repeated in the upcoming elections. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please conclude. ...(*Interruptions*)... Your time is over. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI VENKATARAMANA RAO MOPIDEVI: Sir, one minute. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, please. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI VENKATARAMANA RAO MOPIDEVI: The conclusion is while the Bill has many progressive aspects, it will prove to be beneficial only when its inconsistencies are addressed thoroughly. ...(*Interruptions*)... I urge the Government to take these suggestions into due consideration.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please conclude. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI VENKATARAMANA RAO MOPIDEVI: With these concerns, I support the Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Sushil Kumar Modi.

श्री सुशील कुमार मोदी (बिहार): उपसभापति महोदय, मैं इस बिल के समर्थन में बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। ... (व्यवधान)... महोदय, मुझे बहुत आश्चर्य हो रहा है कि जिन लोगों ने पार्लियामेंटरी स्टैंडिंग कमिटी में यह माँग की, समर्थन किया कि 'आधार' के साथ वोटर आईडी कार्ड को लिंक किया जाए, आज वही लोग वेल में आकर इसका विरोध कर रहे हैं। ... (व्यवधान)... उपसभापति महोदय, श्री दीपेन्द्र सिंह हुड्डा, ये कांग्रेस के मेम्बर हैं, श्री विवेक के. तन्खा, ये कांग्रेस के मेम्बर हैं - ये लोग पार्लियामेंटरी स्टैंडिंग कमिटी में शामिल थे। ... (व्यवधान)... श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय, ये टीएमसी के मेम्बर हैं। ... (व्यवधान)... उपसभापति महोदय, ये उस कमिटी में शामिल थे। ... (व्यवधान)... एक बार नहीं, बल्कि तीन-तीन बार पार्लियामेंटरी स्टैंडिंग कमिटी, जिसके चेयरमैन श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव थे, उस कमिटी ने सर्वसम्मति से यह रिक्मंड किया और कहा कि 'आधार' के साथ वोटर आईडी को लिंक किया जाए। ... (व्यवधान)... उपसभापति महोदय, वर्ष 2020-21 की Demands for Grants की जो 101st Report है, जिसको सदन के फ्लोर पर lay किया गया, मैं उसकी recommendation को पढ़ना चाहूँगा। ... (व्यवधान)... It says, "The Committee understands that free and fair elections are the bedrock of democracy and the latter is a basic feature of the Constitution. An error-free electoral roll is *sine qua non* of a free and fair election. The Committee has been advocating linkage of unique Aadhaar ID Card number with voter I-card which would streamline alterations in EPIC during ordinary change of residence by the electors. The incidence of multiple entry could also be eliminated which is required in participative democracy. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Government may undertake appropriate actions for the purpose of linking unique Aadhaar Card number with Voter ID Card to purify the electoral roll which is in larger interest of democratic polity." ... (Interruptions)... उपसभापति महोदय, इस सदन के अंदर जिस पार्लियामेंटरी स्टैंडिंग कमिटी की रिपोर्ट lay की गई है, उसके अंदर कांग्रेस के लोग भी शामिल थे, सीपीएम के लोग भी शामिल थे, तृणमूल कांग्रेस के लोग भी शामिल थे। ... (व्यवधान)... उसकी रिपोर्ट की यह अनुशंसा है। ... (व्यवधान)...

उपसभापति महोदय, वर्ष 2021-22 की Demands for Grants की जो 107th Report है, जो इस सदन के पटल पर रखी गई, उसको भी मैं पढ़ना चाहूँगा। ... (व्यवधान)... It says, "The Committee reiterates its recommendation that the Government may undertake appropriate action for the purpose of linking unique Aadhaar Card number with Voter I-Card to purify the electoral roll." उपसभापति महोदय, पार्लियामेंटरी स्टैंडिंग कमिटी ने एक बार नहीं, बल्कि दो-दो बार इस बात की अनुशंसा की है कि वोटर आईडी कार्ड के साथ 'आधार' को जोड़ा जाए। ... (व्यवधान)... इतना ही नहीं, गवर्नमेंट की 109th Action Taken Report में भी इसका जिक्र है। ... (व्यवधान)... उसमें सरकार कहती है, "The Election Commission of India has proposed to link the electoral roll with the Aadhaar ecosystem with a view to curbing the menace of multiple enrolment of the same person at different places. This would require amendments in the election laws. The matter is under consideration of the Government." ... (Interruptions)... महोदय, मैं

जानना चाहता हूँ कि जब पार्लियामेंटरी स्टैंडिंग कमिटी ने सर्वसम्मति से यह अनुशंसा की, तो कांग्रेस के लोगों ने विरोध क्यों नहीं किया, टीएमसी के लोगों ने विरोध क्यों नहीं किया? ...**(व्यवधान)**...वे आज वेल में आकर एक ऐसे कानून का विरोध कर रहे हैं, जिसको लागू करने के लिए ये सारे लोग शामिल थे। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभापति महोदय, जो 109th Action Taken Report थी, उसको मैं पढ़ना चाहूँगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**... It says, "The Committee acknowledges the initiative of the Commission and is of the opinion that the linkage of Aadhaar number with Voter ID card will also bring about transparency in electoral process. The Committee further recommends the Election Commission and the Legislative Department to step up measures in this regard and apprise the Committee of the output before the consideration of the forthcoming Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Law and Justice." ...**(Interruptions)**... महोदय, यह ATR है, जो इस सदन के अंदर रखी गई और जिसमें कमिटी ने यह निर्देश दिया कि जब वर्ष 2022-23 की Demands for Grants की चर्चा होगी, तो उसमें सरकार बताए कि 'आधार' को जोड़ने के बारे में अभी तक क्या कार्रवाई हुई है? ...**(व्यवधान)**... जो बिल पेश किया गया है, इसमें कहा गया है कि यह mandatory नहीं है, यह अनिवार्य नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... It says, "No application for inclusion of name in the electoral roll shall be denied and no entries in the electoral roll shall be deleted for inability of an individual to furnish or intimate Aadhaar number due to such sufficient cause as may be prescribed." यानी, अगर कोई व्यक्ति अपना 'आधार' नम्बर किन्हीं कारणों से उपलब्ध नहीं करा सकता है, तो उसको बाध्य नहीं किया जाएगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**... उसका नाम मतदाता सूची से विलोपित नहीं किया जाएगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**... उपसभापति महोदय, इस बिल में इस बात की स्पष्टता है कि यह बाध्यकारी नहीं है, यह mandatory नहीं है, बल्कि यह optional है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जो लोग चाहें, अपना आधार नंबर देंगे, ...**(व्यवधान)**... जो लोग अपना आधार नंबर उपलब्ध नहीं करा सकते हैं, उनको बाध्य नहीं किया जाएगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**... उपसभापति महोदय, इस बिल के विरोध करने का कारण यह है कि* मतदाता सूची में लाखों बोगस नाम जुड़वा रखे हैं।...**(व्यवधान)**... इनके वोट बैंक में एक आदमी का नाम चार-चार बार है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... बंगाल के अंदर* जो सफलता मिली है, वह इस बोगस वोटर लिस्ट के कारण मिली है।...**(व्यवधान)**... अगर 'आधार' के साथ लिंक कर दिया गया, तो जो लाखों बोगस नाम, फेक नाम हैं, जिन लोगों ने गलत तरीके से अपने नाम को दर्ज करा लिया था, वे सारे नाम विलोपित कर दिए जाएंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**... उन्हें इस बात का डर है और अपने वोट बैंक को बचाने के लिए ये लोग इसका विरोध कर रहे हैं।...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY(West Bengal): Sir, I have a point of order.

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sukhendu Sekhar Rayji has raised a point of order. ...(*Interruptions*)... माननीय सुखेन्दु शेखर राय जी प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर पर बोलना चाहते हैं।...(*व्यवधान*)...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Sir, my point of order is under Rule 241. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sukhendu Sekhar Rayji, yes; the mike is on. प्लीज़, आप लोग उन्हें डिस्टर्ब न करें।...(*व्यवधान*)...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Sir, under Rule 241, 'A member or a Minister may, with the permission of the Chairman, make a personal explanation although there is no question before the Council, but in this case no debatable matter may be brought forward, and no debate shall arise'. Now, the hon. Member who was speaking on the Bill, he mentioned my name and the names of other Members of Congress Party and CPI(M), that we were in the Standing Committee, we did not oppose. But, here we are opposing. ...(*Interruptions*)... The fact remains, because he was not in the Committee at that point of time, this is his no direct knowledge; maybe, indirect knowledge. Somebody has asked him to do so. ...(*Interruptions*)... I asked, I am to give my note of dissent which was not allowed. That is why I could not submit my note of dissent. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Secondly, just now, the hon. Member said that* यह बेबुनियाद है।...(*व्यवधान*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It will be examined. ...(*Interruptions*)... It will be examined. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please, ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री सुशील कुमार मोदी : उपसभापति महोदय, उस समय भूपेन्द्र यादव जी चेयरमैन थे। ...(*व्यवधान*)... मैंने पूरी verbatim report देखी है। ...(*व्यवधान*)... There is no note of dissent from Sukhendu Sekhar Rayji. Nobody has raised any note of dissent.

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please speak on the Bill. माननीय मोदी जी, आपके पास केवल एक मिनट और बचा है।

श्री सुशील कुमार मोदी : उपसभापति महोदय, केवल बंगाल में ही नहीं, केरल के अंदर भी* वोटर लिस्ट के अंदर बड़े पैमाने पर अपनी मतदाता सूची में बोगस नाम दर्ज करवा रखे हैं।...(व्यवधान)... उपसभापति महोदय, जब यह अनिवार्य नहीं है, mandatory नहीं है, तो फिर ये लोग विरोध क्यों कर रहे हैं? ...(व्यवधान)...ये लोग यह कहते हैं कि Puttaswamy के मामले में सुप्रीम कोर्ट का यह निर्देश है कि, I would like to quote from the Committee's report regarding Supreme Court's direction. "Hon. Supreme Court has since passed its final judgment in the matters relating to the Aadhaar issue. The Commission has considered the matter further in view of the direction, the judgment. The Commission is keen to make use of the Unique I.D. numbers provided by Aadhaar Scheme for cleaning the electoral rolls and error-free electoral rolls form the basis for credible elections.

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय मोदी जी, आपका समय खत्म हो रहा है। ...(व्यवधान)... प्लीज़, अब आप कन्क्लूड कीजिए।...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Therefore, it would be in national interest to use Aadhaar numbers for verification purpose to ensure the identity of applicant and to prevent multiple enrolment of same person in the electoral roll.

श्री उपसभापति : प्लीज़, आप कन्क्लूड कीजिए।...(व्यवधान)... आपका समय खत्म हो रहा है।...(व्यवधान)... प्लीज़, अब कन्क्लूड कीजिए।...(व्यवधान)... आपका समय खत्म हो गया है।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सुशील कुमार मोदी : उपसभापति महोदय, इसका मतलब यह है कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट... ...(व्यवधान)... मुझे एक मिनट की अनुमति दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आपका समय खत्म हो चुका है। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: In view of the above quoted observation made by the hon. Supreme Court, उपसभापति महोदय, इसका मतलब है कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट...(व्यवधान)... उपसभापति महोदय, सुप्रीम कोर्ट को भी कोई आपत्ति नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)... सुप्रीम कोर्ट के

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

निर्देश के आलोक में यह संशोधन लाया जा रहा है।...**(व्यवधान)**... अपने वोट बैंक को बचाने के लिए यह समाजवादी पार्टी या सीपीएम ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय ए. नवनीतकृष्णन जी।

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I rise to support this Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*... This Bill is rightly moved by the hon. Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Sir, I have a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let them go back to their seats and let the House be in order, then, I will allow the point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: To uphold the rule of law, I request my brethren Members, ...*(Interruptions)*... please wait for one minute, when you people speak, we do not make noise, so, you must wait for one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is undemocratic, ...*(Interruptions)*... it is unfair. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please do not discuss among yourselves. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Navaneethakrishnan, please address the Chair. Please address the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: Sir, there must be a valid voter list to conduct free and fair elections. ...*(Interruptions)*... To have a valid voter list, this amendment is required. So, the Aadhaar is not made mandatory. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is only one of the documents required. ...*(Interruptions)*... If Aadhaar is not able to be produced there, other documents can be produced. ...*(Interruptions)*... So, to include or exclude the name of the individual in the voter list, to conduct free and fair elections there must be a valid voter list. ...*(Interruptions)*... It prevents bogus voting. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: It prevents impersonation; it prevents double entry of individual as voters. So, to bring purification in the election process, the Central Government, headed by Shri Narendra Modi, has rightly brought this

amendment. ...(*Interruptions*)... I welcome this Bill. I welcome this Bill; it is in the right direction. Thank you, Sir. ...(*Interruptions*)...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): श्रीमान्, यह एक ऐसा draconian कानून बन रहा है, जिससे पूरे देश के गरीब लोग, जिनके पास आधार कार्ड नहीं होगा, वे वोट नहीं डाल सकेंगे। इनकी मंशा सिर्फ यही है और कुछ नहीं है। ...(**व्यवधान**)... मैं इसका विरोध करता हूँ। इसके अलावा ये इसे ऐसे सदन में पास कर रहे हैं, जो अव्यवस्थित है। हमारे बहुत सारे लोग ...(**व्यवधान**)... अब आखिरी दिन ही उनको बुला लेते, तो कम से कम वे अपना मत तो व्यक्त कर देते। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री उपसभापति : प्रोफेसर साहब, प्लीज़ आप इस बिल पर बोलिए। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव : मैं पूरे तरीके से इस बिल को oppose करता हूँ। मुझे ज्यादा कुछ नहीं कहना है।

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर (बिहार): उपसभापति महोदय, मैं इस बिल के समर्थन में बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। 18 साल के होने वाले नागरिकों के लिए calendar year में एक जनवरी, एक अप्रैल, एक जुलाई और एक अक्टूबर चार क्वालिफाइंग तिथियां तय कर दी गई हैं। ...(**व्यवधान**)... यानी अब 18 साल के होने से पहले तय निश्चित तिथि के आधार पर वोट करने का अधिकार, यह विधेयक, कानून बनने के बाद आने वाले चुनावों में नागरिकों को देगा। ...(**व्यवधान**)... इस बिल में आधार कार्ड को लिंक करने का प्रावधान डाला गया है। इन सब कदमों से फर्जी मतदाता सूची को काफी हद तक रोका जा सकता है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री उपसभापति : कृपया मेम्बर्स पास जाकर इस तरह से obstruct न करें। ...(**व्यवधान**)... यह रूल्स के अनुसार नहीं है। ...(**व्यवधान**)... Please go back to your seats. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर : सेक्शन 20 के सब-सेक्शन 6 में ...(**व्यवधान**)... सैन्य कर्मियों के परिवार हेतु ...(**व्यवधान**)... लैंगिक निरपेक्ष बनाने हेतु, जहां वाइफ, पत्नी लिखा हुआ है, उसकी जगह spouse का प्रावधान डाला गया है। इस विधेयक के प्रावधानों को चुनाव सुधार की दृष्टि से ...(**व्यवधान**)... वोटर्स को वोट देने का अधिकार सुनिश्चित किया गया है। मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि आधार कार्ड से लिंक होने के कारण गरीबों को जो आधार कार्ड दिया गया है ...(**व्यवधान**)... फर्जी मतदाताओं को बंद करने के लिए इस विधेयक में प्रावधान किया गया है। ...(**व्यवधान**)... इसलिए महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि मैं सरकार के समर्थन में बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ और इस बिल को पास किया जाए।

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am very thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to participate in the important discussion pertaining to the Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021.

Earlier were the days when the people cast their vote by putting a seal in the printed list containing symbols of the political parties. Now, one goes to the booth, choose the political party of his or her choice by pressing a button in the electronic machine. The instant Bill proposes changes in two Acts pertaining to elections and related matters in the country. The Representation of People Act, 1950 and the Representation of People Act, 1951; as per the Representation of People Act, 1950, the current practice being followed for enrolling as a voter in a constituency is that whoever completes the age of 18 as on January 1st of that particular year can register himself or herself as voter. If one completes the age of 18 years after 1st January in particular, one has to wait till the next year's 1st January. This Amendment Bill does away with these criteria and proposes four cut-off dates. I support this Bill as far as this point is concerned. The other amendment proposed by this Bill is linking of electoral data with Aadhaar ecosystem. This Bill states that every electoral officer can request the person to prove his identity may ask for Aadhaar identification number. It also states if any person is unable to provide Aadhaar, his enrollment in voters' list cannot be denied. I don't know why the Government is taking such a double stand. When an adequate provision has been made to register and enroll as voters on multiple cut-off dates, the Government should only take decision to either make it mandatory or otherwise. I request the hon. Minister to look into this aspect. Regarding amendments in other provisions in the Representation of People Act, 1950 it makes the Act gender neutral. This Bill also proposes changes in Sections 60(b)(ii) and 160(i) of the Representation of People Act, 1951, which I support. Sir, it is hailed by Treasury Benches that the instant Bill is another step towards electoral reforms. If the Government intends to issue electoral reforms, then why is the Government hesitant to bring the political parties into the ambit of RTI? If Government brings in reforms in the above issues, then only it can be hailed as real reforms. Sir, as per Article 21 of the Constitution of India that no person shall be deprived of his or life and personal liberty, except in accordance with the procedure established by law. Therefore, the hon. Minister has to address this issue. Unless this issue is addressed with regard to the violation of Article 21 of the Constitution of India, it is impossible to implement it. Therefore, we have to see that the proposed amendment does not affect Article 21. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI G.K. VASAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, we all understand that the electoral reforms are an ongoing and continuous process. ...(*Interruptions*).. The Central Government has been receiving proposals for electoral reforms from various quarters from time to time, including the Election Commission of India. ...(*Interruptions*)..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please listen. ...(*Interruptions*)..

SHRI G.K. VASAN: Sir, I would like to say that there is a welcome proposal in the Bill for enrollment of first time voters in four quarters of the year on completion of 18 years qualifying age. I would like to underline and say that our children when they complete 18 years of age, they can get enrolled as voters on the 1st of January, April, July and October, giving them a chance to vote at the earliest opportunity. Sir, the Bill has a salutary provision for requisition of premises. In the past, we have seen that there have been some malpractices at premises hired for storage of ballot boxes and other materials. If the authorities conducting the elections are empowered to acquire premises for such purposes, I am sure it will certainly lead to greater fairness in the election process. Sir, the last point is that I would like the hon. Minister to give clarity on one aspect. The Bill seeks to link the electors' photo identity cards with the Aadhaar Cards or Aadhaar number of the voters. While the voter's card is a document, which confers the right on the citizens, that is, the right to vote, the Aadhaar Card is a document issued to the residents of the country who may or may not be citizens. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether this difference in character among these two documents will not lead to genuine voters losing their rights to exercise their franchise in case they do not possess an Aadhar card. In the overall analysis, the Bill is a product of consultation between Election Commission and the Union Government and also of discussions in the Department-related Standing Committee. I, therefore, extend my support to the Election Law (Amendment) Bill. Thank you, Sir.

DR. AMEE YAJNIK (Gujarat): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. I stand here to oppose the Bill. It is a violation of the rights...
...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री उपसभापति : आप वेल में खड़े हैं।..(*व्यवधान*).. मैडम, आप बोलिए। ..(*व्यवधान*).. प्लीज, आप अपनी सीट पर जाइए। ..(*व्यवधान*)..

DR. AMEE YAJNIK: Sir, it is the violation of the right of privacy granted by the Constitution of India to our citizens. It will cause enfranchisement of a large number of voters. It will exploit the voters. It will exploit the disadvantaged class of our society.

It will affect the vulnerable class of our society. It will be disadvantageous and this Bill has been brought without giving a right of hearing, just as *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; this will not go on record. You know you have to speak on the subject only, तभी वह रिकॉर्ड पर जाएगा। You speak on the subject. Then only it will go on record.

DR. AMEE YAJNIK: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing. This is not a subject to be discussed. Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)....I will not allow this. This is not a part of this Bill.

DR. AMEE YAJNIK: *

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity. I strongly oppose this Bill. Before they bring the reforms to law, I would kindly request them to bring democracy in this House.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You speak on the subject.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA: Sir, our colleagues are sitting outside.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You speak on the subject and that will only go on record. I request you to speak on the subject.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA: Okay, Sir. This is the subject.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The subject is Election Law (Amendment) Bill, 2021.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA: I am asking through you, Sir, for a reform in democracy in this House.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: For that, you bring notice and give it to the Chairman. Thank you. माननीय सुजीत कुमार जी, आप बोलिए। ..(व्यवधान)..

* Not Recorded.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir. I, on behalf of my party, Biju Janata Dal, support the Bill, but we have a few concerns and a few suggestions. We urge and request the Government to consider these suggestions and address the concerns. Amendment to Section 20 and Section 60 of the Representation of Peoples Act will help substitute the word 'wife' for 'spouse' and make the statute gender neutral. It is very welcome. Amendment to Section 14 will have four qualifying dates for first time voters to be registered. As of now, anyone who is born after January 1st, let's say on January 2nd or January 3rd, is not eligible to be registered and has to wait for one year. So this is also a welcome amendment. Another amendment relates to the requisitioning of premises for election-related work, including voting, counting and the storage of voting machines and election-related devices. It is a welcome move. All these are welcome moves, but our concern is related to the amendment of Section 23. Sir, Section 23 of the Bill will allow linking of electoral roll with the Aadhar database. This will allow any electoral registration officer to ask the Aadhar number of applicants wanting to register as a voter or to establish the authentication of entries already in the electoral roll. This is done to establish the identity of the applicant or of the electoral roll. Sir, it has a great intent. Who would dispute these intentions! But the concern of my party is that there is a likelihood of abuse of this intent. We wholeheartedly compliment and support the intent of the Government to weed out bogus, duplicate and fake voter IDs and also to mitigate electoral malpractices. We do support that intention. But, Sir, please hear out my concern. If the purpose is to establish identity of the voter or a potential voter or to authenticate entry into the electoral roll, the same can be done just by linking Voter ID with the Aadhaar Number. ...(*Interruptions*)... This would suffice, because Aadhaar Number is a unique identifier. ...(*Interruptions*)... Why do we have to link Voter ID with the entire Aadhaar database? ...(*Interruptions*)... Does it not open up Aadhaar ecosystem? ...(*Interruptions*)... Does it not leave the possibility of biometric data being misused? ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, linking Aadhaar for doling out welfare benefits and DBT has weeded out corruption to a large extent and also significantly improved the last-mile delivery to the intended beneficiaries. ...(*Interruptions*)... So, Sir, use of Aadhaar, to that extent, has been hugely helpful. ...(*Interruptions*)... But, Sir, we also know and also see that use of Aadhaar for PDS, NREGA payments led to a large number of exclusions. ...(*Interruptions*)... Why should we not be concerned that this will also happen in this case as well? ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, linking of Voter ID with Aadhaar ecosystem might lead to profiling and disenfranchisement of voters. ...(*Interruptions*)... As you know, voting is a

constitutional right. ...(*Interruptions*)...Articles 325 and 326 of our Constitution allow every eligible citizen to be able to vote. ...(*Interruptions*)...But, Sir, the possibility of disenfranchisement might be legally impermissible and, particularly, detrimental to those who belong to the marginalized segments of society, like migrant workers or those who belonging to the minority communities. ...(*Interruptions*)...

Sir, electoral data, at present, is held by the ECI in its own database, has its own verification process and is also separate from all other Government database. ...(*Interruptions*)...Sir, the proposed linkage will make data available to the ECI and, if it is misused, the information may result in targeted political advertisement. ...(*Interruptions*)...Sir, I am using the word ‘may.’ I am not saying it will happen. I am not saying that it is the intent of the Government. But, there is a possibility that it might lead to targeted political advertisement. ...(*Interruptions*)...Sir, there is also a possibility of compromising with privacy of individuals and breach of the Supreme Court ruling in Puttaswamy’s Case which other hon. Members have also pointed out. ...(*Interruptions*)...Sir, there is no clarity whether this Bill will pass the benchmark test — three tests — articulated and laid down by the Supreme Court in Puttaswamy’s case. ...(*Interruptions*)...The other details should be utilized for other benefits as well. ...(*Interruptions*)...

Sir, the Bill also creates a concern if one looks at it from a privacy point of view, given that India still does not have a functional data protection law. ...(*Interruptions*)... Now, in the absence of data protection law, if data is made available to any particular political party, it should also be made available to other political party, so that there will be a level-playing field. ...(*Interruptions*)... So, my party, Biju Janata Dal, demands, in the absence of data protection law, if data is made available to one political party, it should also be made available to every other political party or entity. ...(*Interruptions*)...

Finally, Sub-Section (6) proposed to be added to Section 23 which says, ‘No application for inclusion of names in the electoral roll shall be denied and no entries in the electoral roll shall be deleted for inability of an individual to furnish or intimate Aadhaar Number due to such sufficient cause as may be prescribed.’ ...(*Interruptions*)...Sir, why was it not prescribed in the Act itself? ...(*Interruptions*)...I do understand that the Government may prescribe it under the rules. ...(*Interruptions*)...But, it leaves a lot of ambiguity and a lot of discretion with the Government. ...(*Interruptions*)...

So, Sir, in principle, we support the Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)...But, we want our concerns and submissions to be taken note of. ...(*Interruptions*)...Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Ramdas Athawale. He is absent. Now, Dr. V. Sivadasan.

DR. V. SIVADASAN (Kerala): Sir, I am telling the truth. ...(*Interruptions*)... Why has the Government brought the Election Laws (Amendment) Bill? ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, protection of democracy is very important. ...(*Interruptions*)... What is the Government going to do through the proposed Amendment? It is trying to kill the democracy. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You speak on the electoral laws. ...(*Interruptions*)... Only submissions on the electoral laws will go on record. ...(*Interruptions*)... You speak on the Electoral Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021.

DR. V. SIVADASAN: Sir, please listen to me. ...(*Interruptions*)... This is a very valid point. ...(*Interruptions*)... Twelve Members have voting right too. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please speak on the subject. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. V. SIVADASAN: They are trying to delete the names of the voters from the voters' list. ...(*Interruptions*)... This is their aim. ...(*Interruptions*)... Here, also we are seeing the same thing. ...(*Interruptions*)... So, my humble request is that the...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please speak on the subject. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. V. SIVADASAN: It is their right in a democracy. ...(*Interruptions*)... That is why you should give the voting rights to everybody. ...(*Interruptions*)... That is why I am flagging this issue here that twelve Members are outside the House. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please speak on the subject. ...(*Interruptions*)... Only that will go on the record. ...(*Interruptions*)... You can speak only on the Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)... Nothing else will go on record. ...(*Interruptions*)... Dr. Sivadasan, please speak only on the Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. V. SIVADASAN: The issue of democratic rights is very important. ...(*Interruptions*)... That is why...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please speak on the Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)... You are supposed to speak only on the Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. V. SIVADASAN: Sir, clause-by-clause, you are trying to protect the interests of the Treasury Benches and you are not allowing us to speak...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am sorry; I may tell you that जब speech शुरू हो गई है, तब last में आपने अपना नाम भेजा है। As per rules, speech शुरू होने के आधे घंटे पहले नाम भेजना चाहिए, still I have given you an opportunity. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please speak on the subject only. ...(*Interruptions*)... Otherwise, as per rules, I have no other option, but to call the next speaker. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. V. SIVADASAN: I am speaking on the subject only. ...(*Interruptions*)... That is why I am telling twelve Members...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You do not seem to be interested in speaking on the subject. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am moving to the next speaker. ...(*Interruptions*)... Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta -- hon. Member not present. ...(*Interruptions*)... Next, Ramdas Athawale -- not present. ...(*Interruptions*)... माननीय मंत्री जी, अब आप अपना जवाब दीजिए।

विधि और न्याय मंत्री (श्री किरेन रिजिजु) : आदरणीय उपसभापति जी, जितने भी माननीय सदस्यगण ने इस बिल को समर्थन दिया है, मैं उनके प्रति आभार प्रकट करना चाहता हूँ। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय आनन्द जी, प्लीज, मैंने स्थिति स्पष्ट कर दी है। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

श्री किरेन रिजिजु : मैं बहुत ही संक्षेप में, कम समय में इस बिल का महत्व क्या है और यह इस वक्त क्यों जरूरी है, इसको सदन के सामने रखना चाहता हूँ। ...(*व्यवधान*)... सर, संविधान के तहत हम सब लोग काम करते हैं। ...(*व्यवधान*)... संविधान के अनुच्छेद 326 के प्रावधान के मुताबिक जो भी भारतीय 18 साल के ऊपर हो जाते हैं, उनको Voters' List में अपना नाम दर्ज करने का अधिकार मिल जाता है। ...(*व्यवधान*)... 61st Constitutional Amendment के बाद 18 साल की उम्र की permission देने के बाद भी हमारे देश में यह बड़ा lacunae था कि अगर आपने इसमें एक जनवरी तक अपना नाम दर्ज नहीं कराया, तो आपको पूरे एक साल इंतजार करना पड़ता था। ...(*व्यवधान*)... डेढ़ करोड़ से भी ज्यादा संख्या के युवाओं के qualify होने के बावजूद Voters' List में नाम डलवाने का मौका देने के लिए कोई प्रावधान नहीं था। इस

Amendment Bill के साथ, ...(व्यवधान)... आज के इस Election Reforms Bill लाने के साथ जितने भी युवा 18 साल से ऊपर के हो चुके हैं, उनको इसका मौका मिल जाएगा। ...(व्यवधान)... उनको साल में चार बार Electoral Roll में अपना नाम दर्ज करने के लिए मौका दिया जा रहा है। ...(व्यवधान)...

दूसरा, जो बहुत महत्वपूर्ण प्रावधान है, वह यह है कि आज तक जो Service Voters हैं, उनके लिए हमने यह describe किया था कि the Representation of the People Act में हमने सिर्फ 'wife' लिखा था। ...(व्यवधान)... यानी जो लोग सर्विस करते हैं, अगर उनमें कोई महिला है, तो उसके पति को Service Voters में नहीं गिना जाता था और उसको voting right नहीं था। इसको gender neutral करने के बाद पुरुष और महिला के दर्जे को बराबर किया गया है। इसका सर्वसम्मति से स्वागत करना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

सर, जो तीसरा point है, वह यह है कि election के समय में Election Commission के ऑर्डर के मुताबिक जगह की जरूरत पड़ती है, लेकिन उसमें सीमित अधिकार दिया गया था। ...(व्यवधान)... Polling stations के लिए जो जगह ली जाती थी और ballot box को रखने के लिए जो दायरा है, उसको बढ़ाया गया है। ...(व्यवधान)... Election Commission जब notify करेगा, ...(व्यवधान)... जब वह किसी स्टेट या General Election की date notify करेगा, ...(व्यवधान)... उसके साथ-साथ election officer को यह permission दी गई है कि ...(व्यवधान)... election purpose के लिए election officers, polling officers, security और बाकी चीजों के लिए premises को requisition करने का अधिकार इस प्रावधान में रखा गया है। ...(व्यवधान)... सर, मैं संक्षेप में यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि इलेक्शन कमीशन और भारत सरकार के बीच में काफी बार मीटिंग्स हो चुकी हैं और इलेक्शन कमीशन का यह सबसे बड़ा कंसर्न है कि इलेक्टोरल रोल में जिस आदमी का नाम है, सेम उसी आदमी ने किसी और जगह इलेक्टोरल रोल में भी अपना नाम दर्ज किया हुआ है। इसे चैक करने की हमारे पास कोई व्यवस्था नहीं थी। आज तक का जो हमारा सिस्टम है या कानून है, उसमें हम ऐसा कोई सिस्टम establish नहीं कर पाये, जिससे कि मल्टिपल इलेक्टोरल रोल में जो नाम है, उसे हम डिलीट कर सकें। हमारा देश एक लोकतांत्रिक देश है, यहां चुनाव प्रक्रिया बहुत ही साफ होनी चाहिए, यह हम सबका मानना है। चुनाव प्रक्रिया साफ तभी होगी, जब जो इलेक्शन की सूची है, वह साफ हो। अगर इलेक्शन की सूची साफ नहीं होगी, तो सारे इलेक्शन को उससे नुकसान होता है। अगर हम genuine वोटर्स हैं, तो हम इस बिल का विरोध क्यों करेंगे? इस बिल का विरोध वही करेंगे, जो फेक वोटर्स का इस्तेमाल करते हैं या जो नकली वोटर्स के माध्यम से चुनाव में भाग लेते हैं - वही इस बिल को अपोज करेंगे, वरना इस बिल को अपोज करने का कोई कारण नहीं है। सरकार ने इलेक्शन कमीशन के साथ बैठकर यह तय किया है कि नकली वोटर्स को हटाना है, फर्जी वोटर्स को हटाना है, मल्टिपल इलेक्टोरल नेम्स को हटाना है। मैं ऐसा समझता हूँ कि पूरा देश इसका स्वागत करेगा और जो लोग आज इसका विरोध कर रहे हैं, उन्हें नये युवा वोटर्स और जेनुइन वोटर्स कभी माफ नहीं करेंगे।

सर, यहां उन्होंने जो ऑब्जेक्शंस रेज़ किये हैं, मैं दो मिनट में उनके बारे में बताना चाहता हूँ। उन्होंने पुत्तुस्वामी केस का बार-बार जिक्र किया है। पुत्तुस्वामी के केस के बारे में यदि वे शांति से सुनेंगे तो बहुत अच्छा होगा। सुप्रीम कोर्ट का जजमेन्ट है कि प्राइव्सी पर अगर कोई सरकार

दखलंदाजी करती है तो उसके लिए कानून लाना पड़ेगा और यह परमिसिबल लिमिट है। ऐसा नहीं है कि सरकार जब चाहे किसी के आधार कार्ड को लेकर अपने पास रखेगी, इस पर जस्टिफिकेशन होना बहुत जरूरी है, सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने जो तीन टैस्ट्स दिये हैं, उन तीन टैस्ट्स को क्वालिफाई करना जरूरी है। Number one, there should be an existence of law. इसके लिए हम आज यह कानून लेकर आए हैं। Number two, there must be legitimate State interest. Legitimate interest क्यों है? Section 17 of the Representation of the Peoples' Act says that no person shall be entitled to be registered in an electoral roll for more than one constituency. तीसरा test of proportionality है। Test of proportionality में justification इसलिए है कि 'आधार' कार्ड को जो इलेक्शन का Electoral Returning Officer होता है, वह उसके द्वारा सिर्फ identity के लिए यूज किया जाएगा। जो 'आधार' का डेटा है, उसको सिर्फ उसकी identity के लिए, उसकी उम्र के लिए यूज किया जाएगा और वह electoral data base Election Commission के पास रखेंगे, उसे पब्लिक डोमेन में नहीं दिया जाएगा। इसलिए इसमें कोई आधार नहीं है, जिसके लिए वे प्रोटेस्ट कर रहे हैं। Parliamentary Standing Committee की रिपोर्ट के बारे में श्री सुशील कुमार मोदी जी ने डिबेट में कहा है। Parliamentary Standing Committee में सब political parties के MPs रहते हैं और वहां से जो recommendation आई है, वह बहुत strong recommendation आई है कि 'आधार' को इलेक्टोरल रोल्स को साफ करने के लिए इस्तेमाल करना चाहिए। जब सर्वसम्मति से Parliamentary Standing Committee की रिपोर्ट आई है, तो मुझे समझ में नहीं आ रहा है कि आज हमारे कुछ साथी यहां इसका विरोध क्यों कर रहे हैं? महोदय, मैं कहना तो बहुत कुछ चाहता हूं, इतने अच्छे प्वाइंट्स हैं, लेकिन ये लोग नारेबाजी करके मेरी बात सुनने के लिए तैयार नहीं हैं, किन्तु देश समझ गया है कि यह Electoral Reforms Bill कितना जरूरी है, इस Electoral Reforms Bill की आज के समय में बहुत आवश्यकता है। सब लोग माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद दे रहे हैं कि Election Commission की रिपोर्ट को लागू करने के लिए हम बिना समय गंवाए यह Amendment Bill लाये हैं।

महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से अनुरोध करता हूं कि इतने अच्छे और क्रांतिकारी बिल का सब समर्थन करें और सर्वसम्मति से इसे इस सदन से पास किया जाए, धन्यवाद।

3.00 P.M.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall first put the amendment moved by Shri John Brittas for reference of the Election Laws Amendment (Bill), 2021 as passed by Lok Sabha to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha to vote.

The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951, as passed by Lok Sabha, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha, consisting of the following Members:-

1. Shri Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharyya
2. Shri John Brittas
3. Shri Jose K. Mani
4. Shri M. V. Shreyams Kumar
5. Shri Tiruchi Siva
6. Dr. V. Sivadasan
7. Shri K.C. Venugopal

with instructions to report by the last day of the first week of the next Session (256th) of the Rajya Sabha.

The motion was negatived.

...(Interruptions)...

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, I want division. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति : प्लीज़। ...(व्यवधान)... आप सब लोग अपनी सीट्स पर जाएँ, मैं division के लिए तैयार हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, I want you to ensure that the House is in order. I want division. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. Members should return to their seats. ...(Interruptions)... Those Members who are standing in the Well should go back to their seats. ...(Interruptions)... I am ready for division. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, it is the job of the Chair. ...(Interruptions)... I am requesting the Chair to make sure that the House is in order. ...(Interruptions)... I am asking for division. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am ready for division. ...(Interruptions)... This must go on record. ...(Interruptions)... You people are standing in the Well and not wanting division. ...(Interruptions)... Please go back to your seats. Please go back to your seats. ...(Interruptions)... I am ready for division. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, I am in my seat. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please go back to your seats. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please go back to your seats. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am ready for division. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, it is not my task. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, first you have to move. ...(*Interruptions*)... Since you are not interested in... ...(*Interruptions*)... You are not interested. ...(*Interruptions*)... No, let other Members go, then I will go for division. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am ready for division. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am ready for division. ...(*Interruptions*)... You please go back to your seats. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am waiting. ...(*Interruptions*)... If you go back to your seats, I am ready to go for division. ...(*Interruptions*)... हाउस में यह परम्परा नहीं है कि आप बैल में खड़े हों और division माँगें। ...(*व्यवधान*)... Please go back to your seats. I am ready. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am ready. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: One minute, Sir. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, please.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, I want division on my motion, and it is the responsibility of the custodian of the House to ensure that the House is in order. ...(*Interruptions*)... I insist. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय सदस्य का यह अधिकार है कि वे division चाहते हैं। ...(*व्यवधान*)... मैं इसके लिए ready हूँ। ...(*व्यवधान*)... परन्तु जो सदस्य बैल में खड़े हैं, उनसे आग्रह है कि वे अपनी सीट्स पर जायें। ...(*व्यवधान*)... वे अपनी सीट्स पर जायें, मैं division के लिए तैयार हूँ। ...(*व्यवधान*)... I shall now put the amendment moved by Shri Tiruchi Siva for reference of the Election Laws Amendment (Bill), 2021 as passed by Lok Sabha to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha to vote. ...(*Interruptions*)... माननीय एलओपी ...(*व्यवधान*)...

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): Sir, when the Member is asking for division, you announce division. They will all go, sit and vote. ...(*Interruptions*)..

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय एलओपी, मैं सही कह रहा हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**... As per rules, let them go ... **(Interruptions)**...

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: No, no. ...**(Interruptions)**... Division होगा, यह बोलें तो वे अपनी-अपनी जगह पर जाएँगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**... Otherwise, you don't count. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय एलओपी, बैल में खड़ा होना आपका अधिकार नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... बैल में खड़ा होना आपका लीगल अधिकार नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... बैल में खड़ा होना आपका अधिकार नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप अपनी सीट पर जाएँ, मैं अभी division के लिए तैयार हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे: आप division bell के लिए कहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let them all sit, and I am ready for division. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे : वे अपनी जगह पर जाकर वोट करेंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This means you do not want division. ...**(Interruptions)**... It is clear. Let the country see that you do not want division. ...**(Interruptions)**... Please. ...**(Interruptions)**... I shall now put the amendment moved by Shri Tiruchi Siva for reference of the Election Laws Amendment (Bill), 2021 as passed by Lok Sabha to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha to vote.

The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951, as passed by Lok Sabha, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha, consisting of the following Members:-

1. Shri John Brittas
2. Shri T.K.S Elangovan
3. Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha
4. Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad
5. Shri Jairam Ramesh
6. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY

7. Shri M. Shanmugam
8. Shri Tiruchi Siva
9. Shri Vaiko
10. Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav

with instructions to report by the last day of the first week of the next Session (256th) of the Rajya Sabha.

The motion was negatived.

...(Interruptions)...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Sir, I am on a point of order. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will come to you. Let me complete it. ...(Interruptions)...

I shall now put the Amendment moved by Dr. V. Sivadasan for reference of the Election Laws Amendment (Bill), 2021 as passed by Lok Sabha to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha to vote.

The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951, as passed by Lok Sabha, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha, consisting of the following Members:-

1. Shrimati Jharna Das Baidya
2. Shri John Brittas
3. Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar
4. Shri Tiruchi Siva
5. Dr. V. Sivadasan
6. Shri K. Somaprasad

with instructions to report by the last day of the first week of the next Session (256th) of the Rajya Sabha.

The motion was negatived.

...(Interruptions)...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, we want division. ..(*Interruptions*)..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am ready for division. Go back to your seats. ..(*Interruptions*)..

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: He has a point of order, Sir. ..(*Interruptions*)..

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Sir, my point of order is under Rule 259. When the hon. Member was pressing for division, the Chair asked him to ensure that everybody goes back to his seat. But as per this rule, I quote, "The Chairman shall preserve order and shall have all powers necessary for the purpose of enforcing his division." So, it is the duty of the Chair.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am coming to that. माननीय सुखेन्दु शेखर राय जी, please sit down. आप बड़े सीनियर मेम्बर हैं, चेयर लगातार आप सबसे रिक्वेस्ट कर रही है कि आप लोग अपनी-अपनी सीट पर जाएँ, पर आप ...(**व्यवधान**)... Yes, I will give. You ask for division, I will give. अगर सारे लोग अपनी सीट पर रहें, तो I will give. As per the rule, I am telling आप सब अपनी-अपनी सीट पर जाएँ और डिजीजन माँगे, तब हम देंगे। उस वक्त आप सब अपनी सीट पर नहीं गए।...(**व्यवधान**)...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: The Member who asked for division was in his seat. ...(*Interruptions*)..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: They were not in the seats. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, the LoP wants to say something. ...(*Interruptions*)..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me complete, please. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: The Member who asked for division was in his seat. ...(*Interruptions*)..

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): One minute. ..(*Interruptions*)..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is on his seat, पर उस समय और सब लोग वैल में खड़े थे।...*(व्यवधान)*... Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

(At this stage, some hon. Members left the Chamber.)

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, how can he be responsible? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*.. You cannot ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no, I have moved on. ...*(Interruptions)*... You cannot tell the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*... I shall now put the motion moved by Shri Kiren Rijiju to vote. The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In Clause 4, there are two Amendments; Amendment (No. 1) by Shri John Brittas and Amendment (No. 4) by Dr. V. Sivadasan. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, I have a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me complete it first. Shri John Brittas, are you moving? He is not in his seat. Dr. Sivadasan, are you moving? He is not in his seat; he is outside.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Derek, please say. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, I have a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: After me, you have your point of order. ..(*Interruptions*).. Sir, please understand. We have all the regard for the Chair. We have all the regard for the rules.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Which rule are you talking about?

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Rule 259. The same thing which you all did on the Farm Bills, you are doing today. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, I have already expressed ...(*Interruptions*)... No, it is not a point of order. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: We walk out of here. ...(*Interruptions*)... We walk out. ...(*Interruptions*)...

(At this stage, some hon. Members left the Chamber.)

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, I have a point of order. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, earlier when Members raised the issue of bringing a Bill without giving advanced notice, you were kind enough to tell that the Chairman has powers. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Which Rule?

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, Rule 259. ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, allow me to speak. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have already cleared it. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, it says that the Chairman shall preserve order and shall have all powers necessary for the purpose of enforcing his decisions. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This Rule was quoted and I have already cleared it. ...(*Interruptions*)... In Clause 5, there are two Amendments. Amendment (No.2)

by Shri John Brittas. Shri John Brittas, are you moving the Amendment? ...(*Interruptions*)... No. ...(*Interruptions*)... Amendment (No.5) by Dr. V. Sivadasan. ...(*Interruptions*).. Dr. V. Sivadasan, are you moving the Amendment? ...(*Interruptions*)... No.

Clause 5 was added to the Bill.

Clause 6 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In Clause 7, there is one Amendment (No.3) by Shri John Brittas. ...(*Interruptions*)... He is absent. ...(*Interruptions*)...

Clause 7 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Kiren Rijiju to move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI KIREN RIJIJU: Sir, I move:

That the Bill be passed.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

OBSERVATIONS BY THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE ON THE PERSISTENT DISRUPTIONS AND UNRULY BEHAVIOUR OF SOME MEMBERS IN THE HOUSE

पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्री; तथा श्रम और रोजगार मंत्री (श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव) : सर, यह जो सदन है, यह नियमों से चलता है। Rule 238 is about Rules to be observed while speaking कि बोलने के समय किस प्रकार का व्यवहार किया जाए। Rule 238 (iii) says, "Use offensive expression about the conduct or proceedings of the Houses or any State Legislature." सर, रूल बुक को फेंकना, वह भी सेक्रेटरी जनरल के ऊपर, यह अपने आप में एक offensive expression है, जो हाउस की proceeding के लिए भी है। सर, पहली बात, मुझे लगता है कि सदन के किसी भी सदस्य को और विशेष रूप से, अगर कोई दल का नेता है, तो उसे इस प्रकार का व्यवहार नहीं करना चाहिए। दूसरी बात, सदन में रूल 243 एकदम clear है। आज विपक्ष के लोग नहीं हैं, लेकिन मैं यहाँ पर कहना चाहता हूँ और देश को भी यह जानना चाहिए कि हमने रूल में यह लिखा है - Procedure when Chairman rises. It says, "(1) Whenever the Chairman rises he shall be heard in silence and any member who is then speaking or offering to speak shall immediately sit down. (2) No member shall leave his seat while the Chairman is addressing the Council." यह देश एक लंबे समय से