

The offices and banks become inoperative. The restoration of power takes about 1 or 2 months during which time, the citizens of affected areas continue to live without water and light.

I urge upon the Government to build a disaster-resilient power infrastructure and to develop a calamity-proof power network in the coastal districts, prone to cyclones, including the State of Odisha.

DR. SASMIT PATRA: Sir, I would like to associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

Need for Uniform Civil Code

SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY (Karnataka): Sir, India has been striving hard for gender equality and to provide equal status to women irrespective of religion or community. Article 44 of the Constitution says, "The State shall endeavour to provide for its citizens a uniform civil code throughout the territory of India." The Supreme Court observed in the *Shah Bano* case, "There is no evidence of any official activity for framing a common civil code for the country. A common civil code will help the cause of national integration by removing disparate loyalties to laws which have conflicting ideologies." ...(*Interruptions*)....

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

SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: In the *Sarla Mudgal* case, Justice Kuldeep Singh emphasized the need for Parliament to frame a uniform civil code to remove ideological contradictions. ...(*Interruptions*).... The objective of a uniform civil code is to unify fragmented personal laws for marriage, divorce, custody, adoption, inheritance, etc., and cover civil and human rights issues, because personal laws of different religions are dissimilar and hence violate article 14 of the Constitution which guarantees equality before law. A uniform civil code is needed because age of

marriage is not uniform and is not religion-neutral and gender-neutral, divorce is not uniform even though it is a civil and human rights issue, alimony is not religion and gender-neutral, inheritance of property is not equal among all religions and adoption is also different in different religions.

Sir, the US, UK and many European countries have a uniform civil code. Even Goa is implementing the uniform civil code. There are misconceptions about a uniform civil code, which needs to be explained to all religions. ...*(Interruptions)*.... Hence, I appeal to the Government of India to analyze the best features from all religions, compile and adopt them in the form of a code called the Uniform Civil Code, which would be in public interest.

SHRI NARAYANA KORAGAPPA (Karnataka): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR: Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI RAKESH SINHA (Nominated): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI DEEPAK PRAKASH (Jharkhand): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR (Rajasthan): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

श्री राम विचार नेताम (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री रामकुमार वर्मा (राजस्थान): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री हरनाथ सिंह यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।