

Biases over functioning against *Khap Panchayats*

ले. जनरल (डा.) डी. पी. वत्स (रिटा.) (हरियाणा): सभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से खाप पंचायतों के बारे में मीडिया द्वारा और कुछ तत्वों द्वारा गलत धारणाएँ फैलाए जाने के खिलाफ आवाज उठाना चाहता हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**... खाप पंचायतें भाईचारा पंचायतें हैं, जो लोक-लाज से लोक राज चलाती हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... खाप पंचायतों ने नारा दिया है कि "समाज की रोटी और बेटा एक करो, जाति तोड़ो, समाज जोड़ो"। ...**(व्यवधान)**... खाप पंचायतों ने नारी शिक्षा के लिए सराहनीय काम किया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... खाप पंचायतों ने कन्या भूण हत्या के खिलाफ सराहनीय काम करके gender ratio को ठीक किया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति : आपका सुझाव क्या है?

ले. जनरल (डा.) डी. पी. वत्स (रिटा.) : सर, मेरा सुझाव यह है कि खाप पंचायतों के बारे में लोग ठीक से सीखें और अपनी धारणा को correct करें, ...**(व्यवधान)**... क्योंकि सुप्रीम कोर्ट में भी इनके खिलाफ PIL डाली गई थी, लेकिन सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने उस PIL को सुनने से इंकार कर दिया ...**(व्यवधान)**... और खाप पंचायतों पर ban लगाने से इंकार कर दिया। ...**(व्यवधान)**... खाप पंचायतें progressive पंचायतें हैं, भाईचारा पंचायतें हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... ये एक सुधार के through स्वस्थ progeny पैदा करने में भी मदद करती हैं, क्योंकि ये अंतरजातीय विवाह को बढ़ावा देती हैं, inbreeding को रोकती हैं और cross-breeding को बढ़ावा देती हैं तथा नशे वगैरह के खिलाफ हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... थैंक यू, सभापति जी।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next, Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah; is not in his seat. So, next, Shri Md. Nadimul Haque. ...**(Interruptions)**...

Impact of inflation on poor and middle classes

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE (West Bengal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the recent World Inequality Report 2021 has flagged India as a 'poor and very unequal country'. ...**(Interruptions)**... With the economic downturn engendered by the pandemic making matters worse, India's middle class shrunk to a frightening extent during the pandemic years. ...**(Interruptions)**... According to a study by Pew Research Centre, the recent figure of this shrinkage is approximately 32 million, accounting for 60 per cent of the global shrinkage. ...**(Interruptions)**...

Inflation, resulting from this economic decline, has disproportionately and adversely affected the poor and the middle classes. The prices of essential food items, like, tomatoes, milk, edible oils, etc., have been going through the roof, throughout the last two years. ...**(Interruptions)**... Prices of transport fuels and

cooking gas have been exorbitantly high due to the Government's unjustified taxation policy. ...*(Interruptions)*... In spite of a fall in global crude oil prices, Indian excise taxes on petrol and diesel were increased. ...*(Interruptions)*... A recent Crisil Study has shown that food and fuel prices affect the bottom 20 per cent of the population the hardest. ...*(Interruptions)*... An estimated 10 million migrant workers, who had come to cities looking for greener pastures, have now gone back to farming. ...*(Interruptions)*... Inflation figures have risen from 4.48 per cent in October to 4.91 per cent in November. ...*(Interruptions)*...

In conclusion, these figures show that instead of taking an empathetic view of the poor and the middle classes, the Government has continued with its neoliberal economic policies, which have been ruining lives and livelihoods alike. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is high time that the Government realizes its folly and undertakes a much-needed course correction; if not, the electorate will. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

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

SHRIMATI MAUSAM NOOR (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI JAWAHAR SIRCAR (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

श्री सभापति : धन्यवाद, नदीमुल हक जी। श्री विजय पाल सिंह तोमर। ...*(व्यवधान)*...