

MR. CHAIRMAN: The ultimate defender of the LoP is the Chairman.
...(Interruptions)...

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे : सर, वह नहीं हो रहा है। ...(व्यवधान)... आप एक्सपंज कर रहे हैं।
...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have taken up Zero Hour. Dr. Ashok Kumar Mittal; not present.
...(Interruptions)... Then, Shri Binoy Viswam.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Need to ensure proper implementation of the MGNREGA

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, with a saddened heart and with a lot of protests, I stand here. My concern -- I should call it 'our concern' -- is regarding the miseries of the MGNREGA workers, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act workers. The number comes to 15.28 crore in this country and those people work for the country. They also create wealth in the country. I believe that their sorrows and livelihoods should be taken care of by this Government and this House. We can see that MGNREGA covers around 2,78,342 panchayats in the country. It is a very wide scheme. I am proud to say that it is the child of UPA-I Government in which the Left also played a critical role in evolving the policies. That Government started this MGNREGA scheme.

Sir, I am very constrained to say that the Government of today is trying to kill that project. To kill it, the Budget presented here in this House, in the Parliament, by the hon. Finance Minister has allocated only Rs.60,000 crore for that scheme. It is a paltry amount for that. That amount will not be enough to maintain this scheme for the poor people. Ten days back, thousands of them came to the National Capital under the banner of AITUC for a struggle. Their demand was very simple and it was to enhance the working days to 200 in a year; out of 365 days, they demand only 200 days. Moreover, the minimum wage that they demand is Rs.700. Today, they are getting only Rs.217. The Finance Minister, other Ministers and the Chair are here. Please tell us how a family can live in this meager amount of Rs.217 per day. They are not living, only surviving. So, please think of them. I request the House and the Government to take the matter seriously and see that at least this remuneration should be enhanced to Rs.700. It is requested that the working days be increased to

200 days in a year and their minimum wages should be Rs.700 per day. I am very sure the Government of the poor, as they claim, cannot forget this claim. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI P. WILSON (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI A.A. RAHIM (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI JAWHAR SIRCAR (West Bengal): Sir, I also 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.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): 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 JOSE K. MANI (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. V. SIVADASAN (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

Issue of weaving industry in the country

श्री इमरान प्रतापगढ़ी (महाराष्ट्र) :

*"कितनी आसाइशें हँसती रहीं ऐवानों में,
कितने दर मेरी कहानी पे सदा बंद रहे।
मेरे हाथों ने बुनी रेशमी पोशाकें मगर,
मेरे कपड़ों के मुकद्दर में तो पैबंद रहे।"*

सभापति महोदय, मैं आज एक ऐसे समाज और उससे जुड़े उद्योग का दर्द आपके सामने रखने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ, जिसे बुनकर समाज कहा जाता है, जो अपने हाथों की उँगलियों के हुनर से धागे से धागा जोड़ता है और हमारे-आपके जिस्मों के लिए लिबास बनाता है। मैं एक ऐसे उद्योग का दर्द आपको सुना रहा हूँ, जो कृषि के बाद इस देश में सबसे ज्यादा रोजगार सृजित करता है। चाहे वह महाराष्ट्र का भिवंडी, मालेगांव, इचलकरंजी हो; उत्तर प्रदेश का बनारस, मऊ, मुबारकपुर, टांडा, मेरठ, इलाहाबाद का मऊआइमा हो; मध्य प्रदेश का बुरहानपुर हो; बिहार का भागलपुर हो; तमिलनाडु का सेलम, त्रिची हो अथवा आंध्र प्रदेश का गुंटूर हो, इन तमाम शहरों में लाखों परिवारों के घर का चूल्हा जिस उद्योग की बदौलत जलता है, वह उद्योग आज बदहाली का शिकार है। सभापति महोदय, पूरी टेक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री में लगभग 60 परसेंट कंट्रीब्यूशन पावर लूम इंडस्ट्री का है, लेकिन सरकार ने इस इंडस्ट्री को यतीम छोड़ दिया है, बेसहारा छोड़ दिया है। काँग्रेस की सरकार ने इसके सपोर्ट के लिए 30 परसेंट कैपिटल सब्सिडी दी थी, लेकिन 2014 में जब भाजपा की सरकार आई, तो उसे घटा कर 10 परसेंट कर दिया और इन दिनों, पिछले 6 महीने से उसे भी बंद कर रखा है।

सभापति महोदय, गब्बर सिंह टैक्स यानी सरकारी भाषा में जीएसटी - धागों पर लगाए गए जीएसटी ने पूरी यार्न मार्केट को फ्लक्चुएट कर रखा है। यार्न मार्केट के फ्लक्चुएशन ने यह दिखा दिया है कि उस पर सरकार का कोई कंट्रोल नहीं है और यह उद्योग उसकी वजह से ज्यादा तबाह

हो रहा है। चीन से नेपाल और बंगलादेश के रास्ते होने वाली डम्पिंग ने इस उद्योग की बरबादी में और सहायता की है। पूरे एशिया में सबसे ज्यादा पावर लूम भिवंडी में हुआ करता है, लेकिन सरकारी उदासीनता के बाद पिछले दिनों दो लाख से ज्यादा पावर लूम मशीनें कबाड़ में बिक गईं।

सभापति महोदय, जिस बनारस में कभी करघे पर बैठ करके कबीर दास जी झीनी-बीनी चदरिया बुना करते थे, उसी बनारस में आज बुनकर भाई ईट भट्टों पर काम करने के लिए मजबूर हो गए हैं।

अंत में, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि करघों के धागे टूट रहे हैं, मशीनें कबाड़ में बिक रही हैं, पावर लूम को सप्लाई होने वाली बिजली के बिलों का बोझ इतना भारी है कि बुनकरों के कंधे टूट रहे हैं। जीएसटी लगा करके सरकार ने उनकी कमर और तोड़ी है। महोदय, मैं आखिरी बात कह रहा हूँ। सरकार ने जीएसटी की लिमिट 20 लाख रुपए रखी है। मैं यह अनुरोध कर रहा हूँ, माँग कर रहा हूँ कि जीएसटी की लिमिट कम-से-कम 50 लाख रुपए की जाए। इस उद्योग पर मरहम लगाया जाए, सस्ती बिजली दी जाए। सभापति महोदय, मैं अंतिम बात कहना चाहता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Time over.

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा (बिहार) : महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती रजनी अशोकराव पाटिल (महाराष्ट्र) : महोदय मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री नीरज डांगी (राजस्थान) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती फूलो देवी नेतम (छत्तीसगढ़) : महोदय मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करती हूँ।

DR. FAIYAZ AHMAD (Bihar): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P (Kerala): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. AMEE YAJNIK (Gujarat): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI KUMAR KETKAR (Maharashtra): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

SHRI JAWHAR SIRCAR (West Bengal): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI JEBI MATHER HISHAM (Kerala): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI SULATA DEO (Odisha): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

DR. V. SIVADASAN (Kerala): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla.

**Need to issue commemorative stamp on the centenary celebration of
HH Maharaja Rajagopala Thondaiman of Pudukottai, who first
signed the Instrument of Accession**

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Hon. Chairman, Sir, my home town Pudukkottai, the royal-province, which existed between the year 1680 to 1948, was the first princely State that signed the Instrument of Accession on 3rd March, 1948 after Independence.

His Highness Raja Sri Rajagopala Tondaiman Bahadur was the princely State's ninth and last crowned ruler. He was the first King who signed the Instrument of Accession with independent India whole-heartedly with his total treasury amount, currently located at Pudukkottai district. Additionally, he selflessly donated his Royal Palace for the functioning of the District Collectorate at the request of the then Chief Minister, Dr. Kalaignar. He also served as the President of the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association, Kodaikanal Boat Club and the Rowing Club.

As soon as India gained Independence, he decided to adjoin his country with India without any duress. His Highness Raja Sir was honoured with many royal medals by the Government. He died on 16th January, 1997 at the age of 74.

The then Home Minister Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel got the confidence to unite India along with the Princely States only because of him. His Highness Raja Sir was honoured with the George V Silver Jubilee Medal in 1935, George VI Coronation Medal in 1937. During the last years of his life, he shunned away marriage to serve the people and lived a saint-like life. To commemorate his Centenary recall and considering the legacy, magnanimity, and simplicity of our beloved Raja, His Highness Raja Sri Rajagopala Tondaiman Bahadur, I request the Union Government to release a commemorative postal stamp recognizing his service to the unity of our nation. Thank you.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.