

MR. CHAIRMAN: Permission to remain absent is granted.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIR

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, announcement No. 4. Based on the recommendations of the Business Advisory Committee, a procedure is in place that Members who wish to speak in a debate should give their names to Table Office not later than thirty minutes prior to the commencement of a debate with the approval of their party leader or whip. The procedure is also brought to the notice of the hon. Members through issuance of a para in the Parliamentary Bulletin Part-II before the commencement of every Session. However, it has been observed that during the course of debates, requests are received from the Members from various parties to participate in such debates and, at times, without the approval of their party leader or whip. This practice causes difficulty in regulating the speaking time of parties as well as of individual Members. Members are, accordingly, requested to kindly adhere to the stipulated procedure and send their names for participation in a debate, at least, thirty minutes prior to its commencement through their party leader or whip.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Concern over unseasonal rains and hailstorm damaging the crops in Maharashtra

श्री धनंजय भीमराव महादिक (महाराष्ट्र) : सभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे महाराष्ट्र के 16 जिलों में ओलावृष्टि और बेमौसम बरसात से फसलों के नुकसान के संदर्भ में बोलने का जो अवसर दिया है, उसके लिए आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

सभापति महोदय, महाराष्ट्र में प्रारंभिक अनुमान के मुताबिक हाल की बेमौसम बारिश और ओलावृष्टि के कारण राज्य भर में फसल की क्षति 1.3 लाख हेक्टेयर तक पहुंच गई है। महाराष्ट्र में बेमौसम बारिश और ओलावृष्टि ने 3,93,325 हेक्टेयर भूमि पर फसलों को नुकसान पहुंचाया है, जिससे उत्तरी महाराष्ट्र, मराठवाड़ा और विदर्भ में से ठाणे, पालघर, रत्नागिरि, सिंधुदुर्ग, नासिक, धुले, नंदुरबार, जलगाँव, अहमदनगर, पुणे, सतारा, छत्रपति संभाजीनगर, जालना, बीड, हिंगोली, परभणी, नांदेड, बुलढाना, अकोला, वासिम, यवतमाल और गढ़चिरौली के करीबन 96 तालुकाओं में बहुत बड़े पैमाने पर फसलों की हानि हुई है। प्रभावित फसलों में अंगूर, धान, केला, प्याज, सोयाबीन, कपास और गन्ना शामिल हैं। मैं महाराष्ट्र सरकार की ओर से केंद्र सरकार से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि महाराष्ट्र सरकार की तरफ से जो प्रस्ताव आएगा, जिसमें 33

प्रतिशत से अधिक क्षति पर जो मुआवज़ा तय किया गया है, वह मुआवज़ा देकर उन क्षतिग्रस्त किसानों की जल्द से जल्द मदद की जाए। सभापति महोदय, आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

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

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

Demand for appointment of local language speaking staff for front desk jobs in various institutions in Karnataka

SHRI JAGGESH (Karnataka): *Sir, under the able leadership of hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, our Government has always been promoting regional languages and is committed to their overall growth. I appreciate the recent efforts made by our hon. Finance Minister where she instructed all banks to appoint sufficient front desk staff who speak the local languages.

In spite of this, banks, public sector institutions and MNCs continue to hire people for front desk jobs who do not speak the local language in Karnataka. It is very difficult for the local people to interact with the front desk staff. Such small problems often create differences among States, because language and culture are highly sensitive issues and it is our duty to be more vigilant with regard to them. Therefore, the spirit of unity in diversity should be respected by all.

We do not have any objection if these institutions hire people speaking other languages; they are free to do so. The people of Karnataka are very broad-minded and we, whole-heartedly, welcome all people who speak different languages and always treat them as our own family. Kannadigas never force their language on outsiders; rather we always try to speak to them in their native languages. And, apart from Kannada, we speak Tamil, Telugu, English and Hindi. We expect the same thing from these institutions that they should not thrust languages upon us. This issue is not limited to Karnataka. In every State, front desk jobs should be strictly reserved for the people who speak the local languages.

*English translation of the original speech delivered in Kannada.