

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

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar ji स्टेट गवर्नमेंट के ऊपर जो कमेंट्स हैं, as per rules, we will examine whether it will go or not. Now, Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy.

### **Demand to increase the Creamy Layer income limit for the Backward Classes**

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the provisions for reservation were introduced in the Constitution of India to provide educational and employment opportunities to the Backward Classes so that they could be on par with the other sections in the society. In fact, the Mandal Commission had recognized that BCs are historically marginalized and it made recommendations to provide reservations for Backward Classes whose income is less than the mandated ceiling. Other BCs whose income is higher than the mandated limit were excluded. They are called as 'creamy layer' and excluded from the reservation.

Sir, the creamy layer was introduced, and it was first raised to Rs. 2.5 lakhs in 2004, revised to Rs. 4.5 lakhs in 2008, revised again to Rs. 6 lakhs in 2013 and the last revision took place in 2017 at Rs. 8 lakhs per annum. The enhancement is done to adjust for the inflation once in three years. However, the existing limit for creamy layer has not been revised for the last six years. During this time, the inflation increased manifold. Applying three-year formula, the revision of creamy layer limit is twice overdue till now.

Sir, the delay in revising the creamy layer limit has denied the reservations to many needy and deserving Backward Classes, that is, BCs. There is an urgent need to revise the income criteria. The Ministry of Social Justice also recommended for increasing the limit from present 8 lakhs to 12 lakhs of rupees.

Therefore, I strongly urge the Union Government to revise the creamy layer limit and ensure that three-year interval of revising the creamy layer limit is strictly adhered to. This will ensure the true social equality for all BCs in the country. Thank you very much, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Vijayasai Reddyji.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I would like to associate myself with the Zero Hour Mention made by the hon. Member.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Zero Hour Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Zero Hour Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI P. WILSON (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Zero Hour Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI RAM CHANDER JANGRA (Haryana): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Zero Hour Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Zero Hour Mention made by the hon. Member.

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

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla.

**Demand to reduce the beneficiary contribution for implementing the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) scheme at SC habitations to Five Per Cent**

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, my demand is to reduce the beneficiary contribution of 10 per cent while implementing Jal Jeevan Mission at villages with more than 50 per cent of SC and ST population. The Jal Jeevan Mission, a programme of this Government and a crucial step towards achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 6 aims to ensure access to water and sanitation for all.

Sir, water is the basic necessity for any life. The good governance should ensure that all citizens in India are getting access to water and sanitation. As per the Government's Press Release, 60 per cent of the rural households, that is, out of 20 crore, around 11.66 crore rural households, are connected through Functional