

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

Household Tap Connections and the remaining 40 per cent, that is, approximately 9 crore households are yet to be connected.

Sir, the recent problem in this scheme is the revised beneficiary contribution. While launching the scheme, it is mentioned that for villages having more than 50 per cent SC and ST population, the community contribution would be 5 per cent of the capital cost. Recently, the Ministry has increased the community contribution to 10 per cent of the capital cost and earlier, it was 5 per cent only. This has posed difficulty in implementing the scheme now.

Hon. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the SC/ST population in our country consists of the most marginalized and economically weaker sections. Good governance should empathize their situation and devise the schemes and guidelines in favour of these citizens. Increasing the beneficiary contribution for the villages with 50 per cent or more SC and ST households has reduced the interest of the people to avail this scheme, and no wonder, this will be the bottleneck for this scheme implementation.

Sir, I humbly request the hon. Minister through this august House to take necessary steps to reduce the beneficiary contribution at the said villages down to 5 per cent or nil. Thank you, Sir,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mohamed Abdullaji

DR. JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, I would like to associate myself with the Zero Hour Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): 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 M. SHANMUGAM (Tamil Nadu): 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.

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

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

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

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

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal) : Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Zero Hour Mention made by the hon. Member.

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

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

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sant Balbir Singhji.

Need to address the problem of air pollution

श्री संत बलबीर सिंह (पंजाब) : *"Thank you, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to speak on an important issue. Today, I want to draw the attention of this august House towards the very serious issue of air pollution which has very adverse effect on people and environment.

Sir, the first Sikh Guru, Shri Guru Nanak Dev ji, had during his preachings said over 500 years ago-

*The air is revered like a Guru
Water is revered like father
And Land is revered like mother.
They are all very important.
If they remain clean
The entire world flowers in happiness.*

*English translation of the original speech delivered in Punjabi.