

challenges to women protection and security and empowerment posed by the explosion of cyber crimes and deep fakes in this country. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following Hon. Members associated themselves with the Zero Hour matter raised by the Hon. Member, Shri Tiruchi Siva: Shrimati Vandana Chavan (Maharashtra), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala) and Shrimati Jaya Bachchan (Uttar Pradesh).

Concern over climate change and its adverse effects on agriculture

SHRI SANT BALBIR SINGH (Punjab): *Hon. Deputy Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on Climate Change. Due to Climate Change at the global level, lots of changes are taking place which are not only affecting the daily life but are also badly affecting the agriculture sector. According to the reports in the media, 310 districts of the country have been affected by climate change; nine out of 23 districts of Punjab have been badly affected by climate change which include the districts of Jalandhar, Moga, Faridkot, Bhatinda and Gurdaspur. Similarly, 11 districts of Haryana and 8 districts of Himachal Pradesh have also been affected by Climate Change. Guru Nanak Dev ji also gave a message 500 years ago:-

“Air is the Guru, Water is the Father and Earth is the Great Mother of all. Day and night are like the two nurses, in whose lap the whole world is at play.”

Today the whole world has been affected by global warming; last year, Punjab was also badly affected by heavy rainfall. Usually during monsoons, the average rainfall is between 500 mm to 550 mm, but, in Punjab, last year, during a duration of three days, the average rainfall recorded was more than 300 mm. This unprecedented rainfall led to floods in the month of July causing both Economic and Agricultural losses and thus increasing the difficulties for the populace in the affected areas. Moreover, this year, the month of January has been unusually warmer which is an indicator of the impact of climate change. In the near future, the effects of climate change will be further visible.”

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Sant Balbir Singhji.

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Punjabi.