

### ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIR

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, as announced in the House on Friday, the 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2024, the hon. Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and Minister of Rural Development, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, will continue his reply to the Discussion on the Working of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare at 1.00 p.m. today. Accordingly, there will be no lunch recess today.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I have been waiting for your reply to my letter written to you. What about my point of order?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will respond to it.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: When, Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... I can speak only when you take your seat. It is under my serious consideration. The House will come to know about it.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: What about me, Sir? When are you going to tell me?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before adverting to the same in the House, I will take steps to inform Shri Digvijaya Singh that, at this particular time, this point of order is being determined. It will be done.

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### MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Matters raised with Permission. Dr. Sangeeta Balwant. Demand to restart Sugar Mill at Nandganj in Ghazipur District of Uttar Pradesh. Not there. Shrimati Jebi Mather Hisham. Demand to bring down airfare from Gulf Countries.

**Demand to bring down airfare from Gulf Countries**

SHRIMATI JEBI MATHER HISHAM (Kerala): Sir, I would like to bring on record the organized loot by airlines, specifically to the Gulf countries. June, July, August and September are the months of school holidays. It is a holiday season. But now it is not a holiday season. Now it has become a horror season due to the exorbitant, exploitative and extortionist airfare charged by the airlines.

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*)

Sir, we call it an organized loot because it is not just double or triple or quadruple. But the rate has been increased by more than five times. We call it an organized loot. If a poor labourer wants to travel from a Gulf country to India, ordinarily he has to pay Rs. 8,000, and 'to and fro' it would be Rs. 16,000. But now the present average rate from a Gulf country to Kerala or India is Rs.46,000. It means that for him it would be close to one lakh rupees. How will a poor labourer pay for it? If a middle class family of four wants to travel, ordinarily, they have to pay around Rs.36,000. Now it would come up to Rs.3,64,000. This is the rate and how a hole is being burnt in the pockets of poor labourers and middle class in the Gulf, who are toiling hard to bring in remittances into our country! We call it an organized loot because airlines are very much invariably together coordinating high fares, and they play a role to stand united in this aspect. We call it an organized loot because the Government gives the standard reply that it is market driven and also that IATA decides it. By washing of their hands, the Government is actually a partner-in-crime in this organized loot. We call it an organised loot. We always say that it is they who are bringing remittances and foreign exchange into our country. India has received USD 120 billion in the last year, 2023, and Kerala accounts for 19 per cent of it. So, we call them the backbone of our remittance economy. But, actually, we are breaking their backs.

So, I honestly request the Central Government, the hon. Prime Minister and the Civil Aviation Minister to intervene and stop this organized loot. I urge the Central Government to negotiate for bilateral increase of seats, and also to ensure (*Time-bell rings*) chartered flights and put a cap on fares.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the Zero Hour matter raised by the hon. Member, Shrimati Jebi Mather Hisham: Ms. Dola Sen (West Bengal), Shri Anil Kumar Yadav Mandadi (Telangana), Shri Ramji

(Uttar Pradesh), Shrimati Phulo Devi Netam (Chhattisgarh), Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha (Bihar), Shri Imran Pratapgarhi (Maharashtra), Shrimati Priyanka Chaturvedi (Maharashtra), Shri Pramod Tiwari (Rajasthan), Shri M. Shanmugam (Tamil Nadu), Shri Jose K. Mani (Kerala), Shri Sandosh Kumar P (Kerala), Shri Javed Ali Khan (Uttar Pradesh), Shrimati Mahua Maji (Jharkhand), Shri Digvijaya Singh (Madhya Pradesh), Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury (Telangana), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Dr. Fauzia Khan (Maharashtra), Shri R. Girirajan (Tamil Nadu), Shri Neeraj Dangi, (Rajasthan), Shri Niranjan Bishi (Odisha), Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha), Shrimati Sulata Deo (Odisha), Shri Saket Gokhale (West Bengal), Shri Haris Beeran (Kerala), Shri Jawhar Sircar (West Bengal) and Shri Ravi Chandra Vaddiraju (Telangana).

### **Concern over death of children due to fall in open borewell**

**श्रीमती दर्शना सिंह** (उत्तर प्रदेश): धन्यवाद, उपसभापति महोदय। आपने मुझे जीरो ऑवर में बोलने का मौका दिया। मैं आज इस सदन में देशभर में खुले बोरवेल से आए दिन होने वाली घटनाओं को लेकर अपना विषय रखना चाहती हूँ। महोदय, मैं आपको अवगत कराना चाहती हूँ कि देशभर में खुले बोरवेल से आए दिन होने वाली घटनाएं काफी चिंताजनक हैं। प्रायः देखने में आया है कि लोगों के द्वारा खराब ट्यूबवैल को उखाड़ कर अन्य स्थानों पर शिफ्ट कर दिया जाता है और ट्यूबवैल को शिफ्ट करने के उपरांत बोरवेल को खुला छोड़ दिया जाता है और उसमें मिट्टी भरकर समतल नहीं किया जाता है। इस लापरवाही के कारण बोरवेल में बच्चों के गिरने की घटनाएं देशभर में अकसर होती रहती हैं, जिससे जान-माल का नुकसान होने के साथ-साथ बहुत मुश्किलों का सामना करना पड़ता है। इसके लिए प्रदेशों की सरकार द्वारा भी समय-समय पर खराब बोरवेल को बंद करके भूमि समतल करने के बारे में आदेश दिया जाता है, पर इसके बावजूद इसमें कोई खास परिवर्तन नहीं हुआ। आज से एक दशक पहले 2009 में सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने स्वतः संज्ञान लेते हुए बोरवेल में गिरकर होने वाली मौतों पर एक गाइडलाइन जारी की थी। परंतु एक दशक के अंतराल के बाद भी प्रदेश सरकारों ने सुप्रीम कोर्ट की गाइडलाइन का पालन नहीं किया, जिसकी वजह से बोरवेल में गिरकर बच्चों की मौत होती रही। अतः महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से अनुरोध करना चाहती हूँ कि देशभर में खराब पड़े खुले बोरवेल को बंद करने के लिए समुचित कदम उठाने की अत्यंत आवश्यकता है, जिससे लापरवाही के कारण बच्चों के बोरवेल में गिरने की घटनाओं को रोका जा सके, धन्यवाद।

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** The following hon. Members associated themselves with the Zero Hour matter raised by the hon. Member, Shrimati Darshana Singh: Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha (Bihar), Shrimati Priyanka Chaturvedi (Maharashtra), Shri Jose K. Mani (Kerala), Shrimati Mahua Maji (Jharkhand), Dr. Sumer Singh Solanki (Madhya Pradesh), Shrimati S. Phangnon Konyak (Nagaland), Ms. Kavita Patidar (Madhya