

much, Sir.

### SPECIAL MENTIONS

MR. CHAIRMAN: As already indicated to the hon. Members, we will now take up Special Mentions, and, then, resume the discussion. Now, Ms. Kavita Patidar - Demand for starting of Mhow-Indore-Manmad Railway Project; not present.

(THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA) *in the Chair.*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): Shri Sujeet Kumar; not present. Now, Dr. Bhim Singh. Is he there? Not present.

**संसदीय कार्य मंत्री; तथा अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्री (श्री किरन रिजिजु):** सर, चूँकि संबंधित माननीय सदस्य को शायद यह जानकारी नहीं है कि अभी स्पेशल मेंशन लिया जाएगा, इसलिए माननीय सदस्य अभी उपस्थित नहीं है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): Special Mentions can come up any time, you know. So, they will have to wait. Srimati Mausam Noor.

#### **Demand for Railway Over Bridge at Samsi Railway Crossing, Malda, West Bengal**

SHRIMATI MAUSAM NOOR (West Bengal): Sir, today I want to raise a crucial demand from the people of Malda Uttar, my previous parliamentary constituency. During my tenure as the MP of Malda Uttar, I pursued the Railway Ministry multiple times to sanction a Railway overbridge at Samsi railway crossing, Malda, West Bengal, a long-standing demand of the region. This project was sanctioned in the 2012 Railway Budget.

The people of Malda Uttar have been waiting for this overbridge for a long time. Samsi is a significant business hub in Uttar Malda, connecting Malda North to Malda South and linking North Malda to Bihar, Siliguri, and the entire Northern part of Bengal. It also connects North Malda to Kolkata and the Southern part of Bengal. Every day, thousands of people, including daily commuters, businessmen, students, patients, farmers, and traders get stuck for hours at the Samsi railway crossing, causing significant stress and loss of time.

Given the importance of this project and the prolonged wait, I urge the Railway Department that the demands of the people of Malda Uttar will be fulfilled, and this issue resolved at the earliest. Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): Please maintain peace. There is a lot of disturbance.

The following hon. Members associated themselves with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member, Shrimati Mausam Noor: Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha), Shri Niranjan Bishi (Odisha), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Shrimati Jebi Mather Hisham (Kerala), Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala), Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu (Tamil Nadu) and Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla (Tamil Nadu).

Shri Raghav Chadha; he is also not present. Dr. Bhagwat Karad; he is here. Dr. Bhagwat Karad.

### **Demand for Mental Health Helpline to Reduce Farmer Suicide**

DR. BHAGWAT KARAD (Maharashtra): Sir, farmers' suicides in the Marathwada region of Maharashtra have become a tragic and pressing issue. This region, plagued by drought, debt, and economic instability, has witnessed a disturbingly high number of farmer suicides. In India, over 10,000 farmers die by suicide each year, with Marathwada contributing significantly to this grim statistic. In the first half of 2023 alone, over 500 farmers in Marathwada took their own lives, highlighting the acute distress in the farming community.

Depression and financial despair are the primary drivers behind these suicides. Farmers, trapped in a cycle of debt due to crop failures and fluctuating market prices, often find no way out. The lack of adequate mental health support exacerbates their plight.

In response to this crisis, it is imperative for the Government to take immediate and robust action. Establishing a special farmer helpline under the National Mental Health Mission would provide much needed psychological support and counselling. This helpline could serve as a lifeline for distressed farmers, farmers' families, offering them a platform to share their struggles and receive professional help.

I urge the Government to look into it. Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): Thank you.