

it to your notice as we are discussing the Budget. ...*(Interruptions)*... The loss of one lakh seventy five thousand crore rupees was because of the previous UPA Government. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is what the Prime Minister said. ...*(Interruptions)*... He is going to take action. ...*(Interruptions)*... It was a scandal. ...*(Interruptions)*... It was done at that time by the DMK people in the UPA Government. ...*(Interruptions)*... DMK Government was part of that. ...*(Interruptions)*... A former Minister of the Central Government from the DMK -- I don't want to mention the name -- was imprisoned. ...*(Interruptions)*... Similarly, the daughter of former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu was sent to jail. The case is there. That is the grievance. Based on its seriousness only, hon. Prime Minister said that he is going to take action. This is my request to the Government, through you, Sir. The loss caused by the UPA Government was of one lakh seventy five thousand crore rupees and the DMK was part of that. It was serious corruption. Mr. Wilson spoke about taking action against corruption. The corruption was done by the DMK during the UPA Government. I, therefore, request you to take necessary action and arrest those people because we lost one lakh seventy five thousand crore rupees. When the UPA Government was ruling, the DMK was one of the parties which minted the money.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: This is my request. Sir, only one minute. It is about the Scheduled Tribes people, especially Valmiki community, fishermen community and Kuravar community. In Tamil Nadu, they are still in the OBC. But in Karnataka, they are tribal people, especially Valmiki people.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have said so. Why do you repeat it now?

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: Therefore, to get the benefits of the Budget which are given for the tribal people, include Valmiki community, fishermen community and Kuravar community in the Scheduled Tribes. This is my demand. Thank you, Sir.

OBSERVATION BY THE CHAIR

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, what we saw a while ago was beyond indecorous behaviour. It was undignified. It was challenging the authority of the Chair and trying

to make it free fall for everyone. And that the Leader of the Opposition, an important fulcrum in parliamentary democracy, should be so doing, is painful. I have no words to take exception to such type of conduct. We are Council of States, the Upper House, the House of Elders. This kind of sloganeering and shouting is something which people do not do even in a worst-case situation. It was a spectacle in the House. We are in the midst of a debate. A debate has to go as per the rules. Speakers alone have to speak. When the Leader of the Opposition wanted to make an intervention, having respect for the position he holds, I sent a blank paper to him to write it down.

Hon. Members, Shri Pramod Tiwari, who was seated next to the Leader of the Opposition and who is the Deputy Leader of the main Opposition party, -- their party ruled this country for quite long -- should be fully knowing rules of procedure and rules of conduct. It says, "LoP requests to raise an emergent issue impacting countrymen and wants short intervention any time." Imagine! Nothing is spread out. This is the kind of approach to take the platform, only to earn brownie political points. This is a very important theatre of dialogue, debate, discussion and deliberation. I take exceptional stance towards a trend that is emerging to challenge the Chair every time. I have enough patience. They have put it in writing also on occasions I reflected. In this painful moment, when our countrymen will be shocked that those whom they have sent to Rajya Sabha, to show responsibility, respect to Constitution and be an example so that others can follow, engage in an unruly conduct and shouting, a shouting which we will not bear in any institution or in any society anywhere. These are dangerous practices. They threaten the very fundamentals of democracy. Trust me and have it from me, if we do not search our soul, if we do not counsel our friends, we will be doing greatest disservice to democracy. We are here to strengthen the foundations of democracy. We have taken oath to abide by the Constitution and we are shredding it. If the Leader of the Opposition can be the epicentre of it, what could be more painful than this? I must tell you three things in particular. Whomsoever sits in the Chair has to be respected. My illustrious predecessors have been giants. I may not be able to come to their level. I will try my utmost, but to engage day in and day out in a manner to run down the authority of the Chair, to take the Chair light-heartedly, I wish to finally appeal to them, through each of you, that they must reflect; they must introspect; they must search their souls and must always know that sometimes after giving all opportunities, there is an end to it. I never want to come to that end. The Leader of the Opposition wants to interrupt the debate without taking recourse to any rule. The Leader of the Opposition sends a written message to take the floor without detailing out the issue. And all parties that have

gone outside have worked in togetherness without rationally examining the damage they have done to this institution. If we work like this, mechanically, then, it is the greatest disrespect you are showing to this temple of democracy. It is sacrilege of democracy. If you have left with them, then, you agree to their shoutings, you agree to that misdemeanour, no one will ever countenance. That will put shame to all of us. I am in deep pain. I plead with you all. I plead with those who are coming. Please search your souls.

Do not engage in sacrilege of this temple. Do not engage in a conduct which is least becoming of any individual in the country, much less a Member of Parliament, much less a Member of the Upper House. I was surprised that rather than giving wiser counsel, rather than reflecting, shouting people walk out. You were not walking out from this House. You were walking out from your constitutional duty. Your attempt was to disrupt the House. Disruption and disturbance of the House is very painful. It is antithetical to democracy. If we continue with this trend, the faith of the people will be lost. Even now, let me tell you, friends, the respect that people have for our deliberations is at the lowest level. For heaven's sake, think about it. Do not herd yourself. Do not form a group or a bloc only to walk out, only to slogan shouting. And why am I saying so? From this Chair, I have watched moments, I have watched developments, I do not wish to share with you. But those who walked out know it for sure and if they do not know it, then, they have outraged their oath, insulted the electors who have sent them here. Now, Shri Jawhar Sircar, four minutes.

GOVERNMENT BILLS - *Contd.*

The Jammu and Kashmir Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2024

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#The Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2024

SHRI JAWHAR SIRCAR (West Bengal): Sir, thank you for the opportunity. I have already discussed the economic blockade of Bengal in the last occasion. I will just repeat what I mean by economic blockade. We have been blocked out of Rs.34,000 crores by the Central Government for reasons that we are not still sure. It appears to be a vindictive act. PM Awas Yojana, Rs.8,000 crore; MGNREGA, Rs.7,000 crore;

Discussed together.