

SHRIMATI JEBI MATHER HISHAM: Sir, a condolence message can be passed by the House. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; it is only for the benefit of everyone and myself. There is the Disaster Management Act, 2005. This Act has a very strong mechanism, right from the District Disaster Management, the State Disaster Management and the National Disaster Management. And, one of our distinguished Members, Shri Jairam Ramesh, while the Bill was being taken into consideration in 2005, made very elaborate submissions. I would urge the hon. Members that there is a mechanism in place. Once you activate that mechanism, things automatically move in tandem. And, it is a case where, even during the night, all who were to act are acting.

The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by the hon. Member, Shrimati Jebi Mathern Hisham: Shri Imran Pratapgarhi (Maharashtra), Shrimati Phulo Devi Netam (Chhattisgarh), Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu (Tamil Nadu), Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala), Shrimati Mahua Maji (Jharkhand) and Shri R. Girirajan (Tamil Nadu).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Vivek. K. Tankha on 'Concern over unavailability of NCERT books.'

Concern over unavailability of NCERT Books

SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, let me start with homage to the people we lost in Wayanad. But my subject today is that the new academic session has begun, but the NCERT books are out of stock. Lucknow city itself has more than five lakh students who are facing this shortage. As Nelson Mandela said, "No country can really develop unless its citizens are educated". Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world. There are 10,22,000 Government schools and 82,480 Government-aided schools. Twenty-six crore students are studying up to class twelfth. Out of which, twelve crore students are in Government schools. As per the RTE Act, the curriculum is set by the NCERT. And, the NCERT is the agency which has to ensure distribution of books. And, there is a huge shortage of books after the academic session started in April. The shortage is to the extent that even the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights has been writing to schools to make these books available. But, unless these books reach the States and the towns in the city, it is very difficult for students to study. So, putting it in short, one suggestion is that, for long term, like we have blood banks, why can't we have

books banks. Why should we not think in new terms because there is a huge population which has to be addressed? And, with the change of syllabus every time, these things get delayed. So, without taking too much time, it is my appeal to the Central Government and the NCERT to make these books available at the earliest to the crores of students who are waiting to study. Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the Zero Hour matter raised by the hon. Member, Shri Vivek K. Tankha: Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu (Tamil Nadu), Shri Imran Pratapgarhi (Maharashtra), Shri Jawhar Sircar (West Bengal), Shri Sanjeev Arora (Punjab), Shri Jose K. Mani (Kerala), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Dr. Fauzia Khan (Maharashtra), Shri A.A. Rahim (Kerala), Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla (Tamil Nadu), Shri Ajit Kumar Bhuyan (Assam), Ms. Sushmita Dev (West Bengal), Shri Niranjan Bishi (Odisha), Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala), Shri Neeraj Dangi (Rajasthan), Shrimati Phulo Devi Netam (Chhattisgarh), Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha), Shrimati Sulata Deo (Odisha), Shri Haris Beeran (Kerala), Shrimati Mahua Maji (Jharkhand) and Shri M. Shanmugam (Tamil Nadu).

Demand to establish a Bench of Allahabad High Court in Western Uttar Pradesh

श्री रामजी लाल सुमन (उत्तर प्रदेश): सभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे बोलने का अवसर प्रदान किया, इसके लिए मैं आपका आभार प्रकट करता हूँ।

महोदय, आगरा में वर्ष 1866 से लेकर 1868 तक नॉर्थ-वेस्ट प्रोविंस में हाई कोर्ट की स्थापना हुई और दो वर्ष बाद यह हाई कोर्ट इलाहाबाद स्थानांतरित हो गया। वर्ष 1956 में प्रथम ऑल इंडिया हाई कोर्ट एडवोकेट्स कॉन्फ्रेंस की बैठक हुई, जिसमें पुनः आगरा में हाई कोर्ट की बेंच स्थापित करने की मांग उठी। सन् 1966 में उपरोक्त हाई कोर्ट की 100वीं वर्षगांठ मनाई गई, जिसके 3 हफ्ते इलाहाबाद में और एक हफ्ता आगरा में कार्यक्रम हुए, उन सभी कार्यक्रमों में हाई कोर्ट के मुख्य न्यायाधीश और दूसरे न्यायाधीश उपस्थित रहे। सभापति महोदय, वर्ष 1981 में जब इस देश में हाई कोर्ट बेंच की मांग उठी - 1981 में जसवंत सिंह कमीशन बना, जिसमें इलाहाबाद हाई कोर्ट की बेंच पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश में, मद्रास हाई कोर्ट की बेंच मदुरई में और मुंबई हाई कोर्ट की बेंच औरंगाबाद में स्थापित करने की मांग उठी। जसवंत सिंह आयोग ने अपनी रिपोर्ट पेश की और इन स्थानों को उपयुक्त ठहराया। महोदय, दोनों स्थानों पर हाई कोर्ट की बेंच बन गई और भी जगह बन गई, लेकिन पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश में यह बेंच आज तक नहीं बनी, जिससे लोग आंदोलित हैं। वकीलों ने हड़ताल की, प्रदर्शन किया, आगरा बंद रहा। आगरा से लेकर दिल्ली तक उन्होंने मार्च किया, लेकिन इन सबके बावजूद भी पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश में बेंच नहीं बन पाई है। सभापति महोदय, आगरा बार काउंसिल ने सुप्रीम कोर्ट में जसवंत सिंह आयोग की रिपोर्ट को सार्वजनिक करने का आग्रह किया, उसके आग्रह को स्वीकार करते हुए जसवंत सिंह आयोग की रिपोर्ट