

one is getting one rupee, in another State, the pension is ten times. Therefore, these are areas where legislation can deal with the issues, and it will help the politician, it will help the Government, it will help the Executive and it will also ensure high quality of investment. Otherwise, as Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav said, nobody checks inflated bills. ...*(Interruptions)*... One minute. The second aspect which we can club is subsidies. Subsidies, if required in areas like the farm sector, should be direct. That is the practice in developed countries. I checked up with the U.S. mechanism. The U.S. has one-fifth of farm households as our country. But the average income of a U.S. farm household is more than the general income of a U.S. household and that is because the subsidy to the farmer is direct, transparent without any intermediary. We will discuss this subject with the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition for making some suggestions. Now, Shri Vaiko.

### **Concern over frequent attacks and arrest of Indian fishermen by Sri Lankan Navy**

SHRI VAIKO (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the past 40 years, 843 fishermen have been attacked and killed by the Sri Lankan Navy. On January 25<sup>th</sup>, about 45 days ago, 34 fishermen in three fishing boats from Rameswaram were arrested by the Sri Lankan Navy on charges of fishing across the border and imprisoned in Jaffna.

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*)

They were produced before the Kilinochchi Court and fined lakhs of rupees. Those who could not pay the fines have been re-imprisoned by the Sri Lankan Government. On 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2025, more than 1,000 fishermen went to sea in numerous fishing boats. Among them ten fishermen from Thangachimadam were fishing in a fishing boat off the Gulf of Mannar when the Sri Lankan Navy arrested them and confiscated the fishing boat. On 19<sup>th</sup> February, Sri Lankan Navy again arrested 42 fishermen for crossing the border and imprisoned them. Eight boats were also confiscated. I would demand an action to stop the inhuman treatment. Sri Lankan Navy wants to destroy our fishing industry. What for is our Navy there? They are sitting like a lame duck in the ocean. We are also tax payers to the Indian Government. Are Tamil fishermen orphans? Till date, in 40 years, 843 fishermen have been killed by the Sri Lankan Navy. Hon. Finance Minister should spend some time and meet them. Shri Jaishankar should meet them. For what purpose is our hon. Prime Minister going to Sri Lanka? Is it to express condolences to the Sri Lankan Government and the Navy? What for is he going there? No day passes without any attack. Even today, at

Thangachimadam in Rameshwaram, thousands of fisherwomen are demonstrating and demanding justice from the Government of India. Our Chief Minister, Shri Stalin, has met the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. External Affairs Minister and wrote several letters. But all letters have been thrown into the dustbin. Is this the way the Central Government is treating the people of Tamil Nadu, the citizens of India? Hereafter, at least, you do not go there, but call them here until they stop this. Has the Indian Navy fired any single shot when they came in? They never care for them. \* This is going on. Therefore, in Tamil Nadu, we feel that we have become orphaned due to the treatment of the Indian Government. ...(*Time-bell rings.*) ...

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE; AND THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): Sir, senior Member, Shri Vaiko, speaks a lot with emotion. We are sympathetic and we understand his concern. But, just that one line which, I think, he said with anger should be reconsidered. It is not right. He said, \* Please, we will make all efforts. In fact, I will take this opportunity to remind this august House that -- this was a response in Zero Hour; whichever member raised that, I am submitting to you -- it was hon. Prime Minister who, on becoming the Prime Minister in 2014, directly spoke to the Sri Lankan Government and brought those fishermen, who were sent to the gallows by the Sri Lankan Courts and the Sri Lankan Government, alive to India. Therefore, let us be sure, there is no effort left out in trying to help our fishermen whenever there is a crisis. So, hon. External Affairs Minister and the hon. Prime Minister himself come for help. I fully recognise the concern of Shri Vaiko. But, on this one line, I would seek the Chair's indulgence to remove that line.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, it will be removed. अपनी सेना के संबंध में इस तरह की कोई भी टिप्पणी सही नहीं है। माननीय वाइको जी, आप बहुत सीनियर मेम्बर हैं।

The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by the hon. Member, Shri Vaiko: Shri R. Girirajan (Tamil Nadu), Smt. Jebi Mather Hisham (Kerala), Shri Niranjana Bishi (Odisha), Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha), Shri N. Chandrasegharan (Tamil Nadu), Dr. Fauzia Khan (Maharashtra), Shri P. Wilson (Tamil Nadu), Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala), Shri Prakash Chik Baraik (West Bengal), Shri Jose K. Mani (Kerala), Shri A. A. Rahim (Kerala), Shri Sandosh Kumar P (Kerala), Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha (Bihar), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Dr. M.

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\* Not recorded.

Thambidurai (Tamil Nadu), Shri Ritabrata Banerjee (West Bengal), Shrimati Sulata Deo (Odisha) and Shri R. Dharmar (Tamil Nadu).

Shri Ryaga Krishnaiah - Concern over challenges faced by Kendriya Vidyalayas and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas.

### **Challenges being faced by Kendriya Vidyalayas and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas**

SHRI RYAGA KRISHNAIAH (Andhra Pradesh): Respected Chairman, Sir, in Kendriya Vidyalayas, a large number of teaching vacancies are there. So far, some of them are appointed on contract and outsourcing basis. I request the Government to appoint them on regular basis. Earlier, Kendriya Vidyalayas allowed 10 admissions on the recommendation of MPs. Recently, this was removed. I request the Government to restore the same to the MPs, as some genuine friends, orphans, disabled and so many people are there. They are not giving admissions. So, I request the Government to restore quota of Members of Parliament for ten seats in Kendriya Vidyalayas. At the same time, in the Central Universities, a large number of vacancies are there. More particularly, in Hyderabad Central University, there is enough land and, therefore, I request that a research centre should be established, and the University should be provided with sufficient faculty. The Central University of Hyderabad should be extended and more research centres should be opened, more particularly in engineering discipline. There is no engineering faculty there. In science also, there is limited faculty.

**श्री उपसभापति:** रायगा जी, आपका विषय है - 'Concern over challenges faced by Kendriya Vidyalayas and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas', and not Hyderabad University. Please speak on the subject.

SHRI RYAGA KRISHNAIAH: In Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas also, there is no regular staff. In Andhra Pradesh, 13 districts were divided into 26 districts, but the newly-formed districts were not sanctioned the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas. So, I request the Government to sanction 13 Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas for the newly-formed districts also.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by the hon. Member, Shri Ryaga Krishnaiah: Dr. Fauzia Khan (Maharashtra), Shri Jose K. Mani (Kerala), Shri Niranjan Bishi (Odisha), Dr. Sasmit