

3. General Discussion on General Budget for 2003-2004.
4. Consideration and return of the Appropriation Bills relating to the following Demands after they have been passed by Lok Sabha:—
 - (i) Demands for Grants on Account (General) for 2003-2004.
 - (ii) Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2002-2003.
 - (iii) Demands for Excess Grants (General) for 2000-2001.
5. Discussion on Resolution seeking rejection of the Award given on 12th February, 1999, by the Board of Arbitration in C.A. Reference No. 13 of 1992 in respect of grant of Touring Special Pay to Audit Staff in Indian Audit and Accounts Department in terms of Para 21 of the Scheme of the Joint Consultative Machinery.
6. Consideration and passing of the Central Vigilance Commission Bill, 2003, as passed by Lok Sabha.
7. Resolution seeking approval to the rejection of the Award of Board of Arbitration in CA Reference No. 02/91 for grant of special pay to Private Secretaries (merged grades 'A' and 'B' of CSSS).
8. Resolution seeking approval to the rejection of the Award of Board of Arbitration in CA Reference No. 11/92 for upward revision of pay scale from Rs. 1200-2040 to 1400-2600 (Pre-revised) in the Stenographers Grade 'D' in CSSS.
9. Resolution seeking approval to the rejection of the Award of Board of Arbitration on OTA as required under the JCM Scheme.
10. Consideration and passing of the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) (Union Territories) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2003.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION

Approving Notification No. 11/2003 - Customs dated January 15, 2003, seeking to amend the First Schedule to Customs Tariffs Act, 1975

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we have the Statutory Resolution. Shri Anandrao Vithoba Adsul.(Interruptions)...

SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU (Pondicherry): Madam, I want to make one point....(*Interruptions*)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, let him move it, then, I will allow you. ...(*Interruptions*). Once it is moved, then only you can seek clarifications. Let him move it. It is not yet there before the House for consideration.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): Madam, I beg to move:—

“In pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 8A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, read with sub-section (3) of section 7 of the said Act, this House hereby approves of Notification No. 11/2003-Customs, dated January 15, 2003, (G.S.R. 32 (E), dated January 15, 2003) which seeks to amend the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 so as to enhance the rate of customs duty applicable to goods falling under sub-heading No. 0703.20 from 30% to 100% and preferential rate of duty from 30% to 90% in respect of imports from preferential areas.”

The question was proposed.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Soz, what have you to say?

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ (Jammu and Kashmir): Madam, Chairperson, many papers are laid on the Table of this House.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He has some objection to this.

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: I have given a proper notice.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes. He has given a proper notice. He wants to say something on this Resolution itself.

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Sir, you will appreciate it.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is already moved.

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Madam, many papers are laid on the Table of this House. After some time, the Members don't have any idea about that because there is a lot of other business. And, the basic question

is that the whole House trusts that the Government will not take any wrong step. That trust remains and will continue to remain. But, as regards this Resolution, it needs some clarification. This Resolution has already been moved, and it will also be approved. There will be no difficulty, but the point is that—and the hon. Minister will also appreciate it—the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, is sought to be amended. Subsequent to this amendment, customs duty will be enhanced on certain commodities. You have given the percentages by which it will be increased. It has also been mentioned that, in regard to certain commodities, preferential rate of duty will be enhanced from 30 per cent to 90 per cent, in respect of imports from preferential areas. This august House has no information as to what are the goods on which you are enhancing the tariff. Therefore, Madam, for future, we must lay down some rule. It may be a Government Resolution or any other resolution. The Members of this august House cannot remain ignorant of what is being done. My question is: Will the hon. Minister of Finance and his colleague go into the question and devise an innovation that, at least, next time, in this Resolution, there will be an explanatory note so that we may know on what commodities duties are being enhanced. He must give this clarification first.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. *Mantriji*, the hon. Member is saying that the House will pass this Statutory Resolution. You are enhancing certain duties, but in your Statement, you have not mentioned on what commodities, customs duty is being enhanced from 30 per cent to 100 per cent, and on what commodities, preferential rate of duty is being enhanced from 30 per cent to 90 per cent in respect of imports from preferential areas. What are those preferential areas? Which commodities have been covered?

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: And what will be the future action?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes. The question is that you should bring, along with your Resolution an explanatory note clearly indicating what are the commodities on which customs duty is being enhanced. Members of Parliament should not blindly pass any Resolution. Members want to know what the commodities are. Do you have any information now? If you don't have any then, you can bring it on Monday.

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Madam, just now, I am not having all these details, but, definitely, on Monday, all the details will be circulated.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: With this assurance given by you today—as it is compulsory to pass this Resolution today, because of the date given—we will get it cleared by the House. But, I underline that there is a commitment by you that, by Monday, you will bring all the details.

SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Madam, I have ...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me finish this Business. Are you talking on this?

SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: No, Madam.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; okay;

SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Madam, yesterday, an important matter ...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: But this matter is more important just now because it is on my table. Let me finish this, and I will call you. I shall now put the motion to vote. The question is:

“In pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 8A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, read with sub-section (3) of section 7 of the said Act, this House hereby approves of Notification No. 11/2003-Customs dated January 15, 2003 (G.S.R. 32(E) dated January, 15, 2003) which seeks to amend the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 so as to enhance the rate of customs duty applicable to goods falling under sub-heading No. 0703.20 from 30 per cent to 100 per cent and preferential rate of duty from 30 per cent to 90 per cent in respect of imports from preferential areas.”

The motion was adopted.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, what is your problem? ...*(Interruptions)*... I am allowing you because we do not have Special Mentions today. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Madam, I will start ...*(Interruptions)*... The facts are, in Tamil Nadu. ...*(Interruptions)*...

AN HON. MEMBER: Let him start, let him finish. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA (Tamil Nadu): Madam, he is not allowed. ...*(Interruptions)*... He is not allowed.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI (Tamil Nadu): Madam, ask them to go to their respective seats. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If the Chairman has not allowed you, I cannot allow you. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will tell you one thing. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please take your seats. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please take your seats. You, see ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Madam, hon. Shri Chandran's seat is not here. Therefore, ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Never mind. ...*(Interruptions)*... Okay; he will do. Let me tell him. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: They are surrounding here...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, no; no; that is not the...*(Interruptions)*... Please, please...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: There should not be any replication of the State Legislature here...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, don't argue. The thing is, anything which the Chairman has not allowed, I am not permitting, ...*(Interruptions)*... There is no point of order...*(Interruptions)*... There is no point of order...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Madam, the Chairman has not allowed...*(Interruptions)*... The Chairman has not given his permission...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Madam, the Chairman has said both the sides can address...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Not today. ...*(Interruptions)*... No; no; no; nothing will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... It will not go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is not going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is not

going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... No; nothing; nothing; I can handle it, if you sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... If you sit down, I can manage because you. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not allowing him too. If you sit down.... ...*(Interruptions)*... It is not allowed. ...*(Interruptions)*... No; nothing is going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is not going on record at all. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing has gone on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Virumbi, please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... No; no; no; nothing; no; it is not going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is not going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing has gone on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have not permitted you, and it will not be recorded by the Press also. ...*(Interruptions)*... I give a ruling. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... No; sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Take your seats. ...*(Interruptions)*... No; no; no ...*(Interruptions)*... Just one minute please; neither will it go on record of the House nor it should be reported in the newspapers because this is not the way. ...*(Interruptions)*... If the Chairman permits, I will allow you. If he doesn't permit you, how can I allow? Let him permit, I have no problem. ...*(Interruptions)*... Okay; take the permission of the Chairman. If he permits, I have no problem. ...*(Interruptions)*... No problem; no problem at all. If the Chairman permits anything, I will allow. But now let us take up the Railway Budget.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBAL: We will abide by your decision, Madam. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. I know Mr. Virumbi that you are such a nice Member of this House who always listen to the Chair. Now, we take up the reply to the discussion on the Budget (Railways). *Mantriji*, forty-nine Members spoke on the Railway Budget. You have a little time to answer. So, try to cover as much as you can.

The Budget (Railways), 2003-2004—(Contd.)

रेल मंत्री (श्री नीतीश कुमार): माननीय उपसभापति महोदया, मैं सबसे पहले उन सभी 49 सदस्यों के प्रति आभार प्रकट करना चाहता हूँ जिन्होंने रेल बजट पर हुई चर्चा में हिस्सा लिया है। सबसे पहले तो मैं, जब चर्चा प्रारम्भ हुई थी, उस समय अपनी अनुपस्थिति के लिए अफसोस प्रकट करना चाहता हूँ। मेरी इच्छा थी कि मैं उपस्थित रहूँ लेकिन जब चर्चा प्रारम्भ हुई थी, उस समय हमारे लिए अपरिहार्य कारणों से दिल्ली में उपस्थित रहना संभव नहीं था। उसकी पूर्व सूचना मैंने संसदीय