

Regarding alleged aberrations in the Judiciary

SHRI MANISH TEWARI (CHANDIGARH): Mr. Chairperson, Sir, I would like to continue from where my hon. colleague, Mr. Kalyan Banerjee, left off.

The reports about the alleged aberrations in the Judiciary have disturbed the conscience of all right-thinking citizens across the country. However, it is too premature to apportion guilt or otherwise. However, Mr. Chairperson, this House, the Parliament, is charged with the responsibility of exercising superintendence over the Judiciary. It is charged with the responsibility of exercising oversight over the Judiciary.

The Chief Justice of India has appointed an in-house inquiry. I think we should respect the process. We should wait for that report. But in the meanwhile, the Law Minister should come to this House and he must relate the chronology of events as they have transpired. Nobody is saying that anyone is innocent or guilty. Nobody is trying to apportion guilt. Let the in-house inquiry process play itself out. But under Articles of the Constitution and the Judges (Inquiry) Act, this Parliament has the responsibility of exercising that superintendence. And we are abrogating our responsibility.

My demand is, let the Law Minister come before the House and make a vanilla statement as to what is the sequence of events; what actually transpired; what does the Government know. Why is the Government not making a statement before the House?

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.