

Regarding Business of the House

संसदीय कार्य मंत्री तथा अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्री (श्री किरें रिजिजू) : सभापति महोदया, मुझे एक बात रखनी है । कई दिनों से विपक्ष के माननीय सदस्यगण सदन को डिस्टर्ब कर रहे हैं । इसलिए मैं एक बात स्पष्ट रूप से रखना चाहता हूँ । ?(व्यवधान)

14.01 hrs

At this stage, Shri Asit Kumar Mal, Dr. Prabha Mallikarjun and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

The Government has been very open to take up discussion on any matter. ? *(Interruptions)* From time to time, the Government has been saying that we are ready to hold debate and discussion on any and every topic. ? *(Interruptions)* However, any discussion in the Parliament has to be in accordance with the constitutional provisions and also in accordance with the rules, as prescribed in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha. ? *(Interruptions)*

On the issue of Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, they have been disturbing the House from day one. ? *(Interruptions)* We all know that the matter is under consideration of the hon. Supreme Court, and as such, it is *sub judice*. ? *(Interruptions)* According to Rule 186 (viii), any matter can be discussed in the House only if it does not relate to a matter which is under adjudication by a court of law in the country. ? *(Interruptions)* Besides, a Member of this House, as per Rule 352 (i), is not allowed to refer to any matter of fact on which a judicial decision is pending. ? *(Interruptions)* The matter which the Opposition Parties are trying to raise is clearly *sub judice*, and therefore, discussion on this issue cannot be held in this House. ? *(Interruptions)*

Chairperson Madam, I would also like to mention and submit that the issue relates to the functions and responsibilities entrusted to the Election Commission of India, which is an autonomous body. ? *(Interruptions)* In the past, it has been clearly established in this House itself that matters falling under the domain of the Election Commission of India cannot be discussed in this House. ? *(Interruptions)*

On 14th December 1988, when a Member tried to raise the issue pertaining to the functioning of the Election Commission of India, the then Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Balram Jakhar ji, had given his ruling in the following words:

?Mister, you know that I cannot comment upon the actions and decisions of the Election Commission, which is an autonomous body, nor can they do it. You have to change the constitution. I cannot allow. I cannot break the rules.? ? (*Interruptions*)

He further stated that under the existing constitutional provisions, the House cannot comment upon the actions of the Election Commission. ? (*Interruptions*)

Chairperson Madam, moreover, Rule 352 (v) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha clearly states that it is not permitted to reflect upon the conduct of persons in high authority in general discussions. ? (*Interruptions*) Therefore, the rules are very clear. ? (*Interruptions*)

The House cannot have a discussion on the working of an autonomous body like the Election Commission.(*Interruptions*) I would like to ask this to the Opposition Members.....(*Interruptions*) Do you want to break the rules established by this House? (*Interruptions*) Do you want to throw out the provisions of the Constitution of India? (*Interruptions*) Do you follow the rules of this country? (*Interruptions*) From day one, you are attempting to break the rules and the conventions established in this august House. (*Interruptions*)

Madam, I would urge the hon. Members of the Opposition parties to please allow the functioning of the House.(*Interruptions*) Let us discuss and debate. (*Interruptions*) Do not disturb the Business of this House.(*Interruptions*) We are sent to this House for discussion and debate.(*Interruptions*) All the important issues of our country must be discussed.(*Interruptions*) Please let the House function. Do not try to break the rules and conventions of this august House. (*Interruptions*) Do not try to dismiss all the decisions taken by this august House in the past.(*Interruptions*) We have to honour the former Speakers and Chairmen who have taken these decisions in this very august House.(*Interruptions*)

Once again, I would like to request the Members of the Opposition parties not to disrupt the functioning of the House.(*Interruptions*) We have important Bills to take up today.(*Interruptions*) But on the special appeal of the Opposition parties, we are not pushing the National Sports Governance Bill.(*Interruptions*) So, we are not pressing with the discussion and passing of this Bill, although it is listed in the Business.(*Interruptions*) We will take it up later.(*Interruptions*)

Madam, let the Bill related to the Ministry of Shipping and Ports be taken up, which is listed today, and let the House function.(*Interruptions*) I would like to request the hon. Members of the Opposition parties not to disrupt the Business of the House.(*Interruptions*)