

Government. Sir, in Andhra Pradesh, the State to which my colleague, who spoke just before me, belongs, even yesterday, five farmers have committed suicide. So, I would like the Government and I would request you, Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, to fix up a special discussion only to review the policy of credit to the farmers so that the whole House can come out with a solution and committing of suicide by the farmers could be stopped. We have given notice for Calling Attention Motion and also under Rule 193.

I leave it to the wisdom of the Chair. But this discussion must take place so that this very chronic problem of the farmers could be deliberated in the House. Otherwise, farmers' lives would on a totally wrong course.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Unrestricted import of some commodities is causing serious trouble to farmers.

SHRI KAMAL NATH (Chhindwara): While I share Shri Rajesh Pilot's views on the issue, that is not the issue which I am on. However, I would like to associate myself with what Shri Rajesh Pilot has said.

Sir, I have moved a Calling Attention Notice on the issue of match-fixing. Hon. Home Minister, who is an ardent cricket lover himself, is sitting here. I want to know as to what has happened to my notice. New events are taking place everyday. This is no longer a national affair, it has become an international affair. Names of large number of people—big, famous, eminent people—are being flaunted around. I had said in my notice that we should discuss this issue in the House. The Minister of Sports is holding some meetings, private or clandestine, I do not know. The International Cricket Council (ICC) has come up with something and the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has come up with something else. The Home Minister is here. I would like to know from him as to whether he considers this matter serious enough to order a CBI inquiry into it. We have several agencies involved. The BCCI is saying that this will be handled by Delhi Police. Delhi Police are saying that they are going to give it to the Enforcement Directorate. This issue has ramifications not only of fraudulent fixing of matches but also of foreign exchange violation, criminal nexus, etc. Who are these bookies? What has been their role in this episode? Has it got links with the narcotics trade? The Home Minister may like to respond to these questions. I think there is no difference of opinion in the House on the point that a CBI inquiry should be conducted into this. Pending a CBI inquiry, cricket affairs be taken over by a body nominated by the Government because the very people who are being investigated are the people today who are trying to suppress this issue.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I want to know whether you are going to allow my calling attention notice or not. There is a massive cover up taking place. I charge that there is a massive cover up taking place and we are just sitting here doing nothing about it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have raised your issue.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: (Kanpur) Shri Kamal Nath's submission is as to why CBI enquiry is not conducted? If there is a CBI enquiry then more facts will come to light.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: He has pointed out two things. I think that first thing is absolutely correct that the situation that is emerging in the country and the way Cricket Board is involved in covering-up and in the past too it has been trying to cover up ... (Interruptions)

SHRI KAMAL NATH: ICC has also been involved in covering up ... (Interruptions)

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: For all these things separate enquiries are being held. There is no other way except CBI enquiry and the Home Minister should seriously think about it ... (Interruptions) CBI enquiry may be held because this matter is being discussed all over the world ... (Interruptions) South Africa and Pakistan have been mentioned and now the name of Australia is coming up ... (Interruptions) CBI enquiry should be held. I am not in this favour that the Government should takeover any such Body. So far as the question of taking over of this 'Body' by the Government is concerned, if it starts happening ... (Interruptions)

SHRI KAMAL NATH: I did not say about take over. My point is that as long as enquiry is not over, control will continue to be with those persons who are involved in it ... (Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: You have made your point, now let me have my say. It will be absolutely wrong for the Government to take over any sports bodies or interfere in it ... (Interruptions) The Government should hold enquiry.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): I support Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra on this. The Government can conduct a CBI inquiry into this affair and the Government can interfere in the functioning of the Board.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: There is total agreement in the House over this issue. Why does the Home Minister also not agree to this? He is a cricket lover himself. Members from both the sides of the House are saying the same thing. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, why do you also not say the same thing so that the Minister can get up and say that he agrees to it.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Calcutta North West): I associate myself with what has been stated on this issue. A meeting between the Presidents of BCCI

and ICC took place in Calcutta yesterday. I heard from press reports that the President of BCCI passed on to the shoulders of the Central Government the decision whether to make Justice Chandrachud Commission's report public or not.

They are saying that 'if the hon. Minister desires, then only the Chandrachud Committee Report can be tabled' and on the other hand, the hon. Minister has said that 'if the Cricket Control Board denies to place or table the Chandrachud Committee Report, then the Government will take up the matter.'

So, Sir, I would request the Government to take up this matter immediately, come out with a statement and also lay the Chandrachud Committee Report on the Table of the House. And, we do not oppose if any CBI inquiry, if necessary, is instituted into the matter.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Everybody is saying about it. What more do you want? Please react to it....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I think that many persons in this country and outside are concerned about match fixing episode. Kamal Nathji said that I am also found of cricket. I can understand his sentiment. But he should know that we have a separate Ministry of Sports and these days they are taking care of this episode. I will advise them to come here and give any relevant information to the House in the context of discussion that has been held here. Chandrachud Report was not Government's report, it was the report of the B.C.C.I. It will be appropriate to make it public and if there is involvement of Indians in it, it should be disclosed and appropriate enquiry should be held in this direction.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly): He has asked for legalising even betting.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: No, he himself has told that he had not said anything like that.

[English]

SHRI KAMAL NATH: The Sports Ministry is the concerned Ministry. You have to carry on and see that CBI investigates the entire gamut....(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: CBI is not the Home Ministry. In whatever respect, the Sports Ministry is dealing with it....(Interruptions)

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Then, let Shrimati Vasundhara Raje get up and say....(Interruptions). We do not know what is coming in the Government....(Interruptions)...He says that the CBI does not come under his Ministry. Does the CBI come under the Food Ministry?....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The hon. Home Minister has said that this matter is not under his Ministry.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: This is very unfortunate and bad luck of this country that nobody is reacting on the farmers' issue. Everybody is reacting on cricket....(Interruptions)

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Who comes under what?....(Interruptions)...Does the CBI not come under the Home Ministry?....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let us hear the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I have said that I will tell the Sports Minister.

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: At least you can give permission for CBI enquiry.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Look, the Home Minister has told that the concerned Ministry is Sports Ministry.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: I know it....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I am on my legs. Please take your seats.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Sir, I am on a different issue....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

It is regrettable that you are also on your legs on the matter of cricket. I have said about the suicide of farmers but there is no reaction on the part of the Government. Five farmers have committed suicide and the Government is not reacting. I know, cricket takes over everything. I am not against it. But what about farmers? Farmers have committed suicide but the Government is not reacting to it....(Interruptions)...

[Translation]

There is much ado about cricket. It is too much. What is happening in the country.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is reacting.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Sir, I think that priority should be given to whatever hon'ble Rajesh Pilot ji has said about the credit problem of the farmers. His intention is good.