

12.49 hrs.

Title: Regarding Gujarat situation.

MR. SPEAKER: Both, Shri Ramji Lal Suman and Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi have given notice on the same issue, that is, further clarification on the Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister's reply to the debate on the Gujarat issue under Rule 193 held on 23.7.2002.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): I have also written to you, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: You might have written, but your name is not there in the list.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Sir, I am thankful to you for allowing me to raise it again during the 'Zero Hour'. We are thankful to you for having allowed a Short Duration Discussion on Gujarat. Article 75(3) of the Constitution says that the Council of Ministers shall be collectively responsible to the House of the People, that is, Lok Sabha.

Any conduct on the part of the Government, they have to explain in the House to the satisfaction of the House. Sir, in any short duration discussion – you can look into the past traditions – or any discussion on a substantive motion, questions are raised by Members. It is a different thing that the Member may not agree with the Government, but the questions should be responded to and answer should be provided by the Government.

Sir, in this short duration discussion, several senior leaders like Shri Basu Deb Acharia, who initiated the discussion, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, Shri Kamal Nath, Shri Ramji Lal Suman, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Shri G.M. Banatwalla, Shrimati Margaret Alva, myself and few others raised very important questions. If the questions would have been answered and we had not agreed, that is a different thing, but the questions were not even touched or responded. The issues were as follows.

1. To whom the caretaker Government will be answerable if something goes wrong before the election is held in Gujarat in order to preserve the unity and harmony of the people in the State in the given situation?
2. List of all those 60 victims of the Sabarmati Express massacre should be known to the House and tabled in the House.
3. Tabling of the forensic report.
4. Total number of persons now staying in the camp and the number of people reported to be missing in respective parts of Gujarat.
5. Total amount of the Prime Minister's package which had been spent and in what direction.
6. What is the response of Government of India to the action taken report on National Human Rights Commission's recommendations pertaining to Gujarat riots?
7. What are the reasons of issuing cheques of Rs. 25, Rs. 50, Rs. 100 etc. to the victims who may not have even bank accounts?
8. Why the women were terrorised by persons who assaulted them, not to get the FIR registered and why did police publicly, in the camp, insist women to identify the culprits?
9. How many persons have been killed or injured while returning home from the camp?
10. Why has the IDRFB Fund from USA been channelised to support the activities of VHP and RSS as reported in *Outlook* published on 22.7.2002?
11. Why the Governor, knowing full well that Article 355 is in operation, did not send the report of the State to the Union Government and allowed the same person to function as caretaker Chief Minister while Article 355 had been used against the same Government?
12. How will the identity of missing persons be found and the actual status known?
13. How will the people be ensured to get their identity cards and how will the people who lost their ration cards

and could not go back to their homes shall figure in the list of voters?

14. Has, according to the Home Minister, full normalcy been restored and the ground is ready for election?

15. Why 256 *dargahs*, 18 mosques, 16 temples and three churches, which had been damaged, have not been repaired and restored till date?

These are the questions. I must admit that the Home Minister did refer only to one point that he would try to co-operate or something about the enrolment of people in the voters' list.

I have heard Shri Advani in all the debates in the past. He was sincere to respond to the questions. We may differ. That is a different issue. All these questions have not been responded to. If you check the proceedings, you will find that he abruptly ended and the House was adjourned. He did not touch any of these questions. These are the questions we raised and we wanted to understand the position of the Government, but the Minister left.

Sir, he is our Deputy Prime Minister. Some say that he is *de facto* Prime Minister. That is a different thing. He could at least respond to the questions. Without getting answers to these questions in Lok Sabha in a substantive motion, where his accountability lies under Article 75(3), how can the Opposition keep quiet? Therefore, Sir, through you, I request the Government to convey this to the Deputy Prime Minister. I know that he is busy and his programmes are fixed in advance. He can find time on his own and come to the House, respond to all these questions and give clarification to us. We will be very happy if he comes and answers. We agree that we may disagree, but if these questions are not answered and if the House is treated in this way, if the Opposition is treated in this way and if the very sanctity of Parliament is treated in this manner by the *de facto* Prime Minister or Deputy Prime Minister, it is difficult for us to co-operate with the Government.

श्री रामजीलाल सुमन (फिरोजाबाद) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह अत्यधिक गंभीर मामला है। अभी दो दिन पहले गुजरात पर जो चर्चा हुई तो लगातार पुरानी बातों की पुनरावृत्ति भारत के उप-प्रधान मंत्री और गृह मंत्री जी करते रहे, जिसकी वजह से प्रतिपक्ष द्वारा सबसे अधिक शोर मचाया जाता रहा। गोधरा में साबरमती एक्सप्रेस में जो हादसा हुआ, हम जानना चाहते हैं कि जो लोग सफर कर रहे थे, उनके नामों की सूची क्यों प्रकाशित नहीं की गई? किनके नाम से आरक्षण था वह इन लोगों ने नहीं बताया। हम यह भी जानना चाहते हैं कि ऐमनैस्टी इंटरनेशनल के जो लोग गुजरात में आने वाले थे, उनको भारत सरकार ने आने से क्यों रोक दिया। उसका क्या कारण है? इन लोगों के मुताबिक **â€ (व्यवधान)** निश्चित रूप से एम.एल.ए. और एम.पी.ए. के नाम से आरक्षण रहा होगा और सफर दूसरे लोग कर रहे होंगे। **â€ (व्यवधान)** 50-100 रुपये के चैक रिलीफ के नाम पर दिए गए हैं। **â€ (व्यवधान)**

श्री सुरेश रामराव जाधव (परमनी) : एक एक लाख रुपया दिया गया है, यह रेकार्ड पर है।

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down, Shri Jadhav.

श्री रामजीलाल सुमन : कहां दिया गया है? बीजेपी के एम.एल.ए. के नाम पर लोग सफर कर रहे थे। **â€ (व्यवधान)** अध्यक्ष महोदय, जान-बूझकर एम.एल.ए. के नाम पर उन लोगों को अयोध्या भेजा जा रहा था इसी वजह से लोगों के नाम नहीं देना चाहते। यह गंभीर सवाल है। जो भी दरगाहें और मस्जिदें ध्वस्त की गईं, उनको ठीक करने का कोई बंदोबस्त नहीं है। **â€ (व्यवधान)** 150 करोड़ रुपये के पैकेज की घोषणा प्रधान मंत्री जी ने की थी, उसका क्या हुआ? कहां वह खर्च हो रहा है? जो लोग घरों से वापस जा रहे हैं, उनको मारने का काम निरंतर हो रहा है, दहशत पैदा करने का काम निरंतर हो रहा है। जो लोग गुम हो गए उनकी कोई सूचना नहीं है। **â€ (व्यवधान)** अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं पूरा सहयोग करना चाहता हूँ। जब किसी सवाल पर सरकार कोई सकारात्मक उत्तर नहीं दे, सरकार जान-बूझकर तथ्यों को छिपाने की कोशिश करती है तो अजीब स्थिति पैदा हो जाती है। हम चाहते हैं कि जो सवाल हमने उठाए, गृह मंत्री जी उनका जवाब दें, यही हम आपसे संरक्षण चाहते हैं।

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, I have also written to you.

MR. SPEAKER: I have taken up the notices which are listed for today. In that, there were only two notices -- one was given by Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, and the other was given by Shri Ramji Lal Suman.

श्री बसुदेव आचार्य : हमने आपको चिट्ठी लिखी है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : चिट्ठी लिखी है मगर इसके बाद नोटिस नहीं आया है।

श्री बसुदेव आचार्य : चिट्ठी लिखी है कि मामला उठाना चाहता हूँ, यह बात लिखी है।

श्री छत्रपाल सिंह (बुलन्दशहर) : ये क्या रोज़ हाउस में गुजरात का ही मामला उठता रहेगा? **â€ (व्यवधान)**

श्री रामजीलाल सुमन : अगर गुजरात में ऐसी हालत रहेगी तो रोज़ यह सवाल उठेगा। **â€ (व्यवधान)**

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (BOLPUR): May I take only one minute? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down, I want to hear Shri Somnath Chatterjee.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramdas, you do not want to allow Shri Somnath Chatterjee to speak.

...(Interruptions)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप प्लीज़ बैठिये। मैंने सोमनाथ चटर्जी को परमीशन दी है।

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : It is a very important matter. I am raising this because the hon. Deputy Prime Minister has sent us a statement, circulated through the Press Information Bureau, with regard to his speech made here. Apart from quoting from his speech, in that PIB note, he has said: "When I made this assertion, namely, this Chief Minister had dealt with properly, I have in mind these telling statistics of Government Action Taken Reports." He has mentioned certain things. I thought that such an experienced and able Home Minister that we have, at least, when he wants to add to the statement made in the House, he would come here and make that statement. It is not a matter for PIB to circulate the note wherein he said: "I have this thing in mind, which I wanted to say at that time." This is not a proper thing.

In view of this fact -- the issues have been raised, and the Members are agitated on this -- let him come and make the statement clear, and withdraw this PIB circular, which will be part of the record of the House. This is very unheard of. In my humble experience, I have never seen it till now. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : This is an insult to the House. He should make a statement on the floor of the House. ...(Interruptions)

डॉ. रघुवंश प्रसाद सिंह (वैशाली) : हम लोग सवाल उठाते हैं तो सरकार से अपेक्षा करते हैं कि सरकार कार्रवाई करेगी लेकिन जब सरकार द्वारा और माननीय उप प्रधान मंत्री जी द्वारा जवाब भी नहीं दिया जाएगा तो फिर क्या होगा सवाल उठाकर? सदन की क्या मर्यादा रह जाएगी, सदन की क्या उपयोगिता रहेगी?

13.00 hrs.

अध्यक्ष महोदय, सरकार से अपेक्षा की जाती है कि वह कार्रवाई करे। यहां तो स्थिति यह है कि सदन में भी बयान नहीं दिया बल्कि पी.आई.बी. के थ्रू बयान दिया गया है जिसकी कापीज सांसदों को उपलब्ध कराई गई हैं। यह ठीक नहीं है। (व्यवधान)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, there was a debate on the issue for eight hours. We raised several issues. But not a single question was replied to by the hon. Home Minister. The only thing that he did was that he gave a good character certificate to Shri Narendra Modi.

श्री मुलायम सिंह यादव (सम्भल) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस बहस के प्रारंभ होने पर हमारी ओर से केवल दो ही सवाल उठाए गए थे और अभी तक हम उन्हीं दोनों पर कायम हैं कि अयोध्या जाने के लिए रिजर्वेशन किस-किस के नाम पर थे और किन-किन की मृत्यु हुई क्योंकि हमारी पक्की खबर है कि विधायक, सांसद, पूर्व विधायक और पूर्व सांसदों के नाम पर आरक्षण कराया गया था और उनके नाम से अन्य लोगों को अयोध्या में हिंसा करने के लिए भेजा जा रहा था, लेकिन उनकी मौत हो गई।

जिनकी मौत हुई, उनके लिए मेरी सहानुभूति है, लेकिन उनकी जो हत्याएं की गई उनके लिए वहां की सरकार जिम्मेदार है। उनकी नृशंस हत्या के प्रति मेरी सहानुभूति है, सम्बेदना है और दुःख है।

महोदय, मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न यह है कि कितने लोगों को पैसा मिला, किन-किन लोगों को पैसा मिला। उनकी सूची क्यों प्रकाशित नहीं की जा रही है। यह मामूली सा सवाल है, लेकिन इसका भी उत्तर नहीं दिया गया, इसे क्यों छिपाया जा रहा है। जिन लोगों की हत्या हुई है उनकी सूची जारी करने में सरकार को क्या परेशानी है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : ठीक है, मैं अभी देखता हूं।

Hon. Members, let me say that I am not giving a ruling on the issue because there is nothing to give a ruling on this. I am making a few observations. Most part of the observation is known to you.

We had a very nice debate on the important issue of Gujarat. The hon. Members also spoke on the issue and the hon. Minister for Home Affairs replied at the end of the debate. The debate was over and the House was adjourned. I personally feel that whenever a Minister gives a reply he has to reply to all the queries raised by the Members. I have also seen that most of the time the Ministers reply to the queries that are raised in the House. But you are all aware that it is always the case that the Ministers are not in a position to reply to all the questions that are raised. Some of the questions are always left out. Thereafter, whenever the questions are left out, there are some other methods by which the hon. Members are entitled to raise those issues as per the rules, regulations and the procedures of the House. The procedure has been that as soon as a debate is over, questions can be put to the Minister and the Minister normally replies. Wherever he requires some information, he requests that this information can be supplied later on.

As I remember, on that day after the discussion was over, the House was adjourned and the hon. Members could not put their questions. I am prepared to take that. I have gone through all the rules. I have also gone through the precedents because when these questions were raised in the House I thought that it was my duty to see that a proper reply goes to the Members who have raised the questions and also for the information of others. At least I have not been able to find out that because some replies were left out, a Minister was called again to reply to them. There is absolutely no provision in the rules and you are all aware that I am bound by the rules in the House while conducting the business in this House. Suppose, hon. Members want to raise some questions and if they are permitted to be raised under rules, then I have no objection. You can always put it. If the BAC advises, you can go for a discussion also. Or, the other way out will be that along with the leaders, we can sit together, we can find a way out as to how the questions can be replied to.

Another way suggested was that the number of questions that were raised by Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, he has written to the Minister and has also written to me saying that these are the questions that are to be replied. The Minister can always write to him the replies to all the questions that have been raised because for any Member of Parliament if he/she wants any information, he/she can write to the Minister and the Minister can always reply to him.

I do not think that beyond this anything can be done. These are my observations. This is not my ruling. If the Members so desire, since the senior leaders have raised the issue

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, let us have a discussion in your room.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : You call a meeting in your chamber. We want this to be replied in the House, that is all! This is the property of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: I am prepared to discuss this. At the same time, it must be understood that I will have to go according to the present rules and regulations.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : You have said that this is your observation and not ruling. Therefore, you have an open mind.

MR. SPEAKER: I really have an open mind. If any important questions are not replied to, you can always ask the Minister in writing and you can get your replies. There is no difficulty about it. Beyond that, if the Government wants to make any observation I have no objection for the Government to say anything. Otherwise, I presume that I am in a position to call the meeting and discuss the matter in my chamber. Thank you very much.

The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2:05 pm.

13.06 hrs. The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till five minutes

past Fourteen of the Clock.
