

Requested the Prime Minister and the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment for the rehabilitation of the widows who are staying in Brindaban and other places.

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MR. SPEAKER: Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu, you can also associate with Madam. Now, Shri Lakshman Seth.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is very unfair. In the Zero Hour, you always want to disturb the House.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (MUVATTUPUZHA): Sir, this is a matter concerning the entire country.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Lakshman Seth.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record except what Shri Lakshman Seth says.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat first.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What is this? Madam, please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Is there anything from the Minister?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Sir, the prices have been cleared by the Economic Affairs Committee just two days back. They were declared in this House only yesterday.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, you are not allowing the Minister also to give the reply. What sort of attitude is this?

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Sir, I will communicate the concerns of the Members to the Minister of Agriculture.

MR. SPEAKER: All right. Now, Shri Lakshman Seth.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH (TAMLUK): Sir, about 2,500 widows are living in Brindaban. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Madam, this is too much.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I called Shri Lakshman Seth. Let him complete.

SHRI A.C. JOS (TRICHUR): It is a very unfair attitude of the Government...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA (GUNA): Why do you not have an Half-an-Hour Discussion and explain what they are going to do....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down first.

*Not Recorded.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: I do not decide about Half-an-Hour discussions. It is for the hon. Speaker to decide about it.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : This is my suggestion to the hon. Speaker....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Chennithala, the position is very clear. In the Zero Hour, the Chair cannot compel the Government to give a statement.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, do you have any objection in Half-an-Hour discussion?

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Sir, we do not have any objection.

MR. SPEAKER: All right, we will have an Half-an-Hour discussion on this.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment towards a very important matter. Recently, the Government of West Bengal has undertaken a study regarding the sorry plight of the widows who are staying in Brindaban and other places of pilgrimage. More than 2,500 widows are staying in Brindaban and are suffering a lot. They are also the victims of the Mafia there and are forced and compelled to adopt immoral traffic. They need and deserve rehabilitation. I would request the hon. Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment to take immediate steps for their rehabilitation because their condition is very much deplorable. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Prime Minister also to look into this matter personally and take proper steps for the rehabilitation of widows there.