

**Session : 9**

**Date : 14-12-2006**

**Participants :** [Acharia Shri Basudeb](#), [Mollah Shri Hannan](#), [Dome Dr. Ram Chandra](#), [Kurup Shri Suresh](#), [Manoj Dr. K.S.](#), [Chakraborty Shri Sujan](#), [Baxla Shri Joachim](#), [Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu](#), [Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore](#), [Kumar Shri Shailendra](#), [Mehta Shri Alok Kumar](#), [Dasmunsi Shri Priya Ranjan](#), [Dasgupta Shri Gurudas](#), [Seal Shri Sudhangshu](#), [Chakraborty Shri Swadesh](#), [Das Shri Alakesh](#), [Satheedevi Smt. P.](#), [Rajendran Shri P.](#), [Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada](#), [Barman Shri Basudeb](#), [Baghel Prof. S.P. Singh](#), [Singh Shri Ganesh Prasad](#), [Singh Shri Sitaram](#), [Suman Shri Ramji Lal](#), [Yadav Shri Devendra Prasad](#), [Panda Shri Prabodh](#), [Krishnadas Shri N.N.](#), [Pal Shri Rupchand](#), [Pradhan Shri Prasanta](#), [Khan Shri Sunil](#), [Karunakaran Shri P.](#), [C.S. Sujatha Smt.](#), [Lahiri Shri Samik](#), [Basu Shri Anil](#), [Singh Shri Mohan](#), [Bose Shri Subrata](#), [Geete Shri Anant Gangaram](#), [Nandy Shri Amitava](#), [Rijiju Shri Kiren](#), [Verma Shri Ravi Prakash](#), [Thomas Shri P.C.](#), [Jha Shri Raghunath](#), [Vijay Krishna Shri](#), [Yadav Shri Ram Kripal](#), [Mahto Shri Tek Lal](#), [Mondal Shri Abu Ayes](#)

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Title: Regarding nation-wide strike by the workers on 14 December, 2006 against alleged anti-labour policies of the Government.

MR. SPEAKER: Prof. Malhotra, can we take up the Calling Attention after five to ten minutes?

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Sir, you have assured that you would allow me to raise our issue at 12 noon. ... (*Interruptions*)

अध्यक्ष महोदय: मैंने इनकार नहीं किया है। आप एक मिनट रुकें। May I conduct the House according to the procedure?

Prof. Malhotra, ordinarily we take the Calling Attention and thereafter we take up the important matters of public importance but you know how agitated they are. So, may I take the Calling Attention after five minutes?

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (SOUTH DELHI): Okay, Sir.

... (*Interruptions*)

अध्यक्ष महोदय: एक साथ न बोलें। मैंने पहले बसुदेव आचार्य जी को बुलाया है।

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, today, several crores of working class across the country, both organized and unorganized sectors, from public and private sectors, industries and service establishments are observing countrywide general strike to place their burning issues of their lives and livelihood, and also to oppose the continuity of the New Economic Policy of Liberalization, which is still being pursued by the Government at the Centre.

Sir, the call for the general strike has been given by the sponsoring committee of trade unions comprising most of the major central trade unions, independent industrial and employees federation in banks, insurance, and defence production, State and Central Government offices and other service organizations.[\[R15\]](#)

Today, crores of workers and employees are observing a strike. The strike, despite braving police repression, is successful in a number of States. The demand of the workers, the demand of the people of our country, as committed by the UPA Government, is that there should be a legislation to protect the interests of the workers in the unorganized sector. The Government should bring a legislation to provide social security to the workers in the unorganized sector. The Government has not brought any legislation. There is no social security for 37 crores of workers who are in the unorganized sector. There is no legislation for 22 crores of agricultural labourers. They have no security of job. Social security is not there.

The labour laws are blatantly violated. The labour laws, which are there to protect the interests of the workers, are being blatantly violated.

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is being allowed in the Defence production also.... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have got your matter. We may discuss it in the Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

Now, Shri Ramji Lal Suman.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Privatisation of Public Sector Undertaking is going on unabated. There is a serious situation. Unemployment is growing. The farmers are committing suicide. There is agrarian crisis all over the country. More than one lakh farmers have committed suicide.... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the matters are serious. I am requesting Mr. Basu Deb Acharia to conclude. I have called you.

Mr. Basu Deb Acharia, please conclude.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : I am concluding.

Sir, the prices of all the essential commodities are rising. The Government has not taken any step to stop the rise in the prices of essential commodities... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Ramji Lal Suman. Nothing else will be recorded except the speech of Shri Ramji Lal Suman.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a debate.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Basu Deb Acharia, it is not a debate. There was a debate on unorganized sector. I had allowed it.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : The cameras were broken up because of police beating. Because of police firing, one person was killed in Nuapada district of Orissa.

MR. SPEAKER: Please co-operate.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, in Haryana... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not bring in State matter. No State matter will be allowed.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : The strike is successful. The Government should listen to the demands of the 40 crores of workers of our country.

MR. SPEAKER: You have said it very forcefully. You have made your point.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The Government should immediately bring a legislation to protect the interests of unorganized sector and to provide social security for 37 crores of unorganized people.

श्री अनंत गंगाराम गीते (रत्नागिरि) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, हम भाग करने के लिए नहीं खड़े हुए हैं। हम अपने आपको श्री बसुदेव आचार्य के विाय से संबद्ध करना चाहते हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जो भी माननीय सदस्य आपने को श्री बसुदेव आचार्य द्वारा उठाए गए विाय से संबद्ध करना चाहते हैं, वे लिख कर स्लिप दे दें।

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM): My Party is also associating with this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Very good. That will energize them more. All those who wish to associate with this matter may please send in their names. Their names will be duly recorded.

श्री रामजीलाल सुमन (फ़िरोज़ाबाद) : अध्यक्ष जी, पूरे देश के श्रमिकों में असंतोह है और अपने गुस्से को जाहिर करने के लिए आज पूरे देश में हड़ताल है। प्रधानमंत्री जी ने 16 अगस्त, 2006 को श्रमिक संगठनों के साथ बातचीत की थी और श्रमिकों को भरोसा हुआ था कि उनके कल्याण के लिए भारत सरकार साकारात्मक पहल करेगी, लेकिन उस दिशा में चार कदम चलने की कोशिश भी भारत सरकार की तरफ से नहीं की गई है। भारत में 93 फीसदी असंगठित मजदूर हैं। इस सदन में बार-बार चर्चा हुई कि उनके लिए कानून बनाने की आवश्यकता है, उनको संरक्षण देने की आवश्यकता है, लेकिन कोई प्रभावी प्रयास इस दिशा में नहीं हुआ। खेतिहर मजदूरों के लिए भी कोई संरक्षण कानून नहीं है। शहरी बेरोजगारों के लिए रोजगार की गारंटी नहीं है। सरकारी उपक्रमों के निजीकरण के सिलसिले में कई बार कहा गया कि मुनाफे के सरकारी उपक्रम हैं, उनके बारे में सरकार आश्वस्त करे कि उनका निजीकरण नहीं करेगी।[MSOffice16] वहां श्रमिकों की छंटनी बंद होगी, नई भर्तियां होंगी, खुदरा बाजार में विदेशी पूंजी निवेश नहीं होगा, ये असली बुनियादी सवाल हैं और जिन का संबंध श्रमिकों की समस्या से है। आपने ठीक कहा कि सदन में

अभी श्रमिकों की समस्या के सवाल पर चर्चा हुई है। हम इसमें आपका संरक्षण चाहते हैं। चर्चा का यह मतलब है कि अगर कहीं लोगों की समस्याएं हैं, सरकार उसमें प्रभावी पहल करे। हमारा आरोप है कि सरकार श्रमिकों की समस्याओं के मामले में बिल्कुल भी गम्भीर नहीं है।... (व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not talk to each other. Shri Ramjilal Suman, please address the Chair.

... (*Interruptions*)

श्री रामजीलाल सुमन : यह सरकार श्रमिकों के सवाल पर बिल्कुल भी गम्भीर नहीं है। आज पूरे देश में बुरा हाल है। ... (व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय: सब एक-एक करके बोलिए।

... (व्यवधान)

श्री रामजीलाल सुमन : श्रमिकों के ऊपर लाठीचार्ज हुआ जो हाइली ऑब्जेक्शनेबल है। यह एक गम्भीर मामला है। हम सरकार से अपेक्षा करते हैं कि वह श्रमिकों की समस्या को दूर करने के लिए आवश्यक कदम उठाए।

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (PANSKURA): Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, and my respected colleagues in Parliament, this is the second strike during the tenure of the present Government led by Dr. Manmohan Singh. In the year 2005 there was a strike. Now again there is a strike. We are on strike because the Government is violating the election mandate. The people have voted this Government to power because they wanted this Government to follow a different economic policy than the policy that the earlier Government had followed. But, unfortunately, they are following the same economic policy. This is again an all-round failure of the Government that the strike has been sponsored. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (BERHAMPORE, WEST BENGAL): Why are you supporting this Government?... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Gurudas Dasgupta, you address the Chair.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Sir, I am telling you. Today there has been an unprecedented strike in India. I am not blaming the States. Beginning from Assam to Kerala, there is an all-out strike. The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is here. There has been firing saying we have no right to strike and one man has died. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : What you have done in Singur? ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing else will be recorded.

(*Interruptions*)\* ...

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Gurudas Dasgupta, please conclude. You have already taken 15 minutes.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : No, Sir. Please give two minutes more. ... (*Interruptions*) There has been lathi charge, there has been attack on the Press. ... (*Interruptions*) The Press has been attacked under this UPA Government. ... (*Interruptions*)

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\* Not recorded

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : the freedom of the Press is being threatened. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav to speak now.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Sir, we are protesting against this pro-rich and anti-poor economic policy of the Government. ... (*Interruptions*) Please give me one minute. I am only saying that this Government enjoys our support. Having enjoyed the support of the Left, the Government is completely ignoring our views. This cannot go on for long. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing else will be recorded.

(*Interruptions*)\* ...

MR. SPEAKER : Okay, I will adjourn the House.

... (*Interruptions*)

अध्यक्ष महोदय: मेहरबानी करके बैठ जाइए।

...(ब्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat. I will not allow this.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : If you want to speak, please take my permission. Otherwise nothing is being recorded.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Sir, may I point out?

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing more. I have already called Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : You please sit down.

... (*Interruptions*)

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\* Not recorded

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Tarit Baran Topdar, please sit down.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : If you do not want the House to continue, please tell me. I will adjourn and go away. Then you will not be allowed to raise the issue. I am allowing you. You do it in a proper manner. I have already compromised with the rule with the permission of Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : It cannot go on indefinitely. It is not a debate. We allowed a full debate on the unorganized sector.

श्री देवेन्द्र प्रसाद यादव (झंझारपुर): अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपकी अनुमति से कहना चाहता हूँ कि आज सम्पूर्ण देश में देशव्यापी श्रमिकों की हड़ताल चल रही है और खेतिहर मजदूरों का तेजी से पलायन हो रहा है। उनकी क्रय शक्ति घट रही है, बेरोजगारी बढ़ रही है और इसके कारण गरीबी बढ़ रही है। इसलिए मैं निवेदन कर रहा हूँ कि द्वितीय लॉ लेबर कमीशन की रिपोर्ट अभी तक लागू नहीं हो सकी है और असंगठित मजदूरों के लिए गठित राष्ट्रीय आयोग रिपोर्ट वा 2000 में आई, लेकिन अभी तक उस पर कोई पहल नहीं की गई है। अर्जुन सेन गुप्ता कमीशन की रिपोर्ट 16 मई, 2006 को आई थी जो माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी के समक्ष प्रस्तुत हुई थी लेकिन उस पर कोई कार्रवाई नहीं हुई है। मैं आपके माध्यम से मांग करता हूँ तुरंत केंद्रीय विधान बने और उन लोगों के लिए सोशल सिक्योरिटी नेटवर्क स्थापित किया जाए जो असंगठित और संगठित मजदूर हैं, देश का 93 प्रतिशत वर्क फोर्स है, असंगठित मजदूर की हालत बहुत दयनीय है, चिंताजनक है। यह बहुत संवेदनशील मामला है इसलिए सरकार को इस पर तुरंत पोजीटिव पहल करनी चाहिए। पूरे देश में रिक्रूटिंग चालकों, रेहड़ी, पटरी पर फल बेचने वालों और खोमचा लगाने वाले गरीब लोगों को राष्ट्रीय राजधानी दिल्ली से उजाड़ा जा रहा है, उन लोगों की अनियमित कॉलोनियों को नियमित करने के लिए विचार करना चाहिए।

MR. SPEAKER : The names of Shri Hannan Mollah, Shri Prabodh Panda, Shri Sudhangshu Seal, Shri N.N. Krishna Das, Shri Ram Chandra Dome, Shri Rupchand Pal, Shri Swadesh Chakraborty, Shri Prasanta Pradhan, Shri Suresh Kurup, Shri Sunil Khan, Shri Alakesh Das, Shri P. Karunakaran, Dr. K.S. Manoj, Shrimati C. S. Sujatha, Shrimati P. Satheedevi, Shri Samik Lahiri, Dr. Sujan

Chakraborty, Shri Anil Basu, \* 23 Shri Abu Ayes Mondal, Shri P. Rajendran, Shri Mohan Singh, Shri Joachim Baxla and Shri Subrata Bose are associated with this issue.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister wants to say something.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, please allow those who have given notices to speak. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, I cannot allow.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No more. Hon. Minister wishes to say something.

... (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA (RAMPUR): Sir, please allow me to speak. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shrimati Jayaprada's name will be recorded. The names of Shri Anant Geete and Shri Yerrannaidu will be recorded.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Your name is also recorded.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will not allow. Please do not request me. I have allowed Shri Ramji Lal Suman to speak.

... (Interruptions)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप नाम भेज दीजिए।

...(व्यवधान)

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA : Sir, please give me one minute. I want to associate myself with the issue.

MR. SPEAKER : Your association is already recorded. आपने नोटिस नहीं दिया है।

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, I cannot make a distinction. The names of Shri Amitava Nandy, Prof. Basudeb Barman, shri Kiren Rijiju, Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy, Shri Ravi Prakash Verma, Prof. S.P.Singh Baghel, Shri P.C. Thomas, Shri Shailendra Kumar, Shri Raghunath Jha, Shri Ganesh Prasad Singh, Shri Vijoy Krishna, Shri Alok Kumar Mehta, Shri Ram Kripal Yadav, Shri Sitaram Singh and Shri Tek Lal Mahto are also associated on this matter.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Only Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi's statement will be recorded.

*(Interruptions)\* ...*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, on behalf of the Government, I would like to respond that the right to strike is a fundamental right of the working classes, agricultural classes and all political parties and we salute these rights solemnly. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Why can you not bring a legislation? ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Just a minute. Let him complete.

*... (Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No, Shri Basu Deb Acharia. Nothing else will be recorded except the statement of the hon. Minister.

*(Interruptions)\* ...*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, the UPA Government tried to implement most of its commitments by this time and a few are still pending. I respectfully submit that the legislation on the unorganized sector is not only a claim of the UPA Government but the mandate of our National Common

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\* Not recorded

Minimum Programme. It is also declared emphatically by the Chairperson of the UPA Shrimati Sonia Gandhi. This is one of the priority decisions. I can say with all respect to all the striking workers today, through you and through the House, that the UPA Government is determined to bring in a legislation in the next Session. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : You bring a legislation. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : He has committed.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : In how many years?

MR. SPEAKER : Next year.

*... (Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : In regard to the measures for the poor people, the National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme is one of the major thrust areas not only in India but in the



whole world. [[MSOffice17](#)]

It provided support to the rural unemployed people and the agricultural labour. ...  
(Interruptions) Let me respond. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Not one word is being recorded. Why are you standing and interrupting?

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If you do that, I will ask him not to reply, not to respond.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, the *Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan*, with mid-day meal support, is one of the major thrusts of the UPA Government to the grass-root level people.

Sir, the new 20-point programme has been re-oriented touching the basic poor people of the village. That is a new thrust area in the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The strength of self-help groups has gone up 10 times than what it was during the NDA's time. It will go beyond 20 times, as envisaged in the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

With regard to the sick industries, the Prime Minister has for the first time appointed the VPSTC, which is yet to give their report. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record anything except the statement of the hon. Minister.

(Interruptions)\* ...

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, I can only say that one of the major lumping sick units called IISCO has been finalised by this Government to merge with SAIL. Therefore, we did not attempt to disinvest in any major public sector undertaking, including Air India and Indian Airlines. This Government's attitude is for the people and for the poor.

Sir, I admit that there are a few shortcomings in various States and those matters would be taken up comprehensively by the UPA Government and its supporting parties.

With these words, I say that our Government is on the right track for the people, for the workers and for the agricultural labour in the country. ... (Interruptions)

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MR. SPEAKER: Do not record anything.

(Interruptions)\* ...

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Sir, we are walking out.

**12.22 hrs**

*(At this stage, Shri Basu Deb Acharia and some other  
hon. Members left the House.)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please go out silently.

... *(Interruptions)*

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\* Not recorded

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we take Calling Attention. Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra.

... *(Interruptions)*

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप उसे छोड़िये। That will not be recorded. Please speak on the Calling Attention. There are enough problems.

... *(Interruptions)*

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप लोग जो बोलते हैं, उसे देश देखता है।

... *(Interruptions)*