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Title: Discussion regarding agrarian crisis in the country and incidence of suicides by farmers.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we will take up Discussion under Rule 193. Shri Basu Deb Acharia.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I must thank you for allowing a discussion on a very important and burning problem which millions and millions of farmers are facing today.

There is crisis in the agrarian sector. It has not been the crisis that has been developed recently.

17.00 hrs.

If we have to look at the agrarian crisis of today, then we will have to analyse the genesis of this crisis. During the last two decades, since 1991, when the economic reforms were initiated by Government of India, we have come across suicides being committed by farmers. We have not seen suicides by farmers pre-1991 in such large numbers. There were some instances of suicide by farmers but from 1995 onwards the farmers of our country resorted to suicides in greater numbers.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Acharia, this is an important matter and you can continue with this next time.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, we had been waiting for this to be taken up since last week...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the House will take up 'Zero Hour'.

Shri Ramkishun.

श्री रामकिशुन (चन्दौली): सभापति महोदय, भारत के कामगार विदेशों में काम करने जाते हैं, खास तौर से खाड़ी के देशों में। उन खाड़ी के देशों में उनका वीज़ा, पासपोर्ट जो कंपनियां ले जाती हैं...(व्यवधान) मैं ज़ीरो आवर में बोल रहा हूँ...(व्यवधान)

सभापति महोदय : केवल एक ईशू पर बोलिए।

â€¦(व्यवधान)

श्री रामकिशुन : मैं केवल एक ईशू पर ही बोल रहा हूँ।

रोजगार के लिए उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार, बंगाल, पश्चिम उत्तर प्रदेश, पंजाब, हरियाणा से किसानों के बेटे, गरीब लोग खाड़ी के देशों में काम करने जाते हैं...(व्यवधान)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : When will it be taken up next?

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will definitely take it up. We will give priority to this. Please co-operate.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : It should be allowed today...(Interruptions)

श्री नामा नानेश्वर राव (खम्माम): सभापति महोदय, नियम 193 के अंतर्गत चर्चा में सब लोग बोलना चाहते हैं...(व्यवधान)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): It was not only you but it was also the Government which was willing for a discussion on the issue. We accepted this despite the fact that the House was not permitted to function yesterday only on this ground for more than half of the day. Still we accepted this and we were ready for this discussion. But the hon. Members who are present in the House and

because after this we are adjourning for 4 days wanted their 'Zero Hour' matters to be taken up. Therefore, this has been taken up and whenever there is an occasion, not necessarily in the next three days because there is other business to be taken up then. It may be taken up in the next Session...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Would we have to wait for the next Session for this discussion?...(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Perhaps, yes. We will see but we cannot say that this discussion will be taken up on 27th or 28th or 29th. We were prepared for this. You can ask the hon. Members present in the House. You cannot blame the Government or the Chair for this. We accepted your motion. That is not fair to say...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : We want a discussion on this issue...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will continue next time.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, you may take the sense of the House and you may decide. I only want to say that we discussed this matter at length in the Rajya Sabha as well and thereafter since the hon. Members wanted it here, I am reiterating that point that we accepted this here also. You may take the sense of the House...(Interruptions) Hon. Members said so and hon. Members also told me that they wanted their 'Zero Hour' matters to be taken up. ...(Interruptions) Sir, the Members also want that the House should adjourn at 6 o'clock. How can both the things be done?...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, then the Lok Sabha cannot discuss the farmers' issue....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Who said that it cannot be discussed? It is only the question of time. Proper time will be given to all the Members to speak.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, then you may take another decision. Let there be no 'Zero Hour' and let the Members continue with this discussion. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the sense of the House? Shall we continue with the discussion or take up 'Zero Hour'?

...(Interruptions)

श्री रामकिशुन : सभापति जी, आप जीरो ऑवर ले लीजिए। ...(व्यवधान) यह अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मामला है। ...(व्यवधान) यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण मामला है। ...(व्यवधान) आप इसके बाद नियम 193 पर चर्चा कराइये।

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : We want the debate on the farmers' issue. 'Zero Hour' can be taken up afterwards. We may have the debate for two hours. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please sit down. Let me give my ruling. Till 6 p.m., we will continue with the discussion and then, at 6 p.m., we will take up 'Zero Hour'. Shri Acharia, you may continue now.

...(Interruptions)

श्री रामकिशुन : सभापति महोदय, आपने हमें बोलने के लिए बुलाया है। ...(व्यवधान) यह अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मामला है। ...(व्यवधान) खाड़ी के देश में हमारी भारतीय फसल ...(व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please cooperate with the Chair. Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions) â€¹**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Acharia, please continue.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, 2,57,996 farmers have committed suicides. Let us divide the figure into eight years each. The period 1995 – 2002 is when the farmers started committing suicides. During 2003-2010, we may find that the number of suicides committed by farmers is more than the number of farmers who committed suicide in the earlier eight years' period. Why have so many farmers committed suicide?

17.08 hrs.

(Shri Inder Singh Namdhari in the Chair)

Why is it that 90 per cent of the incidents of suicides are in only five States? In Maharashtra alone, 50,000 farmers have committed suicides. The next comes Karnataka. In Karnataka, during this period, 41,000 farmers have committed suicides. Then comes Andhra Pradesh where almost 39,000 farmers have committed suicides in this period.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Acharia, please address the Chair.

श्री बसुदेव आचार्य : सभापति महोदय, मैं चेयर को ही एड्रेस कर रहा हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)* Then comes the States of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh....*(Interruptions)* अगर सरकार एग्जॉर्सेस दे कि इस विषय को 27 तारीख को टेकअप करेंगे ...*(व्यवधान)* आप एक दिन, यानी 27 तारीख को इस पर चर्चा करा दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may take it up in the Business Advisory Committee. You will get the required response there.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): I am again saying that I appreciate the sentiments of the hon. Members. I know the importance of the matter. Therefore, we had accepted this to be taken up. Since I find that the Members are not really interested in taking up this, but only wanting put across the important points under the 'Zero Hour', I had said – and I can only repeat that – that whenever we can find time at the earliest, we would like to take it up. But there are priorities which have to be decided. We can take it up. What else can I say on this matter? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : You assure that on 27th you will take it up for two hours. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions) €! *

MR. CHAIRMAN: The matter is important.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: What I am saying is this. I tried to convince the hon. Member. After the Government business, that is essential to be taken up on 27th and 28th, if we have time on 29th we will try to take it up on 29th. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : You take it up on 27th, not on 29th. This should get priority. The farmers issue should get priority. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Acharia, please continue. That would be decided later. Shri Bansal, please try to adjust it on 27th.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: We cannot have it on 27th. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: What about 28th?

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I cannot say about 28th. On 29th, after all the essential Government business is transacted, we may take it up. ...*(Interruptions)* It is always like that. Sixty-six per cent of the time of the House has been wasted in only stalling the proceedings. Some Government business is the responsibility of each one of us. There are important legislation which will have to be brought. They are legislation related to anti-corruption. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : The farmers issue should get priority. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: We have done that. That is why it has been listed. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Why not on 27th or 28th?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Acharia, whatever time you have, that is also being wasted. What is the use of it? You please speak. After that it will be decided.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: If Shri Acharia is not here on 29th, we can hear him today. Then, we can start with the

'Zero Hour'. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : No. This issue should get priority. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I am sorry he is repeatedly using the word 'priority' as if we are not giving priority to this matter. We accord priority to the subject. That was the reason why the Minister was sitting here right from the morning till this time. ...(*Interruptions*) What are we arguing about? ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : It is not the priority of the Government. ...(*Interruptions*)

...(*Interruptions*)
