

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## (English Version)

First Session  
(First Lok Sabha)



(Vol. I contains Nos. 1 to 7)

Gazettes & Debates Unit  
Parliament Library Building  
Room No. FB-025  
Block 'G'

Acc. No.....8.....

Dated.....4/2/05.....

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**

**NEW DELHI**

Price : Rs. 50.00

## **EDITORIAL BOARD**

**G.C. Malhotra**

Secretary-General  
Lok Sabha

**Anand B. Kulkarni**

Joint Secretary

**Sharda Prasad**

Principal Chief Editor

**Kiran SahnI**

Chief Editor

**Parmesh Kumar Sharma**

Senior Editor

**Ajit Singh Yadav**

Editor

---

**(ORIGINAL ENGLISH PROCEEDINGS INCLUDED IN ENGLISH VERSION AND ORIGINAL HINDI PROCEEDINGS INCLUDED IN HINDI VERSION WILL BE TREATED AS AUTHORITATIVE AND NOT THE TRANSLATION THEREOF)**

## CONTENTS

(Fourteenth Series, Vol. I, First Session, 2004/1926 (Saka)

No. 7, Thursday, June 10, 2004/Jyaishta 20, 1926 (Saka)

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
OBITUARY REFERENCE .....	1
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE .....	2-5
MEMBERS OF LOK SABHA (DECLARATION OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES) RULES .....	5
MATTERS UNDER RULE 377 .....	5-9
(i) Need to withdraw recent decision of the Government on dilution of the compulsory jute packaging norms in the interest of jute growers and jute industry. Shrimati Minati Sen .....	6-7
(ii) Need to provide financial assistance for revival of Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Limited, Durgapur, West Bengal Shri Sunil Khan .....	7-8
(iii) Need to give special financial assistance to the Government of Andhra Pradesh to enable the State Government to write off the loans and interests of farmers with small and medium land holdings. Shri Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy .....	8
(iv) Need to withdraw the move to close Swadeshi Cotton Mill in Pondicherry Shri M. Ramadass .....	8-9
(v) Need to expedite setting up of a gas-based Petro-Chemicals Complex in Assam Shri Sarbananda Sonowal .....	9
MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS .....	10-11
Dr. Manmohan Singh Motion—Adopted	
VALEDICTORY REFERENCE .....	11-12
Mr. Speaker	
NATIONAL SONG—Played .....	12

## **OFFICERS OF LOK SABHA**

### **THE SPEAKER**

**Shri Somnath Chatterjee**

### **THE DEPUTY SPEAKER**

**Shri Charnjit Singh Atwal**

### **PANEL OF CHAIRMEN\***

**Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil**

**Shri Giridhar Gamang**

**Shri Manabendra Shah**

### **SECRETARY-GENERAL**

**Shri G.C. Malhotra**

---

\*Nominated on 29.05.2004 by President

The following order was issued by the President of India on 29.05.2004 :

"I hereby appoint S/Shri Somnath Chatterjee, Balasaheb Vikhe Patil, Giridhar Gamang and Manabendra Shah to be the persons before any of whom members of the House of People may make and subscribe the oath of affirmation in accordance with the provisions of article 99 of the Constitution of India."

**A.P.J. Abdul Kalam,  
PRESIDENT OF INDIA"**

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

Thursday, June 10, 2004/Jyaistha 20, 1926 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

(MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

...(Interruptions)

[English]

### OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of our former colleague, Shri Fazlur Rahman.

Shri Fazlur Rahman was a Member of the Sixth Lok Sabha from 1977 to 1979, representing the Bettiah Parliamentary Constituency of Bihar. Earlier, Shri Fazlur Rahman was a Member of the Bihar State Legislature from 1952 to 1976.

A political and social worker, Shri Rahman devoted himself to public service since the pre-Independence era. He was imprisoned during 1942-45 for his participation in the freedom movement of the country.

An agriculturist by profession, Shri Rahman was Chairman, Small Scale Industries Corporation, Bihar Government and Member, Sugar Enquiry Commission.

An able parliamentarian and administrator, Shri Rahman served as a member of the Estimates Committee of Lok Sabha from July to August 1977. He was Minister of State in the Ministry of Energy from August 1977 to January 1979; Minister of State for Planning from January 1979 to July 1979; and Minister of Labour from July 1979 to January 1980, with additional charge of Wakfs.

Shri Fazlur Rahman passed away on 16 March, 2004 at West Champaran, Bihar at the age of 86.

I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.

11.02 hrs.

*The Members then stood in silence for a short while*

## PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

11.02 hours

English

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): Sir, on behalf of Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 44/04]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy (Hindi and English versions) to the Second Progress Report on the Action Taken pursuant to the recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Stock Market Scam and Matters relating thereto.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 45/04]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): Sir, on behalf of Shri H.R. Bhardwaj, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Law Institute, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003, along with audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Law Institute, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 46/04]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
  - (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Mining and allied Machinery Corporation Limited, Durgapur, for the year 2002-2003.
  - (ii) Annual Report of the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited, Durgapur, for

the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 47/04]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): Sir, on behalf of Shri Praful Patel, I beg to lay on the Table-

(1) A copy each of the following papers Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Hotel Corporation of India Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2002-2003.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hotel Corporation of India Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 48/04]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Air India Charters Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2002-2003.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Air India Charters Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 49/04]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Haryana Agro Industries Limited, Chandigarh, for the year 2002-2003.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Haryana Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Chandigarh, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 50/04]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Punjab Agro Corporation Limited, Chandigarh, for the year 2002-2003.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Chandigarh, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 51/04]

- (c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Himachal Pradesh Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Shimla, for the year 2002-2003.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Himachal Pradesh Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Shimla, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 52/04]

- (d) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Orissa Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Bhubaneswar, for the year 1995-1996.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Orissa Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Bhubaneswar, for the year 1995-1996, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) Four statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 53/04]

- (3) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 226(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th March, 2004 declaring Fertilizer (Control Order), 1985 as a Special Order issued under section 12A of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 54/04]

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Amendment Rules, 2003 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 959(E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd December, 2003 under sub-section (3) of section 26 of the Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 1992.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 55/04]

11.03 hrs.

#### MEMBERS OF LOK SABHA (DECLARATION OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES) RULES

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I beg to lay on the Table both Hindi and English versions of the Members of Lok Sabha (Declaration of Assets and Liabilities) Rules, 2004 made by the Speaker under sub-section (3) of section 75A of the Representation of People Act, 1951.

11.04 hrs.

#### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Matters under Rule 377.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (SOUTH DELHI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have raised the issue of tainted Ministers.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, the Constitution of India...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please, I will request you to take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I request the Leader of the House to please ask his Members to take their seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I request the Leader of the Opposition to please help us?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mahadeorao Sukaji Shivankar.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Avinash Rai Khanna.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Yogi Aditya Nath.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: When I stand, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please once sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: When the Chair is on the legs, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ram Kripal Yadav, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra, I am requesting you and I am requesting all the senior leaders to please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Minati Sen.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

- (i) Need to withdraw recent decision of the Government on dilution of the compulsory jute packaging norms in the interest of jute growers and jute industry

SHRIMATI MINATI SEN (JALPAIGURI): Sir, I have not received the printed text of my matter. so, with your permission, I beg to lay the matter on the Table.

...(Interruptions)

I would draw the kind attention of this august House to the adverse effect on the jute mills and jute growers that has abruptly cropped up due to the dilution of compulsory packaging norms for foodgrains and sugar under the Jute Packaging Material Act, 1987.

As foodgrains and sugar provide the major outlet for jute goods, even partial dilution of the reservation order will be the beginning of the end of the jute industry. The consequential loss of market for jute goods is bound to lead to the closure of a number of jute mills. This spells a disaster not only to the entire jute economy but also to the North-Eastern States, particularly West Bengal.

In West Bengal, about ten jute mills are already closed, throwing 35,000 to 40,000 workmen out of employment. Even after the new Lok Sabha election, three jute mills were closed in West Bengal.

I would urge upon the United Progressive Alliance Government to consider an effective and positive step for withdrawal of dilution of the compulsory jute packaging norms so that the interests of the jute industry, its workers and jute growers are not jeopardised.\*

(ii) **Need to provide financial assistance for revival of Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Limited, Durgapur, West Bengal**

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (DURGAPUR): Sir, I hereby draw the attention of the Government once again to the problems of Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Limited, Durgapur. Though this is a premier Indian organisation in the field of manufacturing flint, prisms for defence and protector glass for research for being used in the Bhabha Atomic Research Institute, it became sick after duties on imported flint were reduced....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded except what Shri Sunil Khan is speaking.

...(Interruptions)\*\*

SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Still this concern is capable to cater to the needs of Defence for prisms and protector glass for BARC. At present, there are only 200 workers. An assistance of rupees three crore is needed to restore electric supply and pay the salary of workers since January, 2004. Revival of the plant needs a Central assistance of Rs. 30 crore only. But most importantly, a full-time Managing Director, with specialisation in Glass technology, needs to be posted.

I urge upon the Government to consider it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Raj Babbar.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy.

...(Interruptions)

(iii) **Need to give special financial assistance to the Government of Andhra Pradesh to enable the State Government to write off the loans and interests of farmers with small and medium land holdings**

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY (NALGONDA): Sir, a large number of farmers committed suicide in Andhra Pradesh due to heavy debts. For the last four years, there is drought and famine in several parts of Andhra Pradesh. There is no remunerative price for the produce. Institutional loans through banks and co-operative societies are not enough to meet the needs of the peasants. Only 25 per cent of the needs of the peasantry for agricultural investment could be met from the banks and societies. The peasants are forced to go for private loans for which the interest rates are exorbitant.

The new State Government has announced an *ex gratia* of 1.50 lakh to the families of those peasants who committed suicide. It is a good gesture, but this will not relieve the peasants of the debt burden. In these circumstances, the Union Government should come out with a special assistance of Rs. 1,000 crore to Andhra Pradesh Government to enable them to write off the loans and interest of small and middle peasantry. Further, new loans for investment should be offered to peasantry.

I request the Union Government to look into the matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri M. Ramadass.

...(Interruptions)

(iv) **Need to withdraw the move to close Swadeshi Cotton Mill In Pondicherry**

\*SHRI M. RAMADASS (PONDICHERRY): The Swadeshi Cotton Mill is one of the oldest textile mills of the Union Territory of Pondicherry established by the French Administration. Now NTC, which is managing the Swadeshi Cotton Mill, is proposing to close down the mill on the ground that it is incurring losses. This move is ill-conceived and would affect the livelihood of several workers depending on this mill. Besides, it would also add to the unemployment problem. It may be mentioned that the Government of Pondicherry has already created a Pondicherry Textile Corporation, which is managing the Anglo-French Textiles. It is suggested that the Swadeshi Cotton Mill instead of being closed may be merged with the Pondicherry Textile Corporation.

\*Treated as laid on the Table.

\*\* Not recorded

\* Teated as laid on the Table of the House.

The hon. Minister for Textiles is requested to prevail upon the National Textile Corporation not to proceed with the closure of Swadeshi Cotton Mill at Pondicherry.

(v) **Need to expedite setting up of a gas-based Petro-Chemicals Complex in Assam**

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL (DIBRUGARH): Sir, I draw attention of the Government about the gas-based Petro-Chemical Complex which was to be set up in Assam under Clause 7 of the Assam Accord. The Central Government issued a Letter of Intent for setting up the Gas Cracker Project as a joint venture project. The Assam Industrial Development Corporation signed a Memorandum of Understanding with RAPL. It is pertinent that on November 24, 1994 the foundation stone of the Project was laid by the then Prime Minister Shri Narasimha Rao following which necessary land was acquired by the Dibrugarh District Administration at Tengakhat. The site was subsequently shifted to Lepatkata on technical ground. All formalities are completed to hand over the land. But, nothing has come out so far and huge quantity of associated gas is being wasted every year.

I, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to take a firm step to commission the project immediately. If the promoter RAPL is reluctant on the pretext of their unreasonable demands, the project should be started in the public sector.

11.11 hrs.

**MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS—contd.**

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please be seated in your seats. We now come to the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. The debate is over. Now, I request the hon. Prime Minister to reply.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Prime Minister has requested for it. So, please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (CALCUTTA SOUTH): Sir, we want justice....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We have discussed this issue and I am very happy that there is some sort of an understanding.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. I request all hon. Members to please keep quiet as I have already called

the hon. Prime Minister. I earnestly appeal to all of you to please show a little respect. Yes, hon. Prime Minister.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Yadav, please control yourself. I request all of you to please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Yadav, Please go back to your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I would not allow this in the House. All of you please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Yadav, please sit down. Now, kindly allow the hon. Prime Minister to speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be on record except what the hon. Prime Minister may say or observe.

...(Interruptions)\*...

THE PRIME MINISTER (DR. MANMOHAN SINGH): Mr. Speaker Sir, I learn that there is an understanding among the political on both sides that the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address be put to vote straightaway and passed unanimously. Therefore, Sir, I request you to put the Motion to vote.

I take this opportunity to thank all the hon. Members of the Lok Sabha.

MR. SPEAKER: A number of amendments have been moved by the hon. Members to the Motion of Thanks. I wish to put all the amendments together to the vote of the House and I hope no hon. Member wishes to put to vote a particular amendment separately.

I now put all the amendments together to the vote of the House.

*All amendments were put and negatived.*

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put the main Motion to the vote of the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Will you not allow even a simple question to be put to the vote of the House?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Some business has to be transacted here in this House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What were you doing here for the last four days? What are the people saying in this country about you?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put the main motion to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That an address be presented to the President in the following terms :—"

"That the Members of the Lok Sabha assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on June 7, 2004."

*The motion was adopted.*

11.15 hrs.

#### VALEDICTORY REFERENCE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, we have now come to the close of the first Session of the Fourteenth Lok Sabha, which commenced on the 2nd June, 2004 with a new Government in place.

As per well established convention, the first sitting of the new House commenced with the observance of silence for a short while, to mark the solemnity of the occasion. Thereafter, the Chair welcomed the newly-elected Members.

As many as 538 Members took the Oath or made the affirmation during the Session.

On the 4th June, 2004 the Motion for Election of the Speaker was taken up. I indeed feel greatly honoured to have been unanimously elected by the House to the august Office of the Speaker. My colleague, Shri Charanjit Singh Atwal was also unanimously elected as the Deputy-Speaker on the 9th June, 2004. I again congratulate him on his appointment. We shall try our best to preside over the deliberations of this House as best as we can.

The House also adopted today the Motion thanking the hon. President for his Address to Members of both the Houses on 7th June, 2004.

I thank my colleagues Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil, Shri Girdhar Gamang and Shri Manabendra Shah for sharing the responsibility of presiding over the House whenever required.

Hon. Members may now stand up as 'Vande Matram' would be played.

11.17 hrs.

#### NATIONAL SONG

*The National Song was played.*

MR. SPEAKER: Now the House stands adjourned sine die.

11.18 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned sine die.*

---

---

© 2004 By LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

Published under Rules 379 and 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lc  
(Eleventh Edition) and Printed by Jainco Art India, New Delhi.

---

---