

14.34 hrs.

SUBMISSION BY MEMBER

**RE : 150th Birth Anniversary Celebrations of
Kabi Guru Rabindranath Tagore w.e.f. 9th May, 2010.**

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (KOLKATA UTTAR): Madam, I will just deviate to the other issue. Day after tomorrow the celebrations of 150th birth anniversary of *Kabi* Guru Rabindranath Tagore will start. I hope, the whole nation would pay a tribute to one of the greatest poets of the world - *Kabi* Guru Rabindranath Tagore – on 9th May, day after tomorrow. A circular from the Government of India has possibly been issued keeping Dr. Manmohan Singh as the Chairman of one committee and constituting another committee under the leadership of Shri Pranab Mukherjee, the Leader of the House.

Madam, what I would appeal is that *Kabi* Guru Rabindranath Tagore's song *Jana Gana Mana* is the National Anthem of the country. Naturally, the whole nation should celebrate his 150th birth anniversary. I think, the hon. Prime Minister should make an appeal, while Shrimati Sonia Gandhi is also present over here, that we should all celebrate this great poet's 150th birth anniversary at a high scale. All political parties and all Members of the House, feel that as the birthday of Shri Mahatma Gandhi is being celebrated, the birth anniversary celebrations of *Kabi* Guru Rabindranath Tagore, who sang *Jana Gana Mana Adhinayak Jay Hey* should also be celebrated with great honour and prestige.

We want to get some assurance from either the hon. Prime Minister or Shri Pranab Mukherjee as to what steps they are going to take to celebrate his 150th birth anniversary. ☰

THE PRIME MINISTER (DR. MANMOHAN SINGH): Madam, Rabindranath Tagore is a part of India's civilizational and cultural heritage. He is dear to each and every one of India's citizens. The Government has already decided to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of his birth in a befitting manner. The National

Committee is being setup under my Chairmanship, and the Implementation Committee is being setup under the Chairmanship of my distinguished colleague Shri Pranab Mukherjee. I assure the House that I do recognize that this is an event, which we must celebrate appropriately to ensure that we do notice and we are able to honour this great poet of India in a befitting manner.

SHRI T.R. BAALU (SRIPERUMBUDUR): Madam, on behalf of my Party and my Leader Dr. Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi, who strongly has a conviction towards social justice, thank the hon. Prime Minister of India as well as Madam Sonia ji for having assured this august House to have the census on caste-basis. We profoundly thank the Leader of the House and also all the Members of the House. Thank you very much.

कोयला मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री तथा सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल): अध्यक्ष महोदया, कल से आज तक जो थोड़ा बहुत सेंसज़ को लेकर इल्यूज़न था, आज माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी ने जिस तरह का बयान दिया है, मैं उनका स्वागत करता हूँ और श्रीमती सोनिया गांधी जी का स्वागत एवं अभिनन्दन करता हूँ। निश्चित रूप से सारे देश में जो भ्रम उत्पन्न हो रहा था, वह इस बयान से दूर हो गया है।

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Madam, I profusely thank the hon. Prime Minister. ... (*Interruptions*) It is because they have taken a decision so expeditiously. It appears that the Government is becoming alive towards the demands and opinion of the Members of the House. It is a good sign, but this example should be followed in other cases also.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (KARUR): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I thank, on behalf of my Party and my Leader, for the gesture shown by the hon. Prime Minister for considering the sentiments of this House. It is because most of the Members insisted that the census must be taken on caste-basis as caste is very important for giving benefit to the backward classes. Therefore, I thank the hon. Prime Minister for this.