

MR. SPEAKER: He is not here. It is for him....

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Almost every year there have been floods in the country and from the past records, I recollect that the Minister used to make a statement.

MR. SPEAKER: There have been statements under Rule 377 also.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: The hon. Speaker used to communicate to the hon. Minister concerned to make a statement.

MR. SPEAKER: The proceedings will go to him.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar): Sir, I am on a point of order. I have been finding for the last couple of days that a number of matters under Rule 377 have been accepted by you, permitting some of us to express our feelings and views on urgent and important matters affecting the whole country for which primarily the Government of India is responsible. That is perfectly within our right. My point of order is this that I find that quite a few topics are being expressed which have no relevance to urgency or a bearing of an all-India character and yet they come under Rule 377. I need your guidance as to whether topics assume importance on State-wise basis as well.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not like that.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: And secondly, you gave permission to my friend, Mr. Mallanna, to raise a point with regard to the Conference of Chief Ministers. The Chief Ministers' Conference has been taking place periodically in this country for the last 30 years. If Parliament is in Session, then I should have thought that the Prime Minister himself would come to the House and explained to the House what has happened.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order in this.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: But your permitting him now makes the thing very interesting. If the Prime Minister were now to make a statement in response to a Member's query....

SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR (Quilon): In the Opposition?

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Not in the Opposition, but any Member. My point is that it would be very strange that the Prime Minister of the country and the Leader of the House comes to this hon. House only after his attention is drawn by one individual Member. My submission under this point of order is that at least in such matters when the House is in Session, and an important development takes place outside the Parliament but in the country, let the Government come *suo moto* with a statement rather than your permitting one of us to raise an issue and then the Minister comes by way of an answer.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: I want a direction on that point.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order.

(v) FLOOD HAVOC IN BANASKANTHA (GUJARAT)

श्री मोती भाई आर० चौधरी (बनासकांठा): अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे निर्वाचन क्षेत्र में वर्षा और बाढ़ आने से अनेक प्रकार की जान माल की जो हानि हुई है उसकी ओर माननीय सदन का ध्यान खींचना चाहता हूँ.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: We must be guided by you, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot preclude any Member from asking it. It is for the Minister either to make a statement, or for the Members to request him to make a statement.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: How do you give permission, Sir?

श्री मोती भाई आर० चौधरी : माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे निर्वाचन क्षेत्र में भारी वर्षा होने की वजह से और बाढ़ आने की वजह से अनेक प्रकार की हानि हुई है, जिनकी ओर मैं माननीय सदन का ध्यान आकर्षित करता हूँ।

मेरे निर्वाचन क्षेत्र में 15 इंच औसत वर्षा होती है लेकिन इस जगह पर एक ही दिन में 26 जुलाई को 27 इंच वर्षा हुई है, इसलिये बाढ़ आई है जिसके कारण जगह जगह पर सड़कें टूट गई हैं, रेलवे के चलने में बाधा आ गई है, रेलवे और सड़क के ब्रिज नष्ट हो गये हैं, हजारों मकान गिर गये हैं मकानों के भीतर का माल और सामग्री, गरीबों के पहनने के कपड़े, बर्तन आदि सब नष्ट हो गये हैं। जमीन में पानी भरने से सारी जमीन नष्ट हो गई है। एक माम से लगातार बारिश होने से सारी फसल नष्ट हो गई है। जगह-जगह पर खेतों में गड्ढे हो गये हैं, रेती जमा हो गई है और सारी जमीन नष्ट हो गई है। मार्केट यार्ड में भी 3,3 और 4,4 फिट पानी भर जाने से लाखों रुपये का सामान लोगों का नष्ट हो गया है। 4 आदमियों की जान हानि भी हुई है। मकड़ों पशु मर चुके हैं।

4,5 दिन हो गये हैं लेकिन अभी भी 40,50 गांव ऐसे हैं जिनमें सम्पर्क अभी तक नहीं हो सका है। रक्षा के जवान भी वहां तक नहीं पहुंच सके हैं। इन गांवों में बहुत पानी भरा हुआ है। यह सब गांव डैजर्ट एरिया नजदीक होने और यहां की क्षार लव्ह होने की वजह से क्षार ऊपर आ गया। इस तरह से लाखों वहाँ करोड़ों रुपये का नुकसान हुआ है।

स्टेट गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से अनेक प्रकार की मदद पहुंचाने का कार्य चल रहा है। लेकिन गुजरात का नसीब ऐसा है कि हर साल कुछ न कुछ आपत्ति वहां पर आती रहती है। इसलिए जो ज्यादा से ज्यादा सहायता केन्द्रीय सरकार की ओर से हो सके, खासकर आर्थिक सहायता, वह इन आपतग्रस्त लोगों के लिये जल्द से जल्द पहुंचाई जायेगी इस प्रकार की मैं आशा करता हूँ।

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Jadavpur): I am on a point of order about the jute crisis in the jute mills of West Bengal. Thousands of workers are being retrenched. I have given a Calling Attention notice. This is very important. The Commerce Minister has gone to Calcutta.

MR. SPEAKER: I will consider it and give time.

श्री उपसैन (देवरिया) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, हम ने भी लिखकर दिया है बोनस के इश्यू पर और हमारे कई अन्य साधियों ने भी लिखकर दिया है। बोनस के बारे में सरकार बराबर वायदा करती जा रही है लेकिन कुछ हुआ नहीं है। हम इस बारे में सरकार से स्पष्टीकरण चाहते हैं। इस मामले को लेकर बड़ा अग्रताप है। अगर जल्दी से उस पर कार्यवाही नहीं होती है तो गड़बड़ी हो जायेगी। आपसे केवल इतना ही निवेदन है कि आप इस विषय के लिये 2 घंटे का समय दे दें, इसमें लाखों-लाखों लोग इन्वाल्व है, ताकि उनके मामले पर विचार हो जाये। मेरा पुनः निवेदन है कि बोनस के मामले के लिए 2 घंटे का टाइम एलाट कर दें।

MR. SPEAKER: It will be considered by the Business Advisory Committee; it is coming before it.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): In this connection, quite a large number of Members have written to you. We are even prepared to sit beyond 6 p.m. some day, so that we can discuss the

issue of bonus; and the government should have the benefit of our views.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: I have also written to you on this point.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: I again repeat that the Ministry of Labour and Parliamentary Affairs is ignoring the Parliament. It is your right, Sir, to see that Parliament is not ignored. (Interruption) It is not only a question concerning that Ministry. It is also your function, Sir, because we the Members of this House feel that Parliament is sovereign; but this Parliament's sovereignty is being ignored. They are making a public statement that they will make an announcement outside Parliament. Therefore, it is my earnest appeal to you that you should exercise your right and see that Parliament has got its right to get this issue discussed.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a matter before the Business Advisory Committee.

12.35 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE. CONSTITUTION OF RAILWAY CONVENTION COMMITTEE

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): Mr. Speaker, with your permission, I would move both the Resolutions for consideration together, because they are related to the same subject.

I beg to move:

"That this House do resolve that a Parliamentary Committee consisting of 12 members of this House, to be nominated by the Speaker, be appointed to review the rate of dividend which is at present payable by

the Railway Undertaking to General Revenues as well as other ancillary matters in connection with the Railway Finance *vis-a-vis* the General Finance and make recommendations thereon."

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha to agree to associate 6 members from Rajya Sabha with the Parliamentary Committee to review the rate of dividend which is at present payable by the Railway Undertaking to General Revenues as well as other ancillary matters in connection with the Railway Finance *vis-a-vis* the General Finance and make recommendations thereon and to communicate the names of the members so appointed to this House."

This is a simple non-controversial resolution. The only purpose of this Committee is to recommend the rate of payment of dividend on the various amounts that we draw from the General Revenue for the capital requirements of the various projects of the Railways. I do not think there is any controversy. Therefore, I do not want to make any observations. Only one hon. Member has moved an amendment.

MR. SPEAKER: He is not present in the House. He has just authorised somebody to move it and it has been received late. But, on that technicality, I would not have over-ruled it. But the amendment is not a major one. He wants the number to be changed from "6 members" to "7 members". He is not present and his requisition was received late.