

RAJYA SABHA

*SYNOPSIS OF DEBATE

(Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

Thursday, January 3, 2019 / Pausha 13, 1940 (Saka)

OBSERVATION BY THE CHAIR

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I would like to appeal to all the sections to see to it that the House is allowed to function. We have, including today, only three more working days in this part of the Session. Many important issues are pending. I would like everyone to understand that we are not sending a positive message by not being able to work. I am not here to name any party. That is for the people and that is for the political parties. In asking for holidays, there seems to be a broad consensus. As far as the working of the House is concerned, there seems to be some reservation for some people. Today is the fourteenth day. Keeping this in mind, I appeal to every one of you to please cooperate. Once the Chair says something, it should be followed by the Members. Some people have gone to the extent of giving interviews saying that the Chairman was not doing anything. For the information of the august House, I would like to say that I have spoken to those agitated Members more than ten times. Then, I have called some Members individually. I have spoken to other opposition leaders also during the course of the morning meetings and also subsequently. The Leader of the House also had a meeting earlier on this subject. Yesterday, there was a suggestion that if the Minister came and clarified the situation, the issue could be resolved. I

*This Synopsis is not an authoritative record of the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha.

summoned the Minister but that too was objected. That can be one view. But, then what about giving an interview to newspapers saying that the Chairman was not doing anything? For the information of the House, I would like to inform the House that it is quite a regular habit to have a word with the Leader of the Opposition, a word with the Leader of the House, and, at times, with others also. Even on an issue where I am being absent I spoke to the opposition leaders, so that there is no misunderstanding, to tell them also that this is the situation and I am going home. In spite of this, such interviews are given and then directly Chairman is linked. Sending out some Members, is not a happy thing for me. So, I, am appealing to all sections of the House, please allow the House to function. Whatever you want to say by way of a resolution or notice, which is permitted, please make your submissions and have arguments and counter arguments, that is real democracy.

MATTERS RAISED WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

1. Suicide by Students in Navodaya Schools

SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: About 37-38 suicide cases have been reported from different Navodaya Schools of the country. It is a very serious problem. Navodaya Schools were set up in the country to establish national integrity. Our new generation is too much upset mentally and they are facing such a problem that they are compelled to commit suicide. No efforts have been made to find out reason behind it. Teachers and Principals of these schools are not paying any attention towards understanding their problems. I would like that this House take it seriously and consider this issue.

DR. VIKAS MAHATME: While associating myself with the issue I have a solution which can be included in the curriculum.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR), responding to the matter, said: In education sector of the country, Navodaya

School is distinct and one of the best kind of institutions. These are residential schools situated in each district. The result of 12th class of CBSE was 82 per cent whereas it was more than 98 per cent of Navodaya Schools. There should not be even a single case of suicide. We are of the same view and therefore we have constituted a committee in this regard. When its report comes we will consider upon it. We have appointed counsellors also in each school.

(Shri K.K. Ragesh associated.)

2. Demand to Conduct Staff Selection Commission Examinations in Regional Languages

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Every year, the SSC conducts examinations and interviews across the country to recruit non-gazetted officers in the Ministries and departments. These examinations are being conducted at national level only in English and Hindi languages. Therefore, the aspirants, appearing from other parts of the country who are not acquainted with Hindi, are totally deprived of the job opportunities, though they may be skilful and highly talented. I urge the Government to direct the Staff Selection Commission to conduct its examinations in all regional languages and at zonal level, as it was before.

(Several hon'ble Members associated.)

3. Meghalaya Mine Tragedy

SHRI BINOY VISWAM: For more than two weeks, the whole country's attention has been engaged to the mines of Meghalaya. Fifteen poor workers are feared to have been died in those rat holes. But we people are sitting idle here and the Government in Meghalaya and the Government at the Centre are not taking it seriously. From the papers, we could read that it is the Ministers, the MPs, the MLAs and the leaders who own the mines there, and the poor people are dying there. Country should take a note of that immediately and rush all possible help to the miners of Meghalaya. Their families should be taken care of.

(Several hon'ble Members associated.)

4. Amalgamation of Public Sector Banks

SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Government of India announced on 17th September a plan for merger of three public sector banks. This matter should have been brought to Parliament since Parliament is in Session. It is a very serious issue because it involves employment of about 90,000 personnel. There will be closing down of 1800 or 1900 bank branches. This would result in stoppage of credit flow to the farmers, --- women, SHGs, small scale industries, etc. This particular issue needs more attention because these three banks have NPAs. Merger will not reduce the NPAs but It will only increase. Another issue is that these banks operate on different IT platforms. Merging of these platforms is also going to be a problem So, I would urge the Government through you that this entire matter should be looked at anew and should not be forced at this stage.

(Several hon'ble Members associated.)

5. Demand to Scrap New Pension Scheme and to Reinstate Statutory Pension

SHRI SANJAY SINGH: I would like to draw the attention of the House towards some of the serious anomalies of New Pension Scheme(NPS) for Central Government Employees implemented w.e.f. January, 2004. NPS was implemented through a notification of 20th December, 2003 and it was made mandatory for all newly appointed Central Government Employees w.e.f. 1st January, 2004. Government and employees both contribute under NPS. This contribution is being invested by Government in defaulter companies of share market. Share market based this system will become risky for the future of retiring employees to the extent that there will be no guarantee for their pension. In old pension system there was a provision of paying dearness allowance in form of compensation after every six months which does not exist in the present system. The system of GPF has been discontinued in new pension scheme. The government has not made any arrangement for providing time to time compensation commensurate with the increasing dearness. The interests of

government employees have been ignored in the new pension scheme. I urge upon the government to restore old pension scheme.

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: I want to suggest that the New Pension Scheme should be scrapped and the previous pension scheme be retained.

(Several hon'ble Members associated.)

6. Weightage to Kannada Language Candidates in IBPS Recruitment

SHRI G.C. CHANDRASHEKHAR: I urge upon the government that the exams, particularly the banking exams should be conducted in local languages. So, we request that local people speaking regional languages should be accommodated in the jobs, particularly in banking services.

(Shri T.K. Rangarajan and Shri Tiruchi Siva associated.)

7. Compensatory Attempts for U.P.S.C. Examination

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: The CSAT, introduced by the UPSC turned out to be advantageous to students only from the English medium over the students from the regional language background. With introduction of the CSAT, English medium students are increasing and the aspirants from rural area and non-technical background are being hit badly. The UPSC did take up corrective steps. I urge the Government to give such students age relaxation and a few additional attempts to make sure that the aspirants achieve their dreams.

(Several hon'ble Members associated.)

8. Right to Privacy of All Computer Users

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: The Ministry of Home Affairs has recently introduced a circular that authorizes ten Central agencies to intercept and monitor any information of any computer on grounds of purported threat to internal security. Earlier there was no Supreme Court judgement saying that right to privacy is a Fundamental Right. Now it was pronounced by the Supreme Court

last year that right to privacy is a Fundamental Right. The decision calling for blanket surveillance is unconstitutional and poses a serious threat to people's right to privacy. It is against the citizens. The Government should resort to this only in specific cases and with some checks and balances. I demand that this circular must be withdrawn.

(Several hon'ble Members associated.)

9. Plight of Teachers in Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan

SHRI RAKESH SINHA: There are 13 premises of Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan all over the country with only 120 permanent teachers. There are 240 teachers including 29 female teachers who are teaching there for past many years on contract basis. I urge upon the government to make these teachers permanent and this institution may be given the status of university.

10. Compensation to Farmers for Land Acquisition

SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: The acquisition process which is being followed in the country to acquire farmers' land is totally ignoring the Land Acquisition Act. The land is being acquired by threatening the farmers. There is a clear provision that compensation for rural areas shall be four times but unfortunately rural land, which is being acquired for Jewar Airport, has been declared as urban area so that the farmers can be given less compensation. Hence, the farmers of those areas should be given four times compensation of the present circle rates.

(Shri Binoy Viswam Associated.)

11. Distressful Situation Faced by Medical M.Sc. Teachers and Biomedical Students

SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: I want to raise the issue of thousands of persons holding the Masters of Science degree from the medical colleges which are recognised by the Medical Council of India. They are all facing distressful situation with the threat that they will lose their jobs because the MCI is now proposing to scrap the three-year medical M.Sc. course. I urge upon the Government to reconsider this

proposal of scrapping the three-year Masters course for non-clinical doctors from the universities or medical colleges which are recognised by the Medical Council of India.

(Shri K.C. Ramamurthy and Shri Tiruchi Siva associated)

12. Concern over Decreasing Number of Sittings during Sessions of Parliament

SHRI SANJAY SETH: The sittings of the Parliament are decreasing. Very short time is provided for discussion of the Bills. A 14 point programme was formulated in 1997 but that has not been complied with till date. The number of sittings may be increased or we all must think unanimously over this issue.

(Several hon'ble Members associated.)

13. Outdated Forensic Medicine Curriculum

SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: The autopsy reports are evidences which are very necessary for investigation as well as for judiciary. However, most of the autopsies are carried out incompetently which lead to situation where in justice may be denied. The only thing mandatory in the forensic studies is that you write a theoretical exam. I request the Government to look into this pressing issue and make the practical exam mandatory.

(Shrimati Roopa Ganguly, Dr. Vikas Mahatme, Shri Suresh Gopi and Shri Ahamed Hassan Associated)

14. Breaking of Himalayas and Hindrance in the Flow of River Ganga

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: The Himalya and the Ganga represents identity and culture of India. Swami Sadanand ji sacrificed his life demanding relentless flow of the Ganga. The Ganga can not be a clean Ganga unless it has a relentless current. Construction of dams should be stopped on the Ganga river. Sewage and canal water is being supplied to Prayagraj. A number of dams is being constructed and many are proposed to be constructed. This should be stopped immediately and commotion prevailing in

Prayagraj should be taken care of by conducting a high level enquiry. This issue should be discussed in the House.

(Several hon'ble Members associated.)

SPECIAL MENTIONS

1. Demand to declare the time period till when the daily wagger will be given permanent job

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: How many Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas are there in the country and the number of such vidyalayas in Haridwar of Uttrakhand, where class four employees are working as daily wage earners since last 12-13 years. Why they have not been made permanent employees? Whether a uniform pay scale is given to such employees in the country and by when they will be made permanent?

2. Demand to increase remuneration of Mid-Day Meal Workers

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: The Mid-day-meal scheme is being implemented by nearly 26 lakh worker and they are paid a meager amount as remuneration. They are not provided any pension and even medical benefits. The Ministry of Human Resource Development had given a written assurance to enhance their remuneration but nothing has been done so far. The government should consider to increase the remuneration of Mid-day-meal workers at the earliest.

3. Demand to make improve train services connecting Etah in Uttar Pradesh

SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Etah District of Uttar Pradesh is not connected with any major railway line. People of Etah move to Delhi, Agra and Kanpur for many reasons such as trade, employment, education, etc. A fast passenger upto Agra was started train was started in this connection but this train was suddenly discontinued. I demand from Government to attach one coach each in

any express train to travel from Etah to Kanpur-Allahabad and Delhi and start in super fast passenger from Etah to Agra.

4. Demand to include Dhangar Tribe of Maharashtra in Schedule Tribe list.

DR. VIKAS MAHATME: In spite of the fact that Dhangar Tribe of Maharashtra is listed in the list of Scheduled Tribe given in the Constitution, the people of this tribe are not getting benefits of reservation policy. Therefore, reservation quota of scheduled tribe may at the earliest be extended to Dhangar community of Maharashtra before next Lok Sabha Elections.

5. Demand to implement the Ayushman Bharat Scheme speedily by spreading awareness about the same in the country.

SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: People are not getting the full benefit of Aayushman Bharat Yojna started by the government. People in the rural areas are not even aware of this scheme. I demand from the government to publicize the scheme widely and distribute the cards related to this scheme to the poor people at the earliest and more and more hospitals may be covered under the scheme.

6. Demand for establishment of sufficient Blood Banks in each District of the country.

SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN: The system of blood-banks in the country, particularly in Bihar is not satisfactory. So, blood banks may be established at the earliest in those districts which do not have blood banks. 'Blood-on-Wheels' Scheme should be started in such districts. The help of voluntary organization can be taken in this regard. Arrangements for Single donor platelets (SDP) machine should be made in the major blood banks. This topic should be added in the curriculums to spread awareness about blood donation.

7. Demand for making firms liable to pay compensation for defective drugs and devices.

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: There are no specific legal provisions in the present Drugs and Cosmetics Act which make pharma companies liable to pay compensation to the patients for defective devices and drugs. Under the existing law compensation can be paid by the companies if something goes wrong during a clinical trial. I urge upon the government to make changes in the present law through an amendment, which would enable automatic compensation to patients for harm done by any defected product and drug. The defective or substandard product must be withdrawn from the market promptly.

GOVERNMENT BILL

The Nalanda University (Amendment) Bill, 2013

The Bill was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION

Approval of the Proclamation issued by the President on the 19th December, 2018 under Article 356 of Constitution of India in Relation to State of Jammu and Kashmir - Contd.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): While considering on Kashmir issue, the history of Kashmir and the role of Kashmiri people must be taken into account essentially. In 1946, the Two Nation Theory was a big issue. However, this was a unique fact that a Muslim majority state wanted to walk with India not Pakistan. But, today those very Kashmiri people are annoyed with us. We, the whole Indians are responsible for this situation. We must make effort honestly to improve the scenario. Such efforts have been made earlier. Shrimati Indira Gandhi accorded with Md. Shekh Abdulla and Shri Rajeev Gandhi with Faruq Abdulla

to improve the situation. Unfortunately, in 1989, terrorism was started in Jammu and Kashmir, consequently Kashmiri Pandit fled away from Kashmir. Without Kashmiri Pandit, Kashmir can not be complete at all. The era of UPA Government was the Golden Period of Jammu and Kashmir. During this period, train service was started in the valley, roads were built up. Even in Tehsils, hospitals were opened and Power Projects were launched. During the period tourism was at its height and employment for all was there. We launched schemes like 'Himayat' for skill development, 'Ummid' for Self Help Group and 'Udaan' for education for youth. We established Entrepreneur Institutions. But, today handicrafts are at its lowest ebb, the security system is collapsed, economic development has become zero and employment is ruined. Alienation has crept in educated people. Today, engineers, doctors and even Ph.D holders have started shaking hands with militant groups. Obviously, the fault lies with the functioning of the Government.

More loss is suffered by Jammu due to ceasefire violations because it is close to the international border. Maximum citizens have died in these 3-4 years. I have seen only in your time that houses also collapsed, animals and human beings also died in shelling by Pakistan. We had entrusted a Kashmir and a country to you which was considered to be a developing nation, used to be know for brotherhood. And today the country is not what it used to be four and a half years ago. We did not know in Jammu that who is Hindu and who is Muslim. But today there is not that atmosphere. Now a Hindu is known as a Hindu and a Muslim as a Muslim. When we used to give jobs there, then there used to be 90 percent Hindus in our personal staff. Even Hurriyat never wrote that the DG or Chief Secretary should be a Muslim only. You gave this disease to the Government of Jammu and Kashmir. When you failed on every front, then you said that you will not run the Government. You withdrew support from the Government there, but then why did you keep the assembly there in suspended animation for 4-5 months? When you withdrew support, then elections should have been held. The climate was good at that time. But you were busy in breaking and building for four months.

A lot of work was done during Omar Abdullah's time, Farookh Abdullah's time, during our time. You are breaking these very parties. When I was the Chief Minister, there was a Governor who did not have a thinking like us. But he told me that I want people of your thinking who are nationalists. There, National Conference and Congress are pro-India, secular forces. But you cut their legs only. You first of all withdrew their security. Some leaders of National Conference, PDP and our leaders were thinking that although we are getting our salaries, but people are not benefiting from this Governor's Rule. They thought that they should together form a government. They tried to convince the Congress Party also. A fax also reached the Governor that tomorrow we will give you our support and as soon as the Government came to know that tomorrow a Government will be formed here, the Assembly was dissolved within an hour. Had it been our Government we would have facilitated the regional parties. We have to strengthen them, give them security instead of withdrawing their security. Until you understand this you cannot do justice to Kashmir. The Governor's rule in Jammu and Kashmir is the harshest one because it is the only State where the Governor has both executive and legislative powers. During this Governor's rule 55 amendments have been carried out in the laws. Is it correct to do so? The Governor used all his powers and amended the laws. Now, who will change these laws? This is why you do not have knowledge; otherwise, you would not have allowed even a single amendment and you would have held elections. We do not have any other option other than approving this. As a responsible Party we will support it.

THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): I did not intend to intervene in this discussion, but when Azad Sahab was speaking, it appeared to me as if the problem of Jammu and Kashmir had emerged only in the last four and a half years and the period from 1947 to 2014 was a golden history. This is the only State whose one third part is with our enemies. If the sovereignty of this country was ever challenged, then it was Jammu-Kashmir alone which lost. Delaying the despatch of army there, to declare unilateral ceasefire, to inform the then Home Minister later on, to make a declaration on the radio at a time when our armies were

moving ahead, this history had started at that time. Well, if you place its responsibility also on Rajnath Singh ji, then this will be a mockery of history. The journey of the idea of a separate existence had started in the last 70 years. The assessment that the leadership of that time made was wrong. Sheikh Sahab was arrested overnight. At that time Congress Party itself had become National Conference. Some people of National Conference went to jail under the leadership of Sheikh Sahab and those who were outside formed a Plebiscite Front because your leaders had given an assurance in front of the entire world which was not needed and was wrong. This country had to pay its price for so many decades. You did get power, but you forgot the history as to how you got power. How were the elections held in Jammu and Kashmir in 1957, 1962 and 1967. The leaders of the second prominent political party in opposition in the Kashmir valley were in jail. At that time we were very young and in Jammu, we used to work in the form of a Praja Parishad under the leadership of Pandit Premnath Dogra ji. When attacks were being launched from across the border in October, 1947, the people of Praja Parishad had gone there to save their country. Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee had become a martyr to remove the barriers that you had created from 1950.

Perhaps nobody played with democracy in the history of this country as much as the then leadership of Congress had played. There used to be a District Magistrate named Abdul Khaliq. A law was framed that in the entire Kashmir valley all the nominations will be filed only before one person. When people used to go to file nominations, he used to vanish sometimes and if anyone used to hand it over to him by mistake, he used to reject it. If you play with democracy in this manner, if you sow the seeds of alienation, then the innocent citizen of Kashmir will say that I cannot get even the right to fight elections in a free India. At that time just to remain in power Congress played such politics. People in Kashmir believe that when Morarjibhai became the Prime Minister, then the elections of 1977 were the first free and fair elections in the history of Kashmir. You installed Sheikh Sahab on the seat and then he had to be arrested. You entered into an agreement with him in 1976. Within a few months you started fighting with him. In the beginning of 1984 Shri B.K.Nehru

was the Governor of Jammu and Kashmir. When Nehru Sahab was asked to destabilize the Farookh Abdulla Government he clearly declined and resigned. You sent a new Governor and installed the Government of Shri Gul Mohammad Shah overnight. You are accusing us of picking MLAs from here and there. We have not made any such effort.

You broke the National Conference and established the Government of Shri G.M.Shah. Then you entered into an agreement with Farookh Sahab. By 1989 so much alienation emerged due to that government that such alienation was never witnessed in the history of Jammu and Kashmir. There was no such thing as administration left. There was no sign of this country there. No office of the Central Government was allowed to function. Mufti Sahab's daughter was kidnapped. When Congress lost power in 1989 then you also understood the matter. I also believe that there is a role of regional parties in Jammu and Kashmir. The fight in Jammu and Kashmir is against separatism, terrorism. With this view, the mainstream parties and the national parties had to converge their views despite having differences in opinion. 4500 people have won Panchayat elections recently. A new thinking is emerging in the valley. Why have incidents of stone throwing declined there in the last 6 years? Stone throwing had in fact started in the period which was termed a golden period by you. Its reason was that the capability of this country to fight terrorists was improving. The global mood today is that nobody can be allowed to enjoy the fruits of terrorism. The thinking among the terrorists and Hurriyat also changed that let us give it a form of civil disobedience. That is why they changed their strategy in 2008.

In 2010, when it started, the object behind this was to create a mass disobedience. Everybody was to carry stones and pelt them as and when the post of the security forces is seen. They were being used as weapons. Regarding Amarnath pilgrimage place the protest was that they should not be provided land for their facilities as they were temporary visitors. If we have to enter into a blame-game, I can say that when the history will be judged, it will be clear that weather

the approach of Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee was right or it was Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, whose approach was correct. If you have to become Stateman, we should think of the future of Kashmir and try to correct the past mistakes so that the peace and development can take place. You can never get rid of the historical mistakes, as now they are part of the history.

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: Hon'ble Leader of the Opposition and the Leader of the House have spoken in detail on the resolution. J & K is a beautiful state and such a beautiful state has to suffer from a disaster due to the partition. Tourism, the main source of livelihood of people of J & K was adversely affected leading to people's unrest in the state. I don't want to go into the history nor I want to talk about the partition and two-nation theory. If we poke into the old wounds only the blood will flow. The live telecast of the discussion communicates even the unknown facts of the history to the new generation. Therefore I would not talk of anything which can hurt the sentiments of people of J&K. This is a very beautiful place but due to the fear of the terrorist coming from across the border people are not visiting this place. The manner, in which a number of governments have been dismissed, its result have never been good. When people start realising that our elected representatives are being removed then the reaction will never be good. When our neighbouring country, the Pakistan is bent upon taking revenge of division of Pakistan then irrespective of any party's government there would try to bring instability in our country at all costs. Therefore, any government at the centre should tread in very carefully to address the issue of Kashmir. You have propagated too much about surgical strikes. I want to tell you that when you do such operations, you should not propagate them before the world. Rather you should confine this to ourselves. So that the message of injustice being done by us do not go to any other nation rather the world should believe that all disturbances are created by Pakistan alone. We did not yield the benefits of the surgical strike. However, international community has started realising that India is also involved in such activities. For the first time you have done a good thing by appointing a political person as Governor but immediately thereafter you got the government

dismissed. When the elections were held those who were boasting of winning the valley because they supported the separatists. You have allied with them. It was never thought of that a party like B.J..P would ally with them. It was bound to happen because this was an unethical alliance. In the end, we support this resolution.

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: Article 356 of the Constitution is vague. There are no guidelines and the arbitrary powers have been conferred on the Governor. The term 'satisfaction' in this article is not made clear. The only check is, the ratification by both Houses and also of course, the judicial review by the Supreme Court. But in this matter a writ petition was dismissed at the admission stage itself. My humble submission to this august House would be to consider and introduce certain guidelines to invoke the President's Rule because the elected government cannot be dissolved. The political party at the Centre, invoke Article 356 to further their political interest. My humble submission is that the term 'satisfaction' is against the concept of rule of law. This Article also contains one sub-clause about revocation of Proclamation. So, in spite of ratification, this Proclamation must be revoked at the earliest point of time by both the Houses.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: I along with 25 colleague Members of Parliament had the good fortune to spend 4-5 days on a Parliamentary Standing Committee Study Tour to Kashmir about four months ago. The people there made two requests to us. Their first request was that whenever Jammu and Kashmir is discussed the Leh-Ladakh is always left out. On behalf of the young people, entrepreneurs and tour operators of Kashmir, I request to the hon. Finance Minister to have a break on GST if the tourism is to be revived in J&K. Let us come to the Resolution. The two basic issues here are security and environment. We know who is responsible. I request the hon. Home Minister and the hon. Finance Minister to give us an assurance that the elections in Jammu and Kashmir will be held either now, or, latest, with the Lok Sabha elections. Raj Bhawans have become the branch offices of a Government in power. Not only the Raj Bhawans but we are concerned with all other institutions also. Let

me at least discuss the Parliament. The Bills are scrutinized by Select Committees and Standing Committees. During the last two Governments 65 to 75 per cent of the Bills went for parliamentary scrutiny. This Government has set up a new record. It has got only 19 per cent of the Bills scrutinized. Likewise, rupees nine lakh crores have been passed without any discussion on the Railway Budget. It has not happened during the last seventy years. The institutions are at stake. In 2018, five hundred and eighty-six people have died. They are not terrorists. They are civilians. Trinamool Congress and everybody else wish to appeal to this Government that we have to have the local people on board to solve these issues. Please don't tell us about the nationalism and heal Kashmir, else you pretend to be a nationalist. Kashmir is paradise, I would urge not to turn it into a hell.

SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this serious issue. Nobody wants to speak about Kashmiris and their desires. We want to know only about the failures and achievements of the Government in the last four and a half years over there. Nobody spoke about the issue of bringing peace and tranquillity in the State. There are few who want to play politics with regard to Kashmiris but I do not want to do so. It would be a good thing if you tell us about how you are going to bring normalcy in the State. I would request that it is not enough to tell Kashmiri brothers and sisters not to resort to terrorism but they need love also. I urge to the Government that let us not divide Kashmir from us, let us bring unity, love and affection amongst brothers and sisters of Kashmir. Till India is alive, Kashmir is alive. So, we have to honour Kashmir.

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: The action of Jammu and Kashmir Governor, dissolving the Legislative Assembly at the behest of the Centre, in my opinion, is an illegal and unconstitutional step. The real sufferers are the Kashmiri people Over 300 civilians have died in the last three years. I request you to conduct the enquiry. Because, this situation has only led to further alienation of the people. I request the Home Minister to say when you are going to conduct the elections.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: There is general perception that the regional parties cannot have any national perspective as compared to two national political parties. This perception has to go. It is very unfortunate that two parties having radically different ideologies all of sudden came together. Kashmir is an integral part of India and if it is so, then why a different treatment is being meted to them. This is totally improper. Kashmir is getting demoralised. I have been going for lecture there. For the first time, I had to face hooting. There was no lapse on the part of security establishments. This is the same country which has redrawn the map of the world in 1971. But it never came on the posters of any political party. However, you have made propaganda of a covert operation and it was bound to create alienation. Lot of boasting has been done of Panchayat elections but why there was no Lok Sabha by polls.

SHRI D. RAJA: I consider that it was unconstitutional and undemocratic act on the part of the Centre to use Article 356. Who created that extraordinary situation in Jammu & Kashmir? What has your Government done in the past four-and-a-half years? The BJP was in the coalition Government. It was the BJP which withdrew from the Government and the Governor acted and dissolved the Assembly. Now, there is the President's Rule. Kashmir is considered to be 'Paradise on Earth'. Whether we will retain this paradise or lose our paradise, this question is haunting all secularists and all patriots of this country. Why is there unrest among the young people and students? Why is there a sense of alienation among the young people of Jammu & Kashmir? Can you indicate when the Centre is planning to hold the elections? How to integrate Jammu & Kashmir? What is your attitude with Pakistan? What steps are we taking to promote people-to-people contacts to de-escalate the tension between our two countries? We will have to win the confidence of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. The Government is totally trusting on the use of Army and our Forces, instead of talks. Whether the Government would explain why this is the policy of the Government towards Jammu and Kashmir.

SHRI RAKESH SINHA: The Prime Minister has now given a package of 80,000 crore rupees to Jammu and Kashmir which is the

biggest package given to any State after Independence. 1,000 megawatt electricity project has been started over there. The foremost reason for Kashmir problem is this. Since 1947 to 1996, feudalistic politics has been dominant in Kashmir. The process of credible elections which had the faith of Kashmiri public, started only since 2002. During 2018, when Panchayat elections were held, about 4500 sarpanchs and 32,000 panchs were elected. For the first time there, elections for 312 block development council members are being held. It is for the first time that the democracy has reached the doors of the common people and feudalistic politics is being eliminated from Kashmir. That is why the history of Kashmir is being misrepresented here. I felt very sad when I heard that the Government of the day has been responsible for terrorism in Kashmir for the last four and a half years. Treating the exodus of Kashmiri Pandits as an usual occurrence is very sad. We cannot grant legitimacy to any force in Kashmir who are engaged in divisive politics. That is why we need to identify the Jehadi forces who are conspiring in Kashmir. Since 1948, Pakistan has been venturing in Kashmir on regular basis and a resolution was passed in this very House declaring POK as integral part of India. Whether this House is ready to consider nomination of 24 legislators to occupy 24 vacant slots in J&K assembly and communicate to Pakistan that we want to bring democratic process to POK.

MIR MOHAMMAD FAYAZ: I have no hesitation in saying this that this has been proved today that whether from this side or that side but Party in power at the Centre has been responsible for massacre of innocent and unarmed Kashmiris till date. Kashmiris decided to be with India instead of Pakistan which was a Muslim majority State. But what did they get in return? They got only bullets in return. Why the youth are pelting stones in Kashmir? Today this issue is being discussed here that why President's rule was imposed there. Three and a half years ago, our Leader decided hoping that some decision would be taken with regard to killing of unarmed persons. Our Home Minister went to Kashmir with an All Party Delegation. Congress had also formed working groups prior to that but nothing came out of this. Whether you have ever said in this House that we should go and meet Kashmiris also.

SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Today, Kashmir has lost its charm as heaven on the earth. Our party appeals to the Government to make less use of muscle power in order to bring peace in the state. Killing of militants is not the right way of tackling menace of terrorism as perpetual injustice breeds terrorism. So, a popular Government has to be installed at the earliest.

SHRI RAJARAM: I would like to comment on current scenario of Jammu and Kashmir. Around 30-35 per cent of dalit families residing in Jammu region are agitating for reservation in promotions. People from OBC category, who have a sizable number of population in Jammu region, have been fighting for implementing Mandal Commission recommendations in the state at par with other states of the country. They have been agitating for quite a long time to get justice. Ceasefire violations take toll of citizens and animals. People who get injured in such ceasefire violations run from pillar to post to get compensation. In the current scenario not even a single dalit has ever contested for 6 Lok Sabha seats from the state due to absence of reservation. I have put forth my important points before the House on behalf of Bahujan Samaj Party and hope that the Government will give due consideration to it.

SHRI T.K.S. ELANGO VAN: Our party has been demanding more powers and State autonomy. Our leader, Dr. M. Karunanidhi, had conducted many conferences on State autonomy and we wish that applicability of a provision like Article 370 in all States will be a relief to them. It is more or less a confessionary statement on the part of the Government. The Government has no defense on this resolution. In a democracy, only the people can elect or remove Governments.

SHRI SANJAY SINGH: We fully agree that India is one from Kashmir to Kanyakumari. But if people of any part of the country start believing that they are being given step motherly treatment then definitely they will have a feeling of dissatisfaction against the Union Government. You entered into an unethical alliance post election in Jammu and Kashmir. It was an alliance of two diagonally opposite ideologies. You are running Governments

through the office of Governors. You have to win the trust of people of Kashmir and keep a watch on the development there. The need of the hour is to safeguard the democratic structure and constitutional values of the country.

* * * * *

Desh Deepak Verma,
Secretary-General.

rssynop@sansad.nic.in

***Supplement covering rest of the proceedings is being issued separately.