

RAJYA SABHA

*SYNOPSIS OF DEBATE

(Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

Friday, March 23, 2018/ Chaitra 02, 1940 (Saka)

Tributes to Martyrs Bhagat Singh, Raj Guru and Sukhdev

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon'ble Members, as you are aware, this day eighty seven years ago, legendary heroes of our Freedom Movement, Bhagat Singh, Raj Guru and Sukhdev attained martyrdom that stirred the determination for freedom until it was achieved in 1947. Their patriotism, uncompromising devotion to the cause of their motherland and their selfless sacrifice have immortalized them for all times.

Today, more than ever before, we need to be inspired by them and be led by their example of selfless love for motherland.

On this occasion, let us pledge ourselves to uphold the cherished values of patriotism for which they had laid down their lives.

(One minutes silence was observed as a mark of respect to the memory of the martyrs.)

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

OBSERVATION BY THE CHAIR

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, today, we are completing three weeks. During my long stint in public life, I have seen very few distressing events as the present one. Rajya Sabha, the House of Elders, could not discharge their mandated duties for three weeks. As the Chairman, I tried everything that I could but no result. All the sections of the House need to introspect as to why as the Upper House of Parliament, we have let down the people of the country for three long weeks. I can also understand that for a couple of days, some of you had been highlighting various issues, the way you have been doing, but persisting with disruptions for three long weeks certainly has no justification. I have to say that it is not the first time such a thing is happening. For how long do you keep justifying the present wrong based on those of the past? People of the country are aspiring for a certain change. Should the change not begin with the Rajya Sabha, the House of Elders? I have been getting calls and queries from well-wishers asking me why the House is not adjourned sine die. I told them that it was not in my hands. I am pained that even Private Members' Business was not allowed during the last weeks. Will the next week be any different? I am sad to note that. I would not like to hazard any guess. I leave it to the leaders and hon. Members of Parliament of all sides to reflect and decide. All that I can say is that people are deeply disturbed. So, it is for you to rekindle the hope. You have to decide. The Parliament Session is on and we are not able to discharge any work. If you are not interested in running the House, that is a different matter.

Desh Deepak Verma,
Secretary-General.

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