

attention of the House as well as the Government towards the difficulties of sugarcane farmers of Uttar Pradesh. The present condition of Uttar Pradesh is such that the sugar mills in large number are being closed there now. Around 20 lakh quintal of sugarcane of farmers is likely to remain idle in the fields itself in my parliamentary constituency Balrampur. Sugarcane farmers are baffled today and facing difficulties. I, through you, would like to request the Government to issue instructions to Uttar Pradesh to ensure that the crushing work of sugar mills is not stopped until and unless the sugarcane crop is there in the field. If sugar mills need economic assistance for that purpose, they should be provided. The Government should exempt sugar mills from levy sugar when crushing starts in June, so that they may be able to purchase sugarcane. I would like to suggest that the corruption, which is rampant in sugarcane dealing should be eradicated to end the tragedy of sugarcane farmers in Uttar Pradesh.

Secondly the demand of delicensing sugar mills, specially in UP has been persistently made in the House so that the farmers could be saved from the tragedy in future.

Besides this, sugar mills of UP owe a huge outstanding amount to farmers. Some of these mills are in public sector, some are owned by State Government and some are in private sector. I demand that effective steps should be taken in this regard so that the sugarcane farmers are paid their dues.

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR (Hapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I, through you, would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the pitiable condition of sugarcane farmers of Uttar Pradesh. In my constituency, around 75 per cent sugarcane is there in the field itself. Therefore, I would like to demand that sugar mills should continue crushing until the entire sugarcane is not utilized. No payment has yet been made for the slips provided against the sugarcane supplied to mills and causing worry to farmers. Therefore, payment should be immediately made against these slips. Uttar Pradesh produces sugarcane in huge quantity, therefore I would like to demand that sugar mills should be delicensed so that the mills may be set up at various places and farmers may supply sugarcane easily, they are benefitted and their condition is improved.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards a serious matter. The bomb blast in Dausa bound bus coming from Agra, in Rajasthan has claimed 34 innocent lives besides injuring many. Likewise the bomb blast in Lajpat Nagar in Delhi and communal riots in Assam indicate that after the formation of new Government, some anti-national forces... (Interruptions)

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to state that Rajasthan is most peaceful State where people from every nook and corner of India like to set up industries and reside there. There is full peace in the state ruled by hon. Bhairon Singh Shekhawat but a bomb blast took place on January 26, 1996 and after that, as my precedent Speaker was stating, another bomb blast took place on 22.5.96. A bus of Rajasthan transport corporation, started from Agra at 11 A.M. and when it was only 4 kms. away from Dausa, a bomb exploded in the bus at 2.10 P.M. Hon. Chief Minister, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, Home Minister Shri Kailash Meghwal and all the MLAs and officers reached there immediately and provided relief to all those who were injured and Rs. on lakh each to the bereaved families of those who died in the incident. I myself had visited the site yesterday. All the 26 injured persons have been admitted to Sawai Man Singh Hospital and the State Government is taking all care to provide them proper treatment. Any type of discontentment is not visible any where. I would like to state that people of the predecessor Government are creating nuisance and my Government has been able to nab the terrorist. The BJP Government at the centre and Rajasthan Government both deserve thanks for this act.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You have made your point, now conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to request you to spoil their evil designs and take action against them in order to avoid such nuisance and to strengthen the Government of India... (Interruptions)

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards intentionally freezing out the electric supply in Uttar Pradesh. In connivance with officers electricity crisis is being created in entire Uttar Pradesh to dislodge the elected Government of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee at centre. I demand the Government of India to take effective steps in this regard since officers, in political pressure, are terrorising the people by defaming the Government and freezing out the electric supply. Government should make proper arrangements to take care of it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the directions of Supreme Court, uninterrupted power should be supplied to Taj Trapazium Area but in connivance with some Central and State Government officers and in political pressure this order is being overlooked. Though Affidavit was demanded by Supreme Court but the officers refused to bear the responsibility. I, drawing

your attention to this matter, would like that action should be taken against such Government officers and electricity should be supplied to entire Uttar Pradesh specially Taj Trapazium Area so as to avoid danger to Tajmahal besides controlling the environment.

11.14 hrs.

RE : INCIDENTS OF ETHNIC
VIOLENCE IN ASSAM

[English]

SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE (Jorhat) : Mr. Speaker Sir, I wish to raise a matter of great public importance. It is ethnic clashes between Bodos and Santhals in Assam.

Sir, never in the history of Assam ethnic clashes or ethnic vilolence of such huge scale has ever happened...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please, it is a very serious matter.

SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE : Sir, the fact that two lakhs to three lakhs of people have been sheltered in camps indicates the magnitude of the disaster in about 275 villages covering an area of 1600 square kilometers.

Sir, the reported involvement of the armed militant outfits intensifies the gravity of the situation. Most of the dead, which has now risen to about 200, are reportedly Santhals. Sir, Armed Forces and an All Party delegation which visited this area suspected that it was a pre-planned action.

Sir, I do welcome the decision of the Government of Assam to institute a judicial inquiry into these causes. But what surprises me, Sir, is the pathetic little action on the part of the Central Government at the outset of the trouble. We were expecting that the hon. Home Minister would visit Assam; we were expecting that the Home Secretary would visit Assam. Well people in hundreds die let people in lakhs suffer the miseries of living in camps. Why should that perturb Delhi?... *(Interruptions)* Sir, I do not want to be interrupted like this because I am raising a very important matter. ...*(Interruptions)* in order that a wrong signal may not go to the people of Assam, I suggest that a Parliamentary team visitars this area. And I further request that this team will also make assessment of the post-election scenario in Assam because violence has rocked many other places too. Killing of election candidates, killing of political workers, killing of Government officials and killing of journalists — all tell the distressing truth that things in Assam at the moment are in awfully bad shape.

Sir, Parliament is rightly seized of what is now happening in Assam and cannot afford to remain a dump spectator.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Assam is burning today. Only yesterday, Shri Nirmal Chand Jain was shot dead in broad day light in Fancy Market, Guwahati for not giving Rs. one lakh...*(Interruptions)* Terrorism in Assam is increasing on large scale. Sir, firstly ULFA was banned and they were pressurised to surrender their arms and ammunitions and they were engaged again by providing money but they again turned to militancy and started Committing atrocities as SULFA. Now, in Guwahati Specially in Fancy Market and at other places outsiders specially Rajasthanis are terrorised and crores of rupees are being realised from them at the gun point. I would like hon. Home Minister to give a statement in this regard and safeguard Rajasthanis there.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now the Home Minister will reply.

(Interruptions)

SHRI G. GILBERT SWELL (Shillong) : Have you visited that place? Why did you not find time immediately to visit Assam to find out what is going on there?...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please allow me to speak regarding Assam before the Home Minister starts speaking. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No. I cannot allow you to speak now. If I allow you then I will have to allow others also.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : Sir, this problem of ethnic clashes in Assam has received the best of our attention. As soon as we came to know about it, the Ministry and myself both contacted the officers in Assam as well as the Chief Minister of Assam. The hon. Member should know... *(Interruptions)* I will tell you. Please listen to me. Please bear with me ...*(Interruptions)* Now the law and order ...*(Interruptions)* Hon. Members, please wait.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI (Howrah) : When the Prime Minister could go to the Golden Temple and Harmindir Sahib, why could he not go to Assam? That is the question...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The Home Minister is responding to a very serious situation that is obtaining in Assam. I think we must have the patience to hear the Home Minister.