

with the benefits enjoyed by the Scheduled Tribe families under IRDP.

This decision will help increase the subsidy benefit under IRDP to about 8.5 lakh Scheduled Caste families in the current year itself. We hope that this step will go a long way to enable the Schedule Caste families to avail of IRDP programme benefits so that they can increase their income levels and ultimately cross the poverty line.

15.10 hrs.

#### DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

##### **Atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes—Contd.**

[English]

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN (Cooch Behar): Sir, I rise to participate in this debate regarding the atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I thank Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra who piloted this discussion and he termed it as "the continued atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the country". Really, it is not a question of today only. In the past also even when the Britishers were there, there were atrocities committed on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people. For the last 42 years, there have been continued atrocities committed on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people. So, it is not a new thing. These poor people, downtrodden people like the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes try to resist the oppression that was going to be made against them. At that time, the *Jagirdars*, the *Zamindars* and the landholders including the Police and the people who were in the Administration were coming together and taking part in the atrocities committed on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people.

Sir, we speak loudly about the condition of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people. We speak here and outside

the House also. We speak so many things. We speak about what Mahatma Gandhi said on this. We speak what Swami Vivekananda said in this regard. He said: "You Indians should not forget that these cobblers and scavengers are your brothers and sisters, they are your bloods, your brothers." Sometimes, we refer to Gurudev Rabindra Nath Tagore. Sir, you know it very well that it was in his poem, it was stated very clearly:

"Whom you like to keep behind  
he is pulling you behind more and more"

In reality, the atrocities are increasing day-by-day. Mere discussion will not help much. For the last 42 years, we have been discussing this issue so many times in this august House. What is the outcome? Today, my friends in the Opposition—my Congress friends there—are very vocal. But why was there so much of a backlog in Government services? I would like to put this question to them.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): That is not the *alibi*. Better you pull up your friends there. First you pull them up.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: I will do that. Coming to my point, just before the Lok Sabha elections were slated, the previous Government announced that 36,000 posts, which were the backlogs kept for so many years, would be filled up. Our hon. Finance Minister is sitting here. he may remember it. The backlog is still there. These posts must be filled up immediately. I have got the detailed report. I would like to remind the hon. Finance Minister that even in his Department i.e. the Reserve Bank of India, the other Nationalised Banks, the Life Insurance Corporation etc., even the four per cent scheduled castes people are not there in respect of Class-I and Class-II categories. As far as the Scheduled Tribes are concerned, not even 2 per cent of them are there in those categories while the reservation made in this regard is 15 per cent and 7 1/2 per cent respectively. The attitude of the Government must be changed. The bureauc-

[Sh. Amar Roypradhan]

racy is still going very strong.

I want to take a little time about the advertisements. In yesterday's Hindustan Times, there was an advertisement. The Steel Authority of India had given advertisement for senior level positions. There were many posts. But what are the categories to which it has been divided? How many posts among these are reserved for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes? It has been clearly stated that reservation may be provided as per the Presidential directives and other things being equal, preference will be given to SC and ST candidates. By this advertisement, the Steel Authority of India Limited and so also the Government have violated the very norms of the constitutional provisions that have been provided for to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Posts should be known to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes persons that which are the posts reserved for the Scheduled Castes and which are the posts reserved for the Scheduled Tribes. And what is the percentage of reservation available for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes? But nothing has been written here in the advertisement. If this is the way, the Government moves, if the present National Front Government also follows the path of the Congress Government, then the problem of backlog will not be solved.

I want to mention here about the most important point, that is, about the land reforms. If we go through the Report of the Commissioner of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes for the last three years, what do we find there? We find that the main reason for the atrocities is the land reforms, that is, clash and conflict regarding the land and also about the actual possessor of land. Whenever a *patta* was given to a Scheduled Castes or a Scheduled Tribes person, just now my friend referred to it, the Zamindars and the Jagirdars came out with the help of police, opposing it. It was very much prevalent in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and in some other parts of the country. But actually, what

have we done to solve the problem of land reforms for the last 42 years? Of course, it is true that on paper and in planning, we have adopted so many resolutions and proposals. What have we done in the 6th Five Year Plan? In the Preface to it, it has been stated that land reforms would be completed within 1985 and this surplus land would be distributed among the poor people, most of whom are the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, even the *pattas* would be provided to them and the land record would be completed during 1986. Now from 1986-89 it was the Congress Government which ruled the country. Now it is the National Front Government.

15.16 hrs.

[MR. THAMBI DURAI *in the Chair*]

If you do not solve this land reforms problem, if the lands are not given properly, if the surplus land is not distributed properly, if the *pattas* are not given to the down-trodden people, the poor people, then the conflict will be more and more in the rural areas and the problem of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes will continue and the atrocities on Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes will be more and more. It will do nothing if it remains in paper only. Of course, it is true that the previous Government said so many things during the Seventh Five Year Plan. They said that during the Seventh Five Year Plan, the problem of Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes would be solved with the help of programmes like NREP, RLEGP and IRDP.

Today, it is very interesting to note that Mr. Verma spoke about some concessions and subsidies given to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes under IRDP programme. I would like to say that with these programmes, whether they are IRDP, NREP or RLEGP, you cannot solve this problem because it is a socio-economic problem. So you must have to come forward with appropriate programmes to deal with the problems of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes people.

We are speaking so much about untouchability. But what happened in Bihar? When a Brahmin boy Shri Khilanand Jha, a clerk or an assistant, married a Harijan girl, what happened to him? The Bihar Government sacked him from the job. What a tragedy? On the one hand you are welcoming all this, but on the other hand the Government is very much cruel to these people as though it wants that there should be no mixing up or mingling among the people of different communities.

At this present juncture I only request the National Front Government not to follow the path of the previous Government with NREP, RLEGP and other programmes and make some rules and regulations on paper only but they must have to act and act seriously in favour of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people.

SHRI LAETA UMBREY (Arunachal East): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me chance to participate in the discussion. I am participating in the discussion in this House for the first time and I hope that you will not ring the bell before I conclude.

I have seen in the last six months of my experience as a Member of Parliament, as a silent spectator, that whenever there is a discussion on Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes people, most of the speakers are non-tribals. You just see the difference. Between a person who is associated to a tribal or a Harijan and a person who is born as a Harijan or Adivasi, it makes a big difference. Of course these backward people may not have that much capacity and they are not at par with other communities; but in the days to come when we will have such important discussions I hope you will not do any injustice by giving more time to the non-tribals.

I am telling this because last time when we were going to amend the Constitution extending the reservation for SC and ST by ten more years, I wanted to participate in the discussions, but I did not get time. On the

Demands for Grants of the Home Ministry I wanted to highlight certain important points of my State and wanted to draw the attention of the Home Minister towards them, but I was not allowed to speak due to lack of time.

MR. SPEAKER: Now you can speak on them. Now also the time is limited because we have to take up the Private Members' business.

SHRI LAETA UMBREY: Whenever you form any Committee or Commission to study the problems of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people or other down trodden people, I hope you will fully justify it by appointing all the Members of the Committee from among these deprived groups.

For the protection of SC, ST and other backward communities whatever is done is only because of Dr. Ambedkar who was the Chairman of the Drafting Committee of the Constitution. Much has been awaited and much has been thought about their welfare but our achievement is too poor. Now, here most of the Members are charging the Congress. I think it is not good. No single person or any single party is responsible for the atrocities on certain communities. It is, we who are all responsible for it. See my case. I am in the Congress; my party affiliation is Congress; but I am a hundred per cent Scheduled Tribe. I invite those people, those Members who are alleging the Congress to visit my Constituency and to see the condition of my family and see my background. Had it not been the Congress, I would not have become a Member of Parliament. So, we are all responsible for the atrocities. What we now required to do is that—irrespective of our caste and creed, irrespective of party affiliation—we should all in one voice, send the message to those downtrodden people, the deprived people that there will not be any further atrocities on Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Harijans and Adivasis. We have to say like this. And this is what the people are expecting from us. I would like to submit certain things in the form of suggestion. The tribals who are feeling discontentment, who are feeling that

atrocities are meted on them daily, are demanding Statehood. For example, they are demanding Jharkand land and Karbiang long land. Like this, there are so many places where Scheduled Tribe people are demanding. I think this is justified. Please see the example of Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland where Scheduled Tribes are living. The development has taken and you cannot deny this. We will have to see certain things before we say something about the upliftment of the downtrodden societies. In order to stop further atrocity on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes it is imperative that the demands of these people are fully met. These Scheduled Tribes—originally do not belong to any religious community. Most of them do not belong to the linguistic communities—the languages which are in the Eighth Schedule. There should not be any imposition on them or exploitation on them an imposition. I heard that Hindi is being imposed as a compulsory official language in Uttar Pradesh, then followed by Madhya Pradesh. There are so many Scheduled Tribe people in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh whose mother-tongue is not Hindi. I am very much aware of their welfare. That is why I suggest that wherever there are Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the schools of those areas should be under the Central Board of Secondary Education syllabus. This is prevailing in my State also. There, in CBSC syllabus equal importance is given to both Hindi and English. I do not require to mention the utility of English you know better about it.

The original culture and tradition of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are on the verge of extinction. This will have to be protected. Here also I would like to quote the example of my State, Arunachal Pradesh, where it is well protected. Whether it is the State Government or the Central Government, I think they will have to protect it fully. Now, Shri Rajiv Gandhi and Shri V.P. Singh or whosoever the Prime Minister may be, are unnecessarily blamed. They are not to be blamed. We are all responsible for it. *(Interruptions)* Those people who are dealing with the scheduled castes and the sched-

uled tribes, they are responsible for it. They are exploiting the scheduled caste and scheduled tribe people. They are taking full advantage of their ignorance, illiteracy and their poor economic conditions. So, let us arrive at a consensus. Let us send a message to these scheduled castes and the scheduled tribes and other backward communities that from now onwards, there will not be any atrocities on them.

I think, I could not make out properly. Still I hope the hon. Minister, who is young and energetic, will answer all my points.

Lastly, I am a new Member. I do not know how many Members belonging to scheduled tribes have been inducted into the Cabinet. I want to know about this also. Thank you.

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MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up Private Members' Business. Shri Rameshwar Prasad.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHARY (Gaya): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have not been given time to speak.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is time for Private Members' Business. We cannot take up anything else now. When we take up discussion under Rule 193 next time, then you can speak. Now, Shri Rameshwar Prasad.

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15.32 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS'  
BILLS AND RESOLUTION

Third Report

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD (Arrah): I beg to move: