

[English]

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL (Buldhana): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the Railway Minister to the accident that has taken place in my constituency, that is, Buldhana where the workers of the Railways have been killed. Further, eight persons are seriously injured in that accident. So, a proper compensation should be given and also a high level inquiry should be ordered. That is my request.

MR. SPEAKER : You are very brief. Thank you for that.

[Translation]

SHRI SURAJ BHAN (Ambala) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, It is envisaged in Article 330 and 332 of the Constitution that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be given their due share in proportion to their population in the country. According to the latest census figures their population is 25 percent of India's population yet they are getting a reservation of 22.5 percent only. Therefore, I request that it be enhanced to 25 percent.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, within the parameters of my information I would like to say that Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that instead of increasing the reservation quota of SC/ST from 22.5 percent the Government is going to curtail it so as to provide reservation to other castes. Now it has become quite necessary to stop the Government from taking such a step. The previous Congress Government had brought a Bill to provide reservation to the Dalit Christians out of the present reservation quota of the Scheduled Castes. Fortunately that Bill could not be passed. Later on they tried to implement that Bill by bringing ordinance. We met the hon. President. Fortunately the hon. President did not sign this ordinance. Now the United Front has said the same thing in its Common Minimum Programme that christians would be given reservation. What would be its ultimate result...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : It is unfortunate that the hon. Member is opposing a burning issue regarding some Dalits who are not being given reservation just because they believe in a particular religion. The hon. Member cannot raise this issue during Zero Hour without giving any notice as per rules...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURAJ BHAN : Please allow me to speak.

MR. SPEAKER : Let the hon. member speak. Let him have his say. He is expressing his opinion.

*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SURAJ BHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you will be surprised to know that according to the Government of India Act 1935, in 1936 ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

What is this going on? You allowed me to speak ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Let the hon. Member say what he wants to say. I will decide whether this is urgent matter or not. First of all, let him make his submission.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : This is a matter of policy. This issue cannot be taken up by you during Zero Hour...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SURAJ BHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you will be surprised to know that...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Since this is not a matter of great urgency, you need not make any argument now.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : It is a matter of policy. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No, no. Not at all. Do not raise a slogan like this here. Please sit down. Let the hon. Member have his say. There is nothing wrong in that. Shri Suraj Bhan, please be brief. Do not make a statement. Please do not argue. You need not argue the matter now.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Member may finish his speech now.

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South) : It should be expunged from the record.

MR. SPEAKER : I will go through the record. I will certainly do that. The hon. Member should conclude now. Do not make any argument.

*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SURAJ BHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you will be surprised to know that in 1936 during British period, the Government of India-British Government had issued an order which says that...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : There is no need.

[Translation]

SHRI SURAJ BHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Act says:

[English]

"No Indian Christian shall be deemed to be a member of Scheduled Caste."

[Translation]

There is no controversy as such. All these things had been said in 1936 during the British Period. What has compelled us today to provide reservation to the christians. These orders are being issued only to grab votes. It will harm in two ways. Christians would be provided reservation by curtailing the reservation quota of the Scheduled Castes. They are more educated, thus they will also try to grab the share of Scheduled Castes. Secondly it would lead to conversion. I, therefore oppose it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Let him have his say. Let him speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will go through the record.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Sir, it must not go on record... (Interruptions) Whatever he has said must not go on record. It is against the Parliamentary procedure. It must not go on record... (Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Tomorrow if the Bill comes up in the House, can you stop it? Will you allow it or not? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Government of India's Common Minimum Programme, if I recollect correctly, has made a commitment to do this. Therefore, the matter has to come before the House. At that time you can have a debate on that issue. Let us close the matter now.

[Translation]

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA (Chandauli) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, farmers in my Constituency Chandauli are faced with a very difficult situation. This is all because of irrigation... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : We are very sorry that he has misused the Zero Hour. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Do not complicate the matter now.

[Translation]

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, today the farmers in Chandauli are faced with almost a worn out situation. Their condition is quite deplorable today. They are sad. All the canals there need to be repaired. The irrigation is totally mismanaged. The whole area is disturbed. Sir,

through you, I would like to draw the attention of hon. Minister towards it and I request you to provide proper irrigation facilities to the farmers in Chandauli immediately so as to improve their condition, which has deteriorated due to it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I am coming to you. Whosoever's name is here, I am calling. Let us not waste the time.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA BAHADUR ROY (Sultanpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a strange incident is taking place in Sultanpur, Jaunpur and Pratapgarh in Uttar Pradesh for the last one month. About one dozen innocent boys in Jaunpur, half a dozen girls and boys in Pratapgarh and four girls in Sultanpur have died. Here the air is thick with rumours that leopard and hyaena are responsible for it and some people even say that these are the act of terrorists and Pakistani agents are involved in it... (Interruptions)

Sir, trains were burnt at the railway station and Cars were torched, one person was killed and more than 50 people were hurt in the agitation launched against it. Uttar Pradesh is under the Presidential Rule. This whole area is in turmoil. Girls are being snatched from the lap of their mothers. In my district Sultanpur it has been said that no one know whether the culprit is a beast or human being. Here no one comes out of their house after 6 P.M. Railway stations and trains were burnt as a protest against it. Several people were put behind the bars. No person in white Maruti Car and van could pass through this area. The most surprising thing is that the 11 children killed in Jaunpur are boys and the children killed in Pratapgarh are both boys and girls, where as only girls were killed in Sultanpur... (Interruptions)

I request the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to pay attention towards it... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude now; you have made your point. Just be brief and make a pointed reference.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : One of the important industries, the Metal Box Company, in which seven thousand workers were working has been lying closed since 1987. 118 workers have died so far. The Government has set up BIFR to revive the sick industries. But instead of reviving the sick industries, because of unnecessary delay in the BIFR and because of all the industries resorting to imports into this country, BIFR is causing the close down of many industries. So, I would request the hon. Prime Minister who comes with the farmers' background and who is interested in the welfare of labourers to please see that these industries are reopened immediately. BIFR has said that these industries should be reopened. But I do