

[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

not know for what reason, though 118 workers have died so far, it is pending since 1987. Already ten years are over. Either you abolish BIFR or enable them to revive the sick industries.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD MAQBOOL DAR (Anantnag) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not given notice but I would like to raise an important issue. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will call those Members first, who have given notices.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAMMAD MAQBOOL DAR : It is a message from the people of Kashmir valley for the Members and the Government. (Interruptions) There people are being sandwiched from all the sides.

MR. SPEAKER : No, this is not the way. Prior notice is required for it first of all the Members, who have given notices should be given chance and you will be called later on if time is there.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very sorry to say that we raise the issue of honour and dignity of women here time and again. But since the inception of Congress Government in Madhya Pradesh the number of incidents of atrocities committed against women specially tribal women has risen and surpassed all the limits. These incidents started from the home town of the Chief Minister and spread all over the state whether it is Bhind district or Raigarh district. Here women were paraded nude and there after atrocities were committed on Baitul tribal women. A women sarpanch was insulted and now recently police has committed atrocities on a girl and her sister-in-law of Manjhi community in Raisen district who were 19 and 21 years old. Members of their family were beaten by the butt-end of the gun so that they could not make any complaint against it. Their backs were broken and no medical treatment was given to them for two days. The state Government have not taken any action on it and ultimately our former Chief Minister had to sit on dharna for one day in Bhopal against it.

Today, the situation in Madhya Pradesh is such that when atrocity is perpetrated, then no action is taken against it. Although we do not expect anything from those who talk of having regard for women because they themselves have put forth many examples. Yet I would like to say that immediate action should be taken with a view to prevent the atrocities being perpetrated on women in Madhya Pradesh and the matter should be taken up with the Government of Madhya Pradesh consulted at once.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : No, please. I have called Shri Satpal Maharaj. Mr. Rasopi, I will allow you later.

[Translation]

SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ (Garhwal) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is acute shortage of drinking water in Dehradun, Pauri, Garhwal, Tehri Garhwal, Almora, Nainital and Pithoragarh districts of Uttarakhand and this problem is making their life very difficult.

I want to draw the attention of the Government towards this drinking water problem and urge upon you that immediate steps should be taken for resolving this crisis and making drinking water available in the hilly areas. These areas should be declared as drought affected areas and financial assistance may be provided for the same. (Interruptions)

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday, the Supreme Court has directed CBI, dismissing its special leave petition against the verdict of High Court that the MPs of Jharkhand Mukti Morcha be prosecuted by registering the regular FIR on the charge of having been bribed by the Congress Party. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please allow him. Why are you interrupting him?

(Interruptions)

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman and Nicobar Islands) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a misuse of Zero Hour. A formal notice is required for raising this matter. (Interruptions)

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Sir, the Supreme Court has rejected the SLP and directed the CBI to file a new FIR against the former Prime Minister, Shri Narasimha Rao and seven others and investigate the bribe case. (Interruptions) We want to know from the Prime Minister, what is the stage of the case? (Interruptions) The Prime Minister had said yesterday that he would take the House into confidence. Now we want from the Prime Minister as to what action has been taken, whether any action has been taken regarding the bribe used for effecting the defection of the Jharkhand Mukhti Morcha Members by Shri Narasimha Rao, Shri Shukla, Shri Dhawan and others. (Interruptions) It is for the Prime Minister to take the House into confidence. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please, Lodhaji, I think, it is enough.

[Translation]

SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS (Sitapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, several Members have discussed in the House the electricity problem in the state of Uttar Pradesh. I want to tell you that the electricity problem is of two types. One has been created by the Electricity Board and the other one, the real problem.

The Uttar Pradesh Electricity Board is deeply steeped in corruption. The officers are supplying