

Regarding alleged attacks on churches

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): Thank you, Chairman, Sir. The unfortunate instances of churches being repeatedly vandalized in Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, and continuing assaults on Christian missionaries and priests in various North Indian States by the right-wing affiliated groups propagated by ... is alarming and threatening the fabric of secularism.

This violence is nothing but an assault on the fundamental rights of minorities and their right to worship and practice religion. The BJP-run Governments in these States are ...* by supporting these ...* by refusing to take any action against them.

The arrest of father Anil Mathew, a selfless priest who works for the welfare of the children who was wrongly implicated and jailed, shows the hatred against Christian missionaries and priests by the Madhya Pradesh Government.

I request the Government to immediately seek a report in this matter and the National Human Rights Commission must take suo motu cognizance of the matter immediately.

The rights of minorities are Constitutionally guaranteed. Instances like vandalizing and destroying hundreds of churches in Manipur, destruction of churches and placing saffron flags in churches, and assault on priests and missionaries cannot be tolerated in a secular country like India.

Sir, there is a need for the Central Government to table a white paper in the House on Manipur situation. This is a very serious and important matter.(Interruptions)
The minorities are facing serious problems in the northern part of India after the Pran Pratishtha in Ram Mandir at Ayodhya.(Interruptions) Churches are being attacked and priests are also being threatened.(Interruptions)

माननीय सभापति : ? डिलीट कर दीजिएगा ।