

Regarding atrocities committed on Minorities in Bangladesh

SHRI JAGANNATH SARKAR (RANAGHAT): Honourable Speaker Sir, is it a crime to be a Bengali Hindu? On the other side of the barbed wires, lies the country of Bangladesh- which was formed in 1971. Bengali Hindus are being oppressed selectively with the aid of the government, their temples are being demolished, and they are being pushed into financial distress. They are being taken away at night to convert them to Islam. When protests ensued against that, their leader Chinmoy Maharaj was taken into custody- he was tortured and kept hungry. Atrocities are being committed against their mothers and daughters. What was their cardinal sin? Bengalis across borders were together, and they played a major part in the Indian Freedom Struggle. If you visit Cellular Jail, you will know that 400 out of the 693 inmates were Bengalis. They are being tortured after independence. Even after partition, the Bengali Hindu population who came to this part of Bengal aren't finding peace. Intruders are coming again and again to disturb the equilibrium in our demographic. People from some parts of Malda, Murshidabad, Dinajpur, Dakshin 24 Paraganas, Nadia, Hooghly, and Howrah are tortured here. And I am categorically saying that all these happening with Government aid. We see that the government on this side is only acting as a silent spectator. Public property has been vandalized, Temples are being destroyed, and riots are spreading centering the Beldanga issue in Howrah, Uluberia. Everything is being done with Government aid. This is not how the administration should function. What was their crime that they fetched independence? Why is the government silent? We need to stand with them. Those who demanded the partition- the Muslim League, said that Muslims won't be able to carry out their religious practices here. But in reality, Muslims are better off here. Those who demanded the partition, why aren't they saying that we don't need a separate India or Bangladesh or Pakistan anymore- we should all live together? Who are the British to divide us? Someone like Kalyanda, thinks that if a few people offer Namaz at a place, that place should come under Waqf Property.

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE: Why is the Central Government silent on it? ? *(Interruptions)* We have said it. ? *(Interruptions)* Why are they not asking about the subject? ? *(Interruptions)* This is our issue. ? *(Interruptions)* We agree to it. ? *(Interruptions)* Why is the Central Government silent on it? ? *(Interruptions)*

