

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I know that due to the paucity of time, you could not accommodate everything. I am not blaming you or anybody for that. But I would like to draw your attention and, through you, Sir, the Government's to the plight of a few lakhs of jute workers in West Bengal which may be taken into consideration by the Government. When the house meets next time - tomorrow is the last day - I request that you may give first preference to the Calling Attention Notice that we have tabled and, in the meantime, the Government may look into the problems of the jute workers in West Bengal. This is a very serious situation because lakhs and lakhs of jute workers are becoming unemployed everyday.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly) : Sir, the latest UNDP Report, better known as the Human Development Report, in its seventh series has come out with some startling revelations as regards the extent and incidence of poverty in our country, as in many other developing countries. According to the Planning Commission, there are about 23 crores of people in our country who are living below the poverty line, and that was calculated on the basis of the intake of calories, particular quantum of calories. The revised estimates show that their number has increased to 38 crores. The Report says that 55 crores of people are living below the poverty line in India. The Government has given importance to seven thrust areas in the Common Minimum Programme in order to alleviate poverty in the country. They should take into account the latest UNDP Report, according to which 55 crores of people are living below the poverty line.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, mine is a question of breach of privilege...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KARIA MUNDA (Khunti) : Mr. Speaker, an agitation has been going on for the last 60-70 years for creation of a separate Vananchal or Jharkhand State by merging Chhota Nagpur and Santhal Pargana. But no Government has so far given any thought to this matter or have expressed any concern in this regard.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please allow the hon. Member to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI KARIA MUNDA : The resentment among the people there is threatening to take violent form. People are agitating and a great unrest prevails there. In 1995, the Janta Dal Government of Bihar and the Central Government together had constituted a council but that council is toothless and going nothing. Therefore, we demand that the present Government consider creating a separate Vananchal State by merging Chhota Nagpur and Santhal Pargana...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Verma, I will allow you.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGGARWAL (Chandni Chowk-Delhi) : Mr. Speaker, earlier also I had drawn your attention to the fact that the law and order in Delhi is in the heads of the hon. Home Minister. Delhi is the capital of the country and if murders take place here every now and then...*(Interruptions)* You cannot prevent me from speaking...*(Interruptions)**. The law and order situation is going from bad to worse in Delhi with each day passing...*(Interruptions)** and there has been an uproar in the Delhi State Assembly for several days. Sir, you please ask the hon. Home Minister to make a statement in this behalf...*(Interruptions)* They malign Bharatiya Janata Party...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. No, I cannot allow this any more. Zero Hour is over.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What is this going on? Everybody may sit down, please. I have allowed Mr. Verma.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGGARWAL : Sir, I have raised an important issue. But you have not issued any directions.

[English]

Mr. Speaker : I will consider. You come to me. I will discuss with you...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI R.L.P. VERMA (Kodarma) : The hill areas of South Bihar have made a demand for a separate state. In that context, I wish to make my statement ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, for creation of a separate Vananchal (Jharkhand) State comprising Ratnagarbha—present 18 districts of hill areas of South Bihar, the people and the then leaders there, had made a demand through about 2000 memorandums before the State Reorganisation Corporation of 1954 but the same was ignored. Even before that also, the leaders there had made a similar demand and the Jharkhand agitation had been started as early as in 1938. It is the longest public agitation of the world.

About 2.5 crore neglected backward people living in this vast track rich in mineral and forest wealth have been compelled to live below the poverty line. The sole reason behind it is that the State and Central Governments have all along been nurturing an evil desire to continue to exploit unabated this vast track of land enjoying natural bounty...*(Interruptions)*

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

The M.Ps from Bihar have made a fervent demand that a separate State demarcated by the hills in the North and rivers in the South East be carved out there. The Prime Minister is requested to announce creation of a separate Vananchal State for the social economic and political development of 2.5 crore people of that area. It is the demand of the justice and would be a fitting culmination of the agitation continuing since 1938 ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Verma ji, your time is over.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now please sit down. Please listen.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Aggarwal, I am not allowing you. You cannot take the House to ransom.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Aggarwal, sit down please. No, you shall not behave like that. This is Parliament. Can you not obey the Chair?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If you do not respect the Chair, how can you call yourself an hon. Member? What is this?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Yesterday, an hon. lady Member brought to the notice of the House a matter regarding the alleged misbehaviour of a DIG and the House demanded that the Home Minister should make a statement. I request the Home Minister to make a statement.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Sushmaji had said in this House that law and order was in very bad shape. I fully agree with her that law and order is in very bad shape in Delhi...*(Interruptions)* Don't hand over the administration of the police to them...*(Interruptions)*

12.16 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Alleged Misbehaviour With Shrimati Subhawati Devi, MP by the DIGP, Gorakhpur (UP) And Alleged Threat to her life

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am making this statement on the alleged misbehaviour with Shrimati Subhawati Devi, hon. MP by the DIGP, Gorakhpur, West

Uttar Pradesh and the alleged threat to her life. Shrimati Subhawati Devi, the hon. Member of Parliament had requested the hon. Speaker for providing adequate security to her. The hon. Member had also stated that the DIGP, Gorakhpur had misbehaved with her on the 2nd July, 1996.

In this regard, a report was called for from the Government of UP. The facts as reported by the hon. MP and the response of the Government of UP to the same are as follows.

In the complaint, it has been mentioned by the hon. MP that she went to the office of the DIGP, Gorakhpur Range on the 2nd July, 1996 at about 7 p.m. The purpose of her visit was to apprise the DIGP about the problems of the area. Here, it has been alleged that when the hon. MP drew the attention of the DIGP Shri Rizwan Ahmed towards the on-going incidents of theft, dacoity, etc., in the area, Shri Rizwan Ahmed abruptly intervened to mention that the hon. MP's late husband was also a dacoit and a murderer and that was the reason why he had met the fate that he deserved. It has been further stated that the DIGP Shri Rizwan Ahmed also alleged that the hon. MP was moving with a group of thieves and dacoits and asked whether the Samajwadi Party was a party of thieves and dacoits.

The hon. MP has further alleged that from the language used by Shri Rizwan Ahmed it appeared that he had extended his full cooperation in the conspiracy of the murder of the hon. MP's husband. It was also mentioned by the hon. MP that the murderers of her husband and their associates were repeatedly sending threatening calls to her over the telephone.

As per the report of the UP Government, the following details have been revealed. Based upon the clarification furnished by the DIGP, Gorakhpur Range and the factual report of the IGP, Gorakhpur Zone, the Government of UP has further furnished the following report :

- (i) It is correct that on the 2nd July, 1996 at about 7 p.m., the hon. MP Shrimati Subhawati Devi along with some of her supporters had gone to the office of the DIGP, Gorakhpur Range. As per the version of Shri Rizwan Ahmed, the DIGP, Gorakhpur Range, the hon. MP Shrimati Subhawati Devi initially started the discussion on issues like personal security for her, security for the family, returning of fire arms, etc., belonging to her family members and complaint against the Station House Officer of Gulriha, namely, Shri Phadindra Yadav.

During the discussion, Shri Rizwan Ahmed, established telephonic contact with the Station House Officer of Gulriha when Shri Rizwan Ahmed was told that Shrimati Subhawati Devi was annoyed because the police was trying to arrest a person named