

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Government will respond to the hon. Members' feeling on this issue after collecting the information ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Sir, today is the last day of the House. They should react today.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : We will try today, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Right.

*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY ANNAJI MUDE (Wardha) : Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government to an important issue Shri Subhash Chandra Bose had played a leading role in the freedom struggle of the country. Indians had enrolled themselves in large numbers in the Indian National Army raised by Shri Bose. But Those freedom fighters and their widows have been denied pension. Their leader Lal Khan Mian sacrificed his life for their cause. I would urge the Government to grant pension and other facilities to the personnel of the Azad Hind Fauj and their widows by granting them the status of freedom fighters.

SHRI DATTA MEGHE (Ramtek) : Sir, Oranges are cultivated in abundance in Remte and Vidarbha but non-availability of wagons poses serious problem to the growers. My request is that the Railway wagons should be made available at the harvest time : freight is charged at concessional rate for movement of bananas on Khandesh Bhusaval route. As oranges are also transported through the Railways. I would request the government to grant the same concession to orange growers in Vidarbha as is being granted to banana growers in Khandesh Bhusaval...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Ferozabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on 22nd July, I had raised an issue relating to the District Magistrate, Ferozabad about the incidents dated 27th June and 2nd July. The Home Minister is present in the House to-day and the House would be adjourned for a 22 days break. After the unpleasant happening with me, the District Magistrate threatens me that raising the issue in the House would not help because nothing has happened so far. The issue raised by me should be referred to the Privileges Committee and that officer should be transferred...*(Interruptions)* is the Home Minister prepared to reply?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let the Home Minister reply. I am not preventing him.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Sir, how will we get justice? We are entitled to a reply from the Home Minister...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, around two down villages in Bihar ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : The hon'ble Home Minister must reply to it...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please wait for a minute.

SHRI ATAL BIHRI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : The issue raised by the hon. Member has already been raised in the House. The question relates to the privilege and honour of the hon. Member. When the issue was raised in the House, we had hoped that the Government would call for a report from the UP Government and then take the House into confidence. But no action has been taken so far. If no explanation is called from the District Magistrate even after the issue has been raised in the House, it sends wrong signals. The District Magistrate now threatens the hon Members and passes snide remarks that he has not come to any harm despite raising the issue in the House.

If the hon. Members are ill treated in this manner, then it does not remain a party issue or an issue relating to the opposition or the treasury benches. It is now a question of the honour of the entire house and the privileges of the hon Member. In case the hon. Member belongs to a dalit community, the issue takes all the more serious turn. I want that the Home Minister should assure the House that he would call for a detailed report about the incident and in particular about the conduct of that official.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please wait a minute I want to say something. It is not a question of a particular Member. If no action is taken in the matter, it would send wrong signals and then all of us may be meted out the same treatment. Now you may proceed.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : The Hon. Member from Ferozabad had raised this issue and he had met me separately also. But it is not true that we remained inactive and that no report was called for. I myself contacted the new governor of UP on telephone. I informed him that the issue has been raised in the House and the hon. Members is very much agitated and some action should be taken in the matter. I apprised him about the alleged ill treatment of the hon. Member from Ferozabad at the hands of District collector of Ferozabad and the Threats given by him etc. The governor assured that he had taken note of the matter and he would take strict action and if he felt necessary, he would dismiss the district collector. I also advised him to take prompt action. So far I have not received any report from the governor but I hope within a day or two I may receive the report. Perhaps he is visiting Delhi to-day on some official business and I would seize the opportunities to talk to him about the action taken...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : What are you doing, you must take some action...*(Interruptions)*