

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am going to ask the Hon. Minister to say something on this

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He is also referring to the same incident. It is a serious matter. I will have to hear all the Hon. Members.

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the incident which took place in Gorakhpur ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You already have your say. Please be seated.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down.

*[Translation]*

You have already spoken. It is a serious matter I therefore, want to continue with the discussion on the issue. I will then ask the Govt. as to what action they have taken in this regard?

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : Centre is directly responsible, for the incidents taking place in Uttar Pradesh. I wish to bring it to your notice that killing of any individual should be condemned. She is an Hon. Member of the House. She should be provided adequate security by the Govt. I would welcome such an assurance from this Govt. Govt is responsible for the security of every Member. Now this responsibility falls directly on the Centre. I want to state certain facts. Who are the persons responsible for the incidents taking place in Uttar Pradesh? Who are supporting them, who are giving them political protection..*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM SAGAR : These may be your persons.

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : The way Mafia gangs have grown stronger and people are being killed ...*(Interruptions)* It has a criminal history. Hundreds of innocent people were killed. They have exploited these people...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down. Please listen to him.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : We are stating the facts ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR (Karol Bagh - Delhi) : It should be announced that she would be given full protection. It is a matter of shame for the House and the whole country...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Sir, a statement from the hon. Minister of Home is not sufficient. What has been seen on the ground is that, for some reason or the other, the IAS and the IPS officers do not want to listen to the Members of Parliament irrespective of party affiliations. I feel, there is a very bad erosion in their discharging the responsibilities. This is an incident where the husband of the hon. Member of Parliament had been killed.

She is a candidate. I request that the Hon. Speaker should call the DIG, SP and DC before the House Committee and they should say what is happening and why it has happened. Sometimes because of the political interference, we cannot take any decision. Let us also hear the Administration about it. Only statement will not do.

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Jena, would you like to say something.

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) Govt. will make a Statement on this issue.

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : When will the Statement be made.

*[English]*

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Today or Tomorrow.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV (Purnea) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The matter is over now. Do not raise the issue again. I will give you opportunity afterwards.

*[English]*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a concern was voiced just now about the safety and security of a sitting Member of Parliament, a concern that has been shared by every section of the House. On earlier occasion, we did mention similar things. If the Members of Parliament continue to receive this kind of threats, then it becomes an issue that certainly the House must be seized of.

I go from the questions of Members of Parliament to a much larger question that arises because of recent statements made by two very responsible, two very senior Members of the Union Cabinet. One of them, the hon. Defence Minister is reported to have said in a language that cannot be described as temperate and

which contained messages of threats to the press and media, to judiciary as also to the executive. We then had information of another Member of the Union Cabinet who, in fact, deals with Information and Broadcasting, speaking of the need to muzzle the press, of having a kind of defamation bill so that the bill becomes and kind of curb on the freedom of expression which the press represents as pious. If these organs of the Republic, the judiciary, the executive and the fourth estate, the press, are attempted to be intimidated by statements from very senior and responsible Ministers of the Union Cabinet, then the discourse of democracy, instead of being a discourses, will become intimidatory, threatening and these institutions which support, grow out of Parliament, will in themselves be enfeebled. I think this is a very serious issue. I do not have to point out to some very dear friends of mine who today adorn the treasury benches, who have been personal victims during the infamous emergency of precisely this kind of throttling of the organs of the Republic. Their conscience would now trouble them. Perhaps their conscience would make them speak because when two senior Members of the Union Cabinet speak publicly, speak repeatedly, do not contradict what they have said and speak in a language that is intimidatory, threatening of the judiciary; the executive and of the press, then, I think it is time that the Prime Minister got up and explain to the House where the Government stand on this essential component of free functioning of democracy. This is a very serious issue and the Government owes the Parliament and people and the entire nation, an explanation on this account.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : It is a serious matter ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down. You will be given chance.

DR. MURLI MANOHER JOSHI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have seen such incidents in Uttar Pradesh. There had been attacks an the Houses of Editors ...*(Interruptions)* News papers vendors had been assaulted.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am not hard of hearing. Please sit down.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, What Shri Jaswant Singh has just now said...*(Interruptions)*

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : The court room of the Chief Justice of Allahabad High court has been ransacked. The army had to be called to save the High Court.

SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : When did it happen?

DR. MURLI MONOHAR JOSHI : When the present Defence Minister was his Chief Minister there ...*(Interruptions)*

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER : Joshi ji, please sit down, I have called Mr. Sukdeo Paswan.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, The matter is very serious. We have seen that High Court was attacked, news papers offices were attacked and Executive was attacked. The present Union Minister for Defence was Chief Minister at that time. He makes such a statement as Defence Minister ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Joshiji, please sit down. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have called Shri Sukdeo Paswan to speak

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Yadav, you try to behave. You are doing it repeatedly. Please be seated. I have called him.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Shri Kalyan Singh was the Chief Minister at that time. What did he do? He filed an affidavit before the High Court and assured that he would take all steps to protect the Babri Masjid. But he failed to honour that commitment ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : He was the Chief Minister at that time in Uttar Pradesh. The High Court was attacked. The Army was called to protect the Chief Justice...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If any Member, other than who has been called speaks, it shall not go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have called Shri Sukdeo Paswan to speak. Please be seated.

*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): Sir, the hon. Member Shri Jaswant Singh has referred to the Defamation Bill. The Government again reiterates that about the freedom of the Press, the Government is committed and there is no proposal as such of any Defamation Bill. Let me clarify this position ...*(Interruptions)*

\* Not recorded.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : What about the threats issued to the Press, the Judiciary and the Executive?...*(Interruptions)* Will you give an assurance here?

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : About what?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : You should give an assurance that the statement is retracted. Your Defence Minister has said something.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : If something is published in newspapers and we refer to it...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

I have clarified Govt's stand about Defamation Bill.

*[Translation]*

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : It has not only appear in newspapers...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : He is misleading the House.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Please let us know what you have to say about the statement of the Defence Minister...*(Interruptions)* I welcome Hon. Minister's statement that Govt do not propose to bring Defamation Bill. But what does he wants to say on the statement of Defence Minister. Will be continue to threaten press, judiciary and executive in public?

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record. I have called Shri Sukdeo Paswan, have else.

*(Interruptions)\**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing is going on record.

*(Interruptions)...\*\**

*[Translation]*

SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN (Arariya) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Hon. Members are aware of the situation is Uttar Pradesh...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Are you speaking in the issue under discussion.

SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN : Yes, Mr. Speaker, Sir, Scheduled Castes people are being subjected to extreme atrocities is Haridwar and other places. Their women were stripped of clothes and put to humiliation. I would like the House to consider the situation seriously and Govt. should make a statement as to what action is proposed to be taken to stop recurrence of such incidents in future...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai - North) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir M.Ps' Local Area Development Scheme has been a non-starter. Rs. one crore is being given to

\* Not recorded.

each M.P. But now orders have been issued to proceed with schemes approved earlier. Only two days before, two circulars have been issued which state that the amount earmarked for these schemes, which have been sanctioned but have not been executed yet, would lapse. When this schemes was sanctioned it was made clear that the sanctioned amount of the schemes would not lapse. The scheme was framed by the formers Speaker Shri Shivraj Patil. I urge upon the Govt. that the amount sanctioned earlier should not lapse and above two circulars should be withdrawn. Beside additional amount should be sanctioned so that the ongoing schemes could be continued.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we were told that a booklet containing guidelines would be issued to the Member, the same has not been issued so far. Therefore no work could be undertaken. I request the Govt. that the Prime Minister should make on statement as to what he propose to do with this schemes. Finance Minister has during the course of his speech in Budget stated that he would discuss this with the speaker as to whether additional funds could be provided for this scheme. The scheme has been in doldrums I therefore urge upon the Govt. to make a statement in this regard...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have got a list of members who have given notices. But the subject is move important. Those who have not given notices, I am sorry.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Jena, would you like to say some thing in the regard.

*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let him say.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : He has yielded.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please be seated.

*[Translation]*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Hon. Member Shri Ram Naik has raised the issue of H.P. Local Area Development Scheme, we have also read the two circulars issued recently by the Govt. There circulator have covered the inactive on the part of district administration. We were under the impression that the amount earmarked for schemes which have already been sanctioned would not be lapsed. The work on these schemes was temporary held up on account of the directives from the Election Commission. It was hoped the work would be resumed later on. District Administration is accountable for not executing those schemes which had been recommended by us, estimates for which had been duly prepared and people were duly informed about those schemes. Now since work could not be started on these schemes these schemes have been held up. we would like to see the Planning