

Title: Regarding destruction of the Buddha statue at Bamiyan in Afghanistan by the Talibans.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (MIRYALGUDA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the House once again to the matter which was raised by Prof. Malhotra yesterday. We would like to repeat our concern at the horrible thing that is going on in Afghanistan. What is going on there is nothing short of being medieval mania. This kind of vandalism cannot be allowed to go on. The world's tallest Buddha statue in the Central Province of Afghanistan, Bamiyan is also getting destroyed. The Taliban militia officially passed this strange and perverse decree....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: After Lunch, the Minister is going to make a statement in the House.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : I think the House must pass a Resolution because the Taliban is not listening to the pleas of the international community. We cannot remain mute witnesses. I am aware that our Foreign Minister has a large fund of goodwill and his intervention could really yield some dividends. Apart from that, we must express our common concern as an institution.

MR. SPEAKER: It was already raised yesterday.

डॉ.विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा (दक्षिण दिल्ली) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, श्री रेड्डी जी ने जो बात कही है, आज ढाई बजे स्टेटमेंट हो जाये जिसके लिए आपकी तरफ से कोई रिज़ोल्यूशन आये। From the Chair, if a Resolution is placed before the House and if the House approves a unanimous Resolution, I think that would go a long way.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA (GUNA): We fully endorse that. The Resolution must be placed from the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER: Yesterday, you raised the matter. Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad also associated with it.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (MAVELIKARA): We came to know that the Rajya Sabha is going to pass a Resolution in this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: The entire House is concerned about it.