

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (PONNANI): Sir, I am supporting you and making the submission because you have very kindly called upon me now.

Sir, widespread agitation, resentment and discontent is there throughout the country against the Uttar Pradesh Regulation of Religious Buildings and Places Bill, 2000. The Bill has been referred by the Governor to the President for his assent. But the Bill is a total onslaught on the Constitution of India, on the secular polity and on religious freedom.

श्री विनय कटियार : अध्यक्ष जी, इस मामले पर हमें भी बोलने दिया जाये। ...*(व्यवधान)*

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप बैठ जाइये, प्लीज़।

...*(व्यवधान)*

श्री विनय कटियार : इस पर हमको भी बोलने का मौका दिया जाये।...*(व्यवधान)*

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आपने नोटिस नहीं दिया न, प्लीज़, आप बैठ जाइये।

...*(व्यवधान)*

श्री मुलायम सिंह यादव : आपने तो सिर्फ टिप्पणी की है, खुराना साहब ने मुझे दो दिन तक बोलने नहीं दिया। ...*(व्यवधान)*

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Sir, in the context in which the Bill has been passed by the State Legislature, there are justified apprehensions among the minorities especially, the Muslims with respect to their Mosques and also their Madarsas.

These masjids, these mosques, these places of worship are today in a state of perpetual insecurity. The District Magistrate has been given sweeping powers under the Bill and the orders cannot be challenged in a court of law. The jurisdiction of the court has also been barred.

श्री विनय कटियार : अध्यक्ष जी, वहां मंदिर भी नहीं बना सकते, केवल मस्जिद की ही बात नहीं है। यह कानून मध्य प्रदेश और राजस्थान में भी कांग्रेस पार्टी के जमाने से बना हुआ है...*(व्यवधान)*

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : The Central policy which is there in legislations like the Wakf Act and the Religious Endowment Act are also being violated. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record except the speech of Shri Banatwalla.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : The UP Bill is intolerant on religious freedom enshrined in the Constitution. There is a demand that the Government must advise the President not to give his assent and to withhold his assent to the Bill.

श्री राशिद अलवी (अमरोहा) : अध्यक्ष जी, मुझे भी अवसर दें।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आपको भी बुलाऊंगा। जिन्होंने नोटिस दिया है, उनको चांस दूंगा।

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand that this is not a discussion.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : To highlight the demand that the President should withhold his assent to the UP Bill, a widespread agitation is going on now. The Government is silent and is not making any statement with respect to this. I appeal to the Government not only to advise the President to withhold his assent to the UP Bill, this obnoxious Bill, but also to take steps to restore the confidence of the minorities. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The Government is there, the Minister is there to give the reply.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Let this Government break its silence and make a statement here.

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there any reply from the Government?

...(Interruptions)