

Title: Urged the Government to issue necessary guidelines regarding establishment of citizenship in view of identification of Bangladeshis.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH (TAMLUK): Sir, with a grave concern I would like to raise an important issue. The issue relates to the atrocities and torture that are being inflicted on the Indian citizens by the police on the pretext of their being Bangladeshis.

Sir, I visited some areas in Delhi on Saturday and I came across a lot of complaints about this matter from the people. It is a very important issue. It relates to the question of one's establishing his citizenship. How can one establish his citizenship? The Police and the Administration does not accept ration card, or electoral rolls or even a certificate from the MLAs or the MPs as a proof of his being a citizen of India. That is why the people are being harassed and tortured. As a result of this, a housewife was killed a few days back. This is what is happening. Persons who are speaking the Bengali language are being treated as Bangladeshis and atrocities and torture are being inflicted on them. This is a matter of serious concern.

Sir, I would like to urge upon the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Home Minister to issue necessary guidelines regarding establishment of citizenship. Otherwise, the Indian citizens would be harassed on the plea of their being Bangladeshis and their citizenship rights would be curbed.

Sir, the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs is present in the House and I would like to request him to respond to this issue. This is a very serious issue...(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOOGLY): Sir, the hon. Member has raised a very important issue ...(Interruptions)

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH : Sir, the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs should respond to this issue...(Interruptions) How will a person establish that he is a citizen of India?...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The next speaker is Shri P.D.Elangovan.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH : I would like to have a reaction from the hon. Minister on this issue...(Interruptions) Sir, there are a more than a million Bengali speaking people living in Delhi...(Interruptions) The citizens are being harassed on the plea that they are speaking the Bengali language...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I think, this is the problem with some of the Members here that they go on speaking.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH : Sir, I request the hon. Minister to sort out this matter...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs should react to this...(Interruptions) This is an important matter...(Interruptions)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उनको मालूम होना चाहिए न।

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, thousands of Bengali speaking people are being harassed...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, belonging to your Party, has raised this issue.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Why can the hon. Minister not react to it?...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Sir, whatever issue the hon. Member has raised, I would communicate it to the hon. Home Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: The House now stands adjourned to meet again at 1.30 P.M.

1303 hours

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till thirty minutes

past thirteen of the Clock.

1337 hours

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at thirty-seven minutes

past Thirteen of the Clock.

(Shri Basu Deb Acharia *in the Chair*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the House shall take up Matters Under Rule 377.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377