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Title: Regarding alleged attack on churches in Delhi and other parts of the country.

SHRI ANTO ANTONY (PATHANAMTHITTA): Madam Speaker, thank you for giving me this opportunity. ...(*Interruptions*)

I invite the attention of this august House to the incidents of attacks on churches in Delhi. Last week, St. Sebastian's Church in Delhi's Dilshan Garden area was gutted. Day before yesterday, another church in South-East Delhi's Jasola area, namely Fathima Matha Church was attacked. Recurring attacks on churches is the concern not only of Christians in this country but also of people who want religious harmony.

Several Members of Parliament including me visited St. Sebastian's Church in Dilshad Garden and we could see that people from all walks of life cutting across religious lines expressed their concerns over the destruction of a sacred place. They consoled and extended their solidarity to the people who lost their worship centre. This is the greatness of the Indian society.

This august House also condemned the heinous attack on the Church. However, some anti-social elements want to harm and break the bond of brotherhood among the Indians. Recent attacks on these Churches are considered to be the part of it. If the people behind the attack on St. Sebastian's Church had been arrested, the attack on Fathima Matha Church would not have happened.

Laxity in taking action against the culprits is the major reason behind the recurring attacks on churches. Therefore, I appeal to the Government to trace and take proper action against the culprits in this regard, and ensure the security of religious institutions and minority communities in the country....(*Interruptions*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : मंत्री जी से उत्तर आ चुका है। अब बार-बार एक ही विषय पर नहीं हो सकता है। I am sorry. The Minister has already responded.

...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER:

Shri Mullappally Ramachandran,

Shri Jose K. Mani,

Shri P. Karunakaran,

Shri N.K. Premachandran,

Shri P.K. Biju, and

Adv. Joice George are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Anto Antony.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : ई. अहमद जी आप मेरी बात सुनिए। आप चर्च के विषय में कहना चाहते हैं। If the Minister is ready, I have no objection. But he has already responded to it once. But if you want him to respond again and if he is also ready, I have no objection.

...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Is it about the Church incident or what?

SHRI E. AHAMED (MALAPPURAM): The attack on the Church is a very serious matter....(*Interruptions*) The attack on the Church, which the hon. Member Shri Anto Antony has raised, is a very serious matter. We would like to know the reaction of the Government. â€¦ (*Interruptions*) The Government has a duty....(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: If he is ready, I have no objection. Once he has already responded to it.

...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Again, if you want, if the hon. Minister is ready, I have no objection to it.

...(*Interruptions*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : हर कोई नहीं बोलेगा। एक बार हो चुका है। सबने यह मुद्दा उठाया था।

â€¦(*व्यवधान*)

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister, if you want to say something, you can.

…(*Interruptions*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : ऐसा नहीं होता है।

â€¦(*व्यवधान*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप स्वयं को संबद्ध कर लीजिए।

â€¦(*व्यवधान*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप संबद्ध करने के लिए स्लिप भिजवा दीजिए।

â€¦(*व्यवधान*)

गृह मंत्री (श्री राजनाथ सिंह) : अध्यक्ष महोदया, इस देश की कम्युनल हॉर्मनी को बनाए रखना हमारी सरकार की प्राथमिकताओं में टॉप पर है। …(*व्यवधान*) इस संबंधित घटना, जिसकी चर्चा माननीय सदस्य ने की है, उसकी जानकारी ज्यों ही मुझे प्राप्त हुई, तुरंत मैंने दिल्ली के लेफ्टिनेंट गवर्नर से बात की और उनको कहा कि इस मामले की प्रॉपर इंवेस्टिगेशन होनी चाहिए। इस मामले की इंवेस्टिगेशन के लिए तुरंत एक एसआईटी कंस्टिट्यूट कर दी गई और साथ ही साथ इस इंवेस्टिगेशन को हमने टाइमबाउंड भी किया है।…(*व्यवधान*) यदि कोई नई घटना है, जिसकी चर्चा माननीय सदस्य कर रहे हैं तो उसकी जानकारी मुझे दे दें, मैं उसकी प्रॉपर इंवेस्टिगेशन करवाऊंगा। …(*व्यवधान*)