

Wherever there are minorities they should get reservation. Amendments should be made in it and a Committee should be constituted to provide reservation for the minorities as well as for women.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am rising with a heavy heart and sadness...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It is a serious issue. Please listen to him.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have allowed Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev only.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : On 4th July this year, a young boy and social worker, 35 year old, Shri Sanjay Ghosh was kidnapped from Majuli in Assam. Subsequent to that, an outfit of terrorists, ULFA, claimed that he had been kidnapped by them.

Shri Ghosh, a very well-educated boy, coming from a very well-off family, decided to do social work. His organisation, AVARD, was doing work all over the country, especially in remote areas of the North-East. It is most unfortunate that when there is a unified command in Assam, that is, the Army and the Police operated jointly, he has not been traced out until four days back. Many confusing news appeared in the newspapers. Ultimately, it had been found that the ULFA said that he had died as he had a fall from a cliff while the Army operation was going on.

I would like to draw the attention of the Government and this august House to the activities of the terrorists. When they try to do something against social outfits or organisations, they try to say that they want India without corruption. This boy, Shri Ghosh, used to work in this area.

A project which could be done by the BDO in Rs. 3 lakh, the organisation of Shri Ghose used to do in Rs. 50,000. That was why the contractors and the corrupt officers who are hand glove with ULFA, kidnapped him. The Chief Minister of Assam himself has said that a percentage of the money which goes to rural areas has to be paid to ULFA, without which no work can be done. This young boy's intention was to get the money released and utilise it in proper manner. He has been killed now. Most unfortunately, the Army is saying that the civil administration is responsible for this and the civil administration is saying that Army is responsible. I am not going to speak against anybody.

What I would like to say is that the tea industry is coming out of Assam. Reliance wanted to set up a Gas Cracker plant, which was sanctioned during Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao's time, but they have decided to come out of Assam. Technocrats who are posted in Oil India and ONGC are refusing to go to Assam. There is a rule of terrorists there. Every officer is forced to pay a percentage of his salary to the terrorists.

This death has caused a furore all over the country. Yesterday in Delhi, young boys and girls numbering about 10000. took out a procession and gave a memorandum to the Hon. Speaker and to all the political parties. I am glad that the Home Minister is here. He has given an order that Paresch Baruah must be arrested. An international warrant has been issued to that effect. But, where was the Home Ministry when kidnappings and killings were taking place every day? Paresch Baruah is known even before. Why did the Home Ministry not do this before? This is the question being asked by the people. I would like to say that the Government must take drastic steps against those terrorists who do not want civilised and honest social workers to work in the North-East. I appeal through you to the Government to make a statement in the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri I.P. Hazarika.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR (Dibrugarh) : Sir, it is a very serious issue. In the North-East...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All your notices are there. I will allow.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have not allowed you.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have called Shri Hazarika.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA (Tezpur) : Sir, the Home Ministry has issued...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What is this going on?

(Interruptions)

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Birbhum) : Sir.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing of what he is speaking will go on record. Please take your seat. Nothing is going on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Only Shri Hazarika will speak.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Sir, I am raising a very important issue.

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN (Kangra) : Sir, Himachal is in anguish...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please wait for your turn.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : The Home Ministry has issued a directive to the Government of Assam that they should launch prosecution, file FIR and arrest Paresh Baruah, the so-called commander-in-chief of ULFA.

For the heinous, gruesome and cold blooded murder of Sanjay Ghosh, a social worker and a NGO activist. This is a very extraordinary situation. Law and order is the primary and paramount responsibility of the State, as per the Constitution. It does not happen usually that the Central Government has to issue a directive to the State Government to take action against an offender of a particular crime. Therefore, certain questions have arisen out of this action taken by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Firstly, why is it that the Ministry of Home Affairs considered it necessary to direct the State Government taken action against an offender? Has the Central Government lost confidence in the ability, competence and willingness of the AGP Government in Assam? Are they of the view that left to the State Government, no action is going to be taken against the offender and therefore, directive has been issued. If this is the view, I agree with the Ministry of Home entirely because we have a Government in Assam which, today, is non-functional and it is entirely insensitive and oblivious of the sufferings of the people there.

Then we have Article 355 of the Constitution which enjoins on the Government...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : ...the duty to protect the States against external aggression and internal disturbances...*(Interruptions)* This directive has been issued...*(Interruptions)* Under this article, would the Government do the same in other cases like the recent killing of a Brigadier and a captains a Guwahati.

AN HON. MEMBER : This is a very important issue.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA (Tezpur) : Is this Government going to issue directive to Maharashtra Government to take action against Mr. X sitting in Dubai for murder of Gulshan Kumar committed in Mumbai so that this kind of a thing does not happen? This is an extraordinary situation that Central Government deemed

it proper to directing a democratically, elected State Government to take action against an offender ...*(Interruptions)* Therefore, I have to draw only one conclusion from this...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : ...that the Central Government has lost confidence in the AGP Government there. Therefore, they do not believe that AGP Government will take stern action against the offender and that is why, I welcome the directive. But, at the same time,...*(Interruptions)* the Government must issue a warning to the AGP Government in the State to the effect that unless they take effective...*(Interruptions)* steps to bring about a significant improvement in the law and order situation...*(Interruptions)* Centre will have to consider seriously an alternative action including invocation of Article 356 of the Constitution ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Nalanda) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the verdict given by Patna High Court yesterday...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will allow everybody. Wait.
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Take your seat. Why can you not wait? Please wait. Sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Patna High Court stated in a decision that the law and order situation in Bihar has worsened ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am sorry. I have already allowed you. Please take your seat now.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is no other alternative than to enforce Article 356 of the Constitution in Bihar. It has been announced by Patna High Court yesterday...*(Interruptions)* This verdict was given by Patna High Court, only after finding that the funds allocated for the development of people at district level have been