

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to compliment all the Members for having made very responsible statements. It is going to be useful both for the Government and for the entire country in formulating a policy in this respect. The matter was raised at the time when we were transacting unlisted business. It could have been raised under Rule 184 or Rule 193 and if it were raised under Rule 184 or Rule 193, in deference to the wishes of hon. Members, we could have taken an appropriate decision. Even now, it is not too late. But as we all know, immediately, after this, for six hours, we are going to discuss Demands of the External Affairs Ministry. When we discuss the Demands of the External Affairs Ministry, we certainly do not discuss small issues, but we discuss first the big issues, the most important issues and then we try to come to a conclusion. I am sure that some of the important issues which are agitating our minds would be taken up by the hon. Members and very ably they would guide the Government they would criticise the Government, they would also give some proposals and the formulae which will be helpful to the Government also. I can assure you that after this discussion on External Affairs Ministry if you feel that we shall have to discuss this matter or any other matter and if a proposal of that nature comes from all of you, certainly, this House is in a position to discuss something of this kind. But let us wait and see how the matter is taken up, when we are discussing and what kind of reply is given by the Government. And certainly, the wishes expressed by the hon. Members in getting the response from the Government, authentic response, might have been noted by the Ministers who are sitting here. We expected that that would be done. We are not helpless in this matter. We would certainly decide in an appropriate manner, under appropriate rules and I can assure the senior Leaders about that. The only thing is that, too many times, the Speaker should not be asked to decide the things and so on. He may not become an authoritarian person also. So, it is between the Leaders of the different Parties on one side and the Opposition Members on the other side. But as a person sitting here in the chari and watching and observing the feelings of the Members, certainly, I

am be of help to all the Members, all the Leaders, to the Government, to the entire House and to the country also and which we can certainly do it.

I think, we have discussed this matter, not for ten minutes or fifteen minutes but for one hour and fifteen minutes and very ably also.

I think, if we discuss the matters in this fashion, well, the country will appreciate our discussions and certainly we would be able to come to a conclusion also.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: (Hooghly): But the nation has been deprived of the views of the Government.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, fortunately, for us, the Minister for External Affairs is here. He was not having the nothings that we are going to discuss this matter. So, he should not have come here. Now that he is here and he has heard it - the views of the Members - probably, if you are in a position, to enlighten the Members on this point, it can give a direction to the Members and he will certainly take that into account.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your kind permission, I would like to draw the attention of the august House towards a very important matter. It is in connection with the firimting incident that took place in Hyderabad on the occasion of Mahavir Jayanti on 15th of April. Sir, you are aware that Lord Mahavira prached the world the message of "Ahinsa parmardharmah" and the Jain community in pursuance of the teachings of Lords Mahavira was taking out a procession peacefully in Hyderabad. That procession was only giving slogans of 'live and let live' and was singing 'Bhajans' of 'ahimsa'

Mr. Speaker, Sir, more than one crore people belonging to the Jain community in the country are greatly hurt with this incident. Never before in the history of this country had such an uncalled for and unauthorised

firing taken place on the unarmed people of the Jain Community during the occasion of Mahavir Jayanti. Shri Ratan Lal Jain was hit by a bullet in the chest and this bullet was fired by a sub-inspector from his revolver. Some hon. Members of Parliament from Delhi were also present in the procession who were also attacked. Near about 100 people were injured and some of them are still in the hospitals. A very barbaric act of violence took place there. Lathi-wielding policeman entered the Jain temple after 12 o'clock in the night and arrested nearly 50 people. In a country, where Gandhiji taught non-violence to achieve freedom for it, this is a very shameful act. As Shri Atalji rightly said, Lord Mahavira preached to save this 'Anuvin' society and this 'Anuvin' world through permanent messages of non-violence. We want to follow that teaching but such a firing incident took place on the occasion of Mahavir Jayanti. We met the hon. Home Minister in this regard and asked him to take action against the guilty police officers. They should be suspended and cases should be filed against them. The false cases filed against the injured people to create false defense should be withdrawn. This is a very shameful act. Our Hon. Prime Minister belongs to Andhra Pradesh and from time to time, he has professed such ideologies in this House from which it seems that he wants to lead the country ahead through peaceful democratic means. That ideology has been challenged today. What the world will say if such incidents continue to take place. Those who believed in "Ahimsa paramo dharmah" have no arms and it is shameful that bullets were fired on such people, who were only giving slogans in the praise of Lord Mahavira. I would request the Members especially those belonging to treasury benches to consider this issue seriously and the hon. Hon. Minister should make a statement in this regard. False cases should be withdrawn and guilty police officials should be punished (*Interruptions*).

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU (Secunderabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Jain community was celebrating Mahavir Jayanti. I was invited to preside over the function. Justice Lodha was also invited for that

occasion. We were not aware that there was lathi-charge and firing. A youth named Shri Ratan Lal Jain was hit by a bullet in the chest from a point-blank range. Several women were also beaten up. Mahavir Jayanti is the symbol of non-violence.

MR. SPEAKER: Please be brief.

SHRIDATTATRAYA BANDARU: Never before such a situation arose in Hyderabad city. The D.C.P. of the area abused me and tried to attack me with a lathi.... (*Interruptions*) Their duty is to maintain peace there, but they attacked, abused and insulted me a lot. I protested. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh is taking steps for banning all the religious processions in Hyderabad. It is also trying to stop the Ganesh Chaturti procession.... (*Interruptions*) Not a single statement has been issued by the State Government in connection with the firing and lathi charge on the occasion of Mahavir Jayanti celebration and no action has been taken against any officer.... (*Interruptions*) Several people were put in jails by implicating them in false cases and an atmosphere of injustice was created. I would like to request the hon. Minister to ask the State Government why such atrocity is being perpetrated on the peaceful public.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker., there are two aspects of this issue. I would like to draw the attention of the august House towards them. The first one is that, it is in itself a very serious issue that firing has been resorted to on the Mahavir Jayanti procession. Although this matter is concerned with the State Government, the practice in vogue is that as and when any such grave incident takes place, the Centre gives assurance of finding the facts and informing the House about it.

The second aspect is concerned with the House. That is disrespect shown to an hon. Member of this House. The Government and this House should take note of both these aspects and should enquire into the facts. It should not be so that Shri Lodha and Shri Dattatraya made a submission on this issue and the matter ended there. The Gov-

ernment should give an assurance that it will collect the information and place it before the House.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: About the assault on the Member we would like to get the information. Please note it.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIGHULAM NABIAZAD): We will definitely get the information.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the august House as well as that of the Government towards an important matter. This year is being celebrated as the birth centenary year of Baba Saheb Ambedkar. This Government has not shown disrespect towards any of the great leaders as much as it has shown to Baba Saheb Ambedkar. The most surprising fact is that never before in the history of our country, such a large number of statues of Baba Saheb Ambedkar had been demolished by the Government, as has been done in his birth centenary year. I want that the hon. Minister present here, Shri Ghulam Nabiji and Shri Pawar, should take serious note of this fact. A statue of Baba Saheb Bhim Rao Ambedkar weighing ten tonnes was there at chungli No. 3 in Lal Kuan in Delhi. On the night of 17th, 140 policemen came with the D.C.P., demolished it and took it somewhere with themselves. Yesterday morning, I visited that place. I came to know about it the day before yesterday when near about two thousand people met me in this connections angry. They told me about it and I talked to the authorities. Shri Ram Singh Vidhuri was also there and he said that the consequences will be bad. The authorities blamed the D.D.A. for it and expressed their helplessness. We said when there are so many illegal religious constructions on D.D.A.'s land, why the statue of Baba Saheb Ambedkar has only been demolished. We also threatened them of dire consequences, if the statue is not re-installed by night and Delhi Administration will be responsible for it. Then we were asked to come in the night and the statue will be

given to us. People went there in the night and that statue with a broken hand was reinstalled there. We inaugurated it yesterday morning. The entire statue has been broken. The D.D.A. and the police have shown such utter disrespect for Baba Saheb Ambedkar. Similarly, Budh Vihar is situated near Mangolpuri for the last twenty years. Attempt was made to demolish it on the 11th. Similarly, when we were passing through Anand Parabat with Nyay Jyoti, we decided to hold a general meeting there. We had taken the permission of the D.C.P. to hold meeting there but the local S.H.O. did not allow to hold the meeting there. The stage was demolished two times. At least we succeeded in addressing the people there. Shri V.P. Singh also accompanied us. It is surprising that even after obtaining the orders of the D.C.P., the S.H.O. dared to tell us not to hold the meeting there. I would like to tell the Government that if it cannot respect Babha Saheb Ambedkar, it has no right to insult him. Sir, you should direct the Government to make a statement on the Lal Kuan incident. Otherwise, we request you to allow us to raise it tomorrow again. Therefore, you should ask the Government to order probe into this matter and present the facts here. I want to request you to pay attention to it because it is an issue concerning Baba Saheb Ambedkar, if you request the Government it will take it seriously.

SHRI KALA DAS (Karolbagh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with Shri Ram Vilas Paswan on this point. Sir, really, it is very deplorable that statues of Baba Saheb Ambedkar have been demolished during the birth centenary year of Baba Saheb Ambedkar. The said incident of Lal Kuan near Badarpur at Delhi which is more than 7 kilometres away from here needs to be condemned. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am a Member of the Centenary Celebration Standing Committee. I had drawn there the attention of the world to it. Recently, on the 10th in a village Jaunapur near Agar Mahauli in Mehrauli the statue of Baba Saheb Ambedkar was damaged and the police and the D.D.A. officials demolished the Ambedkar Bhawan there. People are running from pillar to post, but nobody listens to them. What does it