

Sir, I would like to repeat here once again that Delhi doesn't have a Legislative Assembly of its own. There is no forum to discuss the incidents taking place here. Therefore, it is the responsibility of this Parliament and the Union Government that the Prime Minister himself or the Home Minister convenes a meeting of the Local MPs and officials, so that appropriate arrangements could be made.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, let the Minister of Home Affairs make a statement in this regard.

[English]

This is very serious. This should be considered.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Acharyaji, please give a patient hearing to Shri Ansari.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune): Does the Government want to say anything in this regard?

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): When the incident at Naya Bazar, which claimed 47 lives, took place, then also an assurance was given that a statement would be made, but to date no statement has been made.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Would you like to respond or not?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): I would like to respond. It is rather unfortunate...

MR. SPEAKER: There is one suggestion given, Mr. Minister, that the MPs of Delhi should be invited to discuss this. It should be possible.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: I have heard it. We will definitely take it up with the Home Minister because the matter is very serious and it is something that is terrible that has happened yesterday. It is not one death — as the Leader of the Opposition has said — or one assassination, but two attempts have taken place. He has also brought to the notice of the House the question of communication facility and the difficulties. I would also bring it to the notice of the hon. Minister concerned and we would see that proper steps are taken immediately.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Delhi comes under the directed control of the Union Government. You can see that the law and order situation in the city is deteriorating day by day *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI (Kodarma): I am very much grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to raise the issue regarding the weavers. I want to draw the attention specifically of the ruling Party and of the Government to the fact that the condition of weavers is very much pathetic and it is very much alarming. That is the conditions of weavers obtaining in this country. At least four crores of weavers are living in this country and they are facing starvation and even extinction due to the policy pursued by the Government and its textile policy. The

policy of the Government is entirely wrong which is going against the interests of the weavers. I would like to say that this weavers' community was producing such a roll of cloth in the country which was so transparent that the entire roll of cloth was facing through one ring and one feels transparent and naked after wearing such type of cloth. Sir, it is very much surprising that the Government have adopted such a textile policy which has just affected adversely the condition.

Sir, this community has been forced to come out open in the road. A large number of representatives of weavers have come from the whole of the country and are sitting on *dharna* in Boat Club in order to press their long pending demands. There are certain organisations which may be called allied organisations of weaving community. And it is known as All India Garments' Conference. I do not want to go into the details, the history, the background and the performance of this Conference. This has played a very important role during the freedom struggle and it has contributed towards progress and prosperity of the nation, which cannot be described in few words. But, now, this is the condition which is obtaining in the country. This has not attracted the attention of the Ruling Party and the Government. Sir, this is very much surprising. At the same, we find that a large number of starvation deaths in the nook and corner of the country. It has been reported that at least one hundred lives had been lost due to this in the State of Andhra Pradesh, where from our hon. Prime Minister is coming. Not only this is confined to Andhra Pradesh but this is taking place in almost all States in the country.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government that this Government has adopted such a textile policy, economic policy and industrial policy which has rendered the weavers unemployed in large number
(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You have made a good point. Please conclude.

SHRIMUMTAZANSARI: Sir, those who are losing their lives due to starvation, these weavers are not getting ex-gratia payment; not even a single paise is being paid.

Similarly, in the name of earning foreign exchange, the Government is exporting cotton and yarn from this country. Whereas there is short supply of cotton and yarn in the country and the weavers are not getting adequate supply of yarn and cotton here. There is no justification or logic at all for exporting cotton and yarn from this country. Similarly, this Government is not allowing import of silk yarn, which is very much needed in Bararas and other parts of the country. And the weaving community are producing such type of products which are worth exporting and which can earn thousands and crores of rupees by way of foreign exchange.

I would like to suggest certain action plan for the Government not only to thought about it but also that must be implemented and that must be put into action.

1. Ex-gratia payment of Rs. 1,00,000 to each bereaved family of weavers should be paid.
2. Sanction of interest free consumption loans to the tune of Rs. 10,000 per family to all unemployed and underemployed weavers should be paid.
3. The State and Central Governments should reserve the requirement of purchase of clothes from Primary Weavers' Co-operative Societies instead of mills and power sector.
4. Primary Weavers' Cooperative

Societies should be assured the supply of yarn they require and also minimum wages for their members plus a margin of 10 percent payable to the producing Cooperative Society should be fixed.

5. Production of Janta Cloth, which has been stopped by the present Government, should be restored here and now.
6. Immediate revision of the minimum wages of handloom weavers taking into account the current level of cost of living must be fixed.
7. A ban on the export of cotton and cotton yarn should also be imposed.
8. The subsidy scheme should be restored and it must be however increased.
9. Last but not the least, a legislation should be enacted to enforce the directions than Mills should produce 50 per cent of their marketable yarn in the form of hank yarn.

The specific items of cloth reserved for the handloom sector should be included in the body of the Handlooms Production of Articles for Reservation) ACT, 1985 and they must be included in the Ninth Schedule. Also it must be left out of the purview of the litigation. The other thing which is very important is that one scheme was introduced....*

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude now. I have other Members to speak.

SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI: This facility is now being denied by U.P. Government to the weavers at large. This fact has been reported to me. Similarly, there are a number of co-operative organisations...*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, what he is saying is not going on record.

SHRI ANANTHA VENKATA REDDY (Anantapur): Sir, Gooty is a place situated in the most backward and neglected area of Andhra Pradesh i.e. Rayalaseema area, and there are no adequate educational facilities at Gooty for various Central Government employees' children including those of the Railway employees which number about 3000. All these employees in that place have been agitating for the opening of a Kendriya Vidyalaya at Gooty since 1988. But nothing has been done so far to open a Kendriya Vidyalaya there, even though all necessary conditions and pre-requisites set by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, New Delhi were satisfied and the necessary infrastructure is laid for that.

In fact, the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan recommended opening of a Kendriya Vidyalaya at Gooty during the year 1990-91, 1991-92 and this year also. Opening of a Kendriya Vidyalaya at Gooty stands No. 1 in the list of proposals before the Government. Gooty is a segment in my parliamentary constituency.

In reply to my Starred Question No. 6369 dated 7th April, 1992 on this subject, the hon. Minister for Human Resource Development had stated that the proposal for opening a Kendriya Vidyalaya at Gooty cannot be considered until further expansion of the scheme is approved for the Eighth Plan period.

Since the Eighth Plan is now finalised and it is in the process of implementation, I