

by this Government about the honour and dignity of this nation. And on this matter also I sympathise with Mr. Jacob. What he can do about it? If the Foreign Minister has not taken up the matter, the Foreign Minister should make a statement because Myanmar or what the name is, I do not know - Burma. There is a dictatorship there, they are not allowing the democracy to flourish there, the whole world is keeping mum. Not only they are satisfied by having autocratic rule in Burma, they are trying to impose their rule in Mizoram and in India, and the Government of India is keeping quiet over this matter.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: What is the response of the Government? It is a serious matter, Mr. Deputy-Speaker. I fully remember that the government of India has made an announcement and their sympathy is with the pro-democracy movement in Myanmar, they have supported the movement and the boys who are participating in that are being beaten in our territory, our citizens are being beaten. We would like to know whether the Government of India has taken up this matter with the Government of Myanmar or not. They must come and tell us right now. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The Senior Cabinet Ministers are here, they must respond. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RABI RAY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious issue and the House must be taken into confidence on it. You can give a direction in this regard. Before the House is adjourned the hon. Minister must make a statement on it. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI AMAL DATTA: He should be able to tell this to the House. This has happened

on the border and the Army must be very much there.

SHRI M.M. JACOB: I am prepared to come before the House and make a statement. But before that, I will have to get in touch with both the Ministries also to find out what action they have taken as a follow up. So, I may require some time for it, if possible today, otherwise tomorrow.

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: This is a totally non-functioning Government in this country.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister has assured the House that in consideration with his colleagues, he will come back to the House either today or tomorrow.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Human Resource Development, Shri Arjun Singh and the hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs, Shri M.M. Jacob towards a very important issue.

Quite a few awards are announced by the Sahitya Academy for the publication of outstanding creative books and poems in various Indian languages. Recently an award was announced for the Punjabi publication "Chhanna Di Rai". But it has created some controversy and a few unwanted remarks have been made about the late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. This is also our view point that all these are not in good taste but the Government can at least look again at the disturbing lines contained in the book. The Sahitya Academy has issued a statement in this regard, but the factual position is not clear to us and that's why on

the 9th July, in Delhi a youth organization stage a demonstration outside Rabindra Bhawan where the Sahitya Academy is housed. Of course, the demonstration can be staged but the sorry part of the whole incident was an attack on the Deputy Secretary who was called by the police to receive the memorandum. The police gave him an assurance that he would be given a Memorandum only but when he came out to receive it, he was beaten and his clothes were torn out by the demonstrators and his face was blackened and all it happened in the presence of Senior Police Officers. Therefore, I would like to know why the Police till date has not arrested anyone for the breach of the assurance committed?

Is the Government going to withdraw the award that has already been announced? On all these things the information should be supplied to the House by the hon. Minister of Human Resource Development and the hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs. Behind that unsavoury incidence were the leaders of the Youth Congress who are notorious and well known for such things. It seems that now they are back to their old game and these things should be unequivocally condemned by the House and the House should also be known of the view point of the Government in this regard. Newspapers have reported the statement of Shri S.N. Gadgil that they are prepared to tender an apology if all that being reported is correct.

We would like to know what the Government is doing in this regard and I demand that the Government should make a statement on it?

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Deputy Secretary in Sahitya Academy has been brought out of his office and he was beaten,

his clothes were torn and his face was blackened. It is nothing but hooliganism. So, the Human Resources Minister must make a statement that such prestigious institutions will not be denigrated in this way and action should be taken to bring the culprits to book.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Shri Naik has raised this issue which I consider to be of great importance and with the permission of the Speaker I shall make a statement on this issue.

SHRI HARADHAN ROY (Asansol): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of great concern that as a result of new economic policies of the Government of India the coal industry is becoming victim adversely affecting national development.

When the Government of India is fixing the price of coal, it is refusing to extend financial assistance to this public undertaking. The CIL management is trying to meet the situation by withdrawing the facilities provided in the wage agreement and trying to reduce the manpower in industry.

Privatising the coal production has become a growing feature in the industry. During 1991, about 47 million tonnes of coal was produced through contract labour in the industry and the trend is increasing. The costly machinery belonging to Coal India is being sold to unscrupulous contractors as unworkable material which is being used by the contractors for coal mine operations. There is need to esquire into the scandalous practice prevalent in the industry.

Coal India is blatantly violating the Contract Labour (Abolition) Act by carrying out production even in prohibited categories and in the work which is of permanent and perennial nature. The Department of Coal instead of ensuring implementation of