

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Now hon. Minister of Home Affairs is making a statement. All of you please take your seats. I am not allowing any body else to speak now.

(*Interruptions*)

Mr. Tiwari, you are one of the senior most Members of the House. This is not the way. Shri Joshi, you also take your seat. Don't you want to listen to the hon. Minister?

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Activities of the Anand Margies

13.08 hrs.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): I RISE TO APPRISE THIS AUGUST House about the activities of Anand Marg—a militant, pseudo—religious organisation with political objectivities. The Anand Marg was founded in 1955 at Jamalpur (Bihar) by one Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar @ Anand Murti. In 1967-68, the Headquarters of the Marg were shifted from Jamalpur to Anand Nagar in Purulia District of West Bengal. Over the years, the activities of the Organisation, both within and outside the country, have expanded. The inclination of the Anand Marg to Violence and to take recourse to high handed means against the local people in the development and expansion of Anand Nagar has come to the notice of the Government.

In March, 1989, the West Bengal Government Officials, while undertaking the demolition of unauthorised construction raised by the Margis on forest land at Bansgarh in Purulia District, detected a secret hide-out of Anand Margis where unauthorised fire arms were also stored. Large quantities of arms were recovered and cases under the Arms Act were registered. Raids

were conducted in the Anand Nagar Ashram premises which led to the recovery of incriminating material, including wireless sets and detonators.

The Government has also received reports regarding forcible land-grabbing by Anand Margis in and around Anand Nagar. Resentment among the local people in these areas has been steadily growing. On some occasions, clashes have also taken place. Tension has also been building up between Anand Marg and the CPM workers. Two CPM supporters were killed in January this year by miscreants suspected to be Anand Margis. The alleged killings of five Anand Margis at Chatak in Purulia District on April 2nd have further exacerbated the tension in the area.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER IN THE CHAIR]

13.09 hrs.

Available reports indicate that some senior functionaries of Anand Marg have been advising their followers abroad to channelise arms and ammunition for the Organisation through land routes from some neighbouring countries. There are also reports to the effect that Anand Marg functionaries have prepared a hit list for physical annihilation of some persons. The list includes some prominent political leaders of West Bengal. A Special Action Squad has also reportedly been formed and is currently being imparted training in the use of fire arms, bombs, etc.

In a related development, a BSF patrol party intercepted two Indian nationals on the 14th April, 1990 near the Indo-Pakistan border in Amritsar District. One of them admitted to be an Anand Margi while the other person was brought up at Anand Nagar as an orphan. A number of automatic weapons, pistol magazines and ammunition were received from them. Their interrogation revealed that they were carrying the consignment of weapons etc., arranged by 'Manav Mukti Manch', and Anand Marg outfit. It was also revealed by the persons apprehended

by the BSF that this outfit was in the process of training its members and of arming them. It was also learnt that this was the first consignment of arms and ammunition being brought from Pakistan by 'Manav Mukti Manch'.

I wish to assure this august House that the Government is fully aware of the subversive and unlawful activities of the Anand Marg, and steps will continue to be taken to check their illegal activities and bring the culprits to book.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): And also against those who are supporting them openly. There should be a discussion on this.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): How they are connected with Congress—I and what are their links—that is not mentioned in the Statement.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): We demand that there should be a discussion on the Statement made by the Home Minister.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): We support it.

SHRI AJIT PANJA (Calcutta North East): We support it.

(*Interruptions*) You are killing our people.
(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: They are supporting the anti-national forces of our country. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AJIT PANJA: We accept the challenge; we will have a discussion here. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): Sir, I have given a notice under Rule 193 for a discussion on the Statement of the Home Minister. I request you to admit it. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Panja, Mr. Basudeb Acharia, you should all sit down when I am standing. Please take your seats. There is no point in talking to each other.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down first.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: He is fighting their cases in the High Court (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: When I am standing, please sit down. Please take your seat.

There is no point in talking to each other. You have to talk to the Government or you have to express your views in the House. There is no point in just looking at each other and saying something. I request you please not to do that.

If you are interested in discussing this matter probably Mr. Sathe wanted to say the same thing and Mr. Saifuddin Chowdhary also wanted to say the same thing. I request you to please follow the rules and accordingly, if you give the notices, those would be considered.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I think, a very important statement on a very important matter has been made by the hon. Home Minister. We are all concerned about any such activities. I would not only support this suggestion for a discussion on this, but I hope that the Government has also noted it. Let there be no witch-hunting in this country. I hope the Government has also noted the statement made on behalf of Anand Margis publicly by their Secretary which has appeared in the Press and the Government would give due attention to all these facts also. It is because, the statement does not mention the side of the Anand Margis. Therefore, in the discussion, we will consider all this and I hope he will come with all the facts.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Next item.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI JANARDAN TIWARI (Siwan): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Hon. Minister gave no clarification regarding CIA's hand in Aand Margis' menace.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We go to the next item. Motion for election to committees.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is not recorded.

13.17 hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEES

[English]

(i) Coir Board

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): On behalf of Shri Ajit Singh, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of sub-rule (1) (e) of Rule 4 of the Coir Industry Rules, 1954, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Coir Board for a term to be specified by the Central Government."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of sub-rule (1) (e) of Rule 4 of the Coir Industry Rules, 1954, the members of this House do proceed

to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Coir Board, for a term to be specified by the Central Government."

The motion was adopted

13.18 hrs.

(ii) North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences, Shillong

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NILAMANI ROUTHAY): I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of Rule 3 (b) read with Rule 4 (b) of the rules of the North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences, Shillong, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, one member from among themselves to serve as a member of the Governing Council of North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences, Shillong, subject to the other provisions of the said Rules."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Rule 3 (b) read with Rule 4 (b) of the rules of the North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences, Shillong, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, one member from among themselves to serve as a member of the Governing Council of North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences, Shillong, subject to the other provisions of the said Rules."

The motion was adopted

*Not recorded.