

[S. Buta Singh]

targets. They have also tried to create disaffection among the people against the para military forces who are performing their duty under difficult conditions. There was also an incident of bank robbery at Ludhiana branch of the Punjab National Bank. The case has been entrusted to the CBI for investigation. Another disturbing trend has been the continued misuse of the Golden Temple Complex by the terrorist and secessionist elements. The Government of India has given full support to the State Government to meet the menace of terrorism and will continue to do so. Due to the efforts made by the State Government several notorious terrorists have been captured or killed. The situation would continue to require extraordinary vigilance and action on a sustained basis. We expect that the State Government will maintain pressure on the terrorists until terrorism is eliminated.

10. The Government is committed to implement the Punjab Accord. I wish to reassure Hon'ble Members that every effort will continue to be made to find a solution to the contentious issues of territorial claims and river waters.

11. The situation in Punjab is a matter of serious concern to the whole country. The Punjab problem can be solved only by showing patience and fortitude. The fight against terrorism, religious fundamentalism and communal fanaticism and misuse of places of worship for political purpose in Punjab calls for joint action cutting across party lines. It is necessary to remove the fear of terrorism from the minds of the people of Punjab.

12. I take the opportunity of thanking Hon'ble Leaders of Opposition for agreeing to launch a joint campaign in Punjab to meet the challenge posed by secessionist and obscurantist forces. We have prepared an action plan in consultation with the Leaders of the Opposition which will be implemented in the months following and which will involve the active participation of all sections of society including peasants, industrial labour,

ex-servicemen, freedom fighters, youth and students, women, intellectuals; poets, writers and artists. Sir, I am confident that this mass mobilisation will go a long way in awakening the people to the dangerous designs of the anti-national forces and to prepare them for the struggle ahead. This will also re-affirm our resolve to preserve the unity and integrity of the country.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : I want to make a submission in the light of this statement. You were kind enough to fix up a discussion on the statement at 30' clock today. Yesterday, the Home Minister was kind enough to lay on the Table of the House a Mishra Commission Report. It is equally important and some of the members of this House are referred to in this particular Commission's Report. Therefore, I earnestly request you that at the earliest possible opportunity, we should be given an opportunity to discuss the Mishra Commission Report.

MR. SPEAKER : There is no problem. We will see that discussion on any subject should take place in the House.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : That is all right. You are very accommodative, that is why I have made this suggestion.

MR. SPEAKER : No problem ! You have got enough time now. Let us take up one by one. You just bring up something for the sake of discussion that you want.

The House shall now take up matters under rule 377.

12.16 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) Need to provide special facilities to Artists

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL (Chandni Chowk) : From time imme-

morial we have been proud of our cultural heritage. It is a matter of immense satisfaction that our Government have been doing a lot to preserve, protect and popularise various cultural activities within as well as outside the country. Recent organisation of several cultural events is a step in the right direction. But one very important matter which should receive our immediate attention is that some special facilities should be given to our artists and men of culture. They should be given job reservation as is being

12.17 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

done for several other categories. Similarly, DDA flats and house sites should be allotted to these artists on priority basis. In this matter, if necessary we may bring an amendment to Article 16(4) so that these artists and men of culture receive adequate and exclusive attention.

(ii) **Preventive measures needed to check recurrence of communal riots in the Country**

SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU (Tumkur) : Sir, the communal riots in India are taking a toll of large number of lives of innocent people in the country. While communal violence has been increasing for the last 3—4 months at a rapid rate, the foreign elements are mostly involved in all such communal tensions and riots. There are some States which have been continuously facing the communal riots for the last 3-4 months. Gujarat, Karnataka and M.P. and some other States have been victim of such continuous communal attacks. But these States have not been able to control communal trend that has been increasing in these States. The Centre should take immediate measures to check such riots and should direct and assist the State Governments to make provision to check such violence in future. If a strong action at this stage is not taken the situation will grow more complicated and will create disorder in the country. The Gujarat and Karnataka communal riots should be an eye-opener to all of us. Therefore, it is time Centre

should consider such measures in this regard irrespective of the fact whether this is a question for State concerned. I appeal to the hon. Minister to take immediate measures in this regard.

[*Translation*]

(iii) **Demand to protect the dilapidated temples and Dharamshala situated on the banks of River Narmada.**

SHRI K. N. PRADHAN (Bhopal) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to raise a matter of urgent public importance under Rule 377.

The Narmada is one of the sacred rivers of this country. It is the life line of many States. It is the only river which is being revered by the people of the country for ages. It is due to this reason that a number of temples and *dharamshalas* are located on the banks of this river at different places. The pilgrims stay in these *dharamshalas* and offer their prayers in the temples.

For the past some years, a number of temples and *dharamshalas* have been damaged due to the erosion caused by the river at many places. Even today, a number of temples and *dharamshalas* are there along the bank of the Narmada river but most of them are in a dilapidated condition and their existence has been endangered due to the floods and soil erosion.

A number of States are clamouring for their share of maximum water and power from the Narmada river but there is no scheme to give recognition to its religious importance. The Central Government should formulate a scheme without delay for protecting these temples and *dharamshala* with the cooperation of all those States through which the Narmada river flows.

(iv) **Demand for material components assistance to Rajasthan to meet the drought conditions in the State.**

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir,