

[Shri C. Madhav Reddi]

on police to maintain law and order. I am very sorry to say that in this policy, you have failed. Today you have failed in Punjab. It is because you have failed to have any political initiative in the matter. Whenever we have taken some initiative, we have not followed it up. Prof. Rangaji rightly pointed out this. I agree with him in this respect. Any policy taken has to be very relentlessly pursued and then we have to see that it reaches its logical conclusion.

[*T. anslation*]

Otherwise nobody is concerned with it.

[*English*]

Sir, I do not want to take much time of the House at this hour when we are already closing the debate on this Bill.

I would only urge upon the Government to take political initiative and that initiative could be immediately to held the elections. Nothing is going to happen. The heavens are not going to fall. Because of these terrorist activities, four or five people are being killed everyday. I am sure if the elections are going to be held, as you claim that the people are with us, with the country, certainly the people are going to assert themselves, in strength they will assert themselves, and finally they will give a verdict which is likely to create stability in that part of the country.

16 13 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: HARASSMENT
AND HUMILIATION OF A
GIRL STUDENT IN A
DTC BUS

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : It is with a deep sense of pain and anguish that I rise to make a statement regarding the regrettable incident that took place on a DTC bus on Thursday, the 11th August 1988 when a young college student was subjected to humiliation and harassment by some staff of Delhi Transport Corporation. The DTC management got the first intimation about this incident when the Principal of the

College telephoned Chairman, DTC, at about 10 A.M. on Saturday, the 13th August to intimate that a student of the college had been subjected to the humiliating treatment. The Principal had also reported that the college student had bravely and valiently resisted the indecent approaches made by the staff on the bus and had jumped out of the bus. Thereafter she took a secooter, reached the college and the college staff then took her to Hospital for medical examination. It is a matter of great relief that she did not suffer any serious physical injuries as a result of the fall from the bus.

At the time of conveying the information to the DTC Chairman, the Principal of the college had requested for complete anonymity so far as the college and the student are concerned and also promised to send further details by Tuesday, the 16th August 1988 which was the next working day. On 16th August the DTC came to know more details of the incident and immediately set in motion their efforts to locate the miscreants and the bus in which the incident took place. As information about the Number and destination of the bus was not available, the DTC management had to gather the information from a number of depots and by questioning a large number of staff. The college student also cooperated with the enquiry and pointed out the spot where she boarded the bus and the spot where she jumped out of the bus. After checking the bus schedules in all the DTC depots and by a process of elimination, the DTC management identified 9 buses which could have been involved in the incident. The names and addresses of the conductors and drivers of the nine buses were collected and officers of the DTC along with police officers interrogated the 9 drivers, 9 conductors and one Assistant Traffic Inspector who were working in the 9 identified buses. As a result of the interrogation, the conductor and driver of the bus where the incident took place, have been identified as Shri Rohtas Singh and Shri Jai Chand, respectively and they have been placed under suspension. They have also been arrested by the police.

The investigation has revealed that the bus involved is DHP 3457 plying between Kingsway Camp and Seva Nagar, on route

No. 26. The student got on to bus at the corner of Lodhi Road and at that time besides the conductor and driver, there were four other passengers who are also suspected to be DTC employees. These employees had boarded the bus from Bharati Nagar.

The police received the first complaint about the incident on 13.8.1988 from the father of the student and a case under Sections 354, 509, 342, 323 IPC has been registered and investigations are in progress.

No words are strong enough to condemn the inexcusable and dastardly behaviour on the part of the DTC employees who were involved in the incident. The incident is all the more painful to me personally because I have been often exhorting the DTC employees to improve their conduct and behaviour to passengers and to behave in a manner that is conducive to building up a better image for DTC. Despite regular training courses by DTC on crew behaviour towards passengers, and a system of incentive award for the best behaviour, this happening has come as a rude shock. I would like to assure the House that the most severe and stern action will be taken against all those found involved in the incident so that it would serve as a warning to all concerned.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Nowhere in the statement he has mentioned that the student who was actually attacked, happened to be a girl.

SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR (Bijnor) : We want a discussion on this because the college and school going children are now feeling quite nervous about boarding DTC buses...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please give notice. Hon'ble Speaker will consider that. No discussion on this.

16.18 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE :
DISAPPROVAL OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE,
AND
NATIONAL SECURITY (AMENDMENT) BILL — *Contd.*

[*English*]

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South

Central) : For the last four years we have been discussing very bad things happening in Punjab. In between I have made a calculation and I would like to bring it to the notice of the Home Minister that more than 14,000 innocent people were killed in Punjab and a lot of property was damaged. A few lakhs of police and para-military forces are there in Punjab. Everytime we are blaming Pakistan. That is true. But I do not know what is the progress made by this Government in regard to Punjab though we have supported all their moves. To curtail extremism we are with the Government. Nobody is going to oppose it. For the last 3-1/2 years 18 laws have been passed. And this particular amendment has been brought three times in this House. I do not know what the Home Minister now wants. Does he want teeth like crocodile? I am told, she is having 125 teeth. If you want that, we will give him. If you want the jaw of a crocodile, nobody is opposed to it. But after taking crocodile's teeth and jaw, for the last four years what has been happening in Punjab? I would like to say in this House that even with more and more laws, more and more teeth, you are not going to suppress this movement. On the contrary by seeing your teeth and all these discussions, the young element and the youth element in Punjab is going to reciprocate. And that is what is happening in Punjab...*(Interruption)*. And whom are you going to give these laws to implement? In the last four years I have seen that the morale of the police force has gone down tremendously. The indiscipline in the police force is rising day by day. Corruption in the police force is rampant. I tell you that to point out even one police man to be honest will be difficult. That is my experience. I am dealing with cities like Bombay and Thane. Therefore, what is happening in the villages, God knows. This is because of the weakening of the Government, changing the Ministers, changing the Ministries. The other day one constable in Bombay told me :

[*Translation*]

Oh! He is a minister. Let him come. He is a temporary authority whereas I am a permanent official.

[*English*]

So, there is no control whatsoever over