

flourish, the students can not get education, there will be a decline in the rate of literacy, education will be inaccessible, the reservoirs of knowledge will be emptied and there will be a decline in art and culture. Therefore, I urge upon the Government that in order to check the increase in the prices of paper, salvage the book trade from these crisis, the excise duty should be lessened so that the prices of paper register a fall.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, picking up the same thread, I would like to submit that be it the news-print or any other industry, be it the question of book-publishing or raising the level of literacy in the country, making note-books available to the students or the publication of text-books in the state, the whole publication industry is in a crisis. There has been a 45 per cent increase in the prices of paper during the last four months. It is an unprecedented crisis and the whole country is facing it. The publisher, the book-binder, the writer are all facing this problem. The crisis of newsprint is extremely grave and newsprint organisations have repeatedly submitted memoranda but no action is forthcoming. I urge upon the Government to increase the production of both newsprint and ordinary paper and give relief to the affected parties. Alongwith this, the distribution of paper should be decontrolled and arrangements made for independent import of paper so that its prices can be reduced.

DR. P.R. GANGWAR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a boom in the incidents of decoity, theft, rape and terrorism in Uttar Pradesh since the Mulayam Singh Government assumed the power in the state. He has no control over administration. In this connection, I would like to say that on 28th of the last month one Inspector and two constables of Police station Dheoria, village Barkhedakata in my constituency Pilibhit raped two Dalit women—Ramkumari aged 22 and Munni Devi, 20. They tore off their clothes and broke their household goods and utensils. After this incident, when the victims complained to me, I sent them to the S.P., Pilibhit and also made a phone call to him. But no action has been taken so far. Now, the S.P. of the same police Station has been appointed as an inquiry officer. I wonder how can the S.P. of the same police station in the jurisdiction of which this incident took place conduct a fair inquiry and submit an impartial report? No punishment has been awarded to the culprits so far. (Interruptions) I would like to urge upon you to punish the guilty policemen after conducting an inquiry there and give relief to the victims...(Interruptions)

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while supporting what Dr. P.R. Gangwar said I would like to say that the Police have inflicted heavy atrocities on Dalits in Agra. 21 people were injured in police crackdown. Besides, the same number of people were injured and one killed when they were beaten by I.S.I. supported elements. The police is oppressing and harassing the Dalits in Agra.

[Translation]

The Government is denying the cases of assault

perpetrated by the I.S.I. agents and it is hatching conspiracy to divide the details and cause conflict among themselves.

Sir, my submission is that the atrocities perpetrated against dalits by the Mulayam Singh Government should be checked. The police also is giving protection to the ISI supporters. I, therefore, would like to submit to the Government to protect the downtrodden and other people from persecution of the Mulayam Singh Government.

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH (Balrampur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards Uttar Pradesh and particularly towards a district in Eastern Uttar Pradesh. The farmers, the poor landless workers of Eastern U.P. and Gonda district from which I hail have been suffering from the pangs of fire. No assistance is given by the State Government there. A large number of villages in my Constituency Balrampur were burnt in January last. The poor farmers had to take shelter under the trees during winter. There is a rule, under which the Government has to provide an amount of Rs. 750 as provisional assistance immediately to each victim. This amount of assistance is not being paid for the last 3 years and now the calendar year of 1995 is going on but no assistance has been provided so far by the Government of Uttar Pradesh. The farmers are living under trees.

Sir, my submission is that it is possible that farmers may save something from floods but nothing can be saved from fire. Dr. Manmohan Singh is here. The General Insurance Scheme was being discussed just now. The Government has introduced the Cottage insurance and the barn insurance schemes to provide assistance to those farmers whose cottages and barns have burnt in fire, but such assistance is not being provided at all. I demand that the Ministry of Finance should pay attention to it. Secondly, through you, I would like to demand the Government of Uttar Pradesh to provide provisional assistance to those farmers and they should not be meted out inhuman treatment. Provisional assistance should be given to the farmers of the Gonda district, particularly Balrampur area. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGARHI (Deogarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in Orissa which accounts for one third of the total coal reserve of the country, of late, a subsidiary coal company, the Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd., was established which is now three years old. But it is expanding very rapidly. The situation is such that there will be another company in course of time after about five years. But although one Company has already been working there now and has been established, there is only one Director (Technical) besides the CMD in that company. The posts of Director (Personnel) and Director (Finance) are yet to be sanctioned and work is being affected because of these posts lying vacant. Smooth functioning and the plant expansion are not possible unless these Directors posts are filled up.

Talcher is a vast coalfield which again account for two-

thirds of the total coal production of the Company and there the need of the hour is to have the Coal Division under the MCL posted with a full time Director (Technical).

Therefore, I would request the Government to understand the urgency of the matter and take steps in this direction expeditiously.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with your permission I would like to draw the attention of the House to the recent cancellation of a cultural programme in Delhi by a Pakistani singer Ms. Abida Parveen, who is an eminent exponent of Sufiana music which is a common heritage of the entire sub-continent. This cancellation became necessary because of some administrative mix-up. But perhaps something needs to be said about the visa policy with regard to programmes of cultural importance.

As a diplomat, I know that there is a principle of reciprocity to govern the relations between two independent States, but when objectives are different, there cannot be an absolute reciprocity.

The objective of Pakistan is to keep the people of the two countries apart. Our objective is to promote contact and cultural interaction between the people of the Sub-Continent. Therefore, I plead that there should be a clear-cut policy on this matter that on programmes of cultural intercourse and on visit of Pakistani artistes to India, there should be an open-door policy and that visas should be granted readily to all Pakistani cultural experts for visits to India in the future so that Pakistan does not derive the propaganda advantage by declaring that we are not true to our word when talk about promoting cultural relations between India and Pakistan.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Sir, I want to bring to the notice of the House that thousands of houses of Lolia fishermen, who have migrated from the coastal Andhra Pradesh and who have been staying near Konarak at the Sea Beach, had been burnt by some miscreants and the whole *basti* had been burnt. They have not got any houses now. They have lost all their fishing implements and their belongings. They are without clothes. But since they have not settled there—though they are staying there for fifty years—the Government of Orissa is not giving them any help under the ground that they are not the people of Orissa since their names are not there in the revenue records. These people's houses had been burnt. It is a human problem. Therefore, the Government of India should impress upon the Government of Orissa to give them help for rebuilding their houses. Unfortunately, the miscreants have not yet been arrested. They belong to the political parties. Those who did it, they have not yet been arrested. The Government had not taken action against those miscreants. So, I demand that the Government of India should impress upon the Government of Orissa to give them help to rebuild their

houses. The Prime Minister should also release some funds to these helpless people who are staying at the Sea Beach.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of this august House to the atrocities perpetrated on the people of Rajasthan and North India living in Lakhimpur area of Assam. At first Shri Deepak Kumar Aggarwal and Shri Indra Singh Sethi were kidnapped in Lakhimpur and thereafter two body guards of a big leader were arrested. Later on, their dead bodies were recovered. It was found that there was a big conspiracy behind these murders. Many memoranda were served there, bandh and strikes were held... (Interruptions) A few legislators were involved in the murder of innocent people in 1992, 1993 and 1994 in Bojai, Bagaigaon, Kokrajhar and Barpata districts. Both guards were apprehended. They were murdered in police custody so that the entire issue may be hushed up. The body guards were murdered and two persons were murdered. Previously, Ulfa committed atrocities. Now Bangladeshi emigrants are committing atrocities. My submission is that the Government should issue a white paper about these murders, and the hon. Minister of Home Affairs should make a statement in this House.... It is a very serious matter. Two persons from Rajasthan have been murdered.. (Interruptions) Atrocities are being committed on persons from Rajasthan in Assam. Stringent action should be taken in this regard and the hon. Minister of Home Affairs should make a statement in this connection. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If anything is against the Constitution, the names will be removed.

...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Can you expect a reply in the Zero Hour? Kindly oblige me.

...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Rasa Singh Rawatji, you have read the rules. You are a seasoned politician. You cannot simply Rise as and when you like and talk. There is a rule for that. If at all you want a particular reply to be given on the floor of the House by a concerned Minister, there is a relevant provision in the rules. Why do you not make use of it?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Neither he will give a statement about the bomb blasts in Delhi nor he will say anything about Assam. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No more explanations can be offered now. Your name was called and you were not present. Shri Basudeb Acharla's name was called he was

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair.