

victims who were killed in the aftermath of Smt. Indira Gandhi's assassination. People demand that ban should be imposed after the riots, but in fact it is the Congress Party which was behind the riots and killed people.

16.00 hrs

Why don't you ask to ban the Congress and to compensate those people. They have not killed in police firing; they have been killed in their houses. Even the widows and children were killed. It is unfortunate that you are supporting the same Government.

Just now Shri Indrajit Gupta said about Shahbano case that his party had opposed it. This Congress has changed the verdict of the Supreme Court Shahbano case in this very House. You are supporting the same Congress. You support those people who behave in communal line.

The demolition of disputed structure in Ayodhya caused a commotion in the world.....

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, the Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs made a commitment during Zero Hour, that is, after Question Hour, that the Home Minister would make a statement on Tripura at 4 o'clock. Now, it is 4 o'clock. So, you call the Home Minister to make a statement on Tripura. (*Interruptions*) He has to make a statement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Mr. Rawle, you will continue after the statement is made.

Now, Shri S.B. Chavan.

16.02 hrs

STATEMENT BY MINISTER TRIPURA

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): I had made a statement in the Lok Sabha regarding holding of general elections in Tripura and matters

connected therewith on 1st March, 1993. Some Hon'ble Members had raised points regarding the orders passed by the Election Commission of India on 27 February, 1993 and 1 March, 1993 and the continuation of the care-taker Ministry in Tripura.

The Election Commission vide its order dated 27 February 1993 directed the State Government-

- (a) to take disciplinary action against certain police officers mentioned in the said order and to complete the said action before 21 March 1993 under intimation to the Commission; and
- (b) to remove forthwith the District level officers and the officers below the District level mentioned in the said order from post connected with the election duties under intimation to the Commission.

By its order dated 1 March 1993, the Election Commission in amplification of its order of 27 February 1993 directed that disciplinary action should also be taken forthwith against all personnel of any and all Government Departments other than the police especially (but no restricted) to officers of the general administration, such as District Magistrates, Sub-Divisional Magistrates etc. who were present in the party meetings, in addition to officers of the police as already directed. The action is required to be completed by 21 March 1993 under intimation to the Commission. The Commission has further directed that all such officers must be removed forthwith from all and any work connected with the election duties.

The Election Commission has clearly indicated that the responsibility of implementation of these orders lies squarely on the State Government of Tripura. The Election Commission has also mentioned that failure to implement these orders may compel the Commission to take further action including postponement of poll.

[Sh. Mohan Rawale]

The Election Commission is an independent authority under the Constitution vested with the powers of superintendence direction and control of elections including those of the legislature of every State. It is the duty of the State Government and all officers under its control to assist the Election Commission in this task. It is expected of the State Government and officers working under its control to comply with the directions of the Election Commission of India issued to them from time to time.

Some Hon'ble Members have raised the question about the constitution of the care-taker Ministry in Tripura. As I has mentioned in my earlier statement in the Lok Sabha on 1.3.1993, the term of the Tripura Assembly expired on 28.2.1993. On 27.2.1993, the Chief Minister of Tripura submitted his resignation to the Governor of Tripura. The resignation was accepted by the Governor. In exercise of his powers under the Constitution, the Governor has requested the Chief Minister to continue as caretaker Ministry till alternative arrangement is made.

In the context of the orders of the Election Commission of India, a further report from the Governor is awaited.

16.05 hrs.

Re-Statement of Minister of Home Affairs regarding Tripura

(Interruptions)

At this stage, Shri Basudeb Acharia and some other honourable Members came and stood on the floor near the table.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seats. Somanathji, kindly ask them to take their seats.

At this stage, Shri Basudeb Acharia and some other honourable Members went back to their seats

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am sorry that I was not present here as there was an important meeting with the honourable Speaker in which he requested me to be present and I could not say 'no' to the Speaker. The meeting was on some other issue. I am very sorry that I was not here. It is no disrespect to the honourable Home Minister. I hoped that there would be no occasion for us to raise this question at all because we were expecting that the Home Minister will come with a categorical statement on the floor of the House.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): There is nothing new, Sir.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The last line of the statement says:

"In the context of the orders of the Election Commission of India, a further report from the Governor is awaited"

On what? I do not find any time limit mentioned here.

"The resignation was accepted by the Governor. In exercise of his powers under the Constitution, the Governor has requested the Chief Minister to continue as caretaker Ministry till alternative arrangement is made".

We have made our submissions already. This is a very basic question which we are trying to raise now. It has happened for the first time; it is an unprecedented situation. Today, a set of people who are former Ministers are being continued under the garb of the caretaker Government. That set of people have been taking care of only themselves and have polluted the electoral process in this country. It is not my finding. It is the finding of the Chief Election Commissioner who has no special love for the Left