

ker, Sir, in any case, I think your hint that for the rest of the matter, we should depend on the chivalry of the hon. Minister is very apt. (*Interruptions*)

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore): Hon. Speaker, Sir, through you, I want to draw the attention of this august House relating to political and social victimisation, which is now going on in Orissa. Yesterday, a news item was published in several newspapers, especially in *The Hindustan Times* and *The Times of India* that two former Congress Ministers of Orissa have been arrested and then released. This sort of practice of raids in the houses and arrests have been going on in Orissa since March, 1990. The houses of the ex-Chief Minister, ex-Ministers and some leaders of Congress Party have been raided out of political vindictiveness. Even, during the time of last Parliament election, the house of a Congress candidate was raided in order to defame and demoralise the candidate, only two days before the polling. This is a most unfortunate thing. This has violated the conduct, rules and norms of the election procedure. But no such raids are being conducted in the houses of other leaders who have amassed wealth by unfair means. No Prevention of Corruption Act is applied to them. A number of cases have occurred but only the houses of Congress leaders who are popular and who have got some prestige, their houses are being raided just to vilify them.

MR. SPEAKER: This is becoming a long statement

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Sir, by this, the fundamental rights have been snatched away. Even, the concerned persons have not been called for explanation. This will create a bad precedent for all in future.

In our country, there are no many people who have amassed vast wealth in the shape of vast landed property, buildings and investments. This practice of defaming and demoralising politically and socially is going on in

Orissa. This does seriously damage the fundamental rights envisaged in our Constitution.

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not read it out entirely. You just give the gist of it.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Sir, you help me.

MR. SPEAKER: I am helping you. You please give the gist of it.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Article 13(1) of the Constitution provides:

"All laws in force in the territory of India, immediately before the commencement of this Constitution in so far as they are inconsistent with the provisions of this Part, shall, to the extent of such inconsistency, be void.

The State shall not make any law which takes away or abridges the rights conferred by this Part and any law made in contravention of this clause shall, to the extent of the contravention, be void."

MR. SPEAKER: Now, whatever Shri Patra is saying will not go on record. You please take your seat.

(*Interruptions*)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI DHARMANNA MANDAYYA SADUL (Solapur). Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the House and the Government towards an important issue.

The handloom industry in the country is next only in importance to agriculture and it employs crores of people. Unfortunately, the price of cotton yarn has been steadily increasing since last month, as a result of which this industry is in doldrums. Many units have already been closed

*Not recorded.

down and many more are on the verge of closure.

Through you, I would like to make a submission to the Government that the present arrangement of cotton supply is not at all fair. There should be an effective arrangement for the supply of cotton yarn at reasonable rates to both handloom and powerloom units. The government's wrong policy of exporting cotton (without fulfilling the requirements at home) too is responsible for the sharp increase in its prices. I request the Government to make fool-proof arrangements to supply cotton yarn to handloom and powerloom units at reasonable rates.

[English]

SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI (Kasaragod): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I may be permitted to raise the following during the zero hour:

The reported decision of the Kerala State Government to scrap the State's total literacy programme is a retrograde move and it is a set back to those who are yet to be touched by this scheme but also to all those neo-literates who will be pushed back to their old illiterate status. With the achievement of near hundred per cent literacy in the State, only some tribal pockets with a total of about one lakh people have been left to be covered in a part breaking programme of building human capital. Given that the state wide efforts towards total literacy has cut across all ideological barriers the continuation of the project to its logical conclusion would have been a natural step, irrespective of party in power in the State. The project is being financially supported by UNESCO and organisations engaged in this noble mission were all geared up to achieve the target set. But, strangely enough the new Government has sought to give a political twist to the whole programme, at a time when the literacy campaign in India is gaining momentum after Kerala's pioneering

effort and is breaking ground in different parts of the country. Politicising this largely a political movement can prove to be a major stumbling block in its further progress.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the plight of the people affected during the 1984 riots. Almost every month, the widows of those butchered during the 1984 riots stage demonstrations and dharnas at the Boat Club. Although, seven years have passed since that massacre, no arrangement whatsoever has been made so far to rehabilitate them or to provide jobs to the dependents of those killed during the riots. No effective step has been taken in that direction by the Government. This issue has been repeatedly raised in both the Houses, but of no avail. Through you, I insist upon the Government to take immediate steps to fulfil the assurances given to them by the Government for their rehabilitation, including provision of jobs for the dependents of the riot victims.

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (Sasaram): Mr. Speaker Sir, with your kind permission, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards a very serious matter. Abandoning all its policies and established conventions, the Government has appointed Shri Dhirubhai Ambani and Shri Mukesh Ambani as Chairman and Deputy Chairman respectively of L and T (Larsen and Toubro)...(Interruptions) ...It is known to one and all that the Government of the National Front had been provided liberal financial assistance by these persons. People such dubious integrity are being appointed on important positions...(Interruptions)...through you, I urge the Government to immediately...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): I have also given a notice for this.