

Sir, during the recent Assembly elections in nine-States had under the President's rule unprecedented violence had taken place and it is reported that more than 50 persons including some Assembly candidates were killed. Sir, Bihar presented probably the worst spectacle. Under the circumstances, in the interest of fair and free elections, it is necessary that a thorough judicial inquiry into these violent acts should be instituted expeditiously and those found guilty of violence during the elections dealt with severely. (An hon. Member: I was also attached): Let not your guilty conscience speak.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He is not speaking on behalf of any party.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, this will ensure fearlessness on the part of voters while participating in the democratic process of elections.

(iii) REPORTED RETRENCHMENT OF
CASUAL GANGMEN IN ASANSOL
DIVISION

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howrah): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I rise the following matter of urgent public importance under Rule 377:—

425 casual gangmen working in the Asansol division are being compelled to take recourse to the path of 24 hours hunger strike from 19-5-80 as the first phase of the programme of trade union action against the illegal retrenchment from 16-5-80.

After working for long years as casual gangmen, they were retrenched and thereafter from 26-3-80 they have been re-engaged as casual gangmen. There are casual gangmen amongst them who have also been appointed on the ground of retirement of their fathers as gangmen. Due to serious drought this year the condition of these poor families has been very precarious. This is an illegal and anti-labour act of retrenching the unfortunate distressed families in these hard days and as such

this act of retrenchment is nothing but merciless killing of so many lives of poor helpless families, having no measures of subsistence during these hard days. I urge upon the government to pass an order immediately cancelling this illegal and anti-labour order of retrenchment of 425 casual gangmen from service, to save these unfortunate poor families from starvation and death. I also demand positive steps should be taken immediately to reinstate the poor gangmen and action should be taken against those authorities who are responsible for this retrenchment.

(iv) NEED FOR RUNNING MORE TRAINS
IN MALABAR REGION OF KERALA

**SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): On the Mangalore-Shamoor railway line which connects Cannanore, Calicut, Mallappuram and Palghat with Trivandrum, only two trains are running during the night. At the same time, as many as 7 Express and Mail trains including the day services, are running between Ernakulam and Trivandrum. There is no double track between Ernakulam and Trivandrum and yet some of the Super fast trains such as the K. K. Express and Vinad Express run on this line whose total distance is 221 kms. The running time is 4 hrs 20 mts. During this 4 hrs 20 mts. the Vinad Express has to cross at five points many important trains such as the K. K. Express, Malabar Express, Bombay Jayanti Janata, Kottazam Quilon passenger, Madras Trivandrum Mail, yet Vinad Express runs as a superfast train.

The distance between Mangalore and Ernakulam is 414 km which is double the distance between Ernakulam and Tvm. In the Malabar sector, the main goods stations are Calicut, Tiroor, Kallai Old Payyannor. But, a large number of goods trains are running on single track from Stations south of Shornoor such as other Pudukkad, Chalkkudi, Ankamali, Cochin harbour terminus and Quilon.

**The original speech was delivered in Malayam.