

[Shri George Joseph Mundackal]

the Minister of Home Affairs may make a statement thereon and inform the House as to the steps he contemplates, to prevent a breakdown of law and order in the State of Kerala.

(iv) REPORTED KILLING OF SEVEN PERSONS IN VILLAGE VENUPUR IN AZAMGARH

श्री छानूर राम (लालगंज) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, उत्तर प्रदेश में कानून और व्यवस्था नाम की कोई चीज नहीं रह गई है। लोगों का जान माल बिल्कुल असुरक्षित हो गया है।

इसका ताजा उदाहरण मेरे क्षेत्र में घटित एक भयावह घटना है जिसमें एक ही परिवार के सात व्यक्तियों की एक ही रात में हत्या कर दी गई, जिसमें अबोध और नाबालिक बच्चे थे। घटना का विवरण इस प्रकार है :

दिनांक 22/23 जुलाई की रात में ग्राम बैनूपुर बाना मेंहनगर, जिला झाजमगढ़ में देश सिंह और उनकी पत्नी तथा तीन अबोध और नाबालिक लड़के और दो लड़कियों का गला काट कर हत्या कर दी गई। इस प्रकार की भयानक घटना को देख कर क्षेत्र में भय और आतंक का वातावरण फैला हुआ है। आज तक पुलिस और खुफिया विभाग जैसे महानतम अपराध का पता लगाने में असमर्थ हैं। मैं मांग करता हूँ कि उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार को आदेश दें कि इस घटना की उच्चस्तरीय जांच कराये।

(v) REPORTED SHORTAGE OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES IN MIZORAM

DR. R. ROTHUAMA (Mizoram): Sir, I would like to bring the following matter to the notice of the concerned Minister and to the House under Rule 377.

There have been acute scarcity of supply of essential commodities—Rice, salt, M.oil, sugar, diesel, petrol and kerosene for the last five months throughout Mizoram.

In his reply to my unstarred questions the Hon'ble Minister for Civil Supplies stated that supply essential commodities to Mizoram from January to June 1980 were—rice 40,000 tonnes, sugar 171 tonnes, salt 2000 tonnes, rape seed oil 100 m. tonnes.

The factual position in Mizoram during the period from January to June, 1980 is that salts, sugar, rape seed oil were not at all available at Government controlled rate through public distribution Agencies anywhere in Mizoram. I personally know that salt was being sold at Rs. 5 per kg. from January to June 1980, in blackmarkets, rape seed oil, sugar were not available at all except through blackmarkets. Even F.C.I. rice was not available through Fair Price Shops from February to May, 1980. Kerosene and petrol are out of reach for the general public even for carrying materials of co-operative societies meant for the village.

Members of Cooperative Society, N. Vanlaiphai constituency met me personally in May, 1980 and narrated to me their utter inability to get petrol from the Government depots for carrying materials meant for N. Vanlaiphai constituency. On the other hand, I personally saw that diesel and petrol are not the problems for any officials in Mizoram for sending and bringing their children to and from schools by Government vehicles. Yet diesel and petrol are being sold in villages and towns through black markets at Rs. 10-15 per litre by some local people connected with the Ministry.

I got reliable information from one of the sitting MLAs of Mizoram that salt and sugar received from the Central Government are being purchased in bulks immediately on arrival to Aizawl town by big businessmen and merchants having intimate link with the present Ministry. In turn these items are being resold in blackmarkets through their agents in towns and villages at extremely high prices. Salt costs Rs. 5 per kg. sugar Rs. 10 per kg.

Even now one Rajya Sabha M.P. Shri Lalsawia who arrived yesterday immediately informed me that rice, sugar, kerosene, rape seed oil are not available at all in Aizawl, capital of

Mizoram except through open markets at exorbitant prices.

Due to complete failure of harvest as a result of severe drought last year, I personally saw in course of my tours to the interior areas that several villages within the constituencies of Khawbung, Ngopa, N. Vanlaiphai, Sialsuk, Sangau, people practically live mainly on roots, fruits of the jungle trees. They were reduced to near starvations.

In the light of the deteriorating conditions brought about by famine like conditions in Mizoram, I asked the Hon'ble Minister to make comprehensive assessment of the situation, prevailing in Mizoram with regards to the position of essential commodities supply by sending out:—

(1) High level officials team of his Ministry to the present working of public distribution system in Mizoram.

(2) To bring to book all those officials and big businessmen involved who have been indulging in black-marketeerings, profiteering, hoarding, racketeerings and malpractices at the cost of the common people and strong deterrent action thereof.

(3) To effectively revitalise the working of public distribution systems throughout Mizoram and to strictly ensure distribution of such essential commodities to the general public at Government controlled rate.

(vi) NEED FOR PETRO-CHEMICALS PROJECTS IN KERALA

SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL (Ernakulam): Sir, under Rule 377, I am making statement.

Kerala has the infrastructure for petro-chemical industry. We have been requesting for petro-chemical projects such as Caprolactum Aromatics and Phenol projects. If these projects are not sanctioned and imple-

mented, Kerala will be facing serious economic and social crisis. The caprolactum unit will cost less if it is granted to FACT and also the aromatic unit will cost much less if it is granted to Cochin Refinery. These units are highly economical and viable propositions, benefiting the entire nation. Many industries will bloom in the South. Therefore, I am requesting the hon. Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals to meet this demand of the public of Kerala State and grant Petro-Chemical Projects of FACT. Cochin Refineries and other units without further delay.

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): The hon. Member has asked certain particulars about the projects. About the projects, I am in a position to give him certain information, if you permit me to make a statement.

The hon. Member Shri Xavier Arakal has dwelt upon the needs of setting up petro-chemical projects such as caprolactum projects, Aromatic project and Phenol project unit in Kerala. So far as the proposal for setting up of a Caprolactum units is concerned, I am glad to inform the House and also the Member that we have tentatively decided to permit the setting up of 30,000 tonnes per annum caprolactum plant\* by FACT Udyog Mandal as diversification of the activities of the Company. The feasibility report for the project is being updated for obtaining investment, approval, etc. Government is also aware of the potentialities of putting up an Aromatics project in Kerala at Cochin. A site selection Committee is presently engaged in studying various aspects of such proposals and as soon as the study is completed, the Government will be able to take a final view of the matter. I may say that Government will give due consideration to the case of Kerala. I am also glad to inform the House that the Government have already accorded investment approval for setting up in Cochin (Kerala) a 40,000 tonnes per