

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

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## LOK SABHA

Wednesday, January 30, 1980/Magha  
10, 1901 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Fifty-Eight  
Minutes past ten hours of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

10.58 hrs.

### OBSERVANCE OF SILENCE IN THE MEMORY OF MARTYRS

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. members, as you are aware, the nation is observing two minutes silence today in the memory of those who gave their lives in the struggle for India's freedom. We shall stand in silence for two minutes when the gun is fired.

(The Members then stood in silence  
for two minutes)

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### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

11.2 hrs.

#### Non Tribals in Meghalaya

\*37. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the driving out of non-tribals from Meghalaya since October, 1979;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to stop such eviction and protect the lives and properties of non-tribals in the State; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to restore peace and normalcy in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS & IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): (a) to (c). A large number of persons are reported to have left their homes in the course of recent disturbances in the State. According to information furnished by Government of Meghalaya, 1789 persons have been accommodated in relief camps set up by the State Government. Precise number of persons who might have left the State, is not known.

The State Government have taken administrative measures to strengthen law and order machinery for maintaining public peace. In addition, the following measures have also been taken:

- (i) Meghalaya Preventive Detention Ordinance, 1979 was promulgated on the 26th December, 1979 to enable adequate preventive action being taken.
- (i) Patrolling has been intensified in vulnerable and sensitive areas;
- (iii) To deal with intimidation by landlords, offences under Section 506 of IPC have been made cognizable and non-bailable.
- (iv) Appeal has been made to political parties and local press to help promote atmosphere of peace and harmony.
- (v) Efforts are being made to enable the evacuees to return to their original homes.