

16 hrs.

## MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

## (i) COMMUNAL VIOLENCE IN THE COUNTRY

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA (Pon-nani): The recent escalation of communal violence in several parts of the country, particularly in Moradabad which is still simmering in communal fires for three months since the unprovoked firing upon Muslims at EID prayers on 13th August, 1980, demands serious attention of the Government. While the entire situation needs a number of long-term measures, some steps need, to be taken urgently.

The continuous barrage of concocted and untrue reports have ever since kept the fires burning. The involvement of even police officials and national news agencies in circulating such reports is shocking and needs stern action. Recently on 25th October, 1980 a news item was flashed by the PTI with date-line from Lucknow to the effect that according to a police official 15,000 hand-bombs had been recovered from an underground factory inside a mosque in old Lucknow and that such bombs had been used in Moradabad and Aligarh. The news later proved totally incorrect. I urge upon the Government for deterrent punishment against the police official responsible and the concerned PTI officials for the most reckless manner in dealing with and in circulating the inflammatory story.

The plight of the innocent victims of communal fury is pathetic. Let the Government without any further delay, undertake compensation and occupational rehabilitation of those who have suffered. Urgent steps are needed to restore the economy of the craftsmen and help the uprooted labour.

While the guilty have to be dealt, with sternly, the harassed have also to be saved from the current indiscriminate arrests and the plethora of fabricated cases, through having a quick screening of all cases by an impartial machinery. As a result of this screening, action be taken against the officials responsible for fabrication of cases. Further, a lot of damage has been done during curfew hours. The Central Government should ensure that immediate action be taken against police officials posted in areas where loot and arson occurred during curfew hours, for their criminal failure to enforce curfew and protect life and property. The continuing delay in dealing with cases of dereliction of duty, as also in taking action against those responsible for the aforesaid 13th August massacre, is injurious to the proper functioning of law and order machinery.

(ii) *Re* TWO RAILWAY DIVISIONS LOCATED IN KERALA.

SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): \*Train services were disrupted recently as a result of strike by a section of employees under Trivandrum Division demanding transfer of Tirunelveli-Kanyakumari line to Madurai Division from Trivandrum Division.

The Trivandrum Division of Railways come into existence in response to a long standing demand of the people of Kerala. There is an apprehension that the lines under Olavakkede (presently Palghat Division) Division will be taken out and a separate division will be formed either in Karnataka or in Tamilnadu. The strike resorted to by a section of the employees has only heightened the apprehension.

The people of Kerala apprehend that if the Tirunelveli-Kanyakumari line is taken out of the Trivandrum Division, it would affect its very existence as it has just enough mileage of lines under it to exist as a division. The

\*The original speech was delivered in Malayalam.

[Shri V. S. Vijayaraghavan]

Trivandrum division has created a new hope that the people of Kerala who have been neglected already in the matter of railway development, will also be able to achieve progress. Moreover, this line provides much better service to the passengers than when it was under the Madurai division.

It is highly regrettable that a section of railway employees should have started an agitation for transfer of Tirunelveli-Kanyakumari line to Madurai Division.

It is quite natural for the people of Kerala to entertain the apprehension that if this line is taken out of Trivandrum Division, the Division itself would be wound up.

Therefore, while requesting the Government that it should not yield to the agitators I would appeal to the government to assure the people of Kerala that the two railway divisions Palghat and Trivandrum of Kerala will remain intact and thus dispel the apprehension from the minds of the people.

### (iii) OUTBREAK OF ENCEPHALITIS IN BIHAR.

श्री कमला मिश्र मधुकर (मोतीहारी):

बिहार के कई जिलों में और खास कर पूर्वी चम्पारन जिले में एन्सिफ्लाइटिस के रोग से सैकड़ों व्यक्तियों की मृत्यु हो गई है तथा रोग का प्रसार जारी है। सरकार की ओर से कोई समुचित प्रभावकारी कदम नहीं उठाये गये हैं कि रोग का निवारण तथा प्रसार पर रोकथाम हो।

अस्तु, मैं इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार का ध्यान खींचना चाहता हूँ कि अविलम्ब ऐसी कार्रवाई की जाए कि जनता की जान बचाई जा सके। स्वास्थ्य मंत्री इस बात पर अविलम्ब कार्रवाई करें।

### (IV) VIVEKANANDA ROCK MEMORIAL AT KANYAKUMARI.

SHRI R. K. MHALGI (Thane): The Vivekanand Rock Memorial at Kanyakumari attracting between 3000 and 10,000 visitors including foreigners every day is likely to be closed for visitors in the first week of December, 1980, for want of ferry services. Kanyakumari harbour area which was leased out by the Government to the Memorial has been progressively encroached up on by the local fishermen during the past four years. Despite repeated representations, the Central and State Governments failed to take any action.

The fishermen were obstructing desilting operations in the area. The launch and the boats being used to carry visitors are not allowed even to be repaired.

A memorial to Swami Vivekanand is situated on the rock in the sea at Kanyakumari. The Memorial is situated on the rock in the sea at Kanyakumari before he went to Chicago. The Central and the State Governments had given grants for the Memorial in lakhs.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to take immediate steps to save the Memorial from being closed for visitors.

### (V) POWER SHORTAGE IN RAJASTHAN.

श्री वृद्धि चंद्र जैन (बाड़मेर):

देश में अक्टूबर एवं नवम्बर, 1980 माह में बिजली के उत्पादन में वृद्धि के उपरान्त भी राजस्थान राज्य में गांधी सागर, राणा प्रताप सागर एवं जवाहर सागर में वर्षा की कमी से पानी कम आने के कारण एवं कोटा अणु बिजलीघर की प्रथम इकाई में बार-बार यान्त्रिक त्रुटियों के कारण बंद हो जाने के कारण भयंकर संकट है। इस संकट में और वृद्धि होगी जब गांधी