

[श्री वेगाराम चौहान]

वहाँ के किसान लोग इस तरह से दुबारा बस सकेंगे । लगभग डेढ़ करोड़ का नुकसान वहाँ पर ही चुका है । भारत सरकार की ओर से सहायता युद्ध स्तर पर दी जानी चाहिये ।

यह नहर 1938 से अब तक नहीं टूटी थी । चालीस साल के बाद यह टूटी है । यह टूटी नहीं इसको तोड़ा गया है

MR. SPEAKER: No, no: we have made a rule and you must obey that rule....

श्री वेगाराम चौहान : एक सैंकिड में मैं खत्म कर देता हूँ . . . * *

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record. Whatever you have given in writing, you can read that only; nothing else is allowed.

(iii) REPORTED VIOLENT ACTS BY RAILWAY EMPLOYEES AGAINST A MARRIAGE PARTY NEAR TUGHLAKABAD RAILWAY STATION

SHRI S. R. DAMANI (Sholapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House, through you, to the serious matters regarding the reported violent acts by railway employees near Tughlakabad Railway station against railway passengers consisting of a marriage party travelling in a reserved compartment by the Bombay bound Punjab Mail on 4th May, 1978 causing serious injuries to the passengers.

Sir, it is a matter of great regret and sorrow that the discipline among members of the railway staff has completely deteriorated during the last one year, particularly among running staff and those who man the reservation counters. As a result accidents have become a daily occurrence; bribery has become rampant for reservations; passengers have started feeling insecure during the travel both for their belongings and their lives. In this background, the violent acts by the railway staff against a marriage party travelling in a reserved compartment by the Bombay-bound Punjab Mail at Tughlakabad Station on 4-5-78 is a matter of great concern to all of us. The Punjab Mail is an important long distance train. Why should it be allowed to stop at a small station like Tughlakabad which is served by many other trains including local and short-distance trains? Are the railway employees authorised to travel in a reserved compartment of this train? Obviously they cannot for such short distances, unless they become a law unto themselves. Is it not the duty of the Conductor and allied staff to remove them from the reserved compartment? If they have not done so,

they have not performed their duty. Sir, such acts of violence and misbehaviour have become too common to be ignored. The hon. Railway Minister should try and bring in discipline as otherwise the entire railway administration will come into disrepute.

SHRI SAUGATAROY (Barrackpore): The Minister of State for Railway is here. What the hon. Member has said in his statement under Rule 377 is a very serious matter. The railway employees have assaulted the passengers. Why should he not stand up and say something? It will be a good democratic practice if he could do so. The Minister at least should have the courtesy to say a few words about the whole matter.

(iv) REPORTED INCIDENTS AT GANDHI HARIJAN HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, BRAHMPURI, DELHI.

SHRI M. SATYANARAYAN RAO (Karimnagar): I seek your permission under Rule 377 to Raise the following matter of recent occurrence and of urgent public importance.

Yesterday evening an incident of public demonstration and police intervention resulting in large scale injury and destruction of property took place in a place by name Brahmपुरi centering on a school known as Gandhi Harijan Higher Secondary School. With respect to the details of the incident and the events leading to the conflict versions differ. There is, however, a common agreement with respect to the background of the situation which led to the conflict. This school is situated in a predominantly poor locality and as may be evident from the neighbouring school, meant primarily to cater to the educational needs of the poor and backward students belonging largely to the backward community and the Harijan community. The school was being aided by the government. Being under the aid it had to work under certain restrictions and directions. It is also said that the school was built with the resources raised from the public. The management has been trying to get the school under its complete and uncontrolled grip. It got it de-aided recently and proceeded to convert it into a public school run on the basis of fees collected from the students. The students being of the poor stock could not pay the fees sought to be imposed by the management. About 3,600 students had to go off the rolls of the school. About 80 teachers had their services terminated. It is this situation which made the matter a public

issue involving the parents, the teachers the students and the generality of the public. Naturally there was a resistance against the move of the management. The authorities took the side of the management and the students and their parents, poor and backward, found themselves helpless and forlorn.

The Government should explain how this situation was permitted to develop. It is further reported that the peaceful demonstration of students and parents was stoned leading to clashes and setting the scene for an excuse for the police to intervene. The intervention of the police was done in a hard and tough manner resulting in wide-spread injury to a large number of persons and damage to property. The concerned Minister should make a statement on the totality of the situation.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola): The management is in the hands of a relative of the Home Minister.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY: This is a very serious matter.

(v) REPORTED CANCELLATION OF SHRI SANJAY GANDHI'S BAIL BY SUPREME COURT.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA (Delhi Sadar): I am thankful to you that you have permitted me to raise a matter of great public importance and I hope the government must make a statement on it.

The order of the Supreme Court in Sanjay Gandhi's case is not a simple cancellation of bail. The highest tribunal in the country has found him guilty of tampering with the witnesses and trying to subvert the process of law. Therefore, the court has ordered him to be kept in judicial custody for one month. The Court has done its duty to see that the culprit should be punished according to the rule of law. Now it is for the Government to ensure that this continuing effort of Shri Sanjay Gandhi to subvert the process of law is not allowed to continue from the jail itself. Justice demands that strict precautions should be taken in this regard. He should not be allowed to guide the people for tampering with the witnesses from the jail.

We believe in the rule of law and, therefore, there can be no question of any harassment. Evidently he has made this charge only to pressurise the authorities to bend backward and to give him undue privileges. This should not be done. The

Jail Manual should be strictly followed in the matter of interview because this is a special case. Under the Jail Manual, at the most 4 persons can have interview with the under-trial prisoner in a week. Some officers from Intelligence Department should be there to see that the tampering of evidence is not continued from the jail. The same precaution should also be taken.....

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Who can influence the witnesses, the CBI or a boy who is even in jail? This is too much. Shameless. Should you say this?

On a point of order. Can he now by saying this, influence even the judicial process of influencing the man in jail? Are you allowing it?

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: Some officers from the Intelligence Department should be there to see that the tampering of evidence is not continued from the jail. The same precaution should also be taken when he is brought to the court. I hope that the Govt. will keep necessary watch on the jail authorities to see that rule of law is strictly followed, but no preferential treatment is given to him.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: You put Shri Kanwar Lal Gupta. That is the only security.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: I was in jail for 18 months. There were Intelligence Officers when there was an interview.

(vi) REPORTED FEAR OF RIGGING IN AZAMGARH BYE-ELECTION.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola): I may draw the attention of the Government to a very serious matter.

It is reported that Azamgarh By-election would not be free and fair, very much like Karnal, because the ballot boxes and ballot papers have already reached the interior areas very much in advance and it is feared that the elections may be rigged. To ensure free and fair election the Government must take all necessary precautions and make special arrangements to see that there is no rigging.