

they have forgotten. Why they take so much of time to respond? (*Interruptions*)

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Hon. Members, by this method, you are denying the opportunity of raising issues in the Zero Hour to other hon. Members.

(*Interruptions*)

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Now, I call Shri K. Muraleedharan.

**SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN (Calicut):** Sir, I would like to raise this submission to draw the attention of the House to the Strike Notice issued by the employees of the Passport Office, Calicut. The proposed strike is not for any kind of demand of the employees. It is to draw the attention of the concerned authority to the pathetic condition of the Passport office.

In order to clear the files, the staff of this office has to work 12 hours a day and even in holidays. Due to the lack of space inside the building the bundles of applications are lying everywhere in the office including in the office room of the Regional Passport Officer. The proposal of shifting the passport office to a large building is pending since a long time.

The strike which was likely to begin 20.11.1991 was postponed due to my personal request to the employees. It is requested that the Union Government may take immediate steps to shift the office to a larger building and staff strength may be increased. (*Interruptions*)

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** There is a list. I cannot deviate from the list.

**SHRI E. AHAMED:** Sir, Shri P.C.Thomas, the sole Member in the Lok Sabha belonging to Kerala Congress-M has started Satyagraha in front of Parliament House at its main entrance from this morn-

ing. His fast is to highlight the serious crisis faced by farmers in Kerala due to steep fall in price of natural rubber. I would urge the Leader of the House that the matter may be taken up with the appropriate authority or the Minister, or he may just respond to the situation for which Mr. Thomas has undertaken *satyagraha*. I am highlighting this issue because it is a very serious issue in Kerala (*Interruptions*).

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I would like to know from the hon. Members whether we are involved in a discussion. This is Zero Hour. Every individual Member, by sending a letter about what he feels is very important, gets his name listed and according to the list we shall have to call the names of the Members. There cannot be a discussion.....

(*Interruptions*)

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** If you want the matter to be discussed, then there are other ways and means to bring the matter on the agenda. You give a notice and when the matter comes on the agenda, then you can discuss it threadbare...

(*Interruptions*)

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** The question is that Shri Thomas is sitting before the Parliament House. This matter has been brought to the notice of everybody through Mr. Ahmed. The purpose has been served. So far as other things are concerned, it is up to us to persuade the concerned Minister and to see that the matter is squared up. If you want that the matter should be discussed agencies like Regional Provident Fund Office, Employees State Insurance Corporation etc., to get registered with them and they demand huge amounts as penalties from them.

Since these are cottage industries and there is no regular employment as such, they