

member has asked for is legitimate: in view of the fact that the House is going to adjourn tomorrow, when will the House have an opportunity to discuss these Demands? I think that is not the Minister's business, but the business of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

SHRI MADHU LIMAYE (Banka): He is sitting, glum and tired!

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): If time is found, we can take it up.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: That is a bogus statement. Who wants it? She made a very categorical point that it must be discussed as Pondicherry is under President's rule.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: There is total scarcity, food troubles and so many other things there.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I think it has to be discussed. It is only a question of when.

SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH: Subject to time being found; I cannot say anything just now... (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I think we cannot settle this question like this. Members have expressed a desire for an early discussion. I think that is the business of the Minister of Parliamentary affairs because it is Government business and he has to find some time. You have got the Business Advisory Committee and you have got some other means. He has to take many things into consideration; off-hand he cannot say anything; it is difficult. Bills to be introduced. Shri Raghu Ramaiah.

SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: This was never discussed; he cannot spring a surprise like this.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am not preventing you from raising anything... (*Interruptions*) Why don't you listen? Let us go through the formality; let him ask for leave. If you have anything to say, I will listen to you.

13.31 hrs.

SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament Act, 1954.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Have you anything to say? I will tell you what the Bill is.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): I have told him.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I think it is in the interest of every Member. I personally feel that it should be passed immediately because you are going to leave after the session and you will have to tour your constituency; you have to do so many other things.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA (Serampore): Only if Parliament is not dissolved it will be useful... (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Even if Parliament is dissolved, the next Parliament will come. Whether you will come or not, I do not know... (*Interruptions*) I am sure of myself; as long as I want to come here I shall come here. Now the question is:

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[Ma. Deputy-Speaker]

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament Act, 1954."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH: I introduce the Bill.

13.34 hrs.

MATTER UNDER RULE 377

REPORTED AGITATION BY BODO TRIBE
PEOPLE IN ASSAM

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There are some matters under rule 377 already listed.

SHRI NOORUL HUDA (Cachar): I wish to draw the attention of the House to the grave situation arising out of a peaceful agitation by the Bodo tribal people, a linguistic minority in the State of Assam, about 7 lakhs; the majority of them are concentrated in Goalpara, Assam. I would urge the Home Minister to make a statement clarifying the position of the Government. The Boro tribal people launched a peaceful agitation demanding the introduction of Roman script for Bodo language in the place of the Assamese script. What happened after that is a shameful chapter. The Government of Assam deployed the 9th battalion of Assam Police and the CRP personnel who committed brutal and barbarous atrocities on the innocent and peaceful Bodo tribals.

During this reign of terror, the agitation lasted only for a short ten days from 18th November to 27th November, six satyagrahis were killed by police firing, 1,500 persons were arrested, two women were kidnapped, ten people were untraced and 50 persons sustained bullet injuries, all of them belonging to the Bodo tribal community. Police fired 13 rounds at Sidli and 20 rounds at Kokra-

jhar and Gossaingaon in the district of Goalpara. Not only that, the police ransacked the houses, destroyed valuable properties and looted ornaments, household utensils, cycles, clothes, cash, radios and furniture and burnt houses in North Gargaon village in Bijni police station. They raped young women and mercilessly assaulted old and young persons. The houses of Prof. Laksheswar Brahma, Secretary, Kokrajhar District Bodo Sahitya Sabha, was ransacked and his certificates and documents were seized and destroyed.

At Bijni the Assam Battalion police destroyed the Bodo library and hall. At Banargaon the armed police attacked the Bodo Sahitya Sabha camp and tortured and arrested the Headmaster of the local High School, Shri Brajen Brahma and destroyed the school implements, records and papers. The house of Shri Chandra Narzary the Assistant Commandant of SSB, a security organisation, was not spared. His house was ransacked. Even the houses of Bodo Congressmen were not spared; they were also assaulted. The buses were stopped and Bodo passengers were severely assaulted.

It is specially very unfortunate that the 9th Assam Police Battalion behaved like hooligans and committed untold atrocities on these peaceful tribal people in Goalpara district.

The allegation of the Government that the Bodo demonstrators carried lethal weapons is completely false. It is a fabricated story. What weapons did the police collect during the raid? The police collected spears, axes, spades and similar other things which are normally used by the tribals. They have been described by the police as lethal weapons.

There was a photograph in the newspapers to prove that the Ram-