

Rule 377

12.26 hrs.

MATTER UNDER RULE 377

ARREST OF CPI(M) AND CITU LEADERS
INCLUDING MLAS IN TRIPURA

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Dinēn Bhattacharyya to raise a matter under Rule 377.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA (Serampore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, about 60 persons belonging to CPI(M) party, CITU organisation, teachers' organisation and Government employees organisation, including six MLAs and the leader of the Opposition in Tripura Assembly, Shri Nripen Chakraborty had been arrested under MISA and kept in detention.

SOME HON MEMBERS: Shame, shame!

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA. This is a serious violation of the assurance given by the Home Minister of India in Parliament that MISA will not be used against political opponents.

These arrests were made while the State Assembly was in session and Government suffered a major defeat when their bill for Land Reforms was voted out in the State Assembly.

The Constitutional provisions were completely broken down when it was clearly seen that a minority Government was sitting in power and misusing the preventive detention provisions to suppress the movement of the Opposition parties and by creating an artificial majority in the Assembly. I, therefore, wish to raise this matter under Rule 377 today and request the Minister concerned to make a statement on this matter.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore): Let the Home Minister make a statement.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): The Home Minister is sitting here.

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot ask him to make a statement immediately. He will come later on.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Under Rule 377, that being the practice in the House, the Minister concerned has got a prior notice....

MR. SPEAKER: He is not given any prior notice of a matter under Rule 377.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): He can make a statement in the afternoon.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: This matter was raised on Friday also.

MR. SPEAKER: On Friday, it could not be raised in that form. I held that it related to a law and order problem in the State in the form in which you raised it, that could not be accepted.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: You are not directing the Minister to make a statement later on today.

MR. SPEAKER: It will be sent to him. He has to collect information.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: How do you know? He may have collected the information. Let him make a statement.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I have written to you in this regard....

MR. SPEAKER: Don't get up every time.

We now take up Discussion under Rule 193.

Shri Samar Guha.