

13.27 hrs.

RE: SANTHAL MURDER CASE

SHRI KARTIK ORAON (Lohardaga) : Under Rule 193 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of Lok Sabha, on the 17th December...

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Member is an old Member of the House. There is a procedure to be followed for this. The motion under rule 193 has to come on the agenda first. He can just say a word or two, but he cannot move a motion under rule 193 without the matter first having come up before the Business Advisory Committee and without its having come up on the Order Paper.

SHRI KARTIK ORAON : My point is that I had already given notice of this, on the 17th December. Therefore, I am moving this.

I would request you to give me some time to make my point about the Santhal murder case. It is a very important matter and this House should not be deprived of the opportunity of knowing what exactly has happened

Very few people in this House know how 10 Santhals had been murdered and buried in a river and 4 have been roasted alive. I have been going about to get time for discussing with the hon. Minister, but on the 7th, 8th and 9th I was told that this was emergency period and therefore, I should not raise it. Now that the emergency is over, I see no reason why I should not raise it, and I see no reason why the hon. Minister should show cold shoulder to me. I know that Shri K. C. Pant has given a reply on this matter, but that is a stereotyped type of reply. It looks as if these murders had taken place as if they were murders of cats, dogs and Jackals in the course of busy traffic. I want that this matter should be thoroughly discussed in the House, and the House should not be deprived of the opportunity of knowing what exactly has happened.

AN HON. MEMBER : Murdered by whom ?

SHRI KARTIK ORAON : Murdered by the rich and powerful and affluent sections of society. I have actually visited

the spot on 7th December and again on the 12th December. Now I am in a position to say that the information given by Shri Pant, may be in all good faith, is wholly incomplete and I think this matter should be highlighted in this House.

MR. SPEAKER : We are in the midst of other business. I kept deliberately silent when he spoke.

SHRI KARTIK ORAON : I know you have got a very good understanding and sympathy for the tribes. Also the Prime Minister is very sensitive about the cause of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I am really sorry that the Minister of State does not bother much about this. The Prime Minister, as you know, has now reached a commanding height. She could be regarded as Durga Mata. She has also been described as 'Joan of Arc'.

This is not a matter we should take lightly. It is derogatory to our tradition and the place we have secured for ourselves in the comity of nations. This sort of atrocities must be put an end to. I say the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should not be recognised as such but only as citizens of India. But we must put an end to this kind of atrocities. We must get an opportunity to discuss it.

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI (Patna) : I support him. We must discuss it.

13.32 hrs.

**MOTION RE. SUSPENSION OF PROVISIO
TO RULE**

MR. SPEAKER : We are postponing the discussion on the Constitution (Twenty-eighth) Amendment Bill. The next item is 23, suspension of rule.

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS** (SHRI
K. C. PANT) : I am not moving that. I wish to move it in an amended form as mentioned in supplementary list of business, item 23A. There is a slight difference in the amended version.

I beg to move :

"That this House do suspend the

[Shri K. C. Pant]

proviso to rule 66 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in its application to the motions for taking into consideration and passing of the North-Eastern Council Bill, 1971, inasmuch as it is dependent upon the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Bill, 1971, the Constitution (Twenty-seventh Amendment) Bill, 1971, and the Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Bill, 1971".

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do suspend the proviso to rule 66 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in its application to the motions for taking into consideration and passing of the North-Eastern Council Bill, 1971, inasmuch as it is dependent upon the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Bill, 1971, the Constitution (Twenty-seventh Amendment) Bill, 1971, and the Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Bill, 1971".

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER : This was a very tight programme. I have been relaxing it after declaration of the emergency. Just as war-hit areas have to be rehabilitated, we will have to rehabilitate our procedure also after this session. This should not be taken as a precedent. I am not going to follow it in the next session.

13.35 hrs.

NORTH-EASTERN COUNCIL BILL

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI
K. C. PANT) : Sir, I beg to move* :

"That the Bill to provide for the setting up of a Council for the north-eastern areas of India to be called the North-Eastern Council and for matters connected therewith, be taken into consideration."

When the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Bill 1971, came up before the

House, I had given a broad indication of the scheme of reorganisation of these areas and had mentioned that the scheme would be given effect to through a series of Bills. The House has already passed that Bill, and three other Bills, namely, the Manipur (Hill Areas) District Councils Bill, the Constitution (Twenty-seventh Amendment) Bill, and the Government of Union territories (Amendment) Bill. This is the last Bill in the series.

With the passing of the Reorganisation Bill, the north-eastern region will consist of five States and two Union territories. With the exception of Assam, all the other units will be small. At the same time, they will have to assume relatively more onerous tasks in the field of development. When the reorganisation Bill was before the House, I had referred to this matter. As I then stated, in the next decade we will have to pay particular attention to the development of the north-eastern region as a whole. Financial resources, trained manpower and necessary expertise are the basic needs of development. A dynamic programme of development can be put through only if these resources are available in adequate measure.

Another factor which has to be kept in view is that no sizeable programme of development which can have a decisive impact on the economy of the people can proceed without roads, transport facilities, power supply, irrigation facilities, etc. It is also obvious that the development of the region has to proceed on an even keel and cannot be allowed to be lopsided. The objective, therefore, has to be to secure the balanced development of the entire region.

The financial resources of the States in this region are not adequate even to meet their non-plan expenditure. Even now, Assam, Nagaland and Meghalaya require sizeable grants-in-aid. The position of Manipur and Tripura is not going to be different. The Central plan assistance is determined more or less on an *ad hoc* basis in respect of the States in the north-eastern region and is on a much larger scale than in the case of other States. Manipur and Tripura being Union territories, also receive comparatively larger Central assistance. As

* Moved with the recommendation of the President.