

lence. On one occasion when the police reached the spot, they were surrounded by a mob and attacked. They had to open fire to disperse the mob. During the period from 10 to 11-30 A.M. on 13th, when curfew was relaxed, some instances of stabbing came to be reported. The town continued to be under curfew during the remainder of the day on 13th. The situation started improving thereafter though as a precautionary measure, curfew orders continued to be in force in the affected parts of the city on the 14th and 15th. Thereafter, partially, the curfew has been gradually removed. That is, on the 16th, curfew was lifted for three hours; on the 17th the curfew was lifted for six hours from 8.00 A.M. to 2.00 P.M., in the two police station areas. In the rest of the city, curfew has been lifted from 8.00 A.M. to 6.00 P.M. No incident has been reported after the 13th and the situation is stated to be normal.

It is a matter of deep regret that 8 persons have lost their lives in the disturbances. Over 70 persons including 25 of the police personnel are reported to have received injuries. Monetary relief is being provided to the families of the victims of the riots. Adequate police reinforcements have been made available to the district authorities and it has been impressed upon them by the State Government that firm and prompt action should be taken to maintain normalcy in the town. All other District Magistrates in Uttar Pradesh have also been alerted by the State Government to remain vigilant and take all necessary precautionary measures.

17.45. hrs.

STATEMENT RE. ACQUISITION OF
ALCOCK ASHDOWN COMPANY
LTD.

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY IN-
DUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES
(SHRI T. A. PAI): Speaker, Sir.

The High Court of Bombay met today to consider the Receiver's proposal for confirmation of sale on the basis of bids received for the different properties of Alcock Ashdown in Bombay and Bhavnagar. An affidavit has been filed on behalf of the Government of India that, in view of the Act having come into force the context for confirmation of sale did not survive. The Court agreed with the view and said that there was no question of confirmation of sale in the context of the Act which had been passed by Parliament in terms of which all properties in the two undertakings had vested in Government of India. Some creditors wanted to see the Act in order that they could raise their objections as to its validity. The Court said that it would hear their objections only on the 19th of December. A specific authorisation under Section 5(2) authorising Mazagon Docks to take over the properties from the Official Receiver on behalf of the Government of India has been issued.

श्री मधु लिमये (बांका) : सभापति महोदय, जिस हरिजन को जिन्दा जलाया गया था, उस पर दीक्षित जी का बयान कब होगा। उन्होंने कहा है कि एक ही का आदेश हुआ था। 18 दिन पहले जो शुकुवार था, मैंने अगले सप्ताह की कार्यवाही, बिजनेस पर बोलते हुए कहा था। 18 दिन इंतजार करते हुए हो चुके हैं—क्या हरिजन की जान की कोई कीमत नहीं ?

गृह मंत्री (श्री उभासंकर दीक्षित) : मुझे पता नहीं है—अध्यक्ष महोदय की ओर से क्या निर्देश हुआ है। मैं पता लगाऊंगा और जैसा उन्होंने कहा होगा वैसा करूंगा।

श्री मधु लिमये : हम तो जानकारी चाहते हैं।