

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

(iv) REPORTED PARADING BY POLICE IN BOMBAY OF A HARIJAN YOUTH AFTER BEING STRIPPED NAKED

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Ausgram): Sir, I have given notice under rule 377.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Gwalior): What is the basis on which you select the notices under rule 377? A Limca bottle was produced here. But we have given notices about the atrocities committed on a Harijan youth who was stripped naked and whose face was tarred by the police before they took him in procession to the police station in Bombay. (Interruption).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Banerjee, kindly sit down. I have seen your notice. (Interruption) Order please. Now, my reaction to this was to admit your notice, but you have to understand that so many notices have been received and so we have to choose.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: (Kanpur): There is a Call Attention Notice also.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Kindly sit down. We have to choose. I am not bound to give reasons, but the fact is that so many times we have discussed the atrocities on Harijans not now but very often we have discussed them. I thought that other things had precedence. If you ask me why that bottle of limca was allowed and why not this Harijan question, the Home Ministry demands are coming and we have also discussed this many times. One incident has happened in Bombay; where as the other thing is a food item which our people in general go, buy and drink; it affects countless number of people. I thought that this should be pinpointed and an enquiry should be made. Anyway, since you have referred to it, I will allow you to mention it; you may mention it.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : उद्दिष्ट यह था, यह आप का कहे, टीक है कि हरिजन बन्दुओं के प्रति अत्याचार को घटनायें देश के कई भागों में हो रही हैं, लगातार हो रही हैं। लेकिन यह घटना इन दृष्टि से अकेली है कि बम्बई जैसे बड़े शहर में जिने मैट्रोपोलिटन मिटी कहा जाता है, वहाँ पुलिस एक हरिजन नौजवान को नगा करके, उस का मुँह काला करके और सड़क पर ज़ूच के रूप में निकाले, पुलिस थाने ले जाय यह तो बड़ा गमोर घटना है। अभी तक जो भी अत्याचार की घटनायें हुई हैं वह ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में मर्यादित रही है। वहाँ पुलिस ने अन्दरे डी कर दी हो, या पुलिस कहीं उनमें शामिल हो गई हो यह बात अलग है लेकिन यहाँ ऐसी घटना है जिसमें पुलिस ने ही एक हरिजन नौजवान को नगा करके सड़को पर निकाला; मुँह काला करके पुलिस थाने ले गई। मेरा निवेदन है कि यह घटना सारे देश में एक प्रतिक्रिया पैदा कर सकती है और मैं चाहूँगा मंत्री महोदय इस के बारे में जानकारी प्राप्त कर के सदन को अवगत कराये।

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: It is a very serious thing. I do not want to repeat. The Harijans, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are treated as third class citizens, not even as second class citizens. The Home Minister should enquire. I demand immediate suspension of the Assistant Police Inspector who was responsible for this horrible incident. The Home Minister should make a statement as early as possible.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I want to make one submission. This news has appeared in the Times of India. A Harijan youth named Kamble was stripped naked, and his face was tar-

red and he was taken in procession to the Worli police station last Thursday, to teach the Dalits in the BDD chawls a lesson. This is a serious matter. In the front page of the Times of India, there is this news also: "Poona: Four persons were arrested today for allegedly outraging the modesty of a 14-year-old Harijan girl in Karamoli village in Poona district last night. One of them is a primary school teacher." The entire House was concerned at what happened in Nagaland and Manipur and you also expressed your sentiments. These things will have a very bad effect. I would appeal to the Home Minister who is sleeping... (Interruptions).

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT): I am not sleeping.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Muvattupuzha): Anything can be said here by anybody. He is overdoing it. He says that the Home Minister is sleeping here. Can anything like that be said here?

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is not proper. We should be more courteous to each other.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: He was out of his senses; that is why he says he is sleeping. Why should he say this in the morning? I can understand, if this has happened in the evening. (Interruptions).

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: May I assure hon. Mr. Stephen that I have got more regard for the Home Minister, than he has

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: It is not a question of regard. It is a question of healthy behaviour, how to talk and how remarks should be made on any matter. It is a matter of concern to others also. (Interruptions).

This shows, he is not concerned about this issue. He is concerned about something else.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Sir, I feel sorry if I had injured his feelings. But, the question is, I do expect that he will keep his eyes open. The question is, he should make a statement and allay the fears in the minds of Harijans.

13 16 hrs

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED MAJOR POWER FAILURE IN THE NORTHERN REGION

SHRI M. C. DAGA (Pali): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Irrigation and Power to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

'Reported major power failure in the northern region of the country.'

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI K. C. PANT): Before I make the statement, may I briefly refer to some of the remarks that were made this morning, if you will allow me? Firstly you were good enough to observe that I am always very particular about my respect to the House and then you mentioned that it would be better if we listen to our loudspeakers in the rooms. I may, on a point of information, mention that all of us do not have loudspeakers in our rooms. In fact, most of us do not have. If, Sir, through your good offices, we could get loudspeakers in our rooms, it will greatly facilitate our work. Secondly, you were good enough to say that it would be good, if we come early to Parliament House. I was, in fact, here since 10 A.M. this morning and I arrived here at about one minute to twelve. Normally if questions had continued business would have been smooth.