

cuss the question of electronics cooperation and what we can export to the Soviet Union. We are also holding a return seminar in India towards the end of the year where the Soviet electronics and software experts will come. We have also made some demand studies in countries like Hungary which seem to have a demand for Indian software products. Of course, we have programme with Japan, but as regards the exchange of manpower that the hon. Member has mentioned, which came up during the Prime Minister's visit, I am not aware whether it has taken place or not. I do not think it has taken place yet. But there are constant exchanges between India and Japan in this field and as you know, Sir, there are many joint projects between India and Japan in the electronics field, which is a way of transferring technology.

SHRI R.P. DAS : Sir, our share in the world computers software market is very insignificant. We need to raise our share within a very short time. But the Minister has already said that in the first phase we are going to set up three software technology parks, one at Bhubaneswar, another one at Pune and the third one at Bangalore, and in the second phase, the Government is to set up another one at Chandigarh. In this context, I would like to remind this House that the West Bengal Government a few years back, wanted to set up an electronics industry complex at Salt Lake in Calcutta with the help of the Indian Government. But the Government just turned down the proposal on the plea that it was situated on the border of Bangla Desh. I would like to know through you, Sir, whether Chandigarh is not on the international border on the border of Pakistan. If so, why Calcutta could not be selected as one of the industrial complexes. That was my question.

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : Sir, Salt Lake is already developing as a very important electronic centre in West Bengal. I had the privilege of going and inaugurating the electronic laboratory which we have set up as one of the Central institutions at Salt Lake. The function was presided over by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal. This Centre is far from being neglected. Of course, it is a

State project. But we are giving research and technological assistance for the development of this Centre in West Bengal.

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU : Sir, there are lot of fresh University Graduates who have studied the software development course in this country. May I know from the hon. Minister what steps the Government have taken for absorption of these graduates in the software development area ?

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : I think we have first of all to provide training facilities for them and it is one of the fields where both the Government and the private industries almost immediately offer job opportunities once they are properly trained. The demand is so much. Therefore, there is no question of these graduates not getting jobs.

Atrocities on Scheduled Castes

*290. **SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN :** Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of atrocities on Scheduled Castes reported in different States during the last three years;

(b) whether atrocities like assault on Scheduled Castes and rape of Scheduled Castes women are on the increase in recent times;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Union Government to check such atrocities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI) : (a) to (d). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) The information is given in Tables I and II below.

(b) As may be seen from the information furnished in Annexures I and II, there was a drop in the atrocities against Scheduled Castes in 1987 compared to the earlier years.

(c) The Scheduled Castes are socially backward, economically weak and vulnerable. With the spread of

education and the efforts to inform them of their own rights, there has been some awareness generated in them. As a result, when the Scheduled Castes seek to secure their legitimate rights in socio-economic issues, atrocities are committed on them by powerful vested interests.

- (d) The remedy lies in effective implementation by the State Governments of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 passed by Parliament. The Union Government has provided guidelines to the States for taking action to implement the said Act and provides financial assistance for the purpose. The steps to check atrocities on Scheduled Castes include precautionary, preventive, punitive and rehabilitative measures. Precautionary and preventive measures include administrative measures to keep due vigil on the position with regard to land disputes, payment of minimum wages, treatment meted out to Scheduled Caste women, etc.,

identification of sensitive areas, posting of special striking forces and committed officers as far as possible belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes particularly at controlling levels such as District Collectors/District Magistrates and Supdts. of Police, check on use of arms by licence holders and careful periodic review of the developments and arrangements to meet the situations. Punitive measures include prompt apprehension of the criminals, investigation of cases and filing of charge-sheets, arranging to get the cases tried quickly and secure deterrent punishment of the accused. The cases of atrocities are handled generally by senior officers in the police and efforts for getting bail by the accused are resisted. Special prosecutors and special mobile courts are organised to ensure speedy trial and to secure exemplary punishments. Relief and rehabilitative measures are such as to ensure total rehabilitation of the affected persons.

Table I

Number of Cases of Crimes against Scheduled Castes Committed by Members of Non-Scheduled Castes in Various States/Union Territories during 1985, 1986 and 1987 Based on Data Furnished by the State Governments/U.T. Administrations

S. No.	State/U.T.	No. of cases registered in		
		1985	1986	1987
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	166	193	253
2.	Assam	Nil	15	03
3.	Bihar	1452	1633	1271
4.	Goa	Nil	Nil	01
5.	Gujarat	750	649	727
6.	Haryana	121	82	85
7.	Himachal Pradesh	49	50	52
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	53	89	156

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Karnataka	294	182	267
10.	Kerala	300	476	719
11.	Madhya Pradesh	5133	4421	2879
12.	Maharashtra	428	462	400
13.	Orissa	159	183	212
14.	Punjab	32	19	24
15.	Rajasthan	1437	1481	1465
16.	Sikkim	Nil	Nil	04
17.	Tamil Nadu	852	758	650
18.	Uttar Pradesh	4135	4697	4348
19.	West Bengal	11	09	08
20.	Delhi	01	Nil	03
21.	Pondicherry	Nil	04	02
Total :		15373	15403	13529

Table II

Office-wise Figures of Crimes against Scheduled Castes Committed by Non-Scheduled Castes in the Country during the Past Few Years based on Data Furnished by State Governments/U.T. Administrations

Year	Murder	Grievous Hurt	Rape	Arson	Other Offences	Total
1985	502	1367	700	980	11824	15373
1986	563	1406	726	1002	11706	15403
1987	495	1503	674	812	10045	13529

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN :
 Sir, atrocities on Harijans in Kerala have increased after the present Government assumed power in Kerala some 1-1/2 years back. Even the Chief Minister has said that there had been 846 cases of assault on Harijans and 46 alleged rape cases of Harijan women during the past one year in Kerala. In the statement laid on the Table of the House, the hon. Minister has mentioned that the number of cases registered in 1986 was 400 and odd but the number of cases registered in 1987 was 700 and odd. Even in Bihar it has come down from 1600 in 1986 to 1200 in 1987 and

in Madhya Pradesh from 4000 in 1986, it has come down to 2000 and odd in 1987. In Kerala alone it has increased from 400 to 700. Apart from that, in Trivandrum a Harijan youth by name Raju was forcibly taken away by the Marxist and after beating him mercilessly he was forced to eat human excrete. A case has already been registered by the Police against the Marxists for beating the Harijan youth but they omitted to register the other heinous crime. Likewise in Kothamangalam Police Station, the Police had arrested one Harijan boy by name Krishnan Kutty and he was also taken beaten mercilessly and forced to eat

human excrete. It has been reported to the Government of India for taking appropriate action against the culprits. I would like to know what action has the Centre taken in this serious matter.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : It has come to our notice as the hon. Member has stated and a special Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes headed by Shri Krishnan has visited the place. And he has inquired into this matter and his report is that there is truth in it, but still the investigation is going on. According to the local press report, one Shri Raju, a Harijan youth, was forced to eat human excreta in Trivandrum. He had accused that he had been offered a huge sum to retract his accusation. He has reportedly told in Trivandrum that a Democratic Youth Federation leader had sent a word to him that he was ready to pay any sum Raju wanted if he would withdraw his charge. Raju further told that though he had repeatedly complained to the police immediately after the incident, no action had been taken. The issue was taken up with the State Government... (*Interruptions*) Sir, the issue was taken up with the Kerala Government and the same is pursued with us... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : What is this, Sir? Can you allow this? (*Interruption*).

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : What is the report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : Under Article 338 of the Constitution, Sir, it is the duty of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to investigate into all these matters relating to the safeguards provided for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the Constitution and to report on the working of those safeguards to the President at prescribed intervals. (*Interruptions*).

AN HON. MEMBER : We cannot discuss Kerala. (*Interruption*).

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : He had gone to inquire about that. He had gone to inquire about this incident because this report appeared in the paper. Also, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled

Tribes Commission office is there, and they had also gone there to inquire about all these incidents. Then the Kerala Government was asked to report it back. This issue was raised in the Kerala Assembly also. At that time the issue was discussed in the meeting. Now, you cannot ask that the Central Government cannot inquire about that because... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : We want to know what is the report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : That report will be included when he submits it. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : He has not submitted his report.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : He had gone to inquire into the matter and the report which has appeared in the press, it seems it is true.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : How can you say that the newspaper report is true? (*Interruption*). How can you say that? (*Interruptions*).

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : In the newspaper it has appeared. (*Interruption*).

MR. SPEAKER : The problem, I do not know.....

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Sit down now. Will you please take your seats?

I would like to say to the House and to the Hon. Members that this is a very serious thing. Whenever it takes place in whatever shape it takes place, is it not that we must be very careful and very serious about it? The issue is like that.

(*Interruptions*)

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : Sir, it is not only Raju's case. The Government of Kerala received three petitions containing allegations that certain Harijans were forced to eat human excreta and drink urine. First is, Krishnankutty, a Harijan youth, was tortured by the police of Kothamangalam Police Station and he was

forced to eat human excreta and drink urine.

Second case is about Raju. And the third one is the case of Ramanandan who was assaulted and made to drink urine by the S.I. of Chirayankil police station. These are the three cases which have been reported by the Government of Kerala.

MR. SPEAKER : I would like to say...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Action should be taken against this. It is a serious thing, you see. This discrimination between man and man is too abhorrent and cannot be tolerated.

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : Since this Special Commissioner has submitted the report saying that the allegations are true, I would like to know what action the Government of India is going to take in this matter. Also, the Chief Minister of Kerala has said that the Central Government or the Special Commissioner has no right to inquire about this and even the Speaker of the Kerala Assembly, in a statement on the floor of the House...

SHRI SURESH KURUP : How can he say that ?

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : I am not casting any aspersion on the Speaker. He said that the inquiry is unconstitutional. I want to know the position. That is all. I am not saying anything. I have got great respect for the Speaker. I was also a Speaker. So, I have got great respect for the Speaker. But the Speaker of the Assembly said that the inquiry by the Special Commissioner is unconstitutional. So, I would like to know the position.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : Under article 338 of the Constitution it is the duty of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to investigate into all matters relating to the safeguards provided for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the Constitution and to report on the working of those safeguards to the President, at prescribed interval. He is thus vested with such power. Nobody can stop that. No State Government can stop that. This issue was discussed in the meeting of the Chief Minister and Members

of Parliament taken by the Prime Minister on the 10th of this month. The Speaker of the Kerala Assembly had certain reservations on this earlier. But Mr. E.K. Nayyanar, Chief Minister of Kerala has stated in that meeting that he, in the capacity of the Chief Minister, would allow the inquiry by the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, as stipulated in the Constitution.

My point is, that no State Government can stop the Commissioner when he wants to inquire any matter which is related to the safeguards of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. So, the Special Commissioner is entitled to do that.

SHRI D.N. REDDY : Our father of the nation must be turning in his grave, when he knows about the heinous incidents happening even after 4 decades of independence. It is tragic that every day we read in the newspapers about these ugly incidents somewhere in the country. It looks as though, many of us are trying to take political advantage of each other, instead of putting down these ugly things, wherever it happens, whether it happens in Kerala, or Bihar or U.P. Will the hon. Minister inform the House that the will take more serious measures by legislation to put down these atrocious crimes, as early as possible. It is because in the last 40 years or so, we have not been able to.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Reddy, we have had a very long discussion. What is needed is to stop this evil practice.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : Sir, I entirely agree with the hon. Minister's suggestion. I entirely agree with the hon. Member's suggestion that we must have a collective thinking on this. We must all have a collective thinking on this national issue. We must try for it. Every State, every representative, every citizen and everybody...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER : Recently, there was a discussion on this. What more do you want ? There is nothing about that.

(Interruptions)

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : Though we have passed the Acts against such practice, public support and public awareness is very much needed to stop the atrocities. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURESH KURUP : It is most unfortunate that certain minor incidents...
(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : What is the problem ?
Let me hear what he said. Order.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SURESH KURUP : It is most unfortunate that certain incidents which happened in Kerala are blown out of all proportion and certain persons are making political capital out of it. I am proud to say that whichever Government ruled in Kerala, there is not a single incident in Kerala in which any Harijan murder or rape case took place in Kerala (*Interruptions*). Let me complete my sentence. Prime Minister can reply. (*Interruptions*).

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : He has not completed the sentence.

MR. SPEAKER : Does not matter.
Prime Minister will now reply.

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Let him complete.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : I am not going to withdraw. Only after I complete my sentence, Prime Minister can reply.

MR. SPEAKER : There is no question at all. I was asking him. He was just exploiting certain things. He did not put any question. No. Sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : He did not put any question. I had asked him. He has not put any question.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : The problem is he did not put any question.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : No. I do not agree with that. The problem is he did not put his question. I will allow Prime Minister.

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Prime Minister does not change the rules of procedure.

MR. SPEAKER : But he was not putting any question at all.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : Mr. Speaker, sir, I only stood up after I understood you had asked the Member to sit down. I did not stand up before this had happened.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : No question. I stopped him.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Mr. Speaker, sir, I take very strong objection to the hon. Member calling it a minor incident. This is not a minor incident. I would request the hon. Member not to bring bias into the House.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SURESH KURUP : What action you have taken in Nathdwara Temple case ?
(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I would like to say one thing in this House once and again. I have said once earlier also.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Order, please. What are you doing ? What this man is doing ? Please sit down. I would like to say one thing.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : What are these people doing ?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Why do you give undue lift to them. Please sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Please don't interrupt, I am speaking.

[*English*]

Mr. Rai, please sit down. What I say is a simple thing. I would like to say one thing and that is so simple and straight.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I am saying some-

thing. Why can't you listen? Why are you disturbing? What I say is simple and straight. Whenever any question arises against any man...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am saying something. Why can't you take your seat? I have not allowed anybody—neither you nor him. It is very simple. The problem is simple and straight. These questions should not be justified. The House must be unanimous in the thing that we have to put an end to such atrocities.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Misra, you are an honourable Member of this House. Please do not do like this. It is very unfortunate on your part. Mr. Reddy, you don't realise this thing. It is very important. It is so important that we have to remove all these barriers between us. We have to take into account the shame which hangs on the head of our nation as such and on the community of this country as such and we have to eradicate this evil once and for all. It should not be taken whether this Government or that Government did that; whether this party or that party did that. We have to cut across all the party barriers and we have to fight unitedly in this front. I appeal to all of you to do this thing. Please try to stop this evil. We are all unanimous. I agree with all the hon. Members that we must stand united against this thing.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Next question.

Indian Delegation to Brazil

*291. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some high level delegation visited Brazil in July, 1988;

(b) if so, the object of the visit; and

(c) the outcome of the visit, particularly in the field of electronics and technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNO-

LOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) to (c). A Statement is given below.

Statement

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Recently, Government of India had deputed a high level delegation led by Shri K.P.P. Nambiar, Secretary, Department of Electronics to Brazil to study in detail the possibility of trade and technology transfer in electronics including informatics.

(c) Secretary, Department of Electronics and the Minister for Science and Technology, Brazil signed Minutes of the Meeting held there to increase trade as well as effect technology transfer in the field of electronics including informatics between the two countries as part of the policy of increasing South-South cooperation. A detailed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is under consideration of both the sides. The Government of India is encouraging companies in this field to further trade in this area. Already, Semiconductor Complex Limited (SCL) has signed an MoU with Sid Micro-electronica for export of its chips based on 3/2 Micron C MOS process technology. CMC Limited has also signed an MOU with Sid Informatica on exploring the possibility of the use of its banking automation technology in India.

SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI : Sir, the hon. Minister has said in his reply to part (c) of the question that a detailed Memorandum of Understanding is under consideration of both the sides. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how long would it take to consider the Memorandum of Understanding. I would also like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that the delegation spent only very short period in meeting them because of which detailed discussions regarding these companies and their subsidiaries could not take place. *(Interruption)*

MR. SPEAKER : Order, please.

(Interruptions)