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here and their purpose would not be served. The Press also will not report this matter.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Mr. Speaker, may I point out . . .

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member is a lawyer. I am really surprised at the manner in which the forum of this House is sought to be used for a matter for which there is other remedy under the Constitution. In spite of my telling him, not once but twice, he wants to have his own way so that this news may spread. That is why I have asked the press not to give publicity to this matter. We will now take up the Calling Attention Notice of Shri Banerjee.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May 1 make a submission?

Mr. Speaker: No.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: It is violation of the rules.

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow this.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Despite the interpretation of the rules, I want to make a submission.

Mr. Sycaker: I accept his explanation. Now Shri Banerjee.

Shri Braj Singh: How can you accept it without hearing it?

Mr. Speaker: Shri Banerjee.

12.31 hrs.

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CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

FLOOD SITUATION

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Under rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Irrigation and Power to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:---

The situation arising out of the recent floods in Kerala, Madras, Mysore, Orissa and Poona.

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim): May I read it sitting?

Mr. Speaker: Yes. Is it a big. statement?

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: Only one page.

As a result of very heavy and concentrated rainfall, in the beginning of the monsoon season this year, Kerala, Madras, Mysore, Orissa and Poona City in Maharashtra experienced very severe floods.

Shri Ranga (Tenali): What about Andhra?

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: In Kerala, due to exceptionally heavy rainfall, the Periyar and other rivers were in spate. Considerable damage was caused by floods in rivers, landslides in hills and sea erosion.

Shri Mahanty (Dhenkanal): He may lay it on the Table.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, it can be laid on the Table.

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: In Madras State also, there were heavy floods in the Cauvery and its distributaries, the Vettar and the Coleroon and, consequently, breaches were caused in the banks of these rivers. In Mysore, due to heavy floods in the Cauvery and other rivers, considerable damage occurred to minor irrigation works. roads and bridges. In Orissa State, the river Mahanadi and its tributary Tel were in heavy flood. The level of the Hirakud reservoir almost reached the maximum and caused great anxiety but fortunately no damage was caused to the dam. In Maharashtra, Poona city suffered extremely heavy damage on account of floods in the Mutha river and its tributaries, which caused breaching of the Panset and the Khadakvasala dams.

Acharya Kripalani (Sitamarhi): May I point that neither do we have him nor does he hear our comments? Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: Detailed assessment of the damage caused ...

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Basirhat): May I point out that there is so much talk on the other side that we cannot hear the hon. Minister?

Mr. Speaker: If hon. Members do not talk and keep silent, they can hear every word, however low the voice may be. The hon. Minister is now only reading a brief summary of the longer statement that he is going to lay on the Table of the House.

Shri Ranga: A_5 his deputy is here, he can read it

Mr. Speaker: It is not for the hon. Member to decide a_S to which hon. Minister to read or not to read. It is wrong. Hon. Members will kindly keep quiet and the hon. Minister will continue and conclude soon.

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: Detailed assessment of the damage caused in the States is being carried out by the State Governments. Relief operations have been undertaken by the State Government₅ on an extensive scale.

I am today laying a detailed statement on the Table of the House, reviewing the flood situation in the country including the States of Kerala, Madras, Mysore and Poona City in Maharashtra.

Shri Ranga: What about Andhra?

Mr. Speaker: We will now take up papers to be laid on the Table.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will there be a discussion on this?

Shri A. K. Gopalan (Kasergod): We did not pres_{S} our adjournment motion because we wanted to see the statement. Now that the statement has been read, we want to know whether there will be any discussion about the damage that has been caused and the action taken, as far as this Government is concerned,

Mr. Speaker: It is not as if every member of this House is interested in every matter. If any hon. Member wants to have a discussion on this subject, he knows how to table a motion. It will come before the Business Advisory Committee and we will decide it.

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Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): The adjournment motion is already there.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister has made the statement. Hon. Members will kindly look into it. If they want further discussion, if any hon. Member tables a motion, I will certainly look into it. (Interruptions). Let any hon. Member make a motion.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Can we get copies of this statement?

Mr. Speaker: Yes, copies will be circulated.

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): The report mentions about floods in different States. Instead of merely mentioning the steps taken by the State Governments, I would like to know the type of help that has been given by the Central Government. Then, there have been certain allegations from various States about certain inadequate steps which resulted in greater damage. I would like these two points to be covered, if they are not already covered, in the statement.

Mr. Speaker: It is a 20 page statement. Hon, Members will look into it. The hon. Minister will take note of what the hon. Members have stated and try to do the needful at the appropriate time.

Shri Prabhat Kar (Hooghly): Will the copies be sent to all hon. Members?

Mr. Speaker: Yes, hon. Members who want these copies will get them at the Notice Office.

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