

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 I 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. Speaker: 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.

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 hear him nor does he hear our comments?

