

[Pandit G. B. Pant]

questions will be answered and after that the matter should be discussed in some form or other—there are so many forms in which matters can be discussed in this House—of course, everyone here shall very gladly abide by your decision. So, there is no question of in any way thwarting a discussion here. But the constitutional position has to be considered. If in spite of that we feel that though constitutionally we have no jurisdiction, still as a responsible academic body we should sit together and talk about it, we can do that perhaps.

Mr. Speaker: This matter will stand over. It is a very important matter and a very delicate matter too. If we go on discussing what is exclusively within their jurisdiction, they will go on discussing likewise and there would not be Ministers to answer the points. We do not have another agency; law and order is exclusively a State subject. There we will have to depend on that. If we come to a different conclusion, are we to censure or applaud? These are all very delicate matters. Merely because some serious matter has arisen somewhere, which is not within our jurisdiction or in the Union List, however important it might be, we cannot have a discussion here as if there is no Assembly there. There are as good representatives of the people there as there are here. Possibly for smaller areas there are representatives there whereas our representatives represent larger areas. These are all matters to be taken into consideration.

Therefore, I would like to be very cautious in this matter and not take up a matter which is not within our jurisdiction. Therefore, there is no good having an argument here. I will consider this matter in detail what exactly the House is anxious to have, if it is some information which is not available to the House if that information can be given to the House, what limitations are there and so on. I will consider every aspect of it.

Shri B. S. Murthy (Kakinada—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Here is a case where the riots have attracted many Members of Parliament and also a Minister from the Centre. Are we not entitled at least to have the impressions of the Minister who has gone there to see the riot-affected areas? Where does the Madras State Government come in here?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): After Mr. Speaker has said that he is going to consider this matter, I do not see what room there is for further argument. Some Members seem to think that if a Minister or Government goes somewhere, that is an interference with the local Government's activities or its special subjects. If that is so, then it is a strange state; the Minister of the Central Government will have to live in the upper atmosphere!

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow any more discussion on this matter. I am sorry; hon. Members will kindly resume their seats.

#### ARREST AND CONVICTION OF A MEMBER

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the House that I have received the following telegram dated the 8th November, 1957, from the Deputy Commissioner, Gauhati:

"Shri Hem Barua, Member, Lok Sabha, was arrested today by Gauhati Police for criminal trespass into Magistrate's Court, with others and for demonstrating in connection with oil refinery agitation; later tried and sentenced to imprisonment till the rising of Court under Section 443 I.P.C."