

SHRI KRISHNA SAHI (Begusarai): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Home Minister through you to the situation caused due deteriorating law and order conditions in Bihar State. Such an atmosphere of terror, disorder chaos and insecurity has not been witnessed in the history of the country so far. The incidents of kidnapping and killing are on the increase there. There were 20-25 incidents of kidnapping during the last week alone and the number of such incidents has increased in different districts also. Within one week there have been 20-25 incidents and at certain places there have been as many as 50 incidents of kidnapping. The day before yesterday one Dr. Ram Sewak Singh, former Superintendent, P.M.C.H was kidnapped. He is 73. He was kidnapped along with his vehicle and driver. There have been 50 incidents of kidnapping within one month.

Mr. speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Home Minister through you to the fact that the people of Bihar are spending their days under the shadow of the Gun. The Government of India should pay some attention to the reasons for such incidents. All the same, the Government of Bihar be dismissed.

[English]

PROF. VENKATESWARLU UMAREDDY (Tenali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am raising a very serious issue. Five starvation deaths have taken place in Andhra Pradesh. During the past one week, there are as many as five starvation deaths among handloom weavers in my constituency, Tenali in Andhra Pradesh, due to poverty. Shrimati Seelam Mangamma of Muttemsettipalaem committed suicide by drowning herself in a canal since she could not look after her ailing husband and secure even the bare medicines to save him. Shrimati Kornepati Yella Mandamma committed suicide at the age of Seventy, since she was unable to maintain

herself and her family with meagre earnings as a Handloom weaver. Shri Veer Raghavayya and Shrimati Raghavamma of Gullapalli village in Cherukupalli Mandalam have committed suicide under the distressed poverty conditions of their families.

One more handloom weaver has committed suicide in Chirala Village of Prakasam District. All put together, there are five starvation deaths in Andhra Pradesh and several others are suffering out of starvation in villages around Tenali. I extend my sympathies to the bereaved families. Though series of suicides are being committed out of starvation in several villages of Andhra Pradesh among handloom weavers, the State Government did not express its concern over the issue so far, not extended any financial assistance to these families, nor any Minister visited the villages to get the first-hand appraisal of the situation.

This is not for the first time that starvation deaths among handloom weavers have happened in Andhra Pradesh. Even in 1985, handloom weavers committed suicide out of starvation and in distress. Since the living conditions of handloom weavers are getting deteriorated from time to time and their living conditions are assuming alarming dimensions, there is every need for the Government to review the situation in all seriousness. In order to remove the difficulties faced by the handloom weavers, twenty-two items of cloth are reserved for them for production by the Union Government earlier. But, unfortunately this has not come into effect so far, nor is the Government serious about it... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MATIKRISHNA SAHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir. I would like to draw your attention.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not going on record.....

PROF. VENKATESHWARLU UMAREDDY: The recommendations of the 'Abid Hussain Committee' to ameliorate the living conditions of the handloom weavers have also not been implemented. The handloom weavers are unable to exist in their traditional occupation of weaving since the textile industry has become highly competitive.

During the past three years, the price of Dyes, Yarn and Chemicals have increased by 300 per cent which is throwing several handloom weavers out of their occupation. Under the present distressed conditions of the handloom weavers, I urge upon the Government to start a separate Handloom Corporation on par with the commodity boards and Cotton Corporation, so that a greater attention can be paid to the handloom sector. In addition there should be a dual pricing policy of inputs in weaving occupation and subsidy should be extended to the handloom weavers. Further, the handloom sector and textile industry may be separated and brought under different ministries to have a greater and special emphasis on the handloom sector.

I further urge upon the Government to extend ex-gratia to the families of the deceased to save from starvation and save the handloom weaving occupation and weavers to continue in their traditional occupation. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI. DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): Mr. Speaker, Sir, a reception in honour of the hon. Deputy Speaker, Shri. Mallikarjunaiah was arranged in the premises of Gymkhana Club. It was arranged by some organisations of Delhi. The programme was arranged in Cottage No.3. I would not say

anything about this cottage No.3. As soon as I entered the main entrance gate, a Sikh named Jeet Singh rushed towards me. He asked me where I was going. I told him humbly that I am an M.P. and I have been invited to this programme, and journalists and Members of Parliament are also coming to participate. I may, please, be allowed to join. He said, "No" and further he said that a person wearing dhoti-kurta cannot enter this Gymkhana Club ....(Interruptions).... I requested him that I am a Member of Parliament, why can't I enter this Gymkhana Club? Even after 40 years of independence, people clad in dhoti-kurta won't be permitted to enter such a Club. I was disheartened and returned after being insulted. I was told that if I had come in a suit or pants and bush-shirt, then alone I would have been allowed because people clad in dhoti kurta are not allowed to go in. Thereafter, when I was coming out after being insulted, one of my colleagues representing Jhansi constituency, Shri. Rajendra Agnihotri alighted from his car. I interrupted him and told him that since he was in Kurta-pyjama he could not go inside. He asked me how was it possible. When he went on I also accompanied him and his secretary came and said that the people clad in dhoti-kurta won't be permitted to go inside the premises. I said that it was the reception ceremony of Shri. Mallikarjunaiah, we may please be allowed to go inside.. (interruptions). It is a question of privilege.....(Interruptions).

SHRI. LAL K. ADVANI(Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with regard to the problem discussed by Shri. Dau Dayal Joshi, I believe that the whole House is of the opinion that the rules followed in all the courts and clubs are the same for the last 44 years and these are in existence since the British Rule. some rules were framed at that time which are being followed till now. According to those rules, anybody clad in dhoti-kurta will not be permitted entry. Even if we wear western dresses we would not be permitted and no