

the Parliament but there is no mention of it in the brief agenda I have got with me. Through you, I would like to know whether the Government intends to bring a Bill on it or not. I submit to the Prime Minister that such a Bill should be introduced in any case in this House before the 20th December so that Marathwada and Vidarbha may get justice. My submission is that the Prime Minister should make a statement in this regard.

SHRI DATTA MEGHE (Nagpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, all the parties are concerned with the issue of the Board. The Congress Party had raised this issue last time also they had met the hon. Home Minister. He had said that he would introduce a new Bill in the current session. All the parties have supported the issue of the Board. Through you, we want to know whether the Vidarbha Board and Marathwada Board will be set up there soon? A demand for separate Vidarbha is going to be raised there. The law and order situation is going to deteriorate. I request you that the issue of Board pending for long should be decided. I met the hon. Prime Minister last time. He assured us that the issue would be solved at the earliest. It is an all-party demand so it should be fulfilled at the earliest. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: We also support it. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV (Machilipatnam): There was a serious apprehension in the minds of the students belonging to backward classes and SC and ST communities about the ill intentions of the Government of Andhra Pradesh. Hence they were resorting to dharnas, hartals before the headquarters of all districts and capital.

The students belonging to weaker sections of society are living under miserable conditions in hostels without proper sanitation and nominal medicines. They were served with sub-standard food with no nutrient value, and no clothes were supplied. The mess

charges are not increased in proportion to the increase in prices of essential commodities. The textbooks supposed to be supplied in the beginning of the calendar year are being supplied at the end of the academic year. The scholarships are not being given for the last one-and-a-half years. The stipend for SC ST and BC lawyers was stopped for the last two years. As a result of all these acts of Government young students may be misled by Naxalites to join in such organisations. I, therefore, request you to pull up the Government of Andhra Pradesh to at once come to the rescue of these students of weaker sections.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not to submit much. An assurance was given by the Government yesterday that the Minister of Information and Broadcasting would make a statement on the issue we raised about the Navabharat Times.. I want to know to as to when will the government make a statement and when will it fulfill its assurance ? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was said that statement would be made about it. If he is in Delhi, he will make it today itself otherwise tomorrow. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARA-MANGALAM: I would like to inform the hon. Members that about the alleged closure of Nav Bharat Times the I & B Minister is in contact with the Labour Minister and a statement will be made either today or latest on Monday.

MR. SPEAKER: Yesterday, some Members wanted to discuss Cauvery issue on the floor of the House. We have listed it in today's business. Now today is the Private Members' day. At 3.30 we will have Private Members' Business.

Before that it is necessary to have the reply on the debate on the law and order