

[Translation]

SHRI SURAJ BHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Act says:

[English]

"No Indian Christian shall be deemed to be a member of Scheduled Caste."

[Translation]

There is no controversy as such. All these things had been said in 1936 during the British Period. What has compelled us today to provide reservation to the christians. These orders are being issued only to grab votes. It will harm in two ways. Christians would be provided reservation by curtailing the reservation quota of the Scheduled Castes. They are more educated, thus they will also try to grab the share of Scheduled Castes. Secondly it would lead to conversion. I, therefore oppose it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Let him have his say. Let him speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will go through the record.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Sir, it must not go on record... (Interruptions) Whatever he has said must not go on record. It is against the Parliamentary procedure. It must not go on record... (Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Tomorrow if the Bill comes up in the House, can you stop it? Will you allow it or not? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Government of India's Common Minimum Programme, if I recollect correctly, has made a commitment to do this. Therefore, the matter has to come before the House. At that time you can have a debate on that issue. Let us close the matter now.

[Translation]

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA (Chandauli) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, farmers in my Constituency Chandauli are faced with a very difficult situation. This is all because of irrigation... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : We are very sorry that he has misused the Zero Hour. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Do not complicate the matter now.

[Translation]

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, today the farmers in Chandauli are faced with almost a worn out situation. Their condition is quite deplorable today. They are sad. All the canals there need to be repaired. The irrigation is totally mismanaged. The whole area is disturbed. Sir,

through you, I would like to draw the attention of hon. Minister towards it and I request you to provide proper irrigation facilities to the farmers in Chandauli immediately so as to improve their condition, which has deteriorated due to it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I am coming to you. Whosoever's name is here, I am calling. Let us not waste the time.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA BAHADUR ROY (Sultanpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a strange incident is taking place in Sultanpur, Jaunpur and Pratapgarh in Uttar Pradesh for the last one month. About one dozen innocent boys in Jaunpur, half a dozen girls and boys in Pratapgarh and four girls in Sultanpur have died. Here the air is thick with rumours that leopard and hyaena are responsible for it and some people even say that these are the act of terrorists and Pakistani agents are involved in it... (Interruptions)

Sir, trains were burnt at the railway station and Cars were torched, one person was killed and more than 50 people were hurt in the agitation launched against it. Uttar Pradesh is under the Presidential Rule. This whole area is in turmoil. Girls are being snatched from the lap of their mothers. In my district Sultanpur it has been said that no one know whether the culprit is a beast or human being. Here no one comes out of their house after 6 P.M. Railway stations and trains were burnt as a protest against it. Several people were put behind the bars. No person in white Maruti Car and van could pass through this area. The most surprising thing is that the 11 children killed in Jaunpur are boys and the children killed in Pratapgarh are both boys and girls, where as only girls were killed in Sultanpur... (Interruptions)

I request the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to pay attention towards it... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude now; you have made your point. Just be brief and make a pointed reference.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : One of the important industries, the Metal Box Company, in which seven thousand workers were working has been lying closed since 1987. 118 workers have died so far. The Government has set up BIFR to revive the sick industries. But instead of reviving the sick industries, because of unnecessary delay in the BIFR and because of all the industries resorting to imports into this country, BIFR is causing the close down of many industries. So, I would request the hon. Prime Minister who comes with the farmers' background and who is interested in the welfare of labourers to please see that these industries are reopened immediately. BIFR has said that these industries should be reopened. But I do