

Regarding alleged attack on Catholic pilgrims in Jabhalpur

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): Madam Chairperson, I am raising a very urgent and important matter regarding the incident which has happened in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh, where Catholic priests and laity were brutally attacked by Hindutva extremists.

On 1st April, 2025, a group of Catholic pilgrims from Mandla parish, who were peacefully participating in Jubilee 2025 religious observances, were unlawfully detained twice by extremist elements and subjected to violence. Notably, when senior priests, including the Vicar General of Jabalpur, arrived to support the victims, they too were assaulted. Such brazen attacks on religious minorities not only violate constitutional rights but also expose the growing climate of intolerance and impunity for extremist violence.

Despite claims of disassociation by the RSS, the incident raises serious concerns about law and order, religious freedom, and the safety of citizens practising their faith. The Government must take urgent and decisive action to ensure swift and impartial action against the perpetrators.

Thank you, Madam.