

Title: Requested the Government to take proper steps to stop the cases of atrocities on the minority communities in Gujarat and Rajasthan.

SHRI E. AHAMED : Sir, the primary duty of every Government, whether State or Central, is to give protection to the life and property of every citizen in the country, more particularly the members of the minority community.

I am very sorry to point out the state of affairs in many of the States, where innocent and law-abiding citizens belonging to the minority community have been harassed, attacked and ill-treated. They have not been getting justice even from the police station.

Two days back, in Gujarat, in the walled city, two people belonging to the minority community have been attacked by the VHP and Bajrang Dal people and they were killed. Unfortunately, while these things are happening, the State Government is keeping mum and sleeping.

On the last Monday, in Mohod, Gujarat, a picnic party of the children led by the Christian nuns were harassed. The Bajrang Dal and VHP activists were alleged to have attacked the picnic party of children led by the Christian nuns. The Police Station had not accepted their complaint. The police officer, who passed by that place, ignored this incident, according to a Press report.

Sir, India is a great country and it is one of the most vibrant democratic and secular countries. Among the Comity of Nations, India has been considered as one of the important nations in Asia. In spite of all these things, under the NDA Government led by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who claims to uphold democracy, people belonging to the minority community have been suffering at the hands of the Administration and the communal elements.

I am very sorry to mention as to what had happened in Rajasthan. It was quite unfortunate. It should not have happened. Most of the people belonging to the minority communities have been attacked without any reason whatsoever. Though unfortunate things have happened there, the Rajasthan Government has taken the stand that the disputes mosques belong to the Muslim community. That is the stand which they have taken in the Court. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Ahmad, this is 'Zero Hour' and you cannot make a speech.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI E. AHAMED : The Constitution of India provides special protection to the minorities. As per the provisions enshrined in the Constitution, protection of life, property and honour should be made available to the members of the minority community. It is disgraceful that the atrocities on minorities are going on as a result of minority baiting campaign let loose by fascist elements.

I hope the Government will take note of the report appeared in a newspaper like *The Hindu* today on the incidents of atrocities on the minorities in Gujarat. I request the Government to take note of these things and take proper action.