

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Ninth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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CONTENTS

[Thirteenth Series, Vol. XXII, Ninth Session, 2002/1923 (Saka)]

No. 8, Monday, March 11, 2002/Phalgun 20, 1923 (Saka)

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE	10-17
MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA AND BILLS AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA-LAID	17
MOTION RE: THIRTY-SECOND REPORT OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE	18
MATTERS UNDER RULE 377-LAID	
(i) Need to introduce an express train on Delhi- Calcutta-Guwahati route via Keul-Gaya Dr. Sanjay Paswan ...	18
(ii) Need to look into the problems faced by opium growers of Madhya Pradesh Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya	19
(iii) Need to set up Integrated Green Field Bauxite Mining and Aluminium Refinery Complex in Kalahandi district, Orissa Shri Bikram Keshari Deo	19
(iv) Need to approve the proposal of Government of Karnataka for setting up four medical colleges and hospitals Shri G. Mallikarjunappa	19
(v) Need to withdraw excise duty levied on marble units in Rajasthan Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat ...	20
(vi) Need to start Centrally sponsored projects for human resource development in Bihar Shri Rajo Singh	21
(vii) Need to upgrade airport at Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh as an international airport Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi	21
(viii) Need to provide financial assistance to Government of Tamil Nadu for development of Chettinadu Heritage Homes in Sivaganga and Sivaganga Palace of Rani Velu Nachiar as places of tourist resort Shri E.M. Sudarsana Natchiappan	21

SITUATION IN AYODHYA

Shri H.D. Deve Gowda	...	...	25
Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav			30
Shri Somnath Chatterjee	...		38
Shri Shivraj V. Patil		...	41
Shri Vinay Katiyar	...		42
Kumari Mamata Banerjee		... ..	43
Shri K. Yerranna		... ..	46
Shri Mohan Rawale	...	... ..	47

Godhra killings and subsequent violence in Gujarat

Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi	49
-------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----------

SUBJECT

COLUMNS

Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra	...	65
Shri Somnath Chatterjee		78
Shri K. Yerrannaidu		88
Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav ...		92
Shri Anant Gangaram Geete		99
Shri Shankarsinh Vaghela ...		110
Shri Harin Pathak		115
Shri Rashid Alvi		122
Shri S.S. Palanimanickam ...		126
Shri H.D. Deve Gowda		129
Kumari Mamata Banerjee		133
Shri P.H. Pandian		137
Shrimati Bhavnaben Devrajbhai Chikhali		139
Shri Madhusudan Mistry		148
Shri Trilochan Kanungo	...	153
Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh		155
Shrimati Kailasho Devi		160
Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi		161
Shri Dileep Sanghani ...		166
Shri G.M. Banatwalla ...		168
Chowdhary Talib Hussain		171
Shri Arun Kumar	...	172
Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief		175
Shri L.K. Advani		181

OBSERVATION BY THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Maintaining Communal Harmony and Peace

198-200

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, March 11, 2002/Phalgun 20, 1923 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious matter. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have received three notices for adjournment motions.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : The Ayodhya issue is a very serious issue. . . .*(Interruptions)* This is a conspiracy to create bloodshed in the entire country. This is a very serious issue. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. H.D. Deve Gowda.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal) : It will be seen later. The bloodshed is being created in the entire country. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA (Kanakpura) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will hear you. Let the papers be laid. Then, I will give you the floor.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : After the papers are laid, I will give you the floor.

(Interruptions)

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA (Kanakpura) : Sir, the question of observing the formalities according to the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business has to be suspended today. I am sorry to say this as a former Prime Minister. We cannot allow the way in which things are going on in this country. We cannot be silent spectators. The Prime Minister says one thing; the Minister of State for Home Affairs says one thing; and the Vishwa Hindu Parishad says one thing. What is going to happen on the

15th ? Are we here to see everything as a silent spectator ? This matter has to be decided once and for all in the Parliament, which is the apex institution. We have not come here to see the *tamasha*. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA (Junagarh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the discussion in this regard is to be held later on. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Sir, I would like to emphasise on this particular issue, apart from what happened in Gujarat. I know that Gujarat issue has been fixed in the agenda for discussion. Only three days are left to the 15th. We want to know categorically from the hon. Prime Minister what is going to happen on 15th. Do they want bloodbath in the whole country ? This is a matter to be settled.

The question of laying papers on the Table of the House, which are there in the agenda, is not an issue when the country is burning. That is all I would like to submit. Please pardon me for having raised this issue before the regular agenda is taken up. As a former Prime Minister, I am sorry. We cannot allow this to go on. Let the hon. Prime Minister come to the House and make it categorically clear. Today, a leader of the *Vishwa Hindu Parishad* says that they are going to reject whatever is the outcome of the Supreme Court's decision. We want to know from the Government where we are we going to stand. Till then, we do not want to allow the House to transact the business.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, Shri Ramji Lal Suman and Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, all the three of you have given notices for adjournment motions. We have in the Business Advisory Committee decided to have a full-scale discussion under Rule 193, today, on Gujarat.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : No other matter can be more serious than it, this conspiracy to create violence in the entire country is being hatched, this is a very serious matter. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Ramji Lal Suman, let me hear Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR (Faizabad) : In Bengal, Ramsewaks were prevented from holding Dharma Sabha, bullets were fired over there. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav has given an adjournment motion. Let me hear him.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as hon. Deve Gowdaji, has said I too have given an adjournment motion. The situation prevailing in Ayodhya is not confined to Ayodhya only, but has affected the entire country. The conspiracy is being hatched to create tension in the entire country. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : The discussion on Bengal should be started, bullets were fired over there. . . .(Interruptions). So many people have been killed in Bengal. . . .(Interruptions) Innocent people have been killed. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Vinay Katiyar, please resume your seat. I have given the floor to Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav because all the three of them have given notices for adjournment motions.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I want that the discussion should continue.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I want to have the discussion continued. Please do not disturb now.

Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Are they not satisfied. . . .(Interruptions) Are they not happy after creating unrest in Gujarat, whether they want to create violence in the entire country. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We have decided in the Business Advisory Committee to have a full-scale discussion on the Gujarat issue.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : What is the agenda of today, let us go according to it. Mulayam Singhji, please speak, but let we people too speak. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

They are responsible for the bloodshed in the country. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : I will not stop you from speaking. . . .(interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Mulayam Singh Yadav has given the notice for adjournment motion. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SHRICHAND KRIPLANI (Chittorgam) : Innocent people have been killed in West Bengal. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South-Central) : Two people have been killed in Calcutta.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please allow me to conduct the proceedings of the House.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Will they indulge in looting and rioting ? Will they create unlawful situation like that in Gujarat ? For what purpose, the Police is there. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Mulayam Singh, you wanted to say something.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will they prevent people from worshipping in India. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, it was decided in the Business Advisory Committee that the Ayodhya issue and the Gujarat issue will be taken up in the House, and the Government will make an official statement on both issues. It is a very tense situation, and it may explode at any moment. Therefore, the nation and

the Parliament want to know the stand of the Government on the Ayodhya issue before 15th of March. This issue should be taken up very seriously. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : This is a very serious matter. Whether it is Sangh Parivar, VHP or BJP, all are same. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am on my legs. Will you please resume your seat ? The other day, in the Business Advisory Committee meeting, we have decided to discuss the Gujarat issue throughout the day today.

(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : The Ayodhya issue is so explosive that it must be taken up immediately. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Banatwalla, let me complete. Would you not allow me to speak ? Shri Ramji Lal Suman, will you please resume your seat ?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Banatwalla, please resume your seat. Do you not allow me to speak ?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : The Ayodhya issue is a very serious issue. They are hatching the conspiracy to create bloodshed in the entire country. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : What is happening in this country, we do not know. All sorts of information are coming out, and the Government also does not make a statement. A very explosive situation has been created. What is happening, we do not know. We have to know only from the newspapers. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, today is 11th of March. Tomorrow is a holiday. . . .(Interruptions) The hon. Prime Minister is very much present in the House. . . .(Interruptions) Sir, concerns have been expressed by several Members of the Opposition. . . .(Interruptions) and the hon. Prime Minister can easily make a statement here. . . .(Interruptions) Sir, we are nearing 15th of March. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Prime Minister is present here, he should say something in this regard. They are hatching the conspiracy to create bloodshed in the entire country. They want to create bloodshed in the entire country.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You do not want to hear me. You do not allow me to speak even.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Banatwalla, would you resume your seat ?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Mr. deputy Speaker, Sir, please let me also speak. They are trying to create bloodshed in the entire country. There is complete law and order in Faizabad. The law and order situation is not bad anywhere. These people want to spoil law and order situation. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you allow me then only I would speak, otherwise I, would sit down. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Where is the scope for anybody to say anything in the House ? You are not even allowing the Presiding Officer to say anything. Shri Banatwalla is still standing and he is a senior Member of this House.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please be patient. Katiyarji, please listen.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Katiyar, will you resume your seat ?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Shri Vinay Katiyar rises every time. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have given notice for adjournment motion. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Ramji Lal Suman, please take your seat. Let me say something.

We have decided to have the discussion today. In the meanwhile, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, Shri Ramji Lal Suman and Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh have given notices for Adjournment Motion.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, whether they only can express their anger. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am talking about your own Adjournment Motion. I am not saying anything else. I have given the floor to them to say something and then we can start the discussion.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, please maintain the order. . . . (Interruptions) Should they be called devotees of Lord Rama ? . . . (Interruptions) This type of deed is done by the devotees of Ravana. . . . (Interruptions) How they will worship there. . . . (Interruptions) The kind of work can be done by the devotees of Ravana only. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mulayam Singhji, I have given you the floor in order to speak about your Adjournment Motion. Shri Ramji Lal Suman and Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh have also given notices.

(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you must listen to us also. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This is about Adjournment Motion. Thereafter we will take up the Gujarat issue.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, why do you stand up. . . . (Interruptions) When you stand up, I have to sit down. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the matter of Gujarat is related with Ayodhya. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, what is the subject that we are discussing ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The subject is, he has given notice for Adjournment Motion. I have given him the floor.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : After this is over, we can take up the discussion.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this issue is related with the country. In Ayodhya. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what is going to happen in Ayodhya ? . . . (Interruptions) Nothing is happening in Ayodhya. . . . (Interruptions) There is complete peace in Ayodhya. . . . (Interruptions) Rise above the Ayodhya in order to discuss country's. . . . (Interruptions) You should discuss Bengal, people have been killed over there. . . . (Interruptions) Why do you not hold discussion on Bengal. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please, let me come to the subject. There is no time.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Vinay Katiyar, please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, he is capable of creating riots in Ayodhya. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Who is stopping you to hold discussion on Bengal. . . . (Interruptions) I want that you should hold discussion it also. . . . (Interruptions) There is a Vidhan Sabha. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, he is increasing the communal tension. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He has given adjournment motion. Therefore, I have given him time to speak. He will speak a few words on it. After that discussion in this regard will begin.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, he is not letting, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav speak. The House cannot run in this manner. . . . (Interruptions) What are you talking of ? . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : The House cannot run in this way. . . . (Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have given notice for adjournment motion. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We have to hold discussion on the issue of Gujarat. You people have decided in the meeting of Business Advisory Committee. Were you not present there ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Are these the teachings of Quran and Geeta. . . . (Interruptions) Shall we remain silent, if they create bloodshed in the country ?

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, they repeatedly causing interruptions. You should give us permission to speak. When they rise to speak. . . . (Interruptions) We have given notice for adjournment motion on Ayodhya issue under the rule. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, how are you allowing him ?

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The issue of Gujarat is also there. It will be included in discussion.

(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Supreme Court has given verdict or Ayodhya's issue. . . . (Interruptions) But the people of VHF and Sangh Parivar are creating hurdle in it. (Interruptions)

11.20 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

(Interruptions)

11.21 hrs.

At this stage Shri Ramji Lal Suman and some other hon'ble Members came and stood on the floor near the Table

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Papers to be laid.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on behalf of Shri T.R. Baalu, I beg to lay on the Table :—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History, Coimbatore, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History, Coimbatore, for the year 2000-2001.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-5092/2002]

(Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Asiatic Society, Calcutta, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Asiatic Society, Calcutta, for the year 1999-2000.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 5093/2002]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council of Science Museums, Kolkata, for the year 2000-2001.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council of Science Museums, Kolkata, for the year 2000-2001, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 5094/2002]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 5093 to 5095/2002]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Indian Airlines Limited and the Ministry of Civil Aviation for the year 2001-02.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 5096/2002]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN SETHI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Betwa River Board, Jhansi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Betwa River Board, Jhansi, for the year 2000-2001.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 5097/2002]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH) : On behalf of Shri Jaswant Singh, I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for immediate legislation by the Passports (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 5098/2002]

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 61A of the Mines Act, 1952 :-

- (1) The Metalliferous Mines (Amendment) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification

No. G.S.R. 823(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th November, 2001.

- (2) The Coal Mines (Amendment) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 824(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th November, 2001.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 5099/2002]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD-PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—
- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 2000-2001.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 5100/2002]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Employees Provident Fund Organisation, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.
 - (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Employees Provident Fund Organisation, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, together with Audited Report thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 5101/2002]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :—

- (1) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 1257(E) Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th December, 2001 containing order extending the period for modifying the mining lease under sub-section (1) of section 28 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 5102/2002]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Rock Mechanics, Kolar Gold Fields, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.
 - (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Rock Mechanics, Kolar Gold Fields, for the year 2000-2001.
- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 5103/2002]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of Section 66 of the Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984 :—
- (i) The Veterinary Council of India (Terms and Conditions of Services of Officers and other Employees) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 67(E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th January, 2002.
 - (ii) The Veterinary Council of India (Registration) Amendment Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1(E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st January, 2002.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 5104/2002]

[Shri Hukumdeo Narayan Yadav]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Federation of Urban Co-operative Banks and Credit Societies Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of National Federation of Urban Co-operative Banks and Credit Societies Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Federation of Urban Co-operative Banks and Credit Societies Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.
- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 5105/2002]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Co-operative Union of India, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Co-operative Union of India, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, together with Audited Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Co-operative Union of India, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.
- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 5106/2002]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council for Cooperative Training, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of National Council for Cooperative Training, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, together with Audited Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Council for Cooperative Training, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

- (7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 5107/2002]

- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

- (9) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 5108/2002]

- (10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Federation of Labour Cooperatives Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Federation of Labour Cooperatives Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.

- (11) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 5109/2002]

- (12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Coconut Deve-

lopment Board, Kochi, for the year 2000-2001.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of Coconut Development Board, Kochi, for the year 2000-2001, together with Audited Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Coconut Development Board, Kochi, for the year 2000-2001.

(iv) A copy of the Comments (Hindi and English versions) of the Coconut Development Board, on the Audit Report on the Accounts for the year 2000-2001.

(13) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (12) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 5110/2002]

11.21-1/2 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA
AND
BILLS AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA – LAID

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary General of Rajya Sabha :—

(i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Institutes of Technology (Amendment) Bill, 2002 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 8th March, 2002."

(ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Passports (Amendment) Bill, 2002 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 8th March, 2002."

2. Sir, I lay on the Table two Bills as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 8th March, 2002.

(1) The Institute of Technology (Amendment) Bill, 2002; and

(2) The Passports (Amendment) Bill, 2002.

11.22 hrs.

MOTION RE: THIRTY-SECOND REPORT OF
THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, AND
MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : Sir, I beg
to move :

"That this House do agree with the Thirty-second Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 8th March, 2002."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do agree with the Thirty-second Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 8th March, 2002."

The motion was adopted.

11.23 hrs.

[English]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, Item No. 13 Matters Under Rule 377.

Today's Matters under Rule 377 may please be treated as laid on the Table.

(I) **Need to introduce an express train on Delhi-Calcutta-Guwahati route via Kaul-Gaya**

[Translation]

DR. SANJAY PASWAN (Nawada) : Sir, there is a long pending demand to introduce a new express train on Kaul-Gaya railway Section passing through Magadh in Bihar. But till now proper action has not been taken in this regard. Through you, I would again like to draw the attention of the Ministry of Railways that an Express-train on Delhi-Kolkata-Guwahati route should be introduced without delay keeping in view the potential of agriculture in that region and in order to curb terrorism or Brahmaputra Express, Janta express and Deluxe express running on main line or code line should be introduced on this line till any permanent arrangement is made.

*Treated as laid on the table

(ii) Need to look into the problems faced by opium growers of Madhya Pradesh

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur) : Sir, several crops viz wheat and gram have suffered losses due to hailstorm and cold wave in many districts of Madhya Pradesh mainly Ratlam Mandsaur and Neemach. Opium crop has suffered maximum losses.

It may be mentioned that opium crop falls under the control of Narcotics department and license has to be obtained for it. Further a fixed quantity of the crop has to be given to the Government otherwise license of the grower is cancelled. Although they have spent lakhs of rupees for the production it is probably that they would not be in a position to give average production. Although they have spent lakhs of rupees on crop, yet they would be deprived of the profit and would even not be entitled for the licences. Opium is a crop which gives crores of rupees as foreign exchange to the Government.

I, Therefore, request the hon'ble Finance Minister that keeping in view the above difficult situation, and in wake of the natural calamity, Government should issue proper instruction to reduce the prescribed average production for the opium growers so that the thousands of farmers are able to save themselves from double losses.

(iii) Need to set up Integrated Green Field Bauxite Mining and Aluminium Refinery Complex in Kalahandi district, Orissa

[English]

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (Kalahandi) : Kalahandi district being one of the richest district with vast deposit of mineral resources like Bauxite Ore is still one of the poorest regions of the country economically. As the Bauxite deposits of Orissa have attracted investments in the sector. I request the Government of India to locate an Integrated Green Field Bauxite Project behind on the deposits of Nyamgiri Hills of Khandual Mali Hills of Kalahandi. Also a Hydro Power Project generating about 600 MW is fully functional in the District to facilitate the power requirement of complex. So I demand that Central Government recommend to the State Government and recommend to Conglomerates like Penhineys SA and Multinationals in the line to establish their venture in Kalahandi District of Orissa.

(iv) Need to approve the proposal of Government of Karnataka for setting up four medical colleges and hospitals

SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA (Davangere) : The Medical Council of India has inspected four Government

Medical Colleges and attached hospitals of Bangalore, Mysore, Hubli and Bellay and all the attached hospitals in 1996. After this inspection, the intake of undergraduate students of these 4 colleges have been reduced from 600 seats to meager 400 seats.

In view of this, the Karnataka Government has constituted a Committee in June 1998 to conduct needs analysis of the above mentioned institutions. The Committee has found shortage of equipment and instruments and these institutions have to keep pace with the latest advancement in the fields of Medical Education and Health Care.

Keeping in view, the Karnataka Government has decided to get the financial assistance from external funding agencies at a concessional credit to the tune of about 15 million American Dollars. In this regard, the Karnataka Government has forwarded a proposal to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India for approval. This proposal is still pending with the Union Government.

I urge, the Government that the approval for the above proposal may be given at the earliest.

[Translation]

(v) Need to withdraw excise duty levied on Marble units in Rajasthan

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Sir, the marble unit of Rajasthan do cutting of serpentine mineral of dolomite. These minerals are very cheap as compared to marble. But the central Government has levied heavy excise duty on these units due to which these industries are in a very critical situation, while granite, etc. other such minerals have got concessions or exemption from excise duty. At present the rate of excise duty is 30/- per sq mt. dolomite serpentine which is a very heavy charge on globe and tiles consisting on an average Rs. 40 to 180 per sq mt. Besides excise duty royalty and sales tax also have to be paid due to which the production is very expensive. Most of the units get cutter and blocks extracted from the mines which comes under processing. Such units are more than one thousands in the whole country which comes mostly under small scale sector which is exempted from excise duty but the marble industry of Rajasthan, the only saviour, is levied excise duty.

I therefore, request the Union Government that marble industry units which are providing employment to lakhs of people in Rajasthan should immediately be exempted from excise duty.

(vi) Need to start centrally sponsored projects for human resource development in Bihar

SHRI RAJO SINGH (Begusarai) : Sir, keeping in view the population and high population density in Bihar there is need for the adequate basic amenities for the human resource development. At present primary and secondary education system is in bad shape. Most of higher education institutions such as Neterhat school, girls residential school, Hazaribagh and Army school Tillaihahe now fall in Jharkhand State. Most of the Technical Institutions are also in Jharkhand State. After the bifurcation of the State there is no educational, scientific and technical institution of natural level in Bihar.

I would like to draw the attention of the Government that the centrally sponsored projects for human resource development should be started on large scale.

(vii) Need to upgrade Airport at Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh as an International Airport

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho) : Sir, Khajuraho is a tourist spot of international status. A large number of foreign and domestic tourists visit this place. Owing to small airport, there is no landing facility for all aeroplanes.

I therefore, request the Government to undertake its expansion and declare it an international airport.

(viii) Need to provide financial assistance to Government of Tamil Nadu for development of Chettinadu Heritage Homes in Sivaganga and Sivaganga Palace of Rani Velu Nachiar as places of tourist resort

[English]

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Sivaganga) : 'Chettinadu Heritage Homes' in Sivaganga, Tamilnadu State, and Sivaganga Palace of Rani Velu Nachiar (First freedom fighter as ruler of Sivaganga Zamine against the British Rule in Tamil Nadu State) should be declared as tourism spots in addition of Pandia Kingdom Ancient Port "Thondi", to attract the national and international tourists.

I request the Union Government to look into the matter early.

(ix) Need for around development of Diara region of Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI SUBODH ROY (Bhagalpur) : Sir, from Ghorghat Gangania to Bakharpur-Baburpur the large area of Diara

located on the bank of ganga river under Bhagalpur Lok Sabha constituency is still very backward despite being very productive for food grains. There is shortage of facility for food grains. Life in Diara is not comfortable due to lack of means of transport, education facilities, medical facilities, energy sources and means of telecommunication.

I therefore, request the Government to make arrangement for necessary resources under centrally sponsored projects for around development of Diara region.

(x) Need to set up a separate Board for chillies

[English]

SHRI Y.V. RAO (Guntur) : India is the largest producer of chillies in the world particularly those which have a special aroma and taste. Chillies are necessary ingredients in the culinary in India and chillies of India have a special attraction worldwide. Andhra Pradesh is a major chilly producing State and Guntur, which is my constituency, occupies the first place in our State. Even though much of the chillies produced in the country are consumed within the country, India also commands chilly exports. Besides Asian countries, Indian chillies are exported to most of the European countries.

In spite of this special status, chillies have unfortunately been clubbed with spices. For cultivating chillies, we need better inputs. There is also a need for adoption of latest technology and scientific methods. This is possible if there is an independent Board for Chillies.

I, therefore, request the Government to consider setting up a separate Board for Chillies.

(xi) Need to provide stoppage of Vaishali Express and other express trains at Khalilabad Railway Station, Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI BHAL CHANDRA YADAV (Khalilabad) : Sir, Khalilabad, in Uttar Pradesh is a very important business centre. It has now become a district and its population is rising continuously. Since there is no stoppage for important trains, such as Vaishali Express at Khalilabad railway station the representatives of the people and other businessmen have to go to Basti, which is 50-60 kilometres away to board the trains. This entails immense difficulties.

Hence it is requested that the honourable Railway Minister should provide stoppage for Vaishali Express and other important trains at Khalilabad railway station and Gorakhpur-Gonda line be converted into broad gauge.

(xii) Need to lay rail line between Maharajganj and Mashrakh in Bihar

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, since 1998 I have written several letters to connect two important commercial suburbs Mashrakh and Maharajganj in my Parliamentary Constituency, and under North-East Railway by a rail line. On my request some urgency was shown by the department and a survey was also done. Recently, the General Manager, North-East Railway informed me through a letter that the survey report was pending for sanction in the Ministry. In the previous session I had requested that the survey report should be sanctioned immediately, it should be included in this year's Railway Budget and work should start so that these two commercial centres in this backward region could be linked to give an impetus to development. I have been informed that laying of rail line between Daraunda and Maharajganj is in progress.

Through you I request the Government to extend the Daraunda Maharajganj rail line to Mashrakh, so that better opportunities can be created for commercial development through rail service between Maharajganj-Daraunda and Mashrakh.

(xiii) Need to sanction additional four lakh houses under Indira Awas Yojana for super cyclone and flood affected areas in Orissa

[English]

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO (Jagatsinghpur) : Given the weak Revenue base and undeveloped economy of Orissa due to natural calamities like flood, drought and cyclone of severe nature; high interest rate of Central Government and open market loan; high proportion of 70% of loan component in central plan assistance, it is becoming almost impossible to arrange 25% of its share in I.A.Y. meant for Super Cyclone and Flood affected families. The present Government is trying its best to put the fiscal management on even keel.

The Government of India knows that houses of nineteen lakh families were razed to the ground by the super cyclone on October, 1999. The Government of India so far sanctioned only six lakh houses to be rebuilt under I.A.Y. in the super cyclone affected area. I urge upon the Hon'ble Prime Minister to see that another four lakh houses under I.A.Y. be sanctioned in the super cyclone and flood affected areas this financial year positively and bear the burden of 25% of State's share including the previous sanctioned Houses.

(xiv) Need to provide full rebate in excise duty on production of sugar and molasses to sugar factories particularly in cooperative sector

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADODA MANDLIK (Kolapur) : Sugar industry in India is the largest agro processing industry. Sugar mills pay about Rs. 16,000 crores annually to the small sugar cane growers. The Government has begun to pursue a policy of deregulation of sugar sector in a phased manner and progressively the proportion of levy sugar has been scaled down from 40% to 15%. But in the event of complete decontrol of sugar, I wish to know as to what steps the Government proposes to take in the matter of public distribution system because the people below the poverty line obtain their supply of sugar through fair price shops. Further the sugar cane price policy continues to be vested with the exercise of both the Central and State Governments. Sir, world over sugarcane prices are fixed related to sugar sales realization. This mis-matched of prices of sugarcane and sugar is the main problem of uneconomic working of sugar factories and so many factories continue to suffer year after year.

I, therefore, approach the Central Government through your honour to look into the matter sympathetically and find out immediate solution to save the sugar factories in cooperative sector particularly. These factories may be considered to be allowed cent per cent rebate in excise duty on production of sugar and molasses.

(xv) Need to formulate a policy to generate employment avenues in Jammu and Kashmir

SHRI ABDUL RASHEED SHAHEEN (Baramulla) : I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the plight of unemployed youth of Jammu and Kashmir. For the last twelve years Jammu and Kashmir is under the shadow of militancy and unfortunate atmosphere created by the constant violence patronized by the enemies of peace, has psychologically depressed a full generation of qualified boys, girls and technocrats. They are looking with hope towards the Central Government for providing opportunities of gainful employment.

I reiterate the necessity of floating an overseas employment corporation, as it was suggested by Hon'ble Prime Minister on his first visit to Srinagar as Foreign Minister more than two decades ago.

I would also like to urge upon the Government to address the problem on priority and open up the avenues of employment for our young generation, in

Central Government offices and Government undertaking as a special package or fix a permanent quota – for the time being for the unemployed youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have said I am ready to listen to you. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If you are not willing to listen, what can I do? You take your seat I will listen to you. This is being discussed now.

(Interruptions)

11.23½ hrs.

At this stage Shri Ramji Lal Suman and some other honourable Members went back to their seats

11.24 hrs.

RE: SITUATION IN AYODHYA

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, listen to me also. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA (Kanakpura) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the hon. Prime Minister is here. We want to categorical assurance from him. As regards Ayodhya, he gave a word of promise to the nation that they will abide by the court verdict. But after he gave a solemn assurance, one of his Cabinet colleagues, the Minister of State, in charge of Home Affairs had gone to Ayodhya. He inspected all the areas there. Then, he removed all the restrictions for the kar sewaks to go and assemble in a big way at Ayodhya, just two days ago.

Sir, on the one side, the Prime Minister says that they are going to abide by the court verdict and on the other side the necessary preparations are being made to allow all the *kar sewaks* to assemble there. The hon. Minister, Miss Uma Bharati also says that they are not going to stop the construction of Temple there at any cost.

So, whom should we believe? It is not the question of mere assurance made by the hon. Prime Minister. We have had the bitter experience in the past. What happened in 1992 in spite of the affidavit filed by the then State Government to the Supreme Court? . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Sir, it is not the 'Zero Hour'. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : I am on my legs. If the Chair asks me to sit, I will sit. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, if you are allowing others, we should also be given a chance to speak on Ayodhya. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Sir, if you do not want me to speak, I will sit down. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House is at liberty to discuss the issue of Ayodhya or discuss any subject, subject to our finding time for discussion in the House, to be decided by the BAC. Today, we have decided to discuss the Gujarat issue.

(Interruptions)

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : It is not the question of Gujarat issue only. We have to see as to what is happening in Ayodhya now. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Deve Gowda you are at liberty to take up any subject for discussion, and I am no one to come in-between.

(Interruptions)

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : We all know what happened in Gujarat. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Sir, you have called the hon. Member Shri Deve Gowda to speak. Can anybody interrupt him like this? . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nobody can.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal) : Situation is serious there and you are talking about Business Advisory Committee. You repeatedly talk about Business Advisory Committee. You do not call us. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : What is happening now? Is this the way the House should function? . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That is my difficulty too.

(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : But we cannot hear only one side. They should hear the other side also; we also should be allowed to speak on this. . . .
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Malhotra, when I give the floor to you, somebody interrupts you and when others speak, you are interrupting. This is the difficulty. Shri Deve Gowda is a senior Member and a former Prime Minister. He wanted to say something and I have given the floor to him. You are interrupting him; and how does he feel about it?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Vinay Katiyarji have patience.

[English]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : What I say is that we can have a discussion on Ayodhya issue whenever you like. But it should be a full-fledged discussion. . . .
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That of course will be done. That has to be decided by the House or by the BAC. But the Gujarat issue is listed for discussion today.

(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Then, how can he have a discussion on Ayodhya issue now? . . .
(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, will I not get a chance to speak? How can you do this?

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have given notice. Give us a chance to speak. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You are at full liberty to take up any subject for discussion. I am no one to come in-between.

(Interruptions)

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Sir, I do not want to take much time of the House. You said that we have to go by the decision of the BAC. I have no objection in doing that

and I also do not want to disrespect the decision of the BAC, which is accepted by this House.

The issue has arisen today because the Sangh and the VHP have categorically said that they were not going to abide by the verdict of the Supreme Court. Only three days are left for March 15th, the date given by them. The Minister of State of Home Affairs has made all the necessary arrangements for the *kar sevaks* to go there in a big way. I mentioned about what happened in 1992 because at that time, we had the bitter experience in the very same House and I want to say that the same thing should not be repeated. That is why, I want to categorical assurance from the hon. Prime Minister. What will happen when lakhs of *kar sevaks* are going to assemble there? If the verdict of the Supreme Court is not going to be accepted by the Sangh – according to its own decision today – what will happen? . . . (Interruptions) I am only concerned about that. It is not only the question of Gujarat issue. If the Government is going to support the stand taken by the VHP and Sangh leaders – as has been announced today – then, it is not Gujarat alone, but the whole country is going to suffer. That is why, we want a categorical assurance from the hon. Prime Minister.

The second thing is that the Government says that it has not called the Army. But the Defence Minister says that they have received the request from the State Government. It was told that the District Magistrate of Faizabad had made a request to send the Army. The Governor went on record to say that he has not requested to send the Army. Please let us know which is correct. May we know whether the Sangh's final decision is going to be implemented or the Government's stand is going to be implemented. The Government is contradicting its own statement. We have to consider the action taken by the Minister of State for Home Affairs and also what Kumari Uma Bharati said as a Minister.

These are the issues that come to our mind and there is something fishy in all these things. In the very same House the hon. Prime Minister declared the National Agenda for Governance.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You have already stated that.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : There is also a hidden agenda, which was raised in this House. I am afraid that today the hidden agenda will be implemented. That raises our fears. It is not the question of Gujarat, but the whole country will suffer. . . . (Interruptions) I have not come here to do any *tamasha*.

Let the hon. Prime Minister explain the stand. His two Cabinet colleagues have gone on record saying all those things; one of them has gone there and made necessary preparations for the *kar sevaks* to assemble. We want to know the position from the hon. Prime Minister.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : All right. Does the Prime Minister want to say something now ?

(Interruptions)

11.30 hrs.

At this stage Shri Raghuraj Singh Shakya and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Every time, you are doing this. Shri Deve Gowda has raised the issue. The Prime Minister is prepared to answer, but you do not want to hear the Prime Minister.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : When we give notice why should we not get a chance to speak ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : After the Motion, I have called him. When I called him, he said Mr. Deve Gowda should be given a chance. Then I allowed him.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Prime Minister is prepared to give a reply but Members do not want to listen it. I cannot help it.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Twice, I gave him a chance to speak. When I called him, he gave the chance to Shri Deve Gowda.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Is it right for you to violate the rules in this way ? You are a senior leader. Does it behave you to come here. Are you following the rule ? You should go back to your seat and speak.

(Interruptions)

11.32 hrs.

At this stage Shri Raghuraj Singh Shakya and some other honourable Members went back to their seats

MR. MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : All right, I will speak on West Bengal first. I will speak on Bengal as well as on Godhra. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Mulayam Singhji, the Prime Minister is ready to respond.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It cannot be taken up.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Prime Minister is prepared to give a reply.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : We will not accept this. First you said we will get a chance. You can expel us. If you will do this we will not accept it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : What is this ? You are challenging my ruling.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : . . .*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mulayam Singhji you should not do like this. You are a senior leader. You should not speak like this.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : . . .*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This is not the way. At least you should follow the rules.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : You have called twice. You are not calling again.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You do not speak. When he is asked to speak, he does not speak.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : You ask him to sit down. He is disturbing. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : I am also to make a request. . . .*(Interruptions)*

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : They are disturbing us. Why should they disturb us ?

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : All right, first I will speak on Bengal. . . *(Interruptions)* Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I always obey you. Whatever was done by the Samajwadi party Members today, it was done as a last resort. Do not look upon it negatively. Do not look upon the conduct of our colleagues in a negative light. We had no other alternative. Our Party Members should not have done this. We should have let the honourable Prime Minister speak. We know that it is a convention of the House, that when the Leader of the House is speaking, others should sit. But when it was twice said Mulayam Singh would be called, you should go back, we sat down peacefully. I only want to tell you that if our people have done any wrong then do not take it otherwise. Mr. Prime Minister you also do not take it otherwise. We accept that the Prime Minister was not allowed to speak. We also belt bad over this. But the honourable Members of our Party had no other alternative. Therefore, you also do not take it otherwise. This is my request.

The situation in Ayodhya is serious and what ever is happening in Bengal. . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please excuse for a moment.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : You have asked me to speak on the Bengal issue. I will do so. Ayodhya is also one of the reasons for the situation prevailing there. This can be discussed in the West Bengal Legislative Assembly. There is no Legislative Assembly in Uttar Pradesh, President's Rule is imposed there. That is why, discussion cannot take place in Uttar Pradesh. That is why, we are representing the feelings of the people of Uttar Pradesh in the House. It is a very serious matter of Ayodhya. . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR (Faizabad) : Please speak about Gujarat.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Katiyar ji, don't come in between.

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : There is a first and foremost discussion about Gujarat in today's Agenda Paper. . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If any unparliamentary word is there, we will expunge it.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mulayam Singh ji, you are a senior Member, you ask question.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : The whole country is put in the fire of communalism and whatever happened at Godhra in Gujarat, we admit that it is wrong. It is a heinous crime. You must take strict action against the culprit. But whatever happened in Godhra, whether the revenge of that will be taken out by burning the whole Gujarat and by piling of dead bodies in every city, in every town and in every village ? One thing is confirmed that the decision of the Court will be final and able. In this regard, Hon'ble Prime Minister has announced several times. After that it has been threatened that whatever the verdict of the Court may be, we must perform Puja on 15th March. So, I would like to tell you that this is the connivance of the Government otherwise action should be taken against these person who are involved in this heinous crime. Either that a Sangh Parivar or Bajrang Dal or B.J.P. or Vishwa Hindu Parishad. . . *(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Whatever you want to ask, please ask. . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Are you not in BJP, not the President of Bajrang Dal. . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mulayam Singh ji, whatever you want to ask to Hon'ble Prime Minister, please ask.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : People of Ayodhya, either Hindu or Muslim or people believe in other religion, all are saying through T.V., newspaper and other sources of Media that we are fed up absolutely. Whatever is happening there is due to Vishwa Hindu Parishad. This is not VHP an BJP. . . *(Interruptions)* They are announcing that the whole Hindustan will be in the colour of "Ramsevak". Are you also "RAMSEVAK". . . *(Interruptions)* I am the devotee of Shri Hanuman ji. You are not more enough devotee in comparison to me. Deputy Speaker, Sir, they are pretending to do everything in the name of Lord RAM. They have not read the Lord RAM and not following the Doctrines of Lord RAM. If they follow the Doctrines of Lord RAM, they would not work against humanity and country. So we want the Government should do three things over there immediately. Firstly, people come for worship in Ayodhya should be removed. Secondly, people who are giving such type of statement should be arrested and send to prison and thirdly, whole Ayodhya should be handed over to the Army.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Shoot everybody.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Only you can do this. Your Chief Minister of Gujarat can do this. Mulayam Singh maintains law and order. If miscreants, murders, arsonist, rioters, murders of armless people, violators are there

action will be taken against them. But whatever the Government of BJP, the Government of Gujarat can do, we cannot do like this. . . .(Interruptions) whether you had not burned the tents of security forces, not murdered the chowkidar of security forces. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Murders took place during his tenure. It had been recorded that the soldier of BSF was murdered. You tell only one name, I will take retirement from politics, otherwise Mulayam Singh ji, will take retirement from politics. You were the Chief Minister at that time. . . .(Interruptions) He has alleged in the House, they tell even a single name. Deputy Speaker ji, they have alleged in the House. . . .(Interruptions) You prove it.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Tent was burnt, there was a murder. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : You have talked about the murder of a soldier, you prove this. . . .(Interruptions) Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious matter. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Allegation and Counter-allegation will not be allowed in this House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : He is speaking wrong. . . .(Interruptions) You don't know anything then why are you speaking? You know, that tent was burnt there. . . .(Interruptions) There was firing. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : You tell that which soldier of BSF had died. . . .(Interruptions) You were Chief Minister. You tell his name. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : You are telling a lie. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : What is happening?

(Interruptions)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : The whole country has been misguided. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : What you had to ask, you did not ask that. Whether you deliver a speech or ask something?

(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : You take such decision at your own. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what happened to that, why this country is being misguided.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : What is happening?

(Interruptions)

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : If the allegation is not true, then it should be expunged from the proceedings.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : This is all right, got the result. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Don't talk in such a light way. Whatever you want to ask, please ask.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : You are speaking in between. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You put allegation?

(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Why you are scolding me? . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You have to mend yourself. There is a way as to how to behave with the Chair. You should not do it. You are a senior Member. How he takes things lightly!

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Are you allowing me to speak? . . .(Interruptions) Hon'ble Prime Minister ji please tell. You have told several times, that decision will not be taken on roads. The verdict of Court will be final. . . .(Interruptions) Either VHP or any other organisation, they all are in BJP.

These Members of Parliament has contested on your symbol but what they are doing now? . . .(Interruptions) What action you have taken in this regard?(Interruptions) There is a tension prevailing everywhere due to this and it could spread violence in the whole country. . . .(Interruptions) Therefore, we would like to request and expect that you should give such statement and assure the whole country that now such threats would be stopped in Ayodhya that the whole country will follow BJP line. You are not alone the followers of Ram, we are also followers of Ram. You don't even worship. You change your loyalty every now and then. . . .(Interruptions) Somewhere you worship cow. . . .(Interruptions) And do other things at other places. . . .(Interruptions) Therefore we request the Prime

[Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav]

Minister that he should assure the country that now decision in this regard to Ayodhya would be taken in the court and not on roads so they should stop agitation there and Ayodhya should be handed over to Army and immediate action should be taken against the people who are creating tension over there as well as in the country. . . .(Interruptions)

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, opposition. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Will you please resume your seat ?

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Before the Prime Minister speaks, one request has to be made. Allow me to make a request to the Prime Minister. This is no confrontation. Only one request.

[Translation]

I do not want any confrontation, I have to make only one request, please give its reply. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Banatwalla, let him speak. He wants to respond.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have already given the floor to the Prime Minister. Shri Banatwalla, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav has given a notice of Adjournment Motion. That is why, I have given him the floor. He has asked him certain questions and he will respond to them. That is all.

(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Sir, there is no confrontation. I want to make only one request that the Government must intervene in the Supreme Court. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No, Shri Banatwalla. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : You do not allow me to make a request also.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No, it is not a question of request. I have allowed him because he has given a notice of Adjournment Motion. And there are two other Members to speak. We have to take up the discussion on Gujarat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Sir, the Government must intervene in the Supreme Court and tell the Supreme Court that there should be no interference with the acquired land. This is the request that I am making. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the problem of Ayodhya is a complex one and efforts are being made to solve this problem. We have not been able to solve it. Owing to our slow judicial process Court has also not taken any decision as yet. Now I would like to tell about the latest position. Shri Mulayam Singh ji is not fair enough when he says that Ayodhya is burning. . . .(Interruptions) Now there is peace in Ayodhya. The situation is fully under control. I want to inform the House about the arrangement which have been made. At present, 41 companies of CRPF, 23 companies of PAC, 400 constables and 100 sub-inspectors of UP Police are deputed in Ayodhya. There are 80 security personnel are in one company. March is going on there. The people were facing difficulties due to restrictions but now restrictions have been relaxed. Now there is peace in Ayodhya and the Government is determined to maintain peace there.

Shri Ram Janam Bhumi Nyas had written a letter to the Government and demanded that they should be allowed to perform 'Yagya' on undisputed land which is now under the supervision of the Government. Besides this, Shri Ram Janam Bhumi Nyas had also informed the Government that it is ready to accept the decision of court in regard to Ayodhya and had also created its position in that letter. A new turn has come in Ayodhya dispute. Till now, Hindu Parishad and its other affiliated institutions used to say that this matter could not be settled in court because it is matter of loyalty. We rejected it. In NDA election manifesto and in the speech of President we had cleared that Ayodhya dispute could be solved only by two methods.

Firstly by having discussion with each other and if it is not solved by this then, we could ask the court to give its decision as early as possible. Ram Janam Bhumi Nyas has announced that it is bound to the decision of the court even if it goes against it. So there suggestion has no

connection with the disputed land. Undisputed land is concerned to the Government and the Government is doing its supervision. Legal advice has been taken and the matter has gone to the court. In between Government have also taken steps so that early decision could be taken in this matter. The announcement of "Nyas" that they will accept decision of court is an important announcement I urge the House as well as the citizens that they should accept the importance of this announcement and shall give their cooperation to solve this problem. Jagat Guru Shankaracharya of Kanchi Kam Koti had come to Delhi to solve this problem through discussion and had also talked to Muslim leaders. The atmosphere is favourable for discussion and the situation is improved. I want to capitalise on it. It would be good enough if this problem will be solved through discussion. As far as the question of worshipping is concerned on 15th the matter has now gone in court and will come for hearing on 13th Government have not given any approval to 'Nyas' for performing any programme there. We will wait for hearing of 13th and will see court's decision. We hope that court's decision would be helpful in final settlement of this problem. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : You should also intervene the court and tell them that nobody could do interference in acquired land. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Banatwalla, the hon. Prime Minister should first yield to you. This is not the way you can speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except the Prime Minister's speech.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

... (Interruptions)* ... SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are various organisations, they have several leaders and have several spokesmen yesterday, leaders of "Imams" organisation had come to meet me.

He said something that I felt hurt. He said that you have handed over the temple to Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) and the mosque to a Muslim leader. Now we have neither temple nor mosque, what should we do? In fact, what he said, there was anguish in that.

Efforts are being made to solve the problem. Your co-operation is needed. Nothing would be done and the Government would not let something done that would be against the verdict of the Court. But if the problem be solved by way of negotiation, it should be welcome and whole of the House should contribute in it. This is all for now. I want say.

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : My request to the Government in this. . . .(Interruptions) The hon. Prime Minister must respond to this.

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have given the notice regarding Bengal. . . .(Interruptions) Ramabakta Karsawks in Bengal have been killed. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I am trying to help. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : . . .(Interruptions) You should intervene in the Supreme Court and inform them about the opinion of political parties. Sir, hon'ble Prime Minister had called an all party meeting in which we expressed our views. Our views should also be presented in the Supreme Court from the side of the Government. . . .(Interruptions) The Supreme Court should say on behalf of the Government that no interference would be allowed on acquired land at any cost. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : In the meeting called by the hon. Prime Minister, all of us agreed. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAYNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA (Junagarh) : Sir, hon'ble Banatwallaji is talking of the Supreme Court, what he did in Shahbano case. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please allow him to speak. He wants to have a clarification.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR (Vadodara) : Would they follow the verdict of the Supreme Court. . . .
(Interruptions)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Government of Bengal fired on innocent people, as a result, 40 people sustained injury. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I am sure, the hon. Prime Minister will remember that all the Parties, which attended the meeting called by him, had agreed to the formulation of either a judicial verdict or a settlement. There is no doubt about it. Also, we had said that nothing should be done which might escalate the problem, the situation that is being created because of the open statements or the defying attitude, whatever you may call it, of the VHP. . . .(Interruptions) This is the difficulty. They do not have patience not even for two minutes. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : We have to say something on Ayodhya. So, let us have a discussion on 13th. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

On 13th and 14th. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South-Central) : If a Hindu dies, it is said that a Gunda died and when a Muslim dies, a Muslim dies. What sort of thinking it is. . . .
(Interruptions)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Why you should be given time. . . .(Interruptions) Do you want to organize riots in Bengal. . . .
(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : If this is the trend in the House, then, very well, the House need not continue and need not function. I am making a request to the hon. Prime Minister for a clarification.

12.00 hrs.

They are interrupting us. What is all this? We had complemented the Prime Minister that he had called the all-Party meeting and he made the position of the Government clear. But we had expressed our reservations because in spite of the clear policy enunciation made in the President's Speech, certain attitude has been taken by the people or organisation close to the Government which

are creating serious doubt in the minds of the people and also the concern. . . .(Interruptions) Then, let there be confrontation. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly) : He is not being allowed to complete the sentence. The House cannot run like this.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : What is the good of coming here. If your authority is not accepted, why should we come here? . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Then, nobody else would speak. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I appeal to all of you that it is a serious and very emotional matter. Let us be dispassionate.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : They are taking communal advantage of it. This is their objective. . . .
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Somnath Chatterjee, do you want any clarification?

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I cannot speak in this manner. . . .(Interruptions) I was asking the hon. Prime Minister, after that meeting, we are only being informed through the newspapers. Meetings are taking place and the Prime Minister is holding these meetings. Threats are being hurled. People are gathering there. . . .(Interruptions) The Prime Minister does not think that it was necessary to inform the Opposition as to what was happening. Our only source of information is the media. Even today's newspapers also say that the VHP has stated that at any cost, the *puja* would be held and they would go there on the 15th March. They are assembling there. . . .
(Interruptions) Therefore, what is the good of saying that we are trying to maintain peace. . . .(Interruptions) We do not know as to what is that assurance. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Prime Minister has said in his response that till the court gives its judgement, nothing would be done.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : The Prime Minister has said that the VHP has withdrawn the threat. We would like to know categorically from the Prime Minister as to whether the VHP has withdrawn its threat. He has not given

the name. Even last night on TV, one gentleman said that we would go at any cost. Today's newspapers also say that. Not one word has been said by the Prime Minister on that. Let the Prime Minister say as to what is the attitude of the VHP. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we should also allowed to speak after it. . . .(Interruptions)
I am an elected member of Parliament from there. So I should allowed to speak. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will call you to speak.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (Latur) : Today, we had decided to discuss Gujarat and we are interested in discussing Gujarat. On 7th of the month, we had decided to discuss Ayodhya but we could not. Both these issues are important. They should be discussed. This discussion which is taking place now is like the discussion which we have generally to shed light on unlisted business in the House. So, I am thankful to you for allowing me to say a few things on this important issue and get the response, if it is possible from the hon. Prime Minister.

Sir, the hon. Prime Minister has said that forces are provided to see that there is no disturbance in the area. I think, that is a right stand and if necessary more forces can be sent there.

The second most important thing is that it is not only the forces which should be utilised, but if large number of people gather there and forces are compelled to take action or resort to *lathi* charge or teargassing or firing, that also does not look correct. So, it is important to see that people do not collect there in large numbers and if they collect there, the forces would be constrained to take action which may not be in the interest of the tranquillity and peace in the country. That also has to be taken into account.

The third and the last point I would like to make is that there is a disputed area and around the disputed area some land has been acquired by the Government to see that nothing happens on the disputed area, by allowing any construction to come up around the disputed area. That is why the land has been acquired and it is with the Government now. There is a land beyond the acquired area. Anything will not be allowed on the disputed area; anything should not be allowed in the acquired area and other areas

are different. So, we would like to know whether that would be the stand of the Government. Naturally, the Prime Minister has correctly stated that whatever the court decides would be acceptable and, I think, the decision of the Supreme Court in this respect also has to be taken into consideration that nothing should be allowed in the acquired area also so that the disputed area is not affected.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, he is telling the Supreme Court also as to what it should do.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, I am not saying what the Supreme Court should do. I have said this is what the Supreme Court has decided. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us not consider it a full-fledged discussion. You can ask one clarification and then the Prime Minister will respond.

(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have also given notice. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Ramsevaks have been killed there. I've already given the notice, would you please not allow me to speak ?

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me a chance to speak. Issue of Ayodhya is being raised frequently. Since the hon'ble Prime Minister has assured that nothing is going to happen there are tight security arrangements have been made there. Hon. Mulayam Singh ji has apprehended while there is nothing such that could be removed from there by the Ramsevaks or karsevaks. I think that nothing of that sort exists there somebody would harm anything. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Let us know who is Ramsevak and who is not. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : As far as the court is concerned, the issue has taken an important turn out of the court. Everybody has accepted it. So, I request hon. Prime Minister that let them acquire as much land as they wish from the 60/40 sq. ft. land title suit. But that land which is undisputed where there are ten huge temples are built, which we have bought, has also been acquired. We only said that this undisputed land should be given to us. Issue of Ayodhya is raised here everyday, where the situation

[Shri Vinay Katiyar]

is totally peaceful, but on the name of Ayodhya, the whole country is being disturbed. This is not right.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Mulayam Singh ji has said that the issue relating to killings in Bengal should be discussed in Legislative Assembly of Bengal. Now I want to ask. Why Gujarat is being discussed here. The State too, has its own Assembly. . . .*(Interruptions)* Let the issue be discussed there. And if you are allowing the discussion on Gujarat, then why should Rajasthan and Bengal be left. Discussions should be held on these States also. If Government of Bengal is functioning properly, all other State Governments are also working properly. Sir, I have to submit only this much that there are more than six thousand temples in Ayodhya. Do these people want that hon. Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji should poison all the water tanks, so that all the temples got destroyed, no bell should toll. Do you want to create vicious atmosphere in Ayodhya ? Mulayam Singh ji, you had said that nothing would happen, but you could not do anything. But we do not want to repeat the programme because there is no need for Rambhaakta to come to Ayodhya from outside. There are already a number of devotees of Rama, devotees of Hanumans. . . .*(Interruptions)* I am saying this is to you because by raising the Ayodhya issue time and again, you want to play with the sentiments of the people. I tell you that nothing is going to happen anywhere on 15th. Your apprehensions are going to be proved false. We do not want to fulfill the intentions of these people. . . .*(Interruptions)* Renukaji, why are you worried. You had been Minister of Health earlier. We can send another Health Minister, if you do not feel alright. . . .*(Interruptions)* Nobody is coming from outside. The Government have suspended trains and boats, though it should not be so. See the way Rambhaktas are being lathi-charged and being fired, especially Somnathji was speaking I have great regard for him. The way in which they have fired on. . . .*(Interruptions)* Lalooji and Raghuvanshiji want to ruin whole of Bihar. So Bengal should also be discussed. Thank you very much. . . .*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : They burnt Gujarat, they burnt the land of Gandhi. . . .*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : He does not need permission to speak ? . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We are not discussing Gujarat now. When Gujarat will be discussed, you should

participate actively in the discussion. Otherwise we will have paucity of time.

(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : I just want to say that the judgement of the Court should be honoured.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you that you have given me chance to speak. It is true that peace prevails in Ayodhya. Whatever hon. Prime Minister has said is true, but this is also true that common man are afraid that 1992 episode may not be repeated on 15th of March. Therefore, the initiative our hon. Prime Minister has taken. VHP leaders are also banned to go there, a large number of police is deployed to avert serious situation. I would like to request Hon'ble Prime Minister that I have seen in 1992 that after sale such situation was created even after submitting, affidavit in the court. This does not relate to Hindu-Muslim issue. For maintaining peace in the country and making Prime Minister's hand strong I request all allies of BJP and supporters of VHP and RSS that there should nothing be done in the country which worsens the situation. Though riot did not break out on Ayodhya issue but it broke out in Gujarat. It also affected Rajasthan. Two hon'ble Members spoke that incidents also took place in Bengal and it is true that police fired owing to issue of worship. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : First of all, they attacked police. . . .*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : You can speak on your turn. I have no objections. Whatever information I have I am putting here. The place where incident happened. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

You do not know the place. I know the place.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : I know the place better.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : No, you do not know. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : You have become their teachers. . . .*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : No, not I, but you have become their teacher. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please do not interrupt now.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Do not interrupt now.

[Translation]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : He is objecting me so I will give reply too. The yesterday's incident happened at Tawali in Caning and this Caning is adjacent to Sonapur, in Sunderban area border.

Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, the people there are not like VHP supporters but the general public gathered there for worshipping. But two days before this incident, a Minister had gone there. After his visit riot broke out there.

Hon'ble Sir, we do not like riots, we do not like to make disorder. We are peace loving people. . . (Interruptions)

[English]

Their Ministers are involved.

[Translation]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, whatever she is speaking is totally false. . . (Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are in opposition there. We maintain peace but C.P.M.'s supporters organise procession everywhere, organise rallies and create riots, the people of Bengal have replied them but they don't accept this. Recently, they have to ban MCC and PWG. They are enforcing Draconian laws in Bengal. They have provided long range weapons and A.K.-47 rifles to the people of CPM and cadres of CPM. . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : There is a limit to nonsensical thing. This is disgusting. . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I did not tell first. Shri Rupchand Pal told first. Had he not told such thing. I have never told so. They like nobody in Bengal. In 1992, it were CPM cadres who spread riots Minister was involved in this riot. We want to keep peace. Neither Hindus nor Muslims spread riots but some times politicians do this.

Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, I request Prime Minister that status quo in Ayodhya should be maintained. Supreme Court's verdict regarding disputed and undisputed land in Ayodhya should be accepted but care should be taken also that order under Section 144 which is in force from 15th March should not be disobeyed and people in such a number at a time should not gather there. This is my request.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : This matter should not be discussed here. I totally repudiate all the false accusations. . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will now take up discussion under Rule 193.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : Sir, we may also be given a chance to speak. . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : All right.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Sir, just now the hon. Prime Minister has said that there is peace in Ayodhya. He made a categorical statement to this effect based on the Common Minimum Agenda of the NDA's Governance. This was categorically mentioned even in the President's Address with regard to Government's policy. We have full faith in the Government.

But here, there are two issues. Previously, the hon. Home Minister told the people of this country that we have stopped assembling of people at Ayodhya to prevent such unlawful things. That is why we have stopped even trains going there. At the same time, one Minister has also told the media about this. I do not know whether it is a fact or not. But once the head of the Government says something then the whole Cabinet should follow his directions because the Government is the same.

There is a confusion in the minds of the people. Already the forces are deployed there. Even the UP Police and other forces have staged a flag march there. That is fine, but in this present situation, the matter should be settled through negotiations or by the verdict of the court. Everyone appreciates that decision but to implement that decision we have to stop people from moving to Ayodhya. We have had past experiences. So in the eventuality of people moving there what would the Government do ? The Government has to clarify the position. The status quo should be maintained, the trains should be stopped to go to Ayodhya and there should be deployment of forces, that is my party's stand in this matter.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Sir, it seems that we are sitting in Hindustan.*. . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, I strongly object to this statement. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That should be withdrawn.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That should be expunged.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Sir, whether it is a crime to worship Hindu God in Hindustan where 83 percent population is Hindu ? Whatever happened in Bengal during this; a permission has already been taken for that. A permission had been sought to perform a yagyan there but police shot them dead there. . . .(Interruptions) When a Hindu dies he is called a miscreant but when a Muslim dies you stand here in his favour. It is unfortunate for India. . . .(Interruptions) It is not so. They are killing Hindus knowingly. . . .(Interruptions) Godhra incident.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, what scenes there are creating in Parliament ?

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if we don't worship Ramlala in Ayodhya whether we will worship Allah there ? The MPs of Congress are sitting here. . . .(Interruptions) Late Shri Rajiv Gandhiji allowed it. They visited Ayodhya. . . .(Interruptions) Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi visited Ayodhya and worshiped Ramlala in the temple. He believed that it was Ram Temple. In our country. . . .(Interruptions) A delegation of Shiv Sainik went Godhara day before yesterday. In Godhara there were four sisters. Two of them were killed. One is B.Com and other is studying in B.A. Their parents were killed before them. . . .(Interruptions) I, Shri Anant Gudhe and Shri Chandra Kant Khaire went to their home.

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Please tell him. He is spewing venom here.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : One of these girls is Gayatri. Her parent were burnt before her. She was also asking

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

whether it is a crime to worship a Hindu God in Hindustan ? Whether we are in India or Pakistan ? . . .(Interruptions) If we are demanding right to worships in India what is wrong in it ? I request the Government to interfere in it. The Ram Sewaks who want to perform a yagna there they do not want to indulge in riots there. Similarly, VHP and RSS and not traitors. The people of Godhara, of India felt that they are helpless and whatever happened in Godhara it flared them up. Hindu felt that they were being killed time and again and was there any end to this so this incident happened after Godhara incident. . . .(Interruptions) Here Shri Banatwalla ji is sitting. I would like to ask him.

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : He is justifying all what is happening in Gujarat ? . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, we will take up the discussion under rule 193.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Miryalguda) : I have a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Under what rule ?

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is no point of order in Zero hour. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : In the 'Zero Hour', there is no point of order.

[Translation]

SHRI J.S. BRAR (Faridkot) : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, just now Shri Mohan Rawale has said that they will worship Ramlala; not Allah. I would like to say in this connection that there is no difference between Ramlala and Allah. . . .(Interruptions)

Hindu turakh kou raf jee Imam safee,
Manas kee jat sabe EK hi pahchan bo.

This is slogan of saints. Therefore, I request that there is no difference between Allah and Ramlala. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask Shri Banatwalla that in Shahbano case the verdict of Supreme Court was not taken. If Court orders worship on that undisputed land then would you force Muslims to accept this verdict. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That is over Let us take up the discussion under rule 193.

12.25 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Godhra killings and subsequent violence in Gujarat

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, the House will take up item No. 14 – 'Godhra killings and subsequent violence in Gujarat'.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to take part in this discussion with a heavy heart. It is not out of anger or an attitude of confrontation but with great sadness that we are taking part in this discussion.

The Constitution of India is not merely a document but the manifestation of the aspirations of one billion people of this country. India today is honoured in the whole world not because of our industry or technology but precisely because of our culture and tradition and the ideal of secularism, which is unique in the entire globe. It was the dream of Mahatma Gandhi, followed by successive Governments in various difficult times and situations that India stood together with all the sections of the People and the Parliament stood firm by them.

Today, when we are taking part in this discussion, the entire country is surcharged with different kinds of moods of the people, provided by various sections of the society on the recent happenings. None of us is here to accuse any community, to accuse any religion or to accuse any faith or to condemn any particular way of life. This is what we call 'unity in diversity', as propounded by Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru, with the great words of Gurudev Tagore.

Our hon. Prime Minister, the Leader of the House, did say, by his own NDA declaration, that his agenda is the National Agenda for Governance with certain programmes and policies. At the same time, it should not be ruled out that the same NDA alliance's main party did say that the agenda of temple construction is for the time being suspended; till they attained a majority, that agenda shall not be implemented. Therefore, the nation is very anxious to understand the mind and mood of a party that very categorically says that within the alliance that agenda was

not there but outside the alliance, it any day they got a majority, their dream could be fulfilled. It was rightly manifested by the BJP leaders in the 50th year celebration function of the Jan Sangh, documented by their own leaders.

Our leader Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, has been observing the developments in the recent situation in Ayodhya, on which our Leader of the House Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee had assured in this House and outside that he was taking the key initiative on behalf of the Government and Parliament to negotiate the issue and hopefully might find a solution. It is not that he would find a solution but he might find a solution before the 12th March. He did not disclose with whom he was negotiating. Maybe, that was his own card and we did not insist that he should disclose his card.

The entire nation got a feeling that the Prime Minister was on the job that he took upon himself. A Special Cell on Ayodhya was created in the Prime Minister's Office and all developments were confined to the PMO and the Prime Minister. The Parliament was anxiously waiting. The nation was waiting to see what the outcome was. Yet, we found that till the stage of negotiations, from three months ago, there were threats and counter-threats and a *yatra* towards Ayodhya has also been started by the VHP and the Bajrang Dal.

Our Leader, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi wrote to the hon. Prime Minister on the 22nd February :

"Dear Prime Minister,

I am sure, you are aware of the developments taking place in Ayodhya and you must also be aware of the anxiety of all the secular forces in the country on this issue. The plans being announced by the VHP are adding to the concerns. It would be in the fitness of things that you kindly convene an all-party meeting at the earliest and consolidate the opinions of all sane elements. There seems to be a convergence of opinion across the political spectrum in the country that the Ayodhya issue must be left to the Courts to give a final verdict

Sonia Gandhi"

The Prime Minister, in response to the letter of our Leader, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, did convene a meeting on the 26th February in the evening.

The incident of Godhra took place on 27th morning. The massacre took place between 7.45 a.m. and 9 a.m. – the horrendous incident, the dastardly incident, the

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

ghastly incident, the most condemnable incident. No words are enough to condemn what happened in Godhra. And our leader, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, on the same day, issued a statement condemning the incident of Godhra which was not only reported to the media but also I am thankful to the hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Shri Pramod Mahajan, that in the Speaker's Chamber he also acknowledged that the first statement came from Shrimati Sonia Gandhi condemning the issue of Godhra. She said and I quote :

"I am shocked and dismayed by the boiling incidents in Gujarat which have claimed many innocent lives. I condemn the perpetrators of such acts in the strongest possible terms."

So, we did say that. It is not because of anything else but because we felt that the cause of secularism is not confined to any particular community or religion, the cause of secularism lies in the very essence of unity in diversity. If Muslims are attacked and the Hindus do not go and protect them, and if Hindus are attacked and the saner elements from other sections do not condemn it, the fabric of secularism would be in jeopardy in future. Our leader did rightly condemn that incident in unmistakable words that evening. But what happened in this Parliament is very very unfortunate. The 27th February incident at Godhra took place between 7.30 and 9 in the morning. Our home Minister's office is in North Block. The distance from Ahmedabad and North Block is not the distance between Los Angeles and Delhi. The I.T. revolution has provided all facilities to get a message from every part of this country, including a *Tehsil*, to the Home Minister's desk in less than 15 minutes and in not more than one hour. The Home Minister was present on the 28th in the Parliament. Understanding the seriousness of the situation in Godhra, besides the statement of the hon. Leader of the Opposition, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, the next day morning, this is, on 28th, she advised our party to go to the Speaker – though the rule is that the Budget should be placed on time; there cannot be any deviation in placing the Budget – to urge upon him to persuade the Government, if possible, to make a factual statement on the Godhra situation in the House so that the nation should know the development; and if the Speaker permits, the Parliament could respond and react. We went and appealed to the hon. Speaker, Shri Balayogi, who was alive at that time. He conveyed to us, as usual, that maybe, before the Budget or after the Budget, the Home Minister will come out with a statement.

The Budget was delayed to be placed for fifteen minutes because a few of my distinguished colleagues, who

are absent here, Shri Vinay Katiyar and others, entered into the Well of the House and staged a demonstration. The Prime Minister and Shri Balayogi had to control them and then the Budget was read out. The Godhra incident took place between 8 and 9 in the morning on 27th of February. On 28th, immediately after the Budget – the time was between 1.30 p.m. and 1.35 p.m.; I remember the time – the Home Minister of India was not in a position to make an official statement in the House about the incident and he had to say : "I am trying to get more details and I shall come back tomorrow". Tomorrow means the 1st of March. On 28th, when the Budget was being read out, Gujarat was in flames. On 28th, when the Budget Speech was over, the massacre of Gujarat was in a desperate situation. Yet, the Home Minister could not make a statement on the previous day's incident, forget what was the on-going development in Gujarat on that day. This, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I said on the day of the discussion on the attack on Parliament that the Home Minister's desk itself was not sufficiently equipped with the information, the intelligence report, the security understanding, the co-ordination, to take grip of the situation of the country at the critical hour. Thirty hours after the incident, the Home Minister could not apprise the House and could not inform the House about what happened. Was it not the duty of the hon. Prime Minister on 28th itself, after having heard what was happening in Gujarat, to call all the political parties' leaders and make an appeal to the whole nation to keep quiet, calm and restrained ?

The Hon. Prime Minister is here. His appeal to the nation came on the 2nd March evening on television. On the evening of 27th February, the hon. Prime Minister's appeal came that the *Kar Sewaks* should not proceed to Ayodhya and restraint should be there. The meeting of Leaders of all Parties was held on 26th February. An apprehension was expressed by Madam Sonia Gandhi on 22nd February. The incident took place on 27th February. After the incident the Government came to the sense to make an appeal that such kind of movement in Ayodhya should be stopped now. This, I call, is the lack of concern of the Government to understand the reality in the field and the situation prevailing in the country – a country which is constantly being abated by Pakistan with cross-border terrorism, a country which is now being looked out by various foreign parties and foreign countries to instal balkanisation in this country. I do not like to mention the name of the nation. Mr. Prime Minister, you know that there are eyes on this country to destabilise it, there are eyes on this country to balkanise it, there are eyes on this country to further perpetrate the terrorist attacks here and there. There are eyes on this country to see that India is isolated in the international community.

Yet, Mr. Prime Minister, your Government, at your behest, your Home Minister could not understand the reality in the field. *Kar Sewaks* or *Ram Bhakts* – I salute them, those who are really devotees of Ram. We are not opposed to Ram or any religion. Who can say in this House that we are opposed to Ram? Mahatma Gandhi had to say.

[Translation]

Ishwar—Allah Tero Naam, Sub Ko Sanmati De Bhagwan.

[English]

In spite of that he was killed and killed in what manner we all know. This is not the occasion today to debate it. The issue is of Gujarat.

Sir, I am trying to convey to the hon. Prime Minister that your Government could not take things into cognizance before the 13th December attack on Parliament in spite of the fact that you had information that Parliament can be attacked and you pleaded helplessness. Is it not a fact, Mr. Prime Minister, that when you came to this House and sought the support of the entire House to combat terrorism, the entire House, without any word of confrontation and doubt the *bona fide* of your wisdom stood together to resolve the solid affirmation of ours that – 'yes, we are here, united today and you lead the country; you fight terrorists and tell us what we have to do'? You told us to go around the world to campaign for India. We all went. That was the day when India projected its unified command and message of unity and diversity and solidarity to the whole world as to what India is today.

At that time, your internal security knew that the aftermath of *Ram Rath Yatra* of 1992 may not be repeated; but the *Kar Sewak Abhiyan* on which you are negotiating, were coming by buses and trains etc., and you cannot have any control on them as to what language they will use; you cannot control them as to what slogan they will give. I was shocked to hear on the day of the incident of Godhra, in this Parliament a slogan was shouted.

[Translation]

The person who favours, Hindus, will rule the country.

[English]

And I heard the same slogan on the streets of Ahmedabad on 3rd March when hon. Member Shri Kamal Nath led a delegation with us to Ahmedabad.

Is that the resolve, Mr. Prime Minister, that you took with all the Parties in this House? Has it any consonance with the slogan.

[Translation]

The person who favours, Hindus, will rule the country.

[English]

We may have anger; we may have anguish at Godhra. But should our reflection, our manifestation be like this? Is it the way that we should run this country?

On 15th August, 1947 when the national flag was hoisted here in Delhi and there was a function in the Central Hall and in the midnight Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani was singing *Vande Mataram*, Mahatma Gandhi was not sharing sweets in the streets of Delhi. He was paying at Belaghat, Calcutta – 'Oh! my God, India is free; but should not the Muslims and the Hindus unite?' he was consulting Suharawardi; he was consulting everybody. That was Mahatma Gandhi and the resolve he took to combat terrorism for which our Jawans, our para-military forces and our Parliament Secretariat security officials have died and became martyrs. We paid our homage. In that country, in that Parliament – both inside and outside – we are giving slogans.

[Translation]

The person who favours Hindus will rule the country.

[English]

Mr. Prime Minister, this is very shocking. This is what is lacking in our country at the moment.

The secular fabric is not the property or under the custody of a particular party, to be protected. It is not the Congress who will say 'we are the champions of secularism'; it is not the CPI(M) who will say 'we are the champions of secularism. Let the Parliament, let the nation, let every section of the society say' *Ishwar Allah Tero Naam*. If that message could have been manifested by many of your colleagues in the Government, Mr. Prime Minister, your task would have been easier. Either you cannot control them or restrain them, or they do not listen to you. This is where you are fixed. Your Home Minister claims helplessness, not to give a statement on 28th February but to give a statement the day after. You did not find time to call a meeting. We, along with our leader, approached your office at 4 o'clock on 28th February saying 'we want to see you', and at 8 o'clock, you called us. Our leader went with a few of our colleagues and

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

apprised you of the situation. On 1st of March, Mr. Prime Minister, you were combating cross-border terrorism, you were combating AK-47. But when Gujarat was being burnt from 28th February early morning, your Cabinet found it important to send not the Home Minister but the Defence Minister on the afternoon of 1st March.

Forget Congress, accuse Congress with whatever language is at the command of the BJP. I do not mind. Mr. Prime Minister, I give you one information. Do not believe our report, do not believe what I say, but believe what media says. The Chief Minister was interviewed on 2nd March between 10 o'clock and 11 o'clock in Gandhinagar, the Capital of Gujarat, the constituency of your Home Minister, Shri L.K. Advani. After the interview of the Chief Minister, the Star TV news anchor known to everyone, Shri Rajdeep Sardesai left the residence. He was on his way to Ahmedabad. Within one and a half kilometres, his car was stopped. By whom? Not by Shri Somnath Chatterjee, not by your Minister, but by the VHP people with *trishul*. They hit his windscreen and said that they wanted to find who were there in the car. Shri Sardesai replied that they were journalists. He asked them to show the identity, whether he was a Hindu or a Muslim. Shri Sardesai told he was a Hindu, Rajdeep Sardesai. He further asked him to show his identity card, which he showed. He then said that it was not enough and he had to say *Jai Shri Ram*. Shri Sardesai said *Jai Shri Ram*. Even that was not enough. He said: "Remember, do not bring any Muslim photographer or Muslim journalist." So, the Star TV had to send the signal of packing up to all the Muslim journalists and photographers from Gujarat. Is it a good matter, Mr. Prime Minister? Is it in consonance with the resolution that we adopted after 13th December attack on Parliament? Is it in consonance with the spirit that you talk to your Cabinet colleagues? Is there not something wrong which is hitting you from inside? We are not hitting you, Mr. Prime Minister. The Opposition is not hitting you. You are being hit, the secular fabric is being hit from within yourself, which you cannot guard. Mr. Rajdeep said "what else?". They said: "Sorry, the day is over,

[Translation]

I wanted to kill at least one Muslim but could not find any in the van.

[English]

It is not my statement.

I felt very small when I went to V.S. Hospital run by our Mayor Shri Himmat Singh. Mr. Prime Minister, you know

what Shri Maqbool Ansari, an eighty year old tailor told me. It was not against you, not against Shrimati Sonia Gandhi. He said :

[Translation]

Please do one thing for us, tell the Government and Hon. President of India, to withdraw our voting right.

[English]

Mr. Prime Minister, I felt small. I did not join service to make my career in the bureaucracy. I joined politics with the dream to see secular India. When I heard the story of Shri Maqbool Ansari, I felt very small. What for am I in the political system? Mr. Prime Minister, this is what had happened.

Sir, 27th is over; 28th is over. Till 6.30 in the evening, your Government, both in the Centre and in the State, did not act. I know my Left friends will say this is what happened on 6th December, 1992 when Shri Kalyan Singh was not doing his duty or the Prime Minister was also not doing his duty. Yes, I confess, bowing my head before this Parliament, that our Prime Minister did not act in time. He paid for it. We paid for it. We have learnt the lesson. One has to make a journey for learning lesson from the history. That is what is India. That is what Gandhiji taught. Gandhiji said: 'I am not a great man. If I have done sin in my life, please hate that. My life is my message. Please forget and forgive the part of my life which could not stand by the people.'

Mr. Prime Minister, till 28th evening you did not find time to send the Army. The Statement that came out was that the Army was on stand-by. I know what it means. The Army is always on stand-by. For that, the Cabinet does not have to pass a resolution. The Army is always on stand-by. There was another statement that came out – I do not know whether it is right or wrong. If I am wrong, Shri Advani will correct me – that the Army is at the borders.

[Translation]

Where would they be brought from?

[English]

India is a country of one billion people with a huge Army. The entire Army is at the borders!

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on 1st March, when Shri George Fernandes arrived, the Army was not deployed. When the order was given, the deployment started from the 2nd morning. The deployment was not at the best of Army or the Chief Secretary. The static force under the

command of the Chief Minister was there. If he directs, they will go.

I met the Governor, Shri Bhandari, Mr. Prime Minister. He is a truthful man. When we deposed the facts in his presence and said that that when the Army came, there was nobody to receive them or to give them a map or drawing, the Governor was helpless. Our MLA, Shri Madhusudan Mistry, was crying all through in his room saying :

[Translation]

"Sir, please save us, my Himmatnagar is burning. Even vegetable is not available, there is nothing to fulfill the basic needs."

[English]

It was the 3rd of March, Mr. Prime Minister. Our MLA was located at last. It is the Governor's Secretary who phoned and got the MLA released from the clutches of death. Otherwise, he would have died. The Governor did not say : "Come and tell me." We have witnessed the situation. If a Hindu cries like this, we shall equally share; if a Muslim cries like this, we shall equally share.

What was the background ? Mr. Prime Minister, when the attacks were mounted on the Christians, you found the time to issue a statement stating that there should be a national debate on the issue of conversions. When Mr. Graham Steins was killed in Orissa, when the *Bajrang Dal* was named, your Government, not you, said that it was an isolated case of violence. When the Ayodhya issue came up, you initiated the debate, Mr. Minister, and you said that the Ayodhya Movement was the manifestation of the national sentiment, as if the national sentiment does not belong to all sections. Again, it is you, Mr. Prime Minister, who made an appeal on the 27th evening that the *Kar Sevaks* should not move towards Ayodhya. Is it not a fact that your Government felt that this very Movement, the widespread slogans and shouts might cause a provocative situation that might not be under control ? This wisdom dawned on you on 27th evening and not before that, does this not show that your Government's lack of concern over the entire situation and the internal security of the country ? You knew that in a Hindu congregation, even ten Pakistani Muslims could have created a situation, and the situation might have been beyond your control. Knowing all this well, the precautionary measures were not in place, and when the Godhra incident took place on the 27th evening, you thought that your hon. Chief Minister, your noble, competent, efficient Chief Minister, Shri Modi, could control

the situation by 28th. When he found that the things were beyond his control, then, on the 2nd, in the evening, you chose the time to address the nation and appeal to the people through television. How many days lapsed from 27th to 2nd ? You took four or five days to decide whether to appeal or not to appeal to the people. I do not say that your intention was wrong. I would say that you were confused, pressurised, delayed or purposefully prevented by your colleagues by saying : "Do not appeal, the things will be under control". How the things will be under control if the Police Commissioner of the City, having the badge of IPS on his shoulder, has the authority to say : "What can I do ? It is a matter of sentiment." The police is not meant to talk about 'sentiments'. Had I been the Chief Minister of that State, the first thing, I would have done is I would have stripped his badge and asked him to get out. It is not the job of the Police Commissioner to talk about what sentiment or non-sentiment is, but his job is to act. The officers told me that they have no orders. Shops were targeted. Mr. Prime Minister, did you not find time to go there ? You should have said : "All right, let me go". It was not Pakistan, where you had to go, for you to say that you would not go. It was Gujarat, and the Prime Minister should have been there because you are the Prime Minister. What your colleague, Shri George Fernandes, said was reported in the *Times of India*. He said : "There is no tall man now". In what context did he say this, Mr. Prime Minister ?

He said that there was a riot in 1969. At that time he was in the Opposition. He went to Gujarat then and he had found that the then Chief Minister of the State, Shri Hiten Desai, with a Gandhi cap on, was having a Cabinet meeting in the Circuit House. He had then said, "Could the Members of the Cabinet not come out in the streets and control the riots" ? Shri Hiten Desai, with all the members of his Cabinet came out on the streets and appealed to the people saying, "Either you shoot and kill us or you stop this riot". The riot was under control within 24 hours. Shri Hindulal Jagmuk led the *morchas*. . . . (Interruptions) I have not said all these things. It was said by your Cabinet colleague, Shri George Fernandes. Please read *The Times of India*. He said that it was Shri Hindulal Jagmuk who went through the streets and appealed to the people and brought it. Was it not possible for Shri Narendra Modi – who was a *pracharak* and who led the *sadhus* and the *sanyasis* to the Millennium summit and I saw him in the streets of New York with the *sadhus and sanyasis* who were later addressed by the hon. Prime Minister in a VHP gathering – to do such a thing in Gujarat ? . . . (Interruptions)

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

[Translation]

Allow me to speak first, you can also speak when you get the opportunity. We donot interrupt when somebody speaks, you keep on interrupting, we donot have any objection through, you please speak when you get the opportunity.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please do not interrupt.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, it was never our desire that paramilitary forces should handle this situation. We from the Congress party strongly feel that in the matter of internal security, para-military should be the last resort. When there is no other option left then only the Army should be deployed. When our leader, Shrimati Gandhi found that there was no other alternative left, then she appealed to the hon. Prime Minister and to the *Rashtrapatiiji* that Army may be deployed there. It is because if the Police Commissioner of Ahmedabad city says as to what could he do because there is a sentiment, then what else could be done ?

Sir, it was a targeted violence. Out of 14 houses, only two houses were chosen to be burnt. Out of three shops, only one shop was chosen to be burnt. There were selective burning of shops and houses. Curfew was clamped only on the 3rd of March and people say that things are under control. When myself and Shri Balram Jakhar were crossing the walled city we witnessed in the presence of Shri Amarsingh Chowdhury and the media that there were scooters with stickers of *Bajrang Dal* and *Jai Shri Ram* in the area and there were smoke all around and shops were still burning. We witnessed the most shocking incident in the city civil hospital. Till 10 o'clock in the morning. I say this with responsibility that no injured Muslim patient was allowed to be admitted in the hospital. People with open swords were standing there and saying that.

[Translation]

The person who is Muslim will not be admitted in the hospital. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

They were all scared. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : When you speak you correct him.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please do not disturb now.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri) : Deputy Speaker, Sir, what is he telling. . . .(Interruptions) All party delegation has visited Ahmedabad and your leader has also been there still you are not telling the truth. . . .(Interruptions) All party delegation had visited Ahmedabad and though leader of opposition was also present there. They are misleading the House. . . .(Interruptions) Is it possible to restore peace if somebody is giving such a statement ?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : When you get your chance, you refute it. You went to Gujarat. You refute it when you get your chance.

12.54 hrs.

[SHRI P.H. PANDIAN in the Chair]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, three unfortunate campaigns went on in Gujarat from the 27th of February.

The first campaign was

[Translation]

Whatever has happened in Godhra, is the doing of the Municipal Councillors belonging to Congress party. . . .(Interruptions) There is no need to shout, each and every document in this regard is available with the Home Minister.

[English]

The second campaign was that this has been done in an organised manner.

The third campaign was that this has been done selectively to hit the *Ram Sewaks*.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, who got elected to *Nagar Palika* under what symbol is all given in the Gazette of Government of Gujarat, a copy of which is with us. I am not saying that it was done in a conspiracy hatched by 'a' or 'b'. The Chairman of *Nagar Palika* in 1996, Pratap Singh Solanki was flanked by Mohammed Hussian Kolata, who is the Vice President these days and who belongs to BJP. . . .(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES OF THE

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : He was with the Congress. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central) : . . .(Interruptions) Mohammed Hussain Kolata and Abdul Sheikh belong to Congress party. . . .(Interruptions) They are office bearer of their party. They have been elected under the symbol of Congress party. . . .(Interruptions) Can you prove that they have no connection with the Congress party. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, let the Home Minister submit to the House the results of Godhra Municipal elections along with the details as to who won his seat under what symbol. I demand the Home Minister to table in the House the Gazette of Gujarat Government relating to election of Godhra Municipal Councillors.

SHRI KAMAL NATH (Chhindwara) : And the background of that person.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the campaign started on the first day, it was a typical campaign of RSS, was -

"The Congress Party has not condemn it."

[English]

I am thankful to Pramod Mahajan who had the courage to say in the presence of the Speaker that it was Shrimati Sonia Gandhi who condemned it on the first day. It is not a matter of who condemned first and who condemned later.

[Translation]

Even now we will condemn any Muslim who dare to kill a Ram Bhakt Hindu.

[English]

Muslim fundamentalism or Hindu fundamentalism, all kinds of fundamentalism is a curse on the secular fabric of India and we are opposed to that. We are opposed to that. This is why Gandhiji died. Nathu Ram Godse killed Gandhiji. That does not mean all Hindus are opposed to Gandhiji. If a Muslim fanatic killed a Hindu, it does not mean that the entire Muslim fraternity is fanatic. That is not the spirit and the Prime Minister also agrees with it. Then, why does this slogan come ?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Vajpayee knows Ahsaan Jaffrey, our ex-Member of Parliament, very intimately. He was an active Member of Parliament in this House. He was a member of our Socialist Forum, a progressive forum. What did he do ? For five hours he cried for help. After five hours, in order to protect his family and himself, he used his pistol. Shri Modi does not condemn that killing. He says, the Chief Minister says, because he opened fire the mob got provoked. The mob assembled there five hours before. Nothing could be substantiated without an inquiry by a sitting Judge. Was Ahsaan Jaffrey an enemy to anybody in Gujarat ? Mr. Prime Minister, you know better than anybody else in your party as to what his character was ? I do not say that Ahsaan Jaffrey's death should be compensated by the Godhra killings, or Godhra killings should be avenged by further killings. But, it is a fact that Shri Modi, the Chief Minister, on the 28th evening issued a statement saying : "It was revenge, what can I do, I am trying to control." Why should the Chief Minister use the word revenge ? Let the VHP say that they were taking revenge. Or let the RSS say that. Chief Minister is a Constitutional officer. Can a Constitutional authority feel like that ?

Yes, Shri George Fernandes was right. No tall man was there. Possibly, Shri Vajpayee, your own colleague does not consider you a tall man since you have not found time to go to Gujarat. Shri Advani, the Home Minister, found time to go to Gujarat on the 3rd of May. Shri Kamal Nath is not the Home Minister but he also went on the 3rd. Why is it so ? Shri Advani felt that Shri Modi would control things in such a manner that he would not have to go. But he had to go.

In one word, Mr. Chairman, Gujarat massacre is not a massacre executed by a few hooligans. Hooligans are found everywhere in the society. Hooligans are found in every part of the country. If hooligans get silent patronage of the Administration, in English they call it connivance.

13.00 hrs.

There are widespread news-items not by the Media alone but by the entire sections of the country : Was there any connivance ? Was there something where the Government kept quiet ? He may say, 'I have used 1000 rounds of police firing where 40 people have been killed.' Yes, in street incidents people will get killed. Yet, the visible absence of the police and inaction of the Administration has brought such a situation that Mr. Prime Minister, you, in your own confession, are rightly saying that it is a blot on the nation.

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

[Translation]

Sometimes you express whatever your conscience say. I appreciate this.

[English]

After 13th December 2001, we isolated Pakistan totally in the whole world with the united resolve of our Parliament. When after 13th December 2001, from Banatwalla to Sonia Gandhi, from Sonia Gandhi to Vajpayee, from Vajpayee to Somnath Chatterjee and every young man to the street of India said,

[Translation]

'We are against terrorism. Our objective is same and slogan of the whole country is one in this regard'.

[English]

Pakistan got frustrated and isolated.

But Mr. Prime Minister, due to inaction of your Modi Government, this blot on the nation has provided an opportunity to the one of the masters of the world, the United States, to appeal us. The United State's spokesman is appealing us saying, 'please stop the riots'. He is expressing sorrow to the Government and the people of India. The White House spokesman said, 'We express our concerns for the on-going riots, large-scale looting and the killing of the innocent people. We appeal to the Government of India to stop all this.'

I am not making any comment on it, Mr. Prime Minister. But I would say that the inaction of Mr. Modi, desperate frenzy of your RSS and VHP compelled us all to say that it is a blot on the nation.

There was also an intelligence failure. Did you not know that Godhra is a sensitively communal riot-prone zone? We know about the decades of the Seventies and the Eighties. Trains are passing and coming there. There was an RPF establishment. What did your Intelligence do?

If Advani-ji says that ISI did it, we will all hear it. But then is it not your intelligence failure? How many times will Advani-ji get excuses in Parliament?

[Translation]

It happened in Doda. You came to know later on. Nothing could be done to prevent the attack on Parliament. It is being alleged that ISI was instrumental in the Godhra incident, yet Home Minister did not know about this. What

sort of a person this Home Minister is? You prefect him as Sardar Patel of today.

[English]

I, therefore, think, Mr. Prime Minister that your Home Minister has no moral right to continue. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Member, please take your seat. Your party will also get a chance to speak.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Prime Minister, your Home Minister has no moral right to continue. He must step down now. . . .(Interruptions) The Home Minister, Shri L.K. Advani has no right to continue. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Dr. Jaswant Singh Yadav, please do not interrupt. You may also speak when your turn comes.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Shri L.K. Advani has no right to continue. Better he leaves the office and submits to Parliament. . . .(Interruptions)

We should not allow such kind of an official in the Government who is a determined *pracharak*, whose head, heart and mind is to implement the agenda to *Shakha* and spoil the office of the Constitution. Such persons are blot on the Constitution, Mr. Prime Minister.

Such incidents are a blot on the nation but such elements to head the Government is a blot on the Constitution.

Therefore, Mr. Prime Minister, you have to take cognisance to this effect. You have to answer the issues – as to why there was an intelligence failure; why no timely action was taken; why no cognisance was taken before 27th February; why no action was taken on the morning of 28th February; and why no action was taken even on the evening of 27th February?

[Translation]

Is it allowed that they were permitted to ventilate their anger and go on rioting as if it is a one day cricket match and you did not respond and just observed it as an empire. It is a matter of great concern for the people of our country. It is not a question for which only our party is concerned but Journalists and electronic media is also feel concerned about it. You will have to answer. We know that you will talk about the rioting broke out in 1984. What happened in 1984? Maintaining status quo in regard to Modi Ji cannot be justified by mentioning about the riots which broke out in 1984 and Honourable Prime Minister cannot protect him. I think even God RAM Cannot protest him.

[English]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I therefore, appeal to the hon. Prime Minister not only to strengthen communal harmony but also to establish an exemplary case before the nation to show that he has the capacity to dismiss Shri Narendra Modi, also to show that he has the capacity to tell his Home Minister that the time has come for him to step down, and also to tell him that enough is enough from Doda to Godhra and from Kargil to Parliament House.

13.05 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch
till Fourteen of the Clock.*

*The Lok Sabha reassembled after lunch at Five
Minutes Past Fourteen of the Clock.*

[SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU in the Chair]

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Godhra killings and subsequent violence in Gujarat - contd.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Mr. Chairman Sir, the incidences occurred during rioting in Godhra or in any other parts of Gujarat, are ghastly and condemnable. People of the country are grief stricken and agitated. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi Ji had mentioned some incidence and expressed his concern in this regard, I would like to be with him.

Sir, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi Ji has also mentioned some other points. I feel that these will aggravate the problems of Gujarat instead of helping in solving them. I understand if you say something to prove your point. But I do not agree to your accusation that there was a delay in deploying Army. If you say that injured people were not allowed to be admitted in hospitals till one o'clock or there was no arrangement to look after injured people in the hospitals or the Sangh shakhas were working according to their Agenda, I feel that these talks are going to hurt the sentiments of the people of Gujarat.

Sir, Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi Ji said that these incidences are blot on country, these incidences should not occur and should be stopped. Honourable Prime Minister and Home Minister have also said that these incidences are blot on the country. Shri Dasmunsi Ji though said the same thing but later on he reacted in a vulture like manner and demanded the resignation of Narender Modi Ji and Shri

Lal Krishna Advani Ji, Home Minister of Indian Government because they delayed the deployment of Army.

Sir, I would like to say and it is a fact that the incident of Godhra occurred on 27th February. Your leaders and our people visited that place saw the burnt coach of that train. The tragic condition of the coach is beyond our expression. Somnath Chatterjee has also seen that shoes and chappals of small children were scattered, Dupattas with Ram-Ram Printed on them were lying burnt. Over there no body can restrain their tears while seeing such a ghastly scene. The incidences occurred later on have been a shame on us.

Only two persons were killed on 27, nothing happened in Gujarat on 27th and on 28th of that month when reactions started. Many incidents took place. I would like to tell you why these reactions started. It is very simple and easy to say as has been said that how could the Chief Minister say that their anger was justified. Shri Modi said that though it was normal for them to get angry but it was not justified to take law in their own hands. If the families who had been bereaved, the families who had lost dear and dear ones, won't get angry? But we should pacify them. All the countrymen expressed their grief on the incidents and pacify the matters but what had been done. One 28th when Members in Lok Sabha were asking for relief and condemning the people responsible for committing murders there.

At that point of time several Members raised the slogans asking to ban the Vishwa Hindu Parishad. I would like to submit humbly that Shri Priyaranjan Das Munsi had stated that even Shrimati Sonia Gandhi had written on 22nd that situations in Ayodhya should be controlled and reviewed Karsewaks should not be allowed to proceed there. But if Karsewaks are allowed to go there and on raising the slogans of Ram, people would be burnt alive. If they go there, a village with two thousand people would be allowed to die in fire and if someone tries to go out of that five, would be killed. In spite of condemning the incidents they have demanded that Vishwa Hindu Parishad should be banned. Crores of people heard about it. Media had reported the same. People expressed their anger whether the people belonging to VHP will die, and the VHP would be banned and again, people would talk to condemn them. On 28th at 2.30 PM military was summoned. In a few hours time Defence Minister reached there. He reached there by 1.00 am there. Meanwhile Military too started reaching there and by about 8 o'clock. Military reached there. In sixteen hours Military could be deployed everywhere in Gujarat. It is correct to say that although

[Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra]

Military could not be deployed at the same time in the whole of Gujarat but the process of deployment had been initiated. It had been shown by media that military had not reached there while in 16-18 hours situation was under control. Even then you are demanding resignation of Shri Narendra Modi. Large scale riots were took place in Ahmedabad during 1969. Many people had been killed. The riots erupted on Sep. 18th, and Military reached there on Sep. 22, Military was deployed after five days. By that time thousands of people were killed. Shri Madhav Singh Solanki was the then Chief Minister 700-800 people died. Military reached after three or four days.

It is being stressed here not to talk about the riots of 1984. Those incidents were very shameful. About 3000 Sikhs were killed in Delhi. They were burnt alive. Tear gas had not been fired and not a single time lathi charge had been ordered. The then Prime Minister had said that when some important personality is lost, it is a set back to humanity. He had justified these killings in this way. Afterwards the persons responsible were appointed Ministers. They had been given tickets in Lok Sabha. They had been glorified. How is it possible not to talk about these incidents. I myself had requested Giani Zail Singh. Shri Advani and Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee immediately rushed to Shri Narsimha Rao and requested him to deploy military forces. For six days Military had not been deployed. Not a single person had been killed. Now Shri Narendra Modi had to be told to go because hundred people had been killed in police firing. When I went there congressmen had been making statements that they had not killed anyone while Hindus had been killed during riots. On the other hand they are making a statement that since riots had happened so Shri Narendra Modi should withdraw. On 27th Military had been deployed. All people were told to be peaceful and city committees had been formed. Orders had been issued.

Shoot at sight orders were issued. Even if some policemen is found guilty he will be punished. Action had been taken seriously but what has been done is really unfair.

I feel very sorry when they show pictures of riots. Even if they show, did they care to show any relatives of those killed in Godhra incident of Gujarat, did they show the interview of brother or father or son of those killed in the same incident. They are not showing the real thing. Just asking one person, another person. This is what they are showing.

You have said that the Sangh have their agenda, communication is going with shakha. But I want to say very humbly that riot was controlled within 27 hours. Nobody has controlled the riot within such a short span of time. The riot of 1985 continued for six months. It started in February and continued till September. In April, the army moved in. This is known to the people of Gujarat. The curfew lasted for six or eight months and here the riot was controlled within 72 hours. The riot did not percolate outside. There are lakhs of people in Hindustan, swayamsevaks in the country, has there been some hidden agenda, would it not have spread outside Gujarat? We do not want riots. We want to make country riot free. This is our commitment. You did not leave any stone unturned. Mrs. Sonia Gandhi alongwith others went to Rashtrapati Bhawan. They asked the President to dismiss the Government of Gujarat, to hand over the State to the army. By that time, army had already reached there. You must go to Rashtrapati Bhawan, it is the duty of the opposition. But when Godhra incident took place, you should have gone to the Rashtrapati Bhawan, when people lined up in queue in Kashmir were shot dead, you should have gone there, when five lakhs people migrated from Kashmir, you should have gone there. Crores of people are observing how is this secular brigade which has decided in advance that whatever excess will be committed against majority will be justified and those committed against minority will be exaggerated so that riots continue.

Mrs. Sonia Gandhi sat under the statue of Mahatma Gandhi. She is the leader of opposition, leader of the Congress Party, I give respect to her. The leader of the Communist Party Somnathjee also sat with her. The leaders of other parties also sat with her. But this secular brigade had some unique feature. I repeat Banatwalla jee very much. The next day when we saw the newspaper, the picture of Banatwallajee and Soniajee was the lone photo printed in it. This is the picture of Indian secularism by Smt. Sonia Gandhi and Shri Banatwalajee. Banatwalajee represent Muslim league. Muslim League carved out a theory of two nation. Muslim League made India and Pakistan. I hail from Lahore. I had saw how lakhs of people were killed there. That Muslim League, that part of the secular brigade if Sikh under Mahatma Gandhi statue say to ban VHP to shoot their people, do you demand such. . . . ? When you abuse VHP, will not the people resent. You can just imagine. We went there is camps, there are Hindus as well as Muslims. We feel very sorry that the family of some Muslim brother have been shot dead, our one of the former MPs was burnt. People said that they tried for hours but help could not reach them, he could not be saved.

The truth is that as has been told, four persons were shot dead there. There was a mob of fifteen to twenty thousand which shot dead four people. The riot was later on controlled.

The matter relates to inquiry and it will have to be inquired into. The Government has set up a judicial inquiry and if some policemen has played partisan role as if they have allowed some people to take revenge on they will necessarily be booked under law. Judicial inquiry is taking place to know how the murder took place there which is a very sorry thing to happen. You said that why the Ministers did not reach there? Should I ask why the Congressmen did not reach there? So many Hindu Congressmen are there, nobody was seen there. Did the mob of 20 thousands were only people of BJP? Did not the whole of colony was there, and many of them were Congressmen. Mob did not have face, riot-makers do not belong to particular party.

We should understand the sentiments prevailing in their minds. The Godhra incident was led by four people of two and a half thousands people with petrol and axe. Who were those poor people. You may deny but Mohd. Ahsorm Kalta who still is the Chairman of panchmahal district Minority cell did it. You did not expel him from the party. He may not have been elected on congress ticket; but in Muslim areas he was the Chairman for the last two years of Minority cell of your party. Why did not you take action against him. Without condemning him here, why did you demand to put a ban on VHP? The person who obstructed the fire brigade and did not allow it to reach there was Abdul Gaffar Sheikh. He is an elected councillor and Vice-President of congress Panchmahal district. What action did you take against him. What action did you take against Abdul Rahman, Abdul Majeed Kantia, Alis Jamhuri Kankatta, and against 'Farooq Bhana? I myself demanding actions against a Hindu, a police personnel of Hindu community if he has done this. On behalf of Bhartiya Janata Party, I would like to say to you that if a Hindu rapes a Muslim woman, he should be hanged, but if Hindu women are gang raped in Bangla Desh and if I raise this issue in Parliament, it is said that I am advocating communalism. This is in record, Congressmen, and politicians who returned from there told that I am talking of communalism. Rape is rape; if a Hindu has committed any offence there, action must be taken but there should not be double standard. How will you carry on double standard? I was very shocked, really surprised when Sh. Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi demanded his resignation alongwith the Advaniji. What did Advani Ji do; he sent police there on 27th and

was busy whole night in this. Advani Ji is an eye-sore for Pakistan, he is an eye-sore for Musharraf. He is the target of I.S.I., he is the target of suicide-attackers, he is the target of Alqueda. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

Please try to understand. Do not take it lightly, do not laugh. I am very serious on this issue. I want to warn this country and this House.

[Translation]

that Advaniji is also on your target. The way in which you are vomiting venom against Advaniji and news are coming that suicide attackers have come from Nepal and other places, it is a real danger. After creating such an environment, if anybody harms Advaniji, Do you think that there would be no any reaction in the country and if there is any reaction than who will be responsible for all that.

You will be responsible, who are propogating all over the country and doing such things. I would like to say that those who called themselves the well wishers of Muslims are their enemies. Thousands and lakhs of people are dying, India is burning and your business is prospering. There is a need to evade such situation.

We went there. Sonia Ji, Shivraj Patil and Somnathji were also with us. People were saying that a pamphlet is being distributed there. We asked them about the contents of the pamphlet and we were told that it was written in the pamphlet that boycott the Muslims, do not put them in jobs, do not repair vehicles in their workshops. We inquired about the name of the printline who brought out this there was no mention of these things. It was said that it is under investigation and such pamphlets have been brought out ten to fifteen.

I would like to say that this is a creation of satanic mind, it is a creation of lunatic. How it is possible to boycott Muslims in the country; whoever brought this out should be arrested under POTO. It is still under investigation. V.H.P. has said that it has nothing to do with this. Every body is saying that he has nothing to do with this. Yet it is being propagated. What action should be taken against those persons who are showing this pamphlet on TV and saying that it is written in this that boycott the Muslims. The news may have gone to 200-400 men there and ten to fifteen copies may have been distributed in which it is said that distribute copies of this, but the persons who spreading this in crores of people are in anyway going to do good to Muslims and to this nation? Whether they are talking of freedom to expression. A girl is asked to stand and she

[Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra]

reads the pamphlet that you should not go to workshops and do not provide jobs to Muslims. This wrong message is being sent to crores of people, why all this? The way in which this is being propagated shows that who are real enemies of Muslims. It is their policy that allies of BJP may be broken with such attacks. This is why it is being spread. I would like to say that they are hammering their own heads, they breaking the secular fabrics of the country. I say that this a creation of satanic mind. Such persons are criminals and traitors of this country. Is such a propagation is not a crime against nation; is it freedom of expression you should think over it. There is a need to check such message need to prevent such act of burning.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho) : Whatever you said we heard patiently. Do you want to suggest that media in this country will publish after taking your permission will a ban be imposed on showing real incidents that took place there? If they show real situation what is wrong in it. I presume that no such things should be done which convey a wrong message to people. But you call them traitor who shows this.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : One who brought out this pamphlet is a traitor. One who is writing these letters should be arrested. Under POTO; he is the biggest enemy of this country.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : If hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs is on the hit list, then it's the Government's responsibility to take action in this regard.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, you will get the opportunity First, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : The Vishwa Hindu Parishad says it has no connection with it. I had gone there. I asked the concerned people about the Leaflet discussion and how they got information in this regard. Police Commissioner told that 10 to 15 leaflets had been published they were examining it, who is behind it. I have also been told that leaflets have been published by Congress to attack BJP. I would have not been made any mention of this matter but I had been forced to say so. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, I demand that if any Congressman is involved in the leaflet distribution, if the Home Minister has the ability to identify that person, he should identify and punish him. Or, he has to resign. . . .(Interruptions) What is this? There is a limit to this.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, please address the Chair.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is the work of some persons who want to spread hatred between Hindus and Muslims. So it should be avoided. People condemn it. It is need of hour to tell that BJP, VHP and RSS condemn it. The people who propagate it do not work for the country in true manner. They are not showing what is being done. There are many such examples where Hindus have saved Muslims and Muslims saved Hindus. Should this be publicised. Positive points are to be strengthened. Adverse propaganda should not be made. People who pretend to be secular tells us that this is not a country for Muslim people. . . .(Interruptions) If we have friends like you there is no need for foes. . . .(Interruptions) The problems are being created for solving Ayodhya issue. This problem should be solved through peaceful means and they are obstructing it. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal) : Whose opinion is this. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : It is continuously being stated. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : It may be a misunderstanding. Samajwadi Party had said in 1986 that this issue should be solved through peaceful methods or in a democratic country there is no other way other than courts. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, your party would get a chance. You can mention at that time.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : He is the spokesman of the BJP. . . .(Interruptions) He has made an allegation. . . .(Interruptions) If he cannot identify them, then, why should he say? . . .(Interruptions) Let him identify them?

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : I am going to identify them. I am going to say. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

When a meeting was held with people of Muslim Personal Law Board, they were ready to hold talks on this issue. But these people provoked them. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : I strongly repudiate this point. . . .(Interruptions) He is making an irresponsible statement. . . .(Interruptions) He is casting aspersions on the Opposition party. . . .(Interruptions) It is a crime. . . .(Interruptions) This is too much. Is this the way you seek co-operation? He is talking wrong things. . . .(Interruptions) Let him name one member of the Muslim Personal Law Board who has been asked by the Opposition not to negotiate the matter. Let him name. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : I would like to tell something to Munshiji and other people. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : This is wrong. I am myself a Member of Muslim Personal Law Board. None has provoked them. . . .(Interruptions) They took the decision on their own. There is nothing provocative either at present or of any such possibility. This is wrong statement. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : At least ten Muslim leaders statements have been published. Imam of Delhi and other men who support their parties opposed Muslim personal Law Board. They said they would not let it happen and protested against it. Discussion is still going on, perhaps they would get ready to participate in discussion. If you have not said so let the negotiations go on. Let Ayodhya issue be solved. Do not provoke the people. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Even now this news is televised that Shri Ramchandra Paramhans has said that they will perform Pooja at all costs on 15th. Even P.M. has given this statement that VHP and trustees. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Already the hon. Prime Minister has clarified on Ayodhya. We are discussing Gujarat. I am not allowing anything on Ayodhya.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra has not become a Minister that is why he is uttering such statements. We understand your views and there is no other such matter. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : I did not expect such mean things from opposition. . . .(Interruptions) if they say so that I am submitting this before you then it is not so. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN : You are more concerned about the life of hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : The persons, whose shops are going to be closed because of it, should hope that the Ayodhya issue will be solved through talks or in the court. I am not a spokesperson of Paramhansji. But the Prime Minister has made one thing clear. What ever he has clarified is certainly the viewpoint of the party.

I was surprised and felt hurt when a Member of Rajya Sabha, in his speech there said that the 15 crores of Muslims should now reconsider which country they are belonging to. Lakhs of people from Pakistan come on visa to India and do not go back because they want to live in India. One-and-a-half crore Bangladeshis live in India because they are safe here and more employment opportunities are available to them. If in a riot, Hindus are burnt alive and in reaction to this further riots take place and due to this reason to say that Muslims shall have to think about their own country. Should they think of another partition? There will be no further partition of India. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF (Bangalore North) : Malhotraji, be explicit. . . .(Interruptions) What is your intention? What do you want to say about the Muslims? . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : I want to say that they are fully safe in India. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF : India is neither your nor mine. India belongs to the Indians. You are not their spokesperson. . . .(Interruptions) We were born in this land and we will die in this very land. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : This country belongs neither to Hindus nor to the Muslims. If the country was to be for the Hindus only, then the partition in 1947 would have been on this basis. The country belongs as much

[Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra]

to the Muslims as to the 84 per cent Hindus. The country belongs equally to the Muslims as well as the Christians. Everyone has the right to live with security. And it is the duty and the responsibility of the Government to provide full security to all the citizens. . . .(Interruptions) And for this if 100 persons are to be shot dead to save a single person from being burnt alive, as happened there, then such persons should be shot. No one should be killed here in this way. But also no one should threaten to reconsider their future in this country. Partition is out of the question. Congress Party is no longer in power. When in the country. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI RASHID ALVI (Amroha) : Malhotraji there is no question of partition. Forget this thing. If some one is saying such a thing he is wrong. . . .(Interruptions) What do you want to say ? . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (Latur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is your point of order ?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, I am quoting Rule 353 and 354. Rule 353 says :

"No allegation of a defamatory or incriminatory nature shall be made a member against any person unless the member has given adequate advance notice to the Speaker and also to the Minister concerned so that the Minister may be able to make an investigation into the matter for the purpose of a reply."

"Provided that the Speaker may at any time prohibit any member from making any such allegation if he is of opinion that such allegation is derogatory to the dignity of the House or that no public interest is served by making such allegation."

Sir, you have heard the hon. Member saying that the Congress Members are involved in it.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : I did not say.

[English]

I have never said it. I have never used these words.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Dr. Malhotra, I will see the records.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : I have never used those words.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : The second statement made by the hon. Member was that there were some persons who obstructed some persons having a talk to solve this problem. Now, has he verified these statements ? Has he got these statements verified through the Government ? Has he given us the opportunity to rebut them ? He is making these insinuations on the floor of the House. That is not at all going to be in the interest of the country and in the interest of the tranquillity. . . .(Interruptions)

If these kind of statements are made, I have it to you whether they should allowed to go on the record or not. If they are going on record, we would like to ask the hon. Member to substantiate his statement. Otherwise, do not make any allegations.

None of us has said that the BJP is involved in it. We have not alleged anything against anybody. But, time and again, it is being said that two Congress Members are involved in it. We do not know whether they belong to the Congress Party. We have, all the time, said that they do not belong to the Congress Party, and yet it is being continued. Is it in the interest of the country ?

The second part of it is :

"No speech made in the Council shall be quoted in the House unless it is a definite statement of policy by a Minister :"

The hon. Member is making a comment on the statement made by a Member in the Council. It has not to be quoted in this House. . . .(Interruptions) What he says here is not quoted in that House. What is said in that House is not quoted in this House. So, we are throwing these rules to the wind. We are making the statements that are of inflammatory nature, which can incite the people, and which are going to offend the tranquillity in the country. And yet if they are allowed to be a part of these word, I would request you to either give the ruling now or let the ruling be given later on.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will look into it.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : I did not say this is any stage. I said, when I had gone there, it was stated that the pamphlets were published by them to defame the BJP. I have criticised the pamphlets. I brand this as sinful, sedition and the product of a satanic mind. We have all condemned it. The entire House should condemn it. Their Members were saying there that this was the Agenda of the Shakhha, when its Members were saying that this was

their hidden Agenda. When these people were saying that they have hatched a conspiracy, no one objected at that time. I said, had there been any connivance, the riots would not have stopped within, 72 hours. We wanted the riots to stop. The riots were stopped within 72 hours by shooting down 100 persons. Do not aggravate the situation any more. This was the appeal I wanted to make to the nation, I want to say this is a public document. There is nothing secret about it.

[English]

It has been published and made available to anybody who so ever he is. One can get it.

[Translation]

When it was being said as to what is the future in this country and what should they do, Members from that place did not say that they were taking about further partition of the country. Neither any Congressman nor Samajwadi party and the Communist Party condemned them for their utterness.

Sir, at present, India and Pakistani forces on the border are eyeball to eyeball. Pakistan wants to engineer riots in India. The entire country is unitedly fighting against terrorism. We had gone abroad and proudly announced that everyone in India is unitedly fighting against terrorism, but Pakistan is conspiring to engineer riots in India, so that the troops retreated for internal security. To deal with the situation, nothing should be said which aggravate the riots. We all should try for peace and tranquillity. The Government should guarantee the safety of each and every Indian living here. We should all together work to achieve this. This is my appeal.

With these words. I conclude.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, since he took my name I may be allowed to clarify the position. With all respect to Shri Advani, a distinguished Member, we did not mention anything personal against Shri Advani. He is a leader and he has his own right. We all know he is one of the stalwarts of the country. As a matter of fact, we did say in performance of his constitutional responsibility as a Home Minister, right from several incidents, it appears, he has no moral right to continue.

We are equally concerned for his life. You see, the way Shri Malhotra has said that Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi has demanded, on behalf of Congress, his resignation, he

is a target etc. and if something happens one day, what will happen. Shri Advani is not our target. He is one of our compatriots in the country. But as a Minister in the Government, his performance is questioned. That issue is not related to the threat of terrorists of Shri Advani linking with the Opposition. We disapprove this and this should not be there.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Prime Minister himself has stated that the events that have taken place in Godhra and rest of Gujarat have brought shame to the entire nation. Sir, I share that feeling and I hope discussion in this House will be with that feeling on these incidents which have brought national shame.

Sir, I have said at one place that should we be proud to be Indians when we have behaved in this manner. Between man and man, innocent people have been the target. We are discussing the issues, the incidents at Godhra and also the violent situation in Godhra and rest of Gujarat. Nobody in the opposition has even for a second said anything but totally condemned the incidents.

I do not know why an attempt was being made to say that some political parties, mentioning the Leftists also, had not condemned it. The records are there. On the forenoon of 27th itself my party, the Politbureau of CPI(M) issued a statement and that was published on the next day on the 28th February in the newspapers. So far as I am aware, it was broadcasted also. We wish to make it very clear that these serious incidents should be properly investigated and condign punishment should be given to those whoever is guilty, Congressmen or no-Congressmen because those should be examples in this country that nobody can take law into his hand. Nobody can kill people for whatever may be the reason. Therefore, no impression should be created.

I am sorry that when we have this confrontation on politics in this country we even go to this extent. But Sir, so far as the other incidents in the rest of Gujarat are concerned, it is being said that it is as a result of the incidents at Godhra. This is the seriousness of the matter. What has happened in the rest of Gujarat, in the State, where people are very hardworking, very industrious and very successful people? Naturally we are all proud of Gujarat's achievement in the fields of industry, business, trade and its contribution to India's Freedom Movement. Sir, one cannot but avoid the impression that we have seen what is a worse type of State sponsored mayhem of innocent people.

Sir, I had the opportunity of being a Member of the All-Party Delegation. Shri Malhotra was a distinguished

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

Member of that Delegation although very inadequate exposure he had. But we had seen some of the hospitals. We had seen very, very heartrending scenes. We visited some of the relief camps which the organizations are running. Also, we had the briefing by the top most officials of the State administration. I am sure that those who were there were extremely moved by the heartrending scenes. We have seen wound caused by injuries by swords, injuries by stone throwing, injuries by bullet, burn injuries and all types of injuries. Sir, you have also been there. We have all seen. But these incidents took place on the 27th and 28th primarily. This is the most important thing.

Shri Malhotra, you were not right when you said there were two deaths only on the 27th. Unfortunately, it was not correct. The incident at Godhra took place at 8 o'clock in the morning. Thereafter, of course, as we say it is a horrendous event. Then what had happened on 27th itself? It is well-organised massacre and annihilation of innocent people only on the basis that they belong to a particular religion. No other person was affected. There is no other reason. You belong to this religion, and therefore, you have to suffer. You will be massacred. Your houses will be burnt. You will be killed. Children were killed in the presence of their parents. Husbands were killed in the presence of their wives. Wife is raped in the presence of the husband and the children. These types of incidents have taken place only because a particular individual belongs to a particular religion. Even a well-known journal wrote this. Not that I am enamoured of this journal. Even the *Time* magazine said, "Can the secular State survive?" This is the question also on the minds of many Indian people. Secularism is one of the basic features of our Constitution. If you deride us by saying 'secular brigade', I am very happy if you do not mean it contemptuously. Shri Advani's very favourite expression is pseudo-secularism. Pseudo-secularism is a very favourite expression that I have been hearing for a long time. Whatever may be, is the Government, is the major Party, BJP, committed to secularism or your brand of secularism, namely, a hegemony of the majority sections of the people? That is why, Shri Advani has called solemnly that *Babri Masjid* was the embodiment or symbol of India's subjugation. I shall come to it a little late.

Sir, so far as the incidents are concerned, it is very necessary because Shri Malhotra said that on the 27th only two deaths had taken place. On the 27th itself, 26 towns Statewide had been put under indefinite curfew. *Vishwa Hindu Parishad* activists called a Statewide *bandh* on

Thursday to protest the killing of the *Kar Sevaks*. On the 27th, several Muslim-populated areas of the State were attacked and set afire Muslim-owned properties along with the murder of Ehsan Jafri. . . .(Interruptions)

I stand corrected, it was on the 28th but before that, on the 27th, there have been incidents. I am reading from *The Hindustan Times* of the 28th February. The newspaper of 28th must have reported the incidents of the 27th. The hon. Minister of Home Affairs would not doubt respond to it, if it were not correct.

Here, it is said, 'Seventy more die in State-wide communal violence'. This means, 70 more people other than the 15 who died in Godhra on the 27th. You said that only two people died. If what I say is not correct, Shri Advani would give the correct figures. The reports say, 'Cars burnt in the streets', 'Muslims' shops were looted and set on fire', "They are singling out properties owned by Muslims", a police official said", 'Police sources say that they were not prepared to raid the offices of the VHP just yet; they were more concerned with controlling the volatile situation.' I am not reading all the details. They are quite gory details but serious incidents have taken place.

I have got *The Indian Express* of the 28th, which says : "Seventy dead cops watched with their eyes wide shut." I do not wish to read further. In the briefing that we had after our visit on that day, Dr. V.K. Malhotra was also present. We were given a figure of death, which was 618 plus 58 of Godhra. So far as missing persons are concerned, the figure was about 2000-odd. I do not remember the figure correctly; I did not note it down. We saw two camps – in one camp, there were 5,000 persons and in the other there were about 250. We were told that about 31,000 people were in the camps altogether. We wanted to visit the Shah Alam camp but we could not because we were told that there was a risk for security. Why is it that about 30,000 people of Ahmedabad are in camps? This is the most important city in Gujarat. They are there either because their houses are burnt or their relatives have been killed. There is no sense of security. There is nothing to live on. They are forced to go and stay in the camps. This has been happening since the 28th February or the 1st March. . . .(Interruptions) Shri Harin Pathak is nodding his head; therefore, I am correct.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : He says, he would reply to it.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : I will reply later on. I was born and brought up there.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Even though you were born and brought up there, that is the state of affairs in Ahmedabad.

Now, I would like to know what was the crime committed by these people. They have to leave their hearths and homes and stay in miserable conditions. Some children say that their parents have been killed. Some people say that they have no houses. There have been businesses destroyed. They say that if they went back, they would be butchered. Therefore, we could see that they were totally justified in their feeling of insecurity. This is what we have found, to the extent we could understand the situation.

We have got reports today that 'ghettoisation', if I may use an expression like that, in Ahmedabad is complete. There is no mixed locality any longer. This is proved by the fact that the Judges of the High Court – or whatever court it is – have to go to other areas for the sake of their safety and protection. Even Judges are not safe.

15.00 hrs.

They cannot stay in their quarters or their own bungalows, I do not know. In the hospitals, as I said, we could see serious injuries. Here, I must pay my tribute to the doctors because the doctors, I believe – as they have explained to us – have done very commendable jobs, as also the nurses. Obviously, they were generally satisfied with the medical treatment. But I would request the hon. Home Minister to clarify this. These people are not there only for the sake of any pleasure trip. These camps are occupied by thousands of people because of lack of sense of security, because of lack of housing accommodation, because their businesses are destroyed and there is nothing to fall back upon. The very interesting thing is that none of these camps in Ahmedabad is run by the Government. We were told that there is a great tradition of voluntary organisations running the relief camps. When we met the NGO's representatives, they said : "What can we do ? In spite of our difficulties, in spite of the feeling of insecurity for ourselves, we have tried our best." The Relief Commissioner has said that they are giving them some rice, some sugar, some milk, etc. Even the Government does not take the responsibility of feeding the people. The biggest problem, apart from food and medicine, is total lack of sanitation. The representatives of these voluntary organisations said that there is no arrangement of sanitation and the Government is completely oblivious.

15.02 hrs.

[SHRI P.H. PANDIAN *in the Chair*]

A distinction was made so far as the quantum of compensation was concerned – Rs. 2 lakh for Godhra victims and Rs. 1 lakh for the rest of the areas. But we were told later on by the Relief Commissioner, Shri Koshi that now the *Kar Sevaks* have agreed to reduce the amount of compensation, therefore, it has become Rs. 1 lakh for all. It is not the Government's decision. It is because of the criticism that was made that the *Kar Sevaks* are supposed to have said that they would be happy with Rs. 1 lakh. This is the type of Governmental intervention. We have been told that there is a Commission of Inquiry. The Judge himself said : "I do not know when I can finish it. Three months is too little a time. There is no arrangement, nothing." We have demanded and we demand that for this type of a serious incident, the Commission of Inquiry should be headed by a sitting judge of preferably the Supreme Court or of the High Court. This is our demand.

I think it is proper, it is essential for us in this House to ponder why did the Godhra incident happen and how did this happen. I would like to know, did the State Government have any apprehension, did the Central Government have any information or was there anything from the intelligence sources ? We are being informed that arrangements were made at different stations for providing protection. What happened at the Godhra railway station ? Please do not give the impression that I am justifying it; I am condemning it. But I am trying to find out that if a section of our citizens is being attacked, could the Government have prevented it or not ? These are not ordinarily stray passengers travelling. It is a matter of great sorrow and shame that so many women, so many children lost their lives. It is really heart-rending. I have also seen that compartment. There is unbelievable destruction. Did the Central Government or did the State Government have any information, any apprehension ?

What was the intelligence report ? Why were special arrangements not being made when the emotions were surcharged ? People were coming back from Ayodhya. Therefore, so far as protection of those people is concerned, there is a complete failure of the Government machinery. It was a complete failure. We were told that within such and such time police was sent; within such and such time they tried to provide relief and within such and such time they sent buses etc. But this is all after the event. When the things were becoming hot, should the

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

Government not have taken minimum steps? If there is no intelligence report on this, then there is a total failure of the law enforcement machinery and somebody must be responsible for this.

So far as the rest of Gujarat is concerned, we have been told and we have seen in the papers again that the red alert was issued by the Central Government within a few hours. I think it was on the noon of 27th February itself. It was sent to every State. Fortunately in no other State, there has been any incident, except, maybe some stray incidents in U.P. But no such incident was there in any other State and it is very fortunate. But it was not by accident. It was because the State Governments took preventive action.

But in Gujarat, it started burning within a few hours. Hundreds of people were already affected and 26 towns had to be brought under curfew on the same day. Was this stalled immediately on the same day? One police officer has said, even on TV, that the VHP call for *Bandh* immediately created a serious situation and insecurity. But this was not only a VHP call. This was strongly supporting by the BJP which is holding reins of power here and in Gujarat. Why did the BJP not try to resist the VHP from giving a *Bandh* call?

Now, Shri Advani, after the red alert was issued, was any special arrangement made by either the Gujarat Government or your Government? Not a single preventive arrest was made. We asked the police authorities there after our visit. Not a single preventive arrest was made. No special deployment of the police was made even in Ahmedabad city and in big towns and cities like Baroda which were all in very explosive situation and where communal incidents took place. No peace committees were there as is generally formed among members of the different communities so that they can move about and issue appeals. Nothing has happened.

On the other hand the Chief Minister has said, quoting Newton, that every action will have a reaction. This is a most condemnable attitude on the part of the Chief Minister. This is direct encouragement given to the killings and murders that followed. Instead of trying to give a sense of confidence to the people, especially the minorities who are likely to be affected, as they were affected, he said that every action would have its reaction. There were processions shouting for revenge for the incident of Godhra. These have been said. From what we heard that day we have no doubt that there was a total police inactivity. They

turned their face away and those complaints came from the next day, the 28th February onwards as if the police were asked not to take any action.

That is why on 28th February, for six hours, one of the former Members of Parliament entreated for safety of his life, protection of his life, and the Police Commissioner says, "I do not know". Then who knew? Did anybody know because everybody says that he had been appealing for help? He said that he had not gone into it. When he was pressed again, what was his answer? His answer was: "Since a Commission of Inquiry has been appointed, I will not say anything." Sir, I cannot think of a more insensitive, callous attitude on the part of a police officer when the Members of Parliament and the Minister are sitting there asking for minimum information and his reply is that since there is a Commission of Inquiry appointed, I will not answer. Therefore, he knows that he will be one of the persons proceeded against. That is why, he is trying to protect himself. Why should he be proceeded against? He knows that he was made inactive and he did not take any action. It was an amazing attitude.

Sir, I cannot but express my view and probably, it will be shared by some of the hon. Members of the delegation. Shri Shivraj Patil was there. Shri Yerrannaidu was there. There was an almost mechanical approach or totally bureaucratic approach by the Chief Secretary and the Home Secretary. I do not blame them because they have to operate within a particular atmosphere, under a particular dispensation. They were hardly masters of their own respective offices or duties.

Everybody has been talking of Army. Dr. Malhotra has left for the time being. He said that Army was called. When was it called? The incident took place on 27th February at 8 o'clock. The Home Ministry of the Government of India issues an alert within a few hours. Incidents started and bandh had been called which was supported by BJP, the main party there. There was a total sense of insecurity. Everybody knew that things were going to happen. All the time, you are saying that Gujarat is a very communal-riot prone State. Shri Narendra Modi is taking credit. Even Dr. Malhotra said here that earlier, riot would continue for one month, four weeks or six weeks, but there he controlled it in three days. Therefore, if the State has all the places communally explosive, then, what was the reason for the delay? The Police repeatedly told us that they were outnumbered and whatever forces were available were not sufficient. We were told that the Army had been kept in a stand-by position. Sir, I do not know what is sitting-by or stand-by! Army should be alert every time. But till 2.30

p.m. on 28th February, after nearly 30 hours of the first incident at Godhra, Army was not even asked for. It was said to us that a verbal request was made at 2.30 p.m. on 28th February. Then, why could it not be deployed even till 11 a.m. on 1st March, that is, nearly after 30 hours? What is it except to allow the extermination to be complete, the annihilation process to be over? What else is this? Then, what was the Army for? Even we could not find out at which places they were deployed.

Sir, they are the innocent people of this country. Their crime is that they belong to a particular religion. They are totally defenceless. Police cannot function, would not function. Police officers are not taking steps. The Army is not brought in. Even the Army is not properly deployed in time. If we consider every issue in this country on the basis of religion, what remains of this country? Those people who have been massacred, butchered, those who have lost their homes, are they not Indians?

[Translation]

Rawaleji please speak, they are also Indian.

[English]

Do they deserve protection or not?

Sir, what shall we say? I do not think that any Government can take credit that Shri Modi is taking, which has reached the nadir of credibility. I cannot think of a greater sense of shame. It should be a period of self-condemnation. Dr. Malhotra did not express any sense of shame by the way he spoke.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, everybody has spoken of that there was a frenzied crowd. I am quoting the words of the police authorities: "that there was a mass frenzy; there was a mass uprising". These were the justifications that were given. Two policemen were there in this housing estate where Shri Jafri and his family was there. We have seen the complaint of Shri Narendra Modi on the TV. He said: "Well, it was due to the revolver firing from his house". What shall one do? Shall I have to send garlands to them?" Probably, in desperation, knowing that there is a mob, probably, thinking that they would be scared, he used his personal revolver. It is for protection. Nobody has made any allegation against him that he was an anti-social, that he was a smuggler, that he was a dacoit or that he was a robber. It has been done by way of self-protection.

Therefore, Sir, my charge is that there was an organised attack on minorities because of the frenzy that was created designedly as a sort of *badla* for the incident

that had taken place at Godhra. This is unfortunate in the politics of Gujarat. It has become the laboratory of *Hindutva* of BJP brand and VHP brand. This is what is being done.

Today, we heard the *Pradhan Mantriji* on the situation and what is happening in Ayodhya. A letter has been written to the *Pradhan Mantriji* by 14 Members of Parliament headed by Swami Chinmayanand. What is written there? It says:

[Translation]

"If they lose their patience and become aggressive against Government and a particular caste, can that situation be dangerous one."

[English]

This is the politics we are against. Sir, this is the politics of VHP, of course, nurtured and bolstered by BJP. All of them are happy to be in the RSS, as the Prime Minister has said: "Prime Ministerial *gaddi* is irrelevant, ephemeral. Nobody knows how long it will last. But my greatest satisfaction is that I am a *Pracharak* or a *Swayamsevak*."

Sir, Shri Advani had written a foreword in the BJP's White Paper on Ayodhya and Ram Temple movement. Referring to the Babri Masjid he said:

"The structure which Mir Baqi put up on the orders of Babur never had any special significance from religious point of view. It was purely and simply a symbol not of devotion and of religion but of conquest. Correspondingly, quite apart from its being an obstacle preventing Hindus from worshipping the birthplace of their idol, Shri Rama, it was for the country the symbol of its subjugation."

Sir, he has further written:

"The double standards which came more and more to mar public discourse in India to the point that the word 'Hindu' became something to be ashamed about; to the point that nationalism became a dirty word – these ignited a great revulsion among the people. As all this was being done in the name of secularism, it led people to feel that what was being practised was not secularism but a perversion."

To Shri Advani, the BJP President, it was perversion.

"People began to search for what true secularism meant. They began to wonder how our country could

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

at all survive of nationalism was an anathema. Our Governments, that means the Congress and other non-BJP Governments, refused to pay heed to the intense longing of the people with regard to Ram *Janmabhoomi* and I regret to say that the courts heeded our people no more."

Sir, Ms. Arundhati Roy went to jail for a much lesser comment than this. He further wrote :

"The Governments remained lost in calculations; our leaders continued to be obstructive and to put their trust in being clever our courts allowed themselves to remain entangled in legalisms. But the *Kar Sewaks* did more. They did not just erase a symbol of our subjugation, they did not just begin building a symbol of resurgence. They showed, as if in a flash, how far we have to travel. For the country reacted in two diametrically opposite ways, as virtually two people. For a handful – those in Government, in political parties and in large sections of the English Press, for instance, what had happened was a national shame, it was madness, it was barbaric. For the rest of the country it was a liberation."

That is what he believes in. If we say that the *Mosque* should not be touched, then it is bondage, it is barbaric. For the rest of the people it was liberation from his theory of subjugation. This is, if I may say so, the poison that has been spread.

Sir, he further says :

"The Ayodhya movement, in particular, the eraser of Mir Baqi's *insignia* of conquest and the commencement of the temple of Shri Rama has already occasioned deep reflection and re-thinking in our country."

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : We are not discussing *Ram Janmabhoomi* here.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, why has this happened in Gujarat ? It is because they have selected Gujarat as their laboratory. This is the type of politics that is being practised there. That is why there are attacks on the Christians and minorities repeatedly. That is why the chasm has come about. That is why this very condemnable incident has taken place there. Fifty-eight innocent lives in Godhra have been lost and other innocent people are being targeted as a matter of retribution and the Chief Minister says that every action will have a reaction. What was the reaction except killings and except taking revenge ?

Sir, that is why we have felt and we strongly feel that he has no right to stay in office for a single moment and that it is his duty to resign immediately. If not, then, the Government of India should take suitable action.

Sir, I am sorry. I cannot absolve Shri Lal Krishna Advani of his guilt. He has the great responsibility of keeping this country united. Whatever maybe his political beliefs, so long as he is a Minister he is bound by his oath to the Constitution of this country, and that is for maintaining the secular fabric of this country, to provide protection of every citizen of this country. He has abjectly failed in that and has tried to give a certificate of good performance to the Chief Minister of Gujarat who should not be there a moment longer. There is a totally pre-arranged, organised crime making the Administration totally ineffective. No proper action has been taken to heal the wounds of those who have suffered. The Government has now appointed a Commission of Inquiry without even taking any action against those who have failed to discharged their duties.

Sir, this blot on our country will remain for many, many more years. We will be under its shadow. Others are questioning our commitment to secularism in this country. But, a handful of people who, by a sort of opportunistic alliance, are in power today, cannot affect finally the secular fabric of this country. India's unity is dearest to us all. Therefore, we demand that the Chief Minister of Gujarat should not continue in the post for a day more. Also, the Home Minister has no moral right to continue in his post for a minute longer.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, with a heavy heart I rise to speak on this issue. My party Telugu Desam totally condemned the attack on Sabarmati Express and the subsequent events that took place in Gujarat.

On the day of attack itself my leader Shri Chandrababu Naidu condemned the attack. In all, 651 people were killed in the Gujarat violence. We visited Gujarat. We visited the hospitals and the camps also. I was also a part of the delegation. The Telugu Desam Party does not believe in the action-reaction theory. An elected Government should protect the integrity of the country, and protect the lives and property of the citizens when some internal disturbances occur in a particular State.

Godhra incident took place on 27th February at about 12:30 p.m. According to the information given to me by somebody during our visit, the train was to arrive at Godhra at about 3:30 a.m. This attack on Sabarmati Express was

a planned attack. There is no doubt about it. This is a barbaric act. This is a heinous crime which we all have to condemn. It is shameful that after 53 years of independence we are witnessing such attacks in the country. If the train had reached in time by 3:30 a.m., the scale of violence might have been much greater. Because the train was delayed and arrived at 7:30 a.m. the loss of lives was 58, which included women and children. We saw the compartments and entered into them also.

Somebody said that in the past, in 1969 riots and in 1985 riots, thousands of people were killed in Gujarat. The tragic incident at Godhra took place at 12:30 p.m. At 7 p.m. the VHP called a nation-wide bandh which was supported by the BJP. After that tragic incident, with the hindsight of the past experience, the elected Government there should have analysed the situation.

The elected Government should analyse such a situation. On such incidents when a *Bandh* call is given, the same day the hooligans, bootleggers and suspected anti-social elements are supposed to be taken into custody. But, it appears, it did not happen there.

Even at the time of the briefing by the State officials to the All-party delegation I raised the question as to how many persons had been taken into custody. But there was no proper answer either from the Chief Secretary or the Home Secretary or the DGP. Actually, taking advantage of such a situation, the anti-social elements got roped in and do looting and all kinds of mischief.

Sir, I have had the privilege of being an MLA for 16 years, and now I am an MP for the last six years. We have also been witness to such kind of activities in Hyderabad. Even at Hyderabad some 100 odd people were killed in the riots from time to time. But for the last six years, we have been controlling such situations, if any, firmly and efficiently in the whole of Andhra Pradesh generally and in Hyderabad particularly. With the latest machinery and information system available with us, if any untoward incident happens, the same day we alert the Government of India also, and take all possible steps. Even as a stand-by arrangement, we do alert the Army based at Hyderabad, contacting the Defence Minister.

Likewise, in Gujarat also, with the past experiences of riots breaking out there, the Government should have analysed the situation and taken all the precautionary measures when the *Bandh* was called supported by the VHP and BJP. Had the Force been deployed in sufficient number, such a situation would not have arisen. Even the

police people, the Home Secretary and Commissioner of Police, at the time of briefing with us, had agreed that they did not have the sufficient number of police personnel to fully handle the situation. Without the required police staff, there was no meaning of the curfew imposed there. They said that they could impose curfew in 100 towns but without police, how could they control? This is what they said.

So, after seeing the incidents of 27th February and 28th February, my feeling is that if the Administration had acted firmly, such a serious situation would not have arisen. It was after the deployment of 34 companies of Army and Central Reserve Forces throughout the whole State that the situation came under control. So, if this step of deployment of Army and other Forces was taken on the 27th night or 28th morning, this situation would have been avoided to a large extent. This is my party's view after visiting the Gujarat State.

Sir, there are reports that even yesterday also there had been some disturbing incidents taking place in Gujarat. One person got killed and more than 10 injured in a fresh violence in Panwad in Chhotaudeput district. Fifty shops and houses have been burnt and curfew reimposed in Rajpipla in Narmada district after a youth was killed in stabbing.

Sir, 60,000 riot victims are still in camps of which 33,000 are only in Ahmedabad. So, in the event, we have to create a sense of security among the victims. They want to send their children to school but they are fearing to send them to schools without security. We have to create and restore confidence in them.

In this scenario, the Government of Gujarat should appeal to all the parties to maintain peace. They should, on a war-footing, establish the peace committees at the district level, *Mandal* level, *Taluk* level and village level in Gujarat to create harmony and peace there. Though the Government of Gujarat has issued instructions to the District Administration in this regard but so far, at the ground level, no such peace committees have been formed, and people's confidence has not been restored.

There are still 60,000 people taking shelter in various camps. During our visit, we saw the conditions of the burnt houses and shops on our way to see the injured in various hospitals. In this regard, I had suggested to the Government of Gujarat. There is a scheme known as *Balmiki-Ambedkar Yojana* started recently by the hon. Prime Minister. I had suggested them that without wasting a single day, they should start constructing houses under

[Shri K. Yerrannaidu]

this scheme there and allot them to the people who have lost their houses and staying in various camps. On a war-footing, the District Administration should take steps to provide housing, shelter and everything. Then only, the confidence of people will be restored. Then, only they may feel the sense of security.

As far as inquiry is concerned, the Government has already appointed a judicial inquiry. I read some newspaper statement which said that even the constitutional heads did not speak in a proper way. At sensitive times, the highest constitutional authorities should speak properly, which was not done in Gujarat. This is the reaction of five crore people of Gujarat. Common people can speak in whichever way they like; even people from VHP can speak like that; the *Kar Sevaks* can speak; they had been killed brutally; they had been set on fire in their bogies; so, with immediate provocation they could speak. But the popular Government, the rulers, the hon. Members or the elected representatives who took oath under the Constitution of India, should not speak like that; we have to appeal to the people; with the assistance of all the political parties, we should see that the issue is subsided. If the newspaper reports in this connection are correct, then it is a wrong thing.

According to the media report, there were some lapses in the case of police officers' duties also. Even at the time of our team's visit, this is the version that was given by the affected people; they said that there were some lapses. If lapses are there, we have to take immediate and necessary action to remedy them. We have to penalise the guilty; we have to create confidence in the minds of the people of that area. If we do not punish the guilty, people will not get confidence. We should not spare any officer who had not acted properly at that time.

I am requesting the hon. Home Minister to ask the Government of Gujarat to complete the judicial inquiry as early as possible. If they complete the inquiry early, the guilty could be punished early. The guilty in the Godhra incident and also in the subsequent violent incidents in Gujarat have to be dealt with very severely. It should not be repeated in Gujarat or elsewhere in India. Once the inquiry is complete, the truth will come out and action could be initiated. The persons responsible for Godhra killings should be hanged. The cases should be investigated properly; the persons responsible for that should be chargesheeted; the cases should be argued thoroughly and they should be punished severely so that such incidents do not take place anywhere in the country.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have to participate in this discussion regretfully and it seems that we are living in the pre-independence India where Britishers always created trouble by promoting communalism, increased distance between Hindus and Muslims because their interest was to divide Hindu and Muslim and rule. But the discussion which is taking place today is a serious discussion and this discussion is taking place for the sake of the country. This is the discussion to unite the country. It is being said by the ruling alliance that the country is in trouble, army is on the border from both sides. When we know this then why these incidences are taking place? We will have to find out as to which society they belong, and strict action will have to be taken against those persons. Hon'ble Home Minister ji, I would like to let you know that one MLA of Samajwadi Party was murdered on 6th March, when MLAs of Samajwadi Party were on "Dharna" peacefully for Constitutional right and when the killer was produced to Court on 7th March then about 25 people were raising slogans in the Court saying 'you are the honour for the country, you are revolutionary, Sardar Bhagat Singh and Shivaji.

The country is proud of you-Hon'ble Home Minister ji, who are these people? These types of slogans have been raised on this occasion. If you don't believe, you can read the Hindustan Times and Times of India of 8th March. Who are they, and which school of thought they belong to and what action is being taken against these people? They say that it has been done in order to be famous. This statement was given even after the murder of Smt. Phoolan Devi, MP of Samajwadi Party and on the basis of that, they are giving the same statement after the murder of Shri Manjur Mahmed. It has also surfaced in the newspapers that he came to kill somebody else but killed someone else. I don't want to describe that. This is your job to find out, that for whose murder, he came and to whom he murdered. In this regard, you will have to go in deep and the House will have to give a thought as to which school of thought these people belong to. Simultaneously, they will have to be isolated and strict action will have to be taken against these people. We admit that whatever happened in Godhra on 27th Feb. is a heinous crime and we condemned the attack on Sabarmati Express. Strict action should be taken against the persons who did this crime. Nobody has the right to take law in his hands. Whether the Government was not aware of this. While it appeared into newspapers and media news came on telephone after a long delay at Godhra

station, that a dispute arose on the way and people started gathering. Somebody said that a committee had visited the place, I don't know that there were 500 people, 2000 people or 3000 people. District Administration admits that there were 500 people. They admit that 500 people were gathering. Train arrived at Godhra after four hours. What District Administration and Government did by then ? Why Government was not aware of that ? As Hon'ble Somnathji said just now, that Hon'ble Home Minister ji you did not have information and your Ministry was also not aware of that. What was your agency doing and who is responsible for this ? News were coming from there that people are gathering at the station, it had been talked in whole Godhra, it is a sensitive city, inspite of all these, Government and District Administration did not try to prevent this - why ?

Sir, now talking about condemnation, when we did not condemn, who had not condemn Godhra, that is why it is to be repeated. I have condemned at many occasion and therefore, I want to repeat it, Mr. Chairman Sir, so that it may be placed on record here, Just to say that we are interrupting the dialogue, I want to ask, who is interrupting ? You have interrupted in the dialogue. The issue of Ayodhya has been created by you. Please read the proceedings of Legislative Assembly of 1986. I have said that this can be solved by dialogue only. I told that if the issue of Ayodhya was left to the people of both community then I was sure that the Hindu Muslim people of Ayodhya would solve that issue. It is a different matter that it was to be transformed into an issue. There are serious changes after that. This was the stand of Samajwadi Party from the beginning. You kept on speaking in the speech, what will you do now. Whether VHP is separate from you. You were talking about the letter of Chinmyanand ji, Chinmyanand ji has won on the ticket of BJP. Who is giving challenge and giving threatening calls, whether strict action has been taken on such news. Whether any action has been taken against RAM-SEVAKS who were involved in this ? Hon'ble Home Minister ji, who are these RAM-SEVAKS ? These who voted you to the power are only RAM-SEVAKS cannot we be RAM-SEVAKS ? The person who is related to BJP, Vishwa Hindu Parishad and Sangh Parivar only he is RAM-SEVAK. We would like to know who are these RAM-SEVAKS ? It is known as to what extent you are devotee of RAM. The RAM-SEVAK who believes in the principles of RAM cannot be violent. RAM-SEVAK cannot destroy any place of worship. The person who is communal cannot be religious and religious person cannot be communal. These must be differentiated. You will have to tell the House that only those are Ramsewakas who are sitting on that side ? Since childhood Hanumanjee has been my house hold deity. When

I am a devotee of Hanuman jee, what do you call me ? What was not said about me ? What were their thoughts, who published the book. I am mentioning your recently published book which you were reading. You started your journey from there. You have dragged Gujarat into riots. Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs, you said in Amritsar, so there should not be any confusion. You have been silent on Ayodhya issue. As a Minister of Home Affairs you should not give such a statement. I have no objection if you were not Minister of Home Affairs. When you have become Home Minister you do not being only to B.J.P. or R.S.S. but you are also our Home Minister, a Minister of the whole country. ... (Interruptions) There should be no confusion what Home Minister said in Amritsar. You threatened your party men and told that you are in power due to Ayodhya issue. Therefore, I would like to tell you that while as Home Minister you should not tell thing like this. You are Home Minister for whole country and you are responsible for the security of more than one hundred crore people of this country. You should run the country with broad thinking and liberal attitude. Then and only then the whole system will function properly. When you give such statements as a Home Minister what will your followers do, they will go to any extent.

It appears in the newspapers that the Home Minister and the Prime Minister have difference of opinion. But this is your internal matter I have nothing to say in this regard because you will again say that there is no difference of opinion between us. We never want that there is difference of opinion between you. We wish you have unity. We come to know in the House itself when you were criticized. Perhaps, you were not in the House at that time. At that moment some people were smiling while some others were defending you, there was division. It is something else, I will not like to go into that issue but I would like to say that who are these people having such an ideology who also about shout slogans after committing murder, violence, looting and burning. All these things are under your control. All agencies are under your control. You are running the Government. You have power. Some times we becomes angry then you also become angry but you will have differentiated. Is there no difference between your anger and ours. Your anger can ruin us but our anger can do no harm to you.

At present you are the Home Minister. The power is in your hands. The Government is yours. You can use it and also can misuse it. It is misused in Gujarat, on which I will come on later. I would, therefore, like to ask you that the Godhra incident will be retaliated all over the country

[Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav]

by burning innocent children, murdering women and making to leap of dead bodies. If this Godhra incident was to be retaliated then where was the Government? It is a fact that you are praising Gujarat Government. Why so? When Prime Minister is saying what happened in Gujarat is a stain on the country. Hon'ble Prime Minister ji, This is not a stain on the nation but it is a stain on Government of Gujarat and the Government of Delhi. On 28 February there was no riot till 12 o'clock in Ahmedabad. Though tension was there. Riot started when they came out with weapons and gathered things for burning. They collected diesel and petrol. You are praising that Government. It was the responsibility of the Government. The Government could have curbed riots. The Government knew that a lot of things have happened in Godhra. Gujarat have become a sensitive State and people are gathering in that sensitive State. They began to set fire in the name of bandh call. Even then you are praising the Government. V.H.P. and Bajrang Dal made groups there and given commands to different groups to go in different parts of the city. My telephone bell was ringing night starting from 9 P.M. Calls also came from Ahmedabad.

I telephoned Hon'ble Prime Minister three times. First time when he was not available. I called him at 11.30 P.M. and to that neither I am going to talk on politics nor about taking an oath of office, I just want to talk on Gujarat issue. It can't be a mistake of Prime Minister because whenever I phoned him, he called me back but this time when I told this for the third time he came on phone. I told him to send Army immediately in Gujarat because there is no other solution. An ex-M.P. of Congress, as came in record, phoned 40 times. There is phone in the office of Congress Party also and I have read this in newspapers whether phone reached or not there it might be known to friends of Congress party. I did not receive phone from M.P. but other people phoned that they have been trapped there. Delegation did not reach there at that time. If they had gone near the residence of State Home Minister they might have come to know about all files, bullets, and schemes etc. also about the proposal to pass by the side of residence of Home Minister of Gujarat.

You are praising that Government. Who will be held responsible and against whom the enquiry will be conducted. When you already have given clean chit to the Government by saying that it is not the fault of police? Police was waiting for order.

As far as media is concerned, they are natural so far they are speaking in favour of the Government. As soon

as they project their views against the Government they are dubbed as being partial. It is no logic. In every matter either media is blamed or said that it is a conspiracy hatched by the Pakistan. If it is the handiwork of Pakistan, who is stopping you to take action against them. The Government have the backing of huge arm, but they are not allowing them to strike back. I had already asked the Government two years ago to take cudgel and teach Pakistan a lesson by crossing the border. But the Government lacks courage as the strings of power is in someone else hand. We are in the favour. If any third country help in resolving differences between Indian and Pakistan but we will never like to have any type of interference from any country in this regard be it pertains to Kashmir issue or a matter of economy. One foreign power was responsible for partition of India and if another foreign power help in improving relations between them, then we are ready for it, we favourit. But it will not be in favour of India as well as in the world, if we depend on them for everything. It will ultimately weaken our country for which this Government will be responsible. The Government of Gujarat and its Chief Minister are fully responsible for this violence. In fact, the statements given by the Chief Minister of Gujarat in regard to violence shows his complicity in this crime.

When our Members of Parliament, Shri Amar Singh, Yechuryji from C.P.M. Shabana Ajmi and Raj Babbar had visited there for first time and telephoned Chief Minister then he expressed his helplessness to provide security and help them in anyway, as they are known figures. Whether any Chief Minister of Hindustan has done such thing earlier? Indubitably the Chief Minister of Gujarat can do so and subsequently handed over a written order by a magistrate stating that their entry is prohibited and they will be incarcerated if they try to breach this order. We have faced such a situation earlier also but nobody had said such thing that since the people of Gujarat recognise them so we could not provide security. Therefore, Chief Minister giving such statement has no right to remain in office.

The Union Government is praising him and protecting him. The Government can ask this from the people who went there. Did the Government ask them or not? Whether the Government asked Chief Minister? What did he say? Honorable Somnath Ji, there was a method in madness and the murders, arson have had a deep rooted conspiracy in order to create instability. The Government of Gujarat had full knowledge of it and police kept awaiting for order. When the people belonging to one community came then they resorted to fire but when people belonging to other

community came the police just looked other way. . . .
(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI (Amreli) : He is saying wrong.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Media has given this news. Media is showing this. If it is not so then why all news agencies have given such report. While replying, Home Minister should present reports of various news agencies at the table of the House.

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Whether the report of the agencies will reach to him ?

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : They have these reports but we can see it in media and could read it in newspapers also. But it is difficult to make an illiterate person like him to understand. . . .(*Interruptions*)

I can't help him in such a situation.

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav Ji is saying wrong thing.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Those who are saying so are themselves superstitious as they offer milk to idols. Nobody is bigger liar than these people. This has been certified. We are happy and I congratulate all scientists and journalists that they have proved this conspiracy. They had offered milk to idols whole world and then stopped it after two hours. . . .(*Interruptions*) The pot calling the kettle black. . . .(*Interruptions*) I do not want to talk much about this subject. It is the report of newspapers and it is all party's report. We have carefully listened the opinion and views of different people and if you have the report of all party committee please give it to me also.

Incident of Gujarat is shameful. I have also seen what the people, who had gone there on 8th March. . . .(*Interruptions*) and what ever they said on television was a testimony of facts. He was rightly saying. For Government nothing could be more shameful than this. Basically all this is related to Ayodhya be it pertains to Remsevak or Karsewak. They were in other coaches also. These people were present in other bogies also. They might have been KAR-SEVAKS or RAM-SEVAKS or people of Sangh Parivar or Bajrang Dal after all they were human being, innocent and armless, they were burnt. I condemn that incident. They should be strictly punished. I do agree with this. I am in favour to solve the basic problem of Ayodhya issue. Those who are politicians and indulge in anti-national activities are not in favour of this. We want that this problem be solved. People in the Government put allegation that we

don't want that it is solved but they should feel their hearts. We know that when this issue is solved then you will not have any instrument (Medium) to have vote. They keep on saying this thing. Honourable Home Minister, we can tell three such names. We will tell the names of such prominent leaders who say that if the issue of Ayodhya, is solved then we will not have any issue to have vote.

15.59 hrs.

[SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA *in the Chair*]

Even I told in the House that distance between us will be reduced if we leave three-four things. It was said on this that what will be left with us ? This is your thinking. On the one hand, there is a financial crisis in the country and on the other hand, tension on the border. Now the challenge in front of the whole country is to integrate the country. There is a need to maintain the security and internal unity of the country. The need of the hour is to solve tension in North-eastern States. There is a concentration of troops a cross border. This is the issue of the security of the country.

16.00 hrs.

These are such questions on which country has to be united and taken into confidence. This will not happen that there are murders in Godhra, innocent ladies and children are killed, may be they are 31 thousands or 33 thousand, move them away. This is right that even now, Government is not looking after these people in camps. Whatever the activities are going on are done by voluntary organisations. The news regarding filth there is coming in newspapers and media and we are also seeing that the Government could not remove filth from the camps and could not clean the place. This is the condition of the camps now.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, a delegation had visited that place. But it could not visit the appropriate place. They could not visit the place where riots, cases of arson occurred and meetings held and plundering took place. If you cannot bring them to those places, may be on the name of danger and that may be true but if Government is not able to bring delegation to that place even after ten days then we condemn the Government and not praise it. So, we demand you that investigation should be conducted by a sitting judge of the supreme court regarding real objective of those people. Their objective was to weaken a particular community from economic point of view, burn their shops and destroy their small industries. They intended to make their families far from self dependent from economic point of view for coming 50-100 years. You have to compensate

[Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav]

them. Now there is a talk of Rs. Six thousand crores, but we know that once, in the year 1992-93, there was a less of approx. Rs. One thousand crores in Mumbai alone. They had not visited there, they were not allowed to visit villages. Had All Party delegation visited the villages, it could have known what was going on in Gujarat. Nobody reached these villages which were brunt. When army did not reach Ahmedabad then it was said that tyres and trees were burning and due to this, army reached those places with delay. When army reached there then they were not told about places where they had to reach. They were not given responsibility. Who was doing this ? It was the Government. It was the work of the Government, Who was supposed to do this. That is why, at very first, now investigation should be conducted over thereby sitting judge of the Supreme Court and if you cannot dismiss the Government of Gujarat then remove the Chief Minister of that place immediately, this is our demand.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri) : Mr. Chairmen Sir, the dispute of Ayodhya is there since approx. 50 years. This dispute is related to RAM Janam Bhumi. Either Vishva Hindu Parishad or all Hindu organisations struggling for RAM Janam Bhumi, their struggle is not against any religion or Muslims. Now Mulayam Singh Ji was speaking. He said that RAM-SEVAK or KAR-SEVAK can not murder any one, he told absolutely right. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : If he is genuine RAM-SEVAK then he will not do. Don't make senses.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : I am saying exactly what you say. I say that you said absolutely right. When Babri structure was demolished, there was not even a single example when KAR-SEVAK killed anybody. But KAR-SEVAKS were shot at and killed.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Don't ask as to who were killed.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : I don't want to come to that point. As you said that RAMSEVAK can not murder anybody, I am saying the same thing, I am telling the truth. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : I have said that these people who believe in the principles of RAM can not do so. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : I have not mentioned as to who fired upon KAR-SEVAKS. I said that KAR-SEVAK did not kill anybody. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please address the chair.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Yes, I address you only. But KAR-SEVAKS were shot at and, that history is in front of the country. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Where it is so. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : We do not intend to annoy Mulayam Singh Ji. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why are you disturbing ?

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Sir, the current agitation is the part of Ram Janam Bhumi movement. An incident took place at Godhra. Ayodhya is a holy place and a pilgrimage of Hindus and lakhs and crores of Rambhakats visit Ayodhya. These Rambhagats were returning back from Ayodhya. They had not killed anyone or they did not provoked anyone though they might be shouting slogans. Rambhakats had not attacked anyone with weapons. They were travelling by train. But they were killed and the bogey was set on fire by spraying petrol and kerosene oil. About 58 people including 26 women and 16 children were burnt alive. What was their offence ? Still they had been burnt alive.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : What was the Government doing at that time ?

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : I am coming to that point. Mr. Chairman, Sir, when all party delegation had gone to Gujarat, only then the factual situation could be understood as to who was doing what to grind their axe. Do not compel us to expose the culprits. The whole State of Gujarat was burning and we were witness to what sorts of slogans were being raised. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order please.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Godhra incident is not an accident. It was a conspiracy, well planned. 2000 people were there at 7.30 A.M. What were they doing ? From where they had got, petrol and kerosene to burn the whole train at the early hour around at 7.30 A.M.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is definitely a conspiracy. It is being probed as to who could be involved in it. After the inquiry is done, the facts would be brought before the whole country. Gujarat Government feels ISI is behind this incident. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : What was your Government doing at that time ? . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, If ISI is behind this incident, I am sorry to say that there could not be anything to laugh at. . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Were we not attacked during your rule ? Such type of attacks have been made on us. . . . *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is a serious discussion on a serious matter. Please do not disturb.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have heard everyone. I have been hearing patiently from Shri Priyaranjan Das Munshi to Mulayam Singh Ji that is why I should be heard patiently.

Shri Mulayam Singh Ji has asked me if ISI had any involvement in this matter, what had been the Government doing in that regard and whether the Government was not aware of this. I would like to submit that unless the anti social elements in the country are identified and arrested the Government cannot be successful. Though the country has to face dangerous from across the borders yet the danger posed by traitors within the country is greater. You must be aware as to who is giving shelter to these people. The terrorists who attacked Parliament House were staying with whom ? All five of them were Pakistani citizens, how could they reach here, I need not tell the House. Can any body deny whether such people are not given support inside the country, I would like to submit when internal support would cease to be extended to these terrorists, terrorism will die down automatically. This where the root lies. Nobody including any party's Government can improve the situation. . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI DILEEP SANGANI : Who is against the POTO ? Whosoever opposing POTO must be related to them. . . . *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you keep shouting at each other, then there would not be any discussion.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

Please do not make such remarks. . . . *(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharaj Ganj, UP) : Why do you not have any courage to fight against terrorism. . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I agree with Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav that this has neither been done by Car-sevaks nor by Ram sewaks. None of them has indulged into any killings. . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : I have rather submitted that these killings have been committed by Ravan-sevaks. . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Madam Chairperson, whenever House discusses this issue, they take of secular fabric and Shri Priyaranjan Das Munshi speaks at length in this regard Madam Chairperson, in Shah Bano case. . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ABDUL HAMID (Dhubri) : Why are you picking up an individual case. . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Madam, Chairperson, they are interrupting me. They do not allow me to submit anything. First listen to me please. . . . *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not interrupt with the running commentary all the time.

[Translation]

When you speak, please reply to it at that time. . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL (Balaghat) : Madam, Chairperson, even one sentence is not completed and they start interrupting me. . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not deliver running commentary.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do you not want the debate to take place ? Do you want the reply only in this way ?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please let him speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : Mr. Chairman, Sir, inspite of your instruction, they are confiruously interrupting me. . . . *(Interruptions)* Would you not say anything to her. . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Supreme Court had given its verdict in Shah Bano case but by the virtue of the majority in House they negated that verdict. What sorts of secular fabric, it is? . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : It was not a matter between Hindus and Muslims. It was a matter relating to Muslims only.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Why did this happen? When Supreme Court had given its verdict then why did you ignore it in this House on the basis of majority. Whom did you want to please? . . . (Interruptions) This is your secular fabric. Elections were held in U.P. recently. . . . (Interruptions) Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav has strong hold in U.P. . . . (Interruptions) You will be able to make out when you hear it. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please address the Chair. Do not indulge in cross conversation.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Shri Dasmunsi, who was speaking on secular fabric, various big leaders from his party had gone to Mumbai during election. It has appeared in all the newspapers. They had gone there to meet the Muslim leaders. They had gone there to meet Mulla-Maulavi. They told them that they should ask Muslim voters to vote for Congress in UP elections. Is it secular fabric. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Khammam) : What you are saying is that secular fabric. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : You can deny what I am saying. Shri Dasmunsi can also deny that. . . . (Interruptions) You are teaching us secular fabric. Your leaders had gone to Mumbai or not, to meet Muslim leaders to ask them that, they want Muslim votes in UP. They all went with Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav but they could not convince them. . . . (Interruptions) Still they talk about secular fabric in the House. I am unable to understand the meaning of secular fabric. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Anant Gangaram Geete, please address the Chair. Do not indulge in cross conversation.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : So you attacked Muslim women. But they are also a sister, a daughter of someone. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are interrupting your speaker. He is speaking. Your leader is just before you to answer.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, there were riots in Mumbai in 1992. The then Government had ordered police to take action to control riots and police took action. It is necessary that police should take action to control riots to whichever community rioters belong. This riot took place in 1992 and the present Government has filed a case under section 302 on Shri Ramdev Tyagi, who was Commissioner of Police at that time and had ordered to control riots. You want that police should open fire and then a case would be filed against them under section 302. He had taken action to control riots and new case has been filed against him under section 302. This matter is subjudice so I do not want to talk about it.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : So police should not take any action? . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : We do not want that police should not do anything but when police remain neutral and take action against Hindus then it is right but when police take action against any Muslim then it is secular fabric.

The thinking is not right, it is against justice. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : You talk about Indians. . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

You talk about India. Hindu and Muslims are both Indians. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : I am talking about India only. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : You do not own the responsibility of Hindus alone. . . . (Interruptions) What are you talking. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

I object to this. . . .(Interruptions) This is Parliament of India. What rubbish are they talking ? . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury, this is a very serious subject. Do not get excited about it.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I agree with you. But do not get excited.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Are you ashamed of being a Hindu. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is a very serious discussion. Do not get so excited.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : It is absolutely offending. . . .(Interruptions) He is taking about divide and that we are supporting Muslims and non-Muslims. Who is he to say that ? I am a Hindu. I do not need a certificate. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : An amendment was made in the constitution itself after Shahabano case. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : You cannot understand. This is beyond your under standing. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not interrupt.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : All are going to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : He will reply. Why are you going on like this ? There are many speakers.

[Translation]

Geete ji you have taken 20 minutes, the time allotted to you was 10 minutes.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Hon'ble Speaker, They are not allowing me to complete even one sentence.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is why. I gave you more time.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : I am not saying anything against anybody. I am not levelling allegations against anybody. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are addressing to them. Please address me.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Hon'ble Chairman, I am addressing you only.

People belonging to majority community and minority communities live together in this country.

If any injustice is done to the people belonging to the majority community and we raise their issue in this House; is it a crime ? Then why this anger ? . . .(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : I will tell. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : I would not like even to see.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : There is no sense in showing anything to a blind. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : What is this ? . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury, please do not interrupt. Please be serious about it.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is a very serious debate. Let us discuss it.

[Translation]

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF : Please don't waste time, express your views.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : I AM EXPRESSING MY VIEWS. Why they are disturbing. . . .(Interruptions)

[Shri Anant Gangaram Geete]

If Hindus are in majority in this country is it a crime ?

... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You should not make it a Hindu – Muslim issue. Please come to the point.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : When an all party delegation went to Gujarat, I was also a member of that delegation. The way in which things are projected by media, especially by electronic media, is not good. When we reached Gujarat reality was some thing different. I expected some response from Shri Somnath on this issue.

Mr. Chairman, We visited three relief camps, Out of these, in two camps Hindus were in majority.

In one relief camp number of Muslims was more while in two camps the number of Hindus was more. They told that their houses were burnt, colonies were burnt and children were burnt and where the number of people belonging to minority communities were more they also levelled same allegations but the way in which the news is spread all over the country that only minorities are targeted is not true. MPs from Gujarat, whether they belong to treasury benches or opposition cannot deny this fact. We visited two relief camps and I am pained and surprised to note that Shri Dasmunsi has said in the House that the injured Muslims were not even hospitalised till 2nd March.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Up to 1st of March till 12 o'clock, we were prevented to enter Civil Hospital.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Geete Jee, there are 20 speakers and if each one takes half an hour time, how will it work.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : I am not at fault. I am not allowed to speak, what can I do.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You provoke. Please finish your speech.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, after the Gujarat incident and subsequent reaction thereon I visited three hospitals. The injured people admitted there in the hospitals belong to all castes including Muslims and Hindus. People were injured either because of their houses were torched or were attacked by acid bulb. People among them were shopkeepers and rikshawpullers. So if it is said that whatever happening there is one side then this is not the reality of Gujarat.

I don't want to support the incident which has occurred there. But there is a need to think about this. The people of Gujarat have an image in the whole country that they are peace – loving people. ... (Interruptions) It will be wrong, I don't know that what is going on in the country but I live in Mumbai, and I know about Mumbai. It has been acknowledged that this is one of the most peace-loving societies then why they are bent upon to attack each other. There is also a need to go in deep of this problem. Not only Gujarat but we all want to know why this peace-loving State bent upon to attack each other.

See, when someone sees his own house burning, then his reaction is different and when he sees other house burning, his reaction is different. The wearer knows where the shoes pinches and that is why everybody condemn even we also condemn the incidents of Gujarat. Even I raised this issue on the day of budget. I knew that this is the budget of the country, so it is very important, but as such 57 people were killed in Godhra, we wanted that there should be discussion on that issue also. The State Government made efforts at their own level after riots and since the riots took place in whole State, it is not an ordinary thing to control it within two or three days, it cannot be ignored. I congratulate Chief Minister Ji because ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Shame !

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Shame for what ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Geete Ji, you are speaking for the last half an hour, please finish your speech.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : About 100 people were killed in police action. 100 people were killed in police firing.

This is not correct that Government did not do anything. There is no need to remind the riot of 1984. Then who should feel ashamed ?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Anant Gangaram Geete, please finish. You have to wind up.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : More than three thousand people were killed in Delhi, which is a very small city, then who should feel ashamed, you all know about

it. When whole State burns, and it is controlled within 72 hours, then it will not be appreciated, whether you will put blame that Government has not taken any action ?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am calling the next speaker. You have to wind up.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : You can call the next speaker, I will sit.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Half an hour has passed, 28 members have to speak. You please wind up in two minutes.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : I will sit down but I am interrupted on each sentence. I want to say that incidents that might take place in future can not be prevented just by discussion in the House. It is the responsibility of everybody that we should not give protection to terrorists or criminals belonging to any caste or religion. It is the need of the hour that the whole country unitedly fight against terrorism. The incidence of Godhra was the incidence of terrorism. That is why people want that the whole country condemn that incidence, However everybody condemned that incident later on. I have not raised my voice to support any incident, but it should not be considered sin to be in majority in this country.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Tension takes place because of this reason. It has been said in the Parliament.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Are they wrong ?, whether to be in majority community is a sin ?

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : It is not wrong to be in majority but the riot committed by the majority community is dangerous. It is similarly dangerous if they become communal.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : I do agree with you, but I request you that you please check the history and tell even a single riot which was committed by majority community.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : I have example.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : You will not find single riot in this country which was started by the majority community.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : The report of Sh. Krishna Commission says about this.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : You please see the report. Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is what I wanted to submit.

SHRI SHANKERSINH VEGHELA (Kapadvanj) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am an MP from Gujarat. We all are sitting here as MP. We all are responsible and answerable. Ruling Party and opposition have their responsibilities separately. It is not in our hand to take birth either as Hindus or as Muslims. We all are human beings. I know BJP and VHP very closely. Nobody other than me can claim to know how much dangerous these people are.

The Gujarat belongs to Gandhi Ji and Sardar Patel ? What it was how what it is today. There was so much destruction either due to flood, drought, cyclone or earthquake during the last five years. Now riots took place. Riots have not stopped till date. A tribal was killed in Panvill of Vadodara last evening. These law and order is not in control even today. Godhra is the root cause of these riots. The way people were burnt is condemnable. There is a reaction of each action. Which is further followed by a reaction. Please do not justify the action and reaction. We should go into the root cause as to why this occurred. Who was responsible to protect the life of KAR SEVAKS. Why could not you protect them ?

Why you were shouting ? Whose responsibility was to maintain law and order ? Whether KAR SEVAKS were attacked for the first time ?

[English]

In 1990, I was the President of the Gujarat unit of the BJP.

[Translation]

The KAR SEVAKS of Maharashtra were killed near Paleage in Bharuch District. I had visited there and condemned that whatever happened was not right. I had recently visited Godhra and condemned that whatever happened was not right but it is the responsibility of the Government. Your information system has failed. What are you doing ? What Central Government and State Government are doing ? You failed in Kargil, Godhra and Kashmir Doda. People are being killed, is this not your responsibility ? Is it not your responsibility to maintain law and order ? What your Intelligence Bureau is doing ? . . . (Interruptions)
Citizens are killed because of your failure.

Godhra is a sensitive place. Do not you know this. It has been known as a sensitive place since 1947. Godhra was burnt in 1948 and now this incident has occurred in

[Shri Shankersinh Veghela]

Godhra. Whatever has happened, happened. Persons who are responsible for this incident should be hanged but I would like to say that the killing spree which started after that is a State sponsored riot. . . .(Interruptions)*

A person with such mentality should not be handed over the power. Your party has lost seats. Excuse me, hon'ble Home Minister, hails from Gujarat and his constituency Gandhinagar is in Gujarat. What Gujarat did not give to him? The First Prime Minister to India from BJP too won from Gandhinagar, Gujarat though he resigned later on. He became Home Minister after having won his seat from Gujarat. Former President of BJP and of Tehelaka fame, Shri Bangaru Laxman is also a Member of Rajya Sabha from there only. He is here by virtue of Gujarat. I would even say that BJP is in power today by virtue of contribution of Gujarat. But what did he give to that Gujarat? Does he has no responsibility? Ex-Member of Parliament, Ahsan Jafri, died during riots in his constituency only. Similar attack took place in 1969. People were being burnt for 4-5 days not only in his constituency but it was going on it entire Gujarat. Why Home Minister did not visit Gujarat? Whereas Defence Minister visited the State. Had he not any moral responsibility. He should have gone there directly on 28th after the Budget. Why did George Fernandes go there and what he observed there? The Chief Minister said that the Army has been deployed in Gujarat. It was only propaganda and Army was not deployed. Flag March was carried out only at few places. Development of Army proves the failure of Home Ministry. I do not think that the Chief Minister or he would like the Army to be deployed and take over the control there. And he did not want that.

His party lost in Sabarmati and two other assembly constituencies. Ayodhya or VHP are his party's Hindu-cards. Whether Ayodhya is not in main agenda of his party? What appeared in the press in 1990 was not a fun. I know Shri Jethmalaniji and Advaniji as well. Did the Babri demolition plan begin in 1990? Yes, I know it. A conspiracy was hatched to demolish Babri Masjid and VHP and BJP conspired to play Hindu card in this act. Shri Jethmalani's letter is with me, which I am laying on the Table. Then I would take up its contents. Babri Masjid was demolished in 1992. It was planned in 1990 and in his letter Jethmalaniji had warned them not to do so. Demolition of Babri was being planned. As far as VHP is concerned, I would call

it vulture and not vulgar. I know it more than itself. It is like a double edged weapon. VHP is like a hack-saw, it would cut you also. They say that if the Government does not allows pooja, it will have to go. This demon was nurtured by his party. Now they will know that how difficult it is to control that demon and controlling is no more BJP's task. It is upto the elder members in the party whether they bow before VHP or not. I think VHP gave a call for Gujarat bandh. Though its reaction was natural for 24 hours but how it all happened after that? Stomach of a pregnant women in the constituency of Home Minister was cut open and the baby who came out of the stomach was also cut in pieces. I had gone there and visited Shah Alam camp. . . .(Interruptions) A five years child wakes up during night and cries Mummy-papa and says that everyone has been slaughtered. . . .(Interruptions) A women who was one sister was stripped of her clothes and paraded naked in Sabarkantha. . . .(Interruptions) Not only this, a cows-buffaloo were covered with cloth and set afire after putting kerosene on them, because these belonged to a Muslim. A Hindu who tried to protect that, was also injured but he managed to escape. I visited Sabarkantha yesterday. . . .(Interruptions) Was the buffalo also a Muslim as she was burnt? What sort of religion it is? Whether the blood of buffalo is green as it was burnt. . . .(Interruptions)

Sir, they are Aurangzeb of Hindu religion. They slaughter anyone, even humanity. He did not try to please minority. Where Mukherjee sacrificed his life, that Kashmir belongs to us. He alleges that Shyama Prasad Mukherjee was got killed by Sheikh Abdullah in a jail of Kashmir. If so, then why his party is in alliance with the son of Sheikh Abdullah? What sort of principle it is? It was alright when BJP was not in power but everything is fair when one is in power. The people hurling abuses at each other are sitting together in NDA today. It is jut for the sake of power. But no problem if it is in the national interest. Mulayam Singhji has rightly said that Advaniji's Ayodhya card was a run up to the power. They should again play the same card and more actively. BJP and Bajrang Dal, both are two sides of the same coin and are not different from each other. Who says that they are separate entity. They are befooling the people. They are the children of same parents and they do everything on their dictates. They tell the VHP to ignite riots and to BJP to do that. . . .(Interruptions)

Sir, one more tragedy has taken place. . . . (Interruptions) I had left BJP, and they were in Godhra plucking the lotus. Prime Minister said that it is a matter of shame for the country. Gujarat is not a blot. The people

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair

in the power are blot. . . .*(Interruptions)** If this blot is to be removed the Chief Minister should be removed. Why they tell such sort of things of mislead the country. They should know that, this way neither they can save their party nor the Government. When Yatra was undertaken, it was told that the temple will be constructed there only now why they tell that it will not be constructed. They should not cheat themselves in politics and if they want to built temple, let them build it and leave the Government. They talked of common civil code and abrogation of Article 370 and now they are compromising for the sake of power. Were they not knowing that day that temple will not be built. If Hindu card was successful, Hindu Mahasabha, Shiv Sena or Bhartiya Jan Sangh or BJP alone would have being ruling in Delhi, but it is not so. It means tolerance is behind Hinduism. If Hindu card is played it will be clear cut stand of Hinduism and the Bhartiya Jana Sangh was very near to it. Hindu Mahasabha was clear cut a Hindu organisation. And I think BJP is also jut near to it. If Hindu card would have worked, BJP would have been ruling the whole country. BJP was in power in four States and it lost in all the four. At least, you realise that Hindu card is not working. It is an internal tussle and kindly do not make the entire nation a battle field. Everyone may have differences. Thus Vajpayeeji cannot sit with eyes closed like 'Bhism pitamah'. He took his stand and other MPs and VHP took their own stand. Only they are not concerned with Ram as they are doing. They are not followers of Ram. On the one hand they pretend to be his followers whereas on the other hand they act so brutally. They are followers of Ravana, they are Ravana. . . .*(Interruptions)**

He should feel shame. What are they doing for the sake of votes? Let them search their soul that they are sad over death of so many Muslims. . . .*(Interruptions)* Please do not murder anyone. They are total failure, be it law and order situation, the Central Government or the State Government. Even they have failed in Finance and economy. . . .*(Interruptions)* I had been to Himmat Nagar. . . .*(Interruptions)* Minorities were not allowed treatment in the hospital.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Shankersinh Veghela, please address the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANKERSINH VEGHELA : I will be looking at you. V.S. Hospital in Ahmedabad is under the Municipal

Corporation. . . .*(Interruptions)* The Congress Party is in power there, so everyone is admitted in this hospital, otherwise, the persons belonging to the minority community are identified. Such persons are burnt alive. The patients had to be admitted along with those accompanying them. Such was the situation in Himmatnagar that even the car in which the patient was brought was also set on fire. Similar was the case in other hospitals. . . .*(Interruptions)*

I remember the speech of Shri Vijay Kumar. How convincing he is. The media persons were forced to chant Jai Shri Ram; Any one can say Jai Shri Ram, nobody had any objection to it. But what you are doing is not right. If you had your way you would have taken off the clothes to see whether the concerned person is a Hindu or Muslim. I could have said more but my sisters are present here. Hence I feel ashamed to say anything more. . . .*(Interruptions)* Gujarat has suffered the loss of more than Rs. 5000 crores. At last you have ordered on inquiry there. In my view it would have been better if a Bench had been constituted consisting of a sitting Supreme Court or High Court Judge along with three sitting judges of High Court to give its report within 60 or 90 days.

I would like to remind the Home Minister that his party is in power in Gujarat. In such areas where the Hindus are in minority in Muslim dominated areas, they Hindus will not go back. No Hindu will leave the Muslim dominated areas and no Muslim would leave the Hindu dominated area. Resettlement should be done under your supervision. And it should be such that, the Government should resettle them as per their wishes. Even now people live in fear that any untoward incident may take place anytime. 15th March is coming closer. Inspite of the Government's assurance, the people are afraid. Hence, through you, I request the Home Minister to normalise the situation there and provide better facilities to the people for resettlement. Provide land and houses to the people according to their wishes.

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Please expunge the word* used by him. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : All such words would be checked.
[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Madam, word* is unparliamentary; Ravana is not unparliamentary. Ravana is the word from the epic tale *The Ramayana*. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has used that word also. We will look into that.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Madam, we amend it from * . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You cannot change the word spoken by him.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Chief Whip cannot change the word spoken by a Member.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : Madam, Chairperson in my Parliamentary career of 13 years, I rise with a heavy heart to take part in today's discussion. What is saddening is that I was born in a village 12 Kilometers away from the place where the inhuman and gruesome incident took place on 27th, which is a blot on any civilised society. Later, I spent 50 years in that city. After the death of my mother when I was five, my father brought me to Ahmedabad. I have completed 35 years of my political career. I have been 'Nagarsevak' in Ahmedabad for 19 years. I have won five Lok Sabha elections from there, where out of 14 lakhs voters 3.20 lakh voters belong to the minority community. Such an incident has given me immense pain.

I am a small worker. My senior leaders – honourable Dasmunsiji, Somnathji and Mulayam Singh ji, expressed their views. I was hoping some one would delve into the root cause of this problem and suggest a solution after describing the sensitive nature of this State. The meaning of discussion under Rule 193 would be a find out ways to stop the receiving heart-rending incidents. This is not the first incident. With a heavy heart, I have to say that except the two of the eight speakers, who spoke before me had already fixed their agenda. Discussion was held along political lines instead of finding ways to prevent such incidents in future. First the Chief Minister's resignation and then the Home Minister's resignation –

I do not want to politicise this issue. My sisterly colleague is now not here. She came two hours after the debate started. When an Honourable Members was

speaking loudly she shouted that instead of Hindu-Muslim, say Indian. She was not present when the discussion was initiated. She is also not present now. This discussion was initiated by my bosom friend, Shri Dasmunsiji. But since then the discussion is centered around the term Hindu-Muslim. Before saying anything in this discussion, I would like to draw your attention towards a very serious allegation. The honorable leader of opposition Sonia Gandhiji had gone with me to Ahmedabad. I have the list of authorised patients in civil hospital. What you have said here is untrue and misleading the entire country. It was alleged here that so injured Muslim was admitted in the Civil hospital in Ahmedabad till the first of the month. It and said that people stood with spears with swords.

I will lay those papers here which having names of all of them. The incident occurred in Godhra on 27th February. And it heightened after 28th of February throughout the State, particularly in Ahmedabad. Riots came out from the nook and corner of the city. I have got the list of patients of Civil Hospital of 28th of February. You have not been well informed correctly. . . . *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : I repeat what I have said. The police, with great difficulty, took the victims and the injured people to the hospital. I am not questioning that.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : You are not struck to your statement. . . . *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : When the local people carried the burnt or injured people to the hospital, they were threatened. "Get out, we will not admit you."

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Dasmunsi, you have already spoken. Please do not disrupt him now.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : It is possible that you have been misinformed. On 28th of Feb., 76 people have been admitted to the State Civil Hospital since 11.00. Out of which 32 were Muslims. Injured Hindus and Muslims are even six days after the incident are sharing the same bed in the hospital. Such misleading information should not be given in the august House. It conveys wrong message throughout the world. You say that the Government should

leave on this issue. Facts have been presented distortingly. I said earlier also that I have seen all the scenes minutely. My hon. Leader and myself are not together for two years. I do not want to reply to all his questions. It is not in my nature nor my upbringing allows so. He has been my leader for 56 years. He used to attend Sangh Shivirs as per the dress code of the Sangh. At that time, he did not find anything objectionable. It has become faulty in last two years. He could not know the type of Sangh in 56 years and now, in just 2-2, 1/2 years, he knows everything. He has to answer with which organization he spent 56 years. He is my leader since 1968. He is leader of Gujarat even today and sitting there for two years. And demands our Governments resignation.

17.00 hrs.

I request the House that the issue may be discussed in the way that its echo may propel the nation never to indulge in the riots anywhere in any State. Whether it is train carnage of 27th, or it is Gulmarga, or it is Naroda, or Panchmal or it is some village of Central Gujarat, it may not be repeated. If we go ahead blaming some machinery or some individual, the outcome will say that it all started in 1714. First we have to see the Reports of the Commission constituted for the purpose. Riots in Ahmedabad are continued since 1714. The worst riots happened in 1969. I am saying all this, for, we have to understand the sensitivity and undercurrent of the city and the State. I condemn this with whatever words that are available in the dictionary. Whosoever has done it, this is a heinous crime. But we will not go into the cause of the problem.

[English]

I condemn this with whatever words that are available in the dictionary. Whosoever has done it this is a heinous crime.

[Translation]

But we will not go into the root of it.

Mr. Chairman, we need a minor cause to fight. If bicycles collide, there are riots. I reside at the extension of Hindu areas of Kalupur and Daryapur town and not far from there, just five feet away there is Muslim area. Children play cricket and if the ball gets in the other area, hits some shop, and riots start there. And the riots continue for 10 to 15 days. It just not end up in 2-3 hours. On 14th January 02 Makar Sankranti, in kite flying, if one side loses its kite, it is also a cause for riots. The mental state of local people pushes them to fight. These are petty things. In 1969, there was a Government then too, a Chief Minister,

a Home Minister, but riots broke out at 3.33 hours in the evening on 18th September 1969. Herd of cow of temple were passing from the area. I do not want to go deeper into that. But it is not fair to say, on your part that the Chief Minister or the machinery or the Central Government were responsible, or it is failure of intelligence. Shankar Singh Ji, you said that because of failure of intelligence, Godhra incident took place. But what about the riots of Bharauch, that took place in 1990. Karsewaks were killed mercilessly taken out from the train. It was failure of intelligence of the Government at that time also. Where you are at present, the Government is theirs. If there are rules, these are for all and the same. The root cause of all the problems is dual politics. What we think is right, rest everything is communalism. What happened in 1969, army came after 72 hrs. Then, Somnathji, army came after 72 hours late. We were not in the Government then. Shankar Singh Ji knows that there was no one member who belongs to our party in the Ahmedabad municipality, nor there was Jansangh, there was no MLA of ours in Gujarat Assembly except for one or two members. Army was called after three days there and that too called in three different police stations. Recently, I have found out some commercial papers. One is Survey of rights Hindus and Muslims -

[English]

'Politics of Communalism-appendix I., page 175-193-Historical Survey of some major communal rights.'

[Translation]

The paper contains history of three hundred years. Now I come to the last page, which have taken out from the Website-Hindustan Times. August 11,2000. The article was written some 175 years ago from now. I would like to quote two paragraphs from the same. Page No. 4-5 read.

[English]

It says :

"The worst ever communal riots in India since Independence were not the 1984 anti-Sikh riots but those which rocked Ahmedabad, Gujarat in 1969. Official Report fixed the death toll of around 5000 but it was two or three times higher."

I am sorry to say this.

[Translation]

It does not give me any pleasure to say that there were 90% Muslims then. I do not want to go in details

[Shri Harin Pathak]

such as whose Government was then, which delegation. . . .(Interruptions) visited Gujarat and who was the Chief Minister, and why Army was called so late? Further –

[English]

“Why was it that not one remembers the Ahmedabad riots? If people are to resurrect the centuries old Mughal invasion or the 1984 anti-Sikh riots, how can they forget the Ahmedabad bloodbath of 1969? In one particular case, around 120 Muslims were tripped into a small room and were savagely killed by the frenzied mob.”

[Translation]

Someone ought to come to the well of the House. I was not a member then. Some body should have asked for the resignation of the Chief Minister and the Home Minister. We were not in the power but you were. When you did not do anything everything was OK. Now you say that Narendra Modi should leave the Chair because the riots have taken lives in lots. Advaniji should leave because he reached late in Gujarat. . . .(Interruptions) Who favoured you, we were not there. Truth is always bitter, Bansal Ji Sir, I feel pained when someone tries to cash it politically. People think of bringing the Government down. It is painful. . . .(Interruptions) After hearing this much, you do not want to recall. Actual position of those time. . . .(Interruptions) You can not justify the incident of 1969 in the light of today's incident in the Hindustan Times. You cannot justify 1984. Where there House assemblies, army Headquarter is there, but Army is not called in time and when Vijay Kumar Malhotra ji said. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIDUZZAMA (Muzaffarnagar) : Do you want to justify the mistakes?

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : No, I want to reply to your charges, Eight people have spoken and six have accused and asked to resign.

SHRI SAIDUZZAMA : You want to cover up the wrongs committed by the Sangh.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : Your people have always sponsored the riots. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Member from your party is speaking, why are you disturbing him?

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA (Junagarh) : Bensaljee said that riots took place during your regime. This is the answer to the charge that in riots people from Congress were involved. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : I even today want to humbly request that this is our town, my town and the town of your. We should send right message to the people. We should shun politicking. Many Ministers have resigned of their own although no body asked for their registration.

Mr. Chairperson, whether the resignation of some Chief Minister would change the mindset of riot, whether the resignation of some central Minister would solve the problems of riot. Riots took place in 1958, 1969, 1984, 1985, 1992 and in 1995. After 1995 our party come to power, we tried our level best that riots do not take place. But Mr. Chairperson, seven years have passed by and no untoward incident has taken place and if this Godhara episode had not taken place which you are calling a stigma on our face, nothing would have happened in our regime. For seven years we were in power and with full majority and we did not allow such things to take place. We extended all facilities to our people.

Mr. Chairperson, much is to be said, the rest our colleagues will speak, I had to tell my agony, I did that, I would request that we will have to go into its roots. Gujarat is peace loving, sensitive and industrial State. When such incidents take place, sentiments flare up and when they flare up. They cannot be controlled. As I saw in Godhara riot, 25 thousands people assembled at one place throughout the State, such things we could not see even in 1969 or 1984 riots. At that time, such riots were extended in two or three areas but this time it extended upto villages. You will have to understand the psychology behind it. You jump to the well of the House if such things happen but Parliament did not adjourn and nobody jumped into the well nor hue and cry were raised when 120 travellers of Amarnath Yatra were shot dead in five minutes. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : He is wrong. On Amarnath issue also, we did the same thing. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Mr. Chairperson, I want to remind Harin Pathakjee that when 35 pilgrims of Amarnath were killed, we raised that matter in the House,

and I want to add that from my Lok Sabha constituency Maharajan, nine people from one district alone were killed in that incident. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : This is the poison that is being sown. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Truth is always poison.
(Interruptions)

[Translation]

Mr. Chairperson, I want to complete my speech.
. . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : I want to correct him. On Amarnath issue, we brought forward a motion under rule 184 and it was adopted on the very next day in this House. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is already speaking on this. Why do you want to do it again ? Please sit down. Shri Harin Pathak, please conclude now.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Chairperson, with reference to Amarnath pilgrims, I asked you to attack across the border, but your Government could not do this.
. . .(Interruptions)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Mr. Chairperson, that is why I said that truth is bitter. There is a couplet by Kabir.

"Nobody believes in the truth; all go by falsehood :

Milk is sold in the by lanes while wine is sold at a place."

This is 'Kaliyuga'. If it is truth, it pinches, but if it is false, people say it loudly, From the side of the people of Gujarat, I want to humbly submit that after the discussion which took place here, like we did against terrorism, we should join hands to fight the evil. I feel that this way we can fight the rioters wherever they are and can defend the country.

Mr. Chairperson, I would like to summarize this much; "Both of us have houses made of glass; you see, I also see; Both of us have stones in our hand; neither you, nor I throw it".

SHRI RASHID ALVI (Amroha) : Mr. Chairperson, Sir, with heavy hearts I am on my legs to participate in the debate. A tragedy took place in Gujarat and I am aggrieved to listen to the speeches in parliament. Here people are debating less of riots and more of Hindus and Muslims.

Madam, Chairperson, I was with the delegation that after such a big incident Pathakjee is defending by saying that in 1970 Ahmedabad had a bigger riot during Congress regime. Pathakjee it happened that way that is why they have come on the opposition benches. If you would follow them you will be soon here.

Today the question is not of Hindus or Muslims. The question is not that riot did not take place for the first time in the country in Ahmedabad. We want to see what steps the Government took to curb it. The Government was effective to what extent. One cannot condemn in the words what happened in Godhara. I saw the coach of the train. Smell of body-burning was coming out of the coach. I fail to find words to condemn it but if that can be condemned then that also must be condemned what happened afterwards.

Today it is felt in the House that if train was burnt, then what happened afterwards was also right. I want to ask the Government if it knew that area of Godhara was communal, that incident did not take place for the first time in Godhara.

17.18 hrs.

[DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH in the Chair]

Such incident have taken place several times in Godhara Karsevaks are coming. Keeping in view the election of U.P., the issue of Ram Janam Bhumi was revived. V.H.P. was crying loudly that Mandir construction would begin by March 15. Karsevaks were coming and going.

Whether it was not the responsibility of the Government to depute police and take some action where such incidents have already occurred ? The incident of Godhra should not have to occurred. Who is responsible for this ? I am sorry to say that they see ISI role behind each and every incident. This House has to be informed. Right now, the leaders of Shiv Sena stated that some people are giving shelter to ISI's people in the country I would like them to make clear to this House as to who are those people who provide shelter to ISI agents in this country ? I request the hon'ble Home Minister to forward the record of last 54 years indicating the names of person whose houses, the said ISI agents were apprehended. If it is not possible kindly furnish the record of last two years

[Shri Rashid Alvi]

indicating the names of the those Muslims where from ISI agents were apprehended.

The incident of Kargil, bomb explosion In Chandni Chowk, the incident of Godhra, were stated to be the handiwork of ISI. Why this Government is providing much importance to ISI. Why this Government is providing much importance to ISI. What is our Government doing if all such incidents here are the handiwork if ISI? This does not anger well for the Government. I condemn the incident of Godhra but I want to ask that if I can receive frantic calls within two to three hours after Godhra incident and the outcome of it. Then how come the Government of Gujarat did not know that what will be results of Godhra outcome? What steps the Government of Gujarat took when they know that this incident will have counter reaction? Hon'ble Home Minister of India, Advani Saheb said on that day in this House that this is a terrible incident which can have repercussion in the whole country. If the Government had the idea that it can have its reaction in the whole country, definitely in Ahmedabad and Gujarat. What steps taken by them to prevent the happening of such incidents in and around Ahmedabad.

This information was spared by a top brass of an IB's officer whose name I do not want to take, that the Chief Minister of Gujarat had told to his administration not bother about rioters. The Government will have access to that report. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR (Vadodara) : This is wrong Statement. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA : He is misleading the House. . . .(Interruptions) If it is right, he should tell the name to hon'ble Shri Atal Bihari ji. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI RASHID ALVI : It was published in the newspaper that I.G. (Inspector General) was going to take action against the rioters. . . .(Interruptions) It was published on the very first page of Times of India. But it seems that the crowd has come to know his name as Sayeed and had gone to kill him. That I.G. had difficulty to save his life and have said that policemen ask to escort him from office to home and vice-versa in order to protect him. I asked to Commissioner, Director General of Police and that Director General of Police about the statement that police too have their emotion, during a meeting with administration in Ahmedabad, I was told that they failed to Act effectively for they had their own feeling. On being

asked whether security was provided to I.G. his head held in shame. In such a situation of Gujarat, if the life of one I.G. is not secured how does he feel secure? Doesn't he require security? Not only that the High Court Judge also left his official residence in order to find a safe sanctuary.

He shifts from his official residence to another place with his 90 years old mother. Even Commissioner of Police was not aware of this that High Court's Judge has shifted his residence. The all party delegation which had visited there was told by the Police Commissioner that it was not in his knowledge that the High Court's Judge has shifted his residence. This is the situation prevailing in Gujarat. What steps will be taken by Government to normalise this situation under these circumstances? We went to many places. We also visited hospital apart from other places. We were very much perturbed to see the prevailing situation.

We have witnessed a young girl with her two years old child in the hospital bed whose entire family was burnt where by sprinkling kerosene on them. Tears roll down from her eyes when Smt. Sonia Gandhi put her hand on her shoulder. This is the story of those hospitals, Pathak Saheb, you were also there, you have also seen. . . .(Interruptions) This is their way to think be is pertains to Government of Gujarat or Government of Delhi. They had not provided any factory or industry during their two years of tenure. They make up the deficit by disinvesting fifty years old industry. I do admit in this House that they have provided only one factory i.e. the factory of terrorists. Who can stop a young man to become a terrorist whose entire family of 38 members have been burnt above be he Muslim or Hindu? Whether all these debates in this House matter to him? Will there be anything useful for him in this country? No power on this earth can stop him from becoming a terrorist.

Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra Saheb is not present here. He was saying even after so much lively discussion that we will never succumb to the demand of partition. We are trying to understand the tone and tenor of his speech. He is not present here but I do not condemn to which occurred fifty years ago. If the Government can they should try to incorporate Bangladesh and Pakistan in Hindustan once again. We will never accord the second portion of this country as Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra intends to. The people of this country talk of patriotism and Indianism within this country but they do not talk the same in this Parliament. This country cannot be strong and may be ruined unless Hindus and Muslims are united.

I would not like to go in to details in this regard. Yet I would like to submit that the secular image of the country has also been suffered a setback and it has also been damaged at international level. We always criticise Pakistan as it keeps on promoting terrorism But we must understand that not only attacking on Parliament house building but incident of violence in Ahmedabad is also a type of terrorism. I heard from leaders in Gujarat that had it not occurred in the State, Bhartiya Janata party would have certainly got defeated in ensuring Assembly election with much more margin. An important Cabinet Minister whose name I do not want to be mentioned here, had opined that earlier it was certain that Congress will have the next Government in the State but now public opinion has tilted slightly due to riots. You are trying to gain political mileage on dead bodies. I have studied history and therefore know that once there was Chenghej Khan who was very cruel ruler he used to honour higher positions and give awards to the knights who made the highest tower of human heads.

But you should not try to gain political mileage out of dead bodies in a democratic set up and that too in a secular country. In U.P., I have heard that members of Bhartiya Janata Party were saying if Ahmedabad incidents had to happen it should have happened before U.P. assembly elections. . . .*(Interruptions)* Do you want to politicise this issue in this manner. Most humbly I would like to submit to Shri Advani that if he want to construct Ram Mandir at a place where Babri Masjid was situated he cannot do it. Now I would like to go on record that there may be many Governments to come to power in future but they will certainly not construct Babri Masjid on that plea. Another person may be confused but Rashid Alvi is very sure about it, nobody can build babari masjid. What type of agreement do you want to make. I would like to know about the Muslims or Muslim organisation with whom you want to have an agreement. Do you want that fundamentalist Muslims? I would like to submit from the core of my heart that you can do anything in Ayodhya but please do not play with human lives. Ahmedabad incident should not be allowed to be repeated again in Gujarat. We leaves this decision to you so that it may be recorded. According to you Babar built a masjid after demolishing a Temple. Though it is taken to be true yet after five to six hundred years demolishing a mosque by a new Babar and constructing a temple cannot be justified. If you want to repeat history you can repeat it. If you feel rejuvenated while doing so. But please save the country from raging into fire if country is destroyed. Neither we nor Mandir will be saved.

So I request you to pay attention to Gujarat. Government at centre as well as Gujarat State should pay attention to cultivate brotherhood between Hindus and Muslims. Atrocities have been perpetrated against people in the State, therefore Shri Advaniji I would like to request you to kindly take strict action to restore peace in the country also take certain step to cultivated harmonious relation and brotherhood among these people.

*SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM (Thanjavur) : Hon. Chairman, what had happened recently in the State of Gujarat could be termed as vandalism perpetrated against humanity. I cannot believe whether such barbaric acts could continue in a civilized society and I am yet to come out of the shock. We have had huge loss of life of our countrymen and immense damage to both public and private property during these riots as something more than a war could have wrought. I do not know how to describe these inhuman acts and I do not find words to describe the havoc these riots have caused. I have always preferred to speak in this august House. I have desired to speak effectively on certain choice subjects and topics. I have always liked to dwell at length on matters that matter. But on this occasion I only feel that I could have avoided speaking had I not been given an opportunity to participate in this discussion. I speak now if only to record the view by my party. I participate with a heavy heart.

How can people commit atrocities in the name of religion? Religions founded on the basis of love must provide for the manifestation of human values deep rooted in the minds of men. But some leaders instigate men to bring out the baser animal instincts that are hidden in their minds. Communal passions are whipped up. Those violent attacks affect only the innocent poor people. They fall victims to these mindless acts. How can a democratic Government remain a mute spectator and allow innocent men to become sacrificial goats. Who are the people who are hit hard by these communal clashes? It is common that only innocent common people are worst hit. We need not segregate and see whether they are from the minority community or from the majority. Or even Hindus or Muslims or other communities. I was given an opportunity to be part of the Parliamentary delegation that had been to the riot-hit Gujarat. I saw Hindus and Muslim brethren lying side by side in the hospitals. I could see an 80 year old woman fallen victim to the ravaged riots. Children and very young girls below 5 years of age were also not spared. What crime

*English Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

[Shri S.S. Palanimanickam]

they had committed ? We have to put our heads and hearts together to put an end to these atrocities committed against humanity. We have to unitedly evolve strategies, ways and means to curb this menace from spreading to other States.

The police force as an arm of the Governmental machinery must not be allowed to remain a mute spectator and merely watch the vandalism along with the anti social elements and miscreants. Where from can the innocent common man seek protection and shelter ? Such attacks on innocent public happen not only in BJP ruled States but also in States where BJP is not in power. The responsibility to curb these violent attacks and the connivance of police force rests with whom ? Who has got the responsibility to protect the lives of men and their property as vested with them by the Constitution ? We who make tall claim to protect people and the human rights must ask ourselves whether we have understood our responsibility.

Do we have elected State Governments only to crush under their feet the responsibility entrusted with them by the Constitutions ? Union Government and the Parliament cannot be bystanders to merely watch such irresponsible acts.

I have been listening to the members participating in this discussion. While some tried to point fingers at our Home Minister, almost all of them referred to him as a strong willed person and even went to the extent of describing him as second Vallabh Bhai Patel, the iron man. I am happy to note that he has been recognized as a determined person. To control the situation prevailing in our border States, we need to have such strong man of steel as a Home Minister. Even then we fail to see fear sent down the spines of some who resort to violent methods and terror tactics. In our farming fields we have seen scare-crows to scare away birds like crows and sparrows. May be birds could be scared away. But have we noticed any of the State Governments in the past two and a half years showing any kind of scare and desisted from high-handedness fearing the wrath of our Home Minister. Have they ever considered that he could rightly intervene ? If I raise a question like that I may given a reply stating that law and order is a State subject. The responsibility is vested with the State Governments. Don't we have devised in our Constitution the right of the Centre to rap the erring States that may protect hooligans and may even sponsor State terrorism ? Can't we use the provisions of our Constitution against those erring States ?

I wish to State what had happened six months back in a State capital. It was in Tamil Nadu that police and hooligans went about hand in hand to brutally attack a particular party's peaceful processionists. With visuals and clinching evidence the media brought to light the attack on the peaceful processionists by the miscreants in collusion with the police force. Even the press persons who had been there to gather news were brutally attacked. The proof and evidence against such an atrocity was shown even on the floor of this House. But the team sent by the Union Government sat in Delhi to prepare a report. What was the action taken against such erring men ? No action has been taken till date. Any amount of violence can be perpetrated against common people by the police force joining hands with rowdy elements is the State of affairs there. Even big political parties are forced to seek ways and means to protect their cadre from such violence inflicted on them. What can a common man do to protect himself in such a situation ? I feel the Union Government and the Parliament must not remain passive spectators and must suitably act with responsible sentiments. Certain State Government behaves in an autocratic fashion or join with miscreants and such States choose to ignore an unwilling Centre. Why do these things happen ? Why such atrocities are committed ? It is because of the soft pedalling approach of the Home Minister and the lackadaisical attitude of the Home Ministry. This moderate approach must not continue. Centre must exercise its authority with iron hand as per the provisions of the Constitution to curb the menacingly erring States. Only then we can instil confidence in the minds of the common people of the country that there is State machinery to protect their lives and properties. It is the responsibility of this Government.

It is foremost to make the people in the riot-affected areas regain hope and confidence that they will have safety and security to pull on further than merely to provide relief and rehabilitation measures. It is also our duty to ensure that such riots do not spread to other parts of the country. When the Prime Minister expresses a view on a particular issue, the stand of the Government could be strengthened only when the members of his Cabinet refrain from expressing contradicting views. Prime Minister says one things, at the same time his cabinet colleague says something contrary. This will bring down the image of the Government in the eyes of the public.

What is our pride in the comity of nations ? Despite our remaining one of the most populous countries of the world with divergent culture and several religions we remain united with a secular fabric and body polity based on

Democratic Principles and remain a very big democratic country. Secularism gives our country a further boost to our image in the eyes of the world. Our secular Governance of the country that has a large population with many religions wins us respect among the countries of the world. No citizen of this country would allow this very basis to be tarnished or shaken. He would offer any sacrifice to protect our secular image.

Our hon. Prime Minister Vajpayee is a liberal minded leader and a tall leader next only to Pandit Nehru the first Prime Minister of the country. He is open minded and magnanimous a leader. We believe in the promise he has given to this country. Our party Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam is watchful to ensure that solemn assurance given by our Hon. Prime Minister must be kept. In the election manifesto of our National Democratic Alliance spelt out at the hustings, we have expressed our commitment to secularism guaranteed in our Constitution. It reads :

"We are committed to establishing a civilized, humane and just social order, that which does not discriminate on grounds of caste, religion, class, colour, race or sex. We will truly and genuinely uphold and practise the concept of secularism consistent with the Indian tradition of *Sarva Panth Samadara* (equal respect for all faiths) and on the basis of equality of all. We are committed to economic, social and educational development of the minorities and will take effective steps in this regard."

I would like to reiterate on behalf of my party DMK that our Prime Minister must take all possible steps to keep the promise we have given to the people and must be prepared to fulfil the assurance at any cost.

Expressing deep sorrow and sympathy to the riot affected families of the people of Gujarat on behalf of our party Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, shall remain Vanakkam.

[English]

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA (Kanakpura) : Sir, at the outset, I would like to say that I do not want to make a lengthy speech. In fact, I asked for only five minutes.

I heard the speeches from the eloquent speakers from both the sides. The issue boils down to how to help those people who have suffered, who are the victims. That is the issue before all of us now. While condemning the Godhara incident, I would like to ask these two questions. Subsequently what happened and who is responsible for these things ? As far as these issues are concerned, both

the sides tried to argue in their own way. But I do not want to enter into an argument now.

There are several reports on Godhra incident. I do not know about it. We have no intelligence machinery at our disposal. The Home Minister has to spell out as to who is the root cause for this incident. After the incident, I saw in the Press the hon. Home Minister mentioning that ISI is behind this incident. The Defence Minister had also visited various places of the incidents in Gujarat. He also said that ISI was behind this.

'The Washington Post' has reported as to how the incident occurred. Several media persons have done their duties. In fact, we must compliment the media people. They have risked their lives and narrated the entire story from day one, that is, 27th February, 2001 – 7.00-7.30 a.m. According to one version, the incident started around 5.00-5.30 a.m. before the train entered the Godhra Railway Station about 70-75 kms. away from Godhra Railway Station. I do not want to enter into all these issues.

I wrote a letter to the Prime Minister demanding a judicial inquiry by a sitting Supreme Court Judge on 6th March. I have not yet received reply for the same. Subsequently also, I wrote a letter to the Prime Minister demanding an inquiry by a sitting Supreme Court Judge. The State Government has already announced that a retired High Court Judge is going to be appointed to hold inquiry into the entire incident. The High Court Judge, Shri Madani, has to seek protection for himself and his mother, aged about 80 years. A sitting High Court Judge is begging for protection. Can we expect a retired Judge go into all these matters ? Could it be possible in a situation like this ? That made me to write the letter to the Prime Minister on 6th after seeing in the Press that a sitting High Court Judge prayed for protection for himself and his aged mother.

The Home Minister represents Gandhinagar. Now I do not want to blame as to whether the Bajrang Dal or *Karsevaks* or VHP is behind it. All these are irrelevant now. We want to know the truth to bring back normalcy in the country and to create again the confidence among the two religions. It is the responsibility of everyone of us to see as to how to bring the confidence and as to how to create confidence in the minds of these two religions. One group argues that the Hindus have been more affected; the other group argues that the Muslim have been more affected.

I have not gone there. Shri Somnath Chatterjee, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi had gone there. There are different versions among the delegates themselves who had visited Gujarat. Truth should come out. How to get to the truth ?

[Shri H.D. Deve Gowda]

We need an impartial inquiry. Not only an impartial inquiry by a Supreme Court Judge, he should also be assisted by an independent investigating agency like the CBI. We should prosecute those people who have abetted the people to commit this heinous act. Who is responsible? Is it the State Government or the officers? Why did all these things happen?

We have also had some experience in running the administration as the Chief Minister and as the Prime Minister. I have at least gained certain experience as to how these things happen. When the cadre of IAS, IPS had been created, the debate took place in the very same House. The object of creating the cadres of IAS, IPS was totally different. Today the whole thing has been collapsed. The IAS and IPS cannot act independently, we know that. We know how these officers are going to be at the mercy of the administrators. There has been a serious lapse on the part of the State administration. The Chief Minister tried to defend action and direction. Then, how can we trust that a retired Judge of the Supreme Court or the High Court can go into all these matters? What is the total quantum of loss? I read in the newspapers that hotels, shops and industries all along the National Highway have been totally demolished and destroyed. How to reimburse the compensation? Who is going to rehabilitate them?

We have seen in the Press that the victims who suffered in Godhra will get a compensation of Rs. 2 lakh whereas the others will get Rs. 1 lakhs. When there was some resistance, the State Government tried to rectify it and said that everybody would be treated uniformly. If the State Government is biased about a particular religion, as has been reported in the Press, I do not want to jump to a conclusion whether the Chief Minister is like that or not. But what has been reported in the Press makes us believe so unless it is proved otherwise. Even if we demand dismissal of the Chief Minister, I know the end-result. I am not going to ask for resignation of the Minister of Home Affairs. Let him act according to his conscience. He represents a constituency in that State.

I do not want to go back into the history. One of the Cabinet colleagues, Shri Pathak, was arguing very effectively taking into account the events that took place in 1969 and 1984. We are not responsible for all these things. This House is concerned with what has happened today. What happened in Gujarat after 1998 when Shri Vajpayee took over? Nineteen churches were demolished. The *Bible* was burnt. Who had instigated? Did the ISI

instigate? I was in the House at that time. Let us touch our conscience. We should rise above all this petty politics. You might have gained by the *Hindutava* intoxication from two Members in this House to 183. But it has started declining. Now, you again wanted to use the same card to revive your political mileage. I do not want to go into all these details. I am very much clear in the mind. A sitting Judge of the Supreme Court must be appointed. An impartial inquiry under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, assisted by the CBI, is a must against those people who have 'abetted'. I am going to use this word. I am not an advocate. The officers who have failed to discharge their duties, whether at the behest of the Chief Minister or on their own, should also be booked under the Criminal Procedure Code. They should be prosecuted. It is not an ordinary issue. According to some newspapers, the estimated loss runs into several thousand crores. I do not know about it. I have not estimated the total extent of the damage. So, these are some of the issues that very much concern every one of us.

What should we do? The people have suffered. What is the responsibility of the State Government? What is the responsibility of the Central Government? How are we to help them? How to help the victims who have suffered? It is the primary concern of all of us. How are we to prevent such an occurrence in future? Our hon. Minister, Shri Pathak, or somebody else was mentioning about the root cause. I do not know. What was the root cause for demolishing 19 churches? What was the root cause for burning the *Bible* in 1998? I was here. At that time, we voted against Shri Vajpayee. This Government should go. That was the stand I took. There was no question of any hesitation. If anybody does a wrong, we should accept it honourably. Today, if there is a demand for resignation of the Minister of Home Affairs or dismissal of the Chief Minister of Gujarat or whatever we demand, it is all going to be played on the numerical strength. But there is a responsibility for all of us to see that the people, who have suffered, should be compensated and rehabilitated, whatever may be the amount for rehabilitation.

Now after the incident of earthquake, almost all the Non-Governmental Organisations and every State have helped them. Today nobody is there. It was reported in some Press that not even five or six NGOs have gone after five or six days to help the needy people.

Sir, in The Hindu paper I saw a photo which has been circulated to all the Members by our own library. The photo shows the people who want to attack are holding words.

I do not want to argue on this line whether they are Hindus or Muslims. There is another photo of a young man in tears with his folded hands.

I am proud to say I am also a Hindu. I go to all the temples. People laugh at me saying Deve Gowda goes to all temples on pilgrimage. Are we here to defend like this? Is not our police competent? Is not our Army competent? Sword has to be taken by some sections of the people who have been trained for that. If I mentioned the name of any organisation, it hurts you. I can understand it hurts you. I do not want to mention the name of any organisation. When we raise the issue, it is said that it is only a toy pistol given for training. I know all these MPs. It is not the question of split on the basis of religion. The country is going to disintegrate. If Shri Vajpayee has to take that credit in his life, let him go on with this type of administration. I sincerely appeal to the Prime Minister that he should not hesitate to appoint a sitting Supreme Court Judge and see that all these issues – whether the State Government has failed or the Chief Minister is responsible – are included as Terms of Reference.

I mentioned in the letter that it was State-sponsored terrorism. On the basis of the Press reports, I have come to this conclusion. I have made this allegation. If it is going to be denied by the Government with facts and figures, I am prepared to withdraw my allegation. Today, the country is watching whether the Prime Minister is going to rise above Party politics and show his statesmanship by constituting a Committee under the Commission of Inquiry Act by appointing a sitting Supreme Court Judge for going into all these matters starting from Godhra incident to who is responsible, whether Hindus are responsible or Muslims are responsible or ISI is responsible or *Kar Sevaks*. I do not want to take the name of *Kar Sevaks* or *Ram Bhaktas*. It is not my issue. All these things should be probed into and whatever the rehabilitation cost may be, that should be borne by both the State and the Centre. These people should be rehabilitated with all cheers. That is all I would like to say.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : Sir, we condemn what happened in Godhra and after that the defiance part of Gujarat in the name of religion. With a heavy heart and auguish, we are condemning all these things. But, Sir, sometimes. I feel that what message we are giving to the people of this country. When we discuss any matter regarding religion, somebody supports Hindus; somebody supports Muslims but we do not see that why don't we be Indians.

Before speaking something I want to quote Indira Gandhi. She had said once : "How anyone can be an Indian and not to be proud." Of course, our country is a vast country. Unity in diversity is the origin. When India's freedom came, at that midnight, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru mentioned about unity in diversity. If we see the life and lifestyles of Mahatma Gandhiji, he called a movement for *Ahimsa*. We respect this from our heart.

18.00 hrs.

Even if I quote Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore, he said, 'Where the mind is without fear and the head held high'. If we see what Swami Vivekananda said, he said, 'The history of mankind is the history of the world.' Now, I feel ashamed; I feel sorry. We feel disgusted and fed up that we are in this dirty game and dirty politics because under the Indian political system it is only a question of capturing power. We are deteriorating in moral values day by day. There is no political ideology, no philosophy, no vision, no mission and no thought. There is no thought at all about good things for the future generations. Politics is not for today; politics is for tomorrow. We have forgotten that. For the time being, we can play this dirty game but in the long run we cannot play this dirty game. Every time we discuss this issue, we feel ashamed of ourselves because we do not address the key issues facing us every day like unemployment, economic issues of the country, industrial workers' issues, farmers' issues and the problems of children and women. We do not get time for such issues; our time is limited and restricted only for either communal riots or such Hindu-Muslim *mandir-masjid* issues. There is no other issue discussed and we feel ashamed to say this.

I now come to what happened in Godhra. Is it not a fact that when the *kar sevaks* were coming in day by day? What was the report of the Intelligence Branch? Have they informed the Government that they were coming and going through this route or that route? It was my privilege that I worked for a year and five months as the Minister of Railways. At that time, I had received Intelligence Branch reports from time to time that something might happen or might not happen. So, we should have taken precautions. Sometimes, we should take up such matters with the State Governments also and tell them that we have to tackle this alarming situation.

After the Godhra incident, we condemn the incident. I do not believe that any community is involved in this incident. I have been saying this from the beginning and today also I am saying this. This has not been done by people from any community or caste or creed. It is a

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]

planted story. This game is being planned very widely. Otherwise how could the mobilisation of thousands of people take place? How is it that they would wear some masks, burn the train and kill children and women? Where did they get the petrol and Kerosene for that? I firmly believe that may be ISI or some such organisation is behind this game. It is very serious.

This communal riot started from the turning point of Godhra. This incident at Godhra and what happened after that in the name of retaliation are not good at all. An MP's team from my party, comprising of Dr. Ranjit Kumar Panja, Dr. Bikram Sarkar, Shri Akbor Ali Khandoker and my party general-secretary, went there. They have visited the civic hospital; they have visited the Shah Alam relief camp; and they have also visited the Jama Masjid. They have talked to many people. The information that they gave was that it was very bitter, as bitter as gall.

When a person becomes a Chief Minister or a Prime Minister, he has to realise that he does not have any colour except the people's colour. I am not asking for the resignation of the Chief Minister. My words would be perfect. If you can guess it, what I would say is that the Chief Minister should not have said that it was a spontaneous reaction from the people. The Chief Minister had to say that whatever was the situation, it had to be controlled. He could not rise to the occasion to tackle that communal riot. I must say it. That is why I feel that we have to talk. There are many big politicians and important leaders here. We are proud of the secular foundation of our country.

But I feel that the need of the hour today is to change the political system, to change the political scenario. I feel that if anybody encourages the type of communal riots, it is just like a manmade earthquake. After earthquake, another earthquake, manmade earthquake came to Gujarat. We feel ashamed of it and our head has really bowed down before the world. We have our cultural history. We have our traditional history. We, the Indians, live together. We sit together. We are a united country. This is our big achievement. But because of one incident, because of one black spot, the image of the country has been spoiled. That is why I feel that the Government must take proper action against the culprits. If I say correctly, in 1992, after the demolition of Babri Mosque, so many people were involved in the riots, but no action has been taken against them. If the rioters are going in for arson, they are going in for burning the children and the women

also and after that if they do not get the punishment, then it will encourage them more and more in future. That is why my request to the Government is that there must be an impartial inquiry. Yes, I appreciate Shri Deve Gowda, our hon. Ex-Prime Minister. He has asked for a sitting judge. Yes, when I was in the Ministry, sometimes I also asked the Supreme Court for a sitting judge. But I am sorry, they said, they could not spare a sitting judge because they are so busy. If you ask me, my intention also is like this. We also want a sitting judge to inquire into the matter so that the people get justice.

Secondly, regarding compensation, I feel that equal compensation should be given to all the family members.

Thirdly, my request to the Central Government would be that they must allow a comprehensive rehabilitation package for the people of Gujarat separately so that the family members of the victims, the injured persons and others who are now homeless and shelterless, should get a comprehensive rehabilitation package from the Central Government itself.

Fourthly, what I feel is that we should not allow the situation to deteriorate again. Communal tension is dangerous than cancer. So, after the communal riots, there is no answer. I have seen communal riots with my own eyes. That is why I am afraid. Shri Somnath Chatterjee said this morning that the riots are concentrated only in Gujarat and at no other place. That is not correct. Political parties have to play a very vital role, above the party lines, if there is any communal riot. In my State also something happened in Asansol, something happened in Hasnabad, something happened in Rajarhat, something happened in Kanning. But after these also, we are quiet because we want to help the Government so that these do not spread. So, I would request all our leaders and colleagues that let us create an atmosphere so that the situation does not deteriorate. Healthy situation and wealthy situation has to be developed throughout the country. There is no caste, no creed, no religion. The only one religion is that we are Indians and we have to preserve our country's prestige in any manner.

[Translation]

Along with this I would like to submit that status-quo should be maintained in Ayodhya as per the verdict of the court.

[English]

We have to see who are the culprits. Sometimes even the police officials also behave like foolish. These police

personnel also cannot mix up with a particular group. I do not believe the communal riots. It is neither the Hindus nor the Muslims, it is the gang of anti-nationals who did it.

That is why they should be punished. I think in our country there are so many laws. But to combat with these communal riots, there must be a special law so that everybody is held through this special law in order to see that next time they should not involve themselves in any communal tension or anything else.

Sir, with these words, I conclude and I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. I feel that the Gujarat Government has totally failed to tackle the situation.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN (Tirunelveli) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, with a heavy heart, on behalf of the All India ADMK I am participating in the discussion under Rule 193 regarding Godhra killings and subsequent violence in Gujarat. Time and again, in this House, we have been deliberating on the infiltration of Pakistanis. Time and again we have been charging the ISI for creating instability in India. For the last two-and-a-half years we have been witnessing a number of attacks-engineered by the ISI. There was an attempt to attack the PMO and there was also an attack on the Red Fort.

While listening to the Independence Day speech of the hon. Prime Minister every year from the Red Fort, we see the invitation car wherein it is said that the 'Prime Minister is entering through the Lahori Gate'. The Indian Prime Minister is entering through the 'Lahori Gate'. Is there no Indian gate? We have the Gateway of India in Mumbai. For every Independence Day speech the hon. Prime Minister is entering through the 'Lahori Gate' 15th of August. So, we have not arrested the cross-border terrorism. That was the crux of the matter. We have been deliberating on it. We should go to the root of the matter to know as to what the cause is.

The killing of 57 innocent passengers of the Sabarmati Express is a crime against humanity, a crime against civilization. It is an act of vandalism. On behalf of my Party, I also went, along with the leaders of the political parties in the all-Party team, to Gujarat. When we visited that carriage, it was charred, burnt and we thought that still there is an act of terrorism in India that has crept in or transported to Gujarat. As soon as the killings of 57 passengers is known to the public in India, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu – at that time she was a Chief Minister – designate – issued a statement saying that no

political party has come forward to attack or condemn the attack on the majority community. Under the Constitution you have protection for religious minorities and that is to run the educational institutions and not for anything else. Everybody has a soul. The soul is same, the life is same. So, that statement was welcomed by all circles.

Our hon. Minister of Home Affairs, in the 1998 elections, was to have a fatal attack by the ISI, the Muslim fundamentalists in Coimbatore during the elections. These fatal attacks and these types of cross-border terrorism have been moving in and around India – some time in Coimbatore, some time in Gujarat, some time in Delhi and some time even in Parliament. It is not political affair. It is not a party matter. It has to be viewed with all seriousness by all political parties to put the facts together, to control these acts of cross-border terrorism, infiltration by ISI, the engineerings of Gen. Musharraf. We have talked enough about Gen. Musharraf.

But what happened? We have not come to any negotiating table after that. Our Embassy is closed and the Ambassador has been asked to vacate. In that way, this attack on Sabarmati Express, through it is a crime against humanity, is an act against India. Those passengers were not foreigners. They were our kith and kin. When they have been killed on their own soil, in their own State, it has to be condemned. At the same time, any event subsequent to that should be looked into. Nobody is allowed to take the human life except by due process of law. Shri Somnath Chatterjee knows it. You cannot take law into your own hands. Here, a section of the community has taken law into their own hands and burnt the train. We are not using it for any political purpose. We are not facing any elections now. We saw these families in the hospital. Shri Somnath Chatterjee, we went to the hospital and saw them. Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, we went to the hospital and saw those people.

What is our answer to those people? What is our answer or account to the families of those who have lost their kith and kin? We have not answered them. We are not here to cross these points to this side or that side. This is a matter of greater deliberation, with humanitarian approach. We have to find a possible way to bring amity or conformity of different communities. If you support one community, there may be an inflammation or it may inflame to some other portion of that community. It will send a wrong message. As far as India is concerned, there is unity in diversity. We have been following that principle. The religious minorities enjoy their benefits under the Constitution.

[Shri P.H. Pandian]

The majority takes it because they are the majority. But an attack on majority in Sabarmati Express has not been condemned by anybody, by any political party. . . .
(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI (Amethi) : It was very much condemned. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho) : Shrimati Sonia Gandhi condemned it in the strongest possible terms and immediately. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : I welcome that. I did not see it in the paper. . . .(Interruptions) *The Hindu* is a leading paper. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : It was done the same day. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Perhaps, you read Gujarat issue of *The Hindu*. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN : Fifty-seven people have been killed by a mob. You know the behaviour of crowd, the behaviour of a mob. That behaviour is not an individual behaviour. If they are instigated, what will happen ? That way, it has happened there, even subsequent to the burning of the carriage carrying the passengers.

Sir, I would reiterate the stand of my party and my leader, Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Jayalalitha that the killing of those passengers in Sabarmati Express is a crime against humanity and we condemn it. At the same time, all the sections of the House should unitedly approach this matter. There cannot be dissection of humanity in this House. So, I would appeal to the House, through you, Sir, to all the Members, that it is high time that these sorts of killings of people performing their religious rites should be curtailed.

Let there be a united approach, let there be a unified approach. Let us not use or dissect the human beings for political purposes.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we know Gujarat is associated with the name of Gandhiji. Many members participated in the discussion and condemned the inhuman killings in Gujarat. But in my opinion had we in this august House condemned the Godhra incident and collectively paid homage to the departed soul on 28th Feb. i.e. immediately after the

occurrence of that tragic incident, we certainly would have pacified people of Gujarat and sent a pacifying message to the countrymen while showing our concern. However we paid homage to the departed soul a bit late. We do not have appropriate expression to pay homage to the departed souls as it is beyond our expressions. The opposition leaders while condemning the riots in Gujarat also criticised the State Government as well as the Chief-Minister that the situation was not properly handled. I would like to show you the newspaper cutting. This Newspaper February 28th, is published that the Chief Minister has appealed to the people to maintain peace. On 28th February district administration gave order to shoot at sight. The Chief Minister of Gujarat did whatever he could do at that juncture and even the police personnel too work very hard. Police personnel saved many people. How can you say that Gujarat Government alongwith their Chief Ministers did not do anything in Gujarat ?

In 1984 when a mother was shot dead, riots broke all over the country and about three thousand persons belonging to Sikh community were killed. At that time killings were justified while saying that when such a big tree is felled the earth shakes. Twenty five women were murdered and their children were made orphans, same had been killed along with their mothers. People of Gujarat are peace loving by temperament. They have often given proof of it. They survived when they had to suffer due to earthquake. They survived the cyclone as well. Gujarat people are tough survivor and they give importance to their self pride. We are proud to say that people of Gujarat have made the country self sufficient in certain fields, people involved in the conspiracy should be given capital punishment, although it may be felt as less, yet Salim Gaffar Sheikh, Bila Hashmi, Godhra Municipal Councilors etc. may be given capital punishment. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL : The then Police Commissioner of Delhi was suspended within three days. Why was he suspended ?

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA : I can prove it, I would like to lay the proof in this regard on the table. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : If you are right, you may place the Gazette on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

We have also got a photo with me, which shows a terrorist with a leader of Bhartiya Janata Party. . . .
(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA : They expressed their gratitude and gave for publishing in the newspaper. . . .(Interruptions) This is not mine. I have not done anything to get it published. . . .(Interruptions) I would like to lay it on the table of the House.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, please allow me too. . . .(Interruptions) I challenge Shri Advani if they would dare to lay the gazette of Gujarat on the table of the House. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA : Salim Abdul Rahman who is known as a Karya-karta (Worker) is a(Interruptions) Municipal councillor and he belongs to Congress Party. Detriment punishment should be given to the persons who are involved in such a crime. This is my demand. . . .(Interruptions) These people should be awarded Capital punishment. . . .
(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Sir, I have an objection here. This is a matter of privilege. She cannot say these things the way she is doing it. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East) : You can refute it afterwards.

[Translation]

You can give notice later.

[English]

We are ready for privilege. . . .(Interruptions) We are prepared for a privilege. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE (Solapur) : Sir, I am on a point of information. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : I would like to submit that the hon'ble Member may say whatever she want to say yet I would like to submit that not a single person who won on the ticket of congress party. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Those who have burnt. . . .
(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : This has been instigated by them only, each and every newspaper is saying that there had been no difference between them and the State Government. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why so many people are standing ?

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : Sir, some leaflets have been distributed just now by the officers from the official gallery to the Members of the Treasury Benches. . . .
(Interruptions) That is not correct. . . .(Interruptions) How can they do it ? . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : It is a contempt of the House. . . .(Interruptions) He has given the leaflets. . . .(Interruptions) An officer from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs gave the leaflet to Shri Kirit Somaiya. . . .(Interruptions) Mr. Chairman, Sir, the officer has just run away. . . .(Interruptions) An officer of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs has just given the leaflets. . . .
(Interruptions) It is a contempt of the House. . . .
(Interruptions) Shri Somaiya, please take your seat.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Sir, I am on a point of order. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, there should be an enquiry on this. . . .(Interruptions)

18.29 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please listen to the ruling to the Chairman on the questions raised by the leader of the opposition. Please take your seats first.

(Interruptions)

18.32 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi and some other hon'ble Members went back to their seats.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please listen to the ruling on the question raised by the leader of the opposition. Please listen.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Please call that officer first. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, there was a leaflet supplied from the Official Gallery by an officer of the Parliamentary Affairs Minister. (Interruptions) He has run away now.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat. The point has been raised, please listen to the ruling.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Under the Rule, on Hon. Member is entitled to talk with anyone in the officers' gallery. This is the rule. Ministers may take help, but Hon. Members are not permitted under the Rule. To talk with officers' gallery, to go and stand there and to take any paper is not allowed. This is not in the Rule. All know this Rule.

There is another rule, which we should practise. It is mentioned in Rule 349(18)

[English]

"Whilst the House is sitting, a Member shall not distribute within the precincts of Parliament House any literature, questionnaire, pamphlets, press notes, leaflets, etc. not connected with the business of the House."

[Translation]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would request you that the proceedings of the House are going on and the TV cameras etc. also on. When Bhavnajee was making a speech, in the meanwhile a person wearing black coat come from the officers' gallery and handed over a piece of paper of Somaiyajee. When Somaiyajee, raised this issue, he ran away. . . . (Interruptions) Action should be taken on it. First a ruling on it be given, then the work of the House would resume. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MANOJ SINHA (Ghazipur) : I have seen for the first time that the leader of opposition has come near the well of the House. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Somaiyaji, please tell whether you have taken the papers or not.

[English]

Sir, the officer concerned should be called to the Bar of the House. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MANOJ SINHA : What Bansaljee is saying is baseless. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, the officer concerned should be called to the Bar of the House and the Member should be cautioned. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : After raising the question, you will have to listen to rules.

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, my name has been called. Please allow me to speak out.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : You disobey the Rule, you don't have even sense of dignity of the House. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MANOJ SINHA : Sir, leader of the opposition was talking to you coming near your seat. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Sir, the officer has run away and he should be called now.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Mr. chairman, Sir, what happened was that when she was speaking, a person was sitting in the officers' gallery. . . .(Interruptions) The employee who collects the paper was called. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Renukajee, please go to your seat.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Hon. Member of Parliament is threatening officials. What sort of this rule is ?

[English]

Under which rule has she gone there and threatened the officer ? . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat.

SHRI MANOJ SINHA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, under which rule, Smt. Renuka Choudhary is threatening the officials, please explain it also. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. chairman, Sir, what action will be taken over it. . . .(Interruptions) First you call the officer. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH (Satna) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Hon. Member of Parliament is threatening officers, is it not against Rule ? . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : it is against the rule for any Hon. Member to go upto officers' gallery, it is there in Rule. Therefore, at that time the Members who went upto officer's gallery. . . .(Interruptions) You please listen to me.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : The official handed over a piece of paper to the Member. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : What will the official do when Member himself goes there ?

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : The official has given the piece of paper, the Member did not go there. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, during the course of debate an official after calling the Member gave him a piece of paper and this is against the Rule. After that he ran away from the official gallery. I have seen myself. Action should be taken on it. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MANOJ SINHA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, you should also give ruling on the matter that the leader of opposition came near to your seat. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL (Varanasi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, you ask the Congress Member to sit down. They do not want to hear you ruling. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI J.S. BRAR (Faridkot) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, when your attention was towards on this side then I say myself that official had given a piece of paper to the Member. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : If any Member goes near officers' gallery, it is against the Rule, whenever this has happened, they have been asked not to do so from chair, it has been said that this is against the rule. It was wrong on the part of the Member to go there. . . .(Interruptions) The official was inside the official gallery.

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, he is attempting at contempt of the House. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : We have objection on it that official after calling the Member gave him a chit. After that he fled away. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : I demand an immediate inquiry. . . .(Interruptions) We cannot tolerate this sort of thing. . . .(Interruptions) Sir, you please call the officer.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : We should get apprised from the staff. This will clear the matter. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please listen to the Hon. Minister to Home Affairs. Please occupy your seat.

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Miryalguda) : Sir, if you permit me, I want to say something. . . .(Interruptions) Sir, you were in the Chair. The Home Minister might have been there. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : He was not there. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Even if he was there, he would not have seen it but we saw it with our naked eyes. In fact, an officer distributed. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL : Hon. Member, Renuka Choudhary from your party went there, did you see that or not. . . .(Interruptions) If you saw her you should have told that this is wrong. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Jaiswaljee, please take your seat.
(Interruptions)

SHRI VIJAY KATIYAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, as per rule, there should be action on it. . . .(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was not there in the House but you saw it yourselves. My request is that if you instead of debating what has happened here, in consultation with Hon. Deputy Speaker give a ruling that in what manner the Members to behave. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : It was done by the official. . . .(Interruptions) There is a difference between an officer and a Member of Parliament.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : The decision of your or Deputy Speaker, will not only apply over us but also over those who are in the officer's gallery. There by tomorrow a considered ruling from chair should come that such things should not take place. If the debate would continue like this it will be of no use.

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say that time and again opposition has demanded that Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi be removed. Whenever there has been riot in the country, whatever action was required was taken. This is baseless. On a particular day, it was given in the Indian Express

[English]

"Today we are alive only because of our Hindu neighbours."

[Translation]

Hindus and Muslims are living together happily. But anti social and anti national elements are getting people killed, I am elected for the present time from Junagarh or Gujarat and Muslims of Junagarh pray for my victory and offer 'Chadar' Somnath has special importance in my constituency. Here 'Jyotirlinga' or 'Shivaji' is situated. Because issue of 'Ram Janma Bhoomi' is not here you are saying that this is happening because of it. When Dr. Rajendra Prasad was President, he after rehabilitating the temple, inaugurated and placed it for people's service. At that time, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was Minister for Home Affairs. He by exercising his will power alongwith the nation rehabilitated it. Is it not possible today that leaving aside the disputed land of Ram Janma Bhoomi, the land which is not disputed and which is with VHP, by giving it to them we end the dispute. I want to opine through the House that because of wrong policies of Congress, this India was divided, because it was first time that partition took place. . . .(Interruptions)

18.51 hrs.

[SHRI P.H. PANDIAN *in the Chair*]

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL : You are criticising Congress, but when Rajendra Prasad and Sardar

Vallabhbhai Patel rehabilitated Somnath Temple to which party did they belong to ?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not interrupt.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA : All this happened because of the wrong policies of the Congress. Today there is no iron men like Sardar Patel in Congress, therefore, it is taking place otherwise the issue of Ramjanmabhoomi would have been resolved. Partition created India, Pakistan and Bangladesh. And if things continue like this there, will be more partitions. Therefore, through you I want to say that if we want to forge a united India we should strive to make confederation so that peace may have a chance. You allowed me to speak. I thank you for that.

[English]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all I condemn the whole Godhra incident where innocent people were killed. At the same time I equally condemn what happened afterwards. My constituency has been very badly affected. Twenty-nine people have been killed and still thirteen thousand people who are living in the camps are not being helped by the Government. The Government help came only on the 5th, though the Chief Minister has claimed that he curtailed the violence and brought the situation under control within 72 hours.

While Shri Dasmunsi, Shri Kamal Nath and others were talking to the Governor on the 2nd, there were incidents of burning and looting at Danta Ambaji which falls in my constituency. It was violence everywhere. I saw houses being burnt and showrooms looted. They did not leave anything. I was wondering where was the entity called State; where was the Chief Minister; where were the guardians of the maintenance of law and order. I went on 2nd March to my constituency. Till yesterday evening I had been listening to the horror stories of all the survivors. You hardly find any village where people who are living in a group of four, five or six have not been affected. They have come out with a pair of clothes and even today they are living with that pair of clothes. Foodgrains are being supplied to them by some individuals and by some NGOs.

I saw and heard women crying and children screaming. Young people, in fact, just broke down when they saw their

relatives, their kith and kin burning in front of them. If Godhra was not justified, then certainly whatever happened afterwards was also not justifiable and it is really a pity that those who are in power and those who claim that they are the guardians of protecting the Hindu culture and others hardly have visited any of the camps even today. If they believe in secularism and human kind, they should have gone there. But they are afraid because they were a party to this carnage. I have been told that those people were leading the mob. I phoned Shri Kamal Pandey, the Secretary in the Home Department. In fact, I left a message with the Home Minister that I wanted to speak to him and meet him as I had been getting frantic calls from the minority community of my constituency saying that they were being attacked, that the police force was not coming and that their phones were not received. They hardly got any protection and all my efforts to safeguard the lives of some of the people, in fact, went in vain. Fortunately, I have a good Collector who tried to help me out but the police was perhaps the last to help. Intentionally, they were the last to do whatever they wanted to do or whatever they were instructed to do. I saw it as a characteristic of a fascist State. The intellectuals were threatened. The media channels which showed the news and others were stopped. There was a terror spread. Even those who wanted to help the victims did not come out because there was a fear of their lives and property. If any person having a secular mind or the Hindus wanted to go out and help the people belonging to the minority community, they were not safe. That was the kind of terror that was being spread in the whole of the State. With due respect to the Chief Minister, let me say that he is a person who is also an organiser.

18.57 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

From 1992-95, we saw the highest number of riots in every part of our State. They played the politics of riots. Even when this Government came to power, we had riots in Sanjeli, Randhikpur, Vyara, Bardoli, Dharampur, Ahmedabad and Idar. I am answering the Defence Minister who said that there was not a single riot since they came to power.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : He is not here.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : He is there. And that is why, I am telling him this. You look at your own history. There was a simple logic – create or initiate riots and come to power. That is what is happening now in Gujarat when

they try to link with this. It is because they have been losing everywhere. They lost the Municipal Corporation elections; they lost the District Panchayat elections and they lost all the by-elections in the State. Their poll graph was going down and down. And there was no alternative but to simply revive the entire Hindutva regime or agenda. It is a pity. The State has become a party. For three days and upto 2nd and even now, those people who are ready to lodge a complaint in all the police stations with the names have been given clear cut instructions by the State to register a complaint against the mob and not against any individual. I have been trying in this regard for five days. I spoke to the Chief Secretary of Gujarat, the Home Secretary of Gujarat that he should instruct all the police stations and the IGP that if any person is ready to give the names of the people who were involved in the riots or the massacre, then their names should be registered in the FIR. It has not been done. I request the Home Minister now to take action. There has been a request. The names are here. They have given them to me. I gave it to the police officers. They have been demanding me saying, "You please ask the police to comb the area because we know who has looted our goods."

19.00 hrs.

The police were not ready. They said that they could not do it because they did not have the instruction. That is where the State has failed to give protection to the citizens of this country. They are Indians and they are the citizens of the State. How can we have a partisan attitude by the State itself ? I could see that in my own constituency. There are problems in various camps. Forget about protection, there is hardly any arrangement for hygiene, and there is hardly any arrangement for providing any kind of relief by the State. Even now for almost nine to ten camps in my own constituency, I have been pleading them to give additional protection, especially in the nights to the people who are living in that locality because there is a crisis of confidence. It is there everywhere. People do not want to come back. Standing crops were burnt; buffaloes were looted; and the goats were taken away. People had to come back after spending four days in jungles. They had to lie down in the paddy fields and in the wheat fields which were irrigated. These are the examples. Sir, it is an organised – I do not know which word I should use – but I would say it is an organised crime. I feel that perhaps Parliament should find a way out to deal with such an individual or administration who becomes party to such an inhuman incident. I have no words to condemn that. That is what I feel. I could not sleep for days together. Day before

[Shri Madhusudan Mistry]

yesterday, I simply woke up because I heard the stories of people who have lost everything. There is a problem of rehabilitation. I wrote a letter on the other day and I faxed it from Ahmedabad requesting Home Minister to please instruct the Chief Minister to visit all these camps to restore confidence amongst the people who have become victims of this orgy of violence. Give them land which they can use. . . .(Interruptions) I also demand that judicial inquiry should be instituted. In almost five hundred villages, people have saved people. The Government did not save people. There were some brave police officers who have saved people. It is a pity. I also saw 1969 riots which Shri Harin Pathak was referring to. In that, police were not the party. The State was not the party. But here State is the party. That is what I am saying. I had seen the Chief Minister when he was the organiser. I have heard him saying that he did not want the vote of a particular community and that if anybody is there in the meeting from that community he should go out. That is what he told on the record when he was the chief organiser.

(Interruptions) It is the time when the Chief Minister became more of a *pracharak* and activist and forgot that he was the Chief Minister. He became more of an activist. That is what happened. I would request that there is an immediate need to restore this crisis of confidence amongst the entire community which forms nearly 12.5 per cent of the total population of the State. There should be a judicial inquiry to bring out the facts. It should be headed by a sitting judge of a High Court or the Supreme Court and justice should be done. Every time they say there is a hand of ISI. There was a riot in Surat in 1992. Against whom the action was taken? Minority community was the worst sufferers during those riots in Surat. Now, they are saying that it is because of ISI. Who stopped them? You conduct an inquiry and give us the evidence.

Why are they not doing it? I mean, there is a deliberate kind of a propaganda which is going on against a particular community of the State. I condemn that. I would request the hon. Home Minister that he should take action on some of the points that I have made. I also wrote to the hon. Prime Minister saying that to express his concerns towards the victims of the riots in Gujarat, he should give some money from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund. I have not got any answer yet. In a significant gesture, he should do this. I do not know whether people will be given money from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund or not. People have suffered a terrible loss economically. It will take years for them to stand on their own feet. That is why, there should

be a concerted package like the package which had been announced for the earthquake-affected areas. All the victims of this riot must get the economic help; must get loans and other things from the institutions, banks and others. So, the Government should make provisions for that.

The last point is that those who have been affected, especially the poor people, should be included in the category called "below the poverty line people" so that, at least, they get all the facilities from the Central Government scheme as well as from the State Government schemes. That should be done and implemented. What happens is that after ten of fifteen days, everybody will forget about all these things. There will be hardly any monitoring. Therefore, I would request that they should set up a monitoring unit to see that proper rehabilitation of these people is done. I also say that they have to take action on one count. The Chief Minister cannot escape from his responsibility for all that has happened. If he has a little bit of moral and morality left in him, he should step down immediately.

With these words, I conclude.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Before I call the next speaker, I would like to say that I was presiding over the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Parliamentary Security. That meeting is still going on. I requested Shri Shivraj V. Patil to preside over the meeting. I came running here because I heard that there was some disturbance in the House.

Now, almost all the major parties' time is already over. Some minor parties are there.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : I have to make a small appeal to you. We took a decision in the morning that if we were to conclude the debate within six hours, that is, by six of the Clock, then the time should be shared according to the proportion. It so happened that we had a Lunch recess and later on we resumed the debate. It is said the hon. Home Minister is likely to reply around Eight of the Clock. I do not know anything about the time of his reply. But this is what I gathered from the hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister. Therefore, I would request you to accommodate the few speakers who are left out. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will accommodate them. A few more names are there. That is why, I feel the hon. Home Minister can give his reply at 8.30 p.m. so that

almost everybody can be accommodated. If we strictly confine to the time, he will be in a position to give the reply by that time.

Now, Shri Trilochan Kanungo to speak.

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO (Jagatsinghpur) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker. Sir, at the outset, I would like to say that there is discrimination everywhere. Here also there is discrimination. I think the Biju Janata Dal does not have its turn now. It should have got it much earlier. I hope you will kindly see the record why it has happened so.

I am standing with a heavy heart to participate in the deliberation on the Godhra massacre and the incidents that took thereafter. I shall confine myself to the subject. Towards the end of the days, the Chair always looks at the Clock to maintain time. I am also aware of that. I am conscious of that. I will not make a long speech. I will confine myself to some points. I had gone there and seen things there. I was shocked and overwhelmed by the incidents that took place there. I did not open my mouth there but I felt very sad about all those things that happened there.

I want to confine myself to Godhra first. The House deserves an answer from the Government on that question. Godhra has a very bad track record of communal riots and tensions for more than seven decades. Godhra has always been suffering from these communal tensions and riots even after Independence, probably every year. At one point of time Godhra was under curfew for nearly one year.

19.11 hrs.

[SHRI P.H. PANDIAN *in the Chair*]

Godhra is hypersensitive so far as the communal tension is concerned. My question to the Government and the hon. Home Minister is this. What has happened when those *Kar Sevaks* and *Ram Sevaks* were passing through that way? Why did the local administration not take a proactive role? That is the fundamental question. It is not a question of mere failure of intelligence, it is the failure of common sense. It is an utter negligence. I tell you, Sir, that perhaps there was a deliberate negligence on the part of the local administration. They should have taken note of it and the platform itself. Police should have been deployed in Godhra Railway Station when *Kar Sevaks* and *Ram Sevaks* were passing through that way in the trains. Then, nothing would have happened. Now, things were being given different pictures here.

The incident happened only 800 metres away from the Godhra Railway Station. First of all, the hitch was there on the platform itself between *Kar Sevaks* and *Ram Sevaks* and vendors. Immediately after the train moved the first chain pull was there, train started after two minutes. Then the second chain pull was there, this ghastly incident had occurred. What was the reason? The administration has not acted pro-actively. Why did it not deploy police force there before hand? If the Central Government here and the State Government there feels that there is a negligence on the part of the local administration or otherwise, what action has been taken so far? That is the question and this House deserves a clear answer from the hon. Home Minister.

We have gone round with the delegates. Mr. Chairman and myself were two persons in the delegation who have not opened our lips during the discussion. I did it deliberately because I want to concentrate all the feelings inside me and the way things have happened. I do not want to go into as to whether the Chief Minister should resign or the Home Minister should resign. What message we are sending to the international community particularly at this point when we are seeking the co-operation of the whole world for our cause. This message is very important and this incident has sent a very wrong message to the international community.

It should be ironed out. It should be rectified. The people are suffering. This is a carnage. This is a heinous crime on the part of those who have done it in Godhra or elsewhere. This should be condemned. No Language has adequate words to condemn these abominable incidents.

I have a few suggestions apart from the answer that we deserve from the hon. Minister of Home Affairs. Certain things have not been done properly. It emerged at the time of discussion with the State officers. Others have participated. You and I have not participated. A question was asked whether you were giving relief in the State. Has the State run any relief camp? The answer was clearly 'no'. Why is it so, Sir? Is it out of fear? Is it out of something that wants to keep the face backward? That is the question.

I am not going to other matters. But confidence building among different sections of the society has to be brought back if you want to keep India united, united not only geographically and territorially but also united at hearts only. If you want to do that confidence building, this House

[Shri Trilochan Kanungo]

should take a lead irrespective of this particular Government or that Government. All the parties have a role to play. That is my request to this august House.

Back in Godhra. We had gone to Godhra to see different places. Godhra is equally divided between Hindus and Muslims. In Godhra town, there are two lakh people, that is, one lakh Muslims, one lakh Hindus and a very few Christians. At the Church Square, I saw two eternal mourners who fill the heart. The two eternal mourners at the Church Square are the Cross on the top of the Church and the Statue of Mahatma Gandhi in front of it. One represents the law and another non-violence. One symbolises truth and the other forgiveness. One symbolises peace and another tolerance. I looked at them again and again and it reverberated my heart. I hope this august House would appreciate this feeling and help in keeping India united at hearts. With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Prime Minister, termed the Gujarat riots as a blot on India.

This is true that there is tension on the borders, the country is facing with the external threat and with such a large scale riots taking place in the country the country cannot be said to be out of the danger. Why did this happen? What are the reasons for this? It should be analysed and a solution should be found. The Prime Minister had convened an all party meet on Ayodhya issue. In the meeting, we had cautioned the hon'ble Prime Minister against the announcement being made all over the country to the effect that they would not abide by the Constitution, laws and the judgement of the Courts, against the plan to start the construction work of the temple on 15 March and even the work of the construction of the columns is also going on. Our demand is that it should be stopped or, else there will be arson all over the country. An appeal was made to save the country. But the Kar Sevaks are still going there.

For setting the coaches on fire at Godhra, for the brutal killings, for arson and for burning innocent passengers, 47 persons were arrested. Investigation is going on. The officials say investigations is in progress. But the Home Minister and the Chief Minister are blaming the ISI. They are quick to point this out. They fear we may expose them as was the case when it was claimed that Lord Ganesh had drunk milk, that they may start a riot by setting on

fire some Hindus so that the Hindus would retaliate and they would take advantage of riots. Why was investigation not carried out? We demand the resignation of the Home Minister for four reasons. First, why did he not make a statement on 28th, after the Godhra riot in the morning of 27th? No statement was made that day. The Home Ministry has been a total failure. The question was raised on 28th at 11 a.m. but no statement was made. This was the situation even after 27 hours. The second fault is that the country's Home Minister should have announced that stern measures would be taken against the rioters whoever they might be. A statement was made in this House that it would result in backlash. . . .(Interruptions) The Home Minister should have announced stern steps in this House against the rioters. It was announced there that there would be retaliation. This did take place. The third fault is as to why he did not go there at once? It is also his constituency. But the Home Minister went after 6 days. The fourth is that you gave a clean chit to the Chief Minister there. It was said that a Commission had been constituted. The Government has no morality. You also had constituted a Commission on the Tehelka issue. George was given a clean chit and the inquiry is still going on. What is the sanctity of the Commission set up by the Government.

. . .(Interruptions) The Government have announced the setting up of the Commission and have given a clean chit to the Chief Minister. What do they mean by this? The fifth reason is that the Home Minister belongs to Gujarat and for this reason, we stick to our demand for this resignation. . . .(Interruptions) From Godhra to Ahmedabad, the riots are still continuing. Only yesterday, two persons were killed in Godhra. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, you address the Chair. No Member should address each other. You should address the Chair.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Gujarat is the land of Mahatma Gandhi.

[English]

In *The Hindu*, there is a report by a Ms. Anjali Modi on what happened in Gujarat where Shri Narendra Modi is the Chief Minister. The title of the story is, "Genocide in the land of Gandhi". It says :

"There was a brutality to the carnage in Ahmedabad, which even in a city with as long a history of communal conflagrations as this one was unprecedented.

They reel off the list of past convulsions – 1969, 1980, 1985, 1986, 1990 and 1992. But this one, almost everyone is agreed, is different. One senior police officer tells the intention this time was mass murder of Muslims.

Another police officer said, the violence in Gujarat was not a "riot". A riot involves a clash of two groups. In every conflict in the State before this one, both sides suffered. Both shared a sense of loss, both could turn to the State for help. This time, the Muslims alone have been under attack with what appears to be a backing of the State."

[Translation]

The Times of India, dated March 10 has written about the State intelligence department.

[English]

There is another news item in *The Times of India* dated the 10th March with the heading, "Intelligence reports blame Gujarat Government for carnage". It says :

"Intelligence reports squarely blame the Gujarat Government for failing to contain violence in the State following the attack on the Sabarmati Express in Godhra. Over a week after the carnage in the State, the Home Ministry has been receiving reports from intelligence agencies, the Defence Ministry (Military Intelligence) and Governor S.S. Bhandari on the ground situation, which point clearly at the total failure of the Government machinery in the State to prevent and control the violence that spread after the Godhra incident."

[Translation]

Sir, this is their intelligence report. There was a total failure of intelligence. Demand is being made for the dismissal of the Chief Minister. These have been riots in the country earlier also. Earlier, communication means were slow. This resulted in delayed action. But even by now, riots could not be checked quickly. Precautionary steps were not taken. This was our failure and our weakness. We demand the removal of the Chief Minister. After the riots, they should have been concerned that the State was burning and the people were being killed. Looting continues. People are being burnt alive. They should feel concerned. But they smile and say.

[English]

"Every action has an equal and opposite reaction" quoting Newton's Third Law of Motion.

[Translation]

People say there is a limit to everything. But the Gujarat Chief Minister has crossed all sense of decency. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Raghuvanshji narrate the Godhra incident in your own words. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat. You cannot get up suddenly without my permission.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Sir, it was announced in the Assembly that two lakhs would be given to those who were burnt alive in the Godhra riots. Later, it was said that one lakh would be given to those burnt alive in post Godhra riots in Gujarat. Nothing could be more shameful than this. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You cannot have a cross talk by sitting. Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, please address the Chair.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Riots took place only in one State. Riots are continuing from 27th. It was announced in the Assembly that two lakhs would be given to those killed and burnt alive on the 27th. Later, the Government decided to give one lakh rupees to others who were killed. They say there is no discrimination in this. Those who were injured in the hospital are still frightened. All the leaders accepted. . . .(Interruptions) These people express their sympathy. They shed crocodile tears for those who were killed. . . .

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Why are you misleading the nation ? . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Vinay Katiyar, please resume your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not talk to the Member like that. Please sit down. Please resume your seat. You cannot suddenly get up and start talking without any permission. Why should I sit here then ? There is a procedure, there is a regulation.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Did we announce in the Assembly ? . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, please conclude now. You have taken fifteen minutes.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Does this Government want to do justice to those killed there? They say that the retired judge has been appointed, why do you not want the riots to be investigated by the Supreme Court Judge or by a sitting Judge. Everyone knows the meaning of the inquiry commission. Action should be taken against the rioters and for this, special Court should be constituted to inquire into the riots. The common man is not to blame. The people in Gujarat are peace loving. They believe in Gandhism. But there are some organisations there who led the riots and indulged in killing and burning. There is a saying, why should one fear when one's patron is in power. The rioters had their ways when they saw that they had a patron to take care of them in the State and they had also their patrons even at the Centre. For this reason, the rioters indulged in open violence and lowered the country's prestige. Murder, loot, cruelty and excesses were committed. There is no instance of such cruelty and atrocities in the world. There was no fear and no law left in the country. . . . (Interruptions) VHP people are saying that they will not accept the Court verdict and the Government is appeasing them. . . . (Interruptions) There is still the danger of riots in the country. Therefore, we want to caution the Government that they should take strict action against the rioters there. Most of them belong to BJP leadership, ex-MLAs, MPs, VHP and the Sangh Parivar. The VHP people are saying that they will not accept the Court's verdict. . . . (Interruptions) The Government have to rehabilitate those whose houses were burnt and give compensation to the minorities people who were looted. Special Court should be constituted to inquire into cases of house burning, losses of property and incidents of murder so that the guilty can be punished. There can be no justice for the victims, they will not get any relief

and they will not be resettled as long hon'ble Narendra Modi is there in power.

SHRIMATI KAILASHO DEVI (Kurukshetra) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Gujarat is an important State of India. Mahatma Gandhi who is regarded as the greatest worshipper of non-violence in the World was born in this very State. Draught and earthquake have caused great devastation in this State and a few days ago, large number of people were killed in the communal riots due to which people of this State were put into great trouble. I condemn this heinous crime in the strongest words.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, some opportunist people provoked these riots by taking advantage of this situation. It is good that this situation has been controlled in time otherwise it could have been more explosive. In our country, no one can be allowed to take law in his hand on to break the law. Congress party says that riots were not controlled in time due to which there was a large scale massacre. In this context, if Congress can look at the riots of 1984 with the same angle, everything would be clear in those riots. They set the rioters free and there was no one to save the victims for two days and only after two days they deputed security forces to maintain law and order. Now, they blame this Government for not controlling the situation in time.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, communal problem has become so aggressive in our country that if we do not control it in time, then country will have to face its serious consequences. Our party want that this problem should be settled through court and no one can object to this. People will have to accept the decision of the court. Besides, the court should also give its decision without any delay in such a critical matter. Government should also make an appeal to the court to give its decision without any delay in such a critical matter so that communal harmony could be restored as early as possible. All parties should rise above their political interest and help the Government to solve this problem. Behind the terrorist attacks on Parliament and Kashmir legislative assembly, we should see through the intension of countries who want to destabilize and humiliate our country. We should rise above our political interest and help the Government to prevent them in achieving their aims. Government is ready for independent and impartial inquiry of this incident. The people who are responsible for this, should be brought before the public and those anti-social elements however powerful they may be should be given harsh punishment so that these incidents do not recur.

When such incidents had occurred during the rule of other Governments, then present Government and its allies unitedly helped those Government to solve such incidents. In Punjab when terrorism was on its pinnacle then all parties had unitedly helped the then Government to solve this problem. There are several examples like this. I do not want to mention all of them but through you, I want to appeal leaders of all parties and Members of Parliament that they should rise above their political interest and think that first of all they are Indians.

Integrity and sovereignty of our country should be protected at any cost. First of all, we will have to prove that we are united to protect the country's interest. If we 542 Members of Parliament would be united, then only we could set an example before the one hundred crore people that we would not allow any kind of harm to be inflicted to the integrity and unity of our country. So, all parties would have to rise above their political interest and have to change their approach in regard to such critical matters. I am recollecting the words of Iqbal "Na Badloge To Mit Jaoge Ae Hindustan Walon. Tumhari Dastan Tak Bhi Na Hogi Dastano Mein".

Through this Parliament, we should send a message to the people of this country and to world community that we are united for country's interest. No such statement from any leaders of any party or Member of Parliament should go before the world community or people of this country which is against communal harmony.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are agitated and unhappy on what has happened in Gujarat from 27th till date. There was an open manifestation of savagery, barbarism and cruelty. I believe that the existence of Hindustan or any other society, which comprises of various religious and communities is in danger because of communal riots and if it goes on, we will not be able to save our country. We talk about secularism. I think secularism is not providing protection to one class only. I believe that whoever violates our culture or our heritage which we have inherited over thousand of years whether he is Hindu, Muslim, Sikh or Christian, he should be openly criticized. People belonging to all classes should strongly criticize him and our leader has done the same thing. As soon as the information reached to Delhi that several people have been burnt alive in one bogie of a train in Godhra, Soniaji was the first person to give such statement, she strongly criticised it and said that it was an illustration of cruelty.

My predecessor speakers have explained everything very elaborately. Madhusudan Mistri ji has told us how

people are suffering in Gujarat and also how plundering, killing and massacre took place there. I do not want to repeat all this. Almost everything has been said about this and it is in the knowledge of all of us. Nearly one thousand to twelve hundred people have been murdered there. About two thousand to two and a half thousand people are untraceable. They are missing. Approximately twenty thousand houses have been set on fire. And if we calculate all villages, then the number of burnt houses will go upto fifty thousand.

Nearly fifty thousand to one lakh people have been rendered homeless or they have no houses to live in. Families after families have annihilated. All this happened there. Gujarat is economically, industrially and commercially a prosperous State in our country. We have seen that five thousand to seven thousands crore rupees is estimated to have been lost. Trade is suffering a losses of about five hundred crore rupees everyday.

As per the estimates of the Sales Tax Department of the State Government there is a loss of Rs. 120 crore. The Union Government has lost Rs. 250 crore on amount of custom duty. More than one thousand trucks, buses and cars were set ablaze. As per the estimates of the Chamber of Commerce in Gujarat, the textile industry which had a turnover of rupees seven hundred crore has come to a standstill. Lakhs of labourers are on the roads, they have been rendered unemployed. About four hundred cotton processing units were there, where spinning of cotton took place. These units have been totally destroyed. Above all, the States has received a great jolt in the economic sphere. A confidence was gradually building up amongst the people that it was beneficial to invest in Gujarat. A favourable industrial climate existed there. People from outside the country as also NRIs were investing money there. People from other States were also reaching there to set up industries and other ventures. That edifice for industrial investment has fallen away. If we want to re-establish that climate, it will be very difficult for us to do so in coming years. Today, it is difficult to imagine how far the economic activities there have been affected or hampered. One cannot evaluate that right now, it will be calculated only in the coming years. There was a great loss of life and property, there was economic loss, there was a large scale destruction of property, whole families were destroyed. But where from did all this start. The hon. Member have tried in their own ways to put the facts and figures in this regard.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, fortunately or unfortunately one of my friends lives in Godhra. He is a doctor by profession. After the incident naturally, I was curious and I telephonically

[Shri Satvavrat Chaturvedi]

enquired from him in this regard. He said that at that time he was unable to give exact information in that regard. He told me that he would give me true information based on facts after two days. As per information that I got, you can imagine where from did it all begin Karsevaks were coming and going for the past several days. Near the railway station a big cluster of minority community is situated where people of 'Dhanchi' community live who provide tea, snacks and water to the passengers of train at the Station. Because their belonging to minority community. . .

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Sir, I started just now. Please be kind enough to give me some more time.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are six more Member's who have to speak, and I have to give five minutes to each of them.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the situation started brewing during the last five days. Five days before 27th, you may cross-check it, this has been narrated by the staff members of the railway department and a written information in this regard has been filed in the police station. Some skirmishes took place between the passengers and the vendors and five days before the incident, the local police sub-inspector informed his S.P. and other police officials in this regard. It is wrong to say that there was no information, there was intelligence failure etc. that could have pre-empted the Godhara incident. But no preventive steps was taken for five days and lastly the result was that clash and animosity become serious. It culminated in the horrendous carnage of 27th which we condemn in the strongest words. Its reaction was due. I want to know why a Chief Minister in whose State such a gory incident takes place and people are trying to give it communal colour, cannot anticipate it. The Chief Minister of Gujarat, a State which has a long history of communalism, must be familiar with the sensitive areas, towns etc. but he did not try to avert the situation. And what happened afterwards is before us. I do not want to go into the details; but the question is why did it all happen? What is the reason.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is important to understand the reasons because if we fail to understand the reason, we will continue to witness such riots and the country will

continue to burn. Before going into the reasons, we will have to get an insight into the character and ideology of the BJP. Mr. Chairman, Sir, ideologically, they are the supporters of Hindutva. We do not object to that. They capitalised on the concept of a Hindu nation and today they are in the Government. Ideologically, they are divided vertically, with one section subscribing to a sub-concept the right wing. There is a liberal section led by the P.M. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and the same BJP has a rightist wing led by the VHP, Advaniji and Bajrang Dal. The clash of ideology is taking place for years among them. . . .
(Interruptions)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Perhaps he has forgotten the words of Shri Rajiv Gandhi when he said in 1984 that when a big tree falls it shakes the ground. Try to remember and then talk. How many persons had they got killed? . . .
(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Chaturvedi, please conclude now. You have taken 13 minutes. I would appeal to the hon. Leader of the Opposition to instruct him to finish his speech.

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Those who live in glass towers should not throw stones at others. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Now Bharatiya Janata Party and its allies have come to power at the Centre, I want to place two facts in this regard and no one can deny it. After their coming to power Vidhan Sabha elections have been held in three phases in various States of the country. I want to say something very briefly which would not be possible for anyone to deny. During these elections barring an exception in Orissa, performance of Bharatiya Janata Party and its allies has declined continuously. Thereafter when the third of elections took place. . . .(Interruptions) This is the fact which can not be denied.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The next speaker is from the BJP. You can reply to him then. Shri Chaturvedi, you please conclude now.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : The BJP has receded to third place in Uttar Pradesh and has now

been confined in only three States. This is the reason for the riots. And I will begin from here. The moderates were under pressure to revert to Hindutva agenda or else the party will be wiped out. This was the reason and therefore it was again decided to resort to same old policies during election. The conservatives and the ultra nationalists group continuously harped on this line. This group made statements so that communal inbrogation may be kept alive. . . .(Interruptions) Accordingly, the Vishwa Hindu Parishad fixed the 15th March programme. .(Interruptions)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, they engineered riots in Kashmir. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Vinay Katiyar, please take your seat ?

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : He has incited the riots. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Vinay Katiyar, under what rule you are standing ?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi.

(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Katiyar, you did not seek my permission. I have not allowed you to speak. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi, you also conclude now. You have already taken 15 minutes. Your time is exhausted. Now, you are getting the premium time.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Sir, I am just concluding.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We have to finish the debate by 8.30, and there are other Members also. Please conclude now.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, these riots can be traced back to the Prime Minister's speech made by the Prime Minister in which he said that their party could do without the minority votes. This is the outcome of the work of so called moderates. Therefore, my submission is that this massacre was committed and the riots started with the help of Bajrang Dal, Vishwa Hindu Parishad and Narendra Modi ji to implement their hidden agenda. Therefore, I demand that not only the Chief Minister of Gujarat, Shri Narendra Modi be dismissed but the Union Home Minister should also resign. And if the Government really want to put an end to communalism, my request is that Vishwa Hindu Parishad and Bajrang Dal should also be banned. With this, I conclude my speech.

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI (Amreli) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Gujarat has a peaceful image in the country. Gujarat gave to the country such great leaders like Mahatama Gandhi and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel who reinforced the image of Gujarat as a peace loving State where justice prevailed. In every speech Mahatama Gandhi is remembered. During partition when the country was burning under his leadership, no one wanted riots or disturbance to break out. But riots did take place in those days. Mahatama did his utmost to maintain harmony. I would like to remind that riots could not be predicted.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, when the Godhra incident took place on 27th House was in session. It is also the responsibility of the House to maintain peace in the country. If the ruling party did not have details about the riots, then attempt should have been made towards this end and so that the feelings of those affected by this could be assuaged. But I regret say that this House did not say even two words in sympathy for the affected persons in Gujarat. Due to this reasons riots broke out and these people did not allow the House to function. A lot of discussion took place today also so that the House could function smoothly. Breaking the rules any where, taking the law in one's hand and not expressing sympathy for those killed in Gujarat, is not correct. Even in this august House we think of those killed in terms of this religion.

20.00 hrs.

I accept that all the stops burnt or the persons killed belonged to the nation. Those who died there should not be identified according to their religion. But there is politics even in that. If a person of a particular caste dies the others retaliate. I want to say such persons should also show restraint.

[Shri Dileep Sanghani]

Riots took place several times in Gujarat which have been mentioned here. You can see for yourself. I do not want to go into details. One can make self assessment of these riots. But riots in Gujarat continued for a month. Due to which it became difficult to reach Ahmedabad from rural areas. The Chief Minister under the leadership of Union Home Minister acted promptly to bring peace in Gujarat. They are unable to accept the political outcome. They are wondering how the people of this State became peaceful in such a short a period. How did people of Gujarat became calm so soon. This calls for leadership of Home Minister and Chief Minister in other villages of Gujarat, also.

Here it is told that Sh. Narendra Modi is the volunteer of Sangh, and expert of organisation and he is in the chair of Chief Minister. Speaking so it not right. Even today he feels glorified as a volunteer because he has got cultures from this land. He has not been glorified for his leadership due to an alien culture. They tried to say so many things. I would like to know that whether people of this independent nation tried to get such glory. They are speaking about a complete planning. I would like to tell about my own constituency. All seven M.L.A.s of my constituency are from B.J.P., Member of Zila Parishad are also from B.J.P. No riot broke out there. It is told here that many people died but once people died in Gulmohar society then police saved lives of 500 people there. Nobody mentions who saved lives. It is not a good thing. When riot broke out in my own constituency in Bhavnagar a Muslim; contacted me on phone that a member of his family had died due to illness. They were facing problem in performing his last ritual due to curfew there. I spoke to C.M. office, Gandhinagar and made arrangements for his burial. Even Muslims of that area also praised this, but you see politics in it and impose allegation and counter allegation on this Government and B.J.P. which is not right. We should think about preventing violence in Gujarat and outside Gujarat in future.

Similarly, we are not taking care of level of the House in our behaviour. All are thinking for vote-bank. I say that this should not be a matter of vote but a matter of humanity. Whatever property of people is looted or burnt are the properties of the nation and if this sense prevail and you proceed further with such thought. I feel that no riot will break out in future. In my constituency people of all sides, all religions and all castes decided in a meeting that we will not help those who take part in such riots whether they are Hindus or Muslims.

No party will help such people taking part in riots. This will help in bringing peace. It is not a good think to make noise here for any event at my place.

Now, it is Budget session. We know that in the Budget session many businessmen will come who are related to taxes for trucks and iron. I see same situation here also. POTO bill is to come. It is against terrorists. It will be used against those who are working against the country. But why are we protesting on behalf of those, what kind of relations are there with them that cause us to speak for them such situation is in communal riots.

I request all, that they should speak against violence whether they belong to any side or working with anybody. I think that no such violence will happen if nobody will help them. The leader of opposition went to Gujarat but she went nowhere before this incident. This cause pains in the hearts of people. We want similarity.

You gave me chance to speak, thank you for this.

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset I reiterate that words do not suffice to condemn adequately the most inhuman attack on the *Sabarmati Express* carrying the *Kar Sevaks* at Godhra and also the anti-minority violence, massacre and burning alive of the people that rocket Gujarat.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, by what time this discussion will last ?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : We must conclude the discussion by 8.30 P.M.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, there has been a virtual and a systematic genocide of the Muslim minority. What a tragedy ! In secular democracy the basic right to life was reduced to mockery. Sir, the Gujarat situation indicates a State-sponsored brutal carnage with the connivance of the State Government and the State authorities. The most shocking characteristic, feature of the carnage was the criminal negligence on the part of the Government and the authorities, both in anticipating and in dealing with the violence. Take the question of the inhuman attack on the *Sabarmati Express* at Godhra Sir, Gujarat is a sensitive State.

Four several days, there has been movement in batches of *Kar Sevaks* or *Ram Sevaks* in a most

emotionally surcharged atmosphere indulging in provocations, indulging in harassment, and even assault on tea vendors, Muslims, at the Stations, and also in the trains. The reports were given by the authorities on the spot to the higher authorities and yet we failed to find any preventive measures taken or even any adequate deployment of the security forces.

Sir, the State Government authorities cannot escape the responsibility of the attack on the train at Godhra.

It is most deplorable that the violence subsequent to Godhra has been termed as a retaliation or reaction. This is the bane of the situation. It is a reprehensible mentality and a morbid mind to treat a minority community as a hostage for the criminal conduct of an individual or a group. The criminal action of a group was ascribed to the entire Muslim community and a sort of justification was being found in the plea that it is a retaliation or a reaction. Most regrettably, such has also been the statements of even the Chief Minister and the State authorities. There has been an inexcusable connivance by the State authorities with the anti-minority massacre and the holocaust. Several instances can be quoted which will point out to this inexcusable connivance.

Sir, you know very well that a *bandh* had been called subsequent to the Godhra incident. Yet we find the Government not coming into action and yet we find that there were no preventive arrests. There were hardly any preventive measures.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, media has brought to light various startling and shocking instances and facts. *The Indian Express*, for example, reports in its issue dated 1st March, 2002 :

"Several police officers told *The Indian Express* that they had been told : 'Not to be firm with the rioters'."

A shameful situation that we have that the police was given instructions not to be firm with the rioters. Sir, take another report of the same newspaper, namely, *The Indian Express* of the same issue :

"As the violence raged, the State Reserved Police idled in the Police Commissionerate waiting for the orders which never came."

Sir, many reports are there. Look at another report :

"The most shocking case was evident at Hathkeshwar Circle where three houses in a row were in flames and hundred feet away policemen including an ACP

rank officer sat in chairs taken out from a nearby shop. When asked, one of them said : 'Let them do something also. After all so many people were killed in Godhra'."

Sir, it is a commendable feature that the secular media carried out its responsibility of bringing the facts to the notice of the nation. But, unfortunately, Gujarat's carnage stands out as the single carnage, single communal violence in which no heads rolled in spite of clear-cut evidence that we have. A number of mosques and Dargahs were attacked and destroyed and idols were placed and puja conducted. All these have to be restored.

Take the question of deployment of the Army. The delay in the deployment of the Army has already been brought out by several speakers who preceded me and I do not want to go into those details. But, look at the leisurely pace at which the Army was deployed. On the 1st, Army was deployed at some places; on the 2nd at some other places and on the 3rd at yet some other places at a leisurely pace. The deployment of the Army went on while the number of casualties mounted.

We are here told of the number of rounds the police had fired. I was a member of the all-Party delegation that visited Gujarat. When I went to some of the hospitals, I was stunned to find that there were an overwhelming number of Muslims injured in police firing. Those Muslims injured in the police firing were themselves victims of the loot and arson. We have this shocking and shuddering situation where those who were the victims of the loot and arson were themselves fired upon by the police. I talked to those injured in the various hospitals. Perhaps they are still there in those hospitals.

A proper FIR has to be registered. We found this situation in the relief camps also. Look at the depth of the situation. Even the Muslim IGP, other police officers and High Court judges had to run helter-skelter for security. What a depth of the situation that Muslim security forces needed security for themselves !

The State Chief Minister must go. This is not a political demand. Let it be understood that the Chief Minister must go because there is no chance for communal harmony and justice in the reign of the present Chief Minister. Strict action has to be taken against the culprits and also against those officials responsible for grave dereliction of duty in Gujarat.

It is shocking that the Home Minister deemed it fit to give a clean chit to the Gujarat Government. I do not have

[Shri G.M. Banatwalla]

any personal grudge against the Home Minister. But, such a Home Minister has forfeited every right to be in the office. It is a tragedy and most unfortunate is that the largest democracy in the world has a Union Home Minister about whom not less than two courts have found *prima facie* evidence of his involvement in the demolition of the Babri Masjid.

Sir, with respect to Gujarat, there is a need for adequate package of relief, compensation and rehabilitation of the victims.

Sir, hon. Member Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra was pleased to refer to the Muslim League, In Urdu, we call it as

[Translation]

"Thief chides the constable"

[English]

The Indian Union Muslim League is committed to high principles of secular democracy and the party of which Prof. Malhotra is a spokesperson, the BJP, wants a fascist communal *raj* of Guru Golwalkar's ideology.

I would conclude by saying that the destiny of India lies in communal harmony and justice. Let us all rise above politics and work together for the destiny of India.

[Translation]

CHOWDHARY TALIB HUSSAIN (Jammu) : Hon'ble Sir, our country is a great one not due to its geographical existence but due to its secular values, traditions and cultures. It is a great country and not only Indians but the whole worlds accept this that India is a unique democracy of the world due to its secular values. Such incidents happened in Gujarat are worthy of condemnation but also require patience and the discussion held here has two points which mainly can be stated like this : that Gujarat has a history of communal violences, it may be internal and the second point in that Gujarat is a peaceful State and credit goes to the people of Gujarat for this. We must have to find out a way to prevent such incidents in Gujarat in future. Whatever be the history of Gujarat, we cannot go in into the details but we cannot deny the fact that such incidents, violences occurred in Gujarat whatever party be in power but our are finding out solutions of such malice in our traditions, our secular values and many times we have found it out. We have saved our country from

fragmentation and have done all things which are necessary for brotherhood communal harmony and co-existence which is appreciated by the whole world. It is a Lesson for us that what should we do today. It is not a matter of repetition that what happened in Gujarat, how did it happen and whether it could have been prevented. Whether 'prevention was better then cure' was discussed but I would like to request Hon. Home Minister that we, both Hindu and Muslims are heir of our traditions, our cultures and we, both, want good of our country. We want to see this country as a great nation and we will have to see to what extent our intention, motive, objective for communal harmony is clear and what should be our objective so that law and justice prevail; what steps should be taken for this.

Whether measures were taken or not in Gujarat is a long story. I have also seen as a delegate in delegation. I would like to tell Hon. Home Minister that there are such forces in our country which want to harm it. Hindu and Muslims do not want to harm the country. But there are such elements in Hindu and Muslims which want to harm the country. If we want to solve a problem and we have no information available and we want to prevent it; we cannot take preventive action then it is like digging well after fire. When the ghost comes out of bottle, it is impossible to enbottle it again.

[English]

We have to catch the bull by its horn.

[Translation]

There must be courage and intention to solve the problem, there must be motive and objective. For this care should be taken that such incidents do not occur again. But the situation shows that such elements are in the country which are ready to harm the nation. In such a situation wherever people face with incidents justice should reach to their doors.

With these words, I will conclude with some lines.

"Sunee padi hai muddat se dil ki basti;
Aa ek naya shiwala iss desh main bana lein,
Duniya ke tirthon mein Uncha ho apna tirath.
Daman-e-asman se usaka kalash meela dein.
Shakti bhi shanti bhi, bhkaton ke geet mein hai
Dharati ke wasion ki mukti preet mein hai

SHRI ARUN KUMAR (Jahanabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, what has happened in Godhra in Gujarat is certainly a blot

on India culture and Indian tradition. But the way in which political mileage is being derived from it is an unfortunate question before our country.

Sir, it is very difficult to say something in two minutes, that is why I want to put before you two or three issues. We gave the slogan of 'Vasudhev Kutumbakam'. We consider the entire world humanity as our family. If Indian culture is tarnished, it is a signal of danger for world humanity. If inhuman acts and question of exploitation crops up anywhere in the world, Indian people and Indian Government express their concern about that. The incident of Godhra in Gujarat is certainly an unfortunate incident and Hon. Prime Minister has accepted it with courage that it is an unfortunate incident.

I would like to appeal to this August House that the way in which Godhra incident unfolded and the way way in which reaction should have come, the members of opposition did not show unanimity, it is an unfortunate aspect. We do also feel that the statement of Chief Minister of Gujarat that every action has its reaction is an unfortunate aspect which we condemn. If a person sitting on a responsible post reacts this way, it is an unfortunate aspect.

Sir, right now Raghuvansh Babu was speaking in a very high pitch and answer it "is there any son of the soil". I want to say you answer it. When in Sitamarhi, whom do you represent. Ram Charit Yadav, Mahant Mandal, Ramkali Devi, Dr. Hanif and Yunuf were killed by the bullets of Bihar Government and their Government put all the people in one pyre, when the funeral rites of those killed in the Jalianwala Bagh Massacre were performed according to their religion. But the Government of Lalu let the pyre of Hindu and minority in the same way. Those people talk about secularism. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : All these statements are wrong. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Arun Kumar, do not drag him. He will take some time. Time is over.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, please resume your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Arun Kumar, please conclude your speech now.

[Translation]

SHRI ARUN KUMAR : Riots took place in Bhagalpur under Congress rule. We would like to congratulate the central at Gujarat Government that in so little time, they controlled it. In Bhagalpur riots continued for one month. . . .(Interruptions) The Government of Lalu protected the rioters and charge sheeted people. The attempts was made to influence upon the commission. . . .(Interruptions)

Sir, in Bhagalpur riots we had also gone. In his Government Ghulam Servar is the Minister, he had gone with him. A 16 years old girl said. . . .(Interruptions) this is in record. Those people come to police station for protection, were ordered to be killed by the police. This is in record. . . .(Interruptions) I want to say secularism is a thing of conviction, it cannot be inculcated by drama. . . .(Interruptions) We want to say with feel vigour that riots were unfortunate. Government should give attention over these aspects and take action. Congress has done research in riots in its rule. . . .(Interruptions) These people. Are creator of vote banks, we don't create such things. . . .(Interruptions) We want to intact Indian culture and tradition to its heights. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is this ? Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Arun Kumar, I think you have concluded. Please resume your seat. I gave your enough time. First I said that you would get two minutes. Anyhow, I have given you six minutes. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, Shri Jaffer Sharief to speak. You have five minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI ARUN KUMAR : Sir, with these words, I want to say that we should strongly protect the heritage given by our forefathers.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Jaffer Sharief is the last speaker. Then, the hon. Minister will give his reply. Time is over.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Sir, you promised me that you would give me two minutes' time.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, I did not promise anybody that I would give him time to speak.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : That is what you told me.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am here. How can I talk to you ? Do not drag me.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : I would take just two minutes. I have been waiting since morning to speak.
... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Times is up. You must listen to the reply of the Home Minister.

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF (Bangalore North) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity. I do not think any one has remained a silent spectator to what has happened at Godhra. Everyone has condemned it. With the kind of debate that has gone, I do not know as to whether we, as a country, known for values of *Satya*, *Ahimsa*, can raise our head with dignity and self-respect. If some people are killed in Gujarat or burnt alive, you can take appropriate action. Even if something has happened in reaction to that, one can understand. But is that the magnitude ?

Shri Somnath Chatterjee was speaking elaborately about Gujarat. I know realise as to how Shri Advani, the Home Minister of this country has chosen Gandhi Nagar as his constituency. I could not imagine as to why a great leader of his stature from a tall political party going around the country with *Rath Yatra* not chose any other place but chose only that place. I am not saying it to have a dig at him.

Very recently, there was an RSS rally in Bangalore in my constituency. About, 50,000 *Swayam Sevaks* assembled. Local administration allowed them. I told the administration to please convince them, let them go from Trinity Church, right on the Rajpath in the Mahatma Gandhi Road, down to Jaya Nagar, which is the right royal way. But they did not accept it. They were very keen that they should pass through an area which is predominantly consisting of minorities – Muslim minority. Christian minority and Dalits. I was shocked. I never know as to what would happen. There was on other option to me

I myself and Shri Alexander, who was a former Chief Secretary and a local MLA, and my other Dalit MLA, late Basavlingappa's son, Shri S.N. Kumar, a number of veteran Bangalore Municipal Corporators together gone to the RSS

camp. We told them that they have left the constituency where their man Shri Ananth Kumar, who is a Minister in this Government, was representing – Bangalore South and have come to my constituency. I welcome you. We are not having any mental reservation or opposition to what you are going to have here.

But I told them that every morning, the poor man goes to the city to earn his livelihood and comes back in the evening. The saner elements come back with something for their families. Some elements, which do not have sanity, and are drunken, also come back. I told the RSS organisers that they have chosen this area. They have chosen this locality. They are most welcome. But tomorrow, they should not find an excuse that somebody drunken has created a problem. Every day, he drinks and goes. He does not create a problem. But the day you are going through this route, there should not be any problem. What I would tell you is this. I was glad that nothing had happened. . . . (Interruptions) Do not be afraid. I am going to tell you something. Nothing had happened. Everything went on peacefully. But had we not been able to go and do that, and suppose if anything would have gone wrong – I do not know – it could have been another Ahmedabad.

My friend, Shri Rashid Alvi, was speaking in the morning on the *Ramjanambhoomi-Ayodhya* issue. How long should this issue be there ? Who is preventing them ? Why should this one issue become an issue to kill thousands of people ? They have not left the Mosque. They have already demolished it. Now, they want to construct a temple. Under the Constitution, we have the Legislature. We have the Judiciary. We have the Executive. You are in the Executive. If they have respect for the Judiciary, they could have it. Sometimes their people say that they do not care for the Judiciary. They do not want to recognise the Judiciary. They do not want to recognise even the Constitution under which they have taken oath and are sitting here. Why do they not come to some firm settlement ? Why should all this drama be there ? Why do they want an excuse ? Whatever they earned, they have lost.

One of my friends had been telling very clearly that this was a desperate attempt. Unless they earn the confidence of the people, I do not think, these kinds of threats and atrocities on the weaker sections and the religious minorities would helps them. What helps them is their performance. What help them is the way they conduct to restore confidence in our society. But the way they are going, I am afraid, with whatever they are doing, whether

they will be able to continue to remain. After all, we were sitting there. Now, we are sitting here. If tomorrow, the people of India decide that we are to move from here to elsewhere, we have to perform our duty. They are not bigger than the will of the people of India. As mentioned rightly by a lot of people, I think, for any good, there will have to be a political will. But here I find that there is a political ill will – ill will to perpetuate atrocities and hatred, and suppress the weaker sections.

This is not going to help anyone. Everyone spoke about the secular fabric of this country. Where are we taking this country, the country of Mahatma Gandhi, the country of Ashoka, the country of Gautama Buddha, the country of Bal Gangadhar Tilak, the country of Gopal Krishna Gokhale, the country of Jawaharlal Nehru and the country of Indira Gandhi? We liberated Bangladesh. What are you doing? Some time back I found the statement of Shri Advani that he wants a confederation. I said that much before Shri Advani in the other House as a Member of the Government. Jolly well that is what Shri Rashid Alvi also said. Who wants Pakistan? Why do you, in the name of Pakistan, torture the minorities living in this country? If you want to fight a war, you fight. Your Army is on the border. Why do you not fight? Who is preventing? How many leaders we have in this country? The Prime Minister goes to the United States and meets the President of the United States. Then, the Home Minister also goes to the United States and meets the President of the United States. I cannot understand how many leaders this Party has got. It speaks what is within your Party. I do not mind it. It is your affair. It is none of my concern. But what signal are you giving to the world? . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : He will conclude now.;

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF : The country's unity and solidarity is utmost important. We, in our younger days during the freedom struggle and thereafter, were taught morning prayers in the Gandhiji's Ashram.

[Translation]

'Ahimsa, Satya, Asteya, Brahmacharya Asamgarh, Sharishma, Aswada, Sarvatra Bhayawarjana,' What is Sarvatra Bhayawarjana? Sarvadharm Samanantya, Swadeshi Sparshbhawana. Aikedasewaim Namratve Vrita Nischeyet. What is Sarvadharm Samanantva Swadeshi Sparshabhawana?

[English]

Do you have the feeling? Do you consider? You are now showing concern to Afghanistan. Do you have concern

to your own people here, your own people who are living with you side by side? The minority of this country knows its limitations. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude. You have taken 10 minutes.

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF : The minorities know their limitation. No minority wants backlash. They know their problem.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL : Where was all this in 1984.

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF : Now, you sit down, please let me speak. You should speak afterwards. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, whenever Speaker is speaking, he is interrupting in the middle. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is the procedure being followed now. If you talk, they will interrupt. When they talk, you interrupt. That is the procedure. I have been watching this procedure for the last two-and-a-half years.

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF : I sincerely appeal to both the Government and the Party in office today, to not bring the country to disrepute. It has already suffered. Do not inflict injuries. Do not divide the country further. Nobody wants further division. If you can do so, bring back Pakistan and Bangladesh into the fold of this country.

This is what we want. If you can do so, you do so. We are all with you. Please do not divide the country; do not divide the society. We are all Indians.

I have been here in this House for the last 30 years. I am not winning elections on the strength of minorities alone. Minorities are also there in some pockets but the majority is the Hindus. I have not lost a single election. This shows their magnanimity. Shri L.K. Advani has often said about pseudo-secularism. I must tell you that there is genuine secularism and I am the symbol of that secularism. I salute the people of India who uphold the dignity, honour and self-respect of this country and also uphold secularism. The people of India are secular. We have every faith, trust and belief in the secular policy of the nation. Whether it is Hindus or Muslims, it depends on how you lead them. As many hon. Members have said,

[Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief]

this is State-sponsored terrorism. You punished those who indulged in Godhra but what did you do later on? Even in respect of Godhra details have been given on how it happened and what was the provocation. Nobody wants to justify it. We cannot justify one wrong with another.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I gave you five minutes. You have now taken 20 minutes.

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF : I am sorry, I have been given very limited time at the last moment.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is extra time. Your party has consumed the maximum time.

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF : I am not asking you for more time but I hope that when the hon. Minister of Home Affairs replies, he would address himself to the people of India and instil that confidence, which the people look forward to from this Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I now call the hon. Minister of Home Affairs.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Sir, I need only two minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The time is over now. Smaller parties have been given 13 minutes but they have consumed 31 minutes.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : I will take exactly two minutes and not more than that. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI J.S. BRAR : Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have called the hon. Minister for the reply.

SHRI J.S. BRAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to draw your attention.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have been liberal to everybody.

SHRI J.S. BRAR : Hon. Chairman, Sir, please bear with me. I am on a point of order. I want to draw your attention to item No. 14 of today's List of Business.

MR. CHAIRMAN : At the end of the business, you should not raise any point of order. We are now closing the business with the hon. Minister's reply.

SHRI J.S. BRAR : Hon. Chairman, Sir, please look at item No. 14. I was to second this discussion. My name is listed in the List of Business.

MR. CHAIRMAN : But you should have asked your party Whip to include your name. I am not at fault. The Chair is not at fault.

SHRI J.S. BRAR : Sir, I am not asking for time to speak. I want to know if on the List of Business the name of a Member is there, would he be allowed to speak or not? . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are two names and Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi has already spoken.

SHRI J.S. BRAR : Hon. Chairman, that is all right. I am not asking for time but in future if the name of an hon. Member is there, would he be allowed to speak? (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : In future, if you strictly follow the time limit, you will get your chance to speak.

SHRI J.S. BRAR : Sir, I belong to a microscopic minority of India. I have also got feelings to express.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Only one Member is allowed to speak now.

SHRI J.S. BRAR : Hon. Chairman, Sir, I just want your ruling.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Only one Member would be allowed to speak now and that is the hon. Minister of Home Affairs.

Now, the hon. Minister may reply to the debate.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Please give me only two minutes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is already 8.55 p.m.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, with your permission I would like to ask that in Bihar 1070 people were killed in 1990 and 940 people were killed in Maharashtra. At that time, Congress was the ruling party, why was it not dismissed?

[English]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur) : Please give me only two minutes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No. I have already called the Home Minister. Please sit down. We will see tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please resume your seat. I do not normally please anybody. To have a conducive atmosphere, I am asking you to please resume your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I am entirely in the hands of the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister can reply now.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down. Ten times I said 'please sit down'.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : I want only two minutes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have already called the Home Minister. I like to please you but you do not like to please the Chair. What is this ? I said please, please, please. What else can I do ?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Gujarat is burning. There is the possibility of burning of country. Therefore, allow me to speak for two minutes. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not the way. Follow the procedure.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : I know the procedure, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not defy the Chair.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : This is my right, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is total defiance. When I say please resume your seat, you have to. Smaller parties had been allotted only 13 minutes but they have taken 31 minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Sir, if you want to save the country, please allow me to speak. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not the way. Please do not pressurise the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Sir, without saving the country, you and I cannot be saved. Therefore allow me to speak. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Respect the Chair. Do not pressurise the Chair. Do not defy the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Advaniji, please allow me to speak for one minute.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I have no objection. I am at the command of the Speaker. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is this ? What is the use of my sitting here then ?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Sir, there only one question and I want to ask just this. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record. I am calling the Minister.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN : I told you dozen times please, please, please. You have no respect for the Chair.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, if you allow Shri Ramdas Athawale, then please give two minutes to Shri Prabodh Panda also.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not recommend anybody's name. The Hon. Minister can start the reply.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I am willing to yield but I am entirely in the hands of the Chair. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am saying please, please. What more can I do ?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am also a Member of Parliament. What is this ?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I told you to resume your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record. What is this ?

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : The Minister is prepared to yield for two minutes, Sir. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have been liberal to everybody. Do not create an unpleasant situation. I gave maximum time to everybody.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not defy the Chair. You have to respect the Chair. Nobody is supporting the Chair. Leader of the Opposition, please support the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, if you are not allowing me to speak now, please allow me to ask question after your answer. . . .*(Interruptions)*

21.00 hrs.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you allow me to ask questions. If you do not allow me to ask question right now, I would ask question in the middle.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nobody is supporting the Chair.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Minister is to reply now.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, as many as 24 hon. Members of the House have participated in this important debate which lasted nearly eight hours. A series of tragedies have occasioned this debate. It is pointless to draw distinction between this tragedy and that tragedy because in all these tragedies – whether it is Godhra or whether it is Ahmedabad, Naroda or Mehsana – everywhere it is innocent people who have been victims and any kind of rationalisation, I feel, is wrong.

21.01 hrs.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair]

Either in the case of Godhra or in the case of Ahmedabad or in the case of Rajkot, the whole thing is

a series of happenings which certainly – as the hon. Prime Minister has said – are a shame for us. They are a blot for us. Even though in the case of this debate, there were exchanges, attempts to score points this way and that way, sometimes even sharp exchanges, I hold that the undertone was of intense unhappiness of anguish and agony in the minds of every single Member and I, at the outset, would like to share this agony and anguish with all of you and say that for us in Government, it is a blot or it is a stain also because when we came to power four years back, one of the principal misgivings in the minds of many was that under this rule the minorities would be unsafe, the minorities would feel insecure. It was our earnest effort to see that this kind of misgiving and apprehension is removed.

In the last four years, on several occasions, publicly speaking, sometimes in the House also I would claim that in the last one decade or so or even 15 years, perhaps, when I see the statistics of communal incidents and communal riots, I feel somewhat gratified and satisfied that in the last four years the statistics show that they have been the minimum. I would not claim that there have been no disturbances, on riots. I frankly did not know what hon. Member Shri Madhusudan Mistry has said. He referred to several incident in Gujarat. I was not aware of all of them. About Devrasi. I have heard. But they were not major riots; whereas this one is something that I cannot forget – this particular incident in my own constituency or in Rajkot. And anyone to rationalise it, justify it that it was a reaction or a retribution for happenings in Godhra, this Government does not subscribe to that view at all.

In the case of the Chief Minister, when I visited Ahmedabad that was the first question I asked him – “Did you talk about Newton's law ?” he said : “I do not remember Newton; I do not know absolutely.” And it was quoted in his name that he quoted the Newton law and justified what had happened in that name. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : He has not denied it.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : He has denied it. He showed me the denial also which he had sent in writing and it was not published by that one paper, one single paper which had given a headline of Newton. I subsequently spoke to the Editor also. He said : “I would be making enquiries.” But it has been repeated over and over again, in editorials, here and there and it was mentioned here in the House also.

All that I would like to say is that the Government holds that killing of innocent people is a horrendous crime. In fact, I have with me the statement that I had prepared immediately after the happening and I was to make it in the House, but somehow, I could not make it in this House. In that statement, I have referred not only to Godhra, but said that no words can adequately condemn the acts of horrendous violence that Gujarat has witnessed in the past few days. Gujarat gave us Mahatma Gandhi. He stood for universal brotherhood in a time of world wide turmoil. Specifically, he stood for brotherhood of Hindus and Muslims in India. Therefore, when Shri Rashid Alvi says that unless Hindus and Muslims come together, this country cannot progress, he is right.

Muslims, are not a minority in the sense in which we have minorities in other parts of the world. We have in India, Muslim population larger than the population of any other Islamic country excepting Indonesia and many people in the world do not know this. Therefore, my person who thinks in terms of the welfare of the country, whether he is in Government or outside, cannot but think of these two principal communities of the country working in concert, working with faith in each other. Today, I would say that in Gujarat, after all that has happened, there would be a sense of insecurity even though there may be peace and there may be no incident. These are the matters which have to be considered, and I said that the torching of Sabarmati Express in Godhra in which 58 persons were burnt alive and the setting afire of a residential building in Ahmedabad in which 38 persons, including a former hon. Member of this House, Shri Ahsan Jafri and his family were burnt alive, are heinous crimes which shocked the nation. This was the statement that I had prepared. That was my immediate reaction.

Of course, subsequently when I went there, I saw all that had happened and my first concern was the allegations which are being made that the police has been guilty of complicity in the crimes. In fact, the words need here are 'State sponsored genocide' and "State sponsored mayhem". Shri Somnath Chatterjee said that. The police is accused. I do not know of a single riot in the past in which the police in firing has killed 100 persons. If the total number of persons killed during these tragedies is around 600 or slightly more, one hundred people have been killed in police firing. Someone said in the other House and even here also, perhaps Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav said that police was asked that if it is one community, you fire at them and if it is other community, then you turn your eyes away, you close your eyes. Otherwise, I would not have

referred to Hindus and Muslims. So, I asked them to check up that these 100 persons who have died in police firing, what is their communal break up and I was told that they are 60 Hindus and 40 Muslims. Now, I am not giving this explanation as anything except to say that I cannot, in honesty, accuse the police either of passivity or of collusion. There may be instances where they failed to perform their duty.

If people have rung up again and again and they have not responded, that police officer, that SHO is guilty, but the kind of statements that have been made in general, at least, till now, I have not found them correct or I have not found them substantial enough to accuse the Government of having sponsored this kind of a tragedy. I am sorry that I cannot do it. If the judicial inquiry ordered brings out something, naturally, we will take cognizance of it, but as it is, this is also true that within 72 hours, 76 hours or so, the situation did become peaceful. There were incident even after that.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : All the leaders were there in that briefing. We heard the DGP, we heard the Police Commissioner, we heard the Home Secretary, we heard the Chief Secretary and, I believe, that was the impression shared by all of us that the police hardly moved in the matter.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Somnathji, for example, when you said and some others also said that no preventive arrests were made on the 27th, first of all, you were under a wrong impression that there was a *bandh* on the 27th. There was *bandh* only on the 28th. On the 27th, it is true that there were two deaths in Ahmedabad, and one death in Baroda. However, I did check up, and I found that on the evening itself preventive arrests were made as well as those who were accused of these killings, 273 persons, were arrested.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : We specifically asked, Shri Yerrannaidu specifically referred to it in his speech today, the Home Secretary. All of us asked, Shri Yerrannaidu asked this specifically, and that was the reply. I am not interrupting him as such because he admits that it is a very serious matter. We are trying to get some clarifications.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I understand it fully and, therefore, I checked up again. I was asked this question earlier also. Even during your visit there, I was told that the presentation in Godhra was very good, whereas the presentation. . .

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : That young District Magistrate, she did very well. All of us have been impressed by her presentation.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I have met her. It may be a question of presentation. That is all right. I understand that. So far as the facts are concerned, it is not true that preventive arrests were not made. I can tell you that immediately, after we put out an alert. . . .

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Advaniji. I ask you only one question. From Delhi, you issued an alert on the 27th itself. On the 27th itself, an alert was issued to all the State Governments. What steps, since then, the Government of Gujarat took ?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Therefore, I mention this. On the one hand, on that very day, they arrested 273 persons, and at 100 places within the State, which are supposed to be hyper-sensitive, the Chief Minister said : "I spoke to them. We alerted them", and then curfew was imposed in Godhra on that very day. It was followed up with curfew at 30 different places on the next day. This is certainly surprising, maybe, they may have told you there that the normal places where these riots took place in the past, they did not take place this time; it was a different situation. Riots generally occurred at Kalupur, Shahpur; it may be even at Ellis Bridge in my constituency, a middle-class constituency, where thousands of people came out.

I would certainly like to speak on the issue of Army deployment, and never before has a situation of this kind has arisen. In the past, deployment of Army was generally sought by the State Government from the nearest Army Unit, and immediately it was responded to. There was no difficulty. . . . *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : I would like to make a submission. I told this thing clearly in my speech that continuous clashes were taking place and tension was high in Godhra before five days of this incident occurred on 27th and Railway Officers were giving this information to administration continuously. . . . *(Interruptions)* Now please, I have to ask him. I am addressing to Advani Ji, Is there any need for you to interfere in everything ? My submission is that these informations are coming continuously for the last five days, had preventive precautions been taken and had security arrangement been made on this point of time, not only the incident of Godhra but the riots occurred after that in whole Gujarat could have been stopped. What is

your reaction in this regard, to whom do you find responsible for this ?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Satyavrat Ji, my reaction on this is that whatever you are saying is not correct, I am telling you why it is not correct. Even if had there been correct and had there been any skirmish with the vendors dealing in tea.

[English]

Can it rationalise and justify this kind of a heinous crime ?

[Translation]

I tell you something more. You said that there is a communal sensitivity, I know it. Even people do not know that the Sabarmati Express leaves Ahmedabad at 8.25 p.m. at night and reaches Godhra at 12.55 at night

[English]

that is on the way back.

[Translation]

When it returns its arrival time is 2.55 there and departure time is at 3 o'clock, it means the stoppage is for five minutes. You keep two factor in mind. Five minutes departure at night, who comes out of the train for tea, and who raises slogans due to which this provocation took place. Raising slogans and clashing with tea vendors all these things happened,

[English]

Somehow I have a feeling, I do not know what is the source. But I could not find anyone there on the field in Godhra telling me.

[Translation]

Somnath Babu went there he will have asked. Sonia Ji went there may be she will have also asked. Nobody said there were clashes and continuous tension was there. Today, incidently we knew all about this. That is why, I asked for the timings of Sabarmati Express. On that day, the train arrived three-three and a half hour late. Therefore, the stoppage was at the morning otherwise who will come out of the train to take tea 2.55 and 3 o'clock at night. That vendors would have displeased and angry, this should be find out. I will frankly admit this thing, we have investigated, Gujarat Government does not try to know, there was any kind of apprehension, any accident or incident can occur

here, I will admit this. Otherwise, there is no reason, trains run at right time and simply Karsevaks are going in any train is a normal thing. No incident took place in Uttar Pradesh and I do not understand, it took place only in Godhra. That is why it appears prime-facie that some people will have planned it and I cannot say anything else.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : The four persons who were arrested, were they congress men or not ? . . .
(*Interruptions*)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : No, do not say like this, it happened. Please listen what I was saying.

[*English*]

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore) : I have a clarification to seek. So far as Godhra is concerned, we have been witnessing communal clashes since 1948. What preventive steps have been taken ?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I know that. My earlier Prime Minister, in whose Cabinet I was a Minister, the late Morarji Bhai Desai was the Collector of Godhra when that major incident took place many years ago. I am aware of that. But that would not justify the Gujarat Government posting a police force in Godhra at 3 o' clock in the morning only because some *Kar Sewaks* were passing through that place. But someone can find fault with that. I for one cannot see any reason to blame the Government for not posting policemen at 3 o' clock at night only because Godhra is a place where communal rights have taken place in the past.

Sir, I was speaking about the Army. I can tell you that ordinarily Army is requisitioned by the State Government from the nearest Army Unit. They are told first. Then they check up with their Higher Command and then assistance is given. This was the first occasion when that morning itself, on the 28th, when the situation seemed to be worsening slightly, so far as I am concerned, the Chief Minister of Gujarat spoke to me on the first day, on the 27th saying that he needed para-military forces. I checked up and found that the Rapid Action Force (RAF), which is the CRPF unit trained specifically to deal with communal situations, had four companies present there and I said : "Send them immediately." Those four companies were posted in Ahmedabad to assist the State Government on the 27th itself. On the 28th I sought further companies so that apart from those four Rapid Action Force companies, three BSF companies and two CISF companies were also sent there.

Also in the morning, the Chief Minister contacted the local Army unit, and they said, "we have no Army unit here; we cannot give any Army assistance. You will have to speak to the Centre." Around 2.30 or so, he spoke to me. He said : "we would need Army assistance. We will not be able to do it." Then, I spoke to the hon. Prime Minister and to the Cabinet Secretary. In the meanwhile, he also spoke to the Defence Minister.

You must realise that we are in a situation where the bulk of the Army has been deployed on the frontiers. For the first time in the Indian history, simply to send the Army, to assist the State Government in a law and order situation – which normally everybody knows that the Army does not relish very much – a special meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security had to be convened by the Prime Minister.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Advani-ji, does it mean that if such a situation of this nature develops any movement in any part of India, and the situation demands to get the Army assistance, we will be helpless because it is deployed on the frontiers ?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Let me tell you that I do not want to give you all the details of the discussion that went on there. But if there was some kind of reluctance, it was that this would be a simple tactic for our enemy to create a situation somewhere so that the Army has to be withdrawn. Therefore, we had to wait, and we did it. . . .(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi, he is not yielding.

[*English*]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I am not yielding. . . .
(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

You can not be convinced. . . .(*Interruptions*) and even I had thought that what is the need to call the meeting of Cabinet Committee on security for this but when Prime Minister Sahab. . . .(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

I am not yielding. . . .(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri N. Janardhana Reddy, please take your seat. He is not yielding.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I also felt at a point that what was the need to hold a meeting of special Cabinet Committee on Security. After all, the Prime Minister is there, the Defence Minister is there, and when the Chief Minister has requested for Army assistance, we should immediately order. But after participating in that meeting, I felt that the Prime Minister did the right thing to convene the CCS. In that meeting, even the three Chiefs of the Armed Forces were there. They presented their point of view and then said, "It is for the Government to decide." And, the Government decided that the Army had to go. Then, not only the Army had to go but because I had to make a Statement in the House the next day, therefore, the hon. Prime Minister thought it proper that now when the Army was going, let the Defence Minister also go, and the Defence Minister was deputed. . . .*(Interruptions)* I am not yielding. . . .*(Interruptions)*

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY (Barmer) : It was your delaying tactic. The Army can be summoned by the Chief Minister. . . .*(Interruptions)* I have served in the Army for 27 years. It was just a delaying tactic. . . .*(Interruptions)* You can check it up.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Col. Sona Ram Choudhary, please take your seat. He is not yielding.

(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would request you to take out all the riots of the past where the Army had been summoned. You will find that the time taken in this case has been much less than the earlier times. . . .*(Interruptions)* I do not want to scare any debating points. But I can tell you that in the matter of Army use, the Government has acted very responsibly, and very expeditiously. There has been no delay of any kind.

After that, I had mentioned it to the Congress party leaders, Mrs. Sonia Gandhi is here, late that night, when it was said that the Army has been asked to stand by the leader of the Opposition, through Shri Manmohan Singh conveyed to me that why can it not be said that the Army has been deployed? I said that it would be deployed. It is being sent for that. But it is a phrase that they had themselves chosen earlier. They had suggested to use this phrase. We conceded to that and we said : "All right, we will say that the Army has been asked to stand by." And, we used that phrase, though it was sent. It had been picked up from the distant area and transported by a plane.

So, in these matters, when this criticism about the Army came in, I felt that it is not fair either to the Government or to the Armed Forces.

Therefore, I felt that I need to emphasise that in the use of Army, the Government has been very very responsible and the Government has acted expeditiously. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : I am sorry, Sir, Nobody has cast any aspersions on the Army. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : No. You have not, and I have not said that. I have not said that at all. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : But this is what I understood by what you said. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : No, No. I have not said that. . . .*(Interruptions)*

About the police, I have already said; and I would like to say one thing more. In the case of the police, I have with me a long list of incidents in Ahmedabad itself and in other places also, where the police has done a remarkable work in rescuing members of the minority community. It includes the incident in Gulmarg Society in Chamanpura where Shri Ahsan Jafri and his family were burnt, and where 19 houses were the target of petrol bombs, acid bulbs and burning rugs. The mob set fire to all the 19 houses, one of them belonging to Shri Jafri and his family. Braving mob fury and missiles-type of attacks, the police under the Joint Police Commissioner, DCP, rushed to the site and tried their very best to protect and shift the residents. The police succeeded in saving 180 people including women and children. But unfortunately, the lives of late Jafri and 17 others could not be saved. . . .*(Interruptions)* The point that has been made is this. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : This is totally a different version from what we were told when we visited Gujarat by your own officers. . . .*(Interruptions)* There were only two constables posted there – this is what we were told. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I hope that there would be some record of what has been said there. If that has been recorded, then please look into it. It is a very serious matter, Mr. Home Minister. The Members of Parliament were there. We were given some version and you have been asked to give a different version. We take the strongest exception to this. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : The State Government has informed me that from this Colony in Gulmarg Society, 180 persons had been rescued. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : The Chief Secretary was there, the Home Secretary was there, the Relief Commissioner was there, the DGP was there, the Police Commissioner was also there. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI RASHID ALVI : Shri Pramod Mahajan was there. In his presence, we were told that only two constables were there.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I have already stated that even if a single word has not been uttered after the arrest of 273 people, then it reflects the weakness in presentation. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : We have our own notes also. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : You have now stated that the Deputy Commissioner rushed to the spot. But the fact remains that the Commissioner of Police admitted there that he was not aware of the fact that Shri Jafri might have been killed on that day. It is his official statement; and now you say that the Deputy Commissioner rushed to the spot. But the fact is that only two constables were posted there. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : This is given by DCP of Zone-IV. . . .(Interruptions) Similarly, Somnath Babu, you had mentioned to me about the situation in Bhavnagar. I had an occasion to visit Bhavnagar.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I must thank you and I must express my gratitude to you, Advaniji. It was my mistake; I should have mentioned it during my speech. They told me that after I had requested you and after you directed the Army to go there, the people had been protected. That is why, people asked for posting of the Army, I must thank you because you immediately acted on that.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Somnath Babu, what I am referring is something else. When I visited Somnath, I met the officials there; I met the police officials there; I inquired from them about the situation there. I asked them as to how many persons had died there. They told me that two people died in communal violence and three in police firing.

This is one aspect. But the more important aspect is that they said that the target of people's anger there was a *madarsa* just outside Bhavnagar or at a little distance from Bhavnagar. The villagers all around were assembling to set the *madarsa* on fire, particularly because rumours started spreading that Aftab Ansari's brother had taken training there. They said that they immediately rushed there; they took all the 400 children who were studying there along with two or three *maulvis* who were teachers there and they had brought them to the city.

We kept them at a safe place. Some of the children and some *Maulvies* also later came and met me. They were very grateful to me. Therefore, I say that there have been lapses by the police here and there. I do not deny it. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : It was only because of your intervention.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : No, not because of my intervention. I can only say that sweeping condemnation of the police of Gujarat and to accuse them of being colluding in this State-sponsored genocide is *prima facie* highly unfair. If inquiry brings out something, it is different. . . .(Interruptions) So far as I am concerned, I would like to refer to one thing, Sir, and then conclude. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL : When you are giving certificates to them why are you conducting the inquiry. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Who did the mistake, I say that lapses and mistakes would have occurred but sweeping condemnation should not be done. It is my submission. I am not saying that something will come out and that will be better if it happens, there is no difficulty in that. At least I know.

[English]

I would certainly plead with you that our responses to crisis situation should be more mature. There have been Godhra, Chamanpura and Rajkot tragedies. I remember, in the other House a senior Member said that Gujarat is facing tragedy after tragedy. Last year, it faced a natural earthquake. This year it has faced a man-made earthquake. I said him that he is very right but what is our response. Not only this time but I recall when there was that natural earthquake last year, the end of the discussion was that

[Shri L.K. Advani]

Shri Keshubhai Patel must resign. So, it does not surprise me if this time also it is the same old cry that Shri Narendra Modi should go. . . .(Interruptions) I am afraid, I do not feel happy tracing another country but I do say that 11th September in Amercia was a grave tragedy for them but the response of the country as a whole, of all the political parties there and of the Members of Parliament was something that made me wonder. . . .(Interruptions) I am not yielding. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai) : Osama bin Laden was not the Mayor of New York. Shri Narendra Modi is the Chief Minister of Gujarat. How can you compare the two ? . . .(Interruptions) You may not yield. . . .(Interruptions) You cannot make this kind of a statement. Was Osama bin Laden a Mayor of New York ? We are assuring Shri Narendra Modi, the Chief Minister of Gujarat of being hand- in-glove with those who are responsible for the killings of thousands of people in Gujarat. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : If he were hand-in-glove, why should Gujarat be the only place in the country where so many persons died in police firing ? If Ahmedabad and these riots were to be the only riots in the history of India where hundred persons have been killed in police firing, how would that had happened ? Therefore, I believe that this kind of sweeping allegations either against the police or against the administration or against the Chief Minister are totally unjustified. . . .(Interruptions)

I have nothing more to add and I have ended. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : This is nothing but an insult. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : There is one point which has remained unanswered and we would like to have a response from the Government. That point relates to the inquiry. An inquiry is being ordered. That inquiry is likely to be conducted by a retired judge of the High Court. The demand from all sides, even from their coalition partners also, is that it should be conducted by a sitting judge of the Supreme Court, assisted by two High Court judges.

That kind of tribunal should be constituted. You look into the matter. It is a very serious matter. If it is a matter in which there are two opinions about the duties preformed

by those who were expected to perform their duties, we would like to know from the Union Government whether this demand of the House would be accepted or not.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Honourable Home Minister Ji has presented many of his points but he should have announced about the compensation. This was an opportunity for him and a good message goes out of this.

Secondly, I and the leader of the opposition also said that investigation should be conducted, by a sitting Judge of Supreme Court. You should not have any difficulty by this investigation and you should announce about that. There should be announcement about compensation so that victims should feel that they have received some relief. . . .(Interruptions) The help which they are receiving is not on the part of the Government but from the voluntary organisations in the camps.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : As regard relief camps, it is said that these are privately organised relief camps. If it is so, what the Government is doing ?

[Translation]

SHRI J.S. BRAR : Honourable Home Minister Ji, has commented in the last of his speech that there is a need of mature reaction. I would like to ask one question. His recorded statement of 6th December, 1992 is there before demolishing of the mosque. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL : there was no mosque at all, worship was going on there. Daily. . . .(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : All right, then, say that temple was demolish. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI J.S. BRAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask to Honourable Home Minister that his one statement which is the topic of discussion in the world that today is the last day of Kar-Seva and today Kar-Sevak will do the last service. The mosque has demolished because of his statement. Was it his mature statement ? They teach us maturity, I will welcome him. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Honourable Home Minister, Sir, constitute a Commission on what had happened in Bengal. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on earthquake rocked the Gujarat and now these incidents took place in Godhra and in Gujarat. It seems to me that Home department should conduct the inquiry into the whole episode. It seems that Ram Rath Yatra was started from Gujarat after that Ayodhya issue was cropped up. My friends are saying that temple was there then you people admit that you have demolished the Ram Temple. Once Hindus come to know that they have demolished the Ram temple then what will happen to them ?

The point is that when the country got freedom in 1947, at that time whether there was a Ram Temple or mosque in Ayodhya. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You are not asking the question, so take your seat.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : I have only to say this that where there was a Ram Temple. Ram Temple is there and where there was a mosque, mosque is there. If you look the History, then you will understand. There was no Ram Rajya in this country. You say that Ram Rajya has come but it is going to be over soon. If you will not do justice with the people of Gujarat then we will speak against the Government. Efforts should be made to maintain peace there. If you will work in the right directions, you remain in power otherwise we will deprive you of the power. . . .(Interruptions) Whether there was a mosque or a temple, we seek reply from the Home Minister.

[English]

SHRI PRABODH PANDA : Sir, I want to ask a question.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You have already asked a question.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA : Sir, it has appeared in the Press that several mosques have been demolished. What is the attitude of the Government ? Are they willing to rebuild those mosques ? . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Hon. Member Shri Shivraj Patil has suggested the appointment of a Supreme Court Judge to conduct the inquiry. Here is a situation where a State Government has decided on a judicial inquiry and even named a retired judge of the High Court. Therefore, I do not think it would be right for me to reverse a State Government's judgement in this manner arbitrarily.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Miryalguda) : What is the difficulty ? When the Chief Minister is facing charges of complicity, how can you allow him to choose the Judge ?

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : This is the consensus of even the coalition partners of the NDA and others. If you cannot accept it, then I am sorry.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : It is a matter in which I have known in the past that when we wanted a sitting judge, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court did not permit us and said that we must have a retired judge.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : It is a holocaust. We must have the inquiry at the highest level. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : It is a suggestion. I will convey it to the Prime Minister and we will see what can be done.

I so far as the issues raised by Shri Somnath Chatterjee, quoting from the White Paper of the BJP, are concerned, I can only say that these are matters which I have referred to and replied in details before the Liberhan Commission.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : We are not satisfied and therefore we are staging a walk-out.

21.44 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Somnath Chatterjee and some other hon. Members left the House.

21.44-½ hrs.

At this stage, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and some other hon. Members left the House.

(Interruptions)

21.45 hrs.

OBSERVATION BY THE DEPUTY SPEAKER Maintaining Communal Harmony and Peace

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Hon. Members, before, we conclude, I would also like to associate myself with all the leaders and Members who have expressed in the House sentiments of maintaining communal harmony and peace. India is a land of sages who preached and professed the

lofty ideals of universal brotherhood and equality of all religions. Let us rededicate ourselves today to these lofty ideals. We are committed to the principles of democracy and secularism enshrined in the Constitution of India and also to the maintenance of communal harmony and amity between different sections of the society. Let us give a message to the world from this august House that the nefarious designs of communal and divisive forces to destabilise this country will never succeed.

The House stands adjourned to meet on Wednesday, the 13th March, 2002 at 11 a.m.

21.46 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the
Clock on Wednesday, March 13, 2002/
Phalguna 22, 1923 (Saka)*

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