

like to bring it to the notice of the House that all the required facilities are available at Nagpur and Nagpur is located at a central point of the country. It is the most appropriate site from transport and academic point of view. The people have launched an agitation over this demand and also to oppose the present decision of the Government. Hence, through you, I would like to make a request to the Government to help us in giving justice to the people of Vidarbha, especially the people of Nagpur. I also urge upon the Prime Minister to help us in withholding the implementation of the decision taken by the Government of Maharashtra abruptly to set up this Institute at Nasik. We also expect you to prevent such an injustice meted out to Vidarbha.

[English]

SHRI V. SATHIAMOORTHY (Ramanathapuram) : Mr. Speaker in Tamil Nadu thousands of fishermen used to go deep sea by mechanised boats in Rameshwaram, Thondi, Keelakeral, Erwadi, Vaalinokkam and Mookaiyur coastal area and fishing export variety of fish only. For the past fifteen days, the exporters in fishing market refused to give usual and reasonable price as already offered. It is unfortunate that the exporters are explaining that international market has gone down due to the nuclear tests in India. It is not true. All the exporters in these areas by joining together are trying to exploit the fishing community. The fishermen are not ready to fish because the expenditure incurred is too high compared to the price offered. Thousands of fishing families are suffering a lot due to the extraordinary situation. Our Government may take immediate steps to fetch reasonable price from the exporters and thus save the starving poor fishermen community in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH (Inner Manipur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to draw your attention to the mass atrocities and rigging in the Panchayat elections in West Bengal. It has been reported that about 65 persons have been killed in the pre and post Panchayat elections in West Bengal. The dead include candidate and women also.

The Panchayat elections involve participation of political and social workers at the grassroots level. The massive rigging and capturing of booths along with violence of this magnitude is not a healthy sign for democracy.

The CPI(M) cadre has been engaged in terrorising the workers of the Trinamul Congress and BJP before and after the Panchayat elections. The atrocities are more pronounced on Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, OBCs and minorities. Many houses been burnt down making thousands of workers of Trinamul Congress and BJP supporters homeless. There are reported cases of rape and extortion also. ... (Interruptions)

The victims affected by the post-election violence have migrated to Calcutta as they feel insecure in their own homes, villages and towns. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Chaoba Singh, you should not read, but you can make your points. During the Zero Hour, you should not read from any papers.

SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH : Sir, I have given my notice under Rule 377.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly) : Sir, he is making baseless allegations.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Chaoba Singh, you can mention your point, but you should not read. Please conclude now.

SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH : The smooth conduct of Panchayat elections is the sole responsibility of the State Government.

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH : In case of West Bengal, not only the State Government has failed in maintaining the law and order during the elections. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : That will not go on record. Shri Ahamed to speak now.

(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, whatever he has stated should be removed from the records.

SHRI E. AHAMED : Sir, I would like to raise a matter of urgent public importance, which I have raised in this House in the Eleventh Lok Sabha also.

I would like to know about the Government's policy regarding those prisoners who are still languishing under the TADA. Though TADA has been allowed to be lapsed, thousands of prisoners are still languishing in the jails. The Government should either review their cases and if they are found guilty, they should be convicted, or they should be released. Ours is a democratic State and we are proud of the fact that we are having this democratic process. But in the matter of TADA prisoners, whichever Government comes into power, they are really passive and lethargic.

Sir, human rights should be given priority and we should respect them. It is almost like saying 'Long live the King' after the King is dead. TADA has been allowed to be lapsed, but the prisoners are still languishing in the jails.

I would like to know about the policy of this Government on this matter, whether their cases would be reviewed immediately from the point of human rights and whether natural justice would be done to them. This is the only issue that I would like to raise here. These TADA prisoners are languishing in the jails. Right from the *coolie* to the cine-star have been arrested under TADA, and whoever was in a position to get out of it has already gone. But the poor people and those who are not even connected with it, including the minors, are still languishing in the jails.

*Not Recorded