

independent-minded people heading it, then this Commission is nothing but a hogwash, nothing but a whitewash and nothing but to placate the poor aggrieved Indian women to say that here are the few crumbs, take it and go. If the Prime Minister is serious, if the Prime Minister really wants to do something for the women of India, let him arm the National Commission Bill and the National Commission with statutory powers and see that all its recommendations are implemented on a time-bound frame. I did not want to make this a very political speech. I wanted the Prime Minister first to hear all the women, to hear the representatives of the women of India before he made his speech and before he made his submissions. I think, after we have all spoken, it would be nice for the Prime Minister can reply to everyone of us and to assure us that the women of India, tomorrow, will have protection from the Constitution and say that we can go to Court to get our rights.

SHRISONTOSH MOHANDEV (Tripura West) The Prime Minister is very obliging to the ladies. I think he will again intervene.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You want the intervention or the reply. The hon. Minister will reply.

SHRIMATISUBHASHINI ALI (Kanpur): Sir, I do not think we can allow this kind of patronising talk. I object to this.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI HAMENDRA SINGH BANESA (Bhilwara). Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir before the discussion under rule 193 is taken up. I would like to give an important information to the House. In Jaipur, a School bus collided with a train and 8-10 children were killed in the accident. Our Railway Minister has not yet given any statement in the House in this regard. I would request him to make a statement thereon. *(Interruptions)*

16.00 hrs.

SHRI JAG PAL SINGH (Hardwar): I also support my colleague that such a big accident has occurred but till now no statement has been made in the House either by the Railway Minister or by his Deputy. Sir, Please direct the Government to make a statement.

16.01 hrs.

#### DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

#### Continued Atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Country

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, discussion under rule 193 to be initiated by Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh.

*[Translation]*

KUMARI MAYAWATI (Bijnor): I am on a point of order. Since it is the question of atrocities, it is a very serious matter. On this occasion presence of the hon. Minister of Home Affairs and the hon. Prime Minister in the House is very necessary. Both the hon. Minister of Home Affairs as well as the hon. Prime Minister have disappeared. We will not allow any discussion to take place in the House on this subject in their absence. I am on a point of order. It is a serious matter, because Shri V. P. Singh himself is a culprit in the Agra incident and this is the reason that he left the House. The moment matter under Rule 193 was taken up for discussion he left the House. He is himself the culprit in the case and was behind the incident. As such, the discussion should be started only when either of the two, the Home Minister or the Prime Minister, in present is the House.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): A clarification has been sought in the Rajya

[Sh. Ram Vilas Paswan]

Sabha in connection with the Mandal Commission Report. The hon. Prime Minister has gone there is that connection. There is no question of going away (*Interruptions*)

**KUMARI MAYAWATI:** The hon. Minister of Home Affairs may please be called here. It is a very serious matter.

**SHRI R. N. RAKESH (Chail):** What she says is correct. Either of the two, the Home Minister or the Prime Minister, should be called. Till such time this discussion should not be started.....(*Interruptions*) .....That is why I am requesting you to tell Prime Minister about this. How long will he hide himself from these misdeeds. (*Interruptions*)

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Please take your seat. Two hours have been allotted for discussion on this subject and every hon. Member wishes to express his views in this regard. I am of the view that when the discussion takes place. The hon. Minister who is present in the House, will note down the points. The hon. Minister of Home Affairs is not available in the other House. Either he or his deputy is expected here any moment. Please take your seat.

(*Interruptions*)

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** If you people have no interest in the discussion, I would let the House run the way it is running right now. If you have any interest in the discussion. I shall let the discussion start.

**KUMARI MAYAWATI:** Please call the hon. Minister of Home Affairs. We have no faith in Shri Ram Vilas Paswan.

[*English*]

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I cannot do that.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI R. N. RAKESH:** I made a request

that this discussion should be taken up after 2 O'clock, but it has been Scheduled for 4 O'clock. Though the subject under discussion concerns the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, neither the Home Minister nor the Prime Minister is present in the House.

**KUMARI MAYAWATI:** The hon. Minister of Home Affairs should be called.

**SHRI R. N. RAKESH:** Leasing aside this matter for the time being. Let the hon. Minister of Home Affairs and the hon. Prime Minister be called here. Since this matter relates to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, let the discussion be taken up at 4 O'clock. In the morning I was given an assurance that it will be considered for being taken up at 2 O'clock (*Interruptions*)

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Please take your seat. Mayawati ji, please sit down. You might have carefully listened what I said. I said that time has been allotted 2 Hours time has been allotted for discussion on this subject and during these two hours you have to express your views. If you want to raise unimportant matters, it is upto you. I have also said that the hon. Minister who is sitting here, will note down everything. I was told that the hon. Minister, who is in charge of this department, is present here. I also said that it will be for better if the hon. Minister of Home Affairs also comes. Hereafter I cannot give any direction. It will be good if you hold on discussion. I also wish that instead of wasting time like this, you should initiate the discussion.

**KUMARI MAYAWATI:** Both the hon. Minister of Home Affairs as well as the Prime Minister should be called here. (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI K. S. RAO:** Does the Parliamentary Affairs Minister say that they pay this much small attention to such a major issue like atrocities on Scheduled Castes and women or is the Minister of Home Affairs or the Minister of State for Home not available in Delhi?

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister in charge is present in the House.

*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: (Almora): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, earlier also whenever a discussion on matters connected with atrocities on Harijans was taken up, the House wished that the hon. Minister of Home Affairs should also remain present in the House alongwith the Concerned Minister. The hon Minister of Home Affairs remained present on all such earlier occasions. It is a matter of distress that incidents of atrocities on Harijans are taking place in Agra in Uttar Pradesh and several other parts of the country Mayawati ji has rightly said that on this occasion, the hon Minister of Home Affairs must be present in the House If for some reasons, it was not possible for him to be present in the House, the hon Minister of State for home Affairs should have been present, because it is a matter of law and order. In view of the I feel that even if the discussion has to be adjourned for 10 minutes, the hon. Minister of State for Home Affairs and his senior colleague must be present in the House

KUMARI MAYAWATI. It is a law and order problem and presence of the Home Minister in the House is a must.

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: Law and order is a State subject

KUMARI MAYAWATI: When the Statement was made by the hon. Minister of Home Affairs, he should remain present here.

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are not understanding.

*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P.

UPENDRA): Sir,.....(*Interruptions*).....

KUMARI MAYAWATI: We are not prepared to listen. Please call the hon. Minister of Home Affairs.

SHRI P. UPENDRA: Please sit down. ....(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If you do not want to utilise the time for speech, it is a different thing.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: It is a common feature. It is for the first time the Government is trying to dilute the gravity of the matter.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM LAL RAHI (Misrikh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, atrocities are being Committed on Harijans..... (*Interruptions*) Two hours, time was given and both the hon. Minister of state for Home Affairs as well as the Minister of Home Affairs are not present here.....(*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAYAWATI. We want the Home Minister here, we want the Prime Minister .....(*Interruptions*) .....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. look, you have already said what you had to say and all the hon. Ministers who are present here, have heard that. If they want to reply to these points or say something, you people are not prepared to listen to them or you take pleasure in saying one thing or the other, It is also not going to serve any purpose.... ..(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI P. UPENDRA: If they do not hear me, I will not respond at all please sit down. Why should I respond at all? Let them shout.

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No purpose is going to be served by your making noise

like this. Please listen to the replies also in response to what you have said. Please listen what the hon. Minister wants to say. I would also like to make an appeal to the whips of various parties to discuss this thing in their respective parties and help to conduct the business of the House. Everybody thinks that he can rise from his seat and speak whatever he likes. In this way it will be difficult for the hon. Speaker also to control the situation. It is not proper. It will result in loss of your time only. If you people are dissatisfied, you speak one by one. But before doing so, please listen to the hon. Minister first. You said that the hon. Minister of Home Affairs should be present here. I said that hon. Minister is sitting here. I also said that since the matter relates to atrocities, I have called the hon. Minister of Home Affairs. Before he comes, please listen to the hon. Minister of Welfare who is present here and getting up again and again to make his point. It does not look nice. First of all, all of you should listen to him and thereafter make your points which you feel appropriate. Your points will be fully heard.

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Sir, I want to make a concrete proposal. I appeal to all my brethren and sisters to listen to my concrete proposal and to the Parliamentary Affairs Minister. Will you allow me? (Interruptions) May I make a concrete proposal? At the instance of the whole House, we urgently took up this discussion today and it was settled at 4 of the clock. Now, these friends are saying that urgency will be there only when the Home Minister comes. I propose in that case that let us proceed with the.....National Commission for Women Bill and when everyone will be available this discussion may be taken up. Why I am saying this is because yesterday great urgency was attached to this subject. Those who are shouting here, they proposed to me to have a brief discussion on the National Commission for Women so that the subject under discussion could be taken up earlier. I agree that I will finish within five minutes. Now I am seeing an entirely differ-

ent thing. So, this is my concrete proposal. I wish the Parliamentary Affairs Minister to react to this.

SHRI P. UPENDRA: Sir, atrocities on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes do not involve only a law and order problem but much more than that. That is why we are discussing it in this House. Otherwise, law and order is a State subject. You can easily say that it is a State subject. So, why we are discussing it is, it is much more than the law and order problem. Many more things are involved here. Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission is under the charge of Shri Paswan and welfare of Scheduled Castes is under his control. But still we ask the Home Minister to come so that. While law and order is involved he will deal with it. He will reply to law and order problem. But we are here to take note of the issues until he comes. Therefore, they cannot say that till the Home Minister comes, we should not start the discussion and we should postpone it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think it should satisfy the hon. Members.

[Translation]

KUMARIMAYAWATI: Why did Shri Ram Vilas Paswan make the statement, why the statement was not made by the hon. Minister of Home Affairs?

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: What is the hon. Minister's response to my proposal?.....(Interruptions) .....

SHRI P. UPENDRA: He has already given a statement about the clashes earlier in the House.

[Translation]

SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO (Karimnagar): As regards the discussion being held on Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs said

that the Minister of Welfare does not enjoy much of powers.

We will welcome Shri Paswan, if the powers of checking atrocities, given to the Home Minister and the Prime Minister are given to him by the Government.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is a state problem.

SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: I would like to submit that you are asking us to express our views, but why should we do this?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It goes on the record

SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: It is for the records, but this doesn't assure any commitment on the part of the Government. It is a big issue. So, if the hon. home Minister is not present, the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs should authorise Shri Paswan in this regard and we will welcome him.

[English]

SHRIP. UPENDRA. Government is one. Any Minister can take note of it. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when this issue was raised in the House yesterday morning by Mayawatiji, the reply to it was given by the Home Minister. So, it is perfectly in order on her part to demand that the Home Minister should be present or alternatively the Minister of State. I am not casting any reflection on our good friend Shri Ram Vilas Paswan. I also recognise that there is a question of joint responsibility. But I would appeal to the Treasury Benches that even as Shri Ram Vilas Paswan listens to it, the Home Minister should be requested to be present here at the earliest. Mayawatiji has said that at least Shri Subodh Kant Sahay should be here. Since he is new here, I would request Mayawatiji to agree to start the discussion. (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

KUMARI MAYAWATI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has expressed the same views as I have expressed. As I have just said, if the hon. Home Minister is busy on some account, he can be called 10-15 minutes later and in his absence, the discussion can be started in the presence of Shri Subodh Kant Sahay. But the Home Minister should be called within 10-15 minutes. The discussion can be started now, but it is the duty of the Parliamentary Affairs Minister, who is the party whip also, to bring the Home Minister here. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jehanabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am going to initiate discussion on the continued atrocities on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. A debate on this issue was held during the Eighth Lok Sabha also and now it is going to be held in the Ninth Lok Sabha. When there are atrocities, we make it an issue of discussion and think that our duty has been done by just discussing it.

Sir, this issue has become a national issue and in order to overcome such national problems, it is necessary that the Government should have political will and strength. Until these two things are there, these issues will remain complicated and no one can bring them under control. Today, what we see is that both the present and the previous Government were lacking in these two things that is, political will and strength. These incidents are taking place due to this reason only.

Secondly, what are the reasons that the political will and political courage is lacking? It is so because the politics is getting criminalised. A lot of criminal activities are taking place under political shelter. It is the reason for non-emergence of political will and courage, whosoever is the Government. The Government says that their's is value-based politics, but now can it be so. There is continuous increase in atrocities on these people in our country today and we say that our struggle is also continuing. There is a phrase

[Sh. Ramashray Prasad Singh]

in the Ramayana "Jas-jas Sursa badan barhava, tahi dugun kapi roop dikhava" Despite our constituting many special courts, there is rapid increase in the crime rate. The House should pay attention towards this issue. Mere discussion will not be of any use. I would like to submit that atrocities are being committed on these castes from three sides. Number one are the people belonging to majority community and having feudalistic mentality, the other is the police and the third one is the administration, Atrocities are being committed on them from all these three sides and they are tolerating them. Just now the hon. Home Minister made a statement regarding Agra. Is it proper for the Home Minister of a country to make such a statement? does it not lower the image of the country? Is this the unity and integrity of our country? Is this humanity? It is an issue for consideration. We usually take this issue in a very light manner. Whosoever is the Government, the opposition passes on the entire blame to the Government. Whoever is committing these atrocities, is doing so against humanity. Attention should be paid towards this issue. Irrespective of the party to which the Government belongs, it must solve the issue. Barberous treatment has been meted out to these people in Agra, Banaras, Ghazipur, districts of Uttar Pradesh. In this connection, the C.P.I. organised a group of people belonging to scheduled castes, who could narrate the tale of their woe to the Government. The Government says that they are following value-based politics. Then it was their duty to listen to those people and act accordingly. But instead of doing that, they were beaten up by the police. The Member of Parliament Shri Saijwan and two M.L. As. were badly injured. They remained in the hospital for several days. Many others were also beaten up. Is this the democratic Government? Was not it our right? We followed the democratic way only. We were doing it under law. What was the result. We were lathi-charged and injuries were caused to us in the process. Not even an enquiry was ordered into the matter and the Government says that they work for

the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. So far they have been only toyed with and the result is that even after 43 years of governance, such atrocities continue to be committed on their womenfolk.

You are aware that I belong to Jahana- bad which is my constituency also. Jahana- bad has become a sensitive area for some years. Our former Prime Minister had stated in his address from the Red Fort on the 15th of August that a lot of atrocities are being committed on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Jahanabad. When a person belonging to Scheduled Caste raises his voice to demand his rights, he is beaten up by the police. They want that the minimum wages fixed by the Government should be implemented. The Harijans in village Sarthua in Ghosi block have fled their homes. A police force has been posted there for the repression of those people. Is it not a matter of shame that such atrocities are being committed on them? Their properties were looted by the landlords there. As they were scared of the police force and landlords, they had fled the villages. This will continue to happen until the Government has the political will and courage to stop such things. Whenever a Harijan goes to the police station to lodge a report, the policemen are callors. Their palms are greased and they hush up the case. The rightful person never gets his right in such a system. We can give vent to our feelings and sentiments by discussing it here, but what is the result after all? Merely paying lip-service will not make this discussion effective. Until the Government uses its political will and courage together, this problem cannot be checked. Today, the Harijans are mentally, economically, physically, educationally and politically exploited. Unless such exploitations are stopped, there can be no amelioration of their lot. Even State Governments do not give them scholarships. As a result their children are forced to drop out and give up study. Sometimes they do not receive money even for five years. It has been stated that scheduled caste people are being given economic assistance for continuing education. But it is wrong and the money granted for this pur-

pose is being spent on other heads.

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** You have spoken for a long time and I have a long list of Members desirous of speaking.

**SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH:** There is a separate system of education for savarna (Caste) people and the Harijans are kept in animal like conditions. Even those villages which have more than one thousand population are without schools. Even today they do not get pure drinking water and are forced to drink the water of muddy wells. It is very difficult to defend such a Government in any nation. This Government has done certain commendable works like the formation of 'Commission for Women'. But it is useless to accuse the previous Government of its misdeeds. It would not be good if you repeat their mistakes. You would have to prove your commitments for poor people within the time given to you. I would like to apprise you of the condition in my areas. The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs hails from Bihar. I would like him to conduct an enquiry into the atrocities to which Harijans and Adivasis are being subjected in Bihar. Many people have left their homes and fled away due to excesses. In Badaki Kalpan of Jahanabad forty families left their homes and no culprit has been apprehended. The Government thus has double standards. On the one hand it is a silent spectator to the atrocities on Harijans and on the other it talks of the amelioration of the lot of Harijans, Girijans and other weaker sections. The people of my village fled their homes because of fear of police post there. Their children are on roads. Harijans and Girijans are being subjected to atrocities by the administration as well as the big people. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you should consider this matter seriously and force the Government to control the situation. Only then there would be no need of such a debate in future. Otherwise, there would be no end to discussion on it even in Ninth or tenth Lok Sabha and there would be no check on such atrocities.

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I have ten names from Congress and the time allotted

is just 41 minutes. Therefore, you will have to adjust accordingly. Shri Jag Pal Singh.

**SHRI JAG PAL SINGH (Hardwar):** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the people sitting on treasure benches used to protest a lot over any incident of atrocity on Harijans when they were in the opposition. Shri Ram Vilas Paswanji did so in particular. During the days of Congress all such discussions lasted for 8 to 10 hours and no such discussion lasted for less than 6 hours. Now by fixing just two hours for this debate the Government has displayed as to how much concern it has for Harijans! I would like to request that this discussion should be continued till late in the night today or till tomorrow so that a detailed discussion is held on this topic since it is not concerned with just a few people of the country. It concerns 32 crore people of this country. There was Congress rule in the country just 8 to 10 months back and people were proud of the fact that there was democracy in the country. But within 8 to 10 months it has been proved that what we have today is no more a people's rule (democracy) but a caste rule. Some particular castes have begun to think that it is their Government. They think that they can disgrace or humiliate any woman, Harijan or Girijan and go scot free. In Shajapur village some big people disgrace the young girls and shoot the young persons belonging to Harijans or weaker sections like Jhivar. There is no young girl or bride in that village who has not been dishonoured. The people of neighbouring villages have given them clothes. Neither the Chief Minister nor any other Minister of Uttar Pradesh has ever visited that village. Similarly neither Central Minister nor the Prime Minister has ever gone there. There can be no greater shame for this Government than this. The Panwari Carnage is the biggest incident of atrocities on Harijans in post-independent India. At least 25 thousand people, as per the report of officials and 40 thousands as per the report of Congress president Rajendra Kumari Bajpai, attacked the villages of Panwari like Akola, Bhadai, Saiyan, Gairakhurd, Gairkalan and Jadoi. I would like to know from the Government.....(Interruptions) ...Mr. Deputy

[Sh. Jagpal Singh]

Speaker, Sir, even the villagers said that 40 thousand people attacked them. The conflict started on 14th and the *Baraat* was taken out on 21st. The Jatavas of that locality had warned the District Magistrate as well as S.S.P. that preparations were being made to attack them. Is it possible that 40 thousand people from Bharatpur, Bhind, Morena and Mathura gathered to attack the Jatavas and the Government did not have any information. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, not only this, when the D.M. and S.S.P. found themselves trapped they gave orders to the PAC for firing, which the P.A.C. disobeyed. Later an air shot was fired by snatching a rifle from a cop and D. M. and S. S.P. fled from the scene leaving behind forty thousand people free to kill or burn alive the Harijans of Panwari.....  
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Jag Pal Singhji please sit down. I request the hon. Members to refrain from interrupting him. They too will get time to speak. I will surely give them time.

SHRI JAG PAL SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, no minister has contradicted the report about 40 thousand strong mob published in 'The Times of India' dated 25-6-90. It means that Government has admitted that the attack was launched by 40 thousand people. I would like to submit that if the State Administration was a mute spectator to the entire incident and could not control 40 thousand strong mob, can there be a greater failure than this? Besides, in Akola 150 houses of Harijans were gutted and the utensils, pots and jewellery were looted. P.A.C. was a silent spectator. 14 villages were completely deserted and people of these villages fled away. One and a half dozen women and children are still missing. In addition to the 4 persons of P.A.C. who were killed in Agra, 14 other were also killed. I charge this Government of giving a licence to a particular caste to kill people of weaker sections in whichever way they liked, by burning or by shooting. If Jatavs of Agra had

not opposed this atrocity they would not have been killed by P. A.C. In all 350 persons of other communities were arrested there. You can see it for yourself that the marauders and robbers were neither arrested or sent to jails. Therefore, this caste based machinery in the country poses the greatest threat to the integration of nation and society. A similar incident took place in Mandavari village of Chittorgarh. It has been alleged in the newspapers that these Kanjars were brought into an open field by B.J.P. in connivance with Police. Police had assured them that they will not be harmed but the police remained a mute spectator there. Thereafter hundreds of people attacked those *Kanjars* (nomadic tribe) with sticks, spears, lances and guns. Nine people were killed on the spot. This is what happened in Chittorgarh. Similar incidents have taken place at Pantallah in Calcutta, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. Such incidents have taken place in the Prime Minister's constituency also. Innocent Harijans are being killed. What sort of justice is this? If a Harijan refuses to send his beautiful wife to a feudal lord the Harijan is burnt to death. What kind of justice is this? Such atrocities by the feudal lords can never be tolerated whether they occur in the Congress regime or any other regime for that matter. It is a fact that in the last eight months the number of cases of atrocities are far more than the atrocities that took place during the last 40-42 years of Independence. The most dangerous aspect is that two days before the visit of Shri Rajiv Gandhi to Agra the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh visited that place. In Agra the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh commended the administration for their action. (Interruptions) I am saying that the Chief Minister went to Agra and applauded the administration. I am also charging the Chief Minister for having visited Agra after people from fourteen villages fled. Nobody visited Panwari, Akola, Gairakhurd and Gairakalan etc. Even then how could the Chief Minister know about the number of Harijan houses gutted and the number of Harijans killed. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the compensation announced by the State administration for the Harijan families has not been distributed so far. What a shame!



Not only this, during the last eight months a handful of custodians of society have started interfering in the affairs of the Executive and Judiciary. How will our democracy survive under these circumstances. If justice cannot be expected from the Executive and the Judiciary what will be the future of this country. Today, if a Harijan knocks at the doors of Judiciary he does not get justice instead he is punished. This has happened in Banaskantha in Gujarat. Some caste Hindus had some grudge against a Harijan there. They first thrashed that Harijan in an open field. Thereafter he was hanged to death on a tree as a punishment. It appears as if all of us have come to this country from a foreign land. We have not come from abroad. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that in this country Governments will keep on changing but if act, of oppression and atrocities on the 25 crore people of this country are not checked even after 42-43 years of attaining Independence this country cannot be saved. I know that the extremists of Punjab, Kashmir Assam and extremists of other places in the country, despite their extreme efforts, will not succeed in disintegrating this nation but if the atrocities committed on the people for the last five thousand years continue unabated, the day is not far when we will take revenge for these atrocities unitedly. Then no one can stop us and no one can save this nation from disintegration. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have worked in the factories quietly, in tattered clothes and without enough to eat. We have lived in adverse circumstances but even then our mothers and daughters never bore ill-will against this country while working in the fields. But today the Government is so crippled and helpless that they are not in a position even to face them.

I will finish after submitting one more point. In these riots, limbs of about 650 people have been broken and despite this the Prime Minister has played a cruel joke on them. Sitting in Delhi, he made an announcement granting a relief of Rs. 5 lakhs to the people who lost their houses and whose limbs were broken, on the report of Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav. Can there be more

crude a joke than the Prime Minister announcing a relief of Rs. 5 lakhs for the people who have been injured or killed in a carnage of such a magnitude. In this incident about 200 people were injured, a dozen and a half were killed and the Prime Minister has cut a cruel joke on the Jatavs of Agra by granting Rs. 5 lakhs to them. I demand that a central team be sent to Agra to make an assessment of the number of houses gutted, the number of people killed and injured and those who lost their limbs. Thereafter you make a statement in this House about the exact loss and decide about the compensation on that basis. It is not proper for the Prime Minister to announce relief on the basis of the information given by Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav.

I will conclude after making one more point. The treatment given by the State Government to Shri Rajiv Gandhi who is the leader of the largest party in India is very objectionable. Shri Rajiv Gandhi contacted the district administration from Delhi and informed them about the time of his arrival. The attitude of the administration was all right when he proceeded from Agra station towards the hospital as the people had come on the roads in lakhs after defying the curfew to greet him. Thereafter Shri Rajiv Gandhi was not allowed to go round the areas which were under curfew. He was to go round the areas where people had suffered heavy loss. Besides this while going from Panwari to Akola the administration blocked the way of Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the barriers were brought down. Under the circumstances he had to take the route via fields and his car got stuck up in the fields. Thereafter the D.M. and S.S.P. escorted Shri Rajiv Gandhi to the railway station in their vehicle. Can the voice of the people be suppressed like this in India? Can the voice of the leader of the largest party be suppressed like this?

I read a news item published in "People's Democracy" a prominent newspaper of the Polit Bureau of CPI(M). It was reported that the Congress Party was behind this incident. Can this newspaper prove it? I want to ask from the members of the Marxist Party

[Sh. Jagpal Singh]

whether the marriage procession of Harijans was stopped by the Congress workers. At least the leaders of left parties should think like this. If we too say that such and such worker of the C.P.I. (M) was behind the entire incident it would not look nice. A responsible party's newspaper should not publish news reports in bad taste.

If a worker is injured in a factory in an accident incapacitating him for life, the trade union of the left party takes out a procession and demands compensation for the victim. If people are killed in Punjab or Kashmir then the BJP and VHP gives a call for bandh in Delhi, Punjab and Haryana. It is good and this should be done. We should work unitedly for it. But when Harijans are killed, burnt alive, hanged or their houses gutted no political party in India gives a call for Bandh in Delhi, U P or Haryana. I wish to urge upon the leaders of all parties to unite themselves and take to streets to provide social justice to the poor. Then only injustice would stop.

With these words, I conclude.

CHAUDHARY MULTAN SINGH (Jalesar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today a discussion is being held here on the incident in Agra. Agra is my area. I have been an MLA from there on two occasions. A committee comprising five people was set up of which Shri Suman, who is present here, was also a member. I had visited each and every village of that area. The conflict took place only in two villages—Panwari and Akola. The conflict is over a disputed 12 bighas of land. Seventeen years ago 12 bighas of land was sold by a Jatav to a Jat. A Congress man went there and asked for the return of the sale deed. The crop was also cut. (*Interruptions*) You please listen to me first. I did not intervene when others were speaking. Please do not interrupt me when I am speaking. (*Interruptions*)

The produce was returned to him. Chokha Jatav was the owner of this land. He had fixed the marriage of his daughter with

the son of a D.S.P. and it was decided that about 5 thousands people will attend the marriage whereas Chokha Jatav was too poor to feed even 20 people. Fuel to the fire was added when the Congress and BSP held a meeting there and about 5 thousand men took a pledge before the statue of Baba Saheb Ambedkar and marched from there. After that two-three thousands Jats from the nearby villages assembled there. On that day the marriage of that girl did not take place because another marriage of the daughter of Munshi Jat was to be held after five days. There is a custom particularly in our area that no other groom is allowed to pass in front of the house where the ceremony of anointing oil to a would be bride has been performed. So the persons belonging to that community asked them to change the route of the groom as the house of a would be bride was in the way. No groom can pass through that way irrespective of the caste to which he may belong. It is true that the Baraat returned that day on the advice of a Brahmin. On the second day the S P and the Collector came there and the Baraat proceeded on its way with lot of fanfare and the marriage took place. When the B S P and the Congress workers tried to loot the village the people also attacked them. Gun shots were fired in the air but no person from either side was hurt. Two Jats were shot dead on the spot by the S.P and the Collector. The bride came to her in-laws and there was no trouble in Panwari village. They say that 500-600 Jatavs were robbed but as one of my friend stated just now there was none of this community in Panwari village except Chokha Jatav. Everything was pre-planned. On the other hand the Jatavs have killed many Jats in Agra after forcibly making them alight the buses. Sumanji would bear me out. This happened in the city. In the second incident, rumour spread in Akola that a girl coming from Bikhara village to Agra by bus was killed by Jatavs and her breast was chopped off. In a frenzy about 50 or 100 Jat boys went to attack the Akola village. Many other persons also assembled there but no one was hurt and they were sent back. The rumour of that Jatav girl was false. The girl was of course caught but some people had

intervened and they even beat the miscreants. But this rumour spread like the jungle fire. On the next day the Chief Minister paid a visit and all the officials including the I. G. were present. They say about 22 villages are affected but I dare say, let them name the third village except these two villages.....

AN HON. MEMBER: He is wrong.

CHAUDHARY MULTAN SINGH: In fact the real trouble is that Congress has lost all the 11 assembly seats in Agra city and they are giving vent to their frustration. Even in 1977 Congress had succeeded in retaining three seats from Agra city Both the Congress and the B.S.P. with the help of Chokhe Jatav created all this trouble. I wonder how the Collector and the S.P. helped in this marriage in which the girl was just 12 years of age and the groom of 13 years My constituency spreads over four districts and comprises two assembly segments of Etah,, one of Mathura and one each of Agra and Ferozabad But there has never been any clash between the Jats and the Jatavs in my memory I migrated to Uttar Pradesh from Haryana in 1945 Since 1948 I have won three to four times and lost only once in the elections I have been to jail thrice. Let any S.P. or any body else say that there have been communal clashes in my area, not even Hindu-Muslim clashes The trouble lies elsewhere They are burning out of jealousy as they have lost all the eleven seats Even their security deposit was forfeited. They would do no better in future also. They say that the former Prime Minister went there. True. His maternal grand father and his mother had also gone there on earlier occasions. We always respected them. We never insulted them. I would request Shri Rajiv Gandhi to tell what insult he has suffered and who has done it? Everything is wrong.

In the end I would like to say that there is no feud between the Jats and the Jatavs and all this trouble has been created by the Congress and the B.S.P. Both are one. Both

lost in the elections and their security deposits was forfeited .....\*\* ..... This is the true picture..... (*Interruptions*) .....

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This will not form part of the record.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

CHAUDHARY MULTAN SINGH: The candidate in Agra belonged to Nagela community. They selected their candidates mostly from one caste. The B.S.P. did not get a single vote of Jatav community. With this I conclude.

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karol Bagh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the history of atrocities on this class which is called the "Scheduled Caste" is very old. They have been victims of atrocities in every regime whether it was to Congress, the Janata Party of the present National Front. It is very painful that in the last 42 Years, despite their participation in the Government and being guaranteed equal rights under the Constitution in the present democratic set up, they have always been subjected to atrocities whenever they raised their voice against the mis-deeds of the Government which came to power with their votes. I think the biggest problem is of the mentality of the Indian people, which has not changed. True, we have got Independence and right to equality under the Constitution, but the problem remains. Atrocities have been committed on the Scheduled Castes whenever they demanded fair wages, ban on bonded labour or acquisition of land distributed by Government. They are victimised whenever they demand the rights guaranteed by the Government.

AN HON. MEMBER: They can not even worship in temples.

**SHRI KALKA DAS:** They are also devotees of God but they can not worship. They make the statues of gods and goddesses but they have no right to touch those very statues once these are installed in the temples.

17.00 hrs.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, all these are the signs of that very mentality. Some of our colleagues pointed out just now that the atrocities are being committed on them even during the regime of the National Front Government. I would like to ask them whether they have peeped into the past also. What has happened in this country during the last 40 years. There have been cases where even excreta was forcibly put into the mouths of the children and they were burnt alive. *(Interruptions)* Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, please maintain order and restrain them so that I can proceed with my submission. I was submitting that the history of atrocities on the Harijans is not just 8 months old but very old. Just now my colleague Shrimati Subhashini was saying that political mileage was drawn out of the issues related to women. Same is true about atrocities on harijans. I, therefore, urge that it is essential to bring a change in the mentality of the society which we could not do in the mentality of the society which we could not do in the last 40-42 years. Earlier, untouchability was for namesake but now the concept has gone deep into the hearts of the people. Now riots take place on the issue of admissions and employment to a particular caste. I would like to know why those who have been enjoying these rights for centuries are objecting to it now. Baba Saheb Ambedkar who is also called Modern 'Manu' guaranteed equal rights of all under the Constitution. But today those very people have been deprived of their rights.

17.03 hrs.

[SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE *in the Chair*]

I want to say that a change should be brought in the attitude of the whole society. This includes all the parties whether it is the

Congress, the Bhartiya Janata Party, the Communist Party or any other party. It is not an issue, related to one party but an issue of changing the attitude of the whole society. I think we are doing injustice to the people by politicising this issue. It seems as if we have forgotten the basic problems and want to while away the time by playing political game as they did for the last 40 years. The situation is just like that of the cow trying to eat green grass but her mouth is tied with a cloth. She will never be able to eat it.

I want to ask those who have ruled this country for the last forty years as to who is responsible for the present situation—those who were in power for the last 40 years or those who have been in power for the last 7 months. I would like to mention an incident here. A person gave his shoes for repairs to cobbler in Delhi. When the Cobbler asked for money, he and his family members were shot dead. These incidents took place at Sadhupur and Deeli. There have also been instances, when in Bihar, people were ordered to stand in a line and then shot dead when they demanded fair wages. Anybody, who raised his voice demanding equality, was ruined. Not only this even the colonies where they lived were reduced to ashes. Who is engineering all these inhuman atrocities? Which Government was there in the State at the time? If we put the blame on the Government, how could the present social order change.

Our hon. friends from the Congress Party referred to the Panwari incident. Mayawatiji also make a mention, but I do not agree with them. I had also gone there. A delegation of the Bharatiya Janata Party consisting of 3 M.Ps. had gone there to probe into the incident. We went to Panwari and saw the gutted Harijan colony. We also saw burnt food and burnt plates scattered in the house of Chokha, where the marriage was to take place. We talked to the villagers. We were told that it is the Congress (I) party and the Bahujan Samaj Party which were behind the clashes and not the Government, as has been said by my hon. friend from the Congress Party. Members of the community

were called to the police station. There was tension in the village and people were bitter. When the police came to know about the surging tension, it called the people belonging to both the communities and arranged negotiations between them. They arrived at a rapprochement, but it did not appeal to Shri Azad Kumar Kardan, President of the Congress (I) Party of the district. Today, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes understand what is good and what is bad for them. They voted the Congress (I) out of power and made them sit in the opposition. For 40 years, they looked to the Congress party. When Shri Azad Kumar Kardan saw that both the parties have arrived at a decision on the 14th instant at the police station, he gave a call to the people through newspapers to march to Panwari in thousands. The activists of the Congress (I) and Bahujan Samaj Parties issued handbills and instigated the people that they would see that the marriage is not Solemnised As a result of this about 10-12 thousand people from the Jat community in and around the locality congregated there. The congregation was told that their community was being challenged and if they did not act it would be a great insult to the community. People assembled there. On 21st, when the marriage was to take place, not a single person belonging to the Congress (I) or the Bahujan Samaj Party was present there. People who gave the call and spread hatred through their provocative statements in the newspapers and posters did not go there. But as a reaction to their statements, a large number of people congregated there. The marriage of the girl could not take place on 21st. The police saw that a huge crowd had gathered there and under the prevailing circumstances, the marriage could not take place. So they said that they would arrange the marriage on 22nd. They expected that they will be able to get additional reinforcement on 22nd. On that day, the SHO saw that the crowd was much larger than what it was on the previous day. He also saw that the strength of the force was not adequate to tackle the situation. The S.H.O. put the bridegroom in a jeep at the point of the revolver and took him

away with the hope that he would be able to solemnise the marriage on 22nd. The village was already in the grip of terror and a large number of people belonging to the Jatav Community had already fled Panwari. The few people who stayed back in the village, were too much scared. About 15-20 thousand people had congregated there. The area was crowded from all sides. People from the nearby places had also joined in but police arrangement was far from adequate. The police should have made full proof arrangements when it anticipated such a situation. People of the area knew about it two months back. In our society, it is considered very inauspicious if the bridegroom leaves the place, where marriage is being performed before the last ritual of marriage is completed. But it happened there because the police force was not adequate. On 22nd adequate police force reached there. The bridegroom was brought there by the S.H.O. and the marriage was solemnised. The moment the crowd saw a jeep approaching, it attacked the jeep. The police resorted to firing in defence. Two people were killed. When the news of firing spread in the locality, people belonging to the Jatav Community living in 12 villages were already in their sleep. About 800 people were attacked. The attack was pre-planned. I emphatically say that the attacks were made in a planned manner, because though no one was fatally attacked, yet there was not a single person who escaped unhurt or was not rendered physically handicapped. Their hands were chopped off and legs broken. I visited the hospital, and saw a number of victims. Whose hands and legs were plastered. The Congress Party had instigated them.

KUMARI MAYAWATI: Please tell who chopped of their hands and legs?

SHRI KALKA DAS: It is a thing to be understood. Where people belonging to the Jatav and the Jat communities were living.....

DR. RAJENDRA KUMAR BAJPAI (Sitapur): He is speaking.....\*\*..... (*Interruptions*)

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\*\*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI KALKA DAS: I am coming to that. You are saying that Shri Rajiv Gandhi had gone there. When I enquired about this from the people, they said that Shri Rajiv Gandhi and not visit the Harijan colony. His vehicle was parked at the corner and he went back. They are drawing political mileage out of it. Is this your sympathy?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: I had gone there, You are speaking .....\*\*..... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KALKA DAS: Please make your point when your turn comes.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla): The word.....\*\*.....should be expunged. .... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM DHAN (Lalganj): Madam Chairman, I am on a point of order. The word '..... ..' used by the hon. Member is unparliamentary. Even though she is a senior parliamentarian, she does not know that this word is unparliamentary.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Since a point of order was raised, I appeal to Dr. Rajendra Kumari Bajpai, who is an experienced parliamentarian, not to use the unparliamentary word.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALKA DAS: As they have lost power, every truth appears to be false to them. She was asking who chopped off the the victims. About 240 villages belong to the Jat Community and all of them are of one 'gotra' (origin). Maximum number of people belonging to the Jat community live in the area and the jatavs are very few in number. They are also weak. Since two people belonging to the Jat Community live the area and the Jatavs are very few in number. They are also weak. Since two people belonging to the Jat Community were killed in the incident, there was reaction in the villages.

People belonging to the Jat Community assaulted the innocent and weak Jatavs who who were in their sleep at the time in about 12 villages. These poor people were sleeping after fixing iron chains to their doors. I saw with my own eyes that their doors were broken. The rioters dragged women and children out of their houses and manhandled them. I went to the hospital and saw that even minor children and old women had suffered head injuries and hands of some of them had been chopped. There were more than 800 people. She does not have complete information. The number of much more than 800. All the hospitals were full. Thereafter schools were turned into hospitals. The victims were accommodated in the schools. I do not agree with their views. This is the psyche of the society. But what he said is that....

SHRI CHAUDHARY MULTAN SINGH (Jalesar): Could you tell me the name of the third village other than these two villages. He said 12 villages were affected.

SHRI KALKA DAS: You were saying that you never interrupt others. Nothing could be worse than this. The Jats and the Jatavs are closely associated with each other. Both the communities are interdependent on each other. There is a deep friendship and amity between these two communities. People who were voted out of power are blaming the present Government and they are trying to draw political mileage out of the sufferings of these poor people. There is a proverb "*Chor machea shor*" The person who committed the theft is alerting the people. The Congress party and the Bahujan Samaj Party are squarely responsible for this incident. This is the view of all newspapers and reporters all over the country. An enquiry is being conducted and the sufferers should get all the facilities. The Government has announced that the victims who have been seriously injured or incapacitated for life will be given an ex-gratia payment of Rs. 5000 each and those who suffered minor injuries will be given Rs. 3000 as ex-gratia payment. The

Government should reconsider this. When I went to Akola, I saw that the C.R.P.F. was positioned there, but the people belonging to Scheduled Castes appealed to me to make arrangements for their rehabilitation somewhere other than Akola, otherwise they would be annihilated. One day the police was late in reaching the site and within those five minutes the powerful people of the village surrounded them and told them bluntly that the police cannot provide them protection for all times to come and they cannot save themselves always. Please let me know whether there is no law for the poor. The Government will have to provide security to this community. They have remained backward for centuries and are not being allowed to march ahead. When land is allotted, they are subjected to many atrocities. This psyche of people will have to be changed. The Congress (I) is the major culprit in this case because it does not extend its co-operation to find out a solution to the problem.

SHRI RAM SAJIWAN (Banda): Madam Chairman, there are no two opinions that atrocities were committed on the Harijans in Agra. Parties which are not admitting this hard fact are running away from the truth. There are also no two opinions that the hon. Members who express the view that no such atrocities were committed, are totally wrong and they want to mislead the country. The crux of the matter is as to why the atrocities were committed and who instigated them. I listened to the major part of the discussion held in this connection and on earlier occasions also I was present. Some of the hon. Members like Mayawati will hold Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh responsible for this.

KUMARI MAYAWATI: I will give the figures.

SHRI RAM SAJIWAN: One the other side, the Congress Party sitting in the opposition, is holding the Government responsible for all this. What is the out come of all these charges and counter-charges? It seems that every political party is interested in drawing political mileage out of the situation and no one is interested in extending

constructive co-operation so as find a solution to the problem. It is a very dangerous situation. We admit that atrocities were committed. I also declare that we will fight to the last to safeguard the cause of the Harijans and will remain in no way, behind Kumari Mayawati. We led about 10,000 people on from Agra to Lucknow in protest against these atrocities. Atrocities are being committed in other districts also. In Ghazipur, two Harijans were killed. Similarly, in Varanasi hands and legs of a Harijan, called Jawahar were broken in connection with a land distribution and land acquisition case. There are a number of such of cases relating to land lease to Harijans. On 16th July we created an atmosphere in Lucknow to continue this struggle in the country. We do not care if this struggle goes against the Government. But we demonstrated and took out processions in this connection so as to draw the attention of the Government to this problem and urge them to protect the Harijans. We expected that since we belonged to supporting parties. Our complaints will be given due consideration. But our request was not heard and we were charged with lathis. I am here as a bright example of police excesses. I was beaten with lathis on my back and legs. I was wounded and fainted. I was admitted to the hospital. Two of our legislators, Shri Ram Prasad of the C.P.I., Banda and Asgar Ali Khan, were also injured. People had cut across religious lines and jointed the procession.

KUMARIMAYAWATI: Were you beaten by a D.S.P. owing allegiance to the Congress (I)?

SHRI RAM SAJIWAN: Please listen to my speech first. I will tell you where you fought the battle.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I request both of my friends to address the Chair.

[Translation]

KUMARIMAYAWATI (Bijnor): Who was the person behind the assault on you?

**SHRI RAM SAJIWAN:** It was Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh.

**KUMARI MAYAWATI:** Whose man Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav is?

**SHRI RAM SAJIWAN:** If you go on asking question on each and every point, the time given to me will be wasted and I will not be given any extra time. So, I would like to submit that I was beaten up for raising the problems faced by Harijans. Our colleagues and M.L.A.s sustained head injuries. Hundreds of people received injuries and about one thousand and five hundred people were sent to jail. It means that the attitude of the present Government towards Harijans is not good. Do you now agree with me? Are you happy now? It is most regretted that the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh did not come to hospital to enquire about our condition whereas a number of Members of Parliament came to see us. It seems that he hates us and that is the reason why he did not come to hospital to enquire about our condition. We were hoping that he would solve our problems which were not big ones. We were not in a mood to clash with the Government. I do agree that all the Ministers and the Officers of the Government do not have partisan attitude but some of them do. The question arises as to what is our responsibility? We should not instigate them. In this way, we are not protecting their rights. This is not a proper thing I would like to request Kumari Mayawati to go to the places where atrocities are committed on Harijans. We should come forward to safeguard the Harijans and face the feudal elements in the street. It is not proper that you instigate them and put the blame on the Congress Party. It should not be done. Therefore, I do not want to go into this controversy as to whether it was done by the Congress Party or by the Bahujan Samaj Party. Had it been possible, they might have created Agra like situation everywhere to derive political mileage therefrom. The Congress Party or the Bahujan Samaj Party may have some political motive in creating Agra like situation all over the country. Therefore, it is wrong to put blame

on the Congress Party or the B.S.P. We should not shut our eyes from the root causes or the main problems of the Harijans. I would also like to say that it is wrong on the part of my friends belonging to the B.J.P. to put blame on the Congress Party or the B.S.P. so as to escape the responsibility. All of us should sit together, think about the problems of Harijans and work for their upliftment. Kumari Mayawati is about to speak. I know what she will speak. Therefore, I felt it necessary to clarify the position so that no one is misled by her speech. I would like to submit that allegation has been made against our Prime Minister who is a champion for the cause of the Harijans and is instrumental in celebrating the birth centenary of Dr. Ambedkar and providing reservation for backward classes to give social justice to them, for which all of us have been fighting. It is improper to cast aspersion on the Prime Minister of our country and it will take our country in the wrong direction. This is the only thing I would like to submit. But the members of the Congress Party should not feel happy. They ruled this country for 40 years but did nothing for the welfare of Harijans. If I expose their deeds, it will be an eye opener.

Take for example the grant of pattas of land to Harijans in Uttar Pradesh, where at many places land was given to them on paper only but they were not given physical possession. In protest, people launched movement at many places. They faced police bullets during the Congress rule. Eight Harijans of my constituency were killed on the spot. Hundreds of people sustained injuries. Therefore, you should not be happy on an incident of atrocities committed on Harijans during the Janata Dal rule. What I want to say is this that you consider it as a national problem and them only try to find out a solution to it. Unless it is treated as a national problem and so long as a political colour is given to the problem, the incidents of atrocities on Harijans will continue. I would like to say this thing only.

**SHRI R.N. RAKESH:** One of the top most leaders of his party has illegally occu-



pied the land of Harijans in his constituency, no attention had been paid to it... (*Interruptions*)....

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Rakesh, no running debate, please. The hon. Member says that he has a point of order. Let me hear him, please sit down.... (*Interruptions*)....

[*Translation*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ram Sajiwanji, it seems to me that you are about to conclude.

SHRI RAM SAJIWAN: If the Members go on interrupting me, how can I speak.

SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH (Mainpuri): Madam Chairman, I am on a point of order. Just now, one of the hon. Members of the House has said something in the House referring to the hon. Prime Minister. I would like to submit that unless a Member or the Minister or the Prime Minister, as the case may be, is present in the House to defend himself, no allegation can be made in the House against the concerned person. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM SAJIWAN: I am also laying stress on it that if efforts are made to give a political tinge to the problem relating to Harijans, it will not be solved. It is not that the Congress Party showed any sobriety in the Agra incident rather they showed their impertinence, so they should also refrain from doing it... (*Interruptions*)... If you want you may speak, I will sit down. But you need not give me training. Nor am I giving you any training. Therefore, please sit down and do not try to give me training. I understand the problem of Harijans more than you... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM SAJIWAN: If you go on disturbing me like this, how can I speak and express my views. Therefore, please take your seat.... (*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is happening.

Let him speak.

SHRI RAM SAJIWAN: Therefore, I would like to make a request to all the hon. Members that efforts should not be made to give political tinge to this problem... (*Interruptions*)....

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no need to give running commentary.

SHRI RAM SAJIWAN: The Communist Party has faced the blow of lathis. Did you also? Please do not interrupt him. Please observe silence... (*Interruptions*)....

[*English*]

SHRI A.C. CHARLES (Trivandram): Madam Chairman, ask the hon. Member to address you. He is replying to the points raised by the hon. Members.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have not allowed any one of you to speak except Shri Ram Sajiwan. My appeal to the hon. Members is that we are discussing an extremely serious subject and we have to be very responsible in our attitude. I, therefore, appeal to the hon. Members to highlight their points briefly. I appeal to the whole House to do this thing. Therefore, let it be orderly and let everybody place his or her point of view in brief and not in this way.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM SAJIWAN: I humbly urge upon all the members of the House to shed their political differences and make concerted efforts to relieve the Harijans from the atrocities being committed on them for the last thousand years. It is mainly the responsibility of the Central Government. The Central Government belonging to the Janata Dal is saying that it is the responsibility of the State Government. When they approach the State Government, their requests are not heeded. I would like to say that the Central Government should take the responsibility. Kumari Mayawati has rightly stated that the Prime Minister or the Minister of Home Af-

[Sh. Ram Sajiwan]

fairs should take this responsibility. It is doubtful whether the Minister of State would be able to do any good. Therefore, it should be taken seriously. I know that thousands of Harijans left their villages and took shelter in cities including Delhi. I would like to say that even if crores of rupees are required to rehabilitate them, it should be provided. Only then they will be compensated for their loss otherwise it will be only a lip service to them. Whenever Shri Khurana is on his leg in the House, he makes much hue and cry. With my weak lung power, I cannot match him on this score. I would be most happy if Shri Khurana uses his lung power to say few words in support of the Harijans but I doubt as to whether he will do so. He raises the bogey of Hinduism. I would like to know from him whether Harijans do not form part of Hinduism in which they are considered as untouchable.... *(Interruptions)*... The Central Government can not escape from their responsibility... *(Interruptions)*... I would like to submit especially to Shri Sharad Yadav because he belongs to Uttar Pradesh and it is an issue concerning Uttar Pradesh. He should intervene in this matter. He has earned credit for solving major problems of the country. Recently, he has solved many problems, I read it in the newspapers. Therefore, if he intervene in this matter, this problem will be solved. Those people should be rehabilitated. They should be paid compensation and provided assistance then this problem will be solved.

Lastly, I would like to request all of you not make it a political issue.

**SHRI SHOPAT SINGH MAKKASAR (Bikaner):** Madam Chairman, I have been listening to the speeches of hon. Members on the atrocities committed on Harijans. Some of the hon. Members advised us to change our attitude to the Harijans. Some of them gave different suggestions. Some members were in favour of taking arms by the Harijans to protect themselves. The fact is that though we have been talking of removing untouchability in these 40 years after independence,

we can see where we have reached. I remember my childhood. I come from Rajasthan where there used to be many 'Jagirdars'. During those days nobody could pass through a Jagirdar's village mounting on a camel's back let alone riding on horse at the time of marriage. It is not a question of a harijan or a non-harijan, nobody could do such things except a Rajput or a Jagirdar. I also remember that a farmer had to sit on the floor in the Jagirdar's house even if the Jagirdar was 25 years old and the farmer was 70 years old. I regret to say that during the Congress rule, nobody talked of removal of untouchability. During the 40 years of its rule, the Congress said that the land would belong to the tiller. But they did not given any land to the tiller. That is why there is untouchability and discrimination in our society. Poverty has rendered them weak. The Congress did away with the privy purses but converted the palaces of the erstwhile rajas into 5-star hotels. Harijan colonies are still demolished.

Hon. Kumari Mayawati is present here. She was referring to a case of molestation. She is a responsible member of this House. She speaks in favour of the poor also. I would like to tell her that I too was born amidst poverty. I am proud that I belong to the CPI (M), a party which has a solid foundation. Kumari Mayawati said that Harijan women were raped ... *(Interruptions)*...

**KUMARI MAYAWATI:** Have you met those women?

**SHRI SHOPAT SINGH MAKKASAR:** Shrimati Subhashini met them on our behalf.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Kumari Mayawati, why do you stand again and again. Please sit down.

*(Interruptions)*

[English]

**SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY (Mangalore):** Madam, I am on a point of order. You have been seeing and I have also

been hearing with rapt attention the speeches made by the Members. All the speakers have been provoking that lady Member. Why? You are not protecting her.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think she can protect herself.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: You have to protect everybody. You should protect her. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Poojary, it will not go on like this. I request you to cooperate.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I request you that such a serious debate cannot be continued without cooperation from the hon. Members. Please cooperate with the chair. You have your own time and you can speak at that time. Each one of you should not stand up like this. I appeal to you again to cooperate.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

KUMARI MAYAWATI: I have a point of order to make.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Under which rule, please.

KUMARI MAYAWATI: Please sit down, I shall tell you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please refer to the rule.

KUMARI MAYAWATI: Please be seated and I shall tell you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Which is the rule under which you want to raise your point of order?

KUMARI MAYAWATI: Madam, my point of order is that whenever any Party is given

an opportunity to express their views, it is incumbent upon the Member speaking on behalf of that party to address the Speaker or the Deputy-speaker and for that matter, the Chairman and not refer to any Member in particular. By mentioning my name, you are provoking me. There are three M.Ps belonging to the Bahujan Samaj Party in the House. But he is referring to me. This is violation of the rules. Madam, is this not a violation of rules? You should ask them not to mention the names of individual members. This is my point of order.

SHRI SHOPAT SINGH MAKKASAR: Madam, it was never my intention to say so, but if it is depicted that thousands of women were raped then no member is going to believe it... *(Interruptions)*... What I mean to say is that we cannot remove untouchability as long as capitalist class remains and the working class to not get its due. In 1965, the Monopoly Commission had said that there are 75 big houses in this country who possess half the country's wealth. The report of the Monopoly Commission was presented in 1965. It was seen by Pandit Nehru also. Has the present Congress Party gone through this report or talked of land ceiling? A Party whose leaders have thousand of acres of land and which can have a Birta as its leader can never remove untouchability for this country... *(Interruptions)*... today. I am discussing certain events. How can untouchability be removed if feudalism is practised in the villages even after 40 years independence. This is the gift of Feudalism, not capitalism. This is the gift of Feudalism, not capitalism. We have not adopted capitalism also. The Congress has encouraged Feudalism as a result of which poor in villages leads a miserable existence.

I remember the day of the jagirdars...  
*(Interruptions)*

AN HON. MEMBER: Raja Sahab...  
*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHOPAT SINGH MAKKASAR: The Raja was your not ours... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAG PAL SINGH (Hardwar): You accepted him as your leader who was expelled by us... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SHOPAT SINGH MAKKASAR: I am telling you about the incidents that have taken place. In Rajasthan 10 persons belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe families were killed. What is pathetic is that these persons were killed in the presence of the police. Their houses were burnt with explosive material again in the presence of the police. Whoever may be in power, in Alwar or in Haryana or in Bharatpur, a poor man cannot let his son ride a horse as a bridegroom. This is a matter of shame for everyone. This is neither good for the Opposition nor the ruling party. But the present Opposition is more to blame because the ruling party has been in power for eight months only. (*Interruptions*)... I shall tell you about a news item which appeared in the 'Jansatta'. In the Nabi Karim locality of Delhi, a man called Totaram Jatav took his son Sugamchand to Haryana for the letters marriage. In Batbal town of Haryana... (*Interruptions*)... The two of them were beaten with shoes. The administration is weak, it is much like Feudalism. The Congress has encouraged both capitalism and Feudalism... (*Interruptions*)... Madam, we should clear the facts related to the Agra incident... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI JAG PAL SINGH: The C.P.I. (M) is inviting capitalists and multi-nationals to invest their capital in West Bengal... (*Interruptions*)... Shri Jyoti Basu is inviting capitalists to invest money in West Bengal... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHOPAT SINGH MAKKASAR: Madam, I have just one thing to say—I have seen some beasts flying in the sky who care little for the living animal but are ready to dispose off the dead. Similarly, when the Congressmen also... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JAG PAL SINGH: You don't know

the difference between a beast and a bird—what is a beast and what is a bird? You don't know the difference... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHOPAT SINGH MAKKASAR: It is regrettable that our country has seen all types of riots. That the army should be called to quell the communal disturbances in Agra would be a matter of shame for any Government. Today, the question is not of the amount of compensation given but of fulfilling the promises made by the Janata Dal Government. And the only way to do this is to act firmly to solve these problems. In particular, a law should be made giving the land to the tiller... (*Interruptions*) In this way half of them will die, they will be killed. ... (*Interruptions*)... If you want that riots should not take place, you must find a solution... (*Interruptions*)... It is difficult to say who is the leader of the nation. Some are Yadav Leaders, some Jat leaders, some are leader of 'Kumhars' and some of Muslims. Hon. Kumari Mayawati is the leader of Harijans... (*Interruptions*)... We have been in jail for five years and we have been able to get 16 lakh acres of land allotted to Harijans... (*Interruptions*)... These people want to survive in the name of Dr. Ambedkar. Madam, the reason I am saying this is because the B.S.P. and the Congress were instigating the riots over there and Shri Ajeya Singh went over there to diffuse the tension. I laud his efforts. We should not involve ourselves in the politics of votes. In this country, human beings do not consider themselves as human beings they identify themselves either as Jats, or as Muslims or as Brahmins or as Rajputs. And all politicians have become leaders of either of these groups. Nobody is the leader of this country. We must pay attention towards the development of this country and preserving its unity and integrity. If we get more of such leaders, who will lead the country? It is the responsibility of this House to ponder over this question. With these words, I thank you.