

16.00 hrs

RE:DISCUSSION ON SITUATION
ARISING OUT OF KILLINGS
BY TERRORISTS IN PUNJAB

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now the House will take up discussion under Rule 193. Would the Minister like to make some statement ?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : We want some specific announcement from the Minister including chain of action.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : For the first time we support Kumari Kamata Banerjee.

MR. SPEAKER : For a change, thank you. There are certain things...

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : Sir, he has been sharing our grief for a long time. Time has come when we cannot share his incompetence. He must act.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : He will act. He is there and whatever you say...

[Translation]

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, for the last two years we have been listening to you. Whatever you said we listened to that. Today, at least, you may listen to us. The events have overtaken us and we are on the verge of collapse. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am always with you. There is no difference between what you say and what I say.

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : You always say 'Not allowed.' At least today you should listen to us.. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Just tell me, do I not go along with you? I have always been meeting your demands.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : We follow in your footprints...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Today we will move in step (Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. N. G. RANGA : Sir, if my hon friends from the Opposition do not want any statement from the Minister before then they themselves have the chance of suggesting to the Government what is it that they want the Government should do and to what extent they are prepared to cooperate with the Government. Let them say that.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : We want him to resign.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : We want him to go as you also wanted.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : We do not want him to go. Then in that case the west Bengal Government must go.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : The entire House wants him to go.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Order. Order.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : There must be some consistency. We cannot have blowing hot and cold from this side and that side. (Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Prof Ranga is from both the sides.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is really...

(Interruptions)

PROF. N. G. RANGA ; Then the West Bengal Government must also go. Give the powers to the Central Government. You were not prepared to do it this morning.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : In the morning he was saying something else and now he is talking something else. What has happened to him. He has attained the age of 80 years ..(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : At least you should be considerate towards elderly persons.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

PROF. N. G. RANGA : Your Government must go in West Bengal and also Karnataka Government

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Our government is a provincial Government. But here it is the failure of the Central Government.

MR. SPEAKER : I think the House is really aggrieved and they feel and they are one at heart that something should be positively done to take stock of the situation. Also such things should not recur. And, I think,.....

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, we have been cooperating with them in everything for the last two years. Do we sink along with them ? You please guide us.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, if we sink with them then in that case you will not be spared.

MR. SPEAKER : I am with you wherever you go. What am I without you ?

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : They are sinking along with us. We want pull them up...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : When you are all there, nothing is going to sink. I think, these vicissitudes do come, but we have to overcome them. It is your collective will which has to prevail in the end. Nothing will stand in the way. I think,

the Home Minister has taken up the matter very seriously today. There are certain things. If his resignation would have solved the matter, I would have asked him to do that, but I do not think that is the solution. We will do something positive.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : His continuance is going to compound the problem and perpetuate incompetence...

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : You want action, but certain things have not to be divulged. Your aggrieved sentiments and your collective sentiments have been conveyed and they have been fully understood by the Government. You must listen, you must have a debate first; he will come to you later with some positive action. Certain things might not be divulged at this stage. I will ask him to give a factual position and then we will discuss. Mr. Minister, please take down notes about the action my hon. Members want you to take, so that you can execute those things.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, I want to seek your protection. First, I would like to state that if this hon. Parliament passes a particular Act, in the preface of which it says that it is to curb terrorist activities and lawlessness and if that Act cannot be utilized in Punjab, or if the Arms Act, which says that one should have only three licensed arms, when people in Punjab are carrying stenguns and other arms in buses and there is no police cannot control them.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : We are going to have a discussion. You can raise those points.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH : Has the Minister been to the site ?

MR. SPEAKER : I know that he has not been to the site, but if his site visit

would have solved the problem. I would have asked him to do that. You want some decisions action; decisions are being taken.

SHRI CHANDRAN PRATAP NARAIN-SINGH : But if any law passed by the Parliament is ineffective in Punjab, what action do you expect from them ?...

MR. SPEAKER : The gravity of the situation is well understood. We will do something. I think, everything is going to be put here.

SHRI H. A. DORA : It is understood in the well.

MR. SPEAKER : No, no.

Mr. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH) : I am only going to request you that we are getting more details from the State Government, where this incident has happened, as also about the other situation in Punjab. At 5.30, I would be able to present before the House the details about this incident. In the meantime, we can have the discussion.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, we can have the discussion.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, we can have the discussion.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : But there is no motion before the House. You must make a statement, Mr. Minister.

MR. SPEAKER : You can make a factual statement.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, On a point of order. In my notice I have said that I give a notice of discussion under Rule 193 to discuss the statement to be made by the hon. Minister at 4 O'clock. At least let him make a statement for the sake of formality. "I am getting up and I am requesting Madhu Dandavate to speak"...is no statement,

MR. SPEAKER : That is what I am asking him to do.

S. BUTA SINGH : As I come to you and reported to you, we are getting the details from the State Government and we are compiling the information along with certain positive steps that we are trying to suggest.....

(Interruptions)

There are two aspects. If I were to make a statement, I must make copies available to the hon. Members. Therefore, I thought that I will present it at 5.30 along with the translation, but if you want me to tell the facts as reported to me, I can do that.

MR. SPEAKER : You do the same.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : It is required under the rules.

16.10 hrs.

STATEMENT RE : SITUATION ARISING OUT OF KILLINGS BY TERRORISTS IN PUNJAB

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH) : It is with deep sense of sorrow and anguish that I wish to inform this august House about the ghastly killing of innocent persons in District Hosiarpur on 30th November 1986. According to information furnished by the State Government, a Pepsu Roadways Transport Corporation bus was plying from Faridkot to Pathankot on 30th November 1986. When the bus reached near Village Bhagola at about 5.15 PM, the bus was forcibly diverted to the link road in the boundary of the above village. After travelling about one kilometer the bus was stopped by 4 terrorists who were also in the bus. The terrorists opened fire on the passengers, as a result of which 15 passengers died in the bus, while 7 passengers were killed when they were trying to run away and 8 passen-