

17.39 hrs.

STATEMENT REGARDING SETTING UP OF A COMMISSION OF INQUIRY TO INQUIRE INTO ALLEGATIONS OF ORGANISED VIOLENCE IN DELHI FOLLOWING ASSASSINATION OF SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI — *Contd.*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI A. K. SEN) : Sir, The House will recall the statement made on 11th April, 1985 by the Home Minister announcing the decision of the Government to hold a judicial inquiry into allegations in regard to incidents of organised violence in Delhi following the assassination of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the late Prime Minister. It was also announced that a sitting Judge of the Supreme Court will head the Commission of Inquiry.

In this context, I rise to announce further decisions taken by the Government in this regard. After consultation with the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of India, it has been decided that the Commission of Inquiry will be presided over by Shri Justice Ranganath Misra.

The terms of reference of the Commission of Inquiry shall be as follows :

- (i) to inquire into allegations in regard to incidents of organised violence which took place in Delhi following the assassination of late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi; and
- (ii) recommend measures which may be adopted for preventing the recurrence of such incidents.

The Commission of Inquiry has been asked to submit its report within six months. The notification in this behalf is being published in the Official Gazette today.

17.41 hrs.

WORKING WOMEN WELFARE  
BILL—*Contd.*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now the discussion will continue. Shri Satyagopal Misra.

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA (Tamluk) : Sir, it is a pleasure to support this Bill and to speak something about the welfare of the women of our society. In this respect, I want to congratulate the mover of the Bill and also welcome the views expressed by the two speakers who have spoken before me. This is a very well thought-out and non-controversial Bill. I also think that it will get the support from all corners of the House.

There are certain points in the Bill. First of all, there should be no discrimination between man and woman so far as the employment question is concerned. Only the ability and the qualification should be given priority for employment of any person in any industry or organisation sector. Nowadays, in our country, almost 50 per cent are women.....

(Interruptions)

It may be even a little less than 50 per cent 52 per cent are males and 48 per cent females. But if we go to the employment field, we see that proportion is not maintained there. Everywhere in our country, we can see that the employers make a discrimination while appointing a person. Particularly, they do not want to have women employees in their organisations. In our society which is dominated by males, women are treated as second class citizens. I think that system should not be allowed to continue. All of us should come and rise to the occasion to give equal rights to the women of our country who are nothing but our mothers, our sisters, our wives, etc.

The second point in this Bill is that equal wages should be paid for equal work. Equal remuneration should be given for equal job. That slogan is there but it is not implemented. Shri Harish Rawat mentioned the same thing about the Bidi lady workers. I have gone to many areas where I have also seen that the women working in the bidi factories are not getting the actual wages which they deserve and their working conditions also are very bad. There are other fields where working women are not getting wages which they deserve for their work. Even in the public sector undertakings we find that women are being discriminated against so far as the question of employment of women is concerned. I would like to request the Hon. Minister to take note of this and instruct the Management of the