

(v) NEED FOR DECLARING GAZETTED HOLIDAY ON 18TH FEBRUARY, 1981 IN ORDER TO COMMEMORATE GURU RAVIDASJI'S BIRTHDAY.

श्री सूरजभान (अम्बाला) : सभापति जो, अभी गुजरात में हरिजनों के ऊपर अत्याचार के बारे में बात हुई थी। लेकिन पूरे भारत में जो उन पर अत्याचार हो रहा है और इस हाउस में भी इसाफ नहीं मिला है उसको मैं चर्चा कर रहा हूँ।

There are more than 10 crore Harijans followers of Guru Ravidasji—more than the followers of any other religious Guru in India. Holidays are declared in commemoration of birthdays of all religious Gurus.

This year the birthday of Guru Ravidasji falls on 18th February. It is, therefore, requested that in true spirit of secularism the said day may be declared as a gazetted holiday in all Central Government offices and in the Lok Sabha to remove this glaring discrimination against the Harijans.

Further, the birthdays of Baba Sahib Dr. B. R. Ambedkar and Maharishi Balmikiji may also be declared as gazetted holidays.

In case, however, it is not possible to do so, I demand that there should be only two gazetted holidays viz. on 26th January and 15th August to bring an end to the step-motherly treatment being meted out to SC&ST in this secular country.

(vi) RE. ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): It is shocking that the Aligarh Muslim University was closed down *sine die* on 31st January, 1981. In a pre-dawn swoop, that is, around 3.45 A.M. truck loads of police entered the University. 213 students were arrested and simultaneously a massive operation was launched to evacuate all the hostels. About twenty companies of the Provincial Armed Constabulary and ten of the Central Reserve Police were posted inside the university campus. An unofficial 'curfew' was imposed in the University area.

The high-handed operation was sequel to the most peaceful agitation of the students demanding action against one of the teachers who, in an interview to a national daily published on January 13, had maligned the University and attempted to create disaffection against it. It is painful and regrettable that instead of justifiably proceeding against the concerned teacher, the entire University was closed down and students, who had been peaceful and had refrained from violence, were subjected to a repressive policy. It is noteworthy that after the closure of the University, it has now been found correct and appropriate to serve a charge-sheet against the teacher concerned and subject him to disciplinary action, as reported in the press.

Though it is appreciative that the students have now been released and cases instituted against them have been withdrawn, a great harm has been done. It is also absolutely necessary that the University be opened immediately to save the loss of the academic year.

I urge upon the Government to intervene in the matter and make a statement in the House.

(vii) INCIDENTS AT KURUKSHETRA UNIVERSITY, HARYANA.

श्री मनीराम बागड़ी (हिसार) : सभापति महोदय, कुरुक्षेत्र विश्वविद्यालय के सम्बन्धित अधिकारियों द्वारा ठीक इन्तजाम न करने की वजह से एक ऐसी स्थिति पैदा हो गई, जिससे बचा जा सकता था। अधिकारियों में इतनी समझ नहीं थी कि वे इस बात का पहले से अन्दाज़ लगा लेते कि जिस हाल में महामहिम राष्ट्रपति जी को दीक्षान्त भाषण देना था, उसमें उतनी जगह है भी कि उसमें सभी छात्र आ सकें। इसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि लगभग डेढ़ हजार छात्रों को ही प्रवेश-पत्र दिये गये, जबकि छात्रों की संख्या पांच हजार थी। इससे छात्र उत्तेजित हो उठे और उन्होंने प्रदर्शन किये। पुलिस