

[Shri Annasaheb P. Shinde]

Collectors. Massive employment programme will have to be taken up. This unfortunate natural calamity will have to be used for building up productive agricultural assets. Recoveries of Government and cooperative loans will have to be suspended. Fodder will have to be made available for cattle at reasonable prices and number of relief measures will have to be taken forthwith.

I request through you, Sir, that the Government of India should immediately get in touch with the State Government of Maharashtra, get the first-hand report of the situation and the Minister of Agriculture should be asked to make a statement about the unprecedented drought situation developing in parts of Maharashtra.

12.58 hrs.

RE. PROPOSED UNVEILING OF  
STATUE OF SHRI AUROBINDO IN  
PARLIAMENT HOUSE

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola):  
Sir, I have given a notice....

MR. SPEAKER: Today.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Kindly see, this is a serious matter. I want to draw the attention of this House because tomorrow when that is done, later on, if I bring it to your notice, it will be too late. We are setting a bad precedent in this House. Sir, we are doing a disservice to a great spiritual leader of this country by bringing his name in the political arena and trying to unveil the statue of great Aurobindo, in the Parliament. What are we trying to do? On one side is the statue of Gokhale and on other side, you are trying to unveil tomorrow the statue of Aurobindo. There are so many spiritual leaders in this country—Maharishi Dayanand, Maharishi Shivananda, Saraswati Shirdanand. Whose name will you stop from having a statue? We have

received the invitation today. This will be unveiled by you.... (Interruptions). I am not against Aurobindo. What are you talking?

MR. SPEAKER: This has been decided by the General Purposes Committee. (Interruptions).

SHRI VASANT SATHE: There is Swami Shradanand, Swami Vivekanand. Are they not great spiritual leaders?

MR. SPEAKER: This matter has been decided in the General Purposes Committee. (Interruptions).

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I can understand if portraits of leaders like Nath Pai, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee and such other persons.... (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: It is not in the list; I am not allowing.

13 hrs.

SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHE-  
DULED TRIBES ORDERS (AMEND-  
MENT) BILL—contd.

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up for consideration the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Bill. Amendments were clarified for circulation of the Bill for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon, for reference of the Bill to a Select Committee and for reference of the Bill to a Joint Committee, moved on the 2nd August, 1978.

The Minister, Shri S. D. Patil has also given notice of an amendment No. 55 for reference of the Bill to a Joint Committee. I have permitted him to move his amendment. He may move it. There is also a change in the name of the Member from the one mentioned in the amendment circulated to Members. He may mention that also.