

(vi) SITUATION IN ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman and Nicobar Islands): Sir, with heavy heart and much pain I rise to draw the kind attention of this august House about the recent happenings which still continue in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, one of the remote, isolated backward single member Constituency Union Territory which I represent by the wishes of the people of that part of the country in this august House. You all know, Sir, that there is no democratic institution functioning in this Union Territory and the Ministry of Home Affairs in the name of the President of India is running the Administration through a Chief Commissioner who happens to be a bureaucrat. Time and again people of this Union Territory represented in different forums including this House to provide democratic rights to the people of this remote territory in the similar pattern of Arunachal, Mizoram etc.

In Parliament, the Minister of Home Affairs assured not only once but twice in reply to a question stating that the matter is under consideration, but nothing has come out fruitful so far. But, in the meantime, the attack on the people and their constitutional life was severely attacked by the same bureaucracy who even during the Emergency became more enthusiastic and crossed the limit of their power are now throttling the people's democratic movements with the evil design of coercive action, such as lathi charges, arrest, intimidation and implication in false cases and all-out effort has been made to create a fear psychosis in the entire territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. I am sorry to mention that the country has witnessed a qualitative change in the running of the Administration in recent days.

The rule of law has been diminished from the life of this Union Territory and the rule of jungle has established fastly. I have written several letters pertaining to the problems of my Constituency which was not seriously viewed by the Ministers and particularly by the Home Ministry and not even by the Prime Minister. The local unemployed educated young men and women are roaming door to door of the officers concerned but in reverse the relatives and own men are recruited from the mainland depriving the local talents. I had the occasion to write the letter to the Prime Minister, but no action has been taken so far. Since number of years a large number of people who have constructed hutments on the Government land are now threatened and removed and dislodged by using coercive action employing Police and CRP. Perhaps, this is unprecedented in the history of India that the poor, weaker section, landless agriculturists who have cultivated on Government land and had beautiful standing crops on the virgin soil were damaged and destroyed by the Andaman and Nicobar Administration in the course of their coercive action. The Police, forest and revenue authorities have not even spared the women and children from atrocities. The trade union workers and leaders are being threatened time and again without any fault of theirs. Though Government employees were re-instated after their compulsory retirement by the recommendation of the Review Committee are now denied pay and other benefits for this period violating the instructions of the Government of India on the ground of vengeance by this officialdom. Grant of Andaman Special allowance to all categories of Government employees irrespective of place of recruitment and place of residence and grant of jungle allowance to the mazdoors working in remote jungle areas are still denied depriving justice. Even then I alongwith all my colleagues extended hand of cooperation with this bureaucratic Administration considering the strategic geogra-

phical location of the territory with the broad National perspective. But the situation has deteriorated very fastly and became worse during the first week of December, when the Administration decided forcible removal of all the juggi dwellers belonging to the poor and weaker section of the society and had launched a conspiracy against the villagers who demanded justice, equality and safety. There is a village known as 'TIRUR' in South Andaman near which inside the dense forest there are hostile wondering aboriginal called Jarwas who are frequently entering in the nearby villages and kill the human life, cattle and damage their properties. Last year, three persons were killed in the same area and even before that some Government servants on duty were also killed and the police force was posted there for the protection of life and property of the villagers. Sir, this year again the Jarwas entered the village and killed cattle and the entire area became panic-stricken when villagers including men, women and children rushed to Port Blair and wanted to meet the Chief Commission under the leadership of Sardar Nehchalsingh Chawla, President, District Congress Committee.

The Chief Commissioner refused to meet the delegation. Then the villagers assembled near the Clock Tower at Port Blair town and started squatting and demonstrating against the high-handedness of the officials and demanded protection of the life and property of the residents. Sir, to our utter surprise, the local police and CRP jumped over the peaceful men and women demonstrating and were brutally lathi charged causing number of injuries to many and arrested unlawfully. At present a continuous threat, intimidation and false implication of cases are prevailing which created a tense and grave situation in the territory where the people are peace loving. Every day, inside and outside of Parliament, the Janata leaders are claiming that they have res-

tored the democracy whereas in the far flung Union Territory, the democracy seems to be a mockery where the bureaucrats are the supreme and unchallengeable and the Ministry of Home Affairs is a silent, helpless spectator. I therefore appeal to this House and to the Government and specially to the Prime Minister to institute a Parliamentary Committee immediately to enquire into the role of Chief Commissioner.

A person of highest integrity should be posted as Chief Commissioner. Further, all those arrested should be immediately released unconditionally and democratic rights should be provided to the people of Andaman and Nicobar Islands similar to Arunachal, Mizoram etc. My voice is lone in this House and I appeal to all Honourable Members of the House, irrespective of party, to raise their voice for the suffering people of the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

(vii) PRESS REPORTS THAT A NUMBER OF IRANIAN STUDENTS ARE UNDER ORDERS OF DEPORTATION FROM INDIA

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH (Hoshangabad): May I request you to permit me to make my Statement under Rule 377?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is why you have been called.

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH: Mr. Deputy-Speaker under Rule 377, I wish to mention the following matter of urgent public importance:

Sir, it has been widely reported in the Press that a number of Iranian students are under orders of deportation from India. It is needless for me to stress the fact that at this critical juncture in Iran, deportation of such students should be fraught with grave perils to their lives. I have no doubt that we in Parliament and the people of India in general, who only a year and a half ago emerged from the