

[Shri O. V. Alagesan]

result of all these turbulent activities, violent demonstrations, arson and loot, and after railway property, public and government property worth lakhs was destroyed by the demonstrators, the State Government, which is in charge of the law and order, took some action.... (Interruptions).

श्री उपसेन : (देवरिया) : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष जी, मैं तो उन दिनों बंगलौर में था; कांग्रेस के लोगों ने उनके खिलाफ प्रदर्शन किया, पाटिल साहब के लोगों ने, कांग्रेस के लोगों ने, माननीय स्टीफन की पार्टी के लोग उसमें ये जिन्होंने प्रदर्शन किया।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Ugresen, if you had not interrupted Shri Alagesan, other Members would not have stood up.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Again I appeal to you that I should not become the victim of these interruptions...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Some members want to have the cake and eat it too. It is not possible. If you interrupt another member, he will take more time and there is no point in complaining that he takes a long time. Please don't interrupt him. I have given him 5 minutes. Let him have his say and be done with it.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: After all these violent incidents, the State Government took some steps. They got Shri Karunanidhi and others arrested and this Central Minister for Industry goes there and criticises the State Government for having arrested those leaders. He may be paying a debt of gratitude to Shri Karunanidhi because he gave him refuge at a time when he wanted it the most. But that is a private affair. He cannot interfere in the affairs of the State Government in the matter of law and

order. In order to protect the situation and prevent further violent happenings in the State when the State Government goes and takes certain steps and that too, in accordance with the law, I would like to know under what authority and under what article of the Constitution the Central Minister goes and says that this should not have been done. This is a very serious matter. The conduct of the two Central Ministers is highly unconstititutional, illegal and highly reprehensible and not conceived in the interests of the people of the State.

So I would like to appeal to the Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai that he should properly discipline his Ministers and see that such things are not repeated in future.

(ii) WORKING OF GRINDLAYS BANK LTD.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Jadavpur): I rise to bring to the notice of this House a matter of great importance under Rule 377.

For some time past, the Grindlays Bank Ltd. which is a foreign bank operating in India under the licence of the Reserve Bank of India has been indulging in activities which are contrary to public interest. In recent times it has been acting in defiance of the code of ethics and the rules of conduct of Banks and also of the wishes of the Reserve Bank of India. This Bank arbitrarily raised the minimum amount of deposits in Savings Bank accounts and fixed deposit accounts as a result whereof common people and depositors of small amounts are not allowed to maintain any account with the Bank. The bank is denying all facilities to small depositors. Their attempt is to make more profits by allowing only big accounts to be operated and it is acting as financial advisers of big business and monopoly houses, both Indian and foreign.

Very recently, the bank has taken a most arbitrary decision to shift uni-

laterally the accounts from one Branch to another without the consent of the account-holders which will result not only in great inconvenience to the account-holders but is a practice unheard of in the banking business. This has created justifiably a serious resentment among the depositors. They have formed an association and are carrying on an agitation there.

In the Grindlays Bank for the last 2-3 years no vacancies have been filled up. As a result the strength of the employees has come down by about 120. It is apprehended that within the next few years the present strength of the staff will be reduced to half. By restricting their activities with big business and big account-holders only, the job potential in the Bank has been substantially reduced and the future of the present employees has become uncertain.

So, it is urgently necessary for the Reserve Bank of India to intervene in the matter. Under Section 35A of the Banking Regulation Act the Reserve Bank of India can issue directions to all banks including foreign banks and unless the Reserve Bank moves in the matter and the central government takes action, not only this agitation will go on and account-holders are being arbitrarily asked to go from one branch to another and employees are being transferred from one place to another without any consultation and the staff pattern is being altered. This is creating great difficulty and resentment among the account-holders and employees and demonstrations are going on. I request the hon. Labour Minister who is present in the House. We have met the Finance Minister also and it seems no action is being taken. It is high time that some action is taken in the matter. Particularly I request the Labour Minister who is here to look into the matter.

15.40 hrs.

MOTION RE. TWENTYETH, TWENTY-FIRST AND TWENTY-SECOND REPORTS OF THE COMMISSIONER

FOR SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES AND DISCUSSION ON EMPLOYMENT OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES IN SERVICES AGAINST RESERVED QUOTA—Contd.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, we take up the Motion moved by Prof. Madhu Dandavate.

Shri Kacharulal Hemraj Jain to continue his speech.

श्री कचरुलाल हेमराज जैन (वालाघाट) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित आदिमजाति के आयुक्त की रिपोर्ट पर चर्चा चल रही है। मैं सर्वप्रथम यहां चुन कर आए हुए सदस्यों को आगाह कर देना चाहता हूँ कि मध्य प्रदेश में 60 प्रतिशत आबादी में बसे हुए हरिजन और आदिवासी हैं और आज उन की क्या हालत है यह अच्छी तरह से हर निर्वाचन क्षेत्र का सदस्य जानता है। आज हम इस बात को देख रहे हैं इस सदन में 8 महीने से कि पुरानी सरकार ने यह किया और वह किया।

15.41 hrs.

[SHRI M. SATYANARAYAN RAO in the Chair]

मैं आपको स्पष्ट शब्दों में बता देना चाहता हूँ, अभी यहां हमारे श्रम मंत्री बैठे हुए हैं, मैंने पिछले आषण में भी इस बात का उल्लेख किया था कि भारत में 70 लाख लोग बीड़ी मजदूर हैं और वे हरिजन आदिवासी हैं। पिछले बजट सत्र में बीड़ी पर कर लगाया गया। आज तीस सालों की आजादी के बाद भी बीड़ी उद्योग में काम करने वालों के लिए कोई नियम लागू नहीं है। उनकी इतनी दुर्दशा हो रही है कि वे दाने-दाने को मोहताज हैं। बीड़ी उद्योगपति सब गुजरात के लोग हैं और वे शासन के साथ मिल कर 70 लाख लोगों के जीवन के साथ खेल रहे हैं। सरकार की ओर से उसके लिए उनको कोई प्रोटेक्शन प्राप्त नहीं हो रहा है।