

It is reported that seven of the 103 employees of Gandhi Darshan have been sacked and four of the six pavilions in the complex closed. This has created a feeling of insecurity among the employees of the Gandhi Darshan. And now we are talking so much of Gandhi, this Government is wedded to him and his policy and his name. It is reported that the Gandhi Darshan Employees Welfare Association have been told that they should be prepared for reduction in salary and retrenchment. The situation is getting serious as a result of suicide committed by the wife of one of the Gandhi Darshan employees who cut her throat with a kitchen knife because her husband lost his job. The agitation of the employees is going on since last so many days without any tangible result in sight. The Government's intervention in this matter, at least in the name of Gandhiji, is sought and I plead with the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs—I do not know whether it is the Works & Housing Ministry which controls or the Education Ministry which deals with it.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): Education Ministry.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Then, you are here very much. I am sure with your kind heart you will kindly look into this and try to see that the matter is resolved and justice is done.

(iii) REPORTED POLICE FIRING ON AGRICULTURISTS IN VEDASANDUR VILLAGE IN MADURAI DISTRICT

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN (Madurai): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise under Rule 377 on an important incident that has taken place in Tamil Nadu.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You must read the text.

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Just a few words, Sir. It has been reported on the 9th that police have re-

sorted to opening fire on agriculturists in Vedasandur village in Madurai District, who have been agitating for the redressal of their grievances. I do not know what is the reason for the police to resort to opening fire and also, the Army has been called for. I hope that Government will come forward with a statement on what has happened, what is the reason and who is behind all these things.

(iv) SERVICE CONDITIONS OF TEMPORARY OFFICERS IN INDIAN RAILWAYS

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT (Rajgarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with your permission, under Rule 377 I draw the attention of the House to a matter of urgent public importance.

Sir, this is a matter pertaining to the service conditions of temporary officers on Indian Railways who have been recruited by selection through the UPSC interview, which is one of the recognised modes of recruitment laid down by the Establishment Code and recruitment rules. Every year, hundreds of such officers are selected by UPSC as well as for every other section in other Ministries. These officers are suffering in their seniority, because they have not been equated with the direct recruits in the Railways.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You must read from the written text, which you have given.

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: There are certain important points. There are court rulings against this.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Whatever you have to say, you should have given in writing. You should read whatever you have given in writing.

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: There is great stagnation and frustration caused to the temporary officers on Indian Railways due