

[Mr. Speaker]

against an individual, unless some proof is produced in the form of some papers. In this case, he has produced before me a relevant paper. In such cases I invariably insist on some documents. Whenever any member wants to make a personal attack against anybody, I ask him to give me some proof, so that I may permit him to do that. In this case, the member produced a paper; that is why I allowed him to do that.

SHRI S. NANJESHA GOWDA: The Government of India is very soft.... (Interruptions) That is, why they are not looking into this. I would request the Central Government to take note of this situation and dismiss that Government. That is all I want to say (Interruptions).

SHRI B. P. KADAM: A newspaper report cannot be the basis for raising such an important matter. Unless the hon. Member himself verifies the accuracy of such reports and takes responsibility for them, he cannot raise them in this House in this way.... (Interruptions).

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Sir, I rise on a point of order. If you look at rule 377, it says "Raising a matter which is not a point of order". It says further:

"A member who wishes to bring to the notice of the House any matter which is not a point of order shall give notice to the Secretary in writing, stating briefly the point which he wishes to raise in the House...."

Usually, this procedure is resorted to for raising a matter of public importance. It must be a matter which is a matter of concern for both the House and the Government of India. You will remember that even though Delhi is a Centrally administered area, when we wanted to raise the question of law and order, which had deteriorated, and in fact there was a morcha, we were not allowed to raise it here. I myself gave notice, you did not allow it. I

do not question it. It concerned Mr. Charan Singh. When a matter like that concerning the Central Government is not allowed, how can you allow a matter which is completely under the State and is not connected with the Centre?

MR. SPEAKER: I have already said something about that.

SHRI S. NANJESHA GOWDA: It is very clear that the Karnataka Government has failed to maintain law and order. For a month the Chief Minister and the other Ministers have been in Delhi. Do you think they are doing any work? No, Sir. The Government is not functioning. So, I request the Central Government to take note of this and dismiss it and order fresh elections.

13.06 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till Ten minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at ten minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

[SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI in the Chair]  
MATTERS UNDER RULE 377—Contd.

(ii) APPOINTMENT OF A JUDICIAL COMMISSION BY U. P. GOVERNMENT TO INQUIRE INTO RIOTS IN VARANASI

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, matters under Rule 377.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Mr. Chairman, Sir, with your kind permission, I have to make a few suggestions under Rule 377. An unfortunate riot broke out at Varanasi on October 23, 1977. The immediate origin of the trouble goes back to 1st October, 1977. There are serious allegations that during the course of the riot and even upto as late as 5th November, 1977, the police particularly the PAC, and the Administration indulged into serious atrocities on, and indiscriminate arrests of the victims themselves. In several localities, like Dalu ki gali, Dalmundi,

Mohalla Shaker Talab, Mohalla Amanullah Pura, weavers colony and others, the PAC broke open the doors, severely beat men, women and children, looted cash, jewellery and other articles and indulged into indiscriminate arrests of the victims themselves. While the PAC let loose a reign of terror and atrocities, the CRP sent by the Centre was never effectively deployed and it remained a mere silent spectator of all these atrocities.

We, namely, Janab Ibrahim Sulaiman Sait, Member of the Lok Sabha, Janab Khawaja Mohiuddin, Member of the Rajya Sabha and myself visited Varanasi and met a large number of these victims. The magazine 'Sunday' has also published a special report in its issue dated 27th November, 1977. At p. 28, in column 2, it refers to this police high-handedness and says:

" . . . . . Was it also necessary for a police officer, Ram Kumar Lall, to shout as he entered the Muslim mohalla, "This is a Pakistani mohalla! Burn this!"

At last, the U. P. Government announced a judicial inquiry. But despite such a long delay, the Commission is yet to be constituted and is yet to start functioning. In the context of what I have narrated, it is absolutely necessary in the interest of law and order and in the interest of confidence in and the efficient working of the police itself that the inquiry be made expeditiously. The commission should also be required to submit its report within a stipulated reasonable time. Otherwise, the appointment of a commission becomes a mere show. I would, therefore, urge upon the Government of India, upon our hon. Home Minister, Shri Charan Singh, to take up the matter seriously and earnestly with the Government of U. P.

**SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:** I fully support his demand.

2856 LS—10

14.17 hrs.

(iii) PUBLICATION OF BOOKS ON PANDIT NEHRU AND MAHATMA GANDHI AND ATTEMPTS AT DENIGRATING THE LEADERS.

**SHRI SAUGATA ROY (Barrackpore):** Sir, under rule 377, I rise to bring to the notice of the House a very serious matter.

Recently, a book on the life of Mahatma Gandhi, "Mahatma Gandhi and his Apostles" by Ved Mehta and another book called "Reminiscences of Nehru Era" by M. O. Mathai have come out in the market. They deal with the private lives of these two great leaders and bring into disrepute many of the famed women patriots of our country and denigrate these two leaders. . . .

**DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY:** Truth has been brought out.

**SHRI SAUGATA ROY:** It is a shame on you, Mr. Subramaniam Swamy.

**SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Idukki):** Don't add word "Swamy" to his name. (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI SAUGATA ROY:** It may be mentioned that Shri Ved Mehta is an Indian writer, living in the United States, and Shri M. O. Mathai is a former Special Assistant to Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, and he was sacked on the basis of charges levelled on the floor of this House. It must also be mentioned that a large number of women Members of Parliament had issued a statement in which they say:

"We are constrained to say that some books have been published, and newspapers are reproducing portions thereof, regarding the personal lives of eminent public men. We are shocked that a lot of respectable Indian women have been referred to in these publications in a very disparaging manner, which is highly indecent. We are not concerned with the veracity or otherwise of these things. We