

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

SIXTEENTH REPORT

SHRI G. G. SWELL (Autonomous Districts) : Sir, I beg to present the Sixteenth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA (Serampore) : Sir, the Home Minister should make a statement on the shooting in Nagaland. It is a direct responsibility of the Central Government.

MR. SPEAKER : I think he should make a statement.

12.33 hrs.

RE. ALLEGED MISCONDUCT OF P.A.C. IN FIROZABAD DISTRICT OF U.P.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Mr. Speaker, I rise to raise a very serious issue, and I do it with a feeling of sorrow and anguish. I recently visited Firozabad district. The disturbances that have taken place and the manner in which the PAC has behaved at Firozabad has created a situation in which the Centre must take the necessary remedial steps. It is heartening news that the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh on the floor of the Assembly has admitted that what has happened at Firozabad is not communal riots between Hindus and Muslims. What has really happened is misconduct of the PAC in dealing with the minority community in Firozabad. I have myself visited that place along with some other members. I was shocked and surprised to find that the Islamic Intermediate College was almost burnt, causing loss of Rs. 540,550. So many houses have been looted there. I have myself visited all the houses and I was reminded of what I saw when I visited Jessore some time back. Just as the Pakistani army had demolished a number of houses belonging to the Awami League members, in a similar manner the Provincial Armed Constabulary men entered the houses of the minority community and damaged or destroyed so many houses. They have looted the houses and taken away the ornaments. In addition to that, just in front of the police station, the Sabzi Mandi was looted and completely destroyed. I visited one of the mosques at Sadar Bazar, the Jama Masjid. The Hindus

as well as the Muslims told me that one Maulana Abdul Salam was wrapped in a carpet and he was burnt to ashes. Whichever house I visited, the Hindus as well as the Muslims in the nearby locality admitted that this looting and atrocities were not committed by one community against another. In fact, I was told that the houses of Hindus were not destroyed at all. It was not a communal riot. The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh has also ascertained that So, I would very much like that this should be gone into and investigated.

One thing more. I also found that a Hindu lady with a small baby in her arms was waiting there to get the blessings of the Maulana and she was told that he was already murdered. I was told by that lady that there was no communal spirit in their mind, that so many of them who belong to Hindu community used to visit that mosque and seek the blessings of that particular priest who she came to know was murdered.

There is one more place, Ahmednagar Bangles Cutting Factory. It was completely damaged. We were told that when this was happening, P.A.C. men were standing in front of it.

From these incidents, it is very clear that the P.A.C. men have misbehaved. I do not want to mix up the issue with demonstrations regarding Aligarh Muslim University Bill. I am one among those who would not like to take Hindu or Muslim communal posture on the Universities at all. As one belonging to the educational field, I would like to take a sober attitude to Aligarh Muslim University Bill. I do not want to mix up that issue with the atrocities committed by the P.A.C. men.

There seems to be a *Prima facie* case. I have not referred to some incidents which I have not able to confirm. I have told only an eye-witness story. Fortunately, some other Members of Parliament have also visited the place. Shrimati Subhadra Joshi had also gone there. They have also ascertained the eye-witness story. They have also got adequate information. My only request is that the Home Ministry should go into the matter. Someone should be deputed to enquire into the matter.

(Prof. Madhu Dandavate)

This Parliament should be taken into confidence. They should tell us what are the facts. If at all everything that I have seen actually is proved to be wrong, I will be the happiest person. But if it is proved to be correct, it will be a story of agony and an anguish.

There is no obligation according to the rules that the Minister should make some statement. But the matter is so serious that, I think, he should make a statement.

I would conclude by referring to one tragic episode. I met some sisters there belonging to the Muslim community and they told me the way they were harassed, their property looted and their children beaten. I told them that I will raise this issue in Parliament and I will appeal to the Prime Minister. She is not merely the Home Minister, she is not merely the Prime Minister, but she is a mother. I appeal to her motherhood, in all sincerity, and I would request her that she should take cognizance of these facts and that some one should be deputed to enquire into the matter. Through you, Sir, I would request the Minister concerned to make some statement in this connection.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : Sir, kindly allow me to make a submission. While supporting Prof. Madhu Dandavate's contention, I may point out that we gave the Call Attention Notice on the first day itself, on the so-called riots whether in Aligarh or in Banaras. Some Members of Parliament met the Chief Minister also. They pointed out what happened in Banaras, what happened in Ferozabad, about P.A.C. atrocities. This may not be a communal riot; only a communal tinge may be there. But it is a fact that the atrocities committed by the P.A.C. men are unheard of. I would request the Minister, through you, Sir, to make some statement to restore confidence in the minorities.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT): Ordinarily, I would hesitate to make any statement because this is a matter concerning the State Government. But my hon. friend has referred to many specific instances. I think, it is necessary for me to dispel the impression that the State Government is not making adequate enquiries

into the matter. As a matter of fact, the I.G. of Police along with the Commissioner was deputed by the State Government to enquire into these incidents in Ferozabad and the I.G. of Police, along with other Commissioner, was deputed to enquire into the incidents in Banaras.

Certain M.P.s visited Ferozabad and Banaras and brought to the notice of the State Government as well as the Central Government the nature of some of the incidents that had taken place. The State Government thereupon informed us that in 28 cases in Ferozabad and 20 odd cases in Banaras where specific allegations had been made, the UP CID was holding an inquiry, and in view of the sentiments expressed by various hon. Members and others, the UP Government asked us to depute one of our senior officers to make a further inquiry along with their Chief Secretary. So, we sent a Joint Secretary from the Home Ministry to Ferozabad and the Chief Secretary joined him and they also held a joint inquiry and we have yet to receive a report from them. In due course, these two officers will also go to Banaras to make a further inquiry.

12.42 hrs.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS (VIENNA CONVENTION) BILL—Contd.

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. H. P. Sharma was on his legs.

DR. H. P. SHARMA (Alwar) : Yesterday, I tried to place before the House the necessity of the inviolability of the accredited representative of a nation so that he could discharge his duties freely. In that context I had also said that he also needed immunity from the criminal and civil jurisdiction of the host country. The Vienna Convention grants total immunity from the criminal jurisdiction but immunity from civil jurisdiction is granted only in a modified form. It follows from this that if this intercourse is to be fruitful, the envoys have also to be extended immunity from the Police jurisdiction...

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (मुरैवा) :
अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपकी व्यवस्था चाहता हूँ। सदन में गणपति नहीं है।