

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (AHMADABAD) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the memory of Amarnath tragedy is still haunting the whole country. Hundreds of pilgrims are missing as yet. Their relatives are running from pillar to post to know their whereabouts. An uncertainty is prevailing about the missing pilgrims as to whether they are alive or died. I visited Srinagar and Pahalgam and at that time I told this House that dead bodies of some pilgrims had been cremated by the state authorities there after taking their photographs and identification. Central Government and hon. Prime Minister has made an announcement to make an *ex-gratia* payment of Rs. 2 lakh to the families of each deceased Jammu and Kashmir Government has also announced an *ex-gratia* payment of Rs. 50,000 to the families of each deceased. But so far all the dead bodies have not yet been identified.

Sir, through you I would like to know from the Government as to how the members of families of pilgrims, who died in this tragedy could get this money, as they have not yet been given death certificates. This tragedy took place at Pahaigaam as near Srinagar and people from various parts of the country cannot go there personally. They will not be able to get government's assistance till they get death certificate after identifying the dead bodies of their relatives.

I request the Union Government to set up a cell under the supervision of an I.A.S. officer to consider the applications for issuance of death certificates in respect of dead pilgrims so that their relatives could get the money, if the Government is actually sincere in this matter. The Central Government should make necessary arrangements in this regard.

Yesterday I met the hon. Minister of Home Affairs in this regard. He said that he was not aware of any such announcement made by the hon. Prime Minister. Announcements are made but how these are to be implemented? The Minister of Home Affairs says that he is not aware of it. But announcement has been made. Many other issues are involved in this matter like the issuance of death certificates, identification of death certificates, identification of dead bodies, just as in Gujarat 25 dead bodies were identified with the help of photographs only who were cremated. Now who will issue death certificates for them. These are serious problems. Hon. Minister, Shri Srikanta Jena and Ram Vilas Paswanji are also sitting here. I request them to evolve some procedure or to set up some cell to solve the problems of people so that relatives of those pilgrims could get the amount of compensation.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There should be some co-ordination in this matter.

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA (QUATER DELHI) : What arrangements have been made for providing grants etc.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : How those people would be able to get that. There is no mechanism for this and even Home Minister does not know about it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Who will issue death certificates. How the whole system would be coordinated?

[English]

Where and whom should they contact?

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, after ascertaining the facts, I will convey to the hon. Member how this is being disposed of.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There should be a statement on this.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : At the moment, I have no information, but I will collect the information.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : You make a statement tomorrow because the hon. Prime Minister has already announced an *ex-gratia* of Rs. 2 lakh to each relative of the deceased. How do they get the *ex-gratia* amount from the Government? There should be some machinery through which one can know about this.

SHRI VEERABHADRAM THAMMINENI (KHAMMAM) : Sir, I want to speak in my mother-tongue, that is, Telugu. I have already given the notice.

[Translation]

\*Mr. Deputy Speaker, I want to bring an important issue to your notice and through you to the notice of Government.

The Radical Group in Andhra Pradesh is now indulging in a Spate of brutal murders. Radical group is a terrorist organisation operating in Andhra Pradesh for many years in the past and especially in the recent years the brutal killings by this terrorist organisation have gone up considerably. Very recently, a popular farmers' leader and a well known leader of CPI(M) in the district, Shri Shyamala Venkata Reddy was brutally axed to death on September 6 at 5.30 P.M. The murder took place in broad day light when he was working in his farm. Law and Order is a State subject. No doubt. But the Centre too has its share of responsibility. The terrorist activities are not restricted only to Andhra Pradesh. We all are aware of the fact that these activities are taking place in the States of North East, Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir. Though the nature of these activities differ from State to State, their motto remains the same. Hence the Government of India should at once initiate action for curbing the terrorist activities in the country. The Andhra Pradesh Government has already initiated several steps in this regard. The State Government is imposing ban on terrorist outfits. On certain occasions, this ban is being lifted on a trial basis. But the State Government has not been successful in curbing the terrorist activities.

Sir, there are certain vital issues which are helping in keeping alive the terrorism. There are certain fundamental issues and problems concerning people which have to be tackled without any further loss of time. Those problem have to be tackled first.

\*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Telugu

Sir, the Central Government should ask for the necessary information from Andhra Pradesh Government and extend the required help to the State Government for curbing terrorism. Also, it is necessary to have a perfect co-ordination at the central Government level for wiping out terrorism in different States. These terrorist outfits are indulging in the brutal killings of political leaders of all the parties. They are indulging in the destruction of properties worth crores of rupees. They are boycotting the elections. They are terrorising the people to stay away from the elections which are so vital for the success of democracy. They do not even hesitate to throw country bombs and kill people if they participate in elections.

Hence, after taking stock of the situation the Central Government should issue necessary guidelines to State Governments to tackle this issue. The Central Government should also extend necessary help whenever it is sought for by the States. It should also co-ordinate steps taken in different States for curbing terrorism. The Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh Governments have asked for the help from the centre. The Central Government should help them curb terrorist activities in their respective States.

Once again appealing for timely action by the Central Government to make the country free from terrorist activities and Thanking you for providing an opportunity to me to raise the issue on the floor of this august House, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHAN LAI SHARMA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise an important issue in this House. The Government has announced several schemes for the country including the rural areas. Unfortunately no work has been taken up to clear the stagnated rain water in Delhi, the capital of the country. 1071 colonies are waterlocked and situation has worsened due to heavy rains. The main reason for it is that these colonies are listed as unauthorised in Government papers. The state Government of Delhi therefor, cannot undertake any development work in these areas. I request the Central Government to regularise those colonies, so that developmental work could be taken up. If there is any legal problem in it, that should be resolved. People in these colonies are leading a miserable life as knee-deep water has been logged there. The dirty Sewer water has entered their houses. It is really shameful that this is the state of affairs in the capital. I request the Central Government to regularise these 1071 colonies immediately so that State Government could take up developmental work there. Recently High Court has given orders to D.D.A, DESU and MCD that.

[English]

They should work in better coordination for the development works in Delhi.

[Translation]

Neither the Central Government is performing their work nor it is permitting the Delhi Government to

undertake its work. Delhi Government has its limitations. More than 48 lakh people are living in these colonies and they are leading a miserable life. I request the Central Government that in the first phase it should make some temporary arrangements with the help of Delhi Government. 1071 colonies should be regularised at the earliest so that Delhi Government could complete this work. Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI V.V. RAGHAUAN (TRICHUR) : A pension scheme for bank employees was agreed upon in 1993. Despite the binding provisions of the agreement, most of the private sector banks are not implementing the scheme. They are not disbursing the pension to the employees. In the agreement, both public sector and private sector have agreed to implement the scheme. On 4th January 1966 the Finance Ministry gave a directive through letter No. F4/8/2/96-A and asked the banks, even if it is finally not agreed, to make *ad hoc* payment to the retirees. Even after getting the directive from the Finance Ministry, most of the private banks are not implementing the scheme. They are not paying the retirees their due pension.

So, I urge upon the Finance Minister and the Finance Ministry to ask the private sector banks also to implement the scheme.

I also urge upon the minister to arrange to disburse the payment even on an *ad hoc* basis. Only giving a directive and keeping silent is not enough. So, the Minister should intervene and compel the banks to pay the retirees pension.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (HOWRAH) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am not mentioning anything during Zero Hour. I gave a notice.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Your name is there.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : I am not mentioning anything in the Zero Hour. My case is not pertaining to Zero Hour but it is pertaining to Articles 185 of the Constitution of India and also Article 75 (3) of the Constitution about the right of the Members and the Ministers. I ask for a very urgent ruling on this matter because the House will be adjourned on 13th. If that ruling is not given, I think the constant harassment of the innocent Members might continue. We have to take into account the manner in which things are going outside the House. Therefore, I gave a notice. I hope the hon. Speaker will dispose of this matter today. I am not disturbing the Zero Hour proceedings now because you have asked the Members to speak. But that matter is very urgent. I gave a notice this morning. My fear is that purposely a deliberate attempt has been made to dilute the authority of the Ministers, to dilute the authority of the Government, not Government in term a of Party but as an institution. While the Ministers are accountable to the Lok Sabha collectively, for acts of their omissions and commissions, they can be questioned by the Lok Sabha. (Interruptions)