

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA :
How? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV
(Azamgarh) : You cannot dictate the Speaker like that. You are a Minister and you should at least follow the rules. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTER-
JEE : This is a very bad system. the Ministers intervening like that. It is nothing to do with their Departments. Most disturbing Ministers. (*Inter-
rptions*)

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV :
Sir, without your permission. let the Ministers not speak like that.

MR. SPEAKER : May I ask the young, enthusiastic and very knowledgeable Ministers to address the House, through the Speaker?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTER-
JEE : You should have an Orientation Course for them.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chit-
torgarh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir. I am sure, you will appreciate the gravity of the situation wherein the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Meghalaya becomes the Leader of a political party and is attempting to function in a dual role simultaneously.

while, as Leader of a political party, he is exercising his functions as the Speaker and is threatening. Please let it not be considered as impertinence, if I were to suggest... (*Inter-
rptions*)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : It is a very unusual situation. It is so unusual, therefore, I am commenting on it. Normally, I do not. (*Inter-
rptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTER-
JEE : As a Speaker of the Lok Sabha, you have to kindly give your ruling. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I can understand the feelings of the Members belonging to different parties, and at the same time, supposing we discuss what happens in other Legislatures or discuss what the Presiding Officer over there is doing, then it becomes a precedent and it creates difficulties.

So, I would request the Members not to please raise it and you can do it in a different fashion, outside also. But if we discuss what is happening in other Legislatures, then it becomes a precedent.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : There is nothing to clap.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : If you do like this it would be very difficult for me. I am on my legs and you are speaking.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Let us stick to it. We are on a very important Resolution. We are all interested in knowing Shri V. P. Singh's view on this. May I request him to please come to the Motion and express his opinion.

(*Interruptions*)

17.00 hrs.

**Motion re. atrocities on the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and other weaker sections in the country—
contd.**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri Ram Vilas Paswan on the 13th August, 1991, namely :—

“That this House do express its concern over the atrocities being committed on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections of the society in the country and urge upon the Government to take early necessary steps to prevent their recurrence.”

[Translation]

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH (Fatehpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the brutal killing of people belonging to Scheduled Castes and scheduled tribes in Tsundur village of Guntur district is certainly heart rending. But if we want to know the reason behind such incidents we may have to delve deep into the history of thousands of years. This incident is not a local incident. It is a volcano which bursts here and there. These killings are a reflection on the Government. The organs of Government like the police and others were present but they were mute spectators, as they have been for thousands of years. The Scheduled Castes are discriminated socially, politically and economically and there are cases where they were mutilated and thrown in the drains. This is all because of our system and this incident is just a reflection of that. But what is the attitude of the ruling elite. The district magistrate remained unaware of the situation for twenty four hours. The incident took place on 6th of the month and after three days when the hon. Chief Minister met the hon. Minister of Home Affairs the lat-

ter stated that he did not possess definite information. This reveals the true picture of the entire system. It was really a ruthless murder. Let us for the moment keep this system aside. The entire system is so insensitive that it did not even care to collect the details of the incident. On the other side Dr. Ravi Chandra Verma who belonged to a Scheduled Tribe and conducted the post-mortem of the dead bodies suffered such an agony that he committed suicide. What is the reaction of a particular section of the society against which injustice has been done. For them it is a great tragedy so Dr. Ravi Chandra Committed suicide. But what is the reaction of the ruling class? It is an irony that they totally remained unconcerned of what happened in the various parts of the country. On being passed the information by Shri N. T. Ramarao in the evenings of the day of the incident Shri Paswan promptly submitted a memorandum the very next day.

SHRI BUTA SINGH (Jalore) : It is not the ruling party but the ruling class.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I am referring to the class and not levelling charges against others to acquit myself. It is a matter of great concern for all of us.

SHRI BUTA SINGH : You referred to the ruling party.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I did not mean a party. We are all equally responsible for it. It is not a matter of making allegations and counter allegations. It is a matter of self-contemplation and it would be a good gesture if the Minister of Home Affairs visits the place. My submission is that the hon. Prime Minister

should also go there. It would be a signal to the administration that it should remain vigilant and alert. It is not an allegation, Buta Singh ji. Such happenings cause pain and when this pain crosses the stage of anguish it causes commotion. That is the situation today.

When I was the Chief Minister an incident took place. Some persons belonging to Scheduled Tribes were killed. Some persons belonging to the backward classes were also killed the same day. Police was not involved in it. But as I was holding such a responsible post, I asked myself whether I had any right to be in that place. There is no law or rule to force anybody to think on these lines. But when we are holding high positions we must ask such questions from ourselves because we are responsible for such a situation. But it is not provided in any statute book. We, who are holding high posts, will have to set some examples in public life. It is not that we do that work with our own hands. But when an untoward incident takes place, we must share the responsibility and listen to the voice of our conscience. There is no need to sacrifice life as Shri Ravi Chandra did. However, one can resign in protest. An awareness should be created so that such matters are taken seriously while importance of the role of police and Government is indisputable. It is there in this case and it is indisputable. They have a direct responsibility.

Whenever any untoward incident takes place persons belonging either to the backward or to the neglected sections of society become target. In Delhi itself houses of Shri Paswan's and Shri Anadi Charan Das who is

the Chairman of Parliamentary Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were set on fire. Jatia ji also related a similar incident. Why only such people become the target? How these happenings can be checked? It is absolutely correct that the administration should take action in this regard. The demand to set up special courts is also justified. The investigation report of a judge will again have to be brought in court.

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL (Godda): He should also belong to the Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I will come to that also. The previous National Front Government had decided that special courts would be set up in each district. I think that Shri Paswan's proposal of setting up an exclusive court would enable the Government to provide justice. At the same time the officials who are negligent in their duty should be awarded severe punishment which should serve as a warning to others. Those who were present at the spot, should be dismissed with immediate effect. The matter should be dealt in a proper administrative manner. However, we will have to go deep in order to find out how such incidents can be stopped. If we fail to understand the social structure we would not be able to understand these injustices. Power is misused to commit atrocities. But who possess power and strength? Those on whom they are applied definitely do not have it. Now the thing is that if they are to be saved, powers should be shared with them. Until it is done, power would continue to be used against them. The use of

power against them can only be stopped by making them partner in power. Some effective administrative measures must be taken. Until they are made partner in power, atrocities and injustice will continue to be committed against them.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that if we look at the social structure and power structure, we come across the truth that is very ugly and tragic. Those sections do not only need to have share in power at Ministerial level but in bureaucracy also which forms an important part of the power. The lower sections of the society have a little share in bureaucracy while upper sections have a lion share. The upper strata of the society enjoys more share in power structure. Now the question is how can they get their due share in power even after 40—43 years of independence. They have been deprived of it because there is none to share the power with them. They have to suffer because those who are in power are not willing to share power with them. They share it with their favourites. This is a long story of 43 years and it would take long to understand. We can not doubt anybody's intention. There are a number of people, in every party who want to do something. But in the prevailing social system, power structure, there is one or the other lacuna which creates hinderances in implementing them. What is the reason that despite various announcements various promises in election manifestos and sincerity of political parties that we have failed to do something for them. There is a lack of will-power somewhere in the entire structure. I am talking of only Ministers or Ministries but of the whole structure including political parties; the Government bureaucracy

and parties—are wheelers of power. This forms the entire structure and there is lack of will power somewhere in this structure. Those who have suffered know the agony. They have strong determination and will power. Those who have suffered, know how to retaliate. Those who have not suffered cannot retaliate. Shri Buta Singh is correct, when he says that Shri Ram Vilas Paswan can do it because he has passed through this agony. Similarly Shastri ji and Shri Ram Nihor can also do it. They know each and every thing. They all have experience of that life. This matter should be discussed extensively. I will come to this point afterwards. The element of strong will power is required to be brought in the present system, and I am not talking of only providing the facilities but of sharing the power also. The question is not that how much facilities are to be provided to these sections. Even a Member of the family cannot be happy until he is associated in the decision making process in the family. You may provide any facility but he will be happy only when he would be associated in the decision making process in the family. All the members of the family can remain happy when they all are associated in the family matters.

This is a case for their participation in Government and bureaucracy. It is my opinion that if we launch a campaign to ensure their participation in the power structure of political parties, we can effectively check the atrocities. Who are the people holding power in the present structure? Sir, this is an issue related to the working class and not to caste and class. When we raised this issue for discussion we sidelined the same terming it as an issue related to caste. Who are the people that make

labour force today? They are people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. If a person is born in a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe family, it is ninety-nine per cent certain that he will be part of the labour force. Few exceptions may be there. Who are the people belonging to backward classes today? The producer class such as, barber, washerman, potter and milkman with small resources, mainly form our labour force. If we take the entire country into account, where do these people stand and when the issue of giving them their right place is taken up, resentment comes to the fore. Then this resentment turns into violence. As and when interference is made, we observe such incidents. Such steps are opposed also. We are acquainted with Kesariji. On the 7th August while speaking on Mandal Commission in Rajya Sabha he had courageously and boldly supported the issue and everyone had to listen to his views but at the same time it is a matter of happiness that despite the strong opposition encountered in this connection within a year various parties have begun to realise that the depressed classes should be given their due. We understand that ups and downs in elections is something immaterial but within a year it has been observed that the impact of this move is tremendous. It is an excellent sign because it is easier to break the iron shackles of bondage but concerted effort is required to change human thinking. I understand that in that direction it has shown impact on various parties and today it is a subject of discussion in society. I observe that it is an excellent move and it will be discussed further.

What remains now is the issue of

giving them a place in the power structure. Ram Vilasji had raised this issue. You have incorporated it in our Constitution but despite this the people belonging to Schedule Caste are deprived of their share. Why are they not given their place in Rajya Sabha? We speak on this subject and express our concern for the classes but when the issue of giving them their rights comes before us we withdraw. We are not sparing anyone. So much so, we are not sparing ourselves too. As such it is not a question of blaming anyone. When the issue of giving them their right place in administrative structure is under consideration what is the hitch in giving them their due in Rajya Sabha? When we can come here as elected representatives, the issue of providing them their place in Rajya Sabha is also worth consideration and it can prove to be a good move in the right direction.

The matter relates to administration. It is true that had there been people of the cadre of D.M., S.P. there, perhaps the incidents of Tsundur village would not have taken such an ugly turn and therefore we have taken to clear the backlog. Till date there is only an order or a circular to give the Schedule Castes and Schedule Tribes their share in jobs. There is no enactment. We had taken into consideration the issue of such enactment and it is justified. I would request Kesariji to introduce a Bill to provide for reservation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Parliament and also for reservation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Class I services. I assure you that the way we have succeeded in passing this Bill, we will also be able to pass that Bill with the support of everyone here, we will do it with joint efforts. The need has

been felt because half a century has gone by but the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have only got 10-11 per cent reservation in class-I services whereas the target was to give them twenty two and a half per cent reservation. Justice should be done and it should be given a concrete shape. As such this enactment is necessary.

As far as the question of carry over is concerned, it happens several times that posts for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are advertised. If a suitable candidate is not available, that post is kept vacant for some period and then filled later on. I did an experiment in Uttar Pradesh and it was a good experience. I asked that the vacancy be advertised once again and filled by a Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidate who was considered the best. After all you will have to fill that post by a Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidate. Suppose he is not selected at the time of interview in the first instance, the vacancy should not be filled for six months and declare that in the forthcoming interview the post will be filled by a candidate belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe alone who is adjudged the best. This will prevent carry over. That experience was good. The question of backlog is different but there would be no backlog in future. Same is the case with Selection Board. We had given thought to a move to take Members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and minorities in the Board. We initiated it and noticed its impact. These people have a feeling that perhaps justice is not done in their case. Justice will be done to them and there will be no injustice and partiality if in the Selection Board comprising of 4-6-7 or 11 Members, some

members are from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes also.

I want to highlight the second point which has been a subject of discussion several times here. Merit is required at this hour also but whatever happened in Tsundur recently and you are well aware of the administration. It is not that the functions of administration changes totally if a new Government comes to power. Minor changes do take place but most of the things remain the same. But now the question is what are the priorities of administration and this point should be discussed. Why is a person not allowed to reach the Zenith merely because he is a gold medalist or has scored excellent marks. Jaswant Singhji was in army, there may be many other gold medalists in army and as such he should have been above them all. But the point is that merit is not taken into consideration in many of the cases there. Merit is according to the work performed. It is not that the people running the administration are not knowledgeable or they are not informed about the happenings around them but the grievance lies in the fact that nobody is really bothered. No one is genuinely concerned. Now the person who has gone through this turmoil. Why should a person who has not suffered this agony be concerned. As such there should be someone who has experienced this pain. Therefore, I assert that when the oppressed are given a partial share in administration, I do not say that it should be 100 per cent but when they are given their share, the part which undergoes this pain will feel it and this is how it will be linked to administration. In the present times administration is not linked to the masses and the poor.

Now the question is how to link it with administration—are we administering the human material in the purview of merit. Is merit in existence? If human material is to be administered, human attachment which is a vital merit, will become nonexistent and consequently this merit will prove useless and futile. To rear a child should it be with his mother or with a nurse? The nurse has merit but when the question of bringing up a child comes the child will be given to the mother because of emotional aspect. As such a mother is a mother. Not because she is full of knowledge but because she cares for her child.

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As such it is necessary to think and discuss about the present administrative set up and we are repeatedly trying to raise this issue. It is raised in different forms and shapes but the real issues are regarding responsive Government.

Please concentrate on only one issue. Well the discussion on Mandal Commission is different and I will not involve it now in this discussion. But when the issue of giving reservation to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is discussed, it is often said that Paswanji and some other Members of Parliament have now become financially sound and therefore why should they be given benefit of reservation? What is the position? Your commitment was for 22½ per cent reservation. You said that this room was allotted to us. We are sitting and the room is filled only ten per cent instead of twenty two and a half. We are standing at the door step and do not allow anyone to come in and comment that they have become bulky and are occupying

the places of others. We say that the room is half filled and therefore it should be filled to its capacity. Before filling the room you are saying that they have put on weight so as to prevent people to come in. All right, you are not in favour of permanent reservation. These provisions of reservation may be dispensed with after a period of ten years when the social upliftment of these communities has been achieved. Don't snatch away the food before offering it. Watch its progress for 5-10 years, thereafter you dispense with these provisions.

We talk about labour participation in management. The labourers are on the site. But the main problem is that the labour class, mainly consists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other backward classes and poor people. We can give them share in power by offering labour participation in management. We cannot give them big companies. They have absolutely no share in our companies. They have absolutely no share in our economic management, in politics and in administration. By offering labour participation in management we can give a due share to these communities in economic structure to make them feel that they have participated in the process of economic decisions. There are several small points but they are all relevant. Such as petrol pump agencies, the gas agencies and many other such agencies which are under the jurisdiction of Government. These facilities are availed by those who are influential and have money but why should they be restricted to them? If you are really concerned about their economic upliftment, give them their due share, make available to them bank loans and work for their upliftment and it is

only then that they can be uplifted.

We talk of land reforms which is good. If we look at the structure of power, we find that there are Members in all the parties which have sufficient land. If we touch this issue they will resist. To implement the land reforms there should be a tribunal consisting of the representatives of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes so as to undertake an on-the-spot enquiry for the correction of land records. Sir, land cannot be concealed. If you want to identify the owner, every labourer can tell you who is the owner of that land. Along with it the view expressed by the hon. Members that a person born in a particular caste is given benefits when he goes to reservation in one State but is denied in the other State. Paswanji had thought over this issue. I think that many excellent suggestions have come in this regard and many hon. Members have spoken keeping themselves above the party politics. In real terms, unless the society is enlightened, legislation alone is futile. A nation's destiny is not built by legislation or laws. Change was brought only by enlightening the society. If we study our culture in retrospect we find that the change is traditional. We find that Lord Vishnu was practical and a protector of status and that was the reason behind his relationship with Goddess Lakshmi and not with Saraswati. He formed alliance with Goddess Lakshmi with his *Gada* and *Chakra*. Who does the work of bringing change? It is done by Lord Shankar. He is surrounded by whom? He is surrounded by ghosts, snakes, scorpions who are detested by the society and they are the ones who bring in transformation. If you wish to bring change in real terms you should bring together the detested elements

and it is only then that change can be brought.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Do remember that Saraswati was also the wife of Lord Vishnu.

[English]

SHRIMATI BIBHU KUMARI DEVI (Tripura-East): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I would like to place in this august House, a land deed—a land record of a poor tribal who, according to him, is over hundred years old. His land papers show that there were three brothers. Today, the sole survivor is fighting for his rights and that of his brother's children, grand children's rights and great grand children's rights.

Sir, I am a first timer in this Parliament and may make many mistakes and, therefore, in all humility, I would like to place my views before all the Hon. Members of this House and pose a question to them. Have we really provided for the poor and needy a system which can give them justice?

This poor tribal in 1950, immediately after partition was dispossessed of his land, overnight he was reduced to a landless labourer. He was uneducated and therefore, he could not take legal action. With all due respects to my Opposition friends, particularly the Marxists in Tripura, this old man went to the then Revenue Minister of the Left Government who gave him a slip written in Bengali: apparently this uneducated old person did not find the person for whom the message was sent. He kept that piece of paper—it is also with me here at present—which happens to be an indirect guideline with regard to the

dispossession of his land. This happened in 1985.

Sir, I am compelled to believe that there is no justice for the economically and socially weak; justice is only an utopian idea for those who are poor and a political gimmick for us, the political parties. Let us be honest about this. Where is the accountability for the Government and the bureaucrats in law, legal aid for women, harijans and tribals? Is there any way a long drawn legal battle can be stopped by a poor person? How can he get justice? Land reforms, land acts and land laws say that the land belonging to SC and ST cannot be transferred to non-tribals. Yet all prime lands of the tribals have been grabbed at a pittance or have been taken without giving compensation or adequate compensation. All big projects have only ousted these poor people and driven them into the arms of bonded labour. How many hon. Members have espoused their cause singly or collectively?

We women also come under the backward class. They are in the shackles of the past either in the name of religion or social custom. We have recently heard of little Ameena but many like her have been smuggled out of this country to be sold in the flesh market. But, Sir, unitedly in this House, in one voice, no Party has joined on this national issue, which is as bad as molestation and rape cases and outrage committed against women—whether in Tripura or elsewhere. Nobody can absolve himself or herself by saying that it was not done in his or her constituency.

Through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Members of this House that justice and truth are

one and the same face of the coin. Nobody can make such national problems a prerogative of his or her Party. It is our patriotic duty to safeguard the respect and life and lives of the Harijans, backward class people, tribals and women.

I may give suggestions now. I would like to suggest that separate special courts and legal cells should be constituted to fight cases which deal with social and economic offences, particularly against women and children which include all sections of the people, whether tribals or non-tribals.

The bureaucratic accountability should be there. If the law is not implemented, it is because in many undertakings and Government departments, job reservation policies have not been implemented. I may mention here, with regard to my own State, in Tripura, in Agartala Municipality, since 1977 the tribal reservation policies have not been observed. I had written letters to the Centre, when I was a Minister in the State and I found that no action had been taken. After the tragic assassination of Mrs. Gandhi, after the riots, everybody took up the cause of the Sikhs which was very correct. But in 1980 also, we had terrible riots in our State. If you remember, little children, little tribal children, women were raped, molested and they had become handicapped for the rest of their life. Nobody thought of giving them employment.

We have big projects displacing these tribals. From Khowai Valley project, for instance, we are only getting 3 k.w. of power. The granary of Tripura covering 70 square miles of Valley have been submerged in the water. Who are getting fishing rights? It is the non-tribals who are getting the rights. We

have over one lakh Jhoomias. All these policies that are made are meant to be implemented but they will never be implemented because we are economically poor. Until we raise our voice, as Mr. Sitaram Kesari has said yesterday — “Jab tak dhanush aur teer nahein lete hain, hamari awaz sunai nahein parti” it is difficult to get. It is not a question of becoming aggressive or wanting to talk of insurgency. I would like to draw the attention of all our friends and colleagues here that the cause of the poor is not the prerogative of anyone Party or anyone individual. It is the collective cause. We do not want them to be used as pawn in the game of any politician.

Therefore, bureaucratic accountability should be there if the law is not implemented. I say this because in many Undertakings and Government Departments, job reservation policies, as I said earlier, have not been followed.

So, let us all, who are present here, the Members, be remembered as people who have stretched the imagination of the people of India.

Let us become a gateway to new horizons and visions.

That will be our achievement and our proof of sincerity.

Thank you.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU (Tenali) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sure that you will appreciate the gravity of the situation in Tsundur village of Guntur district, a village which is in my parliamentary constituency.

Though I have been expressing great concern over this barbaric act and though I have raised this issue suc-

cessively on 8th and 9th of this month to draw the attention of this House and also of the government, I am really sorry to say that it is painful for me that I am unable to get a statement on this grave issue even after a week of its happening.

I have been very keenly following the debate yesterday and today and I am really puzzled that every one in this august House has been expressing great concern over the provisions that are to be extended to Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections of the society and also to cater very judiciously the provisions that have been enshrined in the Indian Constitution and every one of us have been expressing that justice has not been done to the Scheduled Caste people all these years. I do not know who is accusing whom, whether the Opposition benches are accusing the Treasury benches or the Treasury benches are accusing somebody else. I do not know since I am a new entrant to this Parliament. I am really getting puzzled who actually prevented our senior leaders who were at the helm of affairs for all these years for not dispensing social justice to these Scheduled Castes and downtrodden people.

In this particular matter, two issues have taken place in Tsundur village of Guntur district. One has to condemn them that it is barbaric attitude, treacherous attitude and a shameful attitude in the contemporary society.

Having heard about this issue which had taken place on the 6th of this month — on 7th we came to know of it — and then immediately we prepared a note and we tried to draw the attention of the House and we have given a copy of the Memorandum with the particulars available on that day to the

Leader of this House requesting him to make a statement because as many as 20 Harijans were massacred in a particular village.

It is pertinent to note that nine days have elapsed but there is no statement from this House and we can very well understand the seriousness that has been attached to this particular problem. About 20 Harijans have been ruthlessly killed in a village.

On the 9th of this month, myself, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, Shri Roshan Lal, Shri B. N. Reddy, Shri Lal Jan Basha and Shri Balayogi — six of us — have proceeded to that village. On the 10th, we went there to have the first-hand information about this incident. It is really pitiable to say that though the incident has take place on the 6th of this month till the 9th of this month the CM could not go and visit the place. This is an incident where 20 Harijans were murdered.

In this connection I would like to cite an earlier example. When there was only one Harijan who was unfortunately subjected to this type of barbaric act and murder in Necrukonda village in 1987, on the very next day the then Prime Minister of this country was there in that village. I have been hearing my friends — Shri Mukul Wasnik was also mentioning yesterday — that we should not politicise this issue. We are not politicising the issue. This is not a political issue. But we only urge upon the Government to do social justice to all the sections of society. As I was mentioning, on the very next day, the then Prime Minister of this country was there. We are really feeling sorry over one thing. Our present Prime Minister hails from my own State. We really felt very much delighted when a South Indian particularly a person

from Andhra Pradesh has been elevated to such a highest post in this country. But when 20 Harijans were murdered, the Prime Minister did not show his concern over this incident and leaving aside paying a visit to the place, he has not even come out with a Statement expressing his agony over this issue, expressing his concern over this issue, directing his State Government to take all necessary steps as far as this issue is concerned. We are really pained at this silence of the Prime Minister as far as this particular issue is concerned. Here, I am not going to narrate the inch-by-inch events that have taken place because several of my senior colleagues have expressed the events as they have taken place. I will only point out certain three or four aspects of failures on the part of the Police Administration on the part of the Revenue Administration and also more than anything else on the part of the State Government itself which has shown a lot of apathy to this incident. A lot of apathy has been shown to this particular incident. I want to tell how casually this incident has been treated by the State Government.

Sir, the events emanate right from 7th July onwards where a small quarrel has taken place.

MR. SPEAKER : It will take time. We are considering the situation in the entire country. You may make a reference but not in very great detail.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : I am not going into the minute details. But the village comes in my Parliamentary constituency. Let me take a little bit of time and express how a twist has been given to this incident. The point is, justice is not going to be dispensed with in that village. That is what I am going to drive

home in this House. A very small quarrel has taken place on the 7th July in a theatre. If the authorities had not shown their silence over this issue, if they had not shown their indifference, the developments would not have led to this type of murders. From the 7th July onwards, prohibitory order under Section 144 was imposed in that village. What does it mean? When the Police Administration has imposed Section 144 in that village, is it not a grave situation that is prevailing in that village? Does it not mean that a situation beyond the control of anybody is prevailing in that village? When Section 144 was imposed and as many as 59 police officers were there — one Circle Inspector, eight Sub-Inspectors and fifty constables — on the sixth of this month in the village and about twenty Harijans were killed in the very presence of 59 officers. It is a clear cut failure on the part of the police officers. It was done by the people who have resorted to this type of action with the connivance of the police officers. When once this act had taken place, when once as many as twenty people had been killed, the matter was not reported to the district authorities for 24 hours. Is it such an easy act? Is it such a casual matter that is to be slept over? For 24 hours, the matter was not reported either to the District Magistrate or to the district police officer. You can very well understand as to what amount of interest has been attached to this at the police level and also at the Revenue Department's level. The District Magistrate himself has very rightly confessed that the matter has not been passed on to him. As far as official machinery is concerned, I leave it to the wisdom of this House to fix the responsibility either on the police officer or on the District

Revenue Officer or whosoever is there for their slackness in this regard.

I may say, our Hon. Minister for Rural Development also paid a visit to that village on the 9th and he said that this was a clear-cut case of failure on the part of the police administration and he also suggested that the top officers of the Police Department in the State had to be sent out or else they should resign.

On the 10th, nine bodies were recovered out of the 22 persons who were reportedly murdered. Nine bodies were handed over to the kith and kin of those persons on the 10th, after four days. It was very well known to the police that they were going to take out a procession in the village on the 10th evening. They were gathering as many as 10,000 people for that procession. Not only the kith and kin of those deceased persons but several others were also infiltrated in that. This is where, I would like to impress upon this House that the situation had gone to the hands of some anti-social extremist forces on that particular day. The situation was not under control. There was no retaliation on that particular day. There was a big procession of 10,000 people including the anti-social elements when the dead bodies were taken from Tenali to Tsundur Village, a distance of 17 kilometres. In such case, it is the normal expectation that there will be some disturbance; there will be some type of hooliganism; there will be some type of mischief played. On that particular day, though the District Magistrate was there in the village, the Deputy IG was there and also the SP was there along with 300 police officials, yet the so-called anti-social elements resorted to lot of hooliganism in which one Shri Malla

Reddy from the upper caste was also killed. This has happened because of the successive failure of the police administration as also the administration in the State. This murder took place on the 10th. The police officers were there; the revenue officers were there in the village. On 10th, one Shri Malla Reddy was killed, fifty houses were set on fire and several houses were broke open and looted. It is really very shameful to say that several women were molested on that particular day. This act was done right in the presence of the District Collector and several police officers in the village. Is it the society where we have to live in ?

Is it the society, in which everyone is now asking for social justice? The things are going from bad to worse. That is the reason why I say that there was a thorough failure not only on 5th and 6th but also on 10th and on those days the administration — the police, revenue and other agencies — had broken down, resulting in a thorough failure. That is why I say that all those officers who had been there on those days should be dragged to any extent and I want an appropriate action to be inflicted upon them. This, I would like to leave to the wisdom of either the State Government or the Central Government.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : How much time would you require ?

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : I need another ten minutes.

MR. SPEAKER : If you are relating all these facts, then, it is very difficult and also nothing can be done from here. It is the State Government inter-

vening in between and all these details can be given in writing also. I have a very long list of Members who want to speak.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Sir, I will complete it. I have taken only 10 minutes.

MR. SPEAKER : You have taken a very long time. Ten minutes is more than sufficient. Please be brief and come to the point.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : A very bad trend is being set in the State. We, from the opposition benches, particularly from TDP, are not trying to politicise the issue, But the issue is being politicised by the Congress Party itself. This issue is not going to be allowed to defuse and the issue is not going to end at that level. It is not new for them. On an earlier occasion also, for changing the Chief Minister of the State, communal violence has been utilised as a weapon. Now, another occasion has come and another carnage is going on and they have been trying to change the Chief Minister of the State, by taking this particular incident to their advantage. That is why, I am trying to impress this upon the House. There was also a statement made by a Congress MLA that the Chief Minister should immediately step down. *(Interruptions)* What I am trying to say is that this issue should not be politicised. *(Interruptions)* I am not telling this on my own accord. There was a statement made by the Congress MLA himself. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : There are other Members who want to speak. Please conclude.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : A special court has

to be constituted, because justice delayed is justice denied. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not repeat it. That has already been said.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: This court should go into the details of the incident that had happened on 6th and also on 10th. Since there were several women who were subjected to lot of insult and against whom atrocities were committed, a team of three lady Members, preferably from a judicial side should be constituted. They should go to the houses and then make enquiries as to what exactly had happened because, the social inhibitions are coming in their way to come out and to reveal the facts. The names of those persons who come out with facts, need not be revealed.

I suggest that relief measures should also be extended to all those who had suffered on 6th and 10th. Also, a peace committee be constituted so that the effect of this incident will not be spread to the neighbouring villages.

18.00 hrs

MR. SPEAKER: That is to be done by the local authorities. Please don't take time of the House on things that cannot be done by this House.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: A directive can be given by the Central Government because the Government of Andhra Pradesh is not reacting. I am saying this from the events that happened. After the incident that happened on the 6th, the Chief Minister has come down to Delhi on the 7th. If he was

serious about it, he would have gone directly to the village. So, instead of changing the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh on every occasion, we demand that the State Government itself should be dismissed and a fresh mandate taken from the people.

(Interruptions)

18.01 hrs

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Modalities for exempting the Small and Marginal Farmers from Fertiliser Price Increase

(English)

MR. SPEAKER: I have received one letter from the hon. Minister Shri Mullappally Ramachandran. I think he wants to make a Statement in this House regarding fertilizer price. May I request hon. Ministers to give me the statements a little in time? I got it at 5.15 or 5.30 p. m. Please, a little time should be given. Today, he may make the statement.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): According to the announcement of Finance Minister modalities for exempting the small and marginal farmers from the effect of price increase of fertilizers were to be evolved in consultation with the States. This exercise has since been completed and guidelines to State Governments are being issued. According to these guidelines, the States have been given a fixed amount (determined on the basis of Fertilizer use in 1990-91 and area held by small and marginal farmers) for subsidising the fertilizers for small and marginal