

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: You asked me that I should ask my colleague to make a statement. I will do that.

श्री फूल चन्द वर्मा (उज्जैन) : सदन की भावना को ध्यान में रखते हुए मंत्री महोदय आज ही बक्तव्य दें।

श्री छोटल बिहारी बाजवैयी : प्रायः इन के लिये कोई टाइम तय कीजिये।

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: Sir, as you yourself said, there are different versions given by different newspapers..

MR. SPEAKER: I think the statement will come to-day.

RE: ALLEGED ATROCITIES ON HARIJANS IN BANDA DISTRICT OF UTTAR PRADESH

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed two Members to raise a question on this murder of a Harijan leader. Anyway, the subject is the same. Prof. Madhu Dandavate and Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu. Only two minutes each. I have allowed it in spite of the fact that it related to a State matter because I thought that as it is a case of Harijans, I should allow it.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Thank you, Sir. We appreciate it.

MR. SPEAKER: You should always appreciate.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): I want to draw the attention of the House to a shocking tragedy that has been perpetrated on the Harijans on December 4, 1972 in one of the villages of Banda District of Uttar Pradesh.

The tragedy is most grim. A popular Harijan leader, Shri Shiv Parsan Kewat was shot dead and five others seriously injured. The tragedy of the episode is that this has been the sequel

of the election there. You will be surprised that gangsters who were armed with spears and guns went on demonstrating their strength against the Harijans. They fired many rounds in the air. They also fired..

AN HON. MEMBER: By whom?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Of course, by those who wanted to perpetrate atrocities on the Harijans. It has appeared in the press that mainly the upper strata of the society, the upper caste of the Hindu society provided all these gangsters. A thousand Harijans were subjected to atrocities. Not only that, it has appeared in the press that this was a sequel to an election wherein a Harijan candidate, Ramdhar Lohan was successful against Jagatnarain who was an upper caste Hindu candidate in the Grampradhan election. This provoked the entire caste Hindu population and they indulged in all sorts of atrocities. It did not end there. They resorted to an economic boycott of the Harijans in various fields. The Harijan labour were threatened that they would not be offered any employment at all.

Not only that, instead of Police providing protection to the Harijan community, the police men indulged in repression of the Harijans. That is what has appeared in the Press.

I want to draw your specific attention to the fact that I had, on the floor of this House, on more than four occasions, drawn your attention and the attention of the House to the atrocities committed on the Harijans, in a village near Patiala and also in village Bauda in Maharashtra. I again raised the question of atrocities on the Harijans in a village in Banda District and this is the fourth successive case I am raising.

My only demand is that just as on one occasion you directed that a statement must come from the Government, though there was no obligation on the part of the Home Minister

to make a statement you should demand that on all atrocities, whenever the attention of the House has been focussed, the Home Minister should come forward with a categorical statement and with an assurance that adequate protection will be given to the Harijan community.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: This is not the first time; this thing has been happening repeatedly. We have seen cases where Harijan girls have been stripped of their clothes and paraded on the streets. We have known cases where Harijan girls had been raped by people who are protected by the arms of law. It is a very serious matter. It has come out in a well-published news item in the *Indian Express*. Two constables have been challaned by the District Magistrate. If the Harijan leader was elected in a democratic election, why should the other people, belonging to the upper castes, take such action, if this sort of repression is going on, what is it that the Government is at all doing, to protect the interest of Harijans? They simply shed only crocodile tears on the floor of the House. I condemn this attitude. I condemn this Government's action. We have seen in Nunar in Azamgarh 17 Muslim houses were burnt. The Government could have put a telephone call to Lucknow and got information within a matter of minutes. I condemn this Government which has failed to do anything, to give any protection to the Harijans and the minorities.

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE: Will you instruct the Home Minister at some stage to make some statement?

श्री कल चन्द वर्मा (उज्जैन) अध्यक्ष
 महोदय मेरे क्षेत्र में ... (व्यवधान)

श्री हकम चन्द कछवाय (मुरैना) :
 वर्मा जी, के क्षेत्र में भी गमी घटना हुई है
 इन को दो मिनट दीजिए ।

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed those Members who gave notice in proper shape before time. You must follow this practice.

12.17 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

STATEMENTS SHOWING ACTION TAKEN BY GOVT. ON VARIOUS ASSURANCES ETC.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): I beg to lay on the Table the following statements showing the action taken by the Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings given by the Ministers during the various sessions of Lok Sabha —

FOURTH LOK SABHA

- (1) Statement No. XXVI—Seventh Session, 1969.
- (2) Statement No. XXV—Eighth Session, 1969
- (3) Statement No. XXIII—Ninth Session, 1969
- (4) Statement No. XXVI—Tenth Session 1970
- (5) Statement No. XVI—Twelfth Session, 1970

FIFTH LOK SABHA

- (6) Statement No. IX—First Session, 1971.
- (7) Statement No. XVII—Second Session, 1971
- (8) Statement No. IX—Third Session, 1971.
- (9) Statement No. VIII—Fourth Session, 1972.
- (10) Statement No. II—Fifth Session, 1972.

[Placed in Library See No LT-3934/72]