

SHRI KRISHNA SAHI (Begusarai): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Home Minister through you to the situation caused due deteriorating law and order conditions in Bihar State. Such an atmosphere of terror, disorder chaos and insecurity has not been witnessed in the history of the country so far. The incidents of kidnapping and killing are on the increase there. There were 20-25 incidents of kidnapping during the last week alone and the number of such incidents has increased in different districts also. Within one week there have been 20-25 incidents and at certain places there have been as many as 50 incidents of kidnapping. The day before yesterday one Dr. Ram Sewak Singh, former Superintendent, P.M.C.H was kidnapped. He is 73. He was kidnapped along with his vehicle and driver. There have been 50 incidents of kidnapping within one month.

Mr. speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Home Minister through you to the fact that the people of Bihar are spending their days under the shadow of the Gun. The Government of India should pay some attention to the reasons for such incidents. All the same, the Government of Bihar be dismissed.

[English]

PROF. VENKATESWARLU UMAREDDY (Tenali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am raising a very serious issue. Five starvation deaths have taken place in Andhra Pradesh. During the past one week, there are as many as five starvation deaths among handloom weavers in my constituency, Tenali in Andhra Pradesh, due to poverty. Shrimati Seelam Mangamma of Muttemsettipalaem committed suicide by drowning herself in a canal since she could not look after her ailing husband and secure even the bare medicines to save him. Shrimati Kornepati Yella Mandamma committed suicide at the age of Seventy, since she was unable to maintain

herself and her family with meagre earnings as a Handloom weaver. Shri Veer Raghavayya and Shrimati Raghavamma of Gullapalli village in Cherukupalli Mandalam have committed suicide under the distressed poverty conditions of their families.

One more handloom weaver has committed suicide in Chirala Village of Prakasam District. All put together, there are five starvation deaths in Andhra Pradesh and several others are suffering out of starvation in villages around Tenali. I extend my sympathetics to the bereaved families. Though series of suicides are being committed out of starvation in several villages of Andhra Pradesh among handloom weavers, the State Government did not express its concern over the issue so far, not extended any financial assistance to these families, nor any Minister visited the villages to get the first-hand appraisal of the situation.

This is not for the first time that starvation deaths among handloom weavers have happened in Andhra Pradesh. Even in 1985, handloom weavers committed suicide out of starvation and in distress. Since the living conditions of handloom weavers are getting deteriorated from time to time and their living conditions are assuming alarming dimensions, there is every need for the Government to review the situation in all seriousness. In order to remove the difficulties faced by the handloom weavers, twenty-two items of cloth are reserved for them for production by the Union Government earlier. But, unfortunately this has not come into effect so far, nor is the Government serious about it... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MATIKRISHNA SAHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir. I would like to draw your attention.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not going on record.....