

12.02 hrs.

[*English*]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHARY (Katwa) : Sir, I think, all the Members of this House are shocked and we are shocked every day at the killing of our innocent people by the militants. Now the two incidents that came to our notice have taken place yesterday. One is in Haryana where militants struck in a big way and killed 26 people in a *bazar* and the second Pilibhit and Lakhimpur Kheri districts Uttar Pradesh, where fifteen people have been killed.

The things are taking place every day. Sometimes we take notice; sometimes we do not. It has become a kind of a normal happening. Our sensitivities have become blunted. But we cannot just allow things to happen like this in our country. In this House, we have a duty to seek information from the Government. We have a right to know what kind of action also they are going to take in relation to Punjab which is at the root of this spread of terrorism all over the country. They are now spreading in different parts where peace is prevailing. They are trying to spread in Bihar. They are trying to spread in West Bengal.

In Haryana, they have already spread and then in Rajasthan, in Uttar Pradesh in the Terai region. There is a design behind it. It seems to me that by this kind of desperate acts, they want that a backlash must take place whereby their hope to establish a kind of Khalistan is achievable. Now if we are to foil this design, we have to encourage our people to come out in the streets to defeat this game and to isolate the terrorists. It is a very big political task where everyone has to contribute and Government has to take a lead.

We hope that during the extended time of President's rule in Punjab, the elections will take place. An attempt is also being made that these elections do not take place at the expiry of the President's rule. How are we going to tackle this situation. So, I de-

mand that the Government should share with this House, share with the Members, what action they are going to take charged to solve the problem in Punjab to inspire confidence in the people and to coordinate the activities, intelligence activities, police activities, para-military forces activities with other States, and they being the coordinator, to really foil the design of the terrorists so that innocent people are not killed in this manner.

SHRI ANBARASU ERA (Madras Central): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the B&C Mill in Madras is very reputed. It is one of the oldest mills in the country. Recently, the management has carried out a lock-out as a result of which 8,000 employees have been thrown out of job. It is all due to the anti-labour policy followed by the management. Local Member of the Legislative Assembly, Mr. U. Balaraman, and 8,000 employees are now sitting on an indefinite hunger-strike. They have also taken up the matter with the High Court and the High Court has given a clear direction to reopen the mill. But the management is very adamant and they are not reopening the mill. Therefore Sir, through you, I urge the hon. Textile Minister to give a clear direction to reopen the mill to save the lives of 8000 employees and their family members.

(*Interruptions*)[*Translation*]

KUMARI UMABHARTI (Khajuraho): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had got an opportunity to visit South Africa on a special invitation to participate in a religious yajna organised by the people of Indian origin. For this purpose, I had been granted special permission by the leaders of my party as also by the Ministry of External Affairs. Earlier also I had visited South Africa in 1978. I had been an eyewitness to the changes occurred there between 1978 and 1991. At present about ten lakh people of Indian origin live there and they are as prosperous and educated as NRIs in United States of America. However, the people who migrated there, were from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. They had started

their career as labourers in South Africa.

They have contributed a lot in development of South Africa. The people of Indian origin have contributed much in the progress and prosperity of the country and that country has also provided them a comfortable life. Now in the changing scenario, when it appears and is hoped also that the transfer of power is in offing, the country will take a turn towards a Democratic system, I would like to draw the attention of the Government of India towards the security of the people of Indian origin. The said examples of Uganda and Fiji are still fresh in our mind. Contrary to it, a pleasant experience of Zimbabwe is also before us. When the people of Indian origin are leading a happy life after the transfer of power about 10 or 12 years back.

Sir, though I would have liked to submit these things in the presence of Foreign Minister who is rarely present in the House, and was waiting for much an opportunity, yet he is not present. So through you, I would like to express my experience to the representatives of the Government during my trip. I have classified these experiences into seven categories which I am stating here in very brief.

At first, Social-Cultural programmes should be exchanged to have the latest knowledge of the changing political environment in South-Africa and for this purpose, a parliamentary team consisting the members of all the parties should be instituted. Secondly, I would like to submit that initiative should be taken to organize mutual trade conferences. Thirdly, the Government should make a provision for providing dual citizenship to the people of Indian origin. This will promote the policies of capital investment. Fourthly, the policy of Economic restrictions should be reviewed in the context of the people of Indian origin. Fifth, formal relations should be promoted with all the political powers. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is an irony of the fate that the political leaders of African National Congress like Nelson Mandela don't have correct information about the political parties in India. They don't have complete

information in this regard. I have noticed that they adopt a discriminatory attitude in such matters. Sixth, no labia should be shown in respect of protection human rights. Lastly, India should depart from the traditional policies and adopt practical and dynamic foreign policy in the national interests in view of the rapidly changing world. We have to review our relations with South Africa in the light of all these factors and due importance would have to be given to the people of Indian origin there... (*Interruptions*)...

ANNOUNCEMENT BY SPEAKER

Re : Leader of the House

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have to make one announcement. Hon. Member may remember that in this House, Shri Arjun Singh has got up to say that after the hon. Prime Minister's return from abroad, he would take over as the leader of this House. Now, it should have been sufficient to take that the hon. Prime Minister is the leader of Lok Sabha also. But some doubts were expressed in some quarters and I think in some newspapers also. I have received a letter from the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, formally informing me that the...

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uihueria):
Introduce the leader to this House.

MR. SPEAKER: I have received a formal letter and I am informed that Shri P.V. Narasimha Raoji would be functioning as the leader of this House. I think that statement should have been sufficient to remove any doubt in anybody's mind. And yet, because doubts were expressed, because I have received a letter, I formally declare in this House that Shri P.V. Narasimha Raoji would be functioning as the Leader of this House.