

## RAJYA SABHA

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### \*SYNOPSIS OF DEBATE

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(Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

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Thursday, July 20, 2017/ Ashadha 29, 1939 (Saka)

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### OBITUARY REFERENCE

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Hon. Members, I refer with profound sorrow to the passing away of **Shri Syed Nizam-ud-Din**, a former Member of this House, on the 30th May, 2017, at the age of 85 years.

Born in October, 1931, in Anantnag district of Jammu and Kashmir, Shri Nizam-ud-Din was educated at Sri Pratap College and Amar Singh College, Srinagar and the Aligarh Muslim University.

An advocate by profession, Shri Nizam-ud-Din started his legislative career as a Member of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly and was a Member of that Assembly from 1962 to 1967. He was editor, printer and publisher of Nawai-Kashmir. He also served as the Director of the Land Development Bank, Jammu and Kashmir.

Shri Nizam-ud-Din represented the State of Jammu and Kashmir in this House from April, 1974 to April, 1980.

In the passing away of Shri Syed Nizam-ud-Din, the country has lost a distinguished parliamentarian.

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\*This Synopsis is not an authoritative record of the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha.

*(One Minute's silence was observed as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.)*

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## **MATTERS RAISED WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR**

### **1. Ill Treatment and Abuse of Girls Brought for Marriage in Certain States with Low Female Ratio**

**SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR:** I would like to draw your attention towards a very important issue of women harassment. State like Haryana has very low female ratio that is why girls are brought there from Bangladesh, Odisha and West Bengal. Earlier they used to be brought from Himachal Pradesh also, but we alongwith our State Government stopped this practice. After marriage these girls are ill-treated on large scale. They are beaten. One brother marries and other brothers make physical relation with her. I request to Government to think over this matter seriously. We women are not commodities but human being.

*(Several hon'ble Members associated.)*

### **2. Need to tackle Problem of Floods in State of Assam**

**DR. SANJAY SINH:** Increase in the water level of Brahmaputra in Assam has brought devastation in many district. Out of 33 districts 24 are affected by flood. Lakhs of people are affected. Inundation of large part of Kaziranga National Park has left the single horned rare rhinos vulnerable to the poachers. Despite the country being on the path of economic super power, the state of Assam remains the same as far as devastation of flood is concerned. That is why the state is lagging behind the development. It is surprising that no relief work has been initiated towards flood affected areas by the Central Government. I request to Central Government to arrange for special flood relief package there.

**SHRI RIPUN BORA:** Flood is a regular phenomenon in Assam, but this time BJP Government in Assam was so irresponsible that they have not made the advance contingent plan. As a result, The Administration is totally in a mess.

*(Shri Bhubaneswar Kalita, Shrimati Jaya Bachchan and Smt. Chhaya Verma Associated.)*

### **3. Plight of Textile Workers due to Implementation of GST**

**SHRI AHAMED HASSAN:** Post GST, there is confusion and fear among the textile and readymade traders and no efforts have been made by the Government to ease the situation. Similar is the situation in almost all the other States of the country. Thousands of traders are on the street in protest against GST in various towns. Around 15 lakhs workers in Surat are rendered jobless due to imposition of GST on textiles. The estimated loss due to indefinite strike by textile traders is around Rs. 5000 crores. Hence, I urge upon the Government to start a dialogue with the textile and readymade traders, listen to their demands and take appropriate action.

**SHRI AHMED PATEL:** Small and marginal traders have never been in the ambit of taxes. Most of these are unregistered and are not covered under benefits that should go to these people. Such small scale traders are deprived of payment of any working capital. Imposition of GST on various yarns would render such an important sector incompetent leading to a situation of joblessness. Hence, I demand that they should be engaged in a dialogue, documentation process regarding GST be simplified, filing of returns in a year be restricted from 36 to 3 or 4 and refund should be made without any delay.

**SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN:** In Tamil Nadu, textile, handlooms, power-looms, match and cracker industry, everything, is being affected.

**SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE:** People engaged in tailoring industry in Bengal contribute to the majority of low-cost dresses being sold throughout the country. The buyers of these low-

cost dresses are mainly poor people. The production and business of these people are almost facing closure after the introduction of GST. I want to make two specific suggestions. First, the VAT system, which was operative in the garment industry of West Bengal, should be included in the GST rules and secondly, in case of making business within the state, the GST registration must not be made mandatory for turnover below Rs. 20 lakhs. The same rule should be applicable throughout the country for small scale garment manufacturers.

**SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH:** Power loom producers and people engaged in textile sector in Tamil Nadu are the worst sufferers due to imposition of five per cent tax on cotton and silk yarn, twelve per cent tax on zari and eighteen per cent tax on polyester products. Besides this, five per cent GST is levied on all kinds of fabrics. Hence, I want the Government to look into this and immediately take the textile sector out of the ambit of GST.

**SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY:** The textile traders in Kolkata are on a strike for the last one month requesting a meeting with the Hon. Finance Minister. Hence, I request the Hon. Finance Minister to have a discussion with their delegation.

**SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:** Small shopkeepers and traders have expressed their dissatisfaction over the faulty implementation of GST in the country. Lack of coordination with State Governments is clearly evident. Complication of tax rates can lead to return of the inspector raj. Hence, there should be a discussion in this House in this regard.

*(Several hon'ble Members associated.)*

#### **4. Concern over Vulgarly in Advertisements**

**SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL:** Western culture is rapidly dominating our society through films and commercials. There is no act in place to curb such obscene commercials. Such commercials are only misleading people. I request the Government to put an immediate ban on such commercials.

*(Shri Ahamed Hassan and Shri Ranvijay Singh Judev associated.)*

#### **5. Agitation Due to Closure of the Jharkhand's Dhanbad-Chandrapura Railway Line**

**SHRI HARIVANSH:** Closure of Dhanbad-Chandrapura rail track by Indian Railways has led to huge anguish and agitations in Koyalanchal. Underground fire is breaking out there for the last 100 years. I would like to know the steps taken during the last three years to extinguish this fire, as lakhs of tonnes of coal have got burnt due to this fire. I request that the whole matter should be investigated into and failure of Government right from extinguishing the fire to the closure of rail route should be revealed.

**SHRI SANJIV KUMAR:** I associate myself with the matter and say that no efforts were ever made by the Government to check spreading of such underground fire and save such an important rail track which is the life line of Koyalanchal. Lakhs of people have been rendered jobless due to closure of this line. I demand reopening of this line at the earliest after getting the study conducted.

#### **6. Need for Immediate Relief to Odisha Affected by Flash Floods**

**SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY:** Odisha State has always been prone to cyclone and flood. Many districts of the State are affected by torrential rains for the last three days. Thousand acres of agricultural land has been inundated and communication has come to

a standstill. Lakhs of people are facing economic crisis. I request the Government to provide enhanced compensation relief to the affected farmers.

### **7. Concern over GST Imposed on Materials Used by Disabled and Marginalised Persons**

**SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN:** GST is going to be a burden for the disabled as 5 per cent to 18 per cent tax is being levied on various items used by these people. To tax them like this will be a great injustice to them. I request the Government to take this matter before the GST Council and withdraw the GST levied on various items used by various sections of disabled as early as possible.

*(Several hon'ble Members associated.)*

### **8. Pitiable Condition of Border Roads of Punjab due to Illegal Sand Mining by Mafias**

**SHRI MOTILAL VORA:** I would like to raise a matter regarding pitiable conditions of bordering roads and over-exploitation of resources by sand mafias. Illegal mining activities by sand mafia on the border has led to soil erosion. I request the Government for carrying out repair work of all bordering roads on priority basis and initiate an enquiry in this regard.

### **9. Difficulties being Faced by Indian It Companies in Obtaining H-1B Visas**

**SHRI ANAND SHARMA:** I want to raise a very important matter concerning highly skilled people in the IT sector. Unfortunately, in recent years, movement of Indian IT professionals in the USA is being wrongly equated with the immigrants despite their significant contribution to the US industry. Therefore, I request the Government to be sensitive to the concerns of the Indian IT industry and Indian IT professionals by taking up the matter at the highest level

in the US Government. Movement of IT professionals should be respected and the grant of H-IB visa must be ensured.

*(Shri Satish Chandra Misra associated.)*

### **10. Concern over Distress among Farmers**

**SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH:** Today farmers of the country are on agitation. Around 22 per cent of farmers are living below poverty line and having meagre monthly income of Rs. 3000. Poverty is forcing them to commit suicide. Government has only waived off their crop loans. I demand that every kind of loan taken by farmers be waived off and they should be paid two and a half times price of their produce.

*(Shri Surendra Singh Nagar and Dr. Anil Kumar Sahani associated.)*

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### **SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION**

#### **Situation Arising out of the Reported Increase in the Incidents of Lynching and Atrocities on Minorities and Dalits across the Country - Contd.**

**SHRI NARESH GUJRAL:** Such incidents of barbaric brutality taking place across the country have shaken the conscience of every right-thinking Indian. All the great philosophers of our country have always given us the message of mutual tolerance and compassion. In spite of giving a political colour to such hate crimes, we should introspect why their collective message of respect for all religions is being forgotten. The country is looking at us with great hope and expectations. We should send a message that this kind of goondaism will not be tolerated and that the perpetrator of such heinous crimes will be punished expeditiously irrespective of party

affiliations. The Prime Minister has spoken very forcefully against it and I hope the law enforcement agencies all over the country have taken note of it. The slow speed of our investigative and judicial process is encouraging the culprits of these crimes. So I would urge the Government not only to talk to all the Chief Ministers but, at the same time, also speak to the Chief Justice of India so that special courts are set up and punishment is given to these people expeditiously. Today, the world is looking at India as a potential powerhouse. Yet, when such heinous crimes are reported in the world media, people are reluctant to either visit India or to invest in India. In view of that, expeditious punishment is the only solution. On behalf of my Party, I condemn such acts of brutality which are akin to terrorism and urge all my fellow citizens to embrace tolerance and compassion in order to bring an environment of communal peace and civil order in our country.

**SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:** We have never witnessed such acts of violence since previous 30 to 50 years. All the Members of this House should retrospect why most of the incidents of violence are taking place in the country after 2014. Cow is the symbol of non-violence and killing in the name of cow is murder of humanity and doing so is cowardice. Instead of killing own countrymen, these vigilantes should go to the border of the country and face the enemies of the country there. There is an implicit understanding between Government and the vigilantes behind various incidents of violence. I believe that those who are indulging in such type of violence are not real Hindu. The fact is no investment will be made in our country if there is an environment of violence here. Mahatma Gandhi had also told that we should do scientific evaluation of our livestock because it is in the interest of farmers and cultivation. These so called vigilantes are also hurting the economy of the country. The cattle ban by Government has also affected so many industries adversely because beef is used in leather industry, pharmaceutical industry, soap and shampoo industry, etc. Many people in leather industry have become unemployed. Farmers are losing their livestock due to two reasons. One is low selling price of livestock and another is costly maintenance of unproductive cattle. You are increasing unemployment and you are



killing your own "Make in India". Mere FIR will not serve the purpose as they will soon get the bail. This is nothing but a group of hooligans which will destroy the peace and tranquillity of this nation. This House must rise together to protect the peace and tranquillity of the country.

**SHRI SHARAD YADAV:** In spite of law and order, murders and suicides are taking place in the country. Work is being done unconstitutionally and by crushing the law of the land. Akhlaq was killed due to food. Whenever religion dominates the politics or when politics dominates the religion, situation gets worse. In both cases communities gets destroyed. People in group, kill someone and this is called lynching. When mob kills a person, there is no other Talibani method of killing. Maximum cases are from Jharkhand which is followed by U.P., Haryana, Rajasthan, M.P., Maharashtra and Gujrat. There is no such case in Bihar. The country is divided in the name of religion. Who raised this matter of cow and what was the reason? Why this matter was not raised before? 60 years have been passed but nothing has been said. You have destroyed the leather industry. 12 thousand farmers commit suicide every year in the country. Livestock is the another support for the farmers. This is their ATM. Who were killing the cows? Why you raised this question? When you raise the matter, you came up by the law of cruelty against animals. Where is the farmer of India today? The farmers who are producing perishable fruits and vegetables, I can not explain their condition. The cow matter has lowered the livestock prices at the bottom. Apart from livestock, the cost of cultivable land has gone down. In wake of demonetisation, agro produce worth of nearly five crore of rupees, rotted in the fields. They celebrated Diwali and Holi. They wore cloths like us. This incident took place there only. When they came out on 5th of may, they set the village blazed and I can explain, what they did with the women. One youth, named Chandrashekhar Azad is behind the bars with 50 others. They are not army. You want to crush them by imposing various cases. Baba Saheb fought till his life but Rohith Vemula said "My birth is my crime". Only the system of discrimination responsible for this. 20 or

25 farmers commit suicide every day. We are killing on the one hand and people are committing suicide on the other hand. What type of country we have made? The country is moving towards civil war. Dalits, who are suffering for thousands of years, are in problem. They never desire to leave the country. They bear but are you testing their strength of endure? You have fallen the forests. They are not getting the benefits of fifth and sixth schedule of constitution. You do justice. Poores have lost their homes in Shabbirpur. We can give them compensation. Junaid, a student of JNU, is not traceable and our law is not able clear whether is dead or alive. People of various status lives here. They want to live and die in this country. Do not incite them. I would like to appeal you to stop this cow matter. No one is troubling cows.

**SHRI D. RAJA:** I participate in this discussion with sadness. What are we discussing? We are discussing mob lynching of Muslims, Dalits, Adivasis and women! Is it not shameful? Is it not a fact that all of us have collectively failed to ensure the Constitutional rights to our fellow citizens? We are discussing this after seven decades of our Independence. Dalits, Adivasis, Minorities or women do not want any sympathy from this Parliament. Let us ensure that the Constitutional rights of our citizens will be protected .Who are these lynching mobs? Who are these elements who have taken law into their own hands and attacking Dalits, Advasis, Muslims and women? It is a part of an ideology. It is a part of a political theory. I call it Manuwadi fascism. This is very dangerous. And, the anatomy of lynching has been done by none other than your friends. We claim that we are an ancient civilization, we are an ancient country and we have great values. What values do we have? You kill Muslim, because he eats beef; you kill dalits, because they eat beef. Why are the mob killers not being punished? They are being acquitted. Take any case where dalits were murdered or massacred. Finally, the guilty, the accused are being acquitted. This is a societal problem and we will have to fight it.

**THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR):** I believe that killing of anybody through lynching in any kind of mob violence is the most heinous crime and there should be a stringent most punishment for that. This crime is against humanity. But along with that we should not fall a victim to selective amnesia also. Sikhs were burnt alive to death in 1984, that was also a heinous crime. More than 3,000 Sikhs were massacred. This is the most heinous lynching crime of India. By putting kerosene oil on devotees of Ram who were coming back from Ayodhya, 42 people were burnt to death in Godhara. There has never been more heinous lynching than this. How shall we forget this? Even if a single lynching takes place today anywhere, that is equally heinous and we also condemn that. 16 incidents of lynching took place in 2012 in which 25 people were killed. In 2013, 14 incidents of lynching took place killing 18 people. Lynching is a very shameful crime. It has no place in a democracy, I would like to add. Everywhere culprits were nabbed. Whatever crimes have taken place, are punishable and heinous crime. Their culprits should get rigorous punishment. The job of States is to maintain law and order. They should do this work strictly, whether it is our Government or your Government. Therefore, this House should come out unanimously that we will never tolerate a crime like lynching. But do not go on the agenda of maligning the reputation of India. A similar controversy had been raised by you on the issue of an attack on the Church. Afterwards the truth came to light and it was disclosed that the people of that very community were involved in the attack. I make only this much appeal to this House that heinous crime must be termed as heinous crime and we should fight against it altogether. But, by being a victim of selective amnesia and with political viewpoint we should not debate on this subject and should not malign India.

**SHRI K.T.S. TULSI:** The first obligation of the State is to protect the lives and properties of the citizens. And if the State itself incites violence, there can be no worse time than that and the State has no right to exist. The hon. Minister said - where are the culprits of 1984? Law has an inherent weakness, where it becomes very difficult

to prove the truth. Even then 42 people were convicted. There were no smart phones in the pockets of everybody in 1984. We had to face a lot of difficulties to prove the truth in those days. But the types of incidents that are taking place today, nobody would be able to save this Government. If anybody thinks that the environment of 1984 will continue to prevail, he is making a biggest blunder. We should not forget that there is going to be a different way of proof of these crimes as compared to before. I also have a few statistics. In the past eight years, out of the total incidents of violence that took place, 51 per cent were in the BJP-ruled States and 97 per cent were against Muslims and Dalits. Total 28 Indians have been died in these kinds of mob violence and 24 out of 28 are Muslims. A crime is always done with a motive. It is quite open that Muslims and dalits have been targeted. We have to face the facts, then only, we can find a solution to the problem. I am sorry to say that the statistics do not show that the crime of mob-killing is being dealt with fairly. In five per cent of the cases of mob violence, no report has been registered, rather it is the victim or victim's family, against whom the cases are registered. I appeal to the hon. Prime Minister that if he is serious about condemning the mob violence and lynching, then, it is important that such organizations be banned, which are openly indulging in these kinds of mob rule and mob violence.

**SHRI PRABHAT JHA:** It is a fact that no one will support mob lynching in the country. It has been alleged without any basis that RSS is behind all these incidents, which is absolutely improper. It is a historical fact that RSS has contributed a lot in advancing the nation ahead through its policies, be it the case of monitoring at the border at the time of partition, merger of Kashmir, war of 1962, opposition of emergency in the country, etc. and it will continue to play its important role. The RSS participated in the Republic Day parade in the year 1963 on the invitation of the then Prime Minister. The current Chief of RSS has clearly said that sentiments of others should not be hurt and there should not be any kind of violence during the course of protecting cows. All proper legal steps are being taken immediately against violence related incidents in BJP ruled states. I appeal to the

opposition not to make endeavour to defame the country internationally by giving communal color to this issue. So far as the case of Jharkhand is concerned, eight people have been arrested so far and necessary steps are being taken in all such other cases in the country. The Government is trying to contain these incidents, but at the same time society should also be made aware in this regard. How long opposition will take political mileage in the name of BJP and RSS. No one can forget the incident of West Bengal which happened in the year 1993 in which 23 workers of opposition were openly killed. In Kerala, 267 workers of BJP and RSS were mercilessly killed in mob lynching. During the tenure of previous Government in U.P., total 247 communal incidents happened there and the State topped the list of riot related cases in India in the year 2013. We must not put unity and integrity of the country in danger by our statements.

**SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR:** Use of violence to settle any dispute is wrong. The sensitivities of the Hindu community are as important as the sensitivities of all other communities in the country. If a large majority of Hindus in some parts of our country have strong views about the treatment of cows, those views have to be addressed and debated. Lynching needs to be punished under law, but violent crimes should not have double standards. Let us stop this charade of double standards; let us stop this hypocrisy. Let us agree today that all violence and crimes should be treated as that-the violent crime. There is a need to modernize and depoliticize our police. The police has, over the last 5-6 decades, in almost all States, been hopelessly corroded, politicized and corrupted. Instead of being public servants, police forces, including the most dedicated of them, are being forced to toe political lines and political ideologies, rather than safeguarding the right to safety of the citizen.

**SHRI T.K.S. ELANGO VAN:** Somebody else taking away the power to make laws and killing people is the question now. The BJP tried to dilute the issue by taking all agitations, all individual killings to mob lynching. We are speaking about mob lynching where an individual is left without any power, and was mobbed by a group of

people and killed. These mobs and these groups have the support of some Hindutva group. That is a fact reported in the newspapers. The murderers themselves claim that they are being supported by the Hindutva groups. People, who claim to be Hindus and as if the rest are not Hindus, do the killing and say that we are doing this to protect our Hindutva culture. Mob lynching is on the increase now in the States run by BJP. Slowly it will start everywhere. Mob lynching is attacking a single person by a group of people with an intention to promote a religious cause. That is wrong. My one question to the Government is whether NITI Aayog has also recommended that policing should also be privatized.

**KUMARI SELJA:** Today, our country is also being known as Lynchistan. Every Indian should be ashamed of this. Today, there is an atmosphere of fear all over the country. The Government has done away with SC Sub-Plan itself. The Government should do something to fill up the backlog. The Government has reduced the budget upto 94 percent for Pre-Matrix Scholarship for SC students. In every 9 minutes there is an atrocity on Dalits somewhere in any part of the country. Recently, a girl was raped badly and brutally murdered in Sonipat. In other States also atrocities are being committed against Dalits. Our Dalit brothers are doing manual scavenging and doing work inside the manhole. When they die, there is no public outcry. No action is taken against their employers. This is such a system, under which we are told that this work would be done by us. Even today, 8 lakhs people in the country are skinning the dead animals. Now this is not fair that when they would pick up dead animals, cow vigilante would beat them brutally and kill them because they have touched the cow. Even today, people are eating the meat of dead animals. They are forced to do it because of poverty. The Government has declared every minority person as beef eater. There is an atmosphere of hatred in the country. Today there is mob lynching at different places. They are confident that they had the protection somewhere. If someone carries the cow for other purposes, then also there is cow vigilantism. What kind of cow vigilantism it is? You are not protecting those cows which are dying at different places. Many such incidents of mob

lynching are taking place in various places. But no action is being taken against them. It is the outcome of the kind of atmosphere which is being created, that those persons are being lynched. Gandhi Ji said that if I have to sacrifice my life for protecting the cow, then I will sacrifice my life, but I will not kill my brother to protect the cow. However, this is what is happening today. The Government is in denial mode. This denial mode is not going to help us as Indians. And on this shameful matter, every one will have to speak, all should be protected, only then we should be called as Hindu.

**SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE:** A very serious discussion is being held in this House on the topic of 'The incident of lynching and atrocities on minorities and Dalit's across the country' but it should include discussion on women, children, farmers and labourers along with other issues. The respected Prime Minister has strongly condemned and denounced the killings by the cow-vigilantes. The Prime Minister has said that the lynching on the name of cow-worshipping is not acceptable. No one is entitled to take law in his hands. No problem has ever been resolved by violence. Violence has no place in our society. The violence resulting from hooliganism by the cow- vigilantes and cow-killers is shameful. Mahatma Gandhi was also the great worshipper of the cow and he also accepted the importance of the cow. But he was not an orthodox person. The Act related to prevention of cow slaughter should be respected. Killing an individual in retaliation to cow-killing is shameful for a civilized society. The killing of cow publically in some states is certainly an unpardonable crime. It is an attack on Indian constitution. A person can kill an animal with such an atrocity is unbelievable. It is condemnable incident. Approximately 70 per cent population in this country is non-vegetarian. All should have the liberty about eating habits and Government also do not intend to interfere in it. However, eating habits of one particular group should not be such that it becomes painful for religious sentiments of others. The killings by the cow-vigilantes and cow-killers should be considered seriously. We have lot of serious questions before us about poverty, unemployment, and backwardness. All these problems are important. Whether the

country will be run on the basis of what should be served in one's plate or it should be considered necessary to create new future on the basis of economic and educational development. The events related to atrocities against Dalit's are shameful for the civilized society. The Central Government has amended the Atrocities Act to prevent the atrocities against Dalit's. I welcome this move. The atrocities against Dalit's is a mentality. Until this mentality of untouchability is removed, till then the incidents of atrocities against Dalit's would continue. The Ex-Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee also denounced the untouchability.

**SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI:** The disease named lynching will engulf all. It is not a question of a particular community, but it will affect one and all. It is like an infectious disease. It is not a matter of one particular State. It is very dangerous matter and it will destroy the integrity, unanimity and the Constitution of the country. I visited the Mewat area. Now the Mewati people don't want to involve in cow-rearing as they face danger in this profession. An incident occurred in the state of Jharkhand, where an individual who was involved in the cow-rearing was brutally beaten on the name of killing the cow, and his house was burnt by the miscreants. But a ray of hope is still there. I am not talking about the violence and we are not favouring the violence, but if these things are not stopped, then these incidences would continue.

**SHRI K.K. RAGESH:** It is the matter of proud to be a largest democracy in the world, but, unfortunately, we are compelled to discuss the issue of lynching rather than discussing the question of development, etc. We have lot many political parties in our country, and all the parties have their own heritage, legacy, past, present, etc. All these political parties have the experience of taking up various issues of the people in our country. Majority of these parties took part in the struggle for independence and emerged taking up various issues. But a particular party is dividing the people on communal lines. Everywhere, they have got a single agenda of dividing the people on the basis of communal lines and that is how they developed



their mass base. This politics of hate, this politics of spitting communal venom, is the main basis of mass lynching that is taking place in our country. This politics of hate needs to be addressed. This is the basic issue. Kerala is a State in which all communities are living together. They are living like brothers. Several incidences of the violence have taken place in the State of Kerala. And the culprits have accepted that they did it for spreading the communal hatred. 13 CPI (M) workers have been killed. All the killings, irrespective of religion, and all the violence should be condemned.

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**SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,**  
*Secretary-General.*

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\*\*\*\*Supplement covering rest of the proceedings is being issued separately.