

the occasion and rejoice over it, but if a female child is born the parents feel as though a big burden has come on their head.

Even before marriage, right at the parents house there is discrimination in food, dress and care. The female child is discriminated against. It is felt that man is born to rule while women is born to sacrifice for others and got drowned in the sea of household drudgeries.

Equality to women is enshrined in the Constitution. But in practice there is discrimination everywhere. We have to admit this with a sense of sighing heart. In Hind Law (old) there has been a tradition of giving some wealth to the girl at the time of the marriage called "Stridhana". But in modern times the girl has to pay a prize to her husband in the name of Dowry. The dowry system has a savage grip causing untold miseries to women. The tendency of the day not to have female child is the result of this most cruel social evil-dowry.

With the advancement of science, today, we are able to detect the sex of the baby in the womb within 5 to 6 weeks of pregnancy. This method is known as amniocentesis. The very purpose of this invention is to check whether there is any deformity in the foetus, so that if any, it could be terminated. But we are mercilessly misusing science.

The trend to detect the sex of the child and terminate the pregnancy in case of female child is fast catching up in our country.

According to information available, in Bombay alone, about, 40,000 female infants were annihilated. Press reports say that over 50 amniocentesis clinics are functioning in Bombay. One Dr. Dutta Bhai has also confirmed this. What is shocking is the boards that hang outside these centres that read"

Pay Rs. 600 and get the female child terminated and avoid giving Rs. 5 lakhs as dowry in future.

This is an abominable sin. Sir, according to 1981 census the ratio of men and women was 1000 : 933. A survey conducted by the National perspective plan says that, by 2000 AD, there will be only 480 million women as against 500 million men.

Therefore, the union government must take necessary steps on war footing to curb this cruel practice of annihilation of female child. If we don't bring necessary legislation and punish the culprits, I warn you, there will be a day when, like importing essential commodities from foreign countries, we will have to import women as well. With these words I conclude.

7 00 P.M.

Threat to Personal Security of Rajya Sabha Member by I.G. Police, Gujarat

SHRI GOPALSENH G. SOLANKI (Gujarat): Sir, I am much obliged to you for giving me this opportunity. I want to bring to the notice of the House an incident which took place on 30th November, 1990.

Sir, on 29th of November, in Godhra town of Gujarat, a group of four teachers who were teaching in a school as well as a tailor were murdered in the school. Because of this incident the Chief Minister of Gujarat State was to visit Godhra town in the early morning of 30th November whereupon I was informed to attend the Circuit House where the Chief Minister was to arrive because I also represented to the Chief Minister, and from there we were asked to join the convoy to go to the school where the teachers were slain. On the way to the school, on the road there was a crowd of people who were related to the slain teachers and who wanted to have their grievances redressed and, therefore, we requested the Chief Minister to visit those relatives also. The Chief Minister agreed to visit them, and thereupon, we were sent ahead to persuade that particular crowd to maintain peace. But, all of a sudden, when we were persuading the people, the IGP of the Gujarat

[Shri Gopalsinh G. Solanki]

State, Mr. P. K. Dutta, rushed to the crowd without any reason and opened lathi-charge. Not only that, but when I intervened and asked him why he was doing an unwarranted thing, he said, "You are an M.P. So what? You also go away. Otherwise, I will beat you and kill you." Not only that but he continued to beat the people. I again asked him, "Why do you beat the innocent people?" Then also he again said, "You go away. Otherwise, I will put you behind bars." Such was the humiliating attitude of the IGP. This is not befitting a State-level officer. I want to bring this to the notice of this honourable, august House. Stern action against the IGP may please be taken.

I attempted to address the House on the 4th, but it was an incomplete attempt. I am thankful to Mr. Chavan also. On that day he supported me. So, necessary steps may please be taken against the IGP for his humiliating behaviour.

Need for Rehabilitation of Migrants from disturbed areas of Punjab and Kashmir

DR JITENDRA KUMAR JAIN (Madhya Pradesh). Sir, through this special mention, I wish to bring to the notice of the Government that a number of unfortunate countrymen of ours have been forced to flee their homes on account of inadequate protection being provided to them by the Government to protect their lives and their properties.

These unfortunate countrymen of ours from Punjab and Kashmir are living in sub-human conditions. The exodus from Punjab was officially recognised by the Government in 1986. The rate of inflow into Delhi has been about 30 to 40 persons a day. In addition, many are taking refuge with their relatives in other cities throughout India. A severe problem is being faced also by those who have been forced to migrate from terrorist-

affected villages in Punjab to the cities within Punjab itself where their lives are safer but where they have no means of finding support or employment.

Sir, in Delhi, according to the official figure they are over 6,000. Approximately there are 25,000 persons. This figure is certainly an under-estimate. Since the official figures are based on registration of only those persons who are able to establish their status on the basis of rationcards or on their ability to prove that their migration was a result of death-threats or harassment or attack or injury to the family, evidently a large number of distressed families escape such an enlistment.

Out of over 6,000 families registered in Delhi last year, barely 2,500 families have been provided with a pucca shelter by way of one-room accommodation. These rooms have no facilities of a kitchen or a toilet attached. The common toilets in the areas are most unhygienic, and shortage of water is endemic. The remaining families have been kept in make-shift tents, and their conditions are pitiable. In all these camps, the lack of civic amenities is complete. The lack of proper toilet and water facilities is causing a great health hazard, and medical facilities are almost non-existent. And there is complete lack of adequate educational facilities.

Sir, I also wish to mention here about the problems of the migrants from Kashmir. After the terrorist movement exploded in Kashmir following the kidnapping and release of Miss Rubaiya Sayeed, virtually the entire Hindu population of the Kashmir Valley has been displaced. Over 1,25,000 persons have been forced to flee the valley, abandoning whatever they possessed, and they are living in great penury and hardship all over the country today.