

temple. On 14.6.1990 a huge piece of granite stone of seven tonnes fell down from the top of the temple. Fortunately that was the time when it was raining and nobody was outside the temple and it did not hit anybody. But since two months that repair work has not yet been done and the stone was not replaced up till now. Due to the sheer negligence of the Department of Archaeological Survey of India this famous temple may collapse at any time and unless protective measures are taken quickly the whole temple will collapse. This has caused a great concern among the devotees and the pilgrims that have come from all over India there and their lives are not secure and the devotees are also afraid of visiting the temple because this remains still un-repaired. Thank you.

Reported death of five Oriya labourers in Maharashtra due to police firing

SHRIMATI MIRA DAS (Orissa): Madam Deputy Chairman, I draw your attention to the brutal killing of five labourers from Orissa in Nagpur by the Maharashtra police on the 3rd of this month. It was reported in the Press that the Maharashtra police has resorted to this brutal shooting of the innocent labourers in connivance with the factory owner, Mr. A.K. Jaiswal in order to suppress the genuine demands of the agitating workers. The workers have been demanding better wages and regularisation of their jobs. But, unfortunately the factory owner without considering their demands wanted to engage about forty-four new workers from Orissa who were brought to Nagpur by a contractor of bonded labourers. The agitating workers numbering about one hundred and fifty stopped the bus by which the fresh workers from Orissa were being brought. The agitating workers successfully convinced these workers not to work in the factory in the interest of their demands. Unfortunately the Police arrived at the scene and threatened the labourers and wanted to take the labourers

forcibly to the premises of the factory. When the agitating workers opposed this action of the police, they were severely beaten. The police also resorted to firing by which about five workers died. After the incident about forty-two workers were missing and many of them have been injured. Hence I request you to direct the Government of Maharashtra to locate the missing labourers. It is apprehended that the number of deaths due to the police firing may be more. Some are still under police custody. Some of the injured are in the hospital. Hence I request Home Minister and

Labour Minister of the Government of India to intervene in the matter and provide adequate compensation immediately. Thank you.

Delay caused in the delivery of letters due to closing down on many officers of R.M.S.

SHRI MOTURU HANUMANTHA, RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Madam Deputy Chairman, I rise to make a Special Mention on the undue delay caused in the delivery of postal letters creating great trouble to the public. This has been done in the name of rationalisation of services. Despite so much of agitation carried on by the public and the employees, no remedial steps had been taken by the administration. According to this new policy which had been introduced by the former Government, sorting offices in the RMS had been disbanded, many delivery branches have been abolished and the night services have been converted into day services. As a result of this, letters which were previously going from the RMS to branch delivery offices are dumped into main post offices and district headquarters offices from where they are again despatched to the local post offices. This intermediary journey of letters is causing a delay of seven to ten days. This has not only created more difficulties for the public but has also resulted in the overloading of work to the employees. Besides this, employees are forced to face the wrath of the public for delay. So far as rationalisation and improving the system is concerned, it had not