

REFERENCE TO THE REPORTED ARMED DACOITY AND MURDER ON THE DELHI-U.P. BORDER AND THE REPORTED INACTION OF THE POLICE IN THE MATTER ON TECHNICAL GROUNDS.

MISS JAYALALITHA (Tamil Nadu):
 Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, through you, I wish to draw the attention of the House and the Government of India in particular of the Minister in charge of Internal Security, to a serious case of police apathy, callousness, inaction and indifference on technical grounds of jurisdiction.

In the early house of Sunday morning, that is, March 9th, there was a case of armed dacoity and murder in the border area between Delhi and U.P. at Ghaziabad. Technically, the place where the incident took place is in U.P., but the nearest police station is in Delhi. It is a very lonely road, a lonely rural area, and there are no neighbours around. When the dacoits attacked the family, the family members started shouting for help. So, the dacoits first ran away. Then they went up to a certain distance and found that no one was coming to their aid and no one was around. Then they came back, attacked the family and murdered one of the members of the family. Immediately after this incident took place, members of the family ran to the nearest Police Station in Delhi. But the Police refused to act on the ground that it was not within their jurisdiction. They refused to act on technical grounds of jurisdiction. Similar incidents have occurred even in Delhi several times where one Police Station refused to act on a complaint lodged by someone because the place where the incident took place does not come within its jurisdiction.

Sir, I would like to say that this kind of apathy and inaction on the part of the police can actually be construed as conniving at, aiding and abetting the

crime. The police are the custodian of law and order and the police personnel are the people in whom direct authority is vested, who can take direct action and who are the ones who should take direct action for the implementation of law and order. In many cases like the one I have mentioned now, it so happened that the culprits were allowed to get away and go scot free because the police refused to act on technical grounds of jurisdiction. In this particular case which I mentioned just now and which occurred in Ghaziabad, the nearest police station is in Delhi. Had the Delhi police acted immediately as soon as the complaint was received, they could have nabbed the culprits. Later, the complaint had to go to the U.P. police. When they conducted the investigation, it was found that the dacoits who escaped, had gone towards Delhi.

Sir, the point I am trying to make is that certain guidelines should be evolved and certain instructions should be given so that in real emergencies such as these when lives of innocent citizens are lost, when murders take place and when armed robberies take place, the police should not display such utter callousness and refuse to act merely on technical ground of jurisdiction. Instructions should be given accordingly.

In this connection, I would also like to point out that not only in Delhi but practically in every State in India, the number of police personnel is woefully inadequate when compared to the total population. Again, people in high positions of authority say time and again that we should stop this overcrowding of urban population. Sir, how can we prevent people from coming and flocking to urban centers, how can we induce people to go and settle in remote areas, when even the basic protection is not provided in those areas in rural and remote areas? In rural and remote areas where incidents such as these take place, there should be ample protection provided for these people. Also I make a further request that proper instructions and guide-

[Miss Jayalalitha]

lines should be evolved so that in future police inaction such as this, police apathy such as this, does not result in the culprits escaping merely on grounds of technical jurisdiction. Thank you, Sir.

REFERENCE TO THE REPORTED COLLAPSE OF TWO BALCONIES OF NEW DELHI HOUSE ON BARAKHAMBA ROAD, NEW DELHI.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am grateful for this opportunity. Sir, I draw the attention of the Government to a serious matter. On 5th March this year, the 10th and 11th storey projections of the multi-storeyed New Delhi House in Barakhamba Road, collapsed smashing two parked cars. Four persons escaped narrowly.

Sir, on 22nd November, 1985, the Minister of Urban Development, in his reply to my Unstarred Question regarding safety measures in high-rise building—I raised a pertinent question about this particular building said that the Fire Advisory Committee constituted on 7th June 1983 by the Lt. Governor of Delhi, recommended enforcement of unified building bye-laws for Delhi. This particular Committee had inspected this particular building, New Delhi House, Barakhamba Road and a report regarding the observations and recommendations for protection measure was forwarded to the promoters of the building for implementation of safety measures. Sir, the rules and bye-laws were totally flouted by the promoters of the building. Sir, it is really painful to note that although the Committee found that there was a serious danger to the building and that the projections could fall at any time they sent the observation and recommendations to the promoters of the building who never cared for the recommendations. Sir, the promoters, those who are responsible for such a thing should be prosecuted. Sir, it

will be interesting to point out that when I put the question on this particular subjects a particular portion of my question was guillotined by the Rajya Sabha Secretariat people and because the Chairman has given a ruling yesterday, I do not want to cast any aspersion on any particular individual. But, Sir, when this was done in the Lok Sabha once Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu thundered on the floor of the House as to who are you to guillotine a portion of my question. Sir, I read that portion of the question which will be very interesting to note I have put the question like this. . .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is the relevance?

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: This is very relevant to this particular building. I asked: will the Government issue notice to the owners of the building to pull down these dangerous projections without delay or else will the Government pull down the same at the owners' cost? These very dangerous projection have crashed, have fallen. This has caused this particular accident. This particular point I have raised. I have raised this question. This point was guillotined by the Secretariat. I do not understand on what rationale they have done this. So, I would request the Minister, through you, Sir, to take effective steps, steps means prosecution measures to be taken against the promoters of the building and those who are engaged in flouting such rules and bye-laws of the safety measures. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, we take up Further Discussion on the General Budget—Shri Darbara Singh.