

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Circumstances which necessitated issuance of the Punjab Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads (Temporary Supersession) Amendment Ordinance, 1983

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI HARI NATH MISHRA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a statement (in English and Hindi) explaining the circumstances which necessitated immediate legislation by the Punjab Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads (Temporary Supersession) Amendment Ordinance, 1983. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7430/83].

THE PUNJAB PANCHAYAT SAMITIS AND ZILA PARISHADS (TEMPORARY SUPERSESSION) SECOND AMENDMENT BILL, 1983

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI HARI NATH MISHRA): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Punjab Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads (Temporary Supersession) Act, 1978.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI HARI NATH MISHRA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

REFERENCE TO THE REPORTED DISCUSSION OF THE A.I.R. AND T.V. AUTHORITIES IN MADRAS NOT TO ALLOW THE CHIEF MINISTER OF TAMIL NADU TO BROADCAST/TELECAST ON THE 14TH DECEMBER, 1983

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the speech of the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Mr. M. G. Ramachandran, was recorded yesterday evening. Mr. M. G. Ramachandran, Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, wanted to speak over the All India Radio as well as the Television, to appeal to the people of

Tamil Nadu to preserve law and order. A picketing is going on today before the Central Government and State Government offices. They are obstructing and preventing the Central and State Government officials not to go to their offices in the name of price rise. This programme is being led by the DMK leader, Mr. Karunanidhi and some other Opposition parties. Just to create a peaceful atmosphere and to preserve law and order in the State. Mr. M. G. Ramachandran wanted to broadcast over the Television as well as the All India Radio. The TV officials as well as the All India Radio officials after recording his speech refused to broadcast it for the simple reason that he has referred to the name of Mr. Karunanidhi in his speech. Sir, how can he appeal to the leaders of all parties to join together in creating a peaceful atmosphere in the State, until and unless he refers to the name of Mr. Karunanidhi, who is leading the picketing programme? I do not know what are the rules and regulations. The TV officials and the All India Radio officials say that if a person wants to broadcast, whether he is a Chief Minister or any other important person, if he refers in his speech to the names of any other person, he should not be, he will not be allowed to speak over the TV as well as the All India Radio. I would like to have a categorical answer from the hon. Minister, whether there are any rules in the TV as well as the All India Radio that if a Chief Minister of a State, in the name of preserving law and order, wants to speak before the public and appeal to the leaders of all parties in regard to preservation of law and order in the State he is not allowed to refer to the name of the person who wants to picket before the Central Government and the State Government offices. If there is any such rule, I would like to know whether the rule is going to be completely removed. Or what exactly is the position, where does the matter stand? My question is that our Chief Minister was not to advertise his party programme or policy. He wanted to make an appeal to the people