

[Shri Narasingha Prasad Nanda]
of State for Home Affairs is here, to make a statement on this incident after making proper enquiries from the appropriate local authorities. Thank you.

Reference to the Reported Dacoity in the South Extension Branch of Canara Bank, New Delhi

SHRIMATI HAMIDA HABIBULLAH (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Home Minister to the shocking news that at 3.45 P.M. yesterday, six armed youth robbed Rs. 6.5 lakhs from the South Extension Branch of the Canara Bank in which four people were stabbed. Sir, the most shocking news is not only the fact that there has been this robbery, but also the fact that this had happened at 3.45 P.M., in the middle of the afternoon and this had continued for quite some time and as the newspaper report says:

"The currency notes were stacked in a large bag and all the employees locked up in the strong room and the kitchen before the bandits escaped. It took about fifteen minutes for the employees to break open the kitchen door and inform the police about the incident. One of the employees, Subhash Tyagi said that the bandits smelt of liquor and went about confidently during the hold-up. Another employee said there was no policemen in sight when they came out of the bank, presumably because of the massive police bandobust for the Akali demonstration."

Sir, when there is a demonstration in the town, the police, the entire police of the town goes and starts looking after it, so that the whole town can be looted without any policemen being available anywhere. It is not possible to understand this.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): Mr. Minister, I hope, you are listening.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): I am listening.

SHRIMATI HAMIDA HABIBULLAH (Uttar Pradesh): The newspaper also says:

"A precious 65 minutes appeared to have been lost by the police in flashing the description of the desperadoes. The control room was informed of the robbery at 4.45 p.m. but the police pickets at almost every crossing in the vicinity got the description of the culprits full 65 minutes after at 5.50 p.m., police sources said.

This lapse the sources said, gave the robbers ample opportunity to make good their escape in a car believed to have been parked in a by-lane near the bank. Most of the senior officers of South Delhi police were deployed at the Boat Club Akali rally."

I would like to know what the police were doing throughout this period. Were they in the know of what was happening? Did they enquire about it? Why was this information not given for such a long time. Has anybody been arrested? Have any clues been found? I would like the hon. Minister to go into this matter deeply. This is a very serious matter, as has happened.

Reference to the alleged Government Interference in the Administration of Sikh Gurdwaras

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR (Punjab): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, yesterday there was a protest march by the Sikhs against Government interference in the Delhi

Gurdwara administration. The House is well aware of the fact how the Ordinance to amend the Gurdwara Act was passed and how that Ordinance was turned into an Act just for the sake of one person.

SHRI HARVENDAR SINGH HANSPAL (Punjab): On a point of order, Sir.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: Is there any point of order in special mention?

SHRI HARVENDAR SINGH HANSPAL: You say that it has been done for one person.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: After I have completed you can say anything you like; I won't object to it. I would request the Vice-Chairman to give you time to put your party's point of view. (*Interruptions*). Do not interrupt me. Please let me have my say.

श्री हरवन्दर सिंह हंसपाल : क्या इसके बाद कोई प्रसिद्धि नहीं बनेगा जो है वही बन रहेगे।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): Order, order please.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: Government tried to harass and elude the members to vote for Jathedar Santokh Singh. Here I would like to quote instances where DDA plots had been issued to the members of the Delhi Gurdwara management committee for the sake of voting for Jathedar Santokh Singh. This point had been raised by me in the Question Hour and the Minister for Housing had assured me that he would inform me about this later on. I gave the names of the members even then. I am giving the name, the number of the plot and everything. (*Interruptions*). If she is so sure, she can contradict...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): You address the Chair.

SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR (Punjab): She is just accusing the Government for nothing.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: One plot has been given to one Shri Joginder Singh Bajwa, factory Plot No. 614, Mayapuri Phase II, New Delhi. Another plot has been given to Shri Kuldip Singh, factory plot No. C-27, Mayapuri Phase II, New Delhi. The third plot has been given just before the election. (*Interruptions*). You just listen and let the Minister contradict this in the House.

SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR: What is this special mention about?

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: I am not going to sit down till I have had my say.

SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR: This is not the special mention. (*Interruptions*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): Dr. Kaur, I understand that your special mention is about the yesterday's rally.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: No, no, about Government interference in the religious affairs of...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): Please sit down. The special mention that has been allowed by the Chairman pertains to Government interference in the administration of Sikh places of worship. So how does giving plots to these people come in this?

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: They are members of the Delhi Gurudwara Management Committee. They were given allurements to vote for Jathedar Santokh Singh. Otherwise what was the priority for giving plots to these members? (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR: There is no point; it is an allegation.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: If these allegations are proved wrong, I am prepared to resign from the Rajya Sabha. If they are proved wrong, they should also resign from the Rajya Sabha.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): You please address me and please be brief. In making a Special Mention, you have to be brief.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: When you don't protect me, how can I be brief? When you have given me permission to speak in the House...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): No interference, please.

SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR: She is going off the point. (Interruptions)

SHRI U. R. KRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): Please let her have her say. (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR: She is going off the point. That is why...

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: I am not going off the point, but you are. One is Balwant Singh...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): She is provoking you and you are getting provoked.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: ...who was given plot No. AG196, Sadiq Bagh, at the reserved price. All of them have been given plots at the reserved price. One more is Harbans Singh, Lawrence Road. Should I read the names or I should give the number also?

SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR: She is getting confused.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: I do not get confused by your saying this.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): It is very difficult when two ladies start quarrelling.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: She is of your party. You are not asking her to sit down. You are telling me and not asking her.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): I said: "No interference, please".

SHRI DHARMAVIRA (Uttar Pradesh): There should be no interference. Let them talk to each other.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: We do not need your interference either.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): You want it free-for-all.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: I am prepared to fight *sava lakh*; I am not bothered about interruptions from one lady member.

श्री सतपाल मिस्तल (पंजाब) : लेकिन बीबी, सच-सच बोलना चाहिए, ठीक-ठीक बोलना चाहिए ।

डा० (श्रीमती) राजेन्द्र कौर : ठीक है ।
(व्यवधान)

श्री सतपाल मिस्तल : जो-जो अकालियों ने पंजाब में किया है . . .
(व्यवधान)

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: You disprove my allegations. (Interruptions)

SHRI HAREKRUSHNA MALLICK (Orissa): I do not understand why there is interference from that side. Let the lady Member have her say.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): Order please. Dr. Malick, the whole trouble has arisen

because the Special Mention is pertaining to Government's interference in the administration of Sikhs' places of worship. Now Dr. Kaur is travelling a little away from that and that is why they are objecting to it.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: Sir, if giving allurements to members to win them over is not interference, what else is it?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): It is not quite to the point.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: Even in spite of all these allurements and harassment, Government could not win over a majority of the members to Jathedar Santokh Singh's side. What actually did happen was, without actual voting by secret ballot having been done, he occupied the office and declared himself as the President and the police came in between to protect him. I am a duly elected member of Delhi Gurdwara Management Committee. I was manhandled by the police. (Interruptions) On that day, all the opposition members were arrested and he became the President. In fact, I should say—now again they will start shouting—that the Prime Minister herself is interested in building his image. (Interruptions)

SHRI HARVENDAR SINGH HANS-PAL: It is absolutely wrong.

SHRI DARMMAVIRA: This is absolutely wrong. (Interruptions)

श्री जे० के० जैन (मध्य प्रदेश) : यह जो आरोप इन्होंने लगाया है... (व्यवधान)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): Order please. Please sit down. Dr. Kaur, may I request you to please sit down? You see, through a Special Mention, the attention of the Government is to be drawn...

SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR: It should not be recorded at all.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): If you are going to make one controversial statement after another, I am afraid the 3 minutes that are given will be far exceeded. So, you please cooperate with me, come to the point of your subject and say where you want to draw the Government's attention.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: I want the attention of all the right-thinking people in the House to be drawn to this thing, not of the Government or the Prime Minister only.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): Special Mention is meant only for the Government.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: I have alleged that the Government is interfering in the religious affairs of the Sikhs. The subject is quite clear. My allegation is against the Government and whose attention should I draw?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): You come to the point.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: I would ask my hon. colleague from this side...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): Don't talk to them. Again you will provoke them.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: I am not bothered about their shouting. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): Why don't the two Kaur's settle the dispute outside the House?

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: Thank you very much. I make this request to them also.

SHRI SAT PAUL MITTAL: If they can settle the dispute outside the House, why are we here? (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): You are welcome to join the two Kaur.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: The Siromani Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee is a duly democratically, elected body of the Sikhs for organising the religious affairs of the Sikhs.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR: If corruption does not go on, what about the funds? (Interruptions) I

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): I am finding myself helpless. (Interruptions)

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: Virtually she is speaking and disturbing me all the time.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): Will you conclude? (Interruptions)

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: Rather you should stop her. Otherwise I won't sit down. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): What do you expect me to do between the two ladies? I am trying to do my best and trying to see...

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: You have to protect the rights of the Members.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): I am trying to protect your rights, but I am requesting you to cooperate with me while speaking and come to the point as far as your subject is concerned. If you want to draw the Government's attention to certain things, please confine yourself to that only. But you are also attacking them and they are reacting.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: The mention is against the

Government. I come to the point. (Interruptions) Don't disturb. Nobody should stand up.

The SGPC is the duly elected body of the Sikhs for organising their religious affairs. We have got certain Gurudwaras left behind in Pakistan. We send pilgrims on pilgrimage, four times a year, to those holy shrines. Until recently, these pilgrims were being sent by so many Gurudwaras. (Interruptions) Please don't interfere. The first batch that went on Baisakhi Day was headed by Jathedar Santokh Singh. At the very same time... (Interruptions) Is this not interference?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): Dr. Kaur, you must conclude. I am sorry, I am going to call the other Member.

(Interruptions)

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: She has got up and is shouting and not allowing me to speak. (Interruptions) I am not going to sit down. (Interruptions) And what Jathedar Santokh Singh has done is, he has taken all the offerings from the gurudwaras. The Chairman of the Evacuee Property and Wakf Board has told me that they have spent Rs. 70,000 on langar, Rs. 29,000 were spent by a Sindhi Hindu organisation which runs a langar and they have taken Rs. 3 lakhs without paying for the langar. This is the image this man has got. (Interruptions) This is a true allegation.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): Thank God, there is a passage between the two of you. I do not know what would happen if there were no passage. And you please do not indulge in these allegations.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: The allegations are there. The man is robbing the Gurudwaras and the Government is protecting him. This is the allegation I am making in the House. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): Now, Mr. Jha, you do not pour oil.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: I have brought the whole issue to the notice of the Prime Minister but she has not bothered to acknowledge it even. (Interruptions) I have written to her. (Interruptions) What can I do? Now I asked the Chairman of Wakf Board why they paid for these expenses.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): Now, Dr. Kaur, I will give you one minute more. And you please do not disturb her. Let her have her say. (Interruptions)

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: I am not cowed down by their majority. I must have my say. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): Mr. Dharmavira, please sit down. I do not want you to be cowed down by anybody, but please co-operate with the Chair by concluding and saying whatever you have to say in one minute. You have already taken almost 15 minutes.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: Out of those 15 minutes, 5 were taken by me and 10 by Members from that side. Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I asked the Wakf Board Chairman... (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): What is it that you want to say?

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: I said, when we come, you do not pay; but why have you paid this time? What he told me is that the First Secretary of the Embassy rang him up and said, "You keep the Jatha people; we will pay from our side." Now neither the Embassy people nor the Jatha people have paid this money. Is it an honour for the country or for the Sikhs? I want to ask this from the Members from that side. Then for similar reasons we

wanted to hold a rally, a protest march... (Interruptions) I will have two minutes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): Only one minute.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: What they say in Punjabi: दादा मारे भी तै रोन भी ना दे The strong beats but does not allow to cry.

SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR: I am sorry, Sir, you do not understand Punjabi. Therefore you do not know what she said. But I can understand it. (Interruptions)

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: Then the Punjab Roadways bus, but No... (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): I cannot follow Punjabi. (Interruptions)

श्री सतपाल मिश्रल : आप खुद ही मारते हैं और खुद ही रोते हैं ।

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR:

मारोगे भी और रोएंगे भी नहीं । Do not bother about. It means that the minority cannot speak in the House. (Interruptions) Mr. Gurcharan Singh Tohra stated this. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): Order, please, Mr. Jain.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: Is this the way to function in the House? I do not know. I have never tried to be rude and crude with anybody and I have never interrupted anybody like this.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): Thank you.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: Thanks for what? Thank you for the interruptions and not allowing me to speak.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): Dr. Kaur, you have made your points very effectively.

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: I have not yet mentioned about the firing and the lathi-charge in which one lady, Jaswant Kaur Khanna... (*Interruptions*).

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): Firing has nothing to do with the... (*Interruptions*).

DR. (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: They were preventing persons coming to the rally. There was absolutely a silent protest, without provocation. Two or three wounded persons were lying there (*Interruptions*) Let them keep quite. Otherwise, let it be any time. Or you throw me out of this House. If they have got majority, it does not mean that they should shout me down. I must tell you, Iqbal was poet who has written:

'सारे जहां से अच्छा हिन्दुस्तान हमारा'

Then he wrote in favour of Pakistan. Somebody asked Mr. Jinnah about it. What did he say? He replied..

SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR: Is it the special mention? (*Interruptions*).

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): Order please. She will take more time. Please don't. From Sikh places of worship you have gone to...

शारे जहां से अच्छा

DR (SHRIMATI) RAJINDER KAUR: The people in majority have created Pakistan. Now they are going to destroy the unity and integrity of this country. They are the majority community and their stooges.

REFERENCE TO THE REPORTED AKALI AGITATION FOR KHALISTAN

श्री जे० के० जैन (मध्य प्रदेश) :
उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, बड़ी खुशी की बात है कि गृह मंत्री यहां बैठे हुए हैं। मैं उनका ध्यान... (*व्यवधान*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): Order please. Do not go on provoking.

श्री जे० के० जैन : मैं उनका ध्यान इस ओर दिलाना चाहूंगा कि देश के विभाजन की बात जो भी व्यक्ति करेगा वह सचमुच ट्रेटर है, देशद्रोही है और उसको देश में रहने का कोई अधिकार नहीं है।

डा० (श्रीमती) राजेन्द्र कोर (पंजाब) :
ट्रेटर किसे कहते हैं... (*व्यवधान*)...
गुरुद्वारा में हमारे आदमी जायेंगे और बोलेंगे... (*व्यवधान*)...

These are the traitors, not those who fight for the rights of their own community. (*Interruptions*).

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): It was between the two ladies, and now it has become the lady and men also. (*Interruptions*).

श्री जे० के० जैन : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय सदस्य इस बात से एग्री करेंगे कि देश का विभाजन करने वाला कोई भी व्यक्ति देशद्रोही कहलायेगा और मुझे पूरी उम्मीद है कि वह भी इस बात से पूरी सहमति रखते हैं कि अगर देश के विभाजन की कोई बात करता है तो वह सचमुच में देशद्रोही ही कहलायेगा। ... (*व्यवधान*) ...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): Dr. Kaur, why are you objecting to his statement?