

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Paper to be Laid on the Table.

PROF. RAMLAL PARIKH (Gujarat): On a point of order, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no.

PROF. RAMLAL PARIKH: Sir, just a minute.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This is only a correction.

PROF. RAMLAL PARIKH: Sir, this is not only a correction. It is a serious type of error which shows the scant regard that they have for Parliament. How can we....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He has already explained it. Now, Papers to be Laid on the Table.

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

Insurance Claims Board (Amendment) Rules, 1981

पूति तथा पुनर्वासि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री भगवत झा आजाद): श्रीमान, मैं आज की अनुमति से विस्थापित व्यक्ति (ऋण समायोजन) अधिनियम 1951 की धारा 57 के अधीन जारी किये गये बीमा दावे बोर्ड (संशोधन) नियम, 1981 को प्रकाशित करने वाली पूति तथा पुनर्वासि मंत्रालय (पुनर्वासि विभाग) की अधिसूचना सांकांनि० सं० 193 दिनांक 14 फरवरी, 1981 की एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ। [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1988/81].

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Assault on the Editor of a Hindi Daily of Varanasi

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): Sir, in respect of the matter raised by the Hon'ble Member Shri Rameshwar Singh regarding "Reported assault on the Editor of a

Hindi daily of Varanasi", it has been reported by the Government of Uttar Pradesh that "On March, 3, 1981 at about 11.00 A.M. six persons assaulted Shri Ishwar Deo Misra, Editor of local Newspaper, "Janwarta". The assault was learnt to be a sequel to a news item published in the newspaper against Swamiji. Shri Mishra who received injuries in his head was immediately got treated at Government Hospital and a report has been lodged in this connection vide Case No. 138/81 u/s 147/323/307/452 IPC at P.S. Cantt. Three of the assailants have been arrested at the spot while all efforts are underway to identify and apprehend the remaining three accused. These assailants were reportedly followers of the said Swamiji and were attending his lecture programme at Sarnath. This Swamiji has become controversial during his lecture programme at Assi in Police Circle Behlupur due to his utterances against some prominent local Swamis including Karpatriji and Bhagwan Awadhot Ram.

The matter is entirely within the jurisdiction of the State Government. The Government of Uttar Pradesh have been asked to have the matter investigated further in the light of the various points raised by the Hon'ble Member as also in the news-item published by the Daily 'Janwarta'.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The statement to be made by Shri Pranab Mukherjee on the Textile Policy will be made afterwards.

DR. M. M. S. SIDDHU (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, one thing I want to ask.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. This was a statement made on a special mention. There cannot be any discussion.

DR. M. M. S. SIDDHU: Sir, threats are being given to the newspaper editor.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Calling Attention matter will be taken up after lunch when the Minister is free from the other House. Now

we will take up special mentions. (Interruptions). Yes, Shri Pyarelal Khandelwal.

श्री बी० सत्यनारायण रेड्डी (आंध्र प्रदेश): इसमें देरी क्यों हो रही है? लोग अभी प्रदर्शन कर रहे हैं? इस में एस०पी० (सिटी) इन्वाल्ड है स्वामी श्रद्धानन्द के साथ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Calling Attention matter will be taken up after lunch when the Minister is free from the other House.

SHRI ERA SEZHIYAN (Tamil Nadu): Has a request from the Minister been received.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes.

SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHAN-DARI (Uttar Pradesh): Calling Attention can be taken up.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: But if the Member is not here...

SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHAN-DARI: If some hon. Members are not here, they may be allowed afterwards.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, I am not allowing it.

**REFERENCE TO AIR INDIA'S RE-
PORTED RELUCTANCE TO OPERATE
FLIGHTS TO SHARJAH AND REPOR-
TED FAVOUR SHOWN TO THE
PUSHPAK AVIATION (PRIVATE)
LIMITED**

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We take up special mentions. Shri Khandelwal. Not here. Shri Dinesh Goswami.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (As-sam): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me the chance to mention, by way of special mention, an important matter regarding reluctance of Air India to operate flights to an oil rich Gulf country, Sharjah and the reported news item that a private airlines is sought to be favoured by the name of Pushpak Aviation Private Limited.

Sir, the House will recall that so far as the Pushpak Aviation (Private) Limited is concerned, this aviation company because the subject matter of a heated discussion in this House itself when at some earlier point of time, a report appeared that this airline was given the right to operate between Bombay and Madras and the allegation that was made from this side of the House was that because Pushpak Aviation (Private) Limited helped the ruling party by giving a fleet of helicopters as *quid pro quo*. this airline was given the right to fly from Bombay to Madras and back. We were happy that after this matter was raised in Parliament, and an agile journalist thought in the worthwhile to be published in the national newspaper, that lease was cancelled. But we see another news item that the Air India was asked to operate a flight from Bombay to Sharjah an oil-rich country, and the Air India decided to operate from 17th February. In the last moment, Air India cancelled the operations and ultimately decided to let the Pushpak Aviation (Private) Limited to continue with the result that the ruler of Sharjah had to call our Ambassador and express his displeasure, and the Ambassador conveyed that displeasure to the Ministry of External Affairs. Sir, the ground given by Air India was that for technical reasons, they were not operating. But we have come to know that this decision was taken to show favours to the private airline for facilities provided by it to the ruling party. These are serious allegations that have been made that efforts have been made to favour them. Earlier, attempts were made to give them Bombay-Madras route and because there was a hue and cry in this Parliament, that was given up and now an effort has been made also to give them this flight route from Bombay to Sharjah contrary to all practices that we follow either in the Indian Airlines or the Air India that normally we do not allow private airlines to operate on such route.