

SHRI J. K. JAIN (Mādhya Pradesh): I am on a point of order, Sir. Very important. One minute only.

जहाँ सारे सदन के जो मृतक लोग हैं उनके साथ पूरी हमदर्दी है। लेकिन यहाँ मुझे यह देखते हुए बड़ा दुःख हो रहा है कि एक माननीय सदस्य सिर्फ अपने नाम के प्रचार के लिये चाहते हैं कि उनके नाम से स्पेशल मेंशन एडमिट होना चाहिए। यह बड़े दुःख की बात है कि ऐसे मामलों के ऊपर भी ये हमारे सदस्य महोदय इस प्रकार से अपने नाम का प्रचार चाहते हैं। जबकि आपने अभी यह कहा कि स्पेशल मेंशन किसी और के नाम से एडमिट किया जा चुका है। इनको आप कहिये कि इस प्रकार के मामलों के ऊपर अपने नाम के प्रचार करने का प्रयास न करें।

**श्री शिव चन्द्र झा :** ... (व्यवधान)

**श्री सभापति :** आप बैठ जाइये, मैं कहता हूँ। आपको भी कहता हूँ, उनकी भी कहता हूँ कि जहाँ शोक का मौका होता है, वहाँ भी शोर का मौका होता है। मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि लोगों की जान जा रही है और यहाँ शोर हो रहा है।

**एक माननीय सदस्य :** किसकी गलती से हो रहा है।

**श्री सभापति :** कोई हमदर्दी तो जताओ ... (व्यवधान)

Tomorrow.... (Interruptions). Just a minute. I am standing. Nothing is to be recorded for that gentleman. (Interruptions). What I was going to say was, this classification into Central and State subjects is not certainly so important when information has to be given to this House about such a big tragedy. I think cutting across all red tape or rules and everything else the hon. Home Minister should make

a very serious matter, a very great pened. I think tomorrow it should be done.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Calling Attention.

# RE: MOTION SEEKING DISCUSSION ON THE PROBLEM OF CORRUPTION AND SETTING UP OF A COMMITTEE FOR ERADICATION OF CORRUPTION

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gujarat): Mr. Deputy Chairman, before you go to the Calling Attention, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that almost all sections of the opposition have given notice of a Motion seeking to discuss the problem of corruption and to set up a Committee for eradication of corruption. All my colleagues would like as to when it will be possible for the House to discuss it. I am mentioning this because the Business Advisory Committee is due to meet this evening. It should have met last week on Thursday or Friday. I do not know why it did not meet. It is going to meet this evening. It is the earnest desire of all sections of the opposition to see that the problem of corruption which has now assumed very disturbing dimensions throughout the country is discussed threadbare. And it will be to the advantage of the ruling party and the Treasury Benches to allow a full discussion on the subject.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: So far as the meeting.....

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL (Gujarat): It is a national issue; it is a burning issue....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: First hear me. Let me clarify a point he has raised.

So far as the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee is concerned, the business that was decided on the last occasion at its meeting is still

being followed during this week. Therefore, there was no need to meet. The meeting has now been called for today. Whatever motion any Member has given will be placed before the Business Advisory Committee and representatives from all Parties will be there. They can find time or suggest ways and means how to discuss it.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SITA RAM KESRI): Corruption is not a national issue. It is a personal issue. How can it be discussed... (Interruptions).

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: The Prime Minister has called it an international issue... (Interruptions).

SHRI SITA RAM KESRI: What was the Janata Party doing? Were they not corrupt? How is it that they were rejected by the people?..... (Interruptions)

श्री मनुभाई पटेल : जब उपसभापति जी ने कहा है कि डिसकस करेंगे, तो . . . (व्यवधान)

SHRI SITA RAM KESRI: What is corruption... (Interruptions).

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Sir, this is a remarkable case of a Minister behaving in this manner... (Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You said something. He can also say it.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: I requested you and you said that the Business Advisory Committee will consider it. Now he is broleating you and the Business Advisory Committee. It is for the Business Advisory Committee to consider it. How does Kesriji come in? This is a highly irresponsible behaviour on his part.... (Interruptions). ऐसे लोगों को मंत्री बनाया .... (व्यवधान) And he is the Parliamentary Affairs Minister. I take strong objection to his behaviour.

SHRI SITA RAM KESRI: I have criticised your contention. What is corruption? It is a very vague word....

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Let the Business Advisory Committee consider it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us go to the next point. (Interruptions).

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा (बिहार) : मेरा प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर है ... (व्यवधान) ..

श्री भोला पासवान शास्त्री (बिहार) : उपसभापति जी, आपके द्वारा आदेश हो गया है कि जिस विषय पर अभी चर्चा हो रही है वह प्रश्न बिजनेस एडवाइजरी कमेटी में भेजा जायेगा, वहां उस पर विचार किया जायेगा। उस के संबंध में प्रस्ताव पर दस्तखत करने वाले तमाम अपोजिशन के लीडरान हैं ; मैं भी हूं। मेरी फीलिंग है—मैं रोज अखबार पढ़ता हूं, मेरा कोई दुमरा सोर्स आफ इन्फार्मेशन नहीं है, —आज कलिंग, बैड एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन और कर्प्शन यही चल रहा है कंट्री को, यही ख्याल हम लोगों का है। यह देश केवल उनका नहीं है जिनके हाथ में आज एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन है और हम लोग अपोजिशन वाले चाहते हैं कि जो रोजमर्रा हत्यायें होती हैं, लोग मारे जाते हैं, इतना बैड एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन है कि मालूम नहीं पड़ता है कि कोई शासन यहां पर है ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सैयद सिबते रजी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : अपोजिशन वाले हर इश्यू को पोलिटिकल बनाते हैं ... (व्यवधान) ... चाहे नेशनल इश्यू हो, सामाजिक इश्यू हो, सब को राजनैतिक रंग देना चाहते हैं ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति : आप इतने सब लोग खड़े हो गये। एक-एक करके बोलें।

श्री भोला पासवान शास्त्री : उपसभापति जी, ये लोग अगर हमारे सामने इस

[श्री भोला पासवान शास्त्री]

मसले पर मदद नहीं करते हैं तो रोकिए इन्हें। लेकिन जिस तरह से सरकारी पार्टी के माननीय सदस्य विरोध कर रहे हैं, तो ऐसा मत समझिये हम मैजारिटो में हैं। हम भी हाउस को, ऐसा करेंगे तो चलने नहीं देंगे। ... (व्यवधान) ... आप मिनस्टर वहां पर बैठे हैं, आप हल्ला करने दे रहे हैं ... (व्यवधान) ... बैठ जाइये। उपसभापति जी, इस तरह से ... (व्यवधान) ... सरकारी पक्ष विरोध के नाम पर बिहेव करेगा तो आप किस तरह से सोचते हैं यह हाउस चलेगा। यह गलत बात है जो आप ने कह दिया हम लोग मानते हैं कि ... (व्यवधान) ... यह हालत देश की है लेकिन किस तरह से हमको डिस्टर्ब किया जा रहा है।

श्री उपसभापति : देखिये आप लोग खामोश रहिये।

श्री भोला पासवान शास्त्री : फिर मेरा निवेदन है, आप ने जो आदेश दिया कि यह बिजनेस एडवाइजरी कमेटी में जायेगा, वहां फैसला हो जायेगा, वह स्टैंड आपका ठोक है। हम लोग चाहते हैं कि इस पर दिन भर बहस हो ...

(Interruptions)

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL: The Leader of the Opposition is speaking. (Interruptions)

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : हमारा प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर है।

श्री उपसभापति : अब वह समाप्त हो गया है। प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर नहीं है। ....Now, let us go to the next point. (Interruptions)

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL: Here is a point of order. (Interruptions)

You can rule it out. But without hearing, how can you say that a point of order is not there. (Interruptions)

श्री उपसभापति : जैसा आइवाणी जी ने पहले शुरू में कहा, जिसकी चर्चा चल रही है उसी संबंध में मैं समझता हूं आप कुछ कहना चाहते हैं। वह विषय समाप्त हो गया है ... (व्यवधान) ... मुनिये, बैठ जाइये। एक विषय समाप्त हो जाये फिर दूसरे विषय का प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर रेंज कीजिये कोई जल्दी नहीं। फिर चांस मिल सकता है। अगर एक के बाद एक माननीय सदस्य कहें तो सब की बात सुनी जा सकती है। हम सबको बारी बारी सन सकते हैं।

श्री सीताराम केसरी : डिपुटी चेयरमैन महोदय, शास्त्री जी ने जो बात कही और यह आरोप लगाया है कि इधर के लोग ज्यादा हल्ला करते हैं ...

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सही है, हल्ला करते हैं।

श्री सीताराम केसरी : मुझे कहने दोजिये। श्रीमान्, आप साक्षी हैं कि किस तरह से वे लोग भी प्रदर्शन करते हैं जो कि अशोभनीय होता है। मैं नहीं कहता हूं कि बिजनेस एडवाइजरी कमेटी में आप यह सवाल नहीं उठायें। बिजनेस एडवाइजरी कमेटी में कोई भी प्रश्न आप उठा सकते हैं। किसी पर भी फैसला हो सकता है। मगर जब आप ने सदन में कोई बात उठायी है तब उसके उत्तर के लिये भी तैयार रहिए। आप चाहते हैं कि आप कोई बात सदन में उठाएं, वह सारे देश में छा जाये और हम उत्तर भी न दें। बिजनेस एडवाइजरी कमेटी में आइये, हम भी स्वागत करते हैं। सदन में कोई बात उठायेंगे तो

सदन में उत्तर मिला। आप ने जिस तरह से प्रश्न को उठाया उस से मेरा उत्तर देना लाजिमी था। जहाँ तक विजनेस एडवाइजरी कमेटी का सवाल है, डिस्कशन होगा और फैसला होगा।

**श्री भोला पासवान शास्त्री :** उप-सभापति जी, यह परिपाटी हो रही है। आप के सामने प्रस्ताव दिया है अपोजीशन ने कि हम लोगों के सामने देश की हालत ऐसी है। सरकार के पास इन-फॉर्मेशन है। हम तो जो रीड करते हैं उसी को निवेदन करते हैं। केसरी साहब ने कहा, लोक कहा, लेकिन जब हम बोलते हैं तो दो माननीय सदस्य बोलने लगते हैं? क्या उनका प्वाइंट था? (व्यवधान) वे इस को कैसे ठीक समझते हैं? मैं तो सभा नेता से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि जो उन के माननीय सदस्य हैं सब के प्रति मेरे मन में आदर है, उन के प्रति भी आदर है, लेकिन कोई बात रिलेवेंट तो होनी चाहिए। हम इरेलेवेन्ट हैं तो बिठा दीजिए। हम तो अपोजीशन के आदमी हैं, जो देश में हो रहा है आप से निवेदन करेंगे, लेकिन अगर लोक में उठ-उठ कर ये लोग बोलेंगे तब उन को आप संभालिए, नहीं तो हाउस में इस तरह से काम नहीं चल सकता।

**श्री सीताराम केसरी :** शास्त्री जी जो प्रस्ताव लाये हैं... (व्यवधान) मैं उस का समर्थन करता हूँ कि किसी तरफ से हंगामा नहीं होना चाहिए जब कोई बोलने के लिए उठे। मैं कहता हूँ कि इस का फैसला कीजिए। वही लोग भागेंगे। यही मेरा निवेदन है।

**SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI** (Maharashtra): On a point of order. (Interruptions).

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** May I take it that the point raised by Shri 1489 RS—8

Advani is now over, and Shri Kulkarni is raising another point... (Interruptions). No, let me know this first. Let me understand.

**SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI:** My point of order is of a different nature.

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** So that matter is over. (Interruption).

**AN HON. MEMBER:** It is not over.

**श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी :** वह खत्म नहीं हुआ। उस का कारण यह है कि आज केसरी जी जब बोल रहे थे।

**SHRI N. K. P. SALVE** (Maharashtra): That is not the position, not for a moment... (Interruptions).

**SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:** Now it is Mr. Salve. (Interruptions).

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** That matter is over, I think (Interruptions).

**SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:** It was over when you pronounced your ruling and said that that matter would be considered in the Business Advisory Committee. But then you permitted Kesriji—not once, but twice or thrice—to speak something. And the first time he spoke was totally unbecoming of a Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. (Interruptions). Let me make my submission.

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** He replied to you in overtones.

**SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:** It is not a question of political overtones. He is a Minister, and he tried to browbeat you. He tried to browbeat the Business Advisory Committee into seeing that this motion is not admitted. This is what I object to. In so far as his speech is concerned, he said that it is not a Government issue. He stated that it is not a national issue. This is something on which he could have argued that the question would be discussed. But at this particular point

[Shri Lal K. Advani]

of time when all the Opposition is pleading for a discussion on the problem of corruption, for the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to say all this is nothing short of trying to bully you, to bluster you, to browbeat you and the Business Advisory Committee.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. I think he has made it clear..... (Interruptions). I think it is over now. Let us go to the next....(Interruptions).

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI: I am only submitting to you, it is neither for the Treasury Benches nor for the Opposition to have any euphoria on the subject mentioned by Mr. Advani or by my leader, Mr. Bhoja Paswan Shastri. Sir, I quote two lines....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. This is not a discussion. (Interruptions). Mr. Jha. (Interruptions). This is not a discussion on the subject. I will not allow this. Not a single word... (Interruptions). Nothing will go on record. Do not record this. (Interruptions).

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI:\*

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : माननीय मंत्री जी ने करप्शन के बारे में जो कहा कि यह कोई ईश्यू नहीं है तो मैं उन का याद दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि जब जार्ज फर्नेन्डीज मिनिस्टर थे तो वह उस के लिये रोज युद्ध करते थे या नहीं ।

श्री उपसभापति : यह विषय तो समाप्त हो गया । श्री रामेश्वर सिंह ।

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : श्रीमान्, मेरा विषय है करप्शन का, भ्रष्टाचार का और आप देख ही रहे हैं । तो मेरा प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर यह है कि ...

\*Not recorded.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Sir, the question is.....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Just a minute. I will hear you afterwards.

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL: That will be decided by the Business Advisory Committee.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Rameshwar Singh.

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : मेरा प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर यह है कि मैं 25 तारीख की प्रोसीडिंग्स को पढ़ कर आप को सुनाना चाहता हूँ । विषय यह है कि मंत्री अगर जानबूझ कर सदन में झूठ बोलता है, गलतबयानी करता है तो उस पर प्रिविलेज बनता है । मैं आप को यह पढ़ कर सुनाना चाहता हूँ ।

श्री उपसभापति : उसको पढ़ने की जरूरत नहीं । आप बताइये कि क्या प्वाइंट है । आप यही बताइये । Don't go into the details.

आप कहते हैं कि मंत्री जी ने गलतबयानी की और आप ने प्रिविलेज मोशन दिया । That privilege notice has already been rejected by the hon. Chairman. Therefore, there is no question of repeating it.

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : आप मेरी बात सुनिये तो ।

श्री उपसभापति : सुनने की जरूरत नहीं । प्रिविलेज का नोटिस रिजेक्ट हो गया है ।

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : उस के बाद फिर मैं ने दिया है प्रिविलेज का नोटिस । मैं एक मिनट से ज्यादा नहीं लूंगा । जो रिजेक्ट हुआ है उस पर फिर मैं ने नोटिस दिया है और वही मैं कह रहा हूँ । मंत्री जी ने सदन में यह ध्यान दिया....

श्री उपसभापति : उसको छोड़िये।

Please do not record these things. That has already been rejected. Yes, Mr. Salve.

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : आप मेरी बात सुन लीजिए।

श्री उपसभापति : मैं ने सुन ली है। आप का प्रिक्ले रिजेक्ट हो गया है और दूसरा विवांग्धीन होगा। यह नहीं लिखा जायेगा।

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : \*

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL: Sir, I have a relevant point to say.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: After some time.

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL: I will be very brief.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think it can wait for a few moments. Let me hear Mr. Salve first.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: The question is not, Sir, whether or not corruption is a national issue... (Interruptions) or an international issue or an inter-planetary issue. It is most unfortunate that what the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs said, "Shri Advani found it to be an attempt to browbeat the Chair. (Interruptions) Sir, there is a procedure prescribed in our book of Rules of Procedure to such motions and if one looks into the Rules it would be found that what the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs said was the correct position in terms of the Rules. You, Sir, have nothing to do with it. It is provided *inter alia* in Rule 169 that every motion has to be a matter of public interest. And 169(i) says that it shall raise substantially one definite issue. Sir, there are corruptions and corruptions. There are moral corruptions; there are pecuniary corruptions; there are political

corruptions; and there are physical corruptions. Sir, he spoke of corruption in general... (Interruptions) Then, the fourth is, it shall be restricted to a matter of recent occurrence. Now, this shows it has to be a matter of recent occurrence, which means that it should refer....

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Antulay. Antulay... (Interruptions).

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Let them not be complacent about it. Let it come not once but one dozen times or one hundred times. We will not be intimidated. The crucial question is that such a motion is the exclusive prerogative.... (Interruptions). I am not on the question of admissibility, I am on the observation made by Mr. Advani to the effect that he showed tremendous patience for the sacrifice Shri Kesri seems to have committed. In fact the House cannot go into it and it is the Chairman who shall decide upon the admissibility of the motion. Once it is decided upon, the Business Advisory Committee can only.... (Interruptions). We have nothing to say. What is it that is being discussed here. What is the point in finding fault with Mr. Kesri. I want to submit in the end, kindly labour under no impression that we are set to discuss either political corruption.... (Interruptions). This is not the first time, Mr. Advani. A few years back we discussed here political corruption.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: I was there when I welcomed the discussion. हमने तो कमीशन बैठाया था।...

(व्यवधान)

श्री एन० के० पी० साल्वे : इस कमीशन ने जो फैसला दिया, उस बात को भी तो मान लीजिए।... (व्यवधान) You are the one man who has no moral authority to speak on corruption. (Interruptions).

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL: Sir, I have a point of order. It is very brief.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please do not go into it.

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL: Sir, in our last Business Advisory Committee meeting we had taken a decision that every Member's name will be processed through the respective Party Whip or Leader so that we can curtail our time and see that the House runs smoothly business-like. That was agreed upon and we are acting on that unanimous decision of the Business Advisory Committee. But, Sir, during the discussion on the Oil Industry Development (Amendment) Bill, it was completely all right from every party in the beginning. The Members, whose names were given through the Whips spoke. But at the time of the third reading that was not the procedure agreed upon. It was open to any Member who wanted to intervene to speak. But when Mr. Shiva Chandra from our party rose to speak at the time of the third reading, he was disallowed by saying that you had instructed in writing that he will not be allowed to speak. Now, Sir, this was not the decision. The decision was purely regarding participation in the discussion on Bills etc. Regarding intervention, regarding asking supplementary questions and regarding third reading, this was not the decision. So, Sir, it was not fair to stop Mr. Jha from speaking on that day when he rose to speak on the third reading. This should be taken into consideration. You will please notice, Sir, that whenever decisions are unanimously taken, they are definitely adhered to by our party but whatever the rights of individual Members are, they must also be protected.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: May I tell you, Mr. Patel, that when the decision was taken, it was agreed upon that Whips supply the names of speakers from their parties on a Bill or a Motion, whatever is there? So, in the case of a Bill it means from the stage of introduction till....

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No, no.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN.... the stage of passing. The Bill passing pro-

cess is from the stage of consideration till it is passed and the Whips are there they fill the names. (Interruptions) Just at minute, please, Every one cannot stand up. Mr. Mathur, please sit down.

The Business Advisory Committee is again meeting this evening. You can clarify the position then. You can say that at the stage of intervention no whips will be supplied and that any person can stand up and speak. Then you say that for the initial first reading stage, the whip will supply the names but at the third reading stage, the whip will not supply the names. What I understood was, and I think I was right in it, that consideration of a motion or a Bill starts with the time it is introduced till the time it is concluded and the whips may, therefore, perform their duties to supply the names. Nobody prevented you from giving the names... (Interruptions). Please take your seat. You are meeting again this evening. Don't take the time here; let us meet in the Advisory Committee and decide on whatever procedure is acceptable. I have no objection to whatever you decide I shall only follow it. We have the prescribed time limit. Normally, I point out that two hours' time is allotted. Now, the whole time of 2 hours is distributed but the whole time of 2 hours, even more than that is taken by the participants and nothing is left for the third reading. And then if a Member gets up at the third reading stage.... (Interruptions) .... if you are so keen, you should give your name in writing; the whip should give the names to say that in the third reading such and such Member will speak. So, in the evening we are meeting and then let us decide. Therefore, I would request not to indulge in this discussion; let us go to Business Advisory Committee again and decide....

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL: Individual Member has every right....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: For that, the whip is there.

**SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL:** Let us discuss it in the Business Advisory Committee and decide.

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** Now, Mr. Mathur, Calling Attention.

**श्री सुरेन्द्र मोहन (उत्तर प्रदेश) :** मैं सिर्फ आपका एव, मिनट लूंगा। आज हिन्दुस्तान भर, बंधुआ मजदूरों की तरफ से...

**श्री उपसभापति :** मैं एलाऊ नहीं करता। (व्यवधान)

**श्री सुरेन्द्र मोहन :** एक प्रदर्शन हो रहा है... (व्यवधान)

**श्री उपसभापति :** मैंने कहा है मैं एलाऊ नहीं करता। श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर, कॉलिंग अटेंशन।

**श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर (उत्तर प्रदेश) :** यह सब इतना जोर दे रहे हैं तो... (व्यवधान)

**श्री उपसभापति :** मैंने कहा है कि आप इसे सौझिए। अपना कॉलिंग अटेंशन करिये।

# **CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

**Grim Tragedy in Qutab Minar, Delhi on 4th December, 1981, resulting in the death of several persons and injury to many others**

**श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर (उत्तर प्रदेश) :** उपसभापति जी, कुतुब मीनार, दिल्ली में 4 दिसम्बर, 1981 की हुई जिस भयंकर खूब घटना के फलस्वरूप कई व्यक्तियों की मृत्यु हो गई तथा अन्य अनेक लोग लखी हुए, उसकी ओर शिक्षा तथा समाज कल्याण मंत्री जी का ध्यान दिलाता हूँ।

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL):** Sir, it is with a very heavy and sad heart that I stand to make a statement about the tragic event that took place on Friday, the 4th December, 1981 at Qutab Minar. As soon as I came to know about the incident, I rushed to the site and also to the hospitals. I would like to share with the House whatever information I could gather, knowing your concern over this tragedy. However, as Members are aware, a judicial inquiry has already been ordered, and our effort should be not to prejudice this inquiry in any way.

On 4-12-1981 at 11.30 A.M. there were about 300 visitors inside Qutab Minar, when all of a sudden there was a power failure in the Minar. The visitors consisted of students and other members of the general public. There were three monument attendants on duty at the Minar at this point of time. Two were posted at the entrance gate and one was posted at the Balcony. The attendants on duty were persons with adequate experience of regulating entry and movement in this Monument. At this time, about 60 students from M. D. College, Nuh, Faridabad District, came to the gate. The monument attendants stopped them and requested them to wait since there was no electricity inside the monument. But the students forced their way into the Minar and started running up the stairs. The subsequent sequence of events is not quite clear. Apparently, there was panic resulting in a stampede in the dark staircase.

The Senior Conservation Assistant on duty reached the spot at 11.35 A.M. He immediately telephoned the local SHO, Flying Squad and Ambulance. The rescue operation was then immediately organised by the Departmental officials through one of the ventilators which could be reached through the scaffolding already in existence. Later, at about 12.15 P.M. the Sub-Inspector of Police from Mehrauli and the constable on duty in the Qutab