

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, December 6, 1967/Agrahayana 15, 1889 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PRESIDENT'S RULE IN MANIPUR

*481. SHRI SHRI CHAND GOEL :

SHRI RAM AVTAR SHARMA :

SHRI Y. S. KUSHWAH :

SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH SHASTRI :

SHRI SHIV KUMAR SHASTRI :

DR. SURYA PRAKASH PURI :

SHRI RAMJI RAM :

SHRI PRAKASH VIR SHASTRI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the report which the President received from the Chief Commissioner, Manipur, as a result of which the President assumed to himself the functions of the Government of Manipur; and

(b) the justification for taking this step ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) and (b). The Congress Ministry in Manipur headed by Shri M. Koireng Singh resigned on the 4th October 1967. The meeting of the

Legislative Assembly of Manipur which was to take place on the 5th October was, therefore, postponed to 16th October 1967. The United Legislature Front which had claimed a strength of 17 members including the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker was asked to form the Ministry. The Front Ministry headed by Shri Longjam Thambou Singh assumed office on the 13th October 1967. According to the report received from the Chief Commissioner, the Congress Party gave notice of a motion of no confidence in the new Ministry on the 14th October. The Assembly which met on the 16th October gave leave to the Leader of the Congress Party to move the motion. Further discussion on the motion was fixed on the 23rd. In the meantime, the three members on the panel of presiding officers tendered their resignation. The Deputy Speaker also resigned at 10.00 A.M. on the 23rd October. The Assembly, however, met on the 23rd October and discussed the motion of no confidence and adjourned to meet at 11 A.M. on the 24th to consider the motion further. However, before the commencement of the sitting on the 24th October, the Speaker also resigned. The members who had assembled for the sitting were informed of this by the Secretary of the Assembly. Under the Rules of Business of the Assembly it was open to the Assembly to elect one of its members to act as the Chairman for the meeting. The Assembly could not, however, do so. Thereupon the Administrator consulted the Chief Minister and also the Leader of the Opposition and requested them to suggest the name of a member from their party to preside over the meeting of the Assembly. Both of them expressed their inability to suggest any name. Therefore, the Assembly could not hold its sitting on the 24th and conclude discussions on the motion. In view of this the Assembly was prorogued. The

Chief Commissioner also reported that no party was in a position to claim majority as they were equally divided and the Assembly could not function. Thus a situation had arisen in which the administration of the Union territory could not be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Government of Union Territories Act, 1963. In the circumstances, the President promulgated an order on the 25th October, 1967, under section 51 of the said Act suspending the provisions of the Act relating to the Council of Ministers and the Legislative Assembly for a period of six months.

श्री श्रीचंद गोयल : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री महोदय से मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि समाचार-पत्रों के द्वारा जो यह समाचार प्राप्त हो रहे हैं कि कांग्रेस को वहां पर बहुमत प्राप्त हो गया है, जो चार-पांच सदस्य कांग्रेस छोड़ कर यूनाइटेड फ्रंट में शामिल हो गए थे उनको दोबारा कांग्रेस अपने दल में लाने में सफल हुई है और फिर से यह प्रयत्न हो रहा है कि वहां पर जो वहां की विधान सभा मूर्छित अवस्था में थी, उसकी मूर्छित अवस्था को दूर करके पुनः वहां पर डेमोक्रेटिक गवर्नमेंट स्थापित की जाय तो क्या मैं यह समझू कि हमारे मंत्री महोदय को या सरकार को इस बात का विश्वास हो गया है कि यह जो चार लोग पहले कांग्रेस दल छोड़ कर गए थे और अब किसी लालच या दूसरे कारणों से दोबारा कांग्रेस में आने को राजामंद हो गए हैं इनको साथ लेकर स्थायी सरकार वहां पर स्थापित हो सकेगी खास करके जबकि वह सीमावर्ती प्रदेश है और पहले ही वहां यह शिकायतें रही हैं कि वहां पर जो बागी नागा हैं वह अनेक प्रकार के उपद्रव कर रहे हैं? मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार को अब इस बात का विश्वास हो गया है कि यह जो चार लोग अब कांग्रेस में आ गए हैं, इनके आने से वहां पर स्थायी सरकार कायम हो सकेगी?

श्री विद्या चरण शुक्ल : मणिपुर के मुख्य मंत्री ने यह दावा किया है कि उनकी पार्टी में अब 18 सदस्य हैं और जैसा माननीय सदस्य ने कहा इस बात को देखना जरूरी है क्या वह स्थायी सरकार बनाने की स्थिति में इस समय हैं या नहीं...

श्री रघुवीर सिंह शास्त्री : मणिपुर का मुख्य मंत्री कौन है?

श्री विद्याचरण शुक्ल : अभी कोई नहीं है।

श्री रघुवीर सिंह शास्त्री : तो आपने मुख्य मंत्री कहा...

श्री विद्याचरण शुक्ल : जो भूतपूर्व मुख्य मंत्री थे। तो इस वक्त इस बात की जांच-पड़ताल ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेटर के द्वारा की जा रही है कि सचमुच में वह इस स्थिति में हैं कि स्थायी सरकार बना सकेंगे। जब उनको इस बात का विश्वास हो जायगा तभी इस पर निर्णय लिया जायगा।

श्री श्रीचंद गोयल : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जिस समय मणिपुर में राष्ट्रपति शासन लागू किया गया उस समय सारे मणिपुर के अंदर हड़ताल हुई थी जिससे यह प्रतीत होता है कि वहां की जनता कांग्रेस दल के पीछे न होकर यूनाइटेड फ्रंट के पीछे है। तो क्या मैं यह समझू कि कांग्रेस यह फिर से गलती करेगी कि अगर वह यह समझे कि वह वहां पर स्थायी सरकार बना सकती है और दूसरे वहां पर यह भी कठिनाई है कि जो अध्यक्ष थे विधान सभा के उन्होंने भी त्यागपत्र दिया था, क्या मैं यह समझू कि आम तौर पर तो यह तरीका है कि जो वहां का चीफ कमिश्नर है वह ऐडवाइज करता है अध्यक्ष को और वह फिर विधान सभा को बुलाते हैं, तो क्योंकि अब कोई अध्यक्ष नहीं है तो किस तरीके से उसको बुलवाने की व्यवस्था करेंगे?

श्री विद्याचरण शुक्ल : पिछले आम चुनाव में कांग्रेस को स्पष्ट बहुमत मिला है और यह इस बात का संकेत करता है कि मणिपुर की जनता कांग्रेस के साथ है। जहां तक अध्यक्ष के इस्तीफे का सवाल है वह तो इसलिए हुआ था कि चूंकि वहां पर पार्टी की पोजीशन ऐसी थी असेम्बली के अन्दर कि अध्यक्ष यदि कुर्सी में रहते तो उनके दल की स्थिति में कुछ फर्क रहता था इसलिए शायद उन्होंने अपने अध्यक्ष पद से इस्तीफा दिया और इसके सिवाय अध्यक्ष ने अपने इस्तीफे का कोई कारण नहीं बताया।

श्री यशबन्त सिंह कुशवाह : क्या माननीय गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि शासन ने मणिपुर में जब राष्ट्रपति शासन लागू किया तब उनका यह कदम लोक-तंत्र की भावना के विपरीत था ? और क्या अब वहां के जनप्रतिनिधियों ने शासन से यह मांग की है कि राष्ट्रपति शासन समाप्त करके वहां जनता का प्रतिनिधि शासन लाना चाहिए ?

श्री विद्याचरण शुक्ल : राष्ट्रपति शासन लागू करना जनता की भावना के विपरीत ज्ञात नहीं होता है। वहां की स्थिति ऐसी थी कि कोई भी पार्टी मणिपुर में स्थायी सरकार बनाने के योग्य नहीं थी। जब इस तरह की बात का पता लगा तब वहां राष्ट्रपति शासन लागू किया गया। अब फिर से इस बात का दावा किया गया है कि वहां एक दल-विशेष सरकार के बनाने की स्थिति में है तो उसकी जांच-पड़ताल की जा रही है। यदि इसका संतोष हो गया कि वह स्थायी सरकार बना सकते हैं तो बनाने की इजाजत दी जायेगी।

श्री रघुबीर सिंह शास्त्री : श्रीमन्, मणिपुर एक छोटा-सा 8 लाख की आबादी का राज्य है और वहां आपने टेरिटोरियल असेम्बली 32 मेम्बरो की दी है। उस खिलौने को भी आपने अपनी दराज में रख दिया किसी मौजू व्यक्ति और मौजू दल की तलाश या इन्तजार में। तो क्या मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जान सकता हूँ कि मणिपुर की इस घटना ने यह साबित

कर दिया है कि ऐसे छोटे-छोटे राज्य नहीं चल सकते और विशेष रूप से सीमावर्ती इलाकों में ? तो क्या इस व्यवस्था को बदलने और वहां स्थायी प्रशासन बनाने की दृष्टि से आप कोई गंभीर उपाय करेंगे ?

श्री विद्याचरण शुक्ल : सदस्य महोदय को मालूम है कि इस तरह के छोटे-छोटे केन्द्र प्रशासित जो राज्य बनाए गए हैं वह बड़ी ही विशेष परिस्थितियों के कारण बनाए गए हैं। यदि सामान्य परिस्थिति रहती तो इस तरह के केन्द्र प्रशासित राज्य बनाने की आवश्यकता नहीं होती। इन्हीं परिस्थितियों के कारण हम वहां पर यह नहीं चाहते थे कि प्रजातांत्रिक शासन न चले। इसलिए वहां प्रजातांत्रिक ढांचा शासन का बनाया गया। उसके चलने में कुछ तकलीफें जरूर हो रही हैं लेकिन मैं समझता हूँ कि यदि सब दल जिम्मेदारीपूर्वक व्यवहार करें तो इस तरह की कठिनाई सामने नहीं आयेगी।

SHRI D. C. SHARMA : May I know if the interests of the people of Manipur, the interests of the security of India and the interests of this border State will be served better by a democratically constituted government or by President's rule or by some persons who are in the habit of crossing the floor every now and then and toppling whichever government is in power ?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : The trends that the hon. Member has mentioned are definitely unhealthy trends; they do not serve a democratic government or institutions. But it is our firm conviction that wherever possible we should institute a democratic form of administration. That is why even in these small Union territories we have endeavoured to give as much democratic set-up as possible under the circumstances.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मणिपुर की घटनाओं ने यह स्पष्ट किया है कि वहां जो संवैधानिक संकट पैदा हुआ है वह

[श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी]

दल बदलने की प्रवृत्ति के कारण पैदा हुआ है। हरयाना में जब दल बदले गए तो विधान सभा तोड़ी गई, सरकार भंग कर दी गई और राष्ट्रपति शासन लागू कर दिया गया। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जब मणिपुर में उससे मिलती-जुलती परिस्थिति है तो फिर विधान सभा को खाली स्थगित क्यों किया गया है, भंग क्यों नहीं किया गया? मणिपुर की जनता को इस बात का मौका क्यों नहीं दिया गया कि वह दोबारा चुनाव करके देखे कि किस दल में उसका विश्वास है?

श्री विद्या चरण शुक्ल : माननीय सदस्य को मालूम है कि मणिपुर में जो कुछ हुआ और हरयाना में जो कुछ हो रहा था उसमें बहुत अंतर है। हरयाना में तो यह हुआ कि कई सदस्य कई बार इधर से उधर हुए.....

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : यही यहां हो रहा है।

श्री विद्याचरण शुक्ल : यहां जो हुआ है एक बार उधर गए और दोबारा इधर आये..... (व्यवधान).....

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त : अध्यक्ष महोदय, कितनी बार बदलने के बाद करेंगे दो बार बदलने के बाद नहीं करेंगे तो कितनी बार बदलने पर करेंगे? क्या स्टैंडर्ड है आपका?

श्री विद्या चरण शुक्ल : आपकी यह विवेक बुद्धि का सवाल है।

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त : आप अपनी विवेक-बुद्धि से बताइये—आप कितनी बार चाहते हैं?

श्री विद्याचरण शुक्ल : यह परिस्थिति का सवाल है। हम अपनी बुद्धि के अनुसार परिस्थिति पर विचार करते हैं और उसमें यह बात बिल्कुल साफ है कि हरयाना में

जो स्थिति पैदा कर दी गई थी, मणिपुर की स्थिति में उससे बहुत अन्तर है।

श्री मधु लिमये : अन्तर इतना ही है कि वहां आपको सरकार बनाने का मौका है।

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Whatever the Central Government may have done, now it is a *fait accompli*. In view of the strategic nature of Manipur and the fact that the security of the country calls not for President's rule but for a democratic set-up in which the people have confidence, I want to know what steps has the Government initiated by way of asking the Chief Election Commissioner to proceed to Manipur, see the position for himself and make arrangements so that at least mid-term elections can be held definitely as soon as the period of six months is over and are not delayed further.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : Now the Leader of the Congress Party has claimed that he enjoys the majority in the Legislature. (Interruption) That claim has been made. The Administrator of Manipur is trying to ascertain the factual position and after ascertaining it, if he is confident that any particular party or any particular person enjoys a clear-cut majority in the Legislature, he may decide to call upon him to form the Ministry; if, however, he finds that there is no person or party that is able to form the Government, then he may continue with it and may send a report to us.

SHRI RANGA : I think, my hon. friend the Home Minister as well as his Assistant have qualified themselves for being very good actors in Kathakali...

MR. SPEAKER : This is Question Hour.

SHRI RANGA : Is it not a fact that what they did in Haryana holds a lesson for them in Manipur also? Whereas in Haryana there was a majority by the discredited Ministry and that Ministry was dismissed for ultra-Constitutional reasons, here there was no majority at all; they have manufactured the major

urity. Are we to understand that their standards in regard to defection have changed—now that they have been able to get some defectors to come and give them the majority, the defection has become sacred, tolerable and a decent political manoeuvre whereas when it goes to the advantage of the Opposition, it is a devil, a discredited political manoeuvre?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : There is no question of judging the defections. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Order, order. I am not able to hear the answer.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : Defections, by themselves, are something which is not very good and we do not propose to encourage such things. What happens in Manipur is yet very uncertain. Unless one has really formed a view of the things there, I cannot express one view or the other. Really speaking, we have not encouraged anybody from here. As the hon. Member said, it is a border area and the stability of administration is more important there. There is no use trying to make fun of us only because of defections. When they started getting members from the Congress, I had expected M. Ranga then to say that this was bad...

SHRI RANGA : It is bad... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : Well, Sir, if I am qualified to lead a troupe of Kathakali, he may lead a Bharata Natyam troupe. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RANGA : Yes, you will get it and you will be thrown out of power.

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR CHATTERJI : As Manipur is a border State and a strategic area, stability of Government is essential. In view of that fact, will the Government examine that there could be a popular Government as early as possible.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : The main point is not merely the number who are

on one side, because I know a stage has been reached in Manipur when we will have to satisfy ourselves whether it is going to give a stable administration in that area. It is not an arithmetical thing. We will certainly look into that.

SHRI NATH PAI : I would also register my protest. Before I ask my question, Sir, I cannot entertain with equanimity the prospect of a Kathakali troupe being led by Mr. Chavan and a Bharata Natyam troupe being led by Mr. Ranga. Sir, they are part of our rich cultural heritage. To imagine these two hefty men, one leading a Kathakali party and another a Bharata Natyam party... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : Possibly a slim man like you would do. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, please come to your question.

SHRI NATH PAI : Sir, this is above Party—our cultural heritage. Mr. Speaker, while replying to the...

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : You can do better twist.

SHRI NATH PAI : ... Haryana issue, the Home Minister with much flourish and aplomb had ridiculed this concept of crossing the floor. He had used his now famous term which has been added to the Indian political lexicon—'Ayaram' and 'Gayaram'. May I know, Sir, was it a firm ridicule and contempt of this, or he is committed to welcoming it when the crossing is from the Opposition into Congress or was it a moral protest against a nefarious practice which is eroding the values of democracy? If so, it will not be good to say 'You started it'. What is the Government's first commitment? Well, he will reply that it is at the State level and not here. Is Mr. Chavan not in a position to issue instructions that those who defect will be compelled to seek the mandate of the people? Well, he encourages it when it suits his Party's convenience and ridicules it when it is in the other direction.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : If it is in my hands to issue directions to force anybody to seek re-election, certainly I will do it. Unfortunately, that is the right of the Parliament.

श्री मधु लिमये : वह आया-राम के बारे में कह रहे हैं ।

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : मैं भी वही कह रहा हूँ । The question here is : that at the present moment unless, either all the Parties accept a convention and stick to it or there is some sort of a statutory provision compelling these people to seek re-election, this will not stop. Certainly I am for both the things if it can be done. But what can we do in between ?

AN HON. MEMBER : You must take the initiative.

MR. SPEAKER : He asks 'What shall we do in between ?'

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : Certainly I am prepared to take initiative in this matter. I am prepared to do that. I do not want to avoid taking initiative. But, in the case of Manipur, where merely because some people have crossed the floor, we have not taken any view about this matter.

SHRI NATH PAI : Why do you admit them into your Party ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : Well, Sir, as Home Minister I cannot control them. Whether they have accepted them or not—I do not know. If it needs the approval of the Congress Party or the Congress Parliamentary Board, it is for the Congress Parliamentary Board to consider that, but as a Member of the Congress Parliamentary Board I shall certainly make my views known to them. It is no use combining the Party positions here. As I said, we have certainly taken it up. This is not, really speaking, in any way going to be helpful to the defectors as such because this is something, I should say, like a disease in the democratic political life of India. I have no doubt about it.

SHRI NATH PAI : Sir, as the hon'ble Minister has just now said that he is prepared to take the initiative, may I know—we have a Bill before the House—if the Government is going to support it ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : It is not merely a question of trying to commit oneself to a particular Bill. My point was : whether we, all Parties concerned, can sit together and evolve some measure. That is the main point.

श्री राम सेवक यादव : अध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी सदन में कश्कली और भारत-नाट्यम का दोनों तरफ से जिक्र हुआ, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि हरियाणा, राजस्थान, बंगाल और मणिपुर में गृह मंत्री जी जो ताण्डव नृत्य कर रहे हैं, उसका भी कोई अन्त होगा ? क्या यह बात सही है कि मणिपुर में कितने मंत्री मंडल के सदस्य हों, उसकी मंजूरी गृह मंत्री जी देते हैं ?

श्री यशवन्त राव चव्हाण : यह बिल्कुल गलत कह रहे हैं ।

REPLACEMENT OF VISCOUNTS WITH IAC

*482. **SHRI R. BARUA :** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Shankar Committee has recommended replacing the fleet of Viscounts with the I.A.C. with BAC 1-11 on major secondary routes; and

(b) whether it is a fact that no decision has been taken in this regard so far ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRIMATI JAHANARA JAIPAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). There has been no Committee of the name of "Shankar Committee" to consider and recommend replacement of the Viscount fleet of the IAC. A team of three officers was, however, deputed abroad by the IAC in July, 1966, to make an assessment of the various types