

SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR (Ratnagiri): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, before you take up the second item, I seek your permission to take only one minute of the House.

Now, I would like to mention one matter which concerns the rights of the Members. Just now I have been informed that the Government is going to screen a censored Chinese film in South Block today and only a few selected Members have been called while the others have not been called. (Interruptions). I therefore, submit that this is an insult to us, this is discrimination. So, I request you to ask the Government as to whether this is true and if so, why this discrimination is there.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You please come to the Chamber, we will discuss it.

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

**REPORTED PUBLIC SPEECH OF SHRI
MORARJI DESAI ALLEGING THAT THE
USSR HAD INSTIGATED HIM TO ATTACK
PAKISTAN**

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat): I call the attention of the Minister of External Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The serious implication of reported speech in New Delhi on 4th December, 1980, by former Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, alleging that the USSR had instigated him to attack Pakistan."

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA
RAO):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, Government have seen reports appearing in this morning's press regarding a statement that the former Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, is reported to have made alleging that the leadership of USSR had suggested to him to "teach a lesson" to Pakistan. Shri Desai is also reported to have attributed to the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, a statement that a war with Pakistan is imminent.

Sir, we have checked all our records and I would like to state categorically that there is nothing whatsoever to corroborate what Shri Morarji Desai is reported to have stated in regard to his conversation with President Brezhnev.

I would also like to add that there has never been, in the history of our bilateral relations, any suggestion made by the Soviet Union to us, even obliquely, along the lines indicated by Shri Morarji Desai. In regard to the deliberations over the last eleven months, I can reiterate this with personal knowledge. Our talks have always centered around friendship and good relations with all our neighbours and stability in this region. Never has there been any suggestion of the kind alleged by Shri Desai.

Finally, Sir, I would like to state that the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, has never made any statement suggesting that a war is imminent between India and Pakistan. Shri Desai's statement in this regard, which he has himself admitted to be hearsay, is incorrect and irresponsible. As this House and the people of India know, this Government is committed to foster close and friendly relations with the Government and people of Pakistan and we shall not relent in our efforts to do so.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I welcome the statement made on behalf of the Government, but I would like to point out that this speech of Mr. Morarji Desai, as reported in the press, has said something more than what the External Affairs Minister has dealt with. I do not know if all the press reports are identical, if all of them are accurate or not, that is for Mr. Desai to clarify or deny or contradict if he wants to, I am not interested in that.

I am now drawing your attention to this paper, *The Statesman*, of today, which has given the heading: "Russia Wanted India to Attack Pakistan." It is not just a question of teaching

Pakistan a lesson, but wanting India to attack Pakistan.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: He corrected it later. I have taken the later version.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: It begins by saying:

"Mr. Morarji Desai disclosed at a public meeting in New Delhi on Thursday that when he was Prime Minister, the Soviet Union had instigated him to attack Pakistan. But he could not be taken in by that instigation as he did not want disintegration of Pakistan."

What he has said later on is not at the public meeting. That was in some closed-door meeting of the Janata Party workers, according to this report. There, replying to a question Mr. Desai clarified:

"that the Russians did not want him to dismember Pakistan. They only wanted him to teach a lesson to Pakistan!"

In the same meeting, he said, according to *The Statesman*:

"when he was in U.P. recently, he heard people saying that Mrs. Gandhi had been telling the public that 'a war (with Pakistan) is imminent.'"

He thought that Mrs. Gandhi must have been also instigated by the Russians."

My friend Dr. Subramaniam Swamy is not here, although I see Dr. Subramaniam Swamy's photograph sitting next to Mr. Morarji Desai during this boat club meeting. Dr. Subramaniam Swamy, in this House and outside, has frequently been plugging this line that we are threatening Pakistan and instead of doing that we should make up with Pakistan and so on.

The trouble is that Shri Morarji Desai was the Prime Minister of this country. He is not just an ordinary citizen and we presume when he had these talks with the Russians, it must

have taken place, I suppose, when he went to Moscow, accompanied by the then Foreign Minister, my friend Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who is sitting here and though Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee's name does not appear in this Calling Attention Notice, I would welcome if you permit him to say something. I do not mind at all because Shri Vajpayee must have been present during those talks. I am surprised to hear from Shri Narasimha Rao that there are no records available.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: No, no....

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Of those talks.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: I have said, we have checked all our records. Please do not...

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I am not familiar with all foreign office techniques. That is why I said. You must excuse me. Records there must be when such high level talks take place.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK (Kendrapara): This could be off the record also. (Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: The only point I wish to raise is this. I do not consider it an accident that Shri Morarji Desai who has been hibernating somewhere far away from Delhi ever since his Government fell and who had sometimes been saying that he never intends to come back to active politics and so on and so forth, he has suddenly chosen this particular time to come all the way to Delhi in order to address the public meeting at the Boat Club which he admits in this Statesman Report that he has never in his life before addressed a meeting at the Boat Club. He says this is the first time I have done it.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI (Bombay North West): He is entitled to stop hibernating...

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: He is entitled. It is a free country. You can say anything you like. He knows that in between there is not even week end. On next day i.e. Monday Mr. Brezhnev is due to arrive in Delhi. Is it just a co-incidence, at this particular point of time he has chosen to make a speech—public speech here trying to muddy the water completely and the speech I fear, will get widespread publicity and his attempt may have been to spoil the relations not only between India and Pakistan but India and the Soviet Union also? I am afraid, in Pakistan, there are circles...

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER (Delhi Sadar): Do you mean to say that he is acting on behalf of C.I.A.?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: There are circles in Pakistan who may make the false use of this statement in order to show that India and the Soviet Union were secretly discussing and conspiring how to attack and weaken Pakistan. I am glad that he has made it clear in his statement that there is no such thing. There cannot be and that we stand for friendly relations and normal relations with Pakistan. That has always been our policy. Mr. Morarji Desai know that also. And inspite of that he has done this. I would like the hon. Minister to give his reaction whether or not he feels that there is a sort of conscious attempt being made to vitiate the atmosphere on the eve of Mr. Brezhnev arrival to prejudice Indo-Soviet friendship and also incidentally to give Pakistan a handle, perhaps China also a handle to attack India, as being an accomplice of the expansionist designs of the Soviet Union or something like that. These things with which we are familiar, which are happening all around the sub-Continent, but never had happened in the Capital like this, a sort of vitiation by a former Prime Minister. This is not a thing which should be dismissed just as a joke or a sort of absent minded aberration on the part of an old man. I think mentally Shri

Desai is very alert. He knows what he is doing and saying. Even though my hon. friend, Mr. Subramaniam Swamy is sitting beside him, I do not wish to suggest that he has been advised by Mr. Subramaniam Swamy. He is quite capable on his own of making this kind of a Statement.

So. I would say that this matter requires to be cleared up completely. Whether the Russians want to say anything or not about it, it is their look out. But as far as our Government is concerned, our country is concerned and our national interests are concerned, we should make the position clear beyond any kind of shadow of doubt.

Then, there is some talk going on in some quarters of some sort of a hostile reception to Mr. Brezhnev's visit. I do not know whether the Government has any reports about it, whether any circles or any groups or anybody is intending to create any kind of an unpleasant incident or atmosphere on this occasion. I hope that will not be there because that will be very unfortunate and it will run counter to the tradition that we in this country have always followed in respect of foreign guests who have come here, whether we agree with them or not.

If somebody had made a speech like this, who is not a former Prime Minister—I do not know—the Government might have thought of taking some action against him. I would humbly beseech the Government not to do that here. Now-a-days, we do not know, all sort of policemen, district magistrates and officials and so on are doing all sort of things on their own, running amuck. So, I would beseech you that in view of Mr. Morarji Desai's age and all that, please do not make a martyr or a hero out of him. Please restrain hot-heads on your side suggesting that he should be arrested under the National Security Ordinance. I do not want all that to be done. (Interruptions) It is calculated to disrupt, vitiate and poison the atmosphere and good relations between our country and the

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

other country. That might be made use of in arresting him under the National Security Ordinance. Please do not do it in this particular case. Politically, we should fight this kind of a thing. I hope, the Government will be very emphatic and very categorical on this point.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I think, I have not left anything unsaid and said whatever there is to say from records and from the official position of the Government, I have made a comprehensive and complete statement. In regard to the additional observations of the hon. Member, I would only like to say, very briefly, that Shri Morarji Desai's statement at this point of time is too significant to be accidental.

About other possibilities of demonstration, etc., I am not in a position to give details. But I can only assure the House that the Government is vigilant in the matter.

श्री विजय कमार यादव (नालन्दा): मान्यवर, मंत्री महोदय की ओर से ध्यानाकर्षण प्रस्ताव पर स्टेटमेंट आया है सचमुच में वह स्वागत योग्य है। किन्तु इस सिलसिले में मैं कुछ बातों को उठाना चाहता हूँ। मोरारजी देसाई की जो स्पीच है और जिस समय को चर्चा उन्होंने की है उस समय वह प्रधान मंत्री थे। और उनको प्रधान मंत्री पद से हटे हुए काफ़ी दिन हो गये हैं। उनके बाद दूसरे प्रधान मंत्री श्री चरण सिंह आये थे, फिर नई सरकार बनी और इस सरकार के बनने के बाद भी काफ़ी समय गुजर चुका है, लेकिन पता नहीं कि इतने सारे दिन गुजर गये, काफ़ी लम्बा समय हो गया, कल के पहले उन्होंने कभी भी इस बात की चर्चा क्यों नहीं की। खुद सरकार की ओर से जो बयान आये हैं, उसमें भी इस बात का स्पष्ट उल्लेख है कि ब्रैम्नेव साहब से जो उनकी बात हुई उसका रिकार्ड तो है, लेकिन जिस तरह का इल्जाम उन्होंने लगाया, शरारतपूर्ण इल्जाम,

हत्या का इल्जाम, उसका कोई जिक्र सरकार के वार्तालाप के रिकार्ड में नहीं है।

हम लोग लम्बे अरसे से देख रहे हैं कि हिन्दुस्तान और सोवियत रूस की जो पुरानी जाँची-परखी हुई दोस्ती है, जो लगातार दिनों-दिन बढ़ती जा रही है, इसको कभी अफ़ग़ानिस्तान के नाम पर, कभी पोलैंड के नाम पर और कभी मोरारजी देसाई ने जो भाषण दिया, जिसकी चर्चा उन्होंने की, तो इस तरह से येन-केन-प्रकारेण कुछ न कुछ गलत-सही आधार बना कर भारत और सोवियत की पक्की दोस्ती के सिलसिले में जो लोग भ्रम पैदा करना चाहते हैं, इस पर आंच लाना चाहते हैं, हिन्दुस्तान का एक-एक नागरिक इस बात से भ्रवगत है और जो तजुर्बा है कि जब कभी भी हिन्दुस्तान के सामने किसी भी तरह की कोई भी समस्या आई, यहां तक कि जब हिन्दुस्तान की आज़ादी की लड़ाई लड़ी जा रही थी, उस समय भी सोवियत जनता ने और सोवियत सरकार ने हिन्दुस्तान की आज़ादी की लड़ाई में जो मदद दी है, वह सब लोग जानते हैं। (व्यवधान)।

इस तरह से जब हिन्दुस्तान आज़ाद हुआ और आज़ादी के बाद जब भी हिन्दुस्तान पर खतरा पैदा हुआ, चाहे काश्मीर का सवाल हो, चाहे पाकिस्तान, अमेरिका और चीन के मेल-जोल से हमले का सवाल हो, चाहे गोआ का सवाल हो, चाहे देश के औद्योगिक विकास, या कृषि विकास का सवाल हो, कितनी ही तरह के खवाल हिन्दुस्तान के सामने आये और दुनिया के साम्राज्यवादी मुल्कों ने जब हिन्दुस्तान को मदद करने से इन्कार कर दिया, वैसे मौके पर केवल सोवियत रूस साथ रहा, जिसने लगातार बेहिचक, अन-कंडीशनल सपोर्ट हिन्दुस्तान की आज़ादी में किया है।

भारत सरकार की दोस्ती लगातार रही है, निरन्तर बढ़ रही है। अभी जो पूरी दुनिया के पैमाने पर शक्तियों का संतुलन बिगड़ रहा है, साम्राज्यवादियों के खिलाफ जा रहा है ऐसे मौके पर जब हिन्दुस्तान में सोवियत नेता आ रहे हैं, उनके स्वागत की पूरी तैयारी हो रही है, हिन्दुस्तान की आजादी को और मुस्तकिल करने के लिए, हिन्दुस्तान की तरक्की के लिए बहुत सारी योजनाएं बन रही हैं, ऐसे मौके पर इस तरह का दुष्प्रचार एक योजना के तहत किया जा रहा है, एक सुनियोजित अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय साम्राज्यवादी योजना के तहत यह सारी साजिश चल रही है, इस स्पीच को उससे अलग नहीं किया जा सकता है।

इसलिए मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान इस ओर आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूं और यह जानना चाहता हूं कि इस तरह के दुष्प्रचार जो किये जा रहे हैं उसका सामना करने के लिए आपके पास कौनसी योजना है? अभी कुछ और सवाल आज ही सदन में पेश किये जा रहे थे, पोलैण्ड और अफगानिस्तान का सवाल उठाया जा रहा था, मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि आपने जो कहा है कि यह बात सही है कि हिन्दुस्तान और सोवियत रूस की दोस्ती पक्की है, इस तरह के भाषणों से उसको खत्म नहीं किया जा सकता है, लम्बे अर्से की पुरानी दोस्ती, समझी हुई जांची हुई, परखी हुई दोस्ती, लेकिन फिर भी जो थोड़े-बहुत हिस्से में इस दुष्प्रचार से लोगों को गुमराह करने की बात की जा रही है, इसके लिए सरकार के पास कौनसी योजना है?

श्री पी० बी० नरसिंह राव : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं अपने वक्तव्य में सारी बातें स्पष्ट कह चुका हूं। हमारी जो दोस्ती रूस से है, वह अपनी जगह बरकरार है, वह आगे बढ़ती जा रही है और उसे और पक्का बनाने की हम कोशिश कर रहे हैं, इसमें कोई संदेह की बात नहीं है।

उसी तरह पाकिस्तान के साथ जो हमने अपने सम्बन्ध ठीक करने की कोशिश की और करते जा रहे हैं, उस प्रक्रिया में भी कोई कमी नहीं है। वह भी आगे बढ़ती रहेगी और किसी के कहने से या करने से या न कहने से और किसी के भाषण से उस पर कोई असर नहीं पड़ेगा। जो हमारी योजना है, जो हम करना चाहते हैं, वह आगे अवश्य करते जायेंगे और हमारी दोस्ती पर कोई असर नहीं पड़ेगा, उसमें कोई फर्क नहीं पड़ेगा।

14.37 hrs.

MARUTI LIMITED (ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER OF UNDERTAKINGS) BILL—contd.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now we take up the legislative business. Shri Chitta Basu.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Sir, I oppose the introduction of the Maruti Limited (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Bill. The grounds of my opposition to the introduction are: that the ordinance is being sought to be replaced by this Bill...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please be brief.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: This Bill is born of a cynical disregard of the government to the Parliament and the parliamentary norms. You know only a few days before the commencement of the Parliament the government has promulgated that ordinance for the acquisition and transfer of the undertaking of the Maruti Ltd. This is obnoxious, this is not in consonance with the parliamentary practice and norms. There have been many observations from Speakers and the presiding officers that the government should not resort to this kind of promulgation of ordinances just before the commencement of the Parliament. Therefore, my first opposition is that the government has side-tracked the Parliament and has not acted in keeping with the norms and parliamentary practices.