

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

TYRES AND TUBES (MOVEMENT  
CONTROL) ORDER, 1974

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI): On behalf of Shri C. Subramaniam, I lay on the Table a copy of the Tyres and Tubes (Movement Control) Order, 1974 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S. O. 273(E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th April, 1974, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 [Placed in Library See No. LT-8364/74].

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): How can he lay it, Sir? It is in the name of Shri C. Subramaniam.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER I have allowed him

SHRI SEZHIYAN (Kumbakonam) The notification is dated 29th April 1974 Why have they taken such a long time to lay it on the Table of the House? No reasons have been given

SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI I shall check up and let the House know.

12-25 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

SHRI R. P. YADAV (Madhepura): I beg to lay on the Table the following Minutes of the sittings of the Committee on Public Undertakings:—

- (1) Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating to Fifty-fifth Report of Hindustan Photo Films Mfg. Co. Ltd.
- (2) Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating to Fifty-sixth Report on Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd.

12-25-1/2 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): Sir, yesterday with the permission of the Chair I made an announcement that the Constitution Amendment Bill relating to Sikkim will be introduced on 2nd and taken up for consideration on the 3rd September. Opinions were expressed that the schedule is too tight. Having taken into account that I would like to say that the Government now intends to take up the consideration of the Bill on the 4th instead of 3rd September. The introduction of the Bill will be on the 2nd but it will be placed for consideration before the House on the 4th September.

12-26 hrs

STATEMENT Re. C.R.P. FIRING AT  
COOCH-BEHAR

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): Sir, on August 27, 1974 around 2-00 PM a bus belonging to the North Bengal State Transport Corporation collided with a CRP van carrying CRP personnel in Cooch-Behar town. An altercation took place between the CRP personnel and the local people who collected on the spot. In the altercation, one CRP Constable opened fire injuring two persons, namely Shri Shankar Chakrabarty, a teacher and Pradeep Roy, a student—both of Jenkun's School, Cooch-Behar. Shri Chakrabarty subsequently succumbed to his injuries at 8 A.M. on August 28, 1974

Immediately following the incident on August 27, 1974, the mob got unruly and went on a rampage. They set fire to the offices of Deputy Commissioner, Sub-Divisional Officer, Central Excise and Income-tax, District Court and S.P.'s Office. The extent of damage is yet to be assessed fully. The unruly mob engaged in arson was dispersed by the police who resorted to tear-gas and firing. Curfew was imposed by the District authorities.

town. The curfew has since been lifted.

The C.R.P. Constable, who opened fire, has been placed under suspension and a case registered against him. 73 persons have been arrested for violation of curfew and arson. A judicial inquiry under the Commission of Inquiry Act has been ordered by the State Government to inquire into the incident.

The situation is under control.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Sir, there are two very important things. One is that CRP has fired and killed two persons while they were not on duty on behalf of the State Government. Therefore, the whole responsibility comes on the Central Government. In that context I would like to know what specific steps they have taken against the persons involved and withdrawal of CRP. Secondly, even two representatives of the ruling party have given report to the Chief Minister of West Bengal that they fired indiscriminately and without any provocation.

The other day a judge of a High Court—if I remember right—said in a public meeting maybe in Rotary or Bar Council meeting, that the number of firings this Government has resorted to between 1947 and 1974, much more than the Britishers had done in two centuries. Sir, this CRP and BSF have 'trigger happy' attitude. There is deployment of Army on the slightest pretext when the Government has totally failed to give the people anything in the shape of food, employment, shelter or minimum requirements of human life.

On the slightest provocation, this Government of the butchers resort to firing and indiscriminate killing. I want a categorical assurance from the Government here and now that they will withdraw all the Central forces from Cooch-Behar at once and, Sir, at the same time, they must come for-

ward before the House and give a clear, categorical reply by the middle of next week as to what steps they have taken against those persons who are acting on behalf of this Government of butchers and dishonest people.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): Sir, he has used the word 'butchers'. It is very unparliamentary.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN: It is very unfortunate that Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu has chosen such unparliamentary and unsavoury words.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Sir, yesterday they came with an apology for hand-cuffing and punching on the stomach of a sitting Member of the House. Last week, Mr. Uma Shankar Dikshit came with a list of things and in one Session itself, the Home Minister had to apologise three times. This is how this Government functions.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN: I know Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu, since a long time being a Member of the House I cannot expect better words from his mouth.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER. Order please.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN: Sir, the first question he has asked is that the CRP constable has fired not in the course of discharge of his duties and why no action has been taken by the Central Government. In this connection, I would say that we are yet to receive a detailed report from the State Government whether that incident happened in the course of discharge of duties by the CRP officials or otherwise. Unless we receive a detailed report from the State Government, we are not in a position to say what action has been taken in this matter. Another point made by him is that the firing has taken place without any provocation. In regard to this matter also, I am unable to say anything in the



[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

absence of a detailed report from the State Government. We are expecting a report from the State Government on all these matters early.

(Interruptions)

These forces are kept at the disposal of the State Government for their internal security matters. When a law and order question arises, the State Government requests for the help of these armed forces of the Union. Then, these armed forces are kept at the disposal of the State Government. It is the responsibility of the State Government as to where they should deploy them and where they should utilise them. They are placed under the control of the State Government.

SHRI JYOTIRMONT BOSU: The firing did not take place under State Government officials' orders. These forces were not there at that time on duty on behalf of the State Government. What this gentleman says is far from truth. He is following in the foot steps of his Minister.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN: He has made another very wild statement that the number of firings resorted to by this Government are much more than the number of firings resorted to by the British Regime. I strongly refute this allegation. The firing is only resorted to as the last measure. Of course, I am not saying this to justify this kind of firing, as judicial enquiry has already been ordered in this particular incident. But, he has made a general allegation about the Government resorting to firing. Firing is generally resorted to only when it is much needed.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: You are creating Frankenstein's.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Ausgram): The news had appeared in the newspapers that two persons were killed, one assistant teacher and one student. The hon.

Minister has referred to this incident in his statement, but there is another incident linked with the Cooch-Bihar incident, where Mr. Revathi Bhattacharjee, a CPM leader, was murdered by Congress hooligans and one ex-MLA, Mr. Dinesh Dakuka was also seriously injured and he is now lying in hospital in a very precarious condition. This incident took place in Matabhanga in Cooch-Bihar district. This incident is also interlinked with the other incident. The hon. Minister has conveniently evaded this incident. I would like to know from him whether two persons were killed in the incident which occurred there and another incident occurred in Matabhanga also where one person was murdered and another was seriously injured.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN: About the Cooch-Bihar incident, one Mr. Shankar Chakrabarty succumbed to his injuries, and Shri Roy who was a student is still in the hospital. We have no reports that he is dead.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Matabhanga is another place.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN: Another matter has been referred to which is not related to the Cooch-Bihar incident. That was the incident that happened at the Matabhanga town.

Regarding this we have not received any authoritative information from the State Government, but from our own sources we have got some information, and I would like to state that there was a clash between the CPM and the Youth Congress workers at Matabhanga and in the clash two leaders of the CPI(M), namely Shri Revathi Bhattacharjee and Mr. Dinesh Dakuka, ex-MLA had received stab injuries. The former namely Mr. Bhattacharjee succumbed to his injuries, and the latter was admitted to hospital. This is the information. But this does not relate to the Cooch-Bihar incident. This relates to the Matabhanga incident.