

[Shri Y. B. Chavan]

A.D.C. and members of the PDF-Congress coalition. There was determined attempts on the part of the opposition members to jostle him around and to prevent him from proceeding with the Address. Although he could not get on to the Speaker's dais, the Governor was able to read out a part of his Address inaugurating the joint session of the Legislature. He was slightly injured in the melee on the occasion.

2. When the Assembly met later in the afternoon, the Speaker referred to his previous ruling and made a short statement adjourning the House *sine die*. This is what the Speaker said. "I beg to report that on the last occasion I gave my ruling on the 29th November, I adjourn the House only because since then there has been no final decision as yet made and that there is no compelling necessity either by judicial discussion or decision by any competent authority, if there be any, to change my ruling, I adjourn the House *sine die*". No report of the Governor's speech was given nor were copies distributed to members as is ordinarily done. A motion of thanks to the Governor was, however, moved.

3. This House will recall that I had indicated the views of the Government of India on certain issues raised in the previous ruling of the Speaker in my statement made on November 30, 1967. The Government continue to hold the view that notwithstanding the observations made by the Speaker of the West Bengal Legislature Assembly, the present Council of Ministers in West Bengal headed by Dr. P. C. Ghosh is the lawful Council of Minister of West Bengal (*Some hon. Members: Never*) The Calcutta High Court have, in a judgment delivered on February 6, 1968, upheld this point of view. By again adjourning the sitting of the Assembly *sine die* the Speaker is preventing it from functioning in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. We have just received a communication

from the Governor, and we are giving thought to the steps that can be taken by the Union.

12.04 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Mass Deportation of Indian Nationals from Kenya

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur): 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 mass deportation of Indian nationals from Kenya resulting in their unemployment and loss of property."

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): Of the 186,000 people of Indian origin in Kenya about 130,000 are British citizens. here are only about 4,000 Indian nationals, about 49,000 are Kenyan citizens. The status of the rest is yet to be determined. The Government of India is not aware of any deportation of Indian nationals from Kenya although recently some people of Indian origin with British citizenship passports have been moving out from Kenya to U.K.

In consequence of the Kenya Immigration Act of 1967 all residents who are not citizens of Kenya are required to take out work and residence permits. An extension of the Immigration Act is a new law licensing all trades and restricting non-citizens who may be able to get licences to trade only in certain items and in certain areas.

The majority of persons of Indian origin in Kenya are engaged in retail trade mostly in textiles, clothing and grocery. The Community has been extensively engaged in retail trade

[Shri Surendra Pal Singh]

Vice President and the Home Minister which had appeared in the papers today. He has categorically assured the Indian community there that there will be no discrimination against those who have taken up Kenya citizenship or those whose applications are still pending. This measure is aimed against only those who are not Kenyans.

SHRI A. SREEDHARAN (Bada-gara): The very fact that the Prime Minister has not chosen to reply to this question even though she is sitting here as serene as a statue is of significance and shows how indifferent the Government of India are to the heart-rending fate of people of Indian origin in Kenya. It is not an isolated problem. As my esteemed colleague pointed out people of Indian origin are treated very shabbily in many countries. I do not want to mention those countries; we are discussing with some of them; some are friendly and some are hostile. Our capital is stormed by various people ranging from CIA agents to hippies and this seems to be a public hunting ground for all. This problem has been hanging fire for a long time. Has the Government given serious thought to the problem of people of Indian origin in Ceylon, Fiji, etc.? Have they any proposal under consideration to appoint a committee or devise some arrangements to study the problem of people of Indian origin in other countries including Kenya to suggest concrete measures so that such treatment may not be repeated in future and can be stopped as early as possible?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH: There is no proposal under consideration now to appoint any committee. But various groups of Indians, eminent people like Members of Parliament go on a visit to those countries and study and discuss these problems. Recently, there was a delegation of Members of Parliament to East African countries. We always advise our

people in Africa and other countries that they should identify themselves with the country of their adoption and thus remain in harmony with their country. These measures as I said are aimed against all aliens in the country, not against Indians as such.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (बलराम-पुर) : क्या यह कोई सन्तोष की बात है कि हमारे खिलाफ नहीं है, औरों के खिलाफ है।

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त (दिल्ली सदर) : यह बड़े शर्म और अफसोस की बात है कि हमारी सरकार इस समस्या को बहुत शैबीली ट्रीट कर रही है। यह केवल कीनिया की ही समस्या नहीं है, अफ्रीका के सारे ही देशों में जितने भारतीय हैं, उनके साथ इस प्रकार का व्यवहार हो रहा है। अध्यक्ष महोदय, दो प्रकार के लोग हैं, एक तो वे जिन्होंने वहां की सिटिजनशिप ले ली है और दूसरे वे जिन्होंने सिटिजनशिप नहीं ली है। मंत्री महोदय ने बताया कि जिन्होंने सिटिजनशिप ले ली है उनके साथ डिस्क्रिमिनेशन नहीं हो रहा है, यह बिल्कुल गलत बात है, उन के साथ भी अफ्रीकनाइजेशन के नाम से तरह-तरह से डिस्क्रिमिनेशन हो रहा है—उनके व्यापार के साथ उनकी प्रापर्टी के साथ, उनके रहन-सहन में और नौकरियों में—यह खुद वहां के अधिकारियों ने कहा है, उनके साथ भी हो रहा है और जिन्होंने सिटिजनशिप नहीं ली है उनमें से कुछ लोग इंग्लैंड जा रहे हैं, लेकिन इंग्लैंड की सरकार भी उनको कोई सुविधा देने के लिये तैयार नहीं है और आखिर में यह जिम्मेदारी हमारे ऊपर आने वाली है।

मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूं कि क्या आपने अपने हार्ड कमिश्नर से कोई रिपोर्ट मांगी है? अगर मांगी है,

तो उनका क्या जबाब है ? दूसरे—क्या इस सम्बन्ध में कीनिया सरकार से कोई बातचीत की है? तीसरे—उनके रिहैबिलिटेशन के बारे में आपने जो कदम उठाया है, वह काफी नहीं है, इसलिये आप और क्या कदम उठाना चाहते हैं ? अन्त में, जैसा आपने कहा कि यहां से कुछ डेलीगेशन गये थे — 1965 में एक डेलीगेशन एमपीज का वहां गया था, उस वक्त शायद श्री मनुभाई साहू मिनिस्टर थे, उस वक्त यह सुझाव आया था कि एक फाइनैन्शियल कारपोरेशन उस इलाके के लिए बनाया जाय, जिसमें बैंक और एल० आई० सी० हो और वहां के कुछ वर्ग उसमें पैसा लगायेंगे। उस वक्त कहा गया था कि इस पर विचार किया जायेगा। उस सुझाव का क्या बना, इस चीज पर कुछ प्रकाश डाला जाय ? इस तरीके से इन लाखों लोगों को शैबीली ट्रीट न किया जाय तथा इनके सम्बन्ध में कोई नीति निर्धारित करनी चाहिये। मैं चाहता हूं कि प्रधान मंत्री महोदया इसके सम्बन्ध में कुछ कहें।

प्रधान मंत्री, अणु शक्ति मंत्री, योजना मंत्री तथा वैदेशिक कार्य मंत्री (श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी) : मैं माननीय सदस्य को यह विश्वास दिलाना चाहती हूं कि हम बिलकुल इस मामले को "शैबी" दृष्टि से नहीं देखते हैं, इसको गम्भीरता से देखते हैं। वहां पर जो लोग रहते हैं, जैसा हमारे डिप्टी मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा, उनको भी वक्त-वक्त पर राय दी गई है। अगर वे हमारी राय नहीं भी लेते हैं, तब भी हमारी पूरी कोशिश करते हैं कि किस तरह से हम उनको मदद दें। जो भी मदद उन्होंने मांगी है, उस पर गौर किया गया है। बैंक और एल० आई० सी० के बारे में मुझे पूरी तरह से मालूम नहीं है, लेकिन इस पर भी विचार कर सकते हैं। अगर हम जो भी करें, उसको इस दृष्टि से देखना होगा कि उस का वहां पर क्या असर पड़ेगा अगर उस

का असर उल्टा हो और उनको और ज्यादा कष्ट हो, तो हमारा काम चाहे कितना ही अच्छा हो, उसका कोई अर्थ नहीं होगा। इसलिये हम इन सब बातों पर विचार करते जा रहे हैं। अभी हमारे दो सदस्य वहां गये थे, उन्होंने भी कुछ सुझाव दिये हैं, उन पर हम विचार कर रहे हैं।

श्री कंचरलाल गुप्त : मैंने पूछा था कि क्या आपने हाई कमिशन से भी कोई रिपोर्ट मांगी है।

श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी : वह बराबर आती है।

श्री कंचरलाल गुप्त : उन्होंने क्या कहा है, आप क्या विचार कर रहे हैं, क्या सोच रहे हैं।

We want some concrete answer from the Prime Minister. The whole country is very much disturbed about this.

Mr. SPEAKER: She says she has got reports.

SHRI KANWARLAL GUPTA: What are the contents?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: Reports come from time to time. He has come here himself and he has talked to us. He has given some suggestions.

SHRI KANWARLAL GUPTA: What are those suggestions?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: I am sorry I cannot give all those figures here now.

SHRI D. C. SHARMA (GURDAS-PUR): There are three types of Indians there. There are a few who have accepted the citizenship of Kenya. There are some who are of Indian origin but who have U.K. passports. There are some who are still Indians and who have not tried

[Shri D. C. Sharma]

to specify their nationality. All these three types of Indians are being subjected to the same kind of process of Africanisation, which is going on all over Kenya. I want to know from the Deputy Minister who has talked a great deal about the delegation of Members of Parliament firstly what he is doing to protect the interests of the Indians who have taken Kenyan citizenship, secondly, what he is going to do with regard to those Indians who have gone to UK, where Mr. Enoch Powell, one of the big brains of the Conservative Party is saying, "We do not want these coloured people in England, because they will raise emotional, psychological and other kinds of problems"? What is he going to do about those Indians who are there still undecided and yet claim their kinship one hundred per cent with India? What is he going to do about all these three types of Indians (*Interruptions*)?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH: Sir, as far as the categorisation of the Indian people and people of Indian origin are concerned, there are four categories. There are those who have taken the Kenyan citizenship. According to our thinking they are the responsibility of the Kenyan Government. As far as those who are holding British passports, we have said on so many occasions before that it is the United Kingdom who should look after their interests.

AN HON. MEMBER: Why?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH: As regards those whose applications for citizenship are still pending with Kenyan Government, we have been assured by the High Commissioner as well as the Kenyan authorities that they will consider and expedite those cases.

SHRI D. C. SHARMA: When did they give that assurance last..... (*Interruption*)?

SHRI RANDHIR SINGH (Rohtak): Sir, why should the hon. Member lose his temper? This cannot be tolerated.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): Why should you lose?

SHRI RANDHIR SINGH: He is a young Minister and he must be encouraged. He is discouraging him (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH: Sir, I was telling about those people who have applied for citizenship and whose cases are still pending and no decision has been taken. We are informed by one High Commissioner that the Kenyan authorities are fully aware of the situation and they are doing everything possible to finalise those cases as early as possible. In the meantime they will not be disturbed; they will be given resident permits and work permits so long as their cases are pending. The fourth category is of the stateless persons and whose citizenship is still in doubt. If those cases are referred to us and if any one of them wants Indian citizenship we will consider such cases.

12.23 hrs.

Re. DISCUSSION ON RAILWAY ACCIDENT

श्री लखन लाल कपूर (किसनगंज) :
अध्यक्ष महोदय, उस रेलवे दुर्घटना के बारे में यहां डिस्कशन.....

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member is talking about the railway accident. That is pending with me.

श्री अदल बिहारी बाजपेयी: (बनारस पुर) : मेरा निवेदन है कि इस तरह की