

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE, (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Governments have been advised to restrict their expenditure to the resources clearly in sight.

(c) Some States have already taken steps towards curtailment of their expenditure on various items; others have reported that they have various economy measures under consideration.

12.26 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

DEATH OF INDIAN SERGEANT OF ICC IN HANOI BY AMERICAN BOMBING

SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR (Peermade)
Sir, 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 :

"Death of an Indian Sergeant of the International Control Commission in Hanoi due to American bombing."

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : Intimation was received that on the morning of the 17th November, 1967, at 11-00 hours, Hav. Mangal Chand and Signalmen Ajab Singh of the Signal Centre Unit of the International Commission Bureau in Hanoi were hit by a splinter from a rocket launched from an American aircraft which landed in the immediate vicinity of the I.C.S.C. Signal Centre building in Hanoi. The splinter hit Hav. Mangal Chand as he was getting into the air raid shelter. He was admitted into hospital at 11-30 hours and unfortunately died at 12-15 hours. After a post-mortem, the body of the late Hav. Mangal Chand was cremated with military honours at 19-00 hours on the 18th November, 1967. These facts have been confirmed by a unanimous finding of a team consisting of representatives of Canada, Poland and India appointed by the Commission to enquire into the incident.

We took up this matter with the U.S. Ambassador in Delhi and expressed to him our concern at the bombing of residential areas, in particular, and pointed out that such incidents will make it difficult for the I.C.S.C. to function in Vietnam. The U.S. Ambassador expressed his distress and assured us that this was a regrettable accident. He promised to convey our concern to his Government. Since then a message of regret and sympathy has also been received by the Minister of External Affairs from the United States Secretary of State Mr. Dean Rusk.

The Deputy Chief of the Liaison Mission of the People's Army of Vietnam (Democratic Republic of Vietnam) arrived at the scene of the incident soon after and conveyed condolences. Messages of condolences were also conveyed by the other two members of the Commission, namely Canada and Poland.

The Government of India deeply regret the incident which has resulted in loss of life and extend to the bereaved family their heartfelt condolences. These officers like other personnel of the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Vietnam are there on a mission of peace. It is unfortunate that instead of supervising a ceasefire they have to witness and become the victims of the horrors of war. The views of the Government of India on the escalation of hostilities and about the bombing of North Vietnam in particular, are well known. The Government hopes that all parties concerned in this conflict would earnestly seek ways to reverse the present trends and work for the restoration of peaceful conditions in Vietnam.

I should also like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation of the manner in which the Indian personnel in Vietnam are discharging their duties in association with their Canadian and Polish colleagues in the Commission.

SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, now it is very clear that in the process of a naked aggression against the people of Viet Nam, the American ruling circles have committed an international crime also by killing an Indian sergeant of the International Control Commission. I had the benefit of going through

[Shri Vasudevan Nair]

that message of condolence or regret—supposed to be a message of regret—sent by Mr. Dean Rusk. For the benefit of the House, as the Minister has not chosen to read it, I would like to read out that brief message :

“I deeply regret that the hostilities in Viet Nam involving US forces have claimed the life of an Indian citizen attached to the International Commission.”

He wants to suggest that it is a kind of accident.

“While all the circumstances of his death are not yet entirely clear to us.....”

It is already established by the Commission that it is by American bombing.

“.....it is certain that he gave up his life in the service of international order and justice.”

“I would appreciate your conveying my condolences to his family”

I should like to draw the attention of House to the statement made by President Johnson when his attention was drawn to this bombing : He said :

“I am fully satisfied with the results of the bombing.” The President of the United States makes a statement like that and Mr. Dean Rusk is supposed to send a message of regret to this Government ! I have no hesitation in saying that this is an exercise in hypocrisy and nothing more. But I am concerned about the hypocrisy of this Government. A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry initially commented on this incident and said that “this is an unfortunate thing”. In the statement the minister says, he has expressed his “concern” to the American Ambassador. Sir, there are many words in the English Dictionary, but as far as the American masters are concerned, our Government uses such words as “unfortunate incident”, “regrettable incident”, etc. If it is China or Pakistan, they will protest, shout, condemn and all that. I should like to know whether the Government proposes to reject the so-called condolence message of the American Ambassador and the American Secretary of State and ask for an

unqualified apology for killing an Indian personnel working in the ICC. I should also like to know from the Government whether they are thinking of taking up this matter with the United States who are the aggressors, together with the two other members of the Commission, so that in future such bombings and such other incidents do not occur ? I should also like to enter my protest about a particular sentence in the minister’s statement which says :

“Government hopes that all parties concerned in this conflict would earnestly seek ways to reverse the present trends and work for the restoration of peaceful conditions in Vietnam.”

They are equating the aggressor and the aggressed. That is why I call them a hypocritical government, without guts and backbone when it comes to American masters.

MR. SPEAKER : About the protest, you need not answer. You can answer the first part.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : We do not propose to reject this message. There is nothing to be rejected.

SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR : Are they going to take up the matter with the U.S. Government and the other two members of the Commission, to see that such things are not repeated ?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : The Commission is functioning there under an agreement and it has a duty to perform. In the light of the incidents that have happened, it is for the Commission to decide and see whether conditions are created so that they can function effectively.

DR. KARNI SINGH (Bikaner) : One part of the House says, the Americans are our masters. The other part of the House says, the Russians are our masters. It is a matter of regret and shame that India should have foreign masters having thrown out the British. Is it not more important that we consider ourselves as our own masters ? This is not the first time that an Indian soldier has died while on duty with the United Nations. May I know if Government will raise the matter in

U.N. with a view to getting a definite assurance, before once again committing Indian soldiers, that member nations of the U.N. will refrain from attacks on U.N. Missions ? Secondly, now that a valuable Indian life has been lost, although we are prepared to accept the United States' apology that this was not a deliberate attack, may I know whether the United States Government is prepared to pay adequate compensation to us ?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : As for raising the matter in the United Nations, this is not a question to be raised in the United Nations. As regards compensation, under the terms of duty they are insured and they will get some compensation. It is for the Commission to decide what more compensation has to be given. We will certainly consider that.

DR. KARNI SINGH : Sir, he has not answered my question. Before committing troops further for United Nations Service, are you going to get an assurance from the United Nations that no member nation will attack United Nations' installations ?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : There are inherent risks in an operation like this. Even peaceful operations, particularly supervising cease-fire operations, are fraught with danger. As for the guarantee about its functioning, the parties to the agreement as well as the government which have supported it have given unqualified support and co-operation for the functioning of it. It is for them to see that ideal conditions prevail and the commission is allowed to function freely.

SHRI R. BARUA (Jorhat) : Though noble sentiments are expressed, it appears from the passage that nothing is done by the American government to show that such things will not recur in future. May I know whether they have lodged any protest, or taken an assurance, from America so that bombing in close vicinity of the United Nations headquarters in that area will stop.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : So far as the question of bombing is concerned, the policy of this government is absolutely clear. It has been repeated times without number that we are opposed to bombing.

We want the bombing to cease altogether.

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा (मधुबनी) : इस वक्तव्य में कहा गया है कि अमरीका द्वारा रेजिडेंशल एरिया में बांम्बिंग पर भारत सरकार ने अमरीकी राजदूत के सामने अपना कनसर्न जाहिर किया है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या अमरीका ने आई० सी० सी० के साथ सहयोग करने का पब्लिकली एलान नहीं किया है, यदि किया है, तो अमरीकी साम्राज्यवादियों ने रेजिडेंशल एरिया में जो बांम्बिंग किया है, जिसमें आई० सी० सी० का हैडक्वार्टर है,—आखिर बांम्बिंग निशाना लगा कर किया जाता है, ऐसे ही नहीं,— तो क्या उस से यह साबित नहीं हो जाता है कि अमरीकियों का मकसद हिन्दुस्तानी पर्सनल का "प्लान्ड मैसाकर" था। क्या भारत सरकार ने हिन्दुस्तानी पर्सनल के प्लान्ड मैसाकर की अमरीकी योजना के विरुद्ध अमरीकी सरकार से कोई प्रोटेस्ट किया है; यदि किया है, तो उस का क्या जवाब आया है और क्या अमरीका की तरफ से अनक्वालिफाइड अपोलोजी पेश की गई है या नहीं ?

क्या भारत सरकार की तरफ से इस सम्बन्ध में कम्पेन्सेशन की मांग की गई है; यदि नहीं, तो क्यों नहीं और अगर की गई है, तो अमरीका सरकार ने इस बारे में क्या जवाब दिया है ?

जब कोई कल या कोई क्राइम करता है, तो केवल माफ़ी मांग लेने से कानून और इन्साफ उस को छोड़ नहीं देते हैं। अमरीका वियतनाम में नर-संहार कर रहा है और इस के साथ-साथ आई० सी० सी० के भारतीय पर्सनल का 'मैसाकर' भी कर रहा है। इस लिए क्या भारत सरकार न्यूट्रल सम्मिट के जरिये या एफ्रो-एशियन नेशन्स के जरिये युनाइटेड नेशन्स में यह सवाल उठाना चाहती है कि प्रिजिडेंट जानसन, सैक्रेटरी आफ स्टेट, डीन रस्क, सैक्रेटरी आफ डिफेंस, मैकनमारा और

[श्री शिव चन्द्र झा]

अमरीकी राजदूत, चेस्टर बौल्ड, का उसी तरह ट्रायल किया जाये, जिस तरह न्यूयॉर्क में गोर्गिंग, हिमलर और रिबनट्राप का ट्रायल हुआ था ?

श्री ब० रा० भगत: अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इस सवाल का क्या जवाब दूँ ?

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा: अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री महोदय रेजिडेंशल एरिया सम्बन्धी सवाल का जवाब दे सकते हैं।

श्री मधु लिये (मुंगेर): अध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय सदस्य के प्रश्न का जवाब दिलावाइये।

अध्यक्ष महोदय: पेपर्स टू बि लेड आन दि टेबल।

12-40 HRS.

PAPERS LAID ON THE
TABLE

REPORT OF INDIAN DELEGATION
TO WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY
AND WHO REGIONAL COMMITTEE
MEETING

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF HEALTH, FAMILY
PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOP-
MENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY): I beg to
lay on the Table :—

- (1) A copy of the Report of the Indian Delegation to the Twentieth World Health Assembly held at Geneva from 8th to 26th May, 1967. [Placed in Library, see No. LT-1678/67].
- (2) A copy of the Report of the Indian Delegation to the Twentieth session of the W.H.O. Regional Committee meeting for South-East Asia Region, held at Ulan-Bator (Mangolia) from 1st to 8th August, 1967. [Placed in Library, see No. LT-1679/67].

ANNUAL REPORT OF INDUSTRIAL
FINANCE CORPORATION OF
INDIA

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
JAGANNATH PAHADIA): I beg to
lay on the Table :—

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report of the Industrial Finance Corpo-

ration of India for the year ended the 30th June, 1967, along with the Statement showing the Assets and Liabilities and Profit and Loss Account of the Corporation, under sub-section (3) of section 35 of the Industrial Finance Corporation Act, 1948. [Placed in Library, see No. LT-1680/67].

- (2) A copy of the National Savings Certificates (First Issue) (First Amendment) Rules, 1967, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1659 in Gazette of India dated the 4th November, 1967, under sub-section (3) of section 12 of the Government Savings Certificates Act, 1959 [Placed in Library, see No. LT 1681/67].
- (3) A copy of the Delhi Sales Tax (Third Amendment) Rules, 1967, published in Notification No. F. 4(83)/67-Fin. (E) (I) in Delhi Gazette dated the 19th October 1967, under sub-section (4) of section 26 of the Bengal Finance (Sales Tax) Act, 1941, as in force in the Union territory of Delhi. [Placed in Library, see No. LT-1682/67].
- (4) A copy each of the following Notifications under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 and section 38 of the Central Excises & Salt Act, 1944 :—
 - (i) The Customs and Central Excise Duties Export Drawback (General) Fifty-fourth Amendment Rules, 1967, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1960 in Gazette of India dated the 11th November, 1967.
 - (ii) The Customs and Central Excise Duties Export Drawback (General) Fifty-fifth Amendment Rules, 1967, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1691 in Gazette of India dated the 11th November, 1967.
 - (iii) The Customs and Central Excise Duties Export Drawback (General) Fifty-sixth Amendment Rules 1967 published