12.04 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

SITUATION ARISING OUT OF REPORTED REFUSAL TO GRANT STATEHOOD TO MANIPUR

SHRI GANEH GHOSH (Calcutta-South) : Sir, I call the attention...

SHRI DHIRESWAR KALITA (Gauhati) : Sir, on a point of order.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : कालिंग एटेंशन मोशन को अभी उन्होंने पढ़ा भी नहीं है, आपका प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर किस बात पर आ गया है ?

SHRI DHIRESWAR KALITA : Sir, will you kindly allow me to have my say ? This notice is addressed to the Minister of Home Affairs. I find that the Minister of Home Affairs is not present here to reply. He is a junior Minister.

MR. SPEAKER : I think, for the Union territory he is enough.

SHRI DHIRESHWAR KALITA : It is a very serious question. It involves political decision. The Prime Minister should come and give a reply to this calling-attention.

श्री रवि राय (पुरी) : वह ठीक सवाल उठा रहे हैं। प्रधान मंत्री सदन की नेत्री भी हैं। कहां हैं वह ? उनको बुलवाइये। वह गृह मंत्री भी हैं।

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA (Barh) : She never comes to the House.

SHRI S. KUNDU (Balasore) : We want to Manipur. The matter is very much agitating the people there.

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA : The situation is very explosive.

SHRI S. KUNDU : We met the Prime Minister in regard to this matter. The Prime Minister should come and answer this calling attention.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE (Calcutta—North-East) : It is a very serious matter. We have noticed many times—this is not the first time—on many occasions when on many important issues the presence of the Prime Minister was called for, she was absent. It is most reprehensible. She is not only the Prime Minister; she is the Leader of the House. In regard to this matter people from here went to Manipur and expressed themselves rightly or wrongly. The Government has its own view in regard to this matter.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not a point of order.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE : It is a point of propriety.

SHRI DHIRESWAR KALITA : It is certainly a point of order.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (बलरामपुर) : मेरा निवेदन है इस पर आप चर्चा स्थगित रखें और प्रधान मंत्री को बुलाएं। श्री मुखर्जी ने कहा है कि वह सदन की नेत्री भी हैं। लेकिन इस सदन को नेत्री के दर्शन नहीं होते हैं।

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH (Buxar) : In regard to giving statehood to different Union territories, some norms should be adopted. On an *ad hoc* basis statehood is given to different territories. Himachal Pradesh was given statehood recently. On that occasion we had demanded that Delhi, Manipur etc., should also be given the status of a State. But Manipur has been denied that. Therefore this demand is quite correct that the Prime Minister should come and that De hi, Tripura and all these territories should be given statehood.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (उज्जैन) : दिल्ली को स्टेटहुड मिलना चाहिये। बहुत दिनों से उसकी यह मांग चली आ रही है।

SHRI SHRI CHAND GOYAL (Chandigarh) : The Prime Minister conceded the demand of Himachal Pradesh in reply to an unstarred question when there was no occasion for it.

श्री रवि राय : श्री परमार कांग्रेस दल के हैं।

SHRI SHRI CHAND GOYAL : She wanted to take credit for conceding this demand, whereas she is paying absolutely no attention and is attaching no importance to the question of statehood for Manipur. It is very much desirable that she should be asked to come to the House.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आपका क्या सवाल है कि यह तरीका अच्छा है ? तभी आप बोल रहे हैं, शोर मचा रहे हैं। आपकी एंगजाइटी को मैं समझता हूं। लेकिन कोई तरीका तो होना चाहिये। लीडर्स आफ पार्टीज तथा दूसरे भी बोल चुके हैं।

It is a calling attention on the agenda fixed for today.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : It is a question of propriety.

MR. SPEAKER : It is for the Prime Minister to consider. The Minister of State for Home Affairs is there, if the Prime Minister is not there.

SHRI RABI RAY : She is there. पन्द्रह मिनट पहले हम उन से मिल कर आए हैं।

MR. SPEAKER : Somebody has to reply and the Minister of State for Home Affairs is there.

SHRI S. KUNDU : An all-party delegation of MPs went to Manipur and saw the situation there. They also met the Prime Minister. It is a question involving with important affair of the country. It is a question of propriety and as Shri Vajpayee and Professor Mukerjee have said, it is better that the Prime Minister should come and answer it.....*(Interruption)*

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, एक व्यवस्था का प्रश्न उठाया गया था। उस के साथ औचित्य का भी प्रश्न उठाया गया। अभी तक सरकारी बैंचों से यह नहीं कहा गया है कि प्रधान मंत्री कहीं और व्यस्त हैं। अगर वह दूसरे सदन में व्यस्त हैं, तो बता दिया जाये ; अगर नहीं हैं, तो उन को बुलाया जाये।

MR. SPEAKER : Any Minister can answer it, the Minister or the Ministers of State or the Deputy Minister, Shri Ganseh Ghosh.

SHRI GANESH GHOSH : I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon :

> "The situation arising out of the reported refusal of the Central Government to grant Statehood to Manipur."

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, AND MINISTER OF STATE, DEPARTMENTS OF ELECTRONICS AND SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (SHRI K. C. PANT) : As the House is aware, we have a number of Union Territories. In considering the grant of Statehood to any of them, factors like area, population, terrain, level of economic development, financial resources and security considerations, if any, have to be carefully gone into before any conclusions can be reached. The question whether Manipur couid be made into a State, has been engaging our attention. It will take some time for Government to come to a definite conclusion.

SHRI GANESH GHOSH : The people of Himachal Pradesh have been able to realise their demand of Statehood but not the people of Manipur. In spite of our constitutional mandate that all people are equal, these Congress leaders have turned the people of Manipur into second-class citizens, inferior to the people of West Bengal, to the people of Orissa, to the people of Bihar, Himachal Pradesh and many other States.

The policy of the British imperialists which these Congress leaders are very

faithfully pursing is to discriminate, disintegrate and divide the people of India and maintain their domination. This is what these Congress leaders are maintaining. The British imperialist policy towards India was that we must first have some bookish lessons on administration, then some schooling and, after that, a long period of practical training after which we could qualify ourselves for Swaraj or home rule.

In the same manner, these Congress leaders had given to the people of Manipur a toy legislature for political training. But even this plaything has been dissolved because they find themselves in a minority in Manipur. Since that time uptill now there have been no elections becaue they find that the chances in Manipur are bleak and, in all generosity, these Shahanshas of Delhi, these Congress leaders, have taken up on their shoulders the burden to rule Manipur just as the British free-looters had taken up the white-man's burden in the last century.

We can say one thing without any fear of contradiction that no national leader in any country of the world can beat these Congress leaders in their loyality, fidelity and appreciation for the British imperialist policy and their methods.

All sections of the people and all political parties of Manipur have unanimously demand the Statehood for Manipur. This unanimity has been undoubtedly expressed and manifested in innumerable representations, deputations and through several peaceful *bundhs* and now through resignations from all elected bodies. But, Sir, till now there is no murmur, no whisper either in the North Block or in the Central Block, the seat of power of these Congress leaders.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not want to interrupt your eloquence. Please come to your question.

SHRI GANESH GHOSH : These Congress leaders have so soon forgotten the bitter lessons connected with the formation of the States of Andhra, Maharashtra and Gujarat. They know full-well that there is a section of Manipuris who want a separate and independent State outside Indian Union. Further refusal to concede the modest demand of statehood for Manipur will only strengthen the cause of these cessationists and will push more number of people into their fold. To ignore this modest demand of statehood further would be at the peril of our integrity and democratic set up. Will these Congress leaders declare a final date by which the Indian Government will recognise the right of the statehood of the people of Manipur ?

MR. SPEAKER : When you say 'Congress Leader', you mean the Government (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NAMBIAR (Tiruchirappalli) : The question is forthright, the answer should also be forthright.

SHRI K. C. PANT : Whether the Congress Party or my hon friend's Party has done more to preserve the unity, integrity and freedom of the country, history will give an answer. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NAMBIAR : The present history will do it. He is an Andaman-returned patriot. His service in jail is more than your service in politics.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE : He does not know who he is.

SHRI K. C. PANT : I have already indicated that this is a complex question. Various factors have to be taken into account. I have already indicated some of them. We are sensitive to the aspiration of all these areas. We would like them to feel completely integrated with the country. We would like all sections of this House to promote that feeling. But within that context we have to take into account the various factors that I have mentioned earlier, which must be taken into account in forming a new State.

श्री रवि राय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, श्री पन्त का जवाब सुन कर हम को लगा कि उनका अवाब बहुत दोगला है । (व्यवधान) वह नये मंत्री हैं । 8 मई को इस सदन में इस विषय पर बहस हुई थी और इस के जवाब में इन के

[श्री रवि राय]

पहले मंत्री, श्री विद्या चरण शुक्ल, ने यह कहा था :

"अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह कहना ठीक नहीं है कि सम्पूर्ण राज्य बनाने की जो मणिपुर की मांग है, उसको हम ने ठुकरा दिया है।" अगर हम उस जवाब की आज के जवाब से तुलना करें, तो उन में जमीन आसमान का फर्क है। शायद जब मणिपुर की जनता जोर से आन्दोलन करेगी तब सरकार कोई तारीख मुकर्रर करेगी कि उस दिन मणिपुर को सम्पूर्ण राज्य का दर्जा मिलेगा। पिछली 3 तारीख को वहां एक सर्वदलीय कमेटी बनी थी, जिस के नेतृत्व में पूरा मणिपुर सम्पूर्ण रूप से बन्द हुआ था। उस पार्टी में श्री पन्त की पार्टी के लोग भी थे। 9 मई को जो बाल-पार्टी पार्लियामेंटरी डेलीगेशन मणिपुर गया था, उस में उन के दल के दो सदस्य, श्री शीलभद्र याजी और श्री चन्द्रशेखर, भी थे। और मणिपुर में हम ने लोगों की इच्छा और संकल्प देखा कि वहां के सब लोग एक मन से सर्वसम्मति से मणिपुर को संपूर्ण राज्य देने के लिए मांग कर रहे हैं और बावजूद इस के कि खुद प्रधान मंत्री ने अपने दल के लोगों को वहां मना किया था कि इस्तीफा मत दीजिए म्युनिसिपल कौंसिल से लेकिन फिर भी वहां की जनता के दबाव में शासक-कांग्रेस दल के लोग भी आए और उन्होंने मणिपुर के म्युनिसिपल कारपोरेशन की सदस्यता से इस्तीफा दिया। वह उत्तर पूर्वी भारतवर्ष का सरहदी इलाका है और वहां की आबादी दस लाख है जब कि नागालैंड के लोग जिन की आबादी केवल 3 लाख है वह क्यों कि विद्रोही बन गए तो उन को तो संपूर्ण राज्य का दर्जा मिल गया और हिमाचल प्रदेश में चूंकि इन के दल के मुख्य मंत्री हैं इसलिए उन को मिल गया लेकिन मणिपुर जो एक सरहदी इलाका है उस को संपूर्ण राज्य का दर्जा नहीं मिला। हिमाचल प्रदेश तो सरहदी इलाका भी नहीं है। लेकिन हिमाचल प्रदेश को जो मिला हम उस का स्वागत करते हैं किन्तु उस के साथ साथ मणिपुर को भी क्यों नहीं दिया? मैं पूछना चाहता हूं क्या नागालैंड वायबल है? क्या नागालैंड को भारत सरकार सब्सिडी नहीं देती है? क्या हर राज्य के मुख्य मंत्री यहां आ कर भिक्षा नहीं मांग रहे हैं कि हम को सब्सिडी दो नहीं तो हम नहीं चल पाएंगे? वायबलिटी का मतलब गया है? क्या वजह है कि मणिपुर के लोगों को सम्पूर्ण राज्य का दर्जा अभी तक नहीं दिया गया? आप जानते हैं, मैं पिछले दस साल के इतिहास का जिक्र कर सकता हूं कि मणिपुर की जनता किस तरह से शहरी आजादी के लिए दस साल से लड़ती आ रही है और इस सदन के हमारे नेता स्वर्गीय डा० लोहिया को उस के लिए सारे हिन्दुस्तान का ध्यान उस तरफ खींचने के लिए जेल जाना पड़ा। इम्फाल की जेल में सरकार ने उन को बन्द किया था। उस के बाद मणिपुर की जनता को टेरिटोरियल कौंसिल मिली। उस के बाद जनता फिर लड़ी तो उनको असेम्बली मिली और अभी फिर लड़ रहे हैं सम्पूर्ण राज्य के लिए। यह दस पन्द्रह साल का शहरी आजादी के लिए, असेम्बली के लिए और फिर सम्पूर्ण-राज्य के लिए उन की जो लड़ाई है उस का ब्यौरेवार सारा इतिहास मैंने बताया इसलिए कि यह एक सरहदी इलाका है, बर्मा से और चाइना से लगा हुआ है। मैं आप से कहना चाहता हूं कि इस सरकार की हिम्मत नहीं है पार्लियामेंट में पी० डी० ऐक्ट को पारित कराने के लिए क्योंकि यहां इनका बहुमत नहीं है लेकिन उड़ीसा की सरकार ने जो एक अधिनियम बनाया पी० डी० ऐक्ट 1950 का उस अधिनियम को लेकर मणिपुर में लागू कर दिया। पिछले साल आल पार्टी कमेटी के रेप्रेजेन्टेटिव जो थे उनका बहुमत था असेम्बली में लेकिन फिर भी राष्ट्रपति शासन वहां लागू कर दिया। यह दस लाख लोगों को जो पूर्वी भारत की सरहद पर हैं उनको सरकार इस तरह से उजाड़ रही

कि विद्रोही बनिए तब आपको मिलेगा। यह मैं आप से बहुत जिम्मेदारी के साथ कहना चाहता हूं, वहां के युवक लोग हमें मिले थे और इनके दल के नेता चन्द्रशेखर भी मौजूद थे. उन्होंने कहा कि जब हमको आप इस तरह से अपमानित करेंगे, सम्पूर्ण राज्य का दर्जा नहीं देंगे तो हम लोग नागा होस्टाइल्स से मिल जाएंगे और अभी भी बहुत से युवक लोग मणिपुर के नागा होस्टाइल्स के साथ मिल कर इस तरह से कार्य कर रहे हैं। मैं आप से कहना चाहता हूं कि नागा होस्टाइल्स के साथ कुछ इस तरह के फ्रस्ट्रेटेड युवक जो जा रहे हैं उसका सारा दायित्व इस भारत सरकार पर है क्योंकि भारत सरकार उनको सम्पूर्ण राज्य का दर्जा नहीं दे रही है। भारत सरकार का यह तर्क कुतर्क है। कोई तर्क भारत सरकार नहीं दे पाती है कि हिमाचल प्रदेश को देने के बाद और नागालैंड को देने के बाद मणिपुर को क्यों नहीं देंगे? वहां की जनता आज लोक सभा में क्या फैसला होगा यह देख रही है क्यों कि वह तय कर लिए हैं कि लगातार वह आन्दोलन भारत सरकार की इस नीति के खिलाफ चलाएंगे। मैं फिर कहूंगा जब यह आपकी नीति है हिमाचल प्रदेश को और नागालैंड को एकोनामिकली वायबल न होते हुए भी सम्पूर्ण राज्य का दर्जा दे दिया गया तो आप मणिपुर को क्यों नहीं दे रहे हैं यह मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूं। एकोनामिक वायबिलिटी का जो तर्क दे रहे हैं यह ठीक नहीं हैं। नागालैंड की 3 लाख की आबादी है और उसे आपने यह दर्जा दे दिया जब कि नागालैंड के बगल में यह मणिपुर है और उसकी दस लाख की आबादी है, उसकी अपनी स्वतन्त्र भाषा है, स्वतन्त्र कला है जिसके लिए हम लोग सब गौरवान्वित हैं लेकिन फिर भी सरकार यह नहीं मान रही है। इसलिए मैं आप से निवेदन करता हूं मंत्री महोदय कोई तारीख इसके लिए निश्चित करें कि जिस दिन मणिपुर को सम्पूर्ण राज्य का दर्जा मिले।

श्री कृष्णचन्द्र पंत : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जैसा अभी रवि राय जी ने कहा मणिपुर में जो कांग्रेस दल है वह भी इस राज्य की मांग का समर्थन कर रहा है, इसलिए इसमें कोई राजनीति का प्रश्न नहीं है, कोई दलबन्दी का प्रश्न नहीं है। अगर दलबन्दी के दृष्टिकोण से हम देखते तो फौरन राज्य बनाने से शायद हमारे दल को फायदा ही पहुँचता। चूंकि हम राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर इन प्रश्नों पर विचार कर रहे हैं और सारे पहलुओं पर विचार कर रहे हैं इसलिए दलबन्दी के फायदों को अलग रखते हुए हम इस पर गंभीरता से विचार कर रहे हैं और जब तक एक राष्ट्रीय दृष्टिकोण से हमको न लगेगा कि अब ठीक समय आ गया है, अब बनाना चाहिए तब तक इसको हम ठीक नहीं समझते हैं। यही कारण है, दूसरा कोई कारण नहीं है। जैसा अभी उन्होंने कहा कि शुक्ला जी ने कहा था कि हमने मांग नहीं ठुकराई है मैंने भी यह नहीं कहा कि हमने मांग ठुकराई है। आप इस जवाब को बाद में पढ़ेंगे तो उसमें आपको लगेगा कि उसमें कोई मांग ठुकराने का प्रश्न नहीं है। सब हमारे हिन्दुस्तान के लोग हैं। सब की भावनाओं का हम आदर करते हैं, किसी की भावना को ठेस नहीं पहुंचाना चाहते हैं।

जहां तक आपने कहा कि जमीन और आसमान का प्रश्न है तो मैं आपको याद दिलाना चाहता हूं कि क्षितिज पर जमीन और आसमान मिल जाते हैं।

SHRI VISHANATHA MENON (Ernakulam) : The reply given by the hon. Minister that the demand of the Manipur people for Statehood is a question to be considered afterwards is not at all convincing. I understand that there are a number of Union Territories in this country. But for the last 22 years these people were considering about their future, and Government have not done anything about these things except in the case of Himachal Pradesh, and we welcome

[श्री रवि राय]

what has been done in the case of Himachal Pradesh. But when it comes to Manipur, a negative attitude is there. The hon. Minister was trying to give the impression that it was not political or partisan but it was only a national question and so on. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether there was not a full-fledged Assembly in Manipur in 1948-49 before integration to which election was conducted with adult franchise and there was also not a Cabinet functioning there. If tbe Assembly was there, then after integration, if the people are being treated like second-rate citizens, even Statchood is not given to them, no authority is also given to them under the Lt. Governor, and even the Assembly is dissolved, then what will be the reaction of the Manipur people ? Without considering all these things, if it is said that Manipur is backward and so on, we cannot agree to that kind of thing. I am coming from the southermost State namely Kerala, and I had heard about Manipur in my younger days, and the Manipuri dance and the culture of Manipur were common words in our place. So, it is not correct to say that these people are backward or that their financial condition is not sound and so on. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether it is not a fact that Nagaland for which Statehood has been given has a population which is just half that of Manipur and the financial resources of Nagaland are less than those of Manipur. I would request the hon. Minister to answer these questions categorically and not avade them so as to make political capital out of it. Let him not create a situation where a mass disobedience struggle may be launched. If my information is correct, from August 17th onwards, there is going to be a mass disobedience movement there. Why is he creating such type of situation in those border areas ? Actually he is doing harm to the country thereby. So, I would request the hon. Minister to make a clear declaration before the House on the grant of Statehood for Manipur.

SHRI K. C. PANT : I do not know on what basis my hon. friend says that Government think that the people of Manipur are backward. I never said so. I certainly do not think so. If the enchantment of Manipuri dance had come all the way to him in Kerala in his younger days, we in the rest of the country are also not unaware of it. We are fully aware of the cultural excellence that is today found in Manipur. We certainly appreciate it. It is very much a part of the broad stream of Indian culture and we are proud of it.

As for the other question, I have already answered it.

SHRI VISHWANATHA MENON : Manipur had a full-fledged Assembly in 1948-49. After integrations only that was dissolved.

SHRI NAMBIAR : He must also answer about the financial viability part.

SHRI HEM BARUA (*Mangaldai*) : First I want to congratulate Government on granting full-fledged statehood to Himachal Pradesh. But I have a hunch that it was political decision. Whatever that may be, why are the other Union Territories not granted full-fledged statehood ? The people of Manipur have been agitating for it for a long time. Twenty members of the Municipal Board have recently resigned on this issue. May I know whether the reasons are financial or political-cum-strategic because Manipur is situated on our frontier, and if the parliamentary machinery is allowed to function there, a Muslim will come to power as Chief Minister and a non-Congress Government will be installed there ? Is it because of this that Government are fighting shy of granting the aspirations of the people of Manipur ?

The statement he has made is very flimsy. It is only giving a lipstick treatment to this problem. As regards financial viability, is it not a fact that when a deputation from there met the Prime Minister they said that they will see to that if there are such difficulties ? Government say there are a number of Union Territories. Who does not know that ? Why do they not have a comprehensive plan for granting full-fledged statehood to all and elimi-

nating this phenomenon of Union Territories from the country ?

SHRI K. C. PANT : As for the last part, my hon. friend will have to consider whether it will be good for the country to have such a large number of small states with small areas and small populations. It is a general question regarding all Union Territories. I think this is a matter of whcch the House is aware.

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH : There must be some norm and standard. Otherwise, they will go on conferring statehood on an *ad hoc* basis which is wrong.

SHRI HEM BARUA : That was why I said there should be a comprehensive plan.

SHRI K. C. PANT : I have spelt out the various considerations being taken into account. There will be repercussions in other areas as a result of granting statehood to Manipur. As far as the financial implications are concerned, the impression that there are no financial implications is incorrect. I do not want to spell out all the details, but I can say, for instance, that the revenue estimates for 1970-71 are of the order of Rs. 2.2 crores while.....

SHRI HEM BARUA : They are pumping money into the small State of Nagaland. Why not do it for Manipur also ?

SHRI K. C. PANT : He wanted an answer. I am trying to give facts.

SHRI HEM BARUA : I am saying when other States like Nagaland can have money pumped into them for economic recovery, why can't they pump money into Manipur, if necessary ?

SHRI K. C. PANT : If necessary.

MR. SPEAKER : Why not money into Manipur ?

SHRI K. C. PANT : I do not think he is interested in the details.

SHRI NAMBIAR : Once question is put it is not his property. We are interested, we want to know. Even Mr. Menon's question was not answered properly.

SHRI HEM BARUA : The second part of my question has not been answered. I wanted to know if the decision for not granting statehood to Mainpur is political-cum-strategic, because a Muslim will come to power as Chief Minister there, or is it something else.

SHRI K. C. PANT : Whether the Congress comes to power or does not come power is hardly a consideration in these matters.

SHRI S. M, BANERJEE (Kanpur) : May I request you to allow my friend Shri Meghachandra to put a question ? His name unfortunately has not come in the ballot, I am prepared to sacrifice my opportunity provided you allow him. He is the leader of the Manipur people, I am not. I would reques: you to give him a chance.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : This should not be taken as a precedent.

MR. SPEAKER : I was waiting for somebody to get up and object. I thought they wanted me to be put in the wrong position. I am very happy that after I allowed he got up. Somebody should object. Do not put the Chair in the wrong. This time I was looking at him to see if he would do it. The moment I said "yes" he got up. This will not be treated as a precedent. As a special case I am allowing him.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Thank you very much.

SHRI M. MEGHACHANDRA (Inner Manipur) : I was hearing the reply given by the Minister regarding this particular question of grant of statehood to Manipur. I am sorry the Government have failed to understand or appreciate the feelings and aspirations of the people of Manipur. It is a fact that there was an Assembly in the year 1948-49. When Manipur was integrated with India, this Assembly was dissolved, and it is in the lips of every one that after integration

[Shri M. Meghachandra]

the Assembly was disolved and so on. Even today we are not getting this full-fledged Assembly.

I may recall that it was in the year 1954-55 when Mr. Govind Ballabh Pant was the Home Minister, that I and some others submitted thousands of signatures from the people of Manipur demanding a full-fledged Assembly for Manipur. And since then this movement for a full-fledged Assembly and responsible Government has been going on. After that the Government of India gave only a Terri-torial Council. In the year 1960 we had a very big movement, and as a result we got this Territorial Assembly, under the Union Territories Act 1963. The people of Manipur were never satisfied with this status.

We know that in the year 1962-63 the question of the grant of statehood to Naga land was finalised. After that some six or seven years have passed. We are living adjacent to Nagaland. Nagaland has been considered on a national plane and statehood has been given to Nagaland from national considerations. The same kind of people are living in Manipur, but this Manipur has been neglected, and for the last seven years the Government of India could not understand and appreciate the feeling of the people of Manipur. This is a kind of negligence towards the people of Manipur.

This is a matter which should be given its due importance. If the people of Manipur are very much dissatisfied, then, the extremist elements too will take advantage of such a situation. If the Government of India takes such a decision and helps the extremists in that way, then that will be against the national interests. Therefore, I again request the Minister to reply in such a manner that the people of Manipur get some satisfaction from the Government. Otherwise, it will create difficulties. Therefore, it is very necessary that some announcement is made for granting Statehood on Manipur within a shipulated

SHRI K. C. PANT : I full appreciate the sincerity and the anxiety with which the question has been put. I also appreciate the fact that there is sentiment in Manipur in regard to the granting of Statehood on Manipur. But even before appreciating all these fact, the need to take all factors into account cannot be ignored and cannot be disregarded. I am sury my hon. friend appreciates this need, and it is in the context of the larger framework and the need to look into all these things that I am not in a position to say anything definite today. It is not for want of appreciation of their feeling.

SHRI PAOKAI HAOKIP (Outer Manipur) : *rose—*

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS *Rose* : *(Inetrruption)*

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : The Uttar Pradesh Government has imposed the P. D. Act. *(Interruption)*--**

MR. SPEAKER : I am not calling them. Nothing will go on record as they are speaking without my calling them. *(Interruption)* Please sit down. When you see me on my legs, please sit down. Please do not speak when I am on my legs.

Now, Mr. Paokai Haokip, you sent your note to me, and all the names were balloted. The Members whose names did not come in the ballot unfortunately are not permitted by the procedure to be called. I very much sympathise with you. I could appreciate your sentiments. I am sorry; I had not finished the Calling Attention when several Members intervened. I hope you follow the procedure, I am very sorry. *(Interruptions)*. So much is going on in this country. Besides our own problems, the controversies of the States are also brought into the House. How can we discuss it here ? If something is done by the State Government, how can it be brought here ? Nothing will go on record unless I call a member to speak.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : On a point of order, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : There is nothing before the House. I have not allowed anything. You are defying the Chair all the time. Anything that happens in any corner of the country is brought here, whether it is in any State or Union Territory. No, I am not allowing it. *(Interruption)*. I have not admitted anything. You are defying the chair.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Sir, may I submit...

MR. SPEAKER : No, I am not allowing anybody. Now, papers to be laid on the Table.

** Not recorded.