

In so far as the Border Roads Organisation is concerned, the information is being collected.

12.28 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Recent political developments in
Pakistan

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra) : I call the attention of the Minister of External Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon :—

“The recent political developments in Pakistan and the reaction of the Government of India thereto.”

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : Hon. Members are aware that during the last few months there have been widespread expressions of democratic urges in Pakistan and the people of Pakistan have been demanding changes in the political system which would result in greater popular participation in the government of the country. This upsurge of popular feeling resulted in a Round Table Conference from 10th to 13th March, 1969, between the Government and the Opposition leaders. At this Conference Government of Pakistan accepted a federal parliamentary government conceded the demand for direct elections based on adult franchise.

The political situation in Pakistan did not stabilise even after this agreement. On the evening of 25th March, 1969, President Ayub Khan, in a dramatic move, SHRI NATH PAI : It is dramatic and not dramatic; it is tragic. handed over power to General Yahya Khan, Commander-in-Chief of the Pakistan Army. Immediately on assumption of power, General Yahya Khan placed the whole of Pakistan under Martial Law and assumed the powers of the

Chief Martial Law Administrator. The Constitution was abrogated, National and Provincial Assemblies were dissolved and the President, the Governors and the Council of Ministers both at Centre and in the Provinces ceased to function with immediate effect.

With the people of Pakistan we have ties of history and culture and we are close neighbours. We are naturally interested in stability, peace and progress of Pakistan. It has been our constant endeavour to establish good neighbourly and friendly relations with Pakistan. Unfortunately, we have not met with much success so far. Despite the present difficulties in our relations, we earnestly hope that relations between India and Pakistan will be normalised and will lead to friendship and co-operation in many fields.

We have no desire to interfere in any way in the internal affairs of Pakistan. It is for the people of Pakistan to decide the Government they would like to have and political and economic policies that are best suited to their national interest.

We are confident that the people of Pakistan can settle their internal problems according to their national genius. For our part we wish Pakistan and its people well and they have our good wishes for their progress and prosperity.

SHRI PILOO MODY : I am not in the habit of commending the statements made by the Minister of External Affairs. However, I have to make an exception in this case. My party and I, and, I hope, a great many other members of this House have always been wedded to the belief that unless the two countries, India and Pakistan, can establish firm friendship, there is no future for either of us.

In this connection, I will recall that ten years ago when Genl. Ayub Khan took over power in Pakistan—the means or methods that he employed was none of our business—our Prime Minister at that time rushed in and went out of his way to dub the regime as a naked dictatorship. Then again when Genl. Ayub

Khan made a sporting offer to us of joint defence, I very well remember our Prime Minister asking, 'against whom?'. Many of us at that time could have given him the answer." Now there is a new regime which has taken over power in Pakistan, and I would very much like that we start with an entirely new outlook towards Pakistan, on a clean slate, on a new basis, on the basis of new ideas and new relationships. In that connection I would like to ask the hon. Minister of External Affairs if he would like to take the House into confidence and tell us some measures or some steps that he anticipates to take in the following months to see that ultimately warm and cordial relations are established with our neighbour.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: It has been my endeavour to take hon. Members into confidence on each occasion that we have had any discussion in this House, and I have taken the Members into confidence in saying that it is our hope and wish that we should have warm friendship with the people of Pakistan and that we should have co-operation in many fields. What exact steps will have to be taken will depend upon the conditions in Pakistan and the situation as it develops. It will be very difficult for me at this stage to venture any guess in the matter.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री (हापुड): अध्यक्ष महोदय, उत्तर प्रदेश के गांवों में कहावत है— शेर का भाई बघेरा, बड़ कूदे नो घोर बड़ कूदे तेरह। यही हाल पाकिस्तान में है, चाहे वह अयूब खां हों, या ह्या खां हों या नूर खां हों। मैं प्रश्नना चाहता हूँ क्या यह बात सत्य है कि पाकिस्तान की जनता तानाशाही से ऊब चुकी है, पाकिस्तान का झुकाव जनतन्त्र की ओर बढ़ रहा है जिसकी मराहना परराष्ट्र मन्त्री के वक्तव्य में भी थी और हम सभी चाहते हैं कि बड़ा पर जनतन्त्र की स्थापना हो। परन्तु पाकिस्तान में मार्शल ला लागू होने के बाद से समाचार-पत्रों और समाचार एजेंसीज पर कड़ा प्रतिबन्ध लागू है। क्या आपके हाई कमिश्नर या डिप्टी हाई कमिश्नर जोकि ढाका, इस्लामा-

बाद या करांची में है, उन्होंने स्थिति का मूल्यांकन करते हुए आपको किसी प्रकार की कोई धन्य सूचनायें दी है कि पूर्वी पाकिस्तान के लोग अपने को पश्चिम पाकिस्तान से पृथक करना चाहते हैं? क्या यह भी सत्य है कि वहां पर यह जो भावना बढ़ती जा रही है उसमें प्रत्यक्ष या अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से उनको अपने किसी पड़ोसी राष्ट्र से भी समर्थन प्राप्त हो रहा है? ऐसी स्थिति आने के पश्चात्, अर्थात् इस प्रकार से पूर्वी पाकिस्तान के पश्चिमी पाकिस्तान से पृथक हो जाने के पश्चात्-यदि और स्पष्ट भाषा में कहूँ तो—चीन समर्थक भावनाओं या चीन समर्थक व्यक्तियों के हाथ में पूर्वी पाकिस्तान की बाग डोर आजान के पश्चात् भारत सरकार की उस सम्बन्ध में क्या प्रतिक्रिया होगी?

दूसरी बात जो विशेष रूप से जानना चाहता हूँ वह यह कि जैमा पाकिस्तान में एक क्रान्तिकारी नेता, श्री मुजीबुर्रहमान ने कहा भी है कि पाकिस्तानी नेताओं की आदत हो गई है कि जब उन्हें आन्तरिक विद्रोह का सामना करना पड़ता है तो वे भारत विरोधी भावनायें मटकते हैं। कहीं वही स्थिति इस बार भी तो नहीं आने वाली है? यदि हां तो क्या भारत सरकार उन परिस्थितियों का सामना करने के लिए सतर्क है?

तीसरी बात भी जो विशेष रूप से जानना चाहता हूँ वह यह कि चटगांव में जब पश्चिम पाकिस्तान से जाने वाली सेनाओं को नहीं उतरने दिया गया तो क्या यह सत्य है कि ढाका एयरपोर्ट को बन्द करके हवाई जहाजों के द्वारा पश्चिम पाकिस्तान से सेनायें नहीं पर भेजी गईं? यदि वह सेनायें गईं तो क्या वे सेनायें भारतीय प्रदेश के ऊपर से होकर उड़ीं? यदि उड़ीं, तो क्या उन्होंने उस सम्बन्ध में भारत सरकार से पहले से अनुमति प्राप्त करली थी? यदि हां, तो भारत सरकार ने किन परिस्थितियों में उन सेनाओं को भारतीय प्रदेश से होकर जाने की अनुमति दी?

[श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री]

अन्तिम बात यह है कि जो अल्पसंख्यक वहाँ पर हैं उनको यदि सुरक्षा की आवश्यकता पड़ती है तो उसके लिए आप क्या कर रहे हैं और इस सम्बन्ध में क्या आपको वहाँ से कोई जानकारी मिली है ?

श्री दिनेश सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जहाँ तक माननीय सदस्य ने यह कहा कि वहाँ के लोगों की क्या भावनायें हैं, तो पहले से भी अखबारों में उनकी भावनाओं का जिक्र आता रहा है जिसको कि माननीय सदस्यों ने पढ़ा होगा। उसके सम्बन्ध में मेरे लिए यहाँ पर कुछ कहना मुन सिब नहीं होगा। जहाँतक हमारा सवाल है, हम यह आशा करते हैं कि जो बाहर के देश हैं वे पाकिस्तान के अन्दरूनी मामलों में कोई हस्तक्षेप नहीं करेंगे और हमारे और पाकिस्तान के बीच जो एक मैत्री का व्यवहार होना चाहिये उसके बीच में भी बाहर के कोई देश नहीं आयेंगे।

जहाँ तक सेनाओं का सम्बन्ध है, पाकिस्तान की सेनायें भारत के ऊपर से होकर, पश्चिम से पूरब अभी इस सम्बन्ध में नहीं गई हैं। जैसा कि सदन को मालूम है, किन्हीं कन्डीशंस पर पाकिस्तान का एक फौज जहाज 15 दिन में एक मर्तबा-म्टेजिंग फ्लाइट जिसको कहते हैं— उस पर जाना है। कोई और हमें सूचना वहाँ पर जहाज जाने की नहीं मिली है। जो इन्त-जाम हम रखते हैं उसके हिसाब से हमें कोई सूचना नहीं मिली है कि भारत के ऊपर से होकर पाकिस्तान का कोई जहाज सेना लेकर पश्चिम से पूरब को गया।

जहाँतक अल्पसंख्यकों का सवाल है, अभी हमको कोई ऐसी सूचना नहीं मिली है कि उनके ऊपर कोई विशेष खतरा आया हो।

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : मेरा एक विशेष प्रश्न था, जिसको यदि मैं स्पष्ट भाषा में कहूँ कि

परराष्ट्र मंत्री या तो भूल रहे हैं या फिर जान-बूझ कर उत्तर नहीं देना चाहते हैं। वह प्रश्न यह था कि पूर्वी पाकिस्तान में पश्चिम पाकिस्तान से पृथक होने की जो भावना उभर रही है, क्या उसके पीछे पूर्वी पाकिस्तान के पड़ोसी बड़े राष्ट्र चीन का हाथ है? यदि प्रत्यक्ष या अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से वहाँ इस भावना को समर्थन मिलता है तो फिर उस सम्बन्ध में भारत सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया होगी, क्योंकि कल को उसका परिणाम हमारे ऊपर आकर पड़ने वाला है ?

श्री दिनेश सिंह : मैंने अभी कहा कि हम आशा करते हैं कि कोई भी बाहरी देश पाकिस्तान के घरेलू मामले में हस्तक्षेप नहीं करेंगे।

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal): In view of the fact that history has a way of repeating itself and Pakistan has martial law again after eleven years and stability and peace has been forced down and there is an attempt at consolidation and unity against a common danger, and obviously the External Affairs Minister knows who the danger is, may I know whether with Soviet Russia and America giving arms supply and China fishing in troubled waters regarding autonomy to East Pakistan,.....

SHRI DINESH SINGH : I am sorry I did not follow the question.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : With Soviet Russia and America giving arms aid to Pakistan and China fishing in troubled waters *vis-a-vis* the autonomy of East Pakistan, may I know whether Government think that this situation prevailing in Pakistan does pose a threat to the defence and foreign policy of this Government, and secondly whether our Government have taken the trouble to find out either through our representatives there or otherwise whether the new regime subscribes or adheres to the principles of the Tashkent pact?

SHRI DINESH SINGH : Arming Pakistan beyond its normal defence requirements automatically constitutes a threat to us. This matter has been discussed in this House and we have conveyed our feelings to the Governments that have been giving military supplies to Pakistan. The answer to it is for us to strengthen our defence forces and to be prepared to meet the threat from whatever source it comes.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : He did not answer the question. Does he think it will pose a threat to our defence and foreign policy? What about Tashkent?

MR. SPEAKER : He mentioned that we will have to defend ourselves and we will have to strengthen our forces.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : What about Tashkent? I want to know whether the regime subscribes to that.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, on that point?

SHRI DINESH SINGH : So far as Tashkent declaration is concerned, the Government of Pakistan and Government of India have signed the Tashkent declaration. This is a continuing Government and we hope they will abide by the Tashkent agreement.

AN HON MEMBER : Nobody knows what they subscribe to.

SHRI DINESH SINGH : Unless you hear me, how will you know? You will not know either. All I was saying is this, that we hope they will adhere to that declaration.

SHRI S. M. KRISHNA (Mandya) : One thing stands out rather very clear. Neither the military dictatorship nor guided democracy is the panacea for all the evils that beset a developing country like Pakistan. In their hour of trial and anguish a large majority of the people in this country and the Government sympathise with them. A stable Pakistan is in the larger interest of the South-East Asian region and the balance of power in this region. I would

like to know from the Minister that in the recent months when violent disturbances took place in East Pakistan, have there been a number of Pakistani nationals who have for one reason or other entered into the Indian territory through West Bengal, Tripura and Assam? If so, what steps and measures have the Government of India taken to prevent any such infiltration which would eventually endanger Indian security?

SHRI DINESH SINGH : The House is aware that from time to time refugees from East Pakistan.

AN HON. MEMBER : Not refugees, infiltrators.

SHRI DINESH SINGH : Infiltrators. Now, as I was saying, refugees have been coming and this matter has been discussed. So far as infiltrators are concerned, we are not aware of any large number of infiltrators. Those that may have come would have been dealt with by the authorities.

SHRI NATH PAI (Rajapur) : Nobody in this country, much less in this House would appear to be wanting to meddle in the internal affairs of Pakistan or to tell the Pakistanis how they should run their country. But this is totally a different thing, expressing sympathy in their hour of trial for a people who till yesterday were regarded as the same Indian people. And this is a legitimate right. The charge that we are trying to interfere in the affairs of our neighbour cannot be seriously levelled against us. It is a fact that Pakistan was as much a heir to the same liberty, freedom and independence which we inherited. But it is an unfortunate fact that they were balked and cheated of it for the past 20 years and just when there was a dawn to give the impression that they were once again going to get back what was their due, as the freedom which the people in this country enjoy, this blow was struck. I was a little distressed to hear the Minister say that it was a dramatic move. It was a traumatic experience of the people of Pakistan; let there be no doubt about it, whatever may be the legal squabbles, that this is nothing but a *coup-d'etat* camouflaged as a stepping down. If this is a *coup-d'etat*,

[Shri Nath Pai]

which I think it is, this is precisely the same *coup-d'etat* which took place in 1958. I am not saying that they should not have *coup-d'etat*. But I want to know whether there is any policy. We do not know what they subscribe to. What about the Tashkent Declaration? Is there any continuation? Is this a legitimate transfer of power or is it a *coup d'etat*? I and the whole House, will agree that in spite of this suppression and the reign of terror which is now being let loose against the people of Pakistan, the people of Pakistan will rise once again to the freedom which should be available to them, whatever may be the temporary rule of the dictatorships. May I ask from him one small clarification? There will be a rush and queuing up on the part of the so-called great powers which are really giant powers or monster powers to curry favour with the new regime and one of the methods of this currying favour with the new masters—since they are military leaders—and earning their goodwill be the giving of arms and military equipment and this constitutes possibly a danger to India. I would like to ask whether the Government is aware

SHRI PILOO MODY : They are essentially military men.

SHRI NATH PAI : We all know these military men. Luckily India does not have that kind of military men

Does the Government realise (a) that this may be a *coup d'etat* and if so whether it constitutes the continuity of the policy of the Government, and (b) whether the inevitable effort on the part of the big powers to curry favour with the new regime by giving of arms possibly affects India's security?

SHRI DINESH SINGH : As the House is aware, the power was transferred by a Constitutionally established President to the Armed Forces and Martial Law was declared. I have mentioned this in my statement and we, therefore, accept this as a transfer of power. So far as the policies are concerned, I had expressed my hope

that the Government of Pakistan will follow the declaration made at Tashkent. This was the question and a specific reply was given by me. So far as the question about arms supply interference by the outside powers is concerned, I had replied to the question when Hon. Member Shri Prakashvir Shastri had put it. If Hon. Member Shri Nath Pai wishes, I can repeat that. We hope there will be no outside interference in the internal affairs of Pakistan, nor would any steps be taken by any outside power which may increase tension in the sub-continent or hamper the possibility of establishing friendly and co-operative relations between India and Pakistan

SHRI NATH PAI : Shri Prakash Vir Shastri's question was quite different, as will appreciate, from the one posed by me. Inevitably all the so-called great powers will try to curry favour with the present rulers of Pakistan and one way they can do it with a military dictatorship is to give arms. In Mr. Ben Bella's case it was the Chinese People's Republic which, within twelve hours of his being pulled down, recognised the regime. We know how these great powers function. I want to know whether the Government of India apprehends this kind of danger or not.

SHRI DINESH SINGH : The question of the defence of a country is a matter which is the paramount responsibility of the Government and therefore we are conscious of our responsibility for the defence of our country.

12.48 hrs.

RE: SITUATION IN TELENGANA

SHRI M. N. REDDY (Nizamabad) : Mr. Speaker, I rise to refer to the grave developments that are taking place in the Telengana region of Andhra Pradesh and I might also convey a very disturbing news, namely, that this morning the Supreme Court has invalidated the Mulki Rules which we have passed only the other day, namely, the 17th of this month. So, the Act that has been passed by this august House has been nega-