

SHRI NAMBIAR : I did not decline. I was not able to speak. Give me time. I am prepared to speak now.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Then I called upon Shri Sheo Narain. He was continuing his speech. I was watching. Even now, there is half a minute left to 6.30 P.M. So the Prime Minister is within her right to make the statement now. Those who have walked out do not want to follow any discipline or rules of procedure. I would now request the Prime Minister to make her statement.

SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR *rose*—

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No, after the Prime Minister's statement.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai) : The business of the Speaker is to conduct the business of the House. If there is no business before the House, the Speaker has no business to create business for the House (*Interruptions*.) Mr. Nambiar was called to speak; he did not want to speak. It was not in consonance with the honour and dignity of the House and also the responsibilities that you are holding and the rights and privileges of this House that you should make signs like this and ask Members to rise in their seats to speak and thus create some business. It was not proper. It leaves the impression that the Speaker himself is taking a partisan attitude and is coming to the rescue of the Congress Party and is giving indications to the Members of the Congress Party. It was not right on the part of the Chair to do so and it was not in consonance with the office of the Speaker (*Interruptions*.)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I shall explain it again. After the adjournment motion was defeated the business continues. As I said, the debate on the adjournment motion ended a little earlier and Mr. Nambiar was speaking on an amendment of his own. He was prevented from speaking. There was business before the House. The House was also not supposed to be adjourned before 6.30. If I had adjourned the House, he could as well say that I was encroaching upon his time. When he was prevented, I called on Mr. Sheo Narain and he was making a speech. In between the Prime

Minister also arrived. Your contention is not correct.

SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR : You were blaming the Opposition. I also join you and say that the parties which staged a walk out perhaps wanted to walk out. But there is this criticism against the ruling party, especially the whips, because it was announced in the House that the Prime Minister would make a statement at 6.30. I cannot blame the Prime Minister for not being here before 6.30. But it was evident that the adjournment motion was going to be concluded earlier than anticipated and Mr. Hem Barua was replying to the debate at 6.15 or 6.20. Possibly, information could have been conveyed to the Prime Minister by proper persons. The House was not expected to wait for anybody. Why should Mr. Nambiar continue his speech? The House was not expected to take up any other business other than the adjournment motion (*Interruptions*.)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : After the adjournment motion is lost, the House always continues for sometime. Shri Hem Barua concluded his remarks earlier than I had expected. I thought he would take about ten minutes but he concluded in 5-6 minutes.

SHRI HEM BARUA : I could have taken ten minutes if I had known this predicament. You were absolutely right; the Prime Minister was to make a statement only at 6.30 and she came here at 6.25. In between, instead of adjourning the House, you asked Mr. Nambiar and when Mr. Nambiar was prevented you called on Mr. Sheo Narain. There is nothing wrong in this.

18.34 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. SUPREME COURT'S  
ORDER ON BANKING COMPANIES  
ORDINANCE

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF FINANCE, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, AND MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : In response to some writ petitions the Supreme

[Shrimati Indira Gandhi]

Court has today passed an Order in regard to the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Ordinance, 1969. The operative part of the order is as follows:

"Interim stay in respect of three matters, namely, (1) that the Union of India will not appoint pending the hearing and disposal of these petitions any boards of advisors; (2) that the Union of India will not remove the chairman of the various banks; and (3) that the Union of India will not give any directions contrary to the provisions of the Banking Laws Act."

Government are advised that the essential provisions of the Ordinance nationalising the banks are not affected by this Order. Thus, the Order does not affect the vesting and the transfer of the undertakings in the corresponding new banks and the allotment of the capital of each bank to the Central Government. The ownership of the banks continues to vest in the Central Government. The former Boards of Directors also stand dissolved.

The Order will also not affect the normal functioning of the banks. The first direction of the court relates to the appointment of Advisory Boards. In view of this, during the interim period, the Reserve Bank would advise the banks as may be appropri-

ate in exercise of the powers available under the Banking Regulation Act.

As regards the second direction of the court, there is no reason why the Order should affect the willingness or ability of the Chairman/Custodians to perform their duties properly.

Under the third direction of the court, the Union Government are required to refrain from issuing any direction contrary to the provisions of "Banking Laws Act" which presumably, is a reference to the Banking Regulation Act, as amended from time to time. The Reserve Bank will take special care to ensure that nothing is done which is contrary to the public interest or to the interests of the depositors.

The House will appreciate that in an important matter like this, it would not be appropriate for me, at this stage, to say anything more except to assure the House that Government will keep the situation under close watch and take whatever steps may be considered necessary.

SHRI UMANATH (Pudukkottai): A Bill may be brought.

18.40 hrs.

*(The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, July 23, 1969/Sravana 1, 1891 (Saka),*