

LOK SABHA

Monday, March 29, 1971/
Chaitra 8, 1893 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven
of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *In the Chair*]

Member Sworn

SHRI VINODA NAND JHA (Darbhanga)

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Member is not keeping good health.

So, I have allowed him to take oath from his seat.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore) : Sir, he has to shake hands with you.

MR. SPEAKER : We will do it later on when he gets all right.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : I can shake hands with him on your behalf.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA (Begusarai) : Sir, the House is also a loser in the sense that the House has not seen the hand-shake.

MR. SPEAKER : He is doing that from there. The Speaker can administer oath even in his Chamber. That is all right. Thank you very much. We will shake hands some other time.

श्री हुकम चन्द्र कछवाय (मिर्जापुर) : आपके बिना चक्कर लगाए, क्या बंध पक्के सदस्य माने जायेंगे ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : बाद में लगवा लेंगे, जब वह दुरुस्त हो जायेंगे ।

श्री एस० एम० बनर्जी : हिन्दू समाज में तो बिना चक्कर के शादी कभी पक्की नहीं होती है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह तो आप ठीक कह रहे हैं, लेकिन जब लड़की बीमार हो तो फिर.....

श्री हुकम चन्द्र कछवाय : शादी बगैर फेरों के पक्की नहीं होती है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : दूल्हा अपनी सीट से चल नहीं सकता है रूज के मुताबिक और लड़की बीमार है—एसे ही गुजारा कर लेंगे ।

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we take up questions.

SHRI GOTKHINDE (Sangli) : Sir, I rise on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER : Generally, point of orders are not raised during Question-Hour.

SHRI GOTKHINDE : I want to know the legal position, Sir.

So long as a Member does not take his oath, he remains a candidate elected, waiting to become a Member of Parliament. The Secretary has allowed him to put questions from the 18th. We have taken the oath on the 19th. Can such a person who has not taken the oath be allowed to exercise his right of asking questions ? My intention is not to gag questions.

MR. SPEAKER : All right. They can send notices, but they can participate only after they take the oath or make the affirmation. Are you satisfied ?

SHRI GOTKHINDE : Yes, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Teja Singh—absent.

The very first questioner is not there.

Mr. Shashi Bhushan. He is here. I am very happy.

I congratulate Mr. Shashi Bhushan. He will be the first Member to ask the question.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Sale of Arms by Britain to South Africa

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*1. **SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN :**
SHRI TEJA SINGH :

Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Britain has decided to sell arms to South Africa even before the Study Group set up by the Conference of the Commonwealth Countries could examine the issue ; and

(b) if so, the steps which Government propose to take against the unilateral decision of Britain to sell arms to South Africa ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The British decision to sell arms to South Africa announced even before a meeting of the Study Group could take place has, in our opinion, rendered the work of the Study Group infructuous and we have, therefore withdrawn from the Study Group.

This matter was discussed at great length at the meeting of the Heads of Commonwealth Governments at Singapore.

The Government of India are in touch with other Commonwealth countries to concert further steps, both within and outside the Commonwealth, to oppose the supply of arms to South Africa.

श्री शशि भूषण : ब्रिटेन साउथ-अफ्रीका को जो हथियार सप्लाई कर रहा है, क्या उसका मकसद यह नहीं है कि वह हिन्द महासागर में अपना प्रभुत्व जमाना चाहता है ? उसकी इसी नीति के कारण आज बंगला देश के दमन में भी ब्रिटिश जहाजी बेड़े हिन्द महासागर का उपयोग कर रहे हैं। क्या वजह है कि हम अभी तक ब्रिटिश राष्ट्र मण्डल के सदस्य बने हुए हैं, जब कि ब्रिटेन एशिया में जितने देश हैं, जो तरक्की पसन्द ताकतें हैं, उनके खिलाफ कार्यवाही करता रहता है और हिन्द महासागर में इसीलिए अपना प्रभुत्व बढ़ा रहा है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि हमके लिए आप क्या कर रहे हैं, क्या आप ब्रिटिश राष्ट्र मण्डल से अलग होना चाहेंगे या उम पर और कोई कार्यवाही आप करेंगे ताकि वज़ "बंगला देश" में पश्चिम पाकिस्तान की जिम तरज़ की मदद आज कर रहा है—वहाँ की आजादी के खिलाफ और एशिया के दूसरे देशों में—वह न कर सके ? इसके सम्बन्ध में आपकी क्या नीति है ?

MR. SPEAKER : The question is a little off the point. Only you can ask the factual information regarding the unilateral decision.

श्री शशि भूषण : हिन्द महासागर में प्रभुत्व बढ़ाने के लिए ब्रिटेन ऐसा कर रहा है।.....

MR. SPEAKER : This relates to supply of Arms to South Africa.

श्री शशि भूषण : साउथ अफ्रीका को हथियार दे रहा है, हिन्द महासागर में प्रभुत्व जमाने के लिए दे रहा है—ऐसी स्थिति में हम राष्ट्र मण्डल से अलग क्यों नहीं होते हैं ?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : With regard to the establishment or the presence of any base by Britain or by any other country in the Indian ocean, we have stated our position quite clearly and this was what was unanimously adopted at Lusaka. We are totally opposed to the establishment of any foreign base in the Indian ocean. That policy continues. The supply of arms to South