

[Shri R. Khadilkar]
port of the Committee on Private
Members' Bills and Resolutions.

12.15 hrs.

RE: DISCUSSION ON SITUATION
IN PUNJAB

MR. SPEAKER: I have received a number of calling-attention-notice about the situation in Punjab. Hon. Members are naturally anxious to know about it. I have also received a number of adjournment motions on this, namely the Punjab situation..

SHRI V. KRISHNAMOORTHY (Cuddalore): Pondicherry also.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know anything about Pondicherry. It may be so. Anyway, let us see which Government will come first and when. Why should the hon. Member be in a hurry? By the time we discuss, some other Government may come there. So, let us not worry about it now.

About Punjab, there is some anxiety on both sides of the House and everybody is disturbed, and naturally hon. Members would like to discuss it. But last week itself we had a discussion about Punjab. When the first adjournment motion came, I had allowed a two-hour discussion and we did discuss it. Something else has happened in between. Naturally, everybody is disturbed. It is not only the Opposition but it is the Government also which is feeling disturbed about this. But before we take any decision about this calling-attention-notice or....

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDI (Kendrapara): The Punjab Speaker has seen you?

MR. SPEAKER: No, not yet; I have not seen him; he has not seen me.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDI: But he claims to have seen you.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know. Anyway, that is a different thing. I would only say that let us get a little more information. I would like Government to give us a little more information

about it so that I can take a decision after that whether we can fix up some discussion on this or not

SHRI V. KRISHNAMOORTHY: Will the Government keep quiet till then without taking any decision to uphold the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly?.....

MR. SPEAKER: I do not think that.....

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Balarampur): We can give you all the information that you want.

MR. SPEAKER: I know that. But it should not be one-sided. I should get the information from Government also, because, after all, Government have got to deal with this matter. Naturally, hon. Members can also give me information later on.

SOME HON. MEMBERS *rose*—

MR. SPEAKER: I am still on my legs. I have not finished. Once discussion begins it will not end....

SHRI S. KANDAPPAN (Mettur): Government always want time to manipulate things.

MR. SPEAKER: Therefore, I am suggesting that let us get the full facts.....

SHRI NAMBIAR (Tiruchirappalli): They might bring in some more plain-clothesmen....

MR. SPEAKER: The Opposition also could give me the facts. Meanwhile, I would request Government also to give the facts not only to me but to the House as well.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDI: Will it not be the proper procedure that if the matter is discussed, whatever facts the Opposition has may be put before the House and whatever facts Government have may also be put before the House?

MR. SPEAKER: Even before these notices came today, I would like to point out that last week we had a discussion about it and also the consequences of that. Now also, it is not as

if I am against any discussion. It is a serious matter. If a serious matter like this happens then I shall certainly be prepared to allow a discussion, but first we must get all the real facts.

So, I would request Government to give us the information. I would appeal to the Opposition also to get the information correctly, and then, if necessary, we shall have a discussion.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : आप टाइटम तय कर दीजिये ।

MR. SPEAKER: I am asking Government also to give me information.

श्री रवि राय (पुरी) : वह क्व देगे ?

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : क्व के लिये कहिये ।

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK (South Delhi): When the discussion took place last time, we were told that we were to discuss only the constitutional aspects. We did not discuss the other aspects then. Had we discussed them, then perhaps this kind of situation might have been avoided.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): May I submit?...

MR. SPEAKER: I am on my legs. Shri S. M. Banerjee should sit down now.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I agree with what you say, but my submission is only this that till then the adjournment motion should be held over.

MR. SPEAKER : I am still on my legs. If I sit down, I am afraid the discussion may start. That is why I am still standing for the last ten minutes.

As I have said, I shall be prepared to give time and we can decide when we should discuss the matter. I only want to have correct information.

12.20 hrs.

RE: ARREST OF MEMBERS

MR. SPEAKER: There is one other thing also on which I would like to receive some information. I would ask the Government to give me some information on this also. Some Members of Parliament—every day that is happening in Delhi—some Members of this House are being arrested and they are being released in the evening. Before I come to know that they are arrested, they are in the House again. Therefore, I do not know what to do. Yesterday, I wanted to announce about their arrest, but I saw them here, I am glad that they are back with us.

I am told that the British High Commission was willing to see them when they wanted to go there. I do not know why they were prevented and all that. That was what was brought to my notice. If the Government could give me or to the House some information about that also, I shall be very happy.

SHRI M. L. SONDHI (New Delhi): In my constituency, every day section 144 is in force. So, where am I to hold meetings?

MR. SPEAKER: I know that the hon. Member was also arrested one day and he came back again.

In view of the fact that I have requested Government in both the cases to give me information, I may kindly be allowed to proceed to the next item now.

SHRI S KUNDU (Balasore): On a point of order. Under rule 230....

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH (Nandyal): From what you have said, are we to understand that Government will make a statement on the Punjab situation and then discussion will follow, or they will give the information to you and then you will decide about the admissibility of the motion?

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI (Patna) rose—