

(1) that in so far as I am Member of the Congress Party, it becomes incumbent upon me to accept the Cabinet decision in respect of inquiry into the conduct of business of the Birla complex.

(2) that in a largely controlled economy such as ours, only the Government can have access to authentic information about the functioning of industrial houses. It is, therefore, the responsibility of the Government to ascertain such information from their various agencies and to determine whether an inquiry is warranted.

(3) and, finally, that it is for the Prime Minister in council with her Cabinet to arrive at a decision regarding an inquiry into the Birla complex.

SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN (Khargone) : Is it a personal explanation or a policy explanation ?

SHRIMATI SHARDA MUKERJEE : On previous occasions, the Government has held inquiries into the working of industrial houses. The Government can, if it deems it necessary, hold an inquiry into the working of the Birla group of industries.

श्री-शशि भूषण : बिरला की इन्कवायरी तो होगी ही, उसको कोई रोक नहीं सकता है।

SHRIMATI SHARDA MUKERJEE : This will make it clear that I have never defended the Birlas either by shouting, as the hon. Member, Shri S.M. Banerjee, has said, or otherwise.

I submit that this personal reference which is tantamount to an allegation by the hon. Member, Shri S.M. Banerjee, is untrue, unjustified and most unfortunate.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH (Nandyal) : And unwarranted.

AN HON. MEMBER : And ungallant.

SHRIMATI SHARDA MUKERJEE : Who but we ourselves can impose upon ourselves the discipline necessary to uphold the dignity of this House ?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have got to say something about it.

MR. SPEAKER : Do not extend the controversy now.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I am not raising any controversy.

MR. SPEAKER : You accept that with grace.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Although Shrimati Mukerjee is not my own sister, she is like my sister. I have great regard for her. After hearing her personal explanation that she never defended the Birlas, my regard for her has increased. I would only plead with her that there should be nothing in her heart after this but love and affection for me.

SHRIMATI SHARDA MUKERJEE : May I record my thanks for that to the hon. Member ?

12.32 hrs.

LIMITATION (AMENDMENT) BILL

MR. SPEAKER : Now we take up the next item. Shri Goyal is not here; so, he is not moving his resolution. Shri Govinda Menon.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI M. YUNUS SALEEM) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of Shri Govinda Menon, I move :

"That the Bill further to amend the Limitation Act, 1963, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The House is aware that the Limitation Act of 1908 was amended by an Act of 1963

[Shri M. Yunus Saleem]

reducing the limitation period in certain cases and in order to provide facilities for such litigants who were affected by the reduction of this limitation, one clause was introduced in section 30 of the Act providing a limitation of five years for the institution of such suits where the cause of action accrued before the commencement of the Act of 1963. That period of five years was to expire on 31st December, 1968.

12.34 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair.*]

In the month of January 1968 letters were addressed to all the States inviting their attention that the limitation period envisaged in clause (a) of section 30 of the Limitation Act of 1963 was due to expire on 31st December, 1968 and suitable steps should be taken to institute suits where the cause of action had arisen before the enforcement of the Act of 1963 and where the limitation period was reduced. Unfortunately, no such suggestion was received from any State before the third week of December. In the third week of December we received letters from UP requesting for a further extension. Since both the Houses were not in session, an Ordinance was issued and this Bill had been introduced for the enhancement of the period by two years.

With these words, I move.

12.35 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That the Bill further to amend the Limitation Act, 1963, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There are no amendments. I will put all the clauses together to the vote of the House.

The question is :

“Clauses 2, 3 and 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted

Clauses 2, 3 and 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI M. YUNUS SALEEM : I move :

“That the Bill be passed”

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That the Bill be passed”

The motion was adopted

12.36 hrs.

ARMED FORCES (SPECIAL POWERS)
CONTINUANCE BILL

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We now go to next item;

Shri Surendra Pal Singh.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY (Kenrdrapara) : Where is he ?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Balrampur) : Where is the Minister ?

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY : You adjourn the House.

(Interruptions)

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI M. YUNUS SALEEM) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Surendra Pal Singh, I move :

“That the Bill to continue the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Regulation, 1958, for a further period, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration.” *(Interruptions).*