

श्री कंवर लाल गुप्त (दिल्ली सदर) :

अध्यक्ष महोदय,

quest that he may make a statement thereon:

"Reported statement made by him on the 31st January, 1968 expressing profound distress at widespread disturbances and lawlessness that broke out in Gauhati on the Republic Day causing damage to property worth crores of rupees."

MR. SPEAKER: Will you kindly sit down? I am on my legs. The position is that some wrong information is being broadcast on the All India Radio while the investigation is going on. That should be brought to the Minister or the Prime Minister. Certainly they will look into it. Who can correct it except the Minister or the Prime Minister?

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: We have already done that. It is still going on.

MR. SPEAKER: What is it that I can do? Kindly sit down. Shri Patodia.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH (Nandyal): Sir, before you go to Call Attention Notice, I want to make a submission. Yesterday, when the President was delivering his Address to both the Houses of Parliament assembled together. .

MR. SPEAKER: That is not the point before the House now.

Shri Patodia.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur): There is a break-down of law and order in Mysore . . . (Interruption).

MR. SPEAKER: It is now going out of my hands. Order, order. I do not want to hear anything now. Shri Patodia.

12.03 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OR URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

RE: REPORTED WIDESPREAD DISTURBANCES AND LAWLESSNESS IN GAUHATI ON REPUBLIC DAY CAUSING DAMAGE TO PROPERTY WORTH CRORES OF RUPEES

SHRI D. N. PATODIA (Jalore): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and I re-

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN): Sir, it is with a deep sense of distress at the happenings in Gauhati on January 26, 1968 that I make this statement. There was a complete hartal in Gauhati on January 24 in response to a call given by the All Assam Student Union to protest against observations at Jorhat on the issue of reorganization of Assam attributed to the Prime Minister. The students held a meeting on January 25 to congratulate the people on the successful hartal and took a decision to boycott the Republic Day celebrations on January 26. Announcements to this effect were made over loudspeakers on the evening of January 25. On 26th morning, a large number of students collected on roads leading to the venue of the Parade Ground. They prevented the general public from attending the parade which was, however, held with some officials in attendance. After the parade was over, large sections of students and others, who had collected, moved on to the town areas and the main bazars.

They pulled down the national flag in a few places and indulged in looting and arson. There were numerous cases of arson resorted to by groups of persons who were moving about in the shopping centres, and a number of shops, industrial establishments, petrol pumps and vehicles were set on fire. The district authorities felt that the forces at their disposal were not adequate to meet the situation which was getting out of control. They, therefore, requested the army for assistance. From approximately 12.30 P.M. curfew was declared in the town

which was to be effective upto 6 A.M. on the morning of January 27. It was extended by the district authorities further by 24 hours.

Cases of arson continued throughout the afternoon. All fire-brigades available with the civil and military authorities and with the refinery were pressed into service but operations were hampered due to water supply and electricity being affected. These services were restored only later in the evening. The police forces were further reinforced by units of the Central Reserve Police. As a result of these measures, the situation in Gauhati town was brought under control by the evening.

On 27th January also there were a few incidents of arson and looting in Gauhati and its outskirts. A number of shops and godowns were looted at Vijaynagar, which is about 16 miles from Gauhati. The Assam mail was stopped at Santipur and stones were pelted by miscreants. The train moved to Gauhati only after the army had rushed to the spot and dispersed the miscreants. The Chief Minister visited Gauhati on January 27..... (Shri Nath Pai: What was he doing on the 26th) I will answer questions later. He should have some patience. He was at Shivsagar.....and supervised the arrangements that had been made for maintaining law and order. He asked the Minister of Revenue to continue to remain at Gauhati to deal with the situation.

I visited Gauhati on January 31. In my discussions with the Chief Minister I urged the absolute necessity of preventing recurrence of such incidents and of restoring a sense of security among the non-Assamese people in the State. The State Government have decided to set up a Commission of Inquiry under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952. Special teams for investigation of offences have been set up and steps are being taken to ensure speedy trial of cases as investigation is completed. The State Government are taking

action to provide relief to the people affected by the disturbances, including grant of loans to enable industries and business to be restarted.

The incidents in Gauhati were a most disturbing exhibition of narrow regional feelings, as it was the houses and properties of the non-Assamese that were the main targets of attack. I trust that this House will condemn the senseless violence that has brought misery to a large number of people. Government, on their part, are determined to take whatever steps are necessary to curb such activities, and to do all that is possible to enable citizens of India, wherever they may be, to live and work in peace and security.

SHRI NATH PAI (Raipur): The hon. Minister had promised to answer the question about Shri Chaliha. What was Shri Chaliha doing on the 26th and where was he?

MR. SPEAKER: He had answered the question immediately and said that he was at Sibsagar.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: On the 26th he was at Sibsagar.

SHRI NATH PAI: Conveniently he was away.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: Now, the hon. Member is drawing his own inferences.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA: If anything, the hon. Minister's statement is a gross under-statement of what had happened there. The causes and the circumstances under which the disturbance took place at Gauhati on the Republic Day were very much deep-rooted and very much more serious. This reminds the House of the incident in 1960 when in Assam there was an anti-Bengalese riot and most heinous types of crimes were committed and children were murdered in the presence of their parents in that process.

There had been a regular infiltration of Pakistani elements in the bor-

[Shri D. N. Patodia]

der areas of Assam over the years and it is known to Government that more than ten lakhs of people have crossed the border, and I understand that out of them about seven lakhs or five lakhs are very soon going to be given Indian nationality.

About a year back a new organisation has emerged there under the name of Lachit Sena. It is a militant organisation. It is a communal organisation, and in the name of this organisation they have started raising new slogans 'Assam is for Assamese', 'Assam is not for Indian', 'Assam was not a part of India, and Assam will never be a part of India'. As a result of this, there had been regular attacks there on the non-Assamese communities.

It is in this background that we have to view the disturbance that started there. These disturbances flared up on the statement of the Prime Minister on certain reorganisation matters. It gave a handle to this organisation and the Government of Assam permitted themselves to be a party to and be the sponsors of this agitation.

On the 13th January, Assam Unity Day was observed. Leaflets were distributed. Posters were distributed. Meeting were addressed. With your permission, I would like to point out what type of leaflets they were. One of the leaflets read as follows:

"Assam for Assamese

It is hereby notified that all non-Assamese persons, those who are holding offices irrespective of categories and departments, business, contracts, agencies etc. in Assam should vacate their respective offices and other business affairs including the holding of land or buildings within a reasonable period not exceeding the date of 30th June, 1968 and to go away to their own homelands.."

—because Assam is not their homeland according to them. It further reads:

"The non-implementation of this general notice shall be dealt with severely for which we shall never be held responsible for any direct action sponsored by this organisation.

This notice is served by Lachit Sena to all non-Assamese fellows excluding tribal brothers in Assam.

Lachit Sena,
Assam."

These kinds of leaflets were distributed there in a printed form. Lakhs and lakhs of such leaflets were distributed there.

On the 24th January, a general hartal was observed. The effigy of the Prime Minister was taken in a procession and was burnt in public and public meetings were addressed. It was the effigy of the Prime Minister of India, as an institution and not of any particular person. The State Government sent letters to the Central Government that the State Government would not be in a position to control the situation until the Central Government changed their attitude. Therefore, the State Government wanted to see that the demonstration succeeded and they wanted to teach a lesson to the Centre so that the Centre should change its attitude.

With this background, the whole thing started on the 26th. The national flag hoisting ceremony under strong police and military guard was attended by altogether three persons including the Minister himself. Thereafter the orgy started and the looting and arson started, and the hon. Minister has already described what had happened.

Mr. Speaker: We know all that. We are not having a discussion now.

There is no time for it now. He may ask only a question.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA: What happened thereafter was....

MR. SPEAKER: Everybody knows what had happened.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA: Everybody does not know.

MR. SPEAKER: Anyhow, we are not having a discussion now. I have allowed him enough time already.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA: The whole thing happened in the course of 3½ hours, between 9 and 12.30 hours at a place like Gauhati, the *de facto* capital of Assam protected well by the Army all around. There, looting was done and arson was committed, and properties worth crores of rupees were burnt. Yet, not an arrest was made, not one tear-gas shell was used, not one bullet was fired, not even one fire-brigade was requisitioned. This was what happened in the presence of the police and in the presence of everybody. Even until three days thereafter not even one single arrest was made, not even one search was made and as against crores of rupees worth of property, not even Rs. 10 lakhs worth of property were seized.

In respect of the property damaged, worth several crores of rupees and the loss suffered by the non-Assamese communities for no fault of theirs, including Bengalis, Rajasthanis, Punjabis and Gujaratis....

AN HON. MEMBER: And Sindhis also.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA....may I know what action Government propose to take to compensate them for this loss?

They are deserving of compensation. It is no fault of theirs. The State Government and the Central Government have completely failed to provide even elementary protection to the citizens. I would like to

ask what is the State for. So in what manner is compensation going to be paid?

The next question is: what is the attitudes of the Centre towards the State Government in view of these circumstances, in view of what has happened, when the State Government has completely failed?

The third question is: will the Central Government be prepared to institute a parliamentary inquiry representing all the parties to go into the deep-rooted causes of the entire matter? I shall be obliged if the hon. Minister answers these questions.

With your permission, I would like to place this paper on the Table.*

MR. SPEAKER: No no, we will see later on.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: As far as the facts are concerned, I have given the general outline of what happened that day there. About the causes, it is common knowledge that there was—even now there is—some sort of strained feeling about this question of reorganisation in Assam. It is quite possible that this issue also might have been made use of in this trouble. There is an element of what they call Lachit Sena, a sort of an aggressive regionalism which is raising its ugly head in different parts of the country....

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: (Alipore): A counterpart of the Shiv Sena.

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त : यह फखरुद्दीन साहब की फौज है।

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): I deny that allegation.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: I must say that if at all we have to seriously consider these problems and find national solutions to them, it is very essential that at least this

*The Speaker not having subsequently accorded the necessary permission the paper was not treated as laid on the Table.

[Shri Y. B. Chavan]

hon. house should look at this question on a more reasonable and rational basis and not throw very cheap politically-oriented allegations against each other in this house. This is the appeal I would make.

As for the causes, there are certainly complex causes. If we want to link them up to any definite cause which led to the actual occurrences of that day, we will have to await the result of the inquiry which is undertaken.

SHRI RANGA (Srikakulam): What is the use of inquiry at that level?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: When there is no inquiry, they ask, why is there no inquiry? When an inquiry is ordered, they ask, why this fabrication of an inquiry? I do not understand this attitude in this matter.

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK (South Delhi): That was the earlier inquiry whose report has not come. Therefore, he put that question.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: Shri Madhok was with me and he wanted that there should be an inquiry. When an inquiry is to be held, he is raising another issue.

The main question is to find out exactly what led to these disturbances. Then what is the responsibility of the administration in this is also a major question. I have personally expressed my own view that that may the local administration completely failed. It is a matter of shame for us. I do not want to conceal that fact. I do not propose to give protection to anybody.

SHRI NATH PAI: Why did not the Governor dismiss the Ministry?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: The hon. Member asked: What is the attitude of the Government of India in this

matter? The Government of India do not want to protect anybody, if he is responsible for this. Our main concern is to protect the integrity of the country.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA: What then did the Central Government do?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: Let him hear me and then he may ask questions later if the Speaker permits.

So this is our attitude. Immediately I asked the Chief Minister to appoint a large number of teams of investigation.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: (Diamond Harbour): He is himself indirectly responsible.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: I do not take his allegation very seriously.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: This is a question of a political game. We are tired of hearing these things.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: When these investigations have been undertaken, we will know.

Another suggestion was made that those persons who were immediately in charge of the operations should be transferred. I learnt this morning that the officers concerned have also been transferred. So the inquiry and investigations will be quite objective and energetic. I have no doubt about that. These are the immediate steps. Another important and urgent problem is the rehabilitation of the people. It is most important that we restore confidence in the minds of the people who are working there. If we merely talk in terms of having a parliamentary or any other type of enquiry, we will be unnecessary adding fuel to the fire. It is no use talking about this matter because ultimately we will have to

restore the relationship between the Assamese and non-Assamese people. I would again make an appeal in this hon. House not to look at this problem from a political or party point of view, let us look at it from the national point of view, and let us do whatever is necessary about it.

MR. SPEAKER: He asked a specific question about compensation.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: About compensation in these matters it is very difficult to say. Normally compensation is not given. What is done is that relief and rehabilitation measures are taken in this matter

SHRI DHIRESWAR KALITA: (Gauhati): On a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: No question of point of order.

SHRI DHIRESWAR KALITA: He has made a statement in Jorhat. He should clear what he said in Jorhat.

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing. It is a calling attention notice. The name here are being called.

SHRI R. BARUA (Jorhat): May I know whether what happened in Gauhati was part of a deeper and deep-laid strategy to create conditions of chaos in that part of the country; if so, has the Ministry been posted with adequate facts about the elements responsible for the entire holocaust there?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: Certainly we have got some information as to the forces working in Assam in this particular matter, and we have our own assessment also about this matter, and we have tried to discuss this matter from time to time with the Assam Government also.

SHRIMATI JYOTSNA CHANDA: In view of the statement made by some leaders of Assam saying that Pakistani and Chinese hands are behind this, may I know from the Government

whether this has been proved true or not, whether the leaders of Assam are shirking their responsibility by saying so? May I know from the Government whether the students and the youngsters of Assam were incited and instigated by the statements of some of the leaders of Assam that Assam will not be organised and that they will fight it to the last, whether this is true or not? Just now the hon. Minister said that an enquiry will be held. May I know from him whether he knows that an enquiry was held by the Godeswar Commission and its report was published, but upto now no recommendations of it have been implemented? In 1960 also an enquiry was held regarding Silchar fring, but it has not seen the light of day. Will he give us an assurance that the report of this enquiry will be published and its recommendations will also be implemented?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: About these foreign elements, because normally this is also one of the statements that is given out that there may be a foreign element in organising these troubles, as far as the Assam situation is concerned, both the plains and the hills, naturally Pakistan and China would be too willing to take interest in these matters. So, that background I do not want to forget, that background will be always there, but it would be wrong to emphasize these things so that we forget the internal elements. I cannot say that I have got definite evidence in my hands to say that foreign elements have organised this. That is certainly inherent in the situation, and naturally Pakistani or Chinese elements who are always interested to have some troubles inside our country, to subvert our country, would be certainly exploiting this thing.

As far as the statements of some leaders are concerned, it is quite possible that they may have influenced the feelings of the younger elements in the State, I have no doubt about that,

[Shri Y. B. Chavan]

but I cannot say whether this particular thing was the result of some statements made by somebody.

As far as the enquiry is concerned, I think the enquiry results will have to be implemented?

श्री रवि राय (पुरी) : 26 जनवरी को वहां जो घटनाएं घटी उनके बारे में राज्य सरकार के जासूसी विभाग और केन्द्रीय सरकार का जो जासूसी विभाग असम में मौजूद है उन्होंने क्या कोई रिपोर्ट राज्य सरकार को और चव्हाण साहब को भेजी थीं और भेजी थीं तो उनके आधार पर 26 जनवरी के पहले जो वहां गैर असमी लोग हैं उनकी सम्पत्ति और उनकी जान की सुरक्षा के बारे में क्यों पहल नहीं की गई ?

प्रध्मस्य महोदय, आपकी अनुमति से यह एक सर्कुलर है जोकि मैं सभा पटल पर रखना चाहूंगा। इसको मैं पढ़ कर भी सुनाना चाहता हूँ।

From: The Prime Minister, Under-ground Sovereign Government of Assam:

Since independence of India the Government of India and the non-Assamese people are using Assam as a colony, dominating and exploiting Assam and Assamese people. Assam is not getting its due share from its natural resources of oil and tea. Why Assam's crude oil should be taken to Barauni? 99 per cent employees of Delhi's government offices in Assam and employees of various industries of non-Assamese exploiters of Assam are non-Assamese.

Prior to the taking over by the British in 1824, Assam was a sovereign independent State and had no relations with the rest of India. Therefore the aim of the Lachit is to make Assam free from the traitor India and drive out all traitors, exploiters, adulterers, black-marketeers Indian for whose existence the Assamese people are suffering and not benefited at all.

We have linked up our cause with the underground Nagas helping each other and sharing identical views.

Our slogans are as follows: 1. Quit Assam. 2. Stop exploitation. 3. Assam is not a colony for India and Indians. 4. Assam for Assamese (Assamese including tribals of Assam) 5. Declare Assam's independence, 6. Long Live Lachit Sena." (sic).

यह मामला बहुत आगे बढ़ गया है। मैं सदन को यह भी बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि भारत सरकार ने जनवरी, 1967 में स्टेटमेंट दिया था कि हम हिल स्टेट दे देंगे। बाद में भ्रमोक मेहता समिति बनाई गई। फिर कहा गया कि नहीं देगे। इस सब के चलते वह जो काम हो रहा है यह ऐसा है कि इसको ध्याना-कषण प्रस्ताव द्वारा नहीं सुलझाया जा सकता है। यह विषय स्थगन प्रस्ताव का विषय बन जाता है। चव्हाण साहब और बालिहा साहब के निकम्पेपन के कारण वहां जो विघटन की प्रक्रिया चल रही है उस से मालूम होता है कि असम बनाम हिन्दुस्तान हो गया है। यह ऐसे विषय को जन्म देता है जिस पर स्थगन प्रस्ताव द्वारा ही विचार हो सकता है और मैं प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि इसकी आप अनुमति दें।

मैं आपकी अनुमति से यह जो पत्र है, यह जो सर्कुलर है इसको सभा पटल पर रखना चाहता हूँ।

MR. SPEAKER: You have read the whole thing. There is no need left now for laying it on the Table.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: As far as this question is concerned I can say that the general conditions and the background of the problem of reorganisation had already been known and we had discussions on some of these problems with the Assam Government. With regard to this particular question. I should say that this was one of the major questions which

I discussed with some of the local officers of the Assam Government. In the light of the information that they had, their assessment was that on the 24th and 25th there would be an organised attempt to dishonour the national flag when the parade was being held. They had made all the arrangements to avoid the situation and they successfully avoided that situation developing.

SHRI HEM BARUA (Mangaldai): Do not try to throw dust into our eyes. The national flag was pulled down from the police station in Gauhati.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: Please listen to me; I am not throwing dust in your eyes; there is no dust with me and you have very good eyes. Their assessment was that they would dishonour the national flag in the parade ground when the parade was held. (Inter-ruption.) Whether that assessment was right or wrong was a different matter. I am telling you a different fact, without my comment.

That was, that the local officers told me that their assessment was, in view of the announcement that they had done—

श्री रवि राय : क्या सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट के जासूसी विभाग की रिपोर्ट मिली या ना नहीं ?

श्री यशवन्त राव चव्हाण : माननीय सदस्य पहले मेरी बात तो सुनें ।

I was saying that this was the information that they had and they had expected that in view of the announcement that they had made the previous evening they would dishonour the National Flag when it was ceremoniously hoisted on the Parade Ground. That was there, and the students in large numbers had collected around the Parade Ground itself. Therefore, they certainly avoided the incident; there is no doubt about it. But after the students formed the procession and when it was joined by a large number of other people, what happened was not anticipated by them. Whether that was good or bad, wise

or not, I am not going into it; I am not giving any commentary on that. But about this particular incident, naturally, the Government of India had no occasion to receive any information.

श्री हुसम चन्द कदमाय (उज्जैन) : मेरी जानकारी यह है कि आसाम में सत्रह लाख के करीब लोग पाकिस्तान से आए हुए हैं और माननीय मंत्री जी फखरुद्दीन अली अहमद द्वारा यह सिफारिश की जा रही है कि उन में से अधिकांश लोगों को भारत की नागरिकता दी जाये । यह लचित सेना उन्ही के नेतृत्व में बनी है । मैं आप के द्वारा प्रधान मंत्री से यह प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि वह इस्तीफा दें, क्योंकि इस लचित सेना के बनाने में इन का हाथ है । क्या यह सही है कि माननीय गृह-मंत्री या केन्द्रीय सरकार को यह सूचना भी कि वहां इस प्रकार की घटनायें और उपद्रव होने जा रहे हैं और फिर भी केन्द्रीय सरकार ने कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की ? वहां पर काफी संख्या में इस प्रकार के पोस्टर लगाए गए थे कि "हिन्दुओं, यहां से भाग जाओ," "भारत, भाग जाओ" । फिर भी सरकार ने कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की । वहां पर जितनी हानि हुई है, उस में एक प्रतिशत हानि भी मुसलमानों की नहीं हुई है । इस स्थिति में क्या सरकार इन घटनाओं को एक योजना-बद्ध कार्यवाही नहीं समझती है ? वास्तव में यह पहले की बनाई हुई योजना थी । सरकार ने जो जांच कमीशन बिठाया है, क्या उस को यह पावर दी गई है कि आसाम के जिन मंत्रियों का इस में हाथ है, उन के खिलाफ भी जांच की जाये ? वहां पर स्थिति यह है कि जो लोग पिटे हैं, आज भी उन को धोस दी जा रही है कि वे भाग जायें वरना उन को लूट लिया जायेगा और मार डाला जायेगा ।

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: I must, first of all repudiate the charge made against my hon. colleague, Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed. It is an absolutely unfounded allegation.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : सरकार पांच लाख लोगों को नागरिकता देने जा रही है और उन की सिफारिश पर देने जा रही है। मंत्री महोदय कह दें कि उन्होंने ऐसी सिफारिश नहीं की है।

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: The question of infiltrators in Assam is a separate question. I do not think it has anything to do with this. Lachet Sena certainly is a mysterious, underground organisation. As to whether it is functioning there and influencing the people's attitude there, certainly some information is being collected about that. But I cannot say, with any sense of guarantee, that there may not be any Muslim involved in it, unless I have information about it.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : हैं।

श्री यशवन्तराव चव्हाण : क्या माननीय सदस्य उन की किसी मीटिंग में गये थे ?

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : यह मेरी अपनी जानकारी है।

SHRI HEM BARUA: Please do not try to give it a communal turn.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: That is what I said—it is a bad thing; that is what I was saying. It would be a very wrong thing to give any communal colour to these matters. Therefore, let us not add to the difficulties which already exist. It would be very wrong to give colour as a Hindu-Muslim problem, because, already there is a background of communal feeling in this country, and let us not add fuel to the fire again in this matter.

So far as the enquiry is concerned—he said about the enquiry—if the enquiry produces any results, throwing any doubt against anybody including of course Ministers, naturally, we will have to take action.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : मेरा व्यवस्था का सवाल है। मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं दिया गया है।

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK rose—

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order. I want to say one thing. These are serious matters which have occurred. Naturally, everybody and everyone is excited. I have got a number of adjournment motions and half-hour discussions and one hour discussions and all that. We will have to meet for three months and one by one, slowly, we can discuss everything and the opportunity will be there. Some important matters must be discussed on the floor of the House; that cannot be avoided, and we will take the chance to discuss most of the important problems on the floor of the House.

We are going to discuss the President's Address for 5 days. Anybody could give an amendment stressing any particular point. After the discussion on the President's Address, the Business Advisory Committee will meet again and I will also meet those hon. members who want to talk to me. Then if necessary we can have 2 hour discussions or 1 hour discussions and so on. But within 1 or 2 days it will not be possible to dispose of all the items. I have a suggestion. Today the Business Advisory Committee is meeting at 4 o'clock. There we can discuss which subjects should be given priority and which can be postponed to next week. Let us not raise the points here immediately because I am not able to answer all of them. Instead of raising them here, I suggest that they can be raised in the Business Advisory Committee meeting this evening. Whether they are Congress members or opposition members, they can raise those points at that meeting. I am not trying to prevent anybody from raising anything. It is the privilege of the hon. members to bring any matter to the notice of the House and discuss it here. But they should be discussed one by one.

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK: I have sent word to you to allow a two-hour discussion on this subject. The question that has been posed is not so simple.

MR. SPEAKER: We can have a discussion. But I will not allow the Home Minister to answer any question now. He can safely go now.

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK: It is a matter which concerns the whole country and an earliest opportunity should be given to discuss it.

श्री हनुमन् चन्द्र कछवाय : मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं दिया गया है। क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार को इस बारे में जानकारी थी, क्या वहाँ पर इस प्रकार के पोस्टर लगाए गए थे और सरकार ने पहले से ही कार्यवाही क्यों नहीं की ?

श्री मधु तिरुघे : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आप की इस दिक्कत को समझ रहा हूँ कि जितने प्रस्ताव आपके सामने आये हैं, अगर हम उन में से एक एक के बारे में पूछने लगे तो आप इस समय उन के बारे में अपना फैसला नहीं दे पायेंगे मैं केवल . . .

SHRI NATH PAI: I do not think it was very fair on the part of Mr. Chavan to take shelter under your remark that he can safely go. This is total discourtesy of the highest type. I must lodge my protest against this.

SHRIMATI SUCHETA KRIPALANI (Gonda): You did not allow me to put a question, but I find every day you are allowing opposition members to put questions.

MR. SPEAKER: She wanted to ask a question on the Call Attention. She has been in this House for so long. Have I allowed any hon. member whose name is not in the list to put a question?

SHRIMATI SUCHETA KRIPALANI: Opposition people are always called.

MR. SPEAKER: In that case, the Speaker will answer, not the minister. Even a senior member like her will not get a chance if her name is not there.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH (Nandyal): Mr. Hem Barua's name is not there in the list. She is pointing out that.

MR. SPEAKER: When a minister is on his legs, if anybody interrupts, he need not answer that.

SHRIMATI SUCHETA KRIPALANI: I do not want to raise it here. I do not want to fight on that issue. I only want to point out that it is always happening, that we are never allowed to put a question whereas they are allowed to go outside the rule and put questions.

MR. SPEAKER: Interruptions are not allowed by the Speaker. Interruptions are taking place and if a Minister cares to answer them the Speaker cannot come in the way. You too can interrupt if you so desire. The Speaker's permission is not there, whether it be Shri Hem Barua or Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani. If any hon. Member gets up and interrupts the Speaker is helpless. If a Minister cares to answer that I do not know how I can control him.

SHRI HEM BARUA: Sir, I want to make a personal explanation. My name has been unnecessarily brought in and you have also been slandered. The thing is this. You did not allow me to put a question. I did not also put a question. I only interrupted where I felt very strongly. When I knew that the National Flag was pulled down from a police station in Gauhati I pointed that out.

SHRI RANDHIR SINGH (Rohtak): Sir, when we say something it becomes an interruption and when they say something it becomes a valid point.

MR. SPEAKER: This side also interrupts. When some hon. Member is talking somebody from this side or that side raises something. This is always happening. But on a Calling Attention Notice no other hon. Member is allowed to put a question. Interruptions and questions are the different things. The moment you allow a question there is a preamble for fifteen minutes and then the question.

[Mr. Speaker]

is put. But interruption is a different thing. Let us now get on to the business.

श्री नथ लिमबे : मैं केवल इतना ही आपसे कहना चाहता था कि आप ने कहा कि राष्ट्रपति जी के अभिभाषण पर यहां बहस होने वाली है तो आप संशोधन या तरामी दे सकते हैं। मैं केवल आप से इतना निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि इस सदन की यह परिपाटी और परंपरा रही है कि बजट सत्र के प्रारंभ में श्री अगल सरकार की असफलताओं के कोई ऐसे मामले हों तो उन पर राष्ट्रपति जी के अभिभाषण पर बहस के पहले भी स्पष्ट प्रस्ताव लिए गए हैं और बहस हुई है। दो साल पहले ही की बात लीजिए, हीरेन्द्र मुखर्जी साहब का भाषा संबन्धी (व्यवधान)

इसलिए मैं किसी भी प्रस्ताव के जो गुण और दोष हैं उनमें नहीं जा रहा हूँ, मैं केवल इतनी दरखास्त कर रहा हूँ कि आप तत्काल ऐसा फैसला न कीजिए कि चूंकि राष्ट्रपति जी के अभिभाषण पर मौका मिल रहा है इसलिए किसी भी कामरोको प्रस्ताव को आप नहीं लेंगे। आप उन के गुण दोष में जा कर जो प्रस्ताव आप की राय में नियमों के अनुसार है उस प्रस्ताव की जरूर इजाजत दीजिये।

MR. SPEAKER: I agree with the hon. Member. Last year, immediately after the President's Address, even postponing the discussion on the President's Address, we took up a No-confidence Motion. Therefore, there is no bar. The Government wanted it to be discussed immediately and we postponed the discussion on the President's Address to take up the No-confidence Motion. All that I am saying now is that the facility to discuss all these points in the discussion on the Presidents Address is there.

SHRI NATH PAI: Sir, I really wish you had heard me earlier because

I was not going to challenge the guidance you gave to the House as to the most suitable method of drawing attention to the burning issues before the country. We readily accept your method that we can sit together and decide on the course of action.

My point of order was a genuine point of order. I have never raised a point of order which you have disallowed. A point of order is to be raised immediately when the issue is before the House. Shri Chavan made an admission which gives rise to my point of order. His statement was that there was complete failure of administration in Assam. You ought to have allowed me immediately to raise my point of order. I wanted to know whether this was a conclusion which Shri Chavan reached or whether it was a report given by the Governor of Assam, that the administration had failed. If the administration had failed it was the first duty of the Government of India to dismiss the State Government and impose the Presidents Rule. After that, Mr. Speaker, after not allowing me to raise my point of order then, I am very sorry, you who are the guardian of the House, wanted to throw a blanket cover on the executive which had admitted its failure. When once Shri Chagla made a temporary admission and said: "Yes, we have made a mistake", immediately your predecessor said that there was a case for admission of the adjournment motion. The moment Shri Chavan admitted not only failure but complete failure of the administration, two pertinent questions arose which you have to call him back and ask him to reply today. If there was a complete failure of administration, what did the Government of India advise the Governor and what was the Governor's report? It is because there is an admission of the failure which caused for the intervention of the Central Government. If the Central Government did not intervene, the Central Government is guilty. I think, this is a very valid point of order. Mr. Chavan should be

summoned back to the House and be made to answer the question. What has the Government of India done?

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Sir, I was submitting to you with regard to the disrespect shown to the President while he was performing a constitutional duty of addressing the both Houses of Parliament. I would like to recall to you and to the Members of this House that last time, when there was a walk-out by some hon. Members, Shri Jaipal Singh raised the matter in the House. A Committee was appointed to go into this matter and the recommendations of the Committee were submitted to Parliament and the Members were reprimanded for obstructing the President from performing his constitutional duty. I want to bring it to your notice and I would request you to take necessary action against such Members who have shown disrespect to the President while he was performing a constitutional duty.

MR. SPEAKER: I have heard him. The Business Advisory Committee is meeting at 4 o'clock today. I am not giving any ruling now. I do not want to give it off-hand. I would like to see what they said and all that I cannot say off-hand what I can do. I do not know which Committee was appointed and what report was submitted and all that. Without going into the details, I cannot say anything off-hand now. That also will be looked into. Shall we go to the next item now? Dr. Triguna Sen.

DR. KARNI SINGH (Bikaner): Sir, we have given a notice of adjournment motion....

MR. SPEAKER: It is all that we were discussing. The hon. Member was not here.

DR. KARNI SINGH: I was sitting here.

MR. SPEAKER: I was speaking to the hon. Members only about adjournment motions and other motions.

DR. KARNI SINGH: My adjournment motion is on the Rajasthan Canal....

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot raise it here.

DR. KARNI SINGH: I must be heard. I have given a notice of adjournment motion....

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot raise it here.

DR. KARNI SINGH: Kindly give us reasons.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not give reasons on the floor of the House.

DR. KARNI SINGH: May I draw your attention to Rule 60?

MR. SPEAKER: There are hundreds of notices given. I am not prepared to hear you here. If you have something to explain why Rajasthan Canal should be taken up as an adjournment motion, you can explain it to me in my chamber.

DR. KARNI SINGH: Under Rule 60..

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever may be the rule. You explain it to me in my chamber, not here. I cannot stop all the business of the House and discuss all the adjournment motions here.

DR. KARNI SINGH: There is no reference to any chamber in Rule 60.

SHRI NATH PAI: The Home Minister is here now. You may direct him to answer that question.

SHRI RANGA: So many points are being raised and you are making so many observations and we are witnessing all that. To say whatever may be the rule, you come to my chamber, is not just the right thing.

MR. SPEAKER: Hundreds of Members have given notices of various motions. If all the people get up and say what they want to say, how will you deal with it?

SHRI RANGA: I want to cooperate with you. I do not want there should be any more trouble than what you are getting now from us. At the same time kindly be patient with us....

MR. SPEAKER: You saw Mr. Nath Pai spoke, Mr. Madhu Limaye spoke, Mr. Madhok spoke and then Mr. Venkatasubbaiah, as a counter balance, spoke from that side, only one Member from there and still you say that.

SHRI RANGA: You are right in saying that you cannot give your ruling here and now. But kindly do not make all these remarks in an omnibus manner. If we do not raise our objections, it would mean it is all wrong and if we raise objections it is disrespect to you..

MR. SPEAKER: They have raised all their objections,

SHRI RANGA: Let me come to my point. Here is this Adjournment Motion in regard to Assam. This is a very important matter. It is not merely a matter of ventilating the grievance or anything like that..

MR. SPEAKER: Will he kindly sit down? Here it is a canal matter. I will hear him also.

SHRI RANGA: Do you want me to sit down?

MR. SPEAKER: I will listen to him also.

DR. KARNI SINGH: I have given notice of an Adjournment Motion and there is a reason for it. The Rs. 200 crores project has been cut half way. This is our very life line. So, there is a reason for my Adjournment Motion. In the last 16 years, this is the only Adjournment Motion that I have given.

MR. SPEAKER: What is the rule which he was quoting?

DR. KARNI SINGH: Rule 60.

"Provided that where the Speaker has refused his consent under rule 56 or is of opinion that the matter proposed to be discussed is not in order, he may, if he thinks it necessary, read the notice of motion and state the reasons for refusing consent or holding the motion as being not in order."

MR. SPEAKER: Will the hon. Member explain to me as to where it is stated that I should give it in the House?

DR. KARNI SINGH: You said that I have to see you only in the Chamber..

MR. SPEAKER: If there are hundred motions....

DR. KARNI SINGH: For disallowing you have to give the reasons..

MR. SPEAKER: But not on the floor of the House.

DR. KARNI SINGH: Rule 60 is there.

MR. SPEAKER: Where does Rule 60 say that I should do it on the floor of the House?

DR. KARNI SINGH: Will you kindly permit me to explain why I have raised it?

MR. SPEAKER: No, no.

DR. KARNI SINGH: Due to the importance of the project, I request you to do it...

MR. SPEAKER: No, no.

SHRI HEM BARUA: You have the power.

MR. SPEAKER: But I have not given permission.

DR. KARNI SINGH: One-third of the people are being retrenched. 35 lakh acres in the desert are being cut by one stroke.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ranga.

SHRI RANGA: On the question of Assam, even on the admission made by

the Home Minister, there is a sufficient case for the House to censure the Government and that is why, this Adjournment Motion has been thought of. Quite a number of people from different Parties have given notice of that and you have been good enough not to dismiss them; you have only made an appeal. This matter i.e., Assam, is of such a national importance that I would urge upon you the need for allowing a special discussion.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, papers to be laid on the Table.

12.52 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Punjab Local Authorities (Aided Schools) Haryana Amendment Act, 1967

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD): On behalf of Dr. Triguna Sen, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Punjab Local Authorities (Aided Schools) Haryana Amendment Act, 1967 (President's Act No. 6 of 1967) published in Gazette of India, dated the 30th December, 1967, under sub-section (3) of section 3 of the Haryana State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Act, 1967. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2/68].

The Export of Bicycles (Quality Control and Inspection) Rules, 1967, etc.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): On behalf of Shri Dinesh Singh, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications under sub-section (3) of section 17 of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Rules, 1964:

- (1) The Export of Bicycles (Quality Control and Inspection) Rules, 1967, published in Notification No. S.O. 4357 in Gazette of India dated the 5th December, 1967.

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- (2) The Export of steel Trunks (Inspection) Rules, 1967, published in Notification No. S.O. 4455, in Gazette of India dated the 14th December, 1967.

- (3) The Export of Expanded Metal Steel Sheets (Inspection) Rules, 1967, published in Notification No. S.O. 4575 in Gazette of India dated the 19th December, 1967.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3/68].

The Mahe (Stay of Eviction Proceedings) Regulation (Amendment Ordinance, 1967, etc.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Ordinances, under provisions of article 123 (2) (a) of the Constitution:—

- (1) The Mahe (Stay of Eviction Proceedings) Resolution (Amendment) Ordinance, 1967 (No. 9 of 1967) promulgated by the President on the 30th December, 1967. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2/68].
- (2) The Delhi Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Ordinance, 1968 (No. 1 of 1968) promulgated by the President on the 3rd February, 1968 [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4/68].
- (3) The Jammu and Kashmir Representation of the People (Supplementary) Ordinance, 1968 (No. 2 of 1968) promulgated by the President on the 9th February, 1968. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4/68].

Notifications under Navy Act, 1957

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SWARAN SINGH): I beg to re-lay on the Table a copy each of