

12 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE AND MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

SERIOUS FOOD SITUATION AND REPORTED STARVATION DEATHS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE COUNTRY

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up the Calling Attention Notice.

Shri Samar Guha (Contai): Sir, before you take up the Calling Attention Notice you have to take up the adjournment motions tabled by us.

श्री कंवरलाल गुप्त (दिल्ली सदर) :
प्रत्यक्ष महोदय, जिस विषय के बारे में आप ने यह कॉलिंग अटेंशन नोटिस बुलाया है उसी भुखमरी और प्रकाल के बारे में हमारी पार्टी ने ऐडजोर्नमेंट मोशन दिया है। प्रकाल और भुखमरी के कारण देश में सैकड़ों लोग मर रहे हैं। हम ने इस पर एक ऐडजोर्नमेंट मोशन दिया है कि केन्द्र ने इस बारे में अपना दायित्व नहीं निभाया है और हमारी पार्टी इस के द्वारा केन्द्रीय सरकार को सँख्योर करना चाहती है...

Mr. Speaker: Adjournment motions will come later on, after we have disposed of the calling Attention Notice. According to rules Calling Attention should be taken up first.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Food and Agriculture to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The serious food situation and reported starvation deaths in various parts of the country."

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jagjivan Ram): Sir, I lay a statement on the Table of the House.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-331/67].

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister has placed a statement on the Table of the House. The question that arises now is whether hon. Members should be allowed to put questions now or it should be taken up along with the general discussion on the food problem. These are the points which we will be discussing at 4.30 P.M. today when we meet in the Business Advisory Committee. That its discussion on the food situation is necessary happen accepted by all parties. No body is denying that. The hon. Minister himself has given notice of a motion that the food situation in the country be taken into consideration. We will discuss the question at 4.30 today and I will give my decision later on whether it should be taken up in the shape of an adjournment motion or an ordinary discussion. There are a number of adjournment motions also.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I have only one submission to make, that the purpose of our moving our adjournment motion is simply to censure the Government. Their attitude towards the non-Congress Governments has become horrible and the difficult situation in Uttar Pradesh and other places has arisen as a result of the unhelpful and indifferent attitude of the Central Government towards the non-Congress Government. That is why we want to censure them.

Mr. Speaker: You may do it when the Minister moves his motion that the situation in the country be taken into consideration.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Then it will be a mere discussion and we cannot censure the Government on that motion. It will only be talked out.

Shri A. K. Gopalan (Kasergod): Sir, "adjournment motion" has got some meaning. We can have a discussion on the food situation on a Calling Attention Notice or some other thing. But an adjournment motion is an entirely different thing. On an adjournment motion we can discuss the situation and also censure the Government for its failure to handle the

situation. We have tabled our adjournment motion on this urgent matter of public importance. We want to know whether it is admitted or not.

Shri A. B. Vajpayee (Balmampur): Sir, why postpone it to 4.30? There are a number of adjournment motions. Let the Minister move his motion and that can be taken up later. Immediately we want to censure the Government for its failure to supply the allocated quota of foodgrains to States, particularly to those States which are being run by non-Congress Governments. That cannot be done on the motion to be moved by the Minister. Therefore, you have to decide whether the adjournment motions are to be admitted or not.

Mr. Speaker: I have no objection. Is it the desire of the House that it should be in the shape of an adjournment motion?

Shri Hanumanthalya (Bangalore): Sir, I concede that it is the right of the Opposition parties to censure the Government. The rules are framed for the purpose and we have to follow them. The only question is this. The adjournment motion, apart from other elements, must be on a matter of recent occurrence. . . (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: You may not agree with him. But he must be allowed to have his say. This is not fair at all that you do not allow him to have his say. He must be allowed to have his say.

Shri Nath Pal (Rajapur): In what capacity is he answering it?

Shri D. N. Tiwary (Gopalganj): He is a Member of the House.

Shri Hanumanthalya: I have got respect for the leaders of the Opposition parties and I do not expect any interruption from them when I make a point. I concede that they must make their points uninterrupted. These are the ways that we have to follow. Sir, you have been a senior

parliamentarian and you have been also doing this work for the last so many years. This is not a fresh point that I am making. There are a number of decisions on this. The adjournment motion must also be on a matter of recent occurrence. This food situation is not of recent occurrence. . . (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: Let him have his say.

Shri Hanumanthalya: I am one with the Opposition parties that this problem must be discussed. There is no difference of opinion, as you rightly remarked. What is the proper way of discussing it? After all, we discuss it in order to serve the people and not so much to speak for its own sake on the floor of the House. We all of us concede that. If the matter is of a recent occurrence, it forms the subject matter of an adjournment motion and, if not, it does not form the subject matter of an adjournment motion. The Minister is moving a motion and they can move an amendment to that in any language they like. That can be put to vote. Supposing the amendment, worded very strongly by my learned friends is passed, that can be the censure of the Government. Therefore, I want them to kindly see that the parliamentary forum is utilised in a proper manner. . . (Interruption).

Shri Hem Barua (Mangaldai): What is he saying? What is all this?

An hon. Member: He is taking unnecessarily long. . . (Interruption).

Shri Hem Barua: He bypasses your authority.

Mr. Speaker: This is because of interruptions that it takes more time.

Shri Hanumanthalya: I am not yielding. I must have my full say. We are also elected by the people. Let us also have our say in full.

An hon. Member: He is taking unnecessarily a long time.

Mr. Speaker: That is for the Speaker to decide as to who is taking unnecessarily a long time.

Shri Hanumanthaiya: In my opinion, this cannot be the subject matter of an adjournment motion. The hon. Minister can move a motion and the Opposition parties can move an amendment to that in the strongest condemnatory language and that can be put to vote.

Mr. Speaker: After all the food problem is the most urgent problem. There is no doubt about that. This will have to be discussed in the House. If it an adjournment motion, I can give only two hours. I do not mind—let it be a censure motion. I have no objection to that. It is an urgent matter. There are no two opinions about it. I think, all the friends will agree with that view. They too want a discussion. Therefore, for the adjournment motion, two hours can be given; one hour naturally for the Congress benches and one hour for the Opposition benches, and if you can make within that period the whole food debate, it makes no difference to either of the parties because all of you are anxious to discuss about food. Now I request the House to tell me whether they want the adjournment motion to be taken up. Those in favour may please stand up.

I find that the number is more than 50. The motion is admitted.

श्री नयू लिखवे (मुनेर): जो प्रक्रिया है वह वह है कि जिस का मोशन पहले है, उस से आप कहें कि वह इजाजत मांगें।

Mr. Speaker: We are taking up the adjournment motion on food at 4 P.M. today. (Interruptions).

श्री नयू लिखवे : जिस का नाम पहले है वह इजाजत तो मांगें।

Mr. Speaker: There are number of names. Mr. Banerjee's name is the first.

श्री नयू लिखवे: वह कालिग प्रटेसन है।

Mr. Speaker: This is adjournment motion.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Why not just now.

Mr. Speaker: No. At 4 O'Clock. From 4 to 6 P.M.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Should I ask for leave or not?

Mr. Speaker: No leave is necessary.

Shri Samar Guha: May I request you that all the adjournment motions that have been tabled should be read out first?

Mr. Speaker No question of reading.

Now papers to be laid on the Table.

12.12 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INDIAN STATISTICAL INSTITUTE, CALCUTTA

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): On behalf of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report of the Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta, for the period April 1965 to March, 1966. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-324/67].

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER CINEMATOGRAHE ACT

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri K. K. Shah): I beg to re-lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications under sub-section (3) of section 8 of the Cinematograph Act, 1952:—
- (2) The Cinematograph (Censorship) Amendment Rules, 1967, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 379 in