

Mr. Speaker: That is understood.

BOMB EXPLOSION IN GOA

Shri Bishanchander Seth: Under rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Prime Minister to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The reported bomb explosion in the hall of the Municipal building at Vascodagama in Goa."

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It is true that some kind of bomb was exploded at a place in Goa. We are trying to get further information about it by telephone, but we have not yet succeeded in getting it.

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): Some time back there was a report that when there was a meeting at Mapuca held to celebrate the liberation of Goa; a similar effort was made to terrorise those who were celebrating the liberation. This is the second effort. Will Government find out if there is a gang operating at the instance of the Portuguese, who are not very happy with the liberation? We suspect that this is an effort at sabotage.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot say whether there is a gang or not. If a person has thrown a bomb once or placed a bomb, and if he is not arrested, he may do it again. That is a possibility always, if he is bent on that. But if somebody is doing it, it is clear that he must be somebody who is opposed to the present regime there.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is not a fact that there are Goanese elements, I would say, relics of Portuguese imperial rule and vested interests, who are actively opposing the liberation of Goa, and they are functioning on that plane of opposition to the liberation of Goa and they are organising this sort of sabotage work?

Mr. Speaker: Government have no information so far as that is concerned.

Shri Priya Gupta (Katihar): From the statement of the hon. Prime Minister, it appear that they will telephone and get the information. Has our Intelligence Branch failed so miserably that such an incident where a bomb was exploded at a place where the Military Governor was to address a meeting could not be reported to the Home Ministry here in the capital?

Mr. Speaker: Shri S. M. Banerjee.

Shri Priya Gupta: I want a reply to my question.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps none is needed.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: From newspaper reports, it appears that a public reception in honour of the Military Governor of Goa was arranged but the same could not be held because of this explosion. I want to know whether the Prime Minister could give us some information as to whether this bomb was purposely placed there because this function was going to take place.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: As I have said, I am trying to get information from there. I may get it later. There is no good my giving odd bits of information which may not be correct.

UNDIPLOMATIC CONDUCT OF PAKISTANI DIPLOMATS IN CALCUTTA

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): Under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Prime Minister to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

The charges of undiplomatic and prejudicial activity reportedly levelled against the Pakistani diplomats in Calcutta by the West Bengal Government.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: When certain unfortunate incidents took place at Malda, the Deputy High Commissioner of Pakistan expressed a wish

[Shri Jawaharlal Nehru]

to the West Bengal Government to go there. The West Bengal Government agreed to his going there accompanied by some officers of that Government. During his visit there, he visited many places. I think he spent two days there, from the 5th to the 7th April. The West Bengal Government have felt—and have reported to us—that his behaviour was not quite in accordance with diplomatic procedures. The Government of India drew the attention of the Pakistan High Commissioner in India to this conduct which seemed to them also to depart from diplomatic standards. As a matter of fact, soon after the visit of the Pakistan officers, there was a slight recrudescence of trouble in Malda District.

Therefore, my answer to the hon. Member is that we did feel that the visit of the Pakistan Deputy High Commissioner was not conducive to introducing order there and generally removing tensions, but had the reverse effect.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: On a point of clarification. Is it a fact that besides engaging in such undesirable and prejudicial activity in Malda or elsewhere in West Bengal, some of the Pakistani High Commission agents are also busy in the strategic dock area of Calcutta? Is it a fact that the West Bengal Government has suggested to the Prime Minister, naming an officer or officers of the Pakistan High Commission, to declare them *persona non grata* with the Government of India? If so, what is Government's reaction to the West Bengal Government's advice?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know about any activities in the dock areas. I have not personally heard about them. No one, to my knowledge, has been suggested to be declared *persona non grata* because of these activities. In connection with other activities, it has been suggested by the West Bengal Government that some officer should be declared *per-*

sona non grata. But, on the whole, we have, for the present, decided not to do so.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Is there any reason to believe or suspect that the synchronisation of this undesirable and prejudicial activity on the part of the Pakistani High Commission with the Chinese agreement to negotiate a border deal with Pakistan is symptomatic of any growing collusion or conspiracy between the two aggressors to mount pressure on India in the coming months?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: That is a matter of conjecture.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: What is the answer, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: These would be conjectures or opinions.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: I want to know if there is reason to believe or suspect. Has the Prime Minister reason to believe to that effect or no? Has he no reasons? Would he not say anything to that effect, yes or no? Does he believe or suspect a collusion?

Mr. Speaker: Would suspicions be of any value?

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Certainly the Prime Minister's suspicions are of great value to the nation. Undoubtedly. There are no two opinions on that.

Mr. Speaker: Does the Prime Minister want to say anything?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, I would not. It would not be proper for me to talk about various suspicions that I have. There are many suspicions that we have, but we do not go about shouting them out, but it is obvious that there is tension between the Government of China and the Government of India, and there is tension between Pakistan and India. How far they are influenced by these facts to come together and do something which might embarrass us is a matter for conjecture.