

12 hrs.

RE: MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

ARRESTS UNDER D.I.R.

Mr. Speaker: I had received notice of one adjournment motion about the arrest of political leaders under the Defence of India Rules. In the meanwhile, a statement was laid on the Table of the House by the Home Minister and I received a notice for the discussion of that statement. As I have accepted this notice and I am going to fix a time for its discussion, this adjournment motion cannot be discussed here.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): May I submit, Sir, something for your information? Today you have referred to some adjournment motion. But we have tabled one long ago on the same subject and we have also received some intimation from the Secretariat.

Mr. Speaker: It is the very same one that has been admitted now; no new one has been received.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: You were referring to the old one?

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The Calling Attention Notice has been rejected.

Mr. Speaker: Because no discussion could be allowed when one has already been admitted. I have admitted the old notice; no new notice has been admitted.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: About the document placed on the Table by the Home Minister, a white paper gives all sorts of documents. Here it is just a narration of certain events.

Mr. Speaker: When we discuss it we will see.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: If more facts are available with the Government, they may be supplied to us.

Mr. Speaker: If there are any other facts with the Government, they

might also be supplied to the Members. That is all what he wants.

Shri Daji (Indore): This is not a white paper; it is only a black paper.

Mr. Speaker: I am not deciding on the question whether it is a black paper or white paper. Shri Banerjee wants to know whether any other paper or document is going to be placed before the House.

An hon. Member: Let it not be a white paper.

Mr. Speaker: It may be white, blue or pink; I cannot say.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): On a previous occasion the Home Minister gave us to understand that he would be submitting a white paper containing some documents and some information. Yesterday when he placed on the Table only a paper, though he has said that he is going to make a statement, immediately I drew your attention to this fact that it goes contrary to the assurance given by the Home Minister on a previous occasion. Then you, in your wisdom, did not give any judgment or verdict on this. So, I would request you to give a judgment on this today.

Mr. Speaker: I really do not find anything so glaringly wrong. What he wanted to say was contained in the statement.

Shri Daji: No, Sir. That is the difficulty.

Mr. Speaker: Anyhow, that is his business. Now I want to know whether the Home Minister is going to place any other White Paper on the Table of the House.

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Nanda): No, Sir.

Shri Hem Barua: It is just a torso.

Mr. Speaker: Objection is taken on the ground that though he has promised a white paper only a statement has been placed on the Table.

An hon. Member: A black paper.

Shri Nanda: I do not know what distinction is sought to be drawn. We have placed a paper.

Mr. Speaker: And that was white also.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: It is not a fair answer.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta Central): In one of the newspapers in Delhi today we find an explanation as to why the Home Minister has condescended not to give us the White Paper which he had promised but something else. I will not go into that. But is it the practice of Government to tell the press about the reasons for not giving a White Paper and not tell Parliament about it? What is the use of this hide-and-seek game about it? The paper says that in a White Paper Government is bound to give documented evidence in regard to whatever proposition it is formulating while in a non-White Paper Government is under no such obligation. If that is so, the Home Minister should tell us about it.

Mr. Speaker: I would allow all that during the discussion.

Shri Hem Barua: There is a relevant thing for your consideration.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you very much but all these things can be said when the actual discussion takes place. I have asked the Government to place any further facts or information that they have also on the Table so that the discussion might be complete and exhaustive. This is what I am telling them. What else....

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Kindly listen to us. Our difficulty is only this. When these arrests were made, naturally they created confusion in the minds of many people. Some people thought that this was done because of the Kerala elections and so on. Just

to allay that lurking fear in the minds of so many people the Home Minister came forward and said that he would like to place on the Table a White Paper giving all the documents. I have very carefully gone through this document and if this is the White Paper, we cannot read the mind of the Home Minister and find out what is in his mind. After all, so many people have been arrested.

Mr. Speaker: I cannot allow one discussion now and another later on.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I am not pressing about the adjournment motion.

Mr. Speaker: He will kindly resume his seat.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: You may kindly listen to us.

Mr. Speaker: He will kindly resume his seat. I was just submitting to the House that all these things can be taken up when the actual discussion takes place. If it is not "white", that also can be commented upon at that time. If hon. Members expect something more and that has not come, the Government can be criticized for that. All those deficiencies and weaknesses that might be there can be brought out.

Shri Hem Barua: I am afraid, the discussion will be lopsided.

Shri Mohammad Elias (Howrah): I want your ruling on a different matter. I think, it is contempt committed by the Home Minister.

Mr. Speaker: Then, he can give notice of that and I will consider it.

Shri Mohammad Elias: He had said.....

Mr. Speaker: Unless there is notice, I cannot consider anything.

Shri Mohammad Elias: ...that he would place a White Paper on the Table of the House, but now without giving any reason.....

Mr. Speaker: I just cannot appreciate this. Would he kindly sit down?

Shri Mohammad Elias: ... he has not given us a White Paper.

Mr. Speaker: What is this attitude? I am asking him again and again that if he has this complaint that this is contempt of the House, he might give a regular notice and when I receive it I will decide.

श्री मधु लिमये (मोंबिर) : मैं कोई बहस नहीं छेड़ना चाहता हूँ। एक सवाल मेरा है कि यह जो श्वेत पत्रिका टेबल पर रखी गयी है...

एक माननीय सदस्य : यह श्वेत पत्रिका नहीं है।

श्री मधु लिमये : श्वेत पत्रिका नहीं है तो बयान सही, जो भी यह है उसमें वाम पन्थी कम्युनिस्टों की विचार प्रणु लो के बाबत और उनका जो राजनीतिक दृष्टिकोण है उसके बाबत जानकारी है। जहाँ तक देश विरोधी कार्य का सवाल है, जो जिक्र किया गया है वह सन् 1948 और 1949 में जो काम किया गया था उसका है। आज वर्तमान स्थिति में उनका देश विरोधी कार्य क्या है उस पर वह बयान दे दें तो जो बहस होगी वह कुछ भ्रमपूर्ण और मतलब वाली होगी। इतना ही मैं आप के मारफत नन्दा जी से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ।

Shri Jaipal Singh (Ranchi West): I beg to have some more information on this matter. Obviously, this statement cannot at any stage, even if the debate be there, be considered as a substitute for a White Paper. That is very clear. What I want to know from the Home Minister is whether he will, in due course, lay a White Paper on the Table of the House.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf (Jammu and Kashmir): I seek your guidance on one point.

Mr. Speaker: No, Sir; unless I call upon an hon. Member, no one has the right to speak. I will ask hon. Members to observe this strictly. I find it very difficult to conduct the proceedings in this manner. Every hon. Member and any hon. Member who wants to say anything, in spite of my asking him to sit down, goes on, continues till he has his own satisfaction. That is not the way to conduct the proceedings.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri (Berhampur): I only wanted to request the Government, through you, to fix an early date for this discussion because the arrest of 900 political leaders and trade union workers all over the country took place...

Mr. Speaker: That is all right. It is for the Government to fix the date. I will ask the Government that it should be early.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: I would submit that we have never been told in Parliament that a White Paper is going to be placed before Parliament. That has not been said in Parliament. I do not know how can hon. Members stand and speak on an issue that will be taken up later. We should proceed to the next business of the day.

Mr. Speaker: Is he criticising me or the hon. Members?

Shri Thirumala Rao (Kakinada): The House is not very well acquainted with the exact definition of the word 'White Paper'. What are the privileges attached to it?

Mr. Speaker: That also we will see later on. The Calling Attention Notice. Shri N. C. Chatterjee.