

12.06 hrs.

TIMINGS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister of Defence would be making a statement on the Indo-Pak. border situation at 4.00 p.m. today.

The Minister of Communications and Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been suggested to me by many hon. Members that it would suit their convenience and also the convenience of others if we curtail the sitting hours of our House by adjourning the House every day at 4.00 p.m. I do not think it is necessary for me to explain any further the desirability of such a step. I have just put their suggestion before you, Sir, to obtain the consensus of the House and take a decision (*Interruptions*).

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): Mr. Speaker. Sir, I submit that we should have a six-hours sitting. We should be functioning normally and show that Pakistan's threat has not disturbed the working of our Parliament. We should have our regular six-hour working. Therefore, I propose that the House should begin at 10.00 A.M. and continue working till 4.00 p.m.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): Sir, I support Shri Nath Pai, that the normal working of our House should in no case be suspended. If you like you can have it from 9.00 to 3.00 even. I think we should meet from 10.00 to 4.00 and do our normal work.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: If that is the consensus of opinion of the House, Sir, I have no objection in having the sitting from 10.00 to 4.00.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Sir, I do not know who has suggested this change in our working hours. We are Members of the House responsible to the people of this country. We should not create any impression of scare. Let us work normally. If necessary we will work for more hours. We have to protect the interests of the people and defend our country. We

should not be afraid of the air raids. Therefore, let us work in the normal way.

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया: (फर्रुखाना): अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं यह तर्कबोध करता हूँ कि हो सके तो लोक सभा के वक्त को कुछ बढ़ाना चाहिए और उस का कारण मैं बतलाये देता हूँ। कुछ लोगों के मन में डर है कि इस वक्त लोक सभा की बैठकें होना और इन में खल कर बातें करना कुछ देश के लिए अहितकर हो सकता है।

(नो-नो की धाराज)

मैं समझता हूँ कि यह लोक सभा उतना ही बड़ा हथियार है बल्कि ज्यादा बड़ा हथियार है जितने हवाई जहाज या टैंक, या कोई और चीज, क्योंकि यह हमारा एक हथियार है जो पाकिस्तान के पास नहीं है और इस लोक सभा में अगर हम खल कर बात करें, मैं खाली वक्त के लिए नहीं कह रहा हूँ, मुझे कुछ ऐसा लगता है कि खल कर बातें नहीं होती, खल कर अगर हम बातें करें और हिन्दुस्तान व पाकिस्तान के मामले में जो तह में छिपा है उसका ज्ञान हम करायें तो हो सकता है कि पाकिस्तान की जनता ...

अध्यक्ष महोदय: माननीय सदस्य श्री और बातों में चले जा रहे हैं। उन्हें सिर्फ वक्त के ऊपर इस वक्त अपनी बात कहनी चाहिए।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया: मैं कोई चीज दोहरा नहीं रहा हूँ और न ही मैं इस वक्त बाकी चीजों में जा रहा हूँ मैं तो सिर्फ वक्त के सम्बन्ध में ही निवेदन कर रहा था।

अध्यक्ष महोदय: अब गवर्नमेंट ने यह मान लिया कि हमें इस में कोई ऐतबार नहीं कि लोक सभा की बैठक 10 बजे से 4 बजे तक रहे। यह टाइमिंग करने के लिए मुमकिन है किसी माननीय सदस्य के

[प्रपक्ष महोदय]

दिमाग में इसका स्थान प्राया हो और इस के बारे में मिनिस्टर आफ् पार्लियामेंटरी अफेयर्स को उन्होंने कह दिया हो और ऐसा सुझाव उन्होंने मेरी समझ में इसलिये दिया होगा कि चूंकि सात बजे हम कहने हैं कि सब लोग अपने अपने मकानों में चले जायें और इस हालत में चूंकि मौजूदा टाइमिंग रखने से थोड़ा वक़्त रह जाता है इसलिए यह सुझाव उन्होंने मिनिस्टर साहब को दिया होगा बाकी इसके अलावा और कोई बात इसके पीछे नहीं है।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि कुछ लोगों के मन में इस बारे में डर है। इस डर को हमेशा के लिये खत्म कर देना चाहिए। लोक सभा हमारा सब से बड़ा हथियार है। वह हथियार बंटवारे के खिलाफ हस्तेमाल होना चाहिए ताकि पाकिस्तान और इंडिया दोनों का नाश हो और हिन्दुस्तान बने। इस के लिए इस लोक सभा को प्रयत्न करना चाहिये।

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta Central): Sir, I was a little surprised when the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs made an announcement and asked the House to give its view in the matter. We here are functioning as Members of Parliament representing different groups and parties. I consulted my hon. friend on the left, the leader of the Praja Socialist Party, and he did not know anything about it. It is undesirable, Sir, to come to the House and to take it by surprise with a suggestion which is supposed to be unanimously adopted. This is an extremely reprehensible practice. Sir, what I feel is that if you think it necessary we can meet, some of us, with you in the Chamber and discuss this matter. I quite understand the difficulty of members of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha Secretariat who have to prepare the documents for the next day. That is, perhaps, the pri-

mary consideration, it is not a question of fear of Pakistan or that kind of thing at all—at least I wish to think in that way. That is why I want, before we take a decision, that we discuss this matter. But after, of course, the time of the House having been already wasted unnecessarily, if the House is agreeable to a six-hour sitting every day from 10.00 to 4.00, I have no objection. But I have very serious objection to the manner in which the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has brought it up.

Shri Ranga (Chittoor): I do not know, Sir, whether he has consulted anybody else. I was not consulted. I do not know how he has made this proposal.

Mr. Speaker: We are all agreed that we will continue to sit for six hours. The only question, as Shri Mukerjee has put it, is that the Secretariat people have to do a lot of work after we rise and there is little time left. Therefore, it was suggested that instead of sitting up to 5.00 we may sit up to 4.00. If it is agreeable, we may sit from 10.00 to 4.00.

Several hon. Members: Yes, 10.00 to 4.00.

Mr. Speaker: All right. Then we will sit from 10.00 to 4.00.

12.14 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

STATEMENT re: SECOND AFRO-ASIAN CONFERENCE

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Dinesh Singh): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a statement regarding Second Afro-Asian Conference. [Placed in Library. Sec No. LT-4780/65].