

[Shri Jawaharlal Nehru.]

arrest the progress of this destructive potential which menaces all alike.

The Government of India will use its best efforts in pursuit of these objectives.

I would conclude with an expression of the sympathy which this House and this country feels towards the victims of the recent explosions, Japanese fishermen and others, and to the people of Japan to whom it has brought much dread and concern by way of direct effects and by the fear of food contamination.

The open ocean appears no longer open, except in that those who sail on it for fishing or other legitimate purposes take the greater and unknown risks caused by these explosions. It is of great concern to us that Asia and her peoples appear to be always nearer these occurrences and experiments, and their fearsome consequences, actual and potential.

We do not yet know fully whether the continuing effects of these explosions are carried only by the media of air and water or whether they subsist in other strata of nature and how long their effects persist, or whether they set up some sort of chain reactions at which some have already hinted.

We must endeavour with faith and hope to promote all efforts that seek to bring to a halt this drift to what appears to be the menace of total destruction.

SITUATION IN GOA

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have received notices under rule 215 from Shri Kotha Raghuramaiah and Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy. Shri Raghuramaiah wants to call attention to—

“the situation arising out of the increasing number of reported assaults, house searches and arrests committed by the Portuguese authorities in respect of Indians in Goa and the general reign of repression therein.”

Shri Gurupadaswamy wants to call attention to—

“the resolution of the Portugal National Assembly giving complete support to the repressive policy pursued by the Portugal authorities in Goa and the reply of the Government of Portugal to Indian Government denying the Indian charges that Portugal is curtailing the political liberties in Goa.”

May I know what the Prime Minister has to say?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Sir, I have just made a statement. I have got to make two more statements under this rule 215, one relating to the French Settlements and the other relating to the aerial display. May I submit, with all respect, that rule 215 might be overdone somewhat occasionally?

In regard to Goa, the situation obviously is not to our liking; but there is no new fact that I can place before the House and if I have to make a statement I have to repeat what I have said. Therefore, I submit that in this particular case at the present moment—I do not say about the future—it may be desirable if I make a statement at a later stage. In that case, I shall certainly come to the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I may say for the benefit of hon. Members who invoke the aid of rule 215, that hitherto we had adjournment motions. Now, in place of the adjournment motions this rule is being drawn upon. Even there, I will give consent only in cases where they are of very great public importance and are urgent, and the rules applicable generally to the admission of adjournment motions will be applied here. I will also ask the hon. Minister in charge regarding his reactions before I bring it to the House, so that I need not take up the time of the House. Once for all the hon. Minister will make a statement of his own accord or at the instance of any other hon. Member.