

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

Dated.....24.11.2014

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

1565

1566

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Wednesday, 26th August, 1953

*The House met at a Quarter Past
Eight of the Clock*

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

9-15 A.M.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

DAMAGE BY KOSI FLOODS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have received notice of an adjournment motion from Acharya J. B. Kripalani to discuss the situation arising out of the Kosi floods which have caused extensive damage to life and property in North Bihar and the failure of the Government to deal with the situation effectively.

Since then, the Ministry has also sent to the Office the following letter, which will be useful:

“The Central Government are not directly concerned unless the State Government approaches them for financial and other assistance in this connection. The Kosi Project had been engaging the attention of the State Government and the Central Government for a long time. It presents problems of extremely complicated character in its technical and other aspects. The latest position in regard to the project was explained in the Press Note that issued on the

362 PSD

2nd July 1953 and subsequently in reply to Starred Question No. 49 on 3rd August 1953 and Starred Question No. 377 and Supplementaries on 11th August 1953. The Government of India are fully alive to the situation arising out of Kosi floods, which is an annual feature. No scheme can, however, be undertaken for execution until the further investigations that have been ordered by the Government are completed and a proper solution is arrived at.

In the circumstances, it is considered that the subject matter of the motion is not one of urgent public importance”.

That is what they say. I find that this is more the primary concern of the State. Of course, the Centre is also coming to their aid. In view of the Communique that has been issued and the questions that have been put and answers elicited regarding what steps actually are being taken, I do not give my consent to this motion.

DETENTION OF A MEMBER

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have to inform the House that I have received today the following telegram from the Chief Secretary, Jammu and Kashmir Government:

“Hon'ble Speaker,
House of the People,
New Delhi.

AC-112/53. The presence in the State of Janab Sofi Mohammad Akbar, Member Parliament was likely to endanger peace and tranquillity and being satisfied that

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

he was going to act in a manner prejudicial to the maintenance of public safety and peace it was with regret that Deputy Inspector General of Police, Kashmir, had to put him in preventive detention under Jammu and Kashmir Public Security Act on 24th August 1953 for an initial period of two months".

MOTION RE DEATH OF DR. S. P. MOOKERJEE

Shri N. C. Chatterjee (Hooghly): Sir, on the 27th July I had tabled a motion along with Dr. Lanka Sundaram under rule 171 for discussion of a matter of general public interest. The matter that we wanted to discuss was the death of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee in detention at Srinagar, and we wanted to move that there should be an immediate appointment of an impartial commission of inquiry to inquire into the circumstances leading to the death of Dr. Mookerjee. You know, Sir, public feeling has been very much agitated over this issue, not only in Bengal but in different parts of India. Very eminent leaders of public opinion including Shri Purushottamdas Tandon, Dr. Kunzru, Dr. Jayakar, Acharya Kripalani and other persons of great eminence have all supported this demand and we thought that the least that Parliament could do in this matter to assuage public feeling was to agree to the immediate appointment of an impartial Commission. We also wrote to you a letter the next day explaining how the matter was of great importance—general interest—and that it complied with all the requirements of our rules. Then, Sir, you intimated us that under rule 174 you decided that the motion was in order and you had admitted the motion.

We had approached the Government for the allotment of an early date for the discussion of this motion, having regard to the state of public feeling in the country and having regard to the fact that an outstanding Leader of

the Opposition had died in such tragic and suspicious circumstances. Up till now we have got no response and I am appealing to you and to the Government to give us an early date. Under rule 176, Sir, we look up to you to give us an early date for the discussion of this matter. This is the least you can do in respect of our late lamented colleague. I am pressing, Sir, that you be good enough to give an early date and no more time should be wasted so that we can have a full discussion of this matter. I hope all sections of the House will be good enough to support this demand.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Since this motion was sent to me, I have received notice of another motion also from Dr. Jaisoorya saying that under the circumstances a Medical Mission may be sent to look into this matter and find out what exactly the cause was.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram (Visakhapatnam): Medical Mission?

Dr. Jaisoorya (Medak): Medical Commission.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am sorry, Medical Commission. In the normal course, both of them are being considered by me as to which of them will suit the circumstances. Many events are happening now and have been happening all along. The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is here and he will convey this matter to the Leader of the House. I shall do all I can in this matter as early as possible and try to inform the hon. Member.

Dr. N. B. Khare (Gwalior): I had given notice of a number of questions on this matter a month ago and I do not know what has happened to it.

Shri Frank Anthony (Nominated—Anglo-Indians): May we know whether Mr. Chatterjee had observed that the motion was actually admitted by you? May we know, if that is correct, exactly the date on which the motion was admitted?