

[Mr Speaker]

prefer the Government's version I disallow these adjournment motions

Shri Tangamani: May I make a submission?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am anxious to give as much information to the House as possible, and not merely to just limit my answer to a particular question, because the House is interested. If you will permit me, I shall explain to them what the position is. It is very simple.

Mr Speaker: What I feel is

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Just factual

Mr. Speaker. Very good

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I accept, of course, your ruling. I want to remove a misunderstanding. As I said, troops have not been called in and have not been sent. This is information received at 11.15 A.M. that is, about an hour ago. But, troops have been alerted, that, if necessary, they will be called. A number of Army officers have gone over this area on reconnoitring work to see what the position is. That is, in case they are needed, they want to know what the position is. May be, seeing one of these officers or two or three others, they say, these are troops coming. They are really reconnoitring. No troops as such have been called. That is all.

Shri Tangamani: That makes the position different

Mr. Speaker: That is another matter

Shri Tangamani: If the military has been called to reconnoitre, that is an issue on which we would like to move an adjournment motion

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. If it is necessary to reiterate what I have said, I will do so. Shri S. M. Banerjee raised a point about the admissibility of two adjournment motions given notice of by Shrimati Renu Chakravarty and himself regarding the calling of troops on the 19th May, 1958, in Jamshedpur during the strike in the Tata Iron and Steel Company. The

Members stated that the troops could not be called in by a Magistrate in a labour dispute without the concurrence of the Central Government. Apart from that, clarifying the position, the hon Prime Minister said that the troops were called in not because it was a labour dispute but to protect life and property since grave damage was apprehended as a result of the labour dispute.

There is the precedent here. Not only when actually the people are fighting can the magistrate call in the troops, but he can always, whenever he apprehends difficulty or danger, call in troops so as to prevent it in advance. So far as this case is concerned, on the question of law, I am clear that troops need not come and jump into the scene only when heads are being broken, but in advance also they can be brought in. In this particular case, the facts on which the adjournment motions have been tabled are not correct. I am not prepared to accept them. Therefore, on this ground also, the adjournment motions were rightly dismissed.

Next item

12.15 hrs

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTIFICATION ISSUED UNDER COAL MINES (CONSERVATION AND SAFETY) ACT)

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of section 8 of the Coal Mines (Conservation and Safety) Act, 1952, a copy of Notification No. S.O. 1892 dated the 25th August, 1959. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-1591/59]

AMENDMENT TO COAL MINES (CONSERVATION AND SAFETY) RULES

Sardar Swaran Singh: Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (4) of Section 17 of the Coal Mines (Conservation and Safety) Act, 1952,