

The House reassembled after lunch at eighteen minutes past two of the clock, Mr. Deputy Chairman in the Chair.

**REFERENCE TO THE ALLEGED RE-
PRESSIVE MEASURES TAKEN
AGAINST SIKKIM STATE GOV-
ERNMENT EMPLOYEES**

SHRI ANANDA PATHAK (West Bengal):
Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I thank you for four kind permission to mention an important matter of urgent public importance. I would like to draw the attention of the House to the alarming situation that has arisen in Sikkim where the State Government employees, after patiently waiting for months together and having failed to get any positive response from the Government of Sikkim, went on strike since 26th July, 1978, to press their legitimate demand for the implementation of the recommendations of the Pay Commission. But the manner in which the Government of Sikkim has resorted to repressive measures against the State Government employees during their recent strike is a matter of serious concern to all who cherish democratic values and freedom of association. Hence I would like to draw the attention of this House to this state of affairs.

The Government of Sikkim gave an assurance to the State Government employees in 1977 that a Pay Commission would be constituted to go into the question of their pay and allowances. Though the Commission was constituted, the Government resorted to dilatory tactics. After the submission of the Pay Commission's Report, the State Government appointed another Pay Committee to go into the Report of the Pay Commission which was fantastic and absurd.

This attitude of the Government naturally made the employees restive and they began agitation for the implementation of the Pay Commission's recommendations. The refusal of the Government to take any positive steps left the employees with no

other alternative but to resort to direct action. On 25th July, 1978, the State Government resorted to lathi-charge on the peaceful employees, bursting tear gas shells at them. Annoyed by such attitude of the Government of Sikkim, and in protest against the brutal attack, the State Government employees were forced to implement their earlier decision to go on strike with effect from 26th July, 1978 for which due notice was already given earlier.

The Government which was using dilatory tactics on the employees' demands was very prompt in declaring the strike as illegal. According to the information received by me, more than 250 employees have been arrested while all prominent leaders of the movement have been dismissed and suspended from service. It is also learnt that all the temporary and muster roll employees have been dismissed from service.

It should be noted here that the court had passed stricture against the action of the police in arresting the employees, but immediately after their release, they were re-arrested by the police. At present, a reign of terror is prevailing all over Sikkim.

With a view to creating a congenial atmosphere and giving one more chance for starting negotiations, the employees proposed to withdraw their strike unconditionally. But the reign of terror is still continuing and arrests and suspensions are going on. Such attitude of the Government drew widespread protest from all sections of the people and the employees of the Sikkim Nationalised Transport also went on strike in sympathy with the State Government employees and in protest against the repressive measures of the Government. Now they are also the target of attack.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to look into the matter immediately and do the needful to advise and prevail upon the Government of Sikkim so that all the repres-

sive measures may be withdrawn and all the arrested employees and their leaders may be released forthwith and the recommendations of the Pay Commission may be implemented with a view to settling the dispute. I further urge upon the Central Government to see that the democratic rights of the people are safeguarded and guaranteed because even after Sikkim became a constituent unit of the Indian Union, the democratic rights of the citizens are denied and no trade unions and associations are allowed to function freely, there.

According to my latest report, the General Secretary of the State Government Employees' Association has gone on hunger strike since the last six days and his condition is very very serious. If nothing is done right now, a very grave situation may arise in Sikkim. Hence, through this special mention, I would like to draw the attention of this august House as well as of the Central Government so that something is done right now to ease the situation. It is amazing to note that even after the fifth year of Sikkim being the constituent unit of the Indian Union, no Indian Trade Union Act, Industrial Disputes Act, Workmen's Compensation Act and similar other Central Acts have been implemented. These Acts are beneficial to the workmen; although there are some loopholes and weaknesses, yet, to some extent, they are beneficial to the workmen. No trade unions, like the Government of India's Press Employees Union and similar other unions have been allowed to be registered and function there. I, therefore, request the Government of India to take necessary steps in this regard also. Thank you.

**REFERENCE TO THE LETTER
WRITTEN TO THE INDIAN HIGH
COMMISSIONER IN LONDON BY
LORD MOUNTBATTEN ABOUT THE
DEATH OF NETAJI SUBHAS
CHANDRA BOSE**

SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRA-
BORTY (West Bengal): Sir, my
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special mention draws the attention of the House and also of the Government with regard to a very important matter of national and international importance regarding the alleged death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Sir, you are aware, in the year 1952, on a question, the then Prime Minister Shri Jawaharlal Nehru informed that he had no doubt that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose died in the plane crash. But, Sir, ultimately, the people did not accept this version and two commissions were appointed, one Shah Nawaz Commission and the other Khosla Commission, and their findings were that he died in the plane crash. But Sir, you might have seen the book 'Transfer of Power' published in England. From there, it appears that when Attlee was the Prime Minister, the Cabinet, at its meeting, decided on the 31st October, 1945, how Subhash Chandra Bose would be tried as a civilian renegade. It was decided at that meeting how he will be tried and it was decided let him remain where he is. If he had died on the 18th August, 1945, the Cabinet would not have decided for his trial on a future date. Therefore, this shows that he did not die.

Now, Sir, there is another latest development on this issue. Mr. Goray, the Indian High Commissioner in London, had written a letter to Lord Mountbatten, because, he was well aware of this thing. He (Mountbatten) also informed Mr. Goray that he had not seen any document in the archives to show that Subhas Chandra Bose died in the said plane crash. I would request the Government to circulate this letter or place it on the Table of the House, to ascertain the truth. This should be done more for the knowledge of our posterity. They must know what happened to this great leader, to this great revolutionary of the world. The records prepared by the Government wrongly show that he died in the plane crash. But there are other records which do not go to prove this. I have referred to the book. I