

RESIGNATION OF DR. SALIG RAM AND SHRI MAHITOSH PURAKAYASTHA

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA) : I have to inform Members that Dr. Salig Ram, Member representing the State of Himachal Pradesh, and Shri Mahitosh Purakayastha, Member representing the State of Assam, have resigned their seats in the Rajya Sabha with effect from 19th March 1972 and 21st March 1972 respectively.

REFERENCE TO MURDER OF A BIHAR MLA AND CERTAIN OTHER PERSONS

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) : You remember, Sir, that we raised in this House the matter of murder of a MLA in Bihar and we requested the Government to investigate and let us know what its version of the case is. So far nothing has come although we read in the newspapers that a person has been arrested, a defeated Congress candidate. I do not know why the Government remains silent on a matter like this. On previous occasions when MLAs or people of such eminence had been killed in any State the Central Government had come forward and told the House about it. In these cases they are not saying anything—I cannot understand why. Similarly, Sir, the murder has taken place of a communist leader, who was a candidate in the election, in Vijaywada. Government does not do anything about it either. Therefore, they should tell us. Now, Sir, these things are happening in the country. I am not talking about the other incidents that are taking place. Here, two special cases have been brought to the notice of the House, and I think, in all fairness the Government should find out, and the Central Government cannot shirk its responsibility in the matter on the ground that it is a law and order matter and it has no *locus standi* here. Precedents do not say so. I do not say so. I do not know why our friend, Mr. Om Mehta, is not persuading somebody in the Government to do something about it—we are naturally interested. But we have become so callous to things that we do not react to it when we read in the newspapers that an M.L.A. was shot dead in the M.L.A. hostel on the eve of his

going to take the oath. I do not know what has happened.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA) : Mr. Om Mehta will take note of it.

श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी (राजस्थान) : श्रीमन्, श्री भूपेश गुप्त की इस आवाज़ में मैं अपनी आवाज़ मिलाना चाहता हूँ। राष्ट्रपति जी के अभिभाषण पर अपनी बात कहते समय मैंने भी धौलपुर में श्री राजोरिया जी की मृत्यु के बारे में उल्लेख किया था और सी० बी० आई० के द्वारा उसकी जांच की मांग की थी। इस प्रकार की राजनैतिक हत्या के बारे में जिस का उल्लेख श्री भूपेश गुप्त ने किया है हमने भी कहा है कि सरकार की तरफ से निश्चित रूप से कोई कार्यवाही का आश्वासन और इस तरह की सूचना हमें मिलनी चाहिये, नहीं तो राजनैतिक क्षेत्र में काम करने वाले लोगों की जान असुरक्षा में रख कर प्रजातंत्र इस देश में नहीं चल सकेगा।

SHRI GODEY MURAHARI (Uttar Pradesh) : I also join in the demand made by Mr. Bhupesh Gupta because it is a very serious matter. If democracy is to survive in this country, such things cannot be allowed to go unnoticed and unpunished.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA) : Government will take note of it.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE (Uttar Pradesh) : I also associate myself with this demand.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : It is quite clear that for the last two days we have been saying it—I am grateful to my friends for raising it. Whatever may be our other differences, in such a matter we speak in the same way and make the demand. I hope Government will take notice of it.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA) : I think Mr. Om Mehta has taken note of it.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY