

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The Government is greatly interested in sharing our experience in development with all developing countries and all requests for technical assistance are dealt with sympathetically.

†EXPORT OF DAITARI ORE

1691. SHRI M. K. MOHTA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have entered into an agreement with Rumania and other Countries for the export of Daitari Ore ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) :

(a) and (b) The Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India has concluded a contract with Rumania for supply of 1.4 million tons of iron ore during 1970, out of which 1.08 million tons is medium grade ore. Besides, a long term contract for supply of 22 million tons of iron ore of which 8 m tonnes are firm and 14 m tonnes are optional to Rumania over a period of 10 years (1971—80) has also been concluded. The bulk of the ore under these contracts will be from Daitari.

Also a contract for the supply of 3 lakh tons of Daitari ore during October 1970 to September 1971 has been concluded with the Steel Mills of Japan recently by the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation.

RECOGNITION OF SHRI S. N. MISHRA AS THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION IN THE RAJYA SABHA

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have considered the question of recognition of the Congress Opposition Party and also of recognition of Shri Shyam Nandan Mishra, the leader of this Party, as the Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha. I have given the matter careful consideration. This party has the largest number among all the Opposition Groups and has a following of 39 in a House of 240. I have therefore decided that this party may be recognised as

†Transferred from the 23rd December, 1969.

a party in this House and be called as Congress Party in Parliament (Opposition) and also that Shri Shyam Nandan Mishra, its leader, be called the leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha . . . ((Interruptions) . . . he being the leader of the Opposition Party having the largest following in the House. This is the first time that such a recognition has been made in this House. I am sure that with the responsibilities thus devolving on Shri Shyam Nandan Mishra, he will build up the traditions appropriate to this position.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) : Sir, I have a submission to make before you ask others, I have a clarification to seek.

श्री राजनारायण (उत्तर प्रदेश) : आप इनको बोलने देंगे ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down.

श्री राजनारायण : आप क्यों डिस्कमिनेट करते हैं ? आप इनको बैठाइए . . .

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, the Prime Minister wants to speak.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : If you ask the Prime Minister to speak, I have no objection. I am not like some others who do not like to hear.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI) : I do not . . .

श्री राजनारायण : ऐसा (Interruptions) नहीं होना चाहिए ।

श्री सभापति : उनको आब्जेक्शन नहीं है, आपको आब्जेक्शन है ?

श्री राजनारायण : हमको आब्जेक्शन होगा ; क्योंकि हमारे साथ ज्यादाती हो रही है ।

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI : I do not wish to take the time of the House. I would like to congratulate Shri Mishra and support what you have said. We hope we will have co-operation from him so that the dignity and decorum of the House are maintained and the

work of the House can go on well. Shri Mishra has been a valued colleague earlier and we know that he will keep up all these high traditions.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, I have a submission to make and also a clarification to seek. In so far as you have recognised a group of our colleagues in the Opposition, as the main Opposition group, as the recognised Opposition, well, I will, with a little reservation, submit . . .

SHRI A. D. MANI (Madhya Pradesh) : No reservation.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I tell you why reservation. I submit to you . . .

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please listen to him.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : You hear me, Mr. Mani. Bhupesh Gupta does not talk through his hat. Recognition, Sir, you have given and I do not mean any ill-will towards them at all, least of all towards my friend, Mr. Mishra.

Now for the first time in the parliamentary history of our country, a party has come to be recognised as the officially recognised Opposition Party. But under what mandate I do not know, because the party, when they came to Parliament, they came . . .

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA (Orissa) : On a point of order.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : All Members, all MLAs . . .

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Sir, on a point of order.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : May I make a submission ? It is my right to say.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Sir, there must be some procedure as to how you should move in the matter, after you have requested the Prime Minister to make an observation on the declaration made by you that Shri Mishra the leader of the Opposition, is the recognised Leader of the Opposition.

The convention in this House is that the next party is asked to make their observation.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : That you can do. It is all right. Do if you want. Then I will come. So long as I have my say, it is all right. I do not mind whether I am the seventh or the eleventh in the list, but I am going to have my say . . .

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJNARAIN : On a point of order.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Sir, it becomes so difficult . . .

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, प्वाइन्ट आफ आर्डर । इस समय सदन किसके प्वाजेशन में है, मिश्र जी के या श्री भूपेश गुप्त के ? मिश्र जी ने एक वैलिड प्वाइन्ट आफ आर्डर उठाया है, मगर आप श्री भूपेश गुप्त को बँठने के लिए नहीं कह रहे हैं । It was your first duty.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please.

SHRI LOKNATH MISRA : Even if we want to co-operate with you . . .

SHRI RAJNARAIN : You ask him to sit down.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, why is he telling me ? Why is he getting up ? I will sit down.

SHRI LOKNATH MISRA : What I wanted to suggest was that in a matter like this . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I am not like you. (Interruptions) Sir, the moment you ask me, I will sit down.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : The convention in the House is that the largest Opposition party is asked to make an observation. Now, in this case since Mr. Mishra himself is the Leader of the Opposition, his party may not participate; the next party is my party. According to the convention in the House, you should have asked my party . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, I am quite in agreement with him. When it comes to felicitation, we should follow the norm that he has suggested. I was only seeking a clarification from you . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down,

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : How to proceed . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : Can I accept the suggestion . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Which-ever you like.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right. You sit down.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : On that I will not quarrel. If he wants to speak, I will not quarrel.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : It is not a question of my speaking. There should be a regular procedure. It is my right. In a democracy the number counts.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : My friend need not take the unnecessary trouble of teaching me the procedure. He is quite right on that point. I was not rising to take away his right to felicitate Mr. Mishra before I do.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : You might.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I think it is better. Mr. Mishra has been named as the Official Opposition Leader. Let everybody felicitate him. Let it be done that way. Over that I do not want tension. Some people, it seems, want tension all the time. I would ask the members of my party also to get ready for tension.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Fortunately or unfortunately, in a democracy we have to go by the number.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : That is what I say.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let us follow the practice.

SHRI Mr. RUTHNASWAMY (Tamil Nadu) : I have great pleasure in endorsing the support of the Prime Minister to the Official Opposition and the recognition of Mr. S. N. Mishra as the Leader of that Opposition. We are especially fortunate in having Mr. Mishra as the Leader of the Opposition because he is a gentleman

in the first place. Fortunately, he is not a gentleman as he has shown already by his performance as the Leader of the Opposition so far.

While congratulating Mr. Mishra and the Opposition on being recognised as the Leader and the Official Opposition, may I say that the Opposition is a multi-party Opposition and I would expect the Leader of the Official Opposition in all matters that concern the Opposition as an Opposition, to consult the leaders of the other Opposition Groups so that the Opposition, in spite of the division that exists amongst them, will be able to act as an effective Opposition. And may I say, Sir, that now that after twenty years we have the good fortune of having an official Opposition and a leader of the official Opposition, may I now look forward to the Government treating the leader of the official Opposition as he is treated in other Parliaments. As you know, Sir, the Leader of the Opposition is given almost an official status in England and other countries. I do not know what shape that recognition by Government will take. But I think in the interest of Parliamentary government, the Leader of the Opposition should be recognised as being an integral part of the Government of the country, as a party that ought to be recognised as part of the Government.

You know Sir, in England the Opposition is known as His Majesty's Opposition or Her Majesty's Opposition. I think here also the Opposition should be given an official status so that the Opposition and the Government, acting together, as representatives of the country will be able to serve the country effectively. I offer, on behalf of my group, my hearty congratulations to the Leader of the official Opposition.

श्री पीताम्बर बास (उत्तर प्रदेश) : आदरणीय सभापति जी, मैं श्री श्यामनन्दन मिश्र को बधाई देना चाहता हूँ इस प्रतिष्ठा और मान्यता के लिए, जो आज उन्हें प्राप्त हुई है सभी विरोधी दलों से परामर्श के संबंध में जो बातें प्रोफेसर रत्नस्वामी जी ने कही हैं, मैं उनके साथ अपने को संबद्ध करता हूँ। आज के इस अवसर पर मैं दो बातों की ओर और सदन का ध्यान आकर्षित कराना चाहंगा।

प्रधान मंत्री जी इस समय यहां सदन में होतीं तो अच्छा रहता। देश को स्वतंत्र हुए काफी अरसा हो गया। पंडित जवाहरलाल जी के संबंध में यह कहा जाया करता था और अब भी कहा जाता है कि 'ही वॉज बेसीकली डेमोक्रेट'। ऐसा होते हुए भी वह अपने जीवन काल में मान्यता प्राप्त विरोधी दल का निर्माण नहीं कर सके। प्रजातंत्र में आवश्यक होता है एक मान्यता प्राप्त विरोधी दल हो जो काम वह नहीं कर सके, मुझे प्रसन्नता है कि उत्तम उनकी सुपुत्री ने पूरा कर दिया। 1929 के लाहौर अधिवेशन में पंडित मोतीलाल नेहरू ने जवाहरलाल जी को राष्ट्रपति का आसन दिया था। 1928 में पंडित मोतीलाल नेहरू कांग्रेस के राष्ट्रपति थे और उनके बाद लाहौर कांग्रेस अधिवेशन में राष्ट्रपति पंडित जवाहरलाल नेहरू हुए। तो जिस समय चार्ज बदला गया, उस समय मुझे एक स्वयं सेवक के नाते सब्जेक्ट कमेटी में रहने का सौभाग्य प्राप्त हुआ था। पं० मोतीलाल नेहरू ने चार्ज देते समय एक बात कही थी। वही बात मैं यहां दोहरा देना चाहता हूँ। वह फारसी का एक मकूल है :

'पिसर न तवानद, पिसर तमाम कुनद'
यानी जो काम बाप न कर सका उसे बेटे ने पूरा कर दिया। आज यह कहा जा सकता है कि :

'पिसर न तवानद, दुब्तर तमाम कुनद'

दूसरी जिस बात की ओर मैं आपका ध्यान धार्कषित करना चाहता हूँ, वह सरकारी पक्ष और विरोधी पक्ष के आपस के संबंध के बारे में है। यानी यह दोनों गाड़ी के दो पहिए हैं कि जिनके सहारे डेमोक्रेसी की गाड़ी चलती है . . .

श्री सभापति : और मैं चलता हूँ ।

श्री पीताम्बर दास : आप तो उस पर सवारी करते हैं। तो इन दोनों का एक और भी संबंध है। एक उर्दू के शायर ने बड़े सुन्दर लफ्जों में उसे बयान किया है। विरोधी पक्ष के बारे में उसका कहना है :

'जो हम ही न होंगे तो क्या रेंगे महफिल,
किसे देख कर आप धरमाइयेगा ।'

मैं एक बार फिर मिश्र जी को बधाई देता हूँ। हालांकि इस सदन में बहुत अरसे से विरोधी दल काम कर रहे थे, लेकिन उनकी संख्या के कारण आज हम को संसदीय और सरकारी तरीके पर प्रतिष्ठा और मान्यता प्राप्त हुई।

श्री गोडे मुराहरि (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सभापति महोदय, मैं श्री मिश्र जी को बधाई देना चाहता हूँ कि पहला बार आज़ाद हिन्दुस्तान की संसद्, राज्य सभा में एक विरोधी नेता का स्थान उन्होंने ग्रहण किया है और यह अच्छा हुआ कि सरकार ने भी इसको मान लिया और कोई ऐसी बात नहीं की जिससे कि सारा वातावरण दूषित होता, क्योंकि मैं समझता हूँ कि इस मामले में जब संख्या की बात है और संख्या जब हो जाती है, तो उसको मान्यता तुरन्त मिल जानी चाहिए। यह हो गया, अच्छा ही हुआ।

अब विरोधी दल का जो संबंध होता है, सरकार के साथ उस को श्री मिश्र जी अपने व्यक्तित्व से और नैपुण्य से निभायेंगे, क्योंकि हर संसद् में कई ऐसे काम होते हैं, जिन में सरकार को और विरोधी दलों को एक मत होना पड़ता है। कई चीजों में विरोधी दल की राय को जान कर ही सरकार को काम करना पड़ता है और मैं आशा करता हूँ कि आगे चल कर कोई ऐसा बात नहीं होगी, जिसमें सरकार यह कह पाये कि विरोधी दल में तो कई दल हैं, हम किससे बात करें। यह हमेशा होता था 20, 22 साल से हम लोगों का यह तजुर्बा है, लेकिन आज एक ऐसा व्यक्ति विरोधी नेता माना गया है और उनको एक हैसियत भी आपने दी है, जिस हैसियत से वह सरकार के साथ बात कर सकते हैं और इसमें वह जितने विरोधी दल हैं, उनकी राय जान कर काम करेंगे और उनको साथ लेने की कोशिश करेंगे और एक विरोधी मोर्चे के रूप में वह इस चीज को कायम करेंगे, यह मैं आशा करता हूँ। मैं विरोधी दलों को भी कहना चाहूंगा कि सरकार के प्रति जब हम कोई रख लेते हैं, तो

[श्री गोडे मुराहरि]

इस चीज को भूलना नहीं चाहिए कि चाहे हमारा मत कुछ भी हो, कई राजनीतिक मामलों में हमारे मतभेद हो सकते हैं, सरकार की राय के साथ हमारी राय हो सकती है, लेकिन फिर भी जहाँ तक संसदीय प्रथा की बात है, उसे ध्यान में रखते हुए संसदीय कामों में विरोधी दलों की हैसियत से हमको विरोध का मोरचा सामने रखना चाहिए और हमारा दृष्टिकोण विरोध का होना चाहिए। हमें इस बात को भूलना नहीं चाहिए और इस बात को अगर सब सामने रखेंगे, तो फिर कोई वजह नहीं है कि सब विरोधी दल एक साथ मिल कर कई मामलों में काम न कर सकें और मैं फिर अपने दल की ओर से श्री एस० एन० मिश्र जी को बधाई देता हूँ और आशा करता हूँ कि आगे चल कर वह इस काम को बहुत खूबी से निभायेंगे।

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, now that I am following this procedure I start like this. In so far as our friend, Mr. Shyam Nandan Mishra is concerned, I have been in this House with him for many years now, and I must say he has been extremely kind to me, a perfect gentleman and always understanding. At times I had been overwhelmed in the past by his affection and consideration towards people like us. Therefore, I can, at a personal level, always have a good word for him. But also I am happy in other respects. This seat where he is sitting I had occupied for many years when my friend, Mr. Shyam Nandan Mishra, was sitting somewhere in one of those benches

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA (Gujarat) : Because there is no difference between the C. P. (I) opposite and the C.P.I. sitting here.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Naturally I am glad that my friend, Mr. Shyam Nandan Mishra, even in the evening of my life has followed me and occupied my position though he has come here with entirely different ideas and ideas.

Having paid him my personal tribute I should like to point out to this House why I see a little difficulty in expressing voluble and very sweeping sentiments or expression over this matter. You have been good enough to recognise the group, my friend, Mr. Shyam Nandan Mishra, leads as the recognised official Opposition group, but I would have been happy if he had also mentioned the fact that we are passing through unique times when unique things happen. This recognised Opposition, perhaps for the first time in the annals of parliamentary history, has been born in the womb of the Government party and from the Treasury benches.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It makes no difference.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I cannot recall from my knowledge of parliamentary history an Opposition being born in the House itself rather than outside from among the electorate. It is perhaps because we are passing through an extraordinary time that an extraordinary development takes place. I shall, Mr. Chairman, give my assurance to reconcile, to the best of my ability, to the abnormality which has come about here. Again I point out to you that it is not the creation as an Opposition group—I am not mentioning Mr. Shyam Nandan Mishra—it is not the creation of the electorate, nor even of the Assemblies which send members to this House. It is a product of the House itself because of certain political developments in the Congress Party and in the Congress benches there is a new phenomenon of a recognised official Opposition which has not the prior mandate of the electorate, whether it is the Assembly or the electorate outside. Naturally, I would also like to reconcile with this aspect of the situation. Finally, Mr. Chairman, I am sure my friend, Mr. Shyam Nandan Mishra, being what he is and capable of many changes, will try to absorb me also in some respect. His goodness is there. I do not mean other things. Here, let it not be thought we are running a bipartisan system as in the United States of America or even in England where the power is from time to time divided and the Government side and the opposition is divided generally between the Labour Party and the Conservative Party.

We are functioning more or less in a multi-party parliamentary system where many parties exist, where coalitions will become the order of the day in the near future and the Treasury Benches and the Opposition likewise will be composed of numerous parties. I do not know how they will shape in a multi-party system. The position of the Leader is not the same as in the American Senate or the American Congress or the British House of Lords or the British House of Commons. And I am sure, learned as my friend, Mr. Shyama Nandan Mishra is, he will remember this thing very well. Therefore, every Party retains its independence. As far as the Communist Party is concerned, well, I can speak only for my Party. Even when I was there, I never claimed, although the number was less of course, that I was the Leader of the Opposition. I was the Leader in the House of the Communist Party in Parliament. Mr. Chairman, I can only speak to you on this subject as a leader of the CPI group in Parliament and we shall retain our independence in full measure and there will not be any Party in the Opposition which can speak for the C.P.I. There may be friends and foes but there will be none who shall be given the right to speak for his party, nor shall I claim that right to myself to speak for other parties. Another outstanding factor of our political life and in our Parliamentary system is that the Opposition is divided between the forces of progress and reaction. It will be my endeavour, Mr. Chairman, to march in step with the forces of progress in democracy on the side of the Opposition and it will be my endeavour again, as a national duty, to oppose when any section of the Opposition takes a retrograde step. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I can assure Mr. Shyama Nandan Mishra all my cooperation, not with his politics, not with his ideologies, but as a good man, a beautiful man and an affable man. I tell him that I shall never be failing in my duty in fighting the policies and ideologies which Congress Opposition represents. That I shall do in terms of parliamentary norms. I assure you that I shall be playing cricket in this matter.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH (West Bengal) : It is true that it is for the first time a party is being recognised by you as the Opposition Party. Previously the Opposition was composed of so many groups.

Now a party is being recognised as an Opposition Party. That is the departure and as far as Mr. S. N. Mishra is concerned, I have good personal relationship with him even when he used to speak on the Treasury Benches. Of late, I have seen the Congress Party dividing itself and trying to adopt a top posture. All right that is his posture. Now I must say, as one of my colleagues has said, a wheel is broken into two and still the car will run.

SHRI A. D. MANI : The car is running on three wheels.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : I do not think so. In England or the U. K. it is the same ruling class which is in power and which is in opposition and as far as the ruling Congress Party and this Party are concerned, they represent the same class. So it is one class by dividing itself into two. In that respect we do not belong to that category. We would never like to play the game of His Majesty's or Her Majesty's Government because His Majesty's Government or Her Majesty's Government is the Government of the capitalist class. Those who are in power represent the capitalist class and those who are in the Labour Party also represent the capitalists. That is why they are called Labour Imperialists. Now we are a revolutionary democratic group. We are a revolutionary democratic opposition. Let me make it plain before the country and the House.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : What is its counterpart in China ?

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : In China our class is in power. So, we are a revolutionary opposition group and we believe in the overthrow of this system, of this entire class of exploiters. So on the announced programme of this Party there is a fundamental difference. So what I want to place before you is that on the British analogy, the person who is being recognised as the Leader of the Opposition cannot claim to represent our views. Anyway, that is the position I would like to make it clear to you. That is why in political matters and in other ideological matters there will be fundamental differences and I for one can never allow anybody to speak on my behalf, least of all, a party that has been born out of the same class. That can never happen.

[Shri Niren Ghosh]

As regards the technical and procedural matters, we will co-operate with him. But this fundamental distinction should be remembered. You should not follow the British pattern in this respect in according the same status to the Leader of the Opposition to represent the whole of the Opposition in an official capacity. That will not work here when there is this fundamental distinction. I congratulate him for coming to occupy this position. Let us hope that there will be many permutations and combinations on this side and on that side in course of time and they break into pieces when the common people march forward. I hope that thing would take place in the future so that a really revolutionary democratic opposition group sits there who will wield power in future in no uncertain terms. Thank you.

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY (Mysore): Mr. Chairman, I welcome your decision to recognise the Congress Party in Parliament (Opposition) as the official Opposition Party here and Mr. S. N. Mishra as the Leader of the Opposition. I congratulate him on his being recognised as the Leader of the Opposition. In any system of parliamentary democracy, it is a good thing which should be welcomed. In India though there are a number of parties functioning at the Centre as well as in the States, such a great distinction has not come to all parties in the State Assemblies. In some State Assemblies, some official recognition has been accorded to the party which has got more than 10 per cent of the seats in that particular Assembly. But it is the first time in Parliament that in both Houses a party has been recognised as the official Opposition Party in view of the fact that it has got more than 10 per cent of the seats in each House. As Leader of the Opposition, I am sure, he will get all the respect and all the rights that his counterpart in any other democratic country enjoys. I assure him that we will co-operate with him in all matters concerning the business in this House. I am sure that he will also recognise the fact that there are several groups inside the House as well as outside and he would take us into confidence while making any decision, and see that we also have our say in the matter whenever an occasion arises. In democratic countries whatever one might say, he does it in the interest of the people; he does it as a representative of the people functioning in this House. We

will have no ill will towards each other, though we may express divergent views. We all know how this opposition has come into being in this House. It is a welcome thing. I hope and trust that the polarisation that is now taking place will take place in a much larger measure so that there might be two or three parties in this country to make parliamentary democracy worthwhile. Thank you.

SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of my party, I welcome your announcement with great pleasure. Before congratulating Mr. S. N. Mishra, I want to congratulate the Congress, that is, the original and old Congress . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Without 'O'

SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : . . . because it has given us not only the Leader of the House but also the Leader of the Opposition to-day. But we are having a multi-party opposition here. It is a combination of parties which are having diametrically opposite views, principles and policies. I want to express only one observation in this connection. The present Leader of the Opposition cannot express the united voice at all times in all matters. But in procedural and other matters, in the conduct of the business, on behalf of my party I assure our fullest co-operation to him. At the same time we want to stress that we are having our own independence in expressing our views in this House. With these words, I congratulate Mr. S. N. Mishra for having been recognised by this House as the Leader of the Opposition. Thank you

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): On behalf of my party, I congratulate Mr. S. N. Mishra on his being recognised as the official Leader of the Opposition for the first time in the parliamentary history of our country. Sir, in a House like this where a multi-party system exists, it is really very difficult to speak in one voice, to represent all the views of the Opposition groups by one particular group, especially when such a group is created out of a peculiar situation, as has been rightly pointed out by Mr. Bhupesh Gupta. In spite of that, I expect that Mr. S. N. Mishra would create a healthy precedent and would exercise his power and functions accordingly as the Leader of the officially recognised group and I hope that whenever he functions in that capacity,

he will give due consideration to the ideas and opinions of all the minor groups like ours, particularly those parties which have one or two representatives in this House. With these words, I congratulate Mr. S. N. Mishra.

SHRI SUHRID MULLICK CHOWDHURY (West Bengal) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, while congratulating Shri S. N. Mishra, the Leader of the Opposition, on behalf of the Marxist Forward Bloc, to which party I belong, I beg to draw attention to the fact that though we are a small group, we stand on our own footing and according to our party mandate we shall take such attitude as an opposition group, and not as an independent member, as we think fit in respect of any matter raised in this House. Thank you.

SHRI BRAHMANANDA PANDA (Orissa) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of the Orissa Jana Congress, I congratulate Mr. S. N. Mishra on his recognition as the Leader of the Opposition. Sir, we are passing through a very funny phase in our parliamentary democracy. It is very funny in the sense that here is a ruling party which has given us this Opposition. I think this phase will pass off and a real system of democratic opposition will grow in this country. But I am happy about his promotion. Formerly he was a Deputy Leader on this side, and now he is Leader of the Opposition on that side. But I warn him that he was the man who started, and who was practically the nucleus of the Socialist Forum when he was on this side of the House. Now he is on the other side in the proximity of Swatantra and Jan Sangh. Let him not forget the socialist ideals for which he has spent most of his years and for which he has contributed intellectually also. Ours is a composite Opposition. Naturally there will be many parties like this. I am a lone Member in this House from my party and I expect one more after March. There will be four or five or six parties like this. But I still do not agree with Mr. Mulka Govinda Reddy when he says that polarisation is coming. I still say it is a far cry because one portion of the Congress is in power and the other is in opposition. So, unless 1972 comes . . .

SHRI KRISHAN KANT (Haryana) : There is another Congress.

SHRI BRAHMANANDA PANDA : No, we separated from you long ago. We got a mandate from the people. I am optimistic and I believe in the future of

India and its democracy, and I hope that under the stewardship of Mr. Mishra, the socialists will definitely co-operate and pull together on occasions when socialism is in danger and when at that stage he holds up our banner we will definitely be behind him. I once again congratulate him on his elevation from the Deputy Leadership of the ruling party to the position of the Leader of the Opposition, and now he is nearer to us.

(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. A. D. Mani.

SHRI GODEY MURAHARI : Sir, who else is a member of his party ?

SHRI A. D. MANI : Every body has a right to speak.

SHRI GODEY MURAHARI : Sir, on a point of order. I would like to know as to whom Mr. Mani represents except himself. Can he point out one person in this House who is in his party ?

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra) : He has been in the House for the last several years and that standing is his friend.

SHRI GODEY MURAHARI : He can represent himself.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Mr. Mani represents that indefinable multitude called the Independents.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I would appeal to the House that on such an occasion when we are felicitating a respected Member of this House, another respected Member should be allowed to say something.

SHRI ARJUNARORA (Uttar Pradesh) : Sir, on a point of order. Unfortunately we had so far no Leader of the Opposition. So, everybody in the Opposition, every small group in the Opposition, was separately represented on ceremonial occasions like felicitations, condolences, etc. Now that we have a recognised Leader of the Opposition in my esteemed friend, Mr. S. N. Mishra, I suggest that henceforward we should adopt the practice . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, no, this is no point of order.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Not at all. What suggestion is being made?

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is no point of order. Now, Mr. Mani.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN (Andhra Pradesh): It is a point deserving consideration. On ceremonial occasions . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Whatever it may be, I will consider it and these are not matters which are to be discussed on a point of order.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not claim to speak from the privileged position of a leader of a group or a leader of a party. But I happen to be an old independent Member of this House and no independent Member, or, for that matter, no Member, can be denied the facility of offering his felicitations to the newly recognised Leader of the Opposition. (*Interruption*) It is valued freedom of speech. Members should be allowed, those who want to express their feelings of appreciation, to say so on the floor of the House.

May I say, Sir, my honourable friend, Mr. Ruthnaswamy, described Mr. Mishra as a gentleman? I would like to make an amendment. He is a real gentleman as he has shown by his performance during the last few days as leader of the main opposition group. Reference has also been made that he should be accredited with the status of a Leader of the Opposition. I would like to add that he should be given the emoluments and the official status of a leader of the Opposition as in the case of the House of Commons and I hope that the Government will bring forward a suitable . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not introduce matters which come into clash with something else.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Sir, he will have the co-operation of all sections of the House, though he may not represent every section on every particular issue, in carrying out his duties as Leader of the Opposition and in maintaining the high standards of opposition in this House.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): Prof. Ruthnaswamy mentioned that some facilities should be given to the Leader of the Opposition from the Government. I

want to say that this matter has already been under the examination of the Government and we hope to finalise this matter soon and make an announcement about it.

LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI S. N. MISHRA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is indeed a historic turn in the Indian political situation and nobody is more conscious of its tremendous significance than I am. As you were pleased to say—the honourable Prime Minister and other honourable Members also emphasised it rightly—great and heavy responsibilities devolve upon me and my party as a result of this formal recognition today. The fact has been in existence for one month. What you have been pleased to do today is its formal recognition. Now, a great institution in our parliamentary system is taking birth today and I have no doubt that it will require a devoted nurturing by all sections of this House. When you have called me as the Leader of the Opposition, I am quite aware that there is no uniformity in the Opposition. But this also cannot be gainsaid that there is a certain unity in the Opposition. I want to represent that unity in the Opposition. There is bound to be unity in the interest of our national causes and there is bound to be unity in the interest of democracy. And this is precisely what I would like to represent when you have been pleased to accord to my party and to my humble self an official recognition. I would particularly require the blessings and, may I say, even the loving care, of many of the senior leaders of the Opposition who have functioned here for quite a long time. I am new to this role in a sense although the party to which I have the honour to belong, was not new to the role of the Opposition as if functioned as such before independence. Broadly, the same spirit will have to pulsate in us when we seek to perform this role. I would also like to add that my experience in this House, during the last few weeks, has been extremely stimulating and rewarding in this new role; the attitude of the senior leaders of the Opposition has been warm, affectionate and understanding, I value this very much and I have no doubt it will inspire me and strengthen me in future. Let me hope on this occasion that I will receive the goodwill and cooperation of all sections of this House, and I certainly include in that very prominently the section in opposition to me although it is said, I happen to be in opposition to them. I must sa

though the gravitational pull seems to be working more towards this side for quite some time, I would none the less require the co-operation of the ruling party in performing this role. If I am able to get all the warm cooperation and support, I hope my party and myself would not be found wanting in performing this new role with a due sense of responsibility and dignity. With these words, Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank all hon. Members of the House who have extended to me personally and to my party their kind consideration and also their felicitations, which are bound to help us a great deal in this new role.

[MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the chair]

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Now comes up the Short Notice Question in the name of Mr. Mani.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, एक व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है। इसके लिए हम रुके हुए थे।

S. RI A. D. MANI : On a point of order, Sir. Now my Short Notice question should be taken up. The hon. Member cannot raise a point at any stage.

श्री राजनारायण : अनावश्यक ढंग से हमें कोई दबाना चाहेगा तो हम दबने से इनकार करेंगे। चेयरमैन ने कहा कि यह काम हो लेने दीजिए, तब आप कहिएगा। मैं आपसे निवेदन करूंगा कि हमको अनावश्यक दबाया गया तो हम दबने से इनकार कर देंगे और दिक्कत पड़ जायगी।

श्री उपसभापति : चलिए, बताइए।

श्री राजनारायण : वास्तव में यह प्रश्न मैं पहले उठाना चाहता था, मगर चूँकि हमारे आदरणीय मिश्र जी आज एक मान्यता प्राप्त विरोधी दल के नेता के रूप में यहां माने गए हैं और उस रूप में यहां बैठ गए हैं, इसलिए हम उस पवित्र अवसर को अपने व्यवस्था के प्रश्न से कुछ इधर-उधर हटाना नहीं चाहते थे। मगर मैं आपसे, श्रीमन्, यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि मुख्य विरोधी दल समझने के लिए क्या राज्य सभा ने कोई नियम अपनाया है—इसका उत्तर सोच-समझ कर, खोज कर दिया जाना

चाहिए, पार्लियामेंटरी प्रैक्टिस में हम लोग गए नहीं हैं, यह सवाल बराबर उठता रहा है—और अगर कोई नियम राज्य सभा ने अपनाया था, तो 17 नवम्बर से माननीय मिश्र जी विरोधी-कांग्रेस के नेता के रूप में यहां बैठे हैं और आज हो गई तारीख 18 दिसम्बर, एक महीना, एक दिन का विलम्ब उनको मान्यता प्रदान करने में क्यों हुआ? मैं आपसे इसका उत्तर चाहूंगा। क्या हम लोक सभा को देख कर अपनी गतिविधि को संचालित करेंगे? चूँकि लोक सभा में कल विरोधी दल को मान्यता मिल गई, इसलिए अब परोक्ष रूप में उनका डिक्लेशन हमें हुआ तो हमारे यहां भी अब विरोधी दल की मान्यता प्रदान की गई। मुझे बराबर अपने मन में शंका रही कि हम स्वतंत्र ढंग से राज्य सभा को संचालित नहीं कर रहे हैं, हम लोक सभा को अवलोकन करके कभी-कभी अपनी गतिविधियों को बनाया करते हैं।

श्री उपसभापति : आपका प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर हो गया।

श्री राजनारायण : लोक सभा में 1952 में प्रस्ताव हुआ कि 1/10 जिस दल की सदस्य संख्या हो, उसी को हम मान्यता देंगे। चूँकि उस समय हमारे डा० जेड० ए० अहमद की पार्टी सबसे ज्यादा तादाद में आई थी और कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी को पंडित जवाहरलाल नेहरू विरोधी दल के रूप में मान्यता नहीं देना चाहते थे, इसलिए ऐसा किया गया था। इसलिए मैं आपके द्वारा पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या कहीं सदस्यों की तादाद मुकर्रर है, मुख्य विरोधी दल की मान्यता के लिए। संख्या कहीं मुकर्रर है ही नहीं। लिगोधी दल के लिए केवल तीन शर्तें हैं—पहली, वह दल जिसने एक सामान्य कार्यक्रम, मनीफेस्टो पर चुनाव लड़ा हो, दूसरी, वह दल जिसने सारे देश में अपने संगठन का जाल बिछा रखा हो और तीसरी, वह दल सरकारी पक्ष से दूसरे नम्बर पर हो। मैं आपको बताऊँ 1952 में सोशलिस्ट पार्टी की तादाद 19 थी 432 में, मगर

[श्री राजनारायण]

हमको उत्तर प्रदेश में मुख्य विरोधी दल के रूप में माना गया था। इस संविधान के अनुसार जो प्रथम चुनाव हुआ उसके बाद हम उत्तर प्रदेश के विरोधी दल के नेता थे और श्री गोविन्द वल्लभ पन्त मुख्य मंत्री थे, मगर चूंकि लोक सभा में 1/10 का प्रस्ताव आ गया, तो हमारे मित्र श्री मोहन लाल जी गौतम ने, जो उस समय लोकल सेल्फ गवर्नमेंट के मंत्री थे, कहा कि राजनारायण की मान्यता छीन ली जानी चाहिए, मगर ए० जी० खेर नियमों से अवगत थे और हमारे सक्टेरिएट ने सारे नियमों को छान कर बताया कि संख्या कही मुकर्रर है ही नहीं, जो सरकारी दल है उसका जो दूसरे नम्बर का दल होगा, वह मुख्य विरोधी दल होगा, बाकी अन्य दूसरे दल जो होंगे, वे सब विरोधी दल के रूप में माने जाएंगे।

श्री उपसभापति : समझ में आ गया।

श्री राजनारायण : तो आज विरोधी दल की मान्यता हो गई। मैं अब सरकार की भर्त्सना करना चाहता हूँ कि विरोधी दल का दफ्तर विरोधी दल की मुख्य-मुख्य सुविधाएं, विरोधी दल के नेता की तनख्वाह, एक महीने से ऊपर हो गयी, इन सबके सम्बन्ध में सरकार अब तक सोती क्यों रही, उसके सम्बन्ध में सरकार ने कुछ क्यों नहीं किया ?

एक बात अब मैं विरोधी दल के सम्बन्ध में कहूंगा। आदरणीय मिश्र जी, अब आप मान्यता-प्राप्त विरोधी दल बन गए, तो शीघ्रातिशीघ्र अपने विरोधी कार्यक्रम को हम लोगों के सामने रख दीजिए, जो सरकारी कार्यक्रम से अलग होगा।

श्री उपसभापति : आप उनसे प्रोग्राम मांग रहे हैं। यह व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है ?

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, आप तो लाइयर हैं। अगर मिश्र जी के पास कोई विरोधी

कार्यक्रम नहीं है, तो फिर विरोधी दल कैसे रहेगा। इसलिए मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि मिश्र जी अहमदाबाद जा रहे हैं, अहमदाबाद के सेशन में क्रान्तिकारी कार्यक्रम अपनाएं, जो सत्ताधारी दल के प्रतिक्रियावादी चेहरे को खोल दें, यह मेरा निवेदन है, वरना आगे दिक्कत हमारे लिए न हो कि हम यह कहें कि मिश्र जी का यह स्थान छीना जाय; क्योंकि उनके पास कोई विरोधी कार्यक्रम नहीं है।

श्री उपसभापति : राजनारायण जी, मेहरबानी करके बैठ जाइए।

श्री राजनारायण : एक मिनट में हम बैठेंगे। मैं लास्की का एक वाक्य सुनाना चाहता हूँ—
the duty of the Opposition . . .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I am on my legs. Please sit down.

श्री राजनारायण : मैं फिर कहूंगा कि एक मिनट के पहले मैं नहीं बैठ सकता।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I am on my legs. So I request you to please sit down.

श्री राजनारायण : एक मिनट में मैं खत्म कर रहा हूँ। It is the duty of the Opposition to criticise, to repudiate and to change the Government. This is the duty of the Opposition. इसलिए मैं चाहता हूँ कि विरोधी दल के नेता का कार्य वे ठीक प्रकार से करें।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I would like to request Mr. Rajnarain to sit down. Now I am standing on my legs. You sought the permission of the Chair to raise a point of order and the Chairman had given you the permission. I would like to request hon. Members that, when they are given the permission, they should not in any way misuse it. I mean you should have raised the point of order mentioning the points as point number one, point number two, point number three and so on. If you had raised it that way, I would have appreciated it. But taking advantage of the point of order you should not go on like this.

श्री राजनारायण : पार्लियामेंटरी प्रोसीजर में आपसे सीखने वाला नहीं हूँ। हमारा पार्लियामेंटरी अनुभव आपसे कम नहीं है, एजुकेशनल क्वालीफिकेशन आपसे कम नहीं है। I know my duty. I know what is a point of order.

श्री उपसभापति : आप लम्बा भाषण करते गए।

श्री राजनारायण : लम्बा भाषण नहीं हुआ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : All right. The House stands adjourned till 2. P. M.

The House then adjourned for lunch at one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at two of the clock, MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS COMMISSION

2. SHRI A. D. MANI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to wind up the Administrative Reforms Commission by the end of the current financial year;

(b) whether the A. R. C. still has some programme of work and wants to continue its work ;

(c) whether there has been any correspondence on the subject between the Government and the A. R. C. ; and if so, what is the substance thereof ;

(d) what is the amount of expenditure that has been incurred so far on the A.R.C. ; and

(e) the names of the present members of the A. R. C. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Administrative Reforms Commission was to examine ten important

fields of administration specifically mentioned in its terms of reference. In addition, it undertook studies of a few major organisations. It has submitted reports covering nine of the specifically mentioned items as also on some of the organisations it took up for study. It has intimated that it intends to submit reports in the remaining area as soon as possible.

(d) Rs. 63,13,575 upto 31-10-1969.

(e) Besides its Chairman, Shri K. Hanumanthaiya, M. P., the Commission consists of the following members:

Shri H. V. Kamath .

Shri Debabrata Mookerjee.

Shri T. N. Singh, M. P.

Shri V. Shankar.

SHRI A. D. MANI : May I ask the Minister whether it is not a fact that the Chairman of the Administrative Reforms Commission has asked for time for the work of the Commission up to June this year? I am raising this matter because there is considerable public anxiety about the expenditure on the Administrative Reforms Commission and many have come to feel that it has become a permanent part of our political set-up like the Election Commission. May I ask him further whether the Reports which the Commission submits are circulated to Members of Parliament? We have received only three Reports of the Administrative Reforms Commission and we have had no discussion on any one of these Reports. I would like to ask the Government whether they are going to permit discussion on these Reports on the floor of the House here as well as on the floor of the House there.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : As far as the time of the Commission is concerned, the Commission itself has been anxious to wind up its work as quickly as possible and that is the reason why they have been asking for some time in the hope that they will be able to finish the work within that time.

AN HON. MEMBER: What is some time? Years?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : Actually they have been asking for time, sometimes three months, sometimes six months, sometimes nine months; from time to time they have been coming up to the Government with the request that the