

MESSAGE FROM THE LOK SABHA

THE ASSAM REORGANISATION (MEGHALAYA) BILL, 1969

SECRETARY Sir, I have to report to the House the following message received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary of the Lok Sabha —

"In accordance with the provisions of Rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose herewith the Assam Reorganisation (Meghalaya) Bill 1969, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 21st December, 1969"

Sir, I lay the Bill on the Table

SHRI OM MEHTA (Jammu and Kashmir) I again request the Leader of the

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) After Punjab

SHRI OM MEHTA After Punjab?

श्री राजनारायण (उत्तर प्रदेश) श्रीमन्, आप से यही एक प्रश्न करूंगा कि जो बिल अभी लोक सभा में पाम हो कर आया है और जिस पर आज हम में आप विचार करवा रहे हैं, क्या यह ससदीय है, उचित है और वैध है? इन तीनों का उत्तर आप दे दोजियेगा ताकि भविष्य में जब हम कुछ कहे, तो आप उसको भी कसीडर करे।

सभा के नेता (श्री के० के० शाह) राजनारायण जी, आपको रेक्वेस्ट करने का तो हमको अधिकार है।

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA I would appeal to the Leader of the House, do not raise this issue. Let us go through the Punjab Bill and conclude it. After that

MR DEPUTY CHAIRMAN There were some unforeseen circumstances

SHRI RAJNARAIN Unforeseen?

MR DEPUTY CHAIRMAN And that is why the Assam Reorganisation (Meghalaya) Bill is coming at this stage. So, we come to the Punjab Bill

THE PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (ABOLITION) BILL, 1969

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI K K SHAH) Mr Deputy Chairman, I beg to move

"That the Bill to provide for the abolition of the Legislative Council of the State of Punjab and for matters supplemental, incidental and consequential thereto, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration"

The question was proposed

SHRI M P BHARGAVA (Uttar Pradesh) On a point of order May I ask the Leader of the House whether this subject falls under Family Planning, Works, Housing or Health?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) It is the family planning of the Legislative Council Chambers of the States

(Some hon. Members stood up)

MR DEPUTY CHAIRMAN You all agreed to pass the Bill. I am giving you an opportunity. You want to postpone the passing of the Bill?

श्री राजनारायण (उत्तर प्रदेश) हम इस बिल का स्वागत करना हैं और यह जल्द में जल्द पाम हो जाना चाहिये।

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA We all welcome it and I beg let this Bill be passed without debate. That will be a symbol of our desire

SHRI NIREN GHOSH (West Bengal) One minute. Some Members from the Lok Sabha said that this House should be abolished. I do not agree with them for the reason that this House represents the States. States means nationalities. India is a multi-national country. Whatever the set-up the nationalities have to exist and there should be some House representing those nationalities. So, they are wrong. That is all.

श्री गनेशी लाल चौधरी (उत्तर प्रदेश) मैं इस बिल का स्वागत करना हूँ और चाहता हूँ कि यह बिल जल्दी से जल्दी पाम कर दिया जाय।

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY (Mysore) . I am very happy to lend our support to this measure. In 1932 this question was raised in the State Assembly of Mysore. We all wanted that the Mysore Legislative Council should be abolished. Unfortunately, the Congress was in power. We could not do it in Mysore. I am happy that one by one the Legislative Councils of States are being abolished. West Bengal Legislative Council is abolished. Punjab Legislative Council is going to be abolished. Through out India, in all the States, the Legislative Councils are anachronisms. They have no place in a democratic set-up. They should be abolished. They are misused for propping up the defeated candidates for making them Chief Ministers. That was done in Bombay, that was done in Madras, that was done in Mysore. We should pass this Bill.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA Sir, only one word.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN . You have already said. You have finished the speech.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA Then, it is my right.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN You are speaking twice. On the first occasion, you said, "I welcome the Bill."

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA Otherwise we go by default. You will understand. People will not know what we say. All right. I wanted to take one minute and merely I make a one-minute speech.

I congratulate the people of Punjab and the legislators of Punjab for having taken the decision to abolish the Council. It also goes to the credit of the Rajya Sabha to day that almost without any debate we are endorsing the Punjab Legislative Council (Abolition) Bill and extending to them our good wishes and our full support.

श्री ना० कृ० शंजवलकर (मध्य प्रदेश)
माननीय उपमहापति महोदय, आपकी सम्मति से मैं केवल इतना ही निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में सबसे पहला कदम उठाने वाला हमारा मध्य प्रदेश का राज्य था। मध्य प्रदेश में यह मवाल उठा, कांग्रेस की सरकार के पतन के बाद यह सवाल वहाँ आया था, लेकिन हम लोगों ने यही प्रयास किया कि यह न हो।

यह कहा गया कि फिर मैं अपर हाउस को कायम करवा जाय और उसका लाभ उठाया जाय। लेकिन जैसे ही हम लोग सरकार में शामिल हुये, तो सब से पहला काम यह किया गया कि वहाँ इस प्रकार का अपर चेम्बर न बनाया जाय। तो जो यह विधेयक यहाँ पारित करके भेजा गया है, उसका मैं स्वागत करता हूँ और यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि इस प्रकार की एवान्तिशम की जो कार्यवाही की जा रही है, वह बहुत उचित है। मैं इसका स्वागत करता हूँ।

سردار نپندر سنگھ بٹال (پنجاب) :

جناب - میں اس بل کا स्वाگت کرتا ہوں اور مجھے فخر حاصل ہے کہ میری پارٹی کی حکومت نے یہ نیک کام کیا ہے - یہ نیک قدم اٹھایا ہے اور اس میں ہمارے دوسرے بھائیوں نے بھی اس کا ساتھ دیا ہے - میں ان سب کا स्वाگت کرتا ہوں - یہ ایک اچھی بات ہوئی ہے - دس مہینے کے بعد یہ بل لایا گیا ہے - دیر پہلے مجھے خوشی ہے کہ یہ بل آج لایا گیا ہے - اور یہاں آیا اور آپ اس کو پاس کرے گا وہ ہیں - یوں اس کو پہلے ہی پاس کرنا چاہئے تھا لیکن پھر بھی ایک اچھا کام ہو رہا ہے - میں سب کا شکریہ ادا کرتا ہوں اور آپ کا بھی شکریہ ادا کرتا ہوں کہ آپ نے اس کے لئے موقع دیا -

†[सुरदार नरेन्द्र सिंह बार (पंजाब) जनाब, मैं इस बिल का स्वागत करता हूँ और मुझे फख्र हासिल है कि मेरी पार्टी का हुकूमत ने यह नेक काम किया, यह नेक कदम उठाया और हमसे हमारे दूसरे भाईयो ने भी उसका साथ दिया। मैं उन सबका स्वागत करता हूँ। यह एक अच्छी बात हुई है। 10 महीने के बाद यह बिल लाया गया है, फिर भी मुझे खुशी है कि यह बिल आज लाया गया और यहाँ आया और आप इसको पाम करने जा रहे हैं। या इसको

[श्री नरेन्द्र सिंह ब्रार]

पहले ही पास करना चाहिये था, लेकिन फिर भी आज एक अच्छा काम हो रहा है। मैं सब का शुक्रिया अदा करता हूँ और आपका भी शुक्रिया अदा करता हूँ कि आपने इसके लिये मौका दिया।]

श्री जगत नारायण (हरियाणा) : डिप्टी चैयरमैन साहब, हम अपोजीशन पार्टियों के नेताओं के बड़े शुक्रगुजार हैं कि सबने मिल कर इसका स्वागत किया है और मैं कांग्रेस पार्टी का भी मशकूर हूँ कि उन्होंने इस बिल को इस सेशन में पाम कर दिया। बाहे इसको देर हुई लेकिन मैं उनका शुक्रिया अदा करता हूँ और इस बिल का स्वागत करता हूँ। हालांकि 10 महीने पहले ही इसको पंजाब ने पाम कर भेजा था, लेकिन देर आयद दुस्त आयद और हम इसका स्वागत करते हैं।

SHRI G. P. SOMASUNDARAM (Tamil Nadu) : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, it all depends whether in a particular State the Council is working in a proper way or not. But the Punjab Council is not working. They have passed a resolution to abolish it. So I support the Bill.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE (West Bengal) : Sir, I welcome this Bill and through you, I request the Government to bring a Bill to delete articles 168 and 169 totally from the Indian Constitution.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA (Uttar Pradesh) : Mr. Deputy Chairman, while welcoming the Bill I want to draw your attention to what happened in 1962. Just now Mr. Niren Ghosh said that there was a demand in the Lok Sabha for the abolition of this House. A similar thing happened in 1962. One day, the then Chief Whip, Mr. Satya Narayan Sinha, came to me and asked : "Bhargava, do you know the demand in the Lok Sabha?" They say that we cannot afford the luxury of having the Upper Houses and, therefore, they want the Rajya Sabha to be abolished". I said, "Forgive them. They know not what they are talking. If in emergency any House has to be abolished it will be the Lok Sabha. The Rajya Sabha is a permanent body." I welcome this Bill for the abolition of the Punjab Legislative Council.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Any reply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA GHARAN SHUKLA) : No reply is needed.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill to provide for the abolition of the Legislative Council of the State of Punjab and for matters supplemental, incidental and consequential thereto, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : We shall now take up the clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 9 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI MOHAMMED YUNUS SALEEM) : Sir, I move :

"That the Bill be passed."

** The question was proposed.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Any observation?

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA (Orissa) : Since I did not get a chance in the first reading, in the third reading I associate myself with the sentiment as expressed here.

श्री शीलभद्र याजी (बिहार) : मुझे भी बोलना है।

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, इतको बुलायेगे तो यह सब बिगाड़ देगे, उनको न बुलाइये।

श्री शीलभद्र याजी : राजनारायण जी, आप क्या कहते हैं? माननीय डिप्टी चैयरमैन साहब, यह बिल जो पाम हो रहा है, उसकी तो मैं तारीफ करता हूँ। लेकिन जो विरोधी दल के लोग हैं, उनको एक नसीहत भी देना चाहता हूँ और वह नसीहत यह है कि जो कौमिल की व्यवस्था है, उसके

निये जब वह माइनास्टी में आ जाते हैं, तो चिल्ला पां मवाने लगते हैं कि कौन्सिल टूट जानी चाहिये, लेकिन ...

سودار نريندو سنگھ برار : ہمارے وہاں
تو معجراتی نے پاس کیا ہے -

†[सरदार नरेन्द्र सिंह बरार : हमारे वहाँ तो मैजस्ट्री ने पास किया है ।

श्री शीलभद्र याजी : इस मिलसिले में वह ठीक है । भागव जी ने कहा कि अनाप शाप बात होने लगती है । कहने लगते हैं कि राज्य मभा रखी जाय नहीं रखी जाय । लेकिन मेरा कहना है कि राज्य मभा जो है वह पर्सनल वार्ड है और उसका दूसरा काम्पटीट्यूशन है । लेकिन मेरा कहना यह है कि जो अपर चैम्बर को हटाने की असेम्बली में माग आई है वह ठीक है और जितने जोर शोर से इसको आज पास किया गया है वह ठीक है । लेकिन एक जमाना आयेगा जब कि फिर से वहाँ में कौन्सिल को बनाने की माग आने वाली है और उसके लिये मेरा कहना है कि तब इस हाउस को उसे कभी भी मजूर नहीं करना चाहिये । वस मुझे इतना ही कहना है ।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, we are a House of young people, full of vitality, including the Chairman. That is why within ten minutes we have passed it.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : We are more alive to this institution

HALF AN-HOUR DISCUSSION RE. SHARES HELD BY SHRIMATI ARUNA ASAF ALI AND THE DIRECT TAXES PAID BY HER DURING THE LAST TEN YEARS

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Half-an-hour discussion. Mr. Lokanath Misra.

† [] Hindi transliteration.

SHRI. BHUPESH GUPTA : After this we will go to the Meghalaya Bill, I hope The House can assure the Government that they will pass it.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH (West Bengal) : Sir, I am not here for long. But I want to record that I want the Meghalaya Bill to be passed today. I may have to go away for some other work. It should be passed today.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : All right. Please sit down. Before Mr. Mishra starts his speech, I would request him to limit his observations to ten minutes because we have got a large number of Members who would like to ask clarifications or put questions to the Minister. Therefore, if you want this Half-an-hour discussion to be really finished within half an hour, I will request the hon'ble Member to take only ten minutes.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY (Andhra Pradesh) : It is 5-19.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA (Orissa) : It is 5-20. Now I start. Sir, the question of Shrimati Aruna Asaf Ali's tax arrear has been taken up in both the Houses of Parliament for the last six months or so. In both the Houses the Government does not want to part with information which is inconvenient to them. All the time we have been told that she had an investment of about Rs. 7-18 lakhs in the Raisina Publications and some other publications without being intimated as to which was the source of this huge amount for investment. Yesterday, Sir, you would have kindly noticed that there was some attempt here that the question may not be taken up for oral answers. It is very good of you, Sir, to have allowed me to take this matter up in the shape of a half-an-hour discussion today.

Yesterday there was a statement laid on the Table of the House which said that Mrs. Aruna Asaf Ali had made a donation of Rs. 13,98,000 to one Foundation, called Dr. A. V. Baliga Foundation. The total wealth in possession of Mrs. Aruna Asaf Ali is not known. Any socialist in this country is an iceberg and more so Mrs. Aruna Asaf Ali where the visible part is probably much less than the invisible one. And I would not have come to know, nor would the country have come to know, the assets of Mrs. Aruna Asaf Ali, if we had not persistently and insiscently tried to dig into it. Ultimately, because of this digging she is completely exposed,