

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I am also proud, I go to Calcutta via U.P. I am glad, because I go to Calcutta via U.P. where no Congress Government exists.

SHRI C. D. PANDE: It will come into existence, you will see. And then when you pass that way I will give you a free pass.

Mr. Rajnarain said that Shri Ramchandra Vikal was the only person who could be called to form a Government, that he was the only person who can do it. You might have seen in the papers how Shri Ramchandra Vikal says that Shri Charan Singh is the only person who can lead a Government and Shri Ramchandra Vikal himself knows that he cannot form a stable Government, that Shri Charan Singh alone can form a stable Government. Mr. Rajnarain who uses abuses and vituperations in his speech is not in the House when it is a question of hearing the answers to his points. He swears by Shri Ramchandra Vikal and Shri Ramchandra Vikal swears by Shri Charan Singh. So is my hon. friend Shri Rajnarain going to submit to Shri Charan Singh again? Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA): Mr. Niren Ghosh.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I oppose the Presidential Proclamation in U.P. and I also agree with Shri Rajnarain when he says that in many ways things in U.P. are similar to those that happened in West Bengal.

Now it was an extremely good thing, and it is an extremely good thing for India, it is indeed a boon for India that U.P. which was considered . . .

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA): Mr. Niren Ghosh, there is an important statement to be made. Will you please resume your seat? Mr. Shukla will make the statement and then you can continue.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER RE STABBING OF MR. JUSTICE GROVER OF THE SUPREME COURT

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, this incident about the attack on an Hon'ble Judge of the Supreme Court was raised in the House a little earlier by an hon. Member. We have just collected some information, and I would like to inform the House about this sad incident

At about 2.30 P.M. today, Chief Justice Mr. Hidayatullah was dictating the judgment in a case, No. 162/65, namely, the State of Gujarat versus Chunnibhai Gopaldas. There were two Justices of the Supreme Court on either side Mr. Justice A. N. Grover on the left, and Mr. Justice C. A. Vaidyalingam on the right. Besides, there were two court masters who were also on either side of the Justices, one of them taking down the dictation, while the other was watching. Suddenly the assailant rushed upon the dais of the court room with an open knife in his hand. As he approached the Justices, one of the court masters moved to a side avoiding the assailant, and immediately he jumped on the table in front of the Chief Justice. The Chief Justice took hold of a heavy article on the table presumably with a view to defending himself. However, the assailant turned his attention to Mr. Justice Grover, jumped on him, and both fell down. The Librarian, one of the writer masters, and the Chief Justice grappled with the assailant and caught hold of him.

Mr. Justice Grover was immediately removed to the hospital, whose authorities have informed us that Mr. Justice Grover received only a superficial wound on the scalp, which has been stitched up, and he is out of danger. He is however being requested to rest in the hospital for observation.

The assailant's name, as ascertained from him, is Manmohan Das, son of Gopalcharan Das, village Chhutkalia, Post Office Jangipur, district

[Shri Vidya Charan Shukla]

Murshidabad, West Bengal The Inspector-General of Police is personally supervising the investigation of the case along with a team of senior police officials. Adequate security measures for the protection of the Judges of the Supreme Court have been taken.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) Mr Vice-Chairman, I should like to ask a clarification. First of all I should like to know this. From what I gathered from the Statement it does appear that from inside the court room the man moved to the dais where the Judges were sitting. And there is a kind of barrier I understand—that is what we see when we go there—between the Bench and the rest of the court. Now it seems that he crossed it or got through somehow or other. Now it does appear that during the process nothing was done. Here again is a clear case of how Government fails to protect even Judges. Now the police of the Delhi Administration is supposed to protect the Judges. Everybody knows that there are litigants—and other people sometimes—who have their grievance and they lose their balance also sometimes—it happens. Now it is quite clear that with regard to this Supreme Court of India it is the Central Government which is supposed to run the show of the Delhi Administration, for I do not know to what extent they are responsible and did not provide for adequate protection to the Judges. It is not as if somebody got up and suddenly took out a revolver and shot. Here the man got up, he walked first of all. Well if there was vigilance there he should have been caught immediately. He would not have been in a position to proceed or to go to the Judges in so close proximity. In fact he fell upon one of them. Such a thing should not have happened. So this needs to be explained. Now Mr Vice-Chairman it is a serious thing. I think that it is not a question that can be disposed of lightly. This statement will not do. I suggest that tomorrow a comprehensive statement be made and I demand that we

Members of Parliament be taken to the Supreme Court to see how exactly what happened. The whole thing should be reproduced, reconstructed before us because here is a grave failure on the part of the Delhi police to provide the security arrangements. I see a unique thing in Delhi. In this city Delhi we had one Solicitor-General murdered. Such things had taken place and now we have such things happening almost with impunity. It is just by chance that the Judges have been saved. Well it has been just by chance though sheer luck nothing else. They had not been saved by the security arrangements if any, there. Well this is a serious matter and the Government merits the strongest condemnation about it. They were responsible for law and order and they were specially responsible for security in the Supreme Court for the Supreme Court rooms and other things there. Mr Vice-Chairman it is a very serious matter, all the more so because somehow or other the Government is ignoring this kind of security measures with regard to people like the Judges and others. Well if you go to some of the Ministers' official residences you will find they are well protected there. But not in the case of Judges or even the Chief Justice. It is a disgrace, I mean what India will look like tomorrow when it is known that in the capital of India the Chief Justice and other brother Judges were attacked in the Supreme Court almost with impunity. It does not appear that there was proper protection. Therefore action is certainly called for. We all deplore that kind of condemning that law will take its course but, certainly Mr Vice-Chairman. We Members of Parliament register our strongest protest against the manner in which the Delhi police has been functioning. Every day it is showing its incompetence whether it is Connaught Circus disturbances or other crimes involving even murders. And now we find that murders are going to take place in the Supreme Court, right under the eyes of the police officials here. We demand exemplary punishment to the officials responsible. Certainly the Inspector-General should give an explanation and that

explanation should be read out in the House. We should like to know the nature of the security arrangements in the Supreme Court. We should like to know each official responsible. We should like to know how many plain clothes are posted and in what manner posted. We should like to know how many uniformed police are there. Mr Vice-Chairman, finally before I sit down, I may tell you that when Mr Gopalan and other detenus were taken to the Supreme Court we found that for one detenu they provided fifty police guards like that I have seen it myself. I have been there again and again to see such things. And here the Judges are left to the mercy of an assailant of this kind. These are matters which should not be brushed aside. I would appeal to you and through you to the Government to the Home Minister to come here tomorrow with a comprehensive statement and make it possible for Members of Parliament and for Parliament as a whole to be effectively seized of this matter. The Delhi police administration especially the security arrangements and other things need a most searching probe and steps should be taken in this direction, quite apart from the disciplinary action that is called for. We cannot understand this. What will happen tomorrow. Nobody knows. What is the guarantee that the Vice-President will not be attacked or somebody else will not be attacked? Leave alone us we are a small fry. We can be done away. Therefore I say the matter is very serious because it concerns the Supreme Court and the Judges of the Supreme Court the Chief Justice of the country.

SHRI A D MANI (Madhya Pradesh) Mr Vice-Chairman the whole House will condemn this dastardly attack on a Judge of the Supreme Court and an attempted attack on the Chief Justice of India. The whole House will also congratulate both of them on their miraculous escape. Here I would like to mention that the statement made by the hon. Minister is extremely brief because there are some gaps in it. When I was in the Supreme Court this afternoon I understood that the assailant did not enter by the public passage but he entered

through the entrance on the Judges' side of the court.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA That is worse still.

SHRI A D MANI I saw the alleged assailant in the guard room. He was in rags. How could a man of that type in rags enter the Supreme Court in this manner? I was told that in the Supreme Court Justice is open and justice is public and anybody can go anywhere. I would like the Hon. Minister of State to get in touch with the Registrar of the Supreme Court and find out what are the security arrangements for the protection of Judges. I have given a notice of a Calling Attention motion in my name and.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA Add my name also to it.

SHRI A D MANI The Minister of State should accept that Calling Attention notice and give us a full statement tomorrow because this thing cannot go on. If Judges are to be subjected to attacks then there will hardly be any justice in this country.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY (Andhra Pradesh) Mr Vice-Chairman I entirely share the feelings expressed by Shri Bhupesh Gupta and Shri Mani. Certainly this is a very shocking thing and it is a very grave matter and I am sure not only Mr Gupta but the whole lot of us, including the Home Minister share this feeling. But Sir I think the statement that of the Home Minister has given to the House is a brief one. May be because he did not have the time to collect all the details. But certainly, if as Mr Mani says the assailant entered through the Judges' entrance, then it is certainly worse. If a person found so suspicious could come through the Judges' side of the Chamber then certainly something is very wrong with the security arrangements. After all it is not only politicians alone who are concerned with laws. It is the Judges who have to preserve and give justice according to the law of the land. It is for them to give justice according to the law of the land and therefore their lives are precious. Every Member

[Shrimati Yashoda Peddy]

here is shocked and the whole nation is shocked and I am sure the Home Ministry realises the gravity of the situation.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Does he?

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY: I do not agree when Mr. Gupta says that.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Do you say it because of your Party?

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY: No, as a human being I say it. All of us realise it.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA): Shrimati Yashoda Reddy, what is the clarification you are seeking.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY: I only say that the Home Minister should find out who are responsible for the security arrangements, whatever they are, in the Supreme court, and they should be taken to task. Also we should have a complete and comprehensive statement and there should be the guarantee that better security arrangements will be kept. Obviously whatever was there, was not enough. It is quite obvious.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH (West Bengal): Mr. Vice-Chairman. Mr. Mani's statement has made the situation worse. No doubt everybody will condemn this dastardly thing. But the question now is that in the capital of the country, in Delhi, if such characters can move about and if murder, rape, abduction and what not, all these things can occur, then what are we to think of it? Time and again this matter has been brought on the floor of the House. But it seems that the Minister who is directly responsible in this matter—it is a Union Territory—seems to be sleeping over all these things. So the matters have become very grave and India's name stands besmirched when such an attack can take place on a Judge and the Chief Justice in the very court room. So the whole thing should be gone into. The entire crime position in Delhi should be gone into and a thorough overhaul should be conducted.

MISS M. L. MARY NAIDU (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, I agree with what Mr. Bhupesh Gupta and Mr. Mani and my friend Shrimati Yashoda Reddy have said and I would like to ask for clarification on one point. If the man had come from West Bengal I would ask the hon. Home Minister to find out who he is, what he is, if he is a Left Communist or there is any other implication about it.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA): All these things will be found out.

MISS M. L. MARY NAIDU: And we should have full details about it.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: We do take a very serious view of this matter. It is a very serious incident and I do not like Mr. Gupta making it an Opposition versus Government matter. It is not that. The whole House condemns it and...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It is the duty of the Opposition to say it. It is our duty. I never said it was a party matter.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: Why does he interrupt me like this? Mr. Vice-Chairman, I am saying that it is not a party matter. It is a very serious matter and it should not be treated lightheartedly as Mr. Bhupesh Gupta is treating it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: I should not be interrupted like this.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA): Let him have his say.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: I am not yielding.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: You have to answer for it.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: Nobody and much less Mr. Gupta should treat this matter in this way. It is not a party matter. It is a very serious matter and I can assure the Hon. Member that I take an even more serious view of it than he does. He need not have to worry about it. We are going to take the necessary action.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It is not a question of who takes a graver view.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: Whatever information comes to us I will give to the House. I have already given this Statement and we have taken adequate precautionary measures and whenever we get more information we will make a fuller statement to the House.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: On a point of order and submission, Sir. We never raised it as a party question. The very fact that two Hon. Members on the Congress benches have risen and we more or less have agreed with regard to certain matters shows that it is not a party issue. The issue is not a party issue at all. Suppose some Congress Member. . .

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA): What is your point of order, Mr. Gupta?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Suppose a Congress M.P. is killed, certainly we will criticise the Government and I shall question the security arrangements. Does it become a party question? He raised this party question and not I. No, it is not a party question at all, I say the Delhi Police administration, as is well known, displays utter incompetence and criminal negligence and those responsible should be given proper punishment. That is what I say.

श्री हयातुल्ला अन्सारी : यह बहुत अफमोस की बात है कि मिस्टर भूपेश गुप्ता बराबर बोलते रहे जब कि आनरेबल मिनिस्टर साहब तकरीर कर रहे थे। मैं आनरेबल मिनिस्टर का स्टेटमेन्ट कुछ भी नहीं समझ सका। भूपेश गुप्ता जी को कुछ तो खयाल करना चाहिये कि हाऊस के मेम्बरान यह तो जान सकें कि आनरेबल मिनिस्टर क्या कह रहे हैं। दोनों एक साथ बोल रहे थे और मेरे पल्ले कुछ भी नहीं पड़ा कि क्या कह रहे थे।

SHRI JAGAT NARAIN: Sir, I submit that the Minister himself

should go personally and see the whole thing and then come and inform the House.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Yes, that is it. He never said which Minister went there. I would like to know if any Minister went there at all. I can understand that the Minister of State was busy here. But did any Minister go there? It was Mr. A. D. Mani who went there and then he came and informed the House.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA): How do you know what is happening?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Mr. Vice-Chairman, if the Chair does not deal with such matters properly then we can have no remedy.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA): It is a very serious matter and he realises it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May be, we have been a little angry; may be, we have not spoken with as much balance as we ought to have spoken. But he should realise what has happened and realise also all its implications and he should display that while giving his answers.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA): He did realise it.

RESOLUTION RE PROCLAMATION BY PRESIDENT UNDER ARTICLE 356 IN RELATION TO THE STATE OF UTTAR PRADESH—continued.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I was saying that it has been a boon to India that the reactionary Congress rule has ended in Uttar Pradesh and the supposed great Congress citadel has fallen. Naturally there was cause for jubilation amongst the people. They thought that however isolated they might be, however anti-people they might be, perhaps the Congress rule in Uttar Pradesh cannot be ended. It has been done in the very heart of India which boasts of providing three Prime Ministers. It is good that the Congress rule was ended there but I would like to say that just the Opposition parties coming together does