

RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, the 22nd November, 1967/ the 1st Aghrayana, 1889 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

REQUEST TO SUSPEND QUESTION HOUR TO DISCUSS WEST BENGAL SITUATION

MR. CHAIRMAN : Questions, Mr. Chitta Basu.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (West Bengal): Sir, I have a submission to make to the Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN : After the question time.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH (West Bengal) : But we find that parliamentary democracy has been turned into a farce. If the Constitution is not to be preserved and obeyed, what is this Constitution for ? That is what I want to know. If the Ministers can act in an unconstitutional way, is it democracy ? What is it ?

SHRI JAIRAMDAS DAULATRAM (Nominated) : On a point of order, Sir. I think hon. Members should follow the rules if there is to be democracy.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : You are killing democracy.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) : What is the point of order? Mr. Chairman, every constitutional lawyer and every jurist in the country has said that the Governor has no power to dismiss the ministry.

MR. CHAIRMAN : But this is not the time to discuss it.

(Interruptions)

We shall discuss it at the proper time. I am here to protect everyone.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : What protection ?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Mr. Chavan and Shrimati Indira Gandhi have killed democracy. 1—62 R.S./67

SHRI G. MURAHARI (Uttar Pradesh) : I request you to allow a discussion on this here and now, Sir,

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : No, no.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, we submit to you, that because of the gravity of the situation, the Question Hour be suspended.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : No, no.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Why not ? The rules provide for it.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Uttar Pradesh) : Sir, he has made a motion now and you can take the sense of the House.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : But you have already killed the Constitution.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I can understand that. Mr. Chandra Shekhar is a clever man and he has conceded one point and said that you should now take the sense of the House. I say, in your discretion, you can suspend the Question Hour.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: No, no.

SHRI G. MURAHARI : What happened in West Bengal would not have happened if there had been democracy. Otherwise there is no sense in taking the sense of the House.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Shrimati Indira Gandhi and Mr. Chavan pretend to protect democracy but they are really the killers of democracy.

श्री राजनारायण (उत्तर प्रदेश) : श्रीमन्, एक रिक्वेस्ट है।

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : We see the hand of the C.I.A. in what has happened in West Bengal and Haryana.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : We have a Prime Minister who has dismissed two Governments in one day. We have as Prime Minister a person who dismissed the Kerala Ministry in 1959. She has broken a world record.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, एक रिक्वेस्ट में कर रहा हूँ। जरा एक रिक्वेस्ट हमारी सुन लीजिये। मेरा निवेदन यह है कि रूल्स में प्राविजन है कि आप किसी नियम को सस्पेंड कर सकते हैं . . .

श्री बाबूभाई एम० चिनाई (महाराष्ट्र) : नहीं।

SHRIMATI TARA RAMCHANDRA SATHE (Maharashtra) : Is this not the Question Hour?

(Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER : If you want to create noise, we also can do it.

श्री राजनारायण : मुझे कह लेने दीजिये, अगर हल्ला करना चाहते हैं तो करिये। क्या मैं भी हल्ला करूँ ?

मुझे इस बात की खुशी है कि श्री चन्द्र शखर जी ने इस बात को माना कि रूल्स का सस्पेंशन होता है, क्वेश्चन आवर सस्पेंड किया जा सकता है। तो आप खुद इस चीज को महसूस करते होंगे कि यकायक यहाँ पार्लियामेंट चल रही है, हम लोग यहाँ से घर जा रहे हैं और सवा आठ बजे का रेडिओ खोला जाता है और यह खबर आती है कि मंत्रिमंडल को बंगाल में भंग कर दिया गया और श्री पी० सी० घोष को शपथ दिला दी गई, यह कोई मामूली घटना नहीं है। क्या संविधान की रक्षा हुई है, क्या जनतंत्र की रक्षा हुई है? पार्लियामेंट से सारी बात छिपी हुई है, हम लोगों से छिपी है। कल ही मेरा माथा तीन बजे खटका था— मैं नाम नहीं बताऊंगा—जब कि कांग्रेस के एक बड़े नेता ने कहा कि क्या हर्ज है अगर बंगाल में पाँच हजार आदमी गोली से भून दिये जायेंगे . . .

श्री अर्जुन अरोड़ा (उत्तर प्रदेश) : नाम बतावें

श्री राजनारायण : नहीं। उन्होंने कहा कि पाँच हजार आदमी अगर गोली से भून दिये जायेंगे, तो कोई हर्ज नहीं है। तो हम सोचते थे कि शायद दो चार दिन इसमें इंतजार करें। लेकिन इतनी बड़ी घटना हुई और हम सदन में बैठे रहे। इसलिये मेरी प्रार्थना है कि हम पहले इस पर चर्चा करें।

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now please sit down. There is no motion before me. You can give me a motion.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I have given the motion. Sir, the position is like this. We are the Council of States and we have a specific responsibility in matters relating to the autonomy of the States and the functioning of the States in the normal processes of the Constitution. But here today we find flagrantly all these things have been thrown overboard and I say what they have done is a great crime against the Constitution, a monumental crime. In such conditions, Sir, you, Mr. Chairman, as the presiding officer should take the initiative in your hands and protect the Constitution and protect the honour and rights of this House. We submit that the Question Hour be suspended and we proceed to discuss this matter now.

(Several hon. Members stood up).

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall not allow anyone to get up when I am standing. I do not except anybody to get up when I am standing. So far as I am concerned, I appreciate your feelings. But we must be sportsmen before we are politicians. Therefore, let me...

(Interruptions).

Mr. Niren Ghosh, you sit down. I appreciate your feelings. I shall allow a discussion but not now. After the Question Hour is over, I shall explain when I will take it up.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : What sort of a sportswoman is Shrimati Indira Gandhi ?

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Is this sportsmanship? Or is it sporting with the fate of India? They play with the fate of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Chitta Basu, to put his question.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : Before I put my question, I want to give expression to my feelings...

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : No, no.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall not allow that. I have known your feelings. Now you put your question.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : No, Sir. I have to...

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, I shall not allow that. I know the feelings. You sit down.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : You are doing an injustice, Sir.

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE (West Bengal) : On a point of order, Sir.

[The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and of Social Welfare (Shri K. Raghu-ramaiah) started reading out the answer to Starred Question No. 61].

SHRI CHITTA BASU : Sir, is he answering my question?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes.

SHRI G. MURAHARI : But he has not put his question, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has put his question.

SHRI G. MURAHARI : No. I shall definitely protest against such things. The Member has not put his question.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Have you not put your question?

SHRI CHITTA BASU : No. Sir. Before putting my question I...

MR. CHAIRMAN : No. I will not allow that.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, एक हमारा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है, प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है। क्या जिस सरकार के मंत्रिमंडल के लिये आम तौर से अखबारों में यह चर्चा हो कि उसमें अमेरिका का एक एजेंट है, आज 'पेट्रियाट' के फ्रंट पेज पर सी० आई०ए० की रफ्त छपी है फर्स्ट कालम में कि अमेरिका का वर्तमान मंत्रिमंडल में एक एजेंट है, तो उस सरकार को इस देश के हित को मद्देनजर रखते हुये उत्तर देने का कोई हक है? इसलिये मैं चाहता हूँ कि पहले इस पर बहस हो जानी चाहिये।

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is a different matter. That will come up later. Now, Mr. Chitta Basu.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PETRO-CHEMICAL COMPLEX IN GUJARAT

*61. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a delegation from East Germany visited New Delhi in August last for exploratory talks for setting up a public sector Petro-chemical complex in Gujarat based on Koyali refineries ; and

(bi if so, what progress has so far been made in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir. The representatives of M/s. Chemieanlagen-Export Import GmbH of East Germany held discussions on their offer of credit for supply of plant and machinery only for the aromatics and naphtha cracker plants in Gujarat.

(b) No final decision has been taken as yet.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : What are the other features of the proposal of the visiting delegation of East Germany