

**SARDAR SWARAN SINGH:** Miss Fatima Jinnah has also said that the "Tashkent Declaration betrays lack of sagacity, wisdom, foresight and vision on the part of those who accepted, signed, sealed and delivered it on behalf of Pakistan". Could there be a better paraphrase of Mr. Vajpayee's speech?

With these remarks, Mr. Chairman, I wind up this debate and would accept the amendment which has been proposed by Diwan Chaman Lall. I oppose all other amendments.

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:** I appeal to the Jan Sangh to withdraw the amendments.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** I would like to press amendment No. 3. I beg leave to withdraw my amendment Nos. 1 and 2.

*Amendment \*Nos. 1 and 2 were, by leave, withdrawn.*

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I will put No. 3 to vote. The question is:—

3. "That at the end of the motion the following be added, namely;—

'and having considered the same, this House is of the view that—

(a) the Declaration goes counter to the assurances given by Government to this House that troops would not be withdrawn from Pakistan territory unless Pakistan categorically committed itself to a no-war pact;

(b) the Declaration militates against the Constitution in as much as it involves withdrawal from areas which are constitutionally part of the Indian territory;

(c) the Declaration creates in the country a dangerous sense

\*For text of amendments, vide cols.—supra.

of complacency and wishful thinking about Pak intentions not at all warranted by Pak postures as manifested in the speeches by Pak spokesman;

and the House, therefore, calls upon Government to revoke all orders for the withdrawal of troops from Haji Pir, Kargil and Tithwal areas liberated from Pak. occupation."

*The motion was negatived.*

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I shall now put amendment No. 4 moved by Diwan Chaman Lall. The question is:

4. "That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

'and having considered the same, this House approves the stand of the Government of India thereon.'"

*The motion was adopted.*

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I shall now put the motion, as amended, to vote.

The question is:

"That the Tashkent Declaration be taken into consideration, and having considered the same, this House approves the stand of the Government of India thereon."

*The motion was adopted.*

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The House stands adjourned till 2-30 in the afternoon.

The House then adjourned for lunch at twenty seven minutes past one of the clock

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

# STATEMENT ON THE RECENT VISIT TO INDIA OF THE U.S. VICE-PRESIDENT

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA** (West Bengal): Before you call upon the Prime Minister to make a statement I

wish to raise a point of privilege of the House in connection with the statement. She is going to make a statement.

**THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** Unless she makes the statement, what is the point of privilege?

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:** I am not disputing her right to make the statement, not at all.

**THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** Let her first read the statement. Then all points may arise of order, disorder, privilege, etc.

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :** This is not the way. If you say, I have no objection.

**THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** Besides, there is a formality in raising a point of formality . . .

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:** Not a question of formality . . .

**THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** The Prime Minister.

**THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI):** Madam Deputy Chairman, Vice-President Humphrey of the United States, accompanied by Mr. Averell Harriman and other officials, arrived in New Delhi on the 16th evening and left on the 17th night.

During his stay, Vice-President Humphrey called on the President and the Vice-President. He had discussions on economic problems with the Finance Minister, the Minister of Food and Agriculture, and the Minister of Planning, on international affairs with the Foreign Ministers and on the situation along our borders with the Defence Minister. Finally, he had talks with me which rounded up the discussions he had had with my colleagues.

On the food front, he was anxious to get, for President Johnson's information, an assessment of what further assistance we would need from the United States, as well as the kind of help we had been able to mobilise from other countries. He made enquiries regarding our efforts to step up our own agricultural production and expressed satisfaction, both in his talks with me and later in his press conference, with the picture that we had given him of our plans to allocate more resources to agriculture and the evidence that he himself had got of the effectiveness with which our plans were being implemented during his visit to the Punjab.

He further informed me that in order to help our industries to utilise their capacities more fully, the U.S. Government would extend a loan of \$ 100 million which would be available for the import of commodities which are in short supply. He indicated that during my visit to Washington, President Johnson would discuss with me the question of further economic assistance and support for our Fourth Five-Year Plan. In this context, he pointed out and I fully agreed with him, that a country which receives aid from outside should do everything possible to mobilise its own resources to accelerate its rate of growth.

We had a full and frank exchange of views on the Vietnam situation. Vice-President Humphrey gave a resume of the U.S. position on Vietnam and of the outcome of the meeting of President Johnson with the leaders of the South Vietnam Government held in Hawaii recently. He affirmed the U.S. Government's wish to avoid a widening of the conflict and emphasised that they were anxious to see an early restoration of peace which would enable the people of Vietnam to decide their own future through normal democratic processes. He mentioned the keen desire of President Johnson and of the South

[Shrimati Indira Gandhi.]

Vietnam Government to accelerate social and economic development. He appreciated that India's attitude regarding Vietnam was based on India's position as a non-aligned country and as Chairman of the International Commission for Control and Supervision. He expressed the hope that we would do everything possible to facilitate a peaceful solution of the problem. We expressed our concern at the danger of the escalation of the conflict and our anxiety that a peaceful solution should be found for which the framework of the Geneva Agreement formed the best basis.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I would like to seek a few clarifications. The point of privilege I shall mention to you later on. I think the statement which has been made to the House is incomplete on the face of it and is at variance with what has been revealed by the U.S. authorities. In this connection I would invite the attention of the hon. Prime Minister to a news item which has appeared on the 21st February this year in the 'Hindustan Standard'. It is from New York:

"Despatches published in the American Press have said that the U.S. Vice-President, Humphrey, during his talks with the Indian Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, in New Delhi two days ago, complained about the denunciation in the Indian press of the U.S. Vietnam policy and was reassured about it."

Then the exact wording is here:

"Mr. Humphrey told Mrs. Gandhi, for instance, that President Johnson could not ask Congress to pour millions of aid dollars into India if Indian newspapers were full of denunciations of the U.S. action in South Vietnam."

I have got here the official statement issued by the U.S.I.S. which is the account of Mr. Humphrey's press con-

ference after the meeting on the 14th. There he said:

"We Americans understand that the forces seeking to impose their will on free peoples in Southeast Asia are the same forces that threaten India. I have stated our determination to continue to assist the Government of South Vietnam and other governments in Asia in their resistance to aggression and in their efforts to improve the life and the prospects of their people."

Then surprisingly enough, even before the Government spoke to Parliament, the U.S. Embassy issued a press release clarifying what transpired between the Prime Minister and other leaders of the Government on the one hand and the U.S. Vice-President. That statement said:

"Mr. Humphrey did not ask India or Pakistan for aid to South Vietnam, but he did point out that the country needed humanitarian help, including medical and technical."

Then here is a news item 'Humphrey aid strings. '—I am not concerned with what the newspaper says. Therefore from the statements, that I have cited here, it is quite clear that Mr. Humphrey was trying to seek India's support over the Vietnam issue and was telling the Government that unless the American Government would be satisfied in this regard, aid would not be forth coming. I would like to know . . .

SHRI C. D. PANDE (Uttar Pradesh): It is a wrong construction . . .

SHRI M. R. SHERVANI (Uttar Pradesh): On a point of order.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: You have not yet become the Prime Minister. I would like to know from the Prime Minister what exactly transpired in

that regard especially when the Embassy says that they asked for medical help and other humanitarian help, may not be military help?

SHRI M. R. SHERVANI: On a point of order.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He has a point of order.

SHRI M. R. SHERVANI: Under the Rules of this House when a statement is made only clarifications can be asked for and not a speech made. Secondly, are we to believe the press reports or the authentic statements made by the Prime Minister or any other Minister in the House? Are we to take cognisance of press reports or believe the statements made here?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: A reference can be made to press reports but you need not now go on speaking on it. Ask for a clarification and let the Prime Minister reply.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I am not asking you to believe the press reports. I have only invited your attention to what has appeared in the American press and I would like the Prime Minister to tell us what exactly passed in the light of these things because either they are true or they are false.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right. Let that much be cleared.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The second question I will ask is . . .

HON. MEMBERS: No, no.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Gupta, the Chair decides, who will ask.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I understand but they cannot shout.

SHRI C. D. PANDE: Do not raise your voice.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: Madam Deputy Chairman, I am obliged to the hon. Member for drawing my attention to the various newspaper reports. It is not customary to give the details of such talks but as I have mentioned in my statement, Vice-President Humphrey did state the American point of view and we stated the Indian Government's point of view. There is no question of our giving in on any point. Their attitude is clear and our attitude has been reiterated many times. It is equally clear.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: That is all right. (*Interruptions*). You applaud every time.

PROF. M. B. LAL (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Gupta was only applauded on the Tashkent question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Do you think I grudge it? I never grudge it. I shall join you much later. Therefore do not quarrel over it. All that I wanted to know was this. I come to this point which I wanted to raise in the beginning. When the talks take place between the head of a Government and an important State dignitary of another country and Parliament is in Session, the normal procedure is this. The country in which the talks take place, the Government of that country, makes it known first. Here we expected it on the 18th or 17th, which the Prime Minister could have made known. But Mr. Humphrey went to hold a press conference and say that. Now, even before she made that statement, another version of it came from the United States Embassy; it is an extraordinary thing. Now in that they have said many things which I have not mentioned. Therefore I should like her to deny some of the things, which have been stated as a correct version of the talks, in the United States Embassy press release which came out three days ago. This is what I would like, that which is mentioned there. It is not a question of stating the Vietnam position. The U.S. posi-

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The meaning of brevity will be decided by the Chair.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Madam Deputy Chairman, in my school days, when I was asked to summarise a thing, I could not do it very well. Therefore, I suffered from that drawback and you will sympathise with me.

PROF. M. B. LAL: In the school you would have been pulled up by the teacher.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Still, Madam Deputy Chairman, I can tell you that I stood among the best in the class—I just say this. Now the other statements I would not read out. I obey you. Why should I not obey? I just say that various statements have been made as an authoritative pronouncement by the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, in which they have not only explained their position. Also they have said that they have asked India to do this and that. I only wanted to know whether that part of the statement was correct. This is all that I wanted to know as far as the U.S. press release was concerned. Shrimati Indira Gandhi may take it that I have been reading every day these press releases, and they are full of these things, their propaganda against your country, which you share and I share and she shares. Propaganda is being carried on against us to create an impression, as if Mr. Humphrey's visit has succeeded in putting certain things across to the Government of India according to the taste of Americans. Now, I would not like that propaganda to succeed if you can help me. These are my positions and you know how Mr. Humphrey has denounced the country.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have not really understood what is the clarification you sought after all this long statement.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Being brief I could not at the same time make you understand.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN. I think you don't have any points at all.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Madam Deputy Chairman, plenty of points according to me, but the trouble is . . .

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You don't have any. So we go on to the next item on the Order Paper.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I will tell the Prime Minister and the Government only this that, in future, they should tell the foreign dignitaries not to anticipate what the Government of India has to say on a discussion held in this country and not to go out to the press and say things. In New Zealand, Mr. Humphrey has been saying very many other things also to the detriment of our country.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This is only a suggestion made to the Prime Minister.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: You can abuse Russia freely, here; it was done but American, you cannot say a word against.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We go to the next business, Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. Mr. Satyanarayana.

#### MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

श्री एम० सत्यनारायण (नाम-निर्देशित) :  
उपसभापति महोदया, मैं इस सदन के सामने  
यह प्रस्ताव प्रस्तुत करता हूँ :—

“ राष्ट्रपति ने 14 फरवरी, 1966 को संसद् की दोनों सभाओं की सम्मिलित बैठक में कृपया जो अभिभाषण दिया है, उसके लिये राज्य सभा के सदस्य, जो सभा के वर्तमान सत्र में उपस्थित हैं, राष्ट्रपति के प्रति अपनी हार्दिक कृतज्ञता ज्ञापित करते हैं। ”

† [That the Members of the Rajya Sabha assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for

† [ ] English translation.