

[Shri P. N. Sapru.] Uttar Pradesh—is due to the fact that care has not been taken in selecting the proper type of person as Vice-Chancellor. So far as this question of student unrest is concerned, it is a question which you have all the world over; student trouble there has been in Turkey, Cyprus and in Japan and in so many other countries. Do not take an exaggerated view of it. The Indian student is by and large a decent person provided you know how to deal with him. He will respond to good treatment.

# **STATEMENT RE DEMONSTRATIONS IN FRONT OF THE INDIAN CHANCERY BUILDING, KARACHI**

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ( SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU ) : Mr. Chairman, Members of the House are no doubt deeply interested and much exercised about the news that has come from Karachi in the last two days, especially about the demonstrations in front of the Indian Chancery building. So, I should like to place before them the facts as we know them.

There were demonstrations before the Chancery building on two days, 24th February and the 25th. On the 24th February, there was a small demonstration at 3.30 P.M. in front of the Chancery in Karachi protesting against the Jabalpur riots. This procession consisted of about 25 street urchins carrying a single banner and one black flag. They shouted objectionable slogans. A large contingent of police on duty who had warned the High Commission in advance of the demonstration dispersed them after half an hour of ineffective slogan shouting. On the 25th February, there were two demonstrations, the first led by a procession of about 400 school children and a few college boys. They shouted slogans in front of the Chancery for about half an hour.

from 12.30 P.M. to 1 P.M. and then dispersed. A second procession consisting of about 600 people composed principally of goondas came later to the Chancery at 3.30 P.M. and after a few minutes of abuse and slogan shouting against India and the Prime Minister, started throwing stones and brickbats at the Chancery practically breaking all the windows and seriously damaging the cars of the High Commission and of our officers parked outside in the compound of the Chancery. A funeral pyre was then lit in front of the Chancery and burning sticks and rags were thrown into the building, although the compound gates were closed and the mob was not allowed to come into the Chancery premises by the police. Some of our personnel were hurt by stones thrown into the Chancery and by glass splinters. The High Commissioner reports that the injuries were superficial. He himself received a minor scar on the nose from flying glass splinters. What appears to be most objectionable about the incident is that all this was done with some sort of obvious police connivance or complicity. The police had advance information and they had indeed warned the High Commission of the possibility of the demonstration. The major demonstration lasted for full thirty minutes with nearly 100 policemen present and looking on. About 40 policemen had come to the spot in advance and others arrived apparently after the demonstration started. The police allowed a truck and one or two more donkey carts filled with stones to be brought into the locality and unloaded in front of the Chancery while all other traffic was diverted from the area. The demonstrators helped themselves to these stones with which they pelted the Chancery premises while the police looked on. The High Commissioner's telegram says—I am quoting the telegram:

"Finally, at 4.40 P.M., the police blew their whistle and the crowd melted away, leaving our compound littered with thousands of stones, broken glass and burning rags".

Our Acting High Commissioner in Karachi called on the Foreign Secretary of Pakistan immediately after the incident and protested strongly against all these happenings. He also handed over to the Pakistan Foreign Office an aide *memoire* requesting the Foreign Secretary to enquire into these incidents and ensure that full protection is given to the Indian High Commission and its officers. He also added that the Pakistan Government would no doubt offer appropriate restitution and adequate compensation for the damage suffered. Mr. Ikramullah, the Foreign Secretary, told the Acting High Commissioner that he was sorry to hear of the incident and he was surprised at what had happened. He would make enquiries into the matter and promised to speak to the Foreign Minister in Rawalpindi on the telephone. He is reported to have added that, whatever be the rights and wrongs, there should have been no violence and the Indian High Commission was entitled to protection. I gather that next day our Acting High Commissioner met the Foreign Secretary again who told him that the Foreign Minister who was at Rawalpindi had also expressed his regret and anxiety on this incident. And he was apparently taking some further steps to give protection. The Pakistan High Commissioner here was also asked to come to our Foreign Office and he was told, more or less repeated, of our concern and our protest at what had happened in Karachi. It was also pointed out to him that apart from these incidents, for about a week or ten days previously, there had been a spate of rather virulent anti-Indian propaganda in the newspapers and practical incitements to violence. This is the position, Sir. Subsequently, I understand, the Pakistan Government or the Karachi authorities enforced section 144 or some section equivalent to that to prevent people from collecting and forming processions. This was violated and some trouble took place. It is not quite clear, and I have not got full information about yesterday's events. There

1038 RS—4.

is something in the newspapers. It appears, however, that there were two different and distinct activities of this kind. One was, a small crowd was going to a temple. I think the other had nothing to do with this matter; there were demonstrations by pro-Lumumba people and it was stopped by the police. These are the facts such as we know them.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (*Rajasthan*): We would like to know—this is a serious matter indeed—what steps the Government would take to see that at least our nationals not only in Karachi—wherever such things happen they are beaten up and the Government cannot do anything—but whether it is in China, Pakistan or Congo are protected. Are we absolutely helpless in such matters? Can't we express our regret to show that if this kind of thing is done we take a serious view of it. I would be very happy if the Prime Minister could tell us in what way the interests of our nationals outside would be safeguarded.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: That is what I have said. Obviously the Government of India cannot protect its nationals there just like the Government of the United States or China or Pakistan cannot protect their nationals in Delhi. It is the Government of India's duty to protect those nationals or their embassies here; they cannot protect them here. This is the legal position, the constitutional position and the practical position. That is why we protest when this kind of thing happens. We cannot take any other measure for their protection. They have admitted it and we cannot do anything more in regard to that except, of course, extreme steps which is a different matter.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: In this connection to pursue my point I would submit that even smaller countries take action. Take the case of Belgium. The other day when their embassy was mishandled—as had been done in our case now—in Cairo, they even went to the extent of cutting off political relations. Well, I know

[Shri Jaswant Singh.] that the Prime Minister would not go to that extent, not even to half of that extent. But still how can we show to the other party that we feel very strongly about it? If they cannot give protection to our people, then we will have to think as to what further steps we will have to take in dealing with this.

شری فریدالحق انصاری (اتر پردیش) : چیئر مین صاحب - دو روز سے جو واقعات کراچی میں ہوئے اسے اخباروں میں پورے کر اور آج آپریٹل پروٹم منسٹر نے جو بیان دیا اسے بھی سن کر میرا سر شرمندگی سے نہیچا ہو جاتا ہے - میں یہ چاہوں گا کہ پاکستان کے حکمران . . . .

†[श्री करीबुल हक अन्सारी (उत्तर प्रदेश): चेयरमैन साहब, दो रोज से जो वाकयात कराची में हुए उसे अखबारों में पढ़ कर और आज आनरेबल प्राइम मिनिस्टर ने जो बयान दिया उसे भी सुन कर मेरा सर शर्मिन्दगी से नीचा हो जाता है। मैं यह चाहूंगा कि पाकिस्तान के हुकमरान . . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are not having a discussion now. You can ask for elucidation or clarification but you cannot enter into a discussion on this matter now.

شری فریدالحق انصاری - غالباً میں تمام ہاؤس کی فیلنگس کی نمائندگی کر رہا ہوں - ہم کو یہ سن کر نہایت افسوس اور شرمندگی ہے - میں یقین دلاتا ہوں کہ پاکستان کے اس حکمران یہاں کے مسلمانوں کی اسی طرح سے ہمدردی کر کے مسلمانوں کو نقصان پہونچائیں گے بجائے اس کے کہ کوئی فائدہ پہونچائیں -

श्री करीबुल हक अन्सारी : गालवन मैं तमाम हाउस की फीलिंग्स की नुमायन्दगी कर रहा हूँ। हमको यह सुन कर निहायत

†[ ] Hindi translation.

अफसोस और शर्मिन्दगी है। मैं यकीन दिलाता हूँ कि पाकिस्तान के हुकमरान यहां के मुसलमानों की इस तरह से हमदर्दी कर के मुसलमानों को नुकसान पहुंचावेंगे बजाय इसके कि कोई फायदा पहुंचाएं।]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: There is one question, Sir. The Prime Minister was pleased to say that the Pakistan Press had indulged in a spate of abuses and anti-Indian sentiments but he very carefully omitted the highest authority, the President of Pakistan, who from the very beginning has been making statements. Even in today's papers there is a statement by him. He has in no way been less responsible for this incitement than the newspapers or others. So the Prime Minister should have brought his name also to show how we feel about it. The highest authority, the President himself, is involved in this incitement for this incident.

SHRI A. D. MANI (Madhya Pradesh): Would Government consider lodging a protest also that these anti-Indian attacks which are appearing in the Pakistan Press are in contravention of the agreement which the Government of Pakistan reached with the Government of India in April last? The Indo-Pakistan Information Consultative Committee went into the matter and the Government of Pakistan undertook to use their influence to see that there is restraint in the publication of matters relating to India and that there will be no anti-Indian propaganda in the Pakistan Press.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE (Maharashtra): The hon. Prime Minister has just now stated that the Pakistan Press was inciting the masses in Pakistan but two or three days back the Pakistan President, General Ayub Khan, speaking at Dacca criticised the incidents at Jabalpur and the events in Karachi are the aftermath of that speech. I would like to know whether any protest has been made by the hon. Prime Minister against the speech that was delivered by General Ayub Khan at Dacca.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It is good that our Prime Minister does not speak in the accents of General Ayub Khan and we welcome that he speaks with restraint in such matters. The only thing that I would like to point out here is this. It seems to us that while condemning these deplorable incidents—and they must be tackled at the diplomatic level—steps should be taken by us at the same time. I think the Prime Minister is quite right when he says that we must heighten our activities here to protect the minorities. That will be one of our answers.

AN HON. MEMBER: We are taking steps.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Yes; he does and I would support them but I do not like such aggressive questions put by my friend, Mr. Jaswant Singh. He is an aggressive person, as you know. I think the answer to this is at home, right here, giving more protection to the minorities and that will bring about amity. The other answer is that we should use the normal diplomatic channels so that such things would not happen again. On that I think the Prime Minister on the whole has a right, constructive and correct approach and we should support him.

**MOTION RE THE FOURTH ANNUAL  
REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY  
GRANTS COMMISSION—continued**

PROF. M. B. LAL (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I also express my sorrow at the sad demise of Dr. Krishna who, we hoped, would work as the Chairman of the University Grants Commission. I also express our gratitude and tributes to Dr. Deshmukh and other members of the University Grants Commission for the work they did for university education.

[MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.]

Sir, as a teacher I am pleased to note that the Government have appoint-

ed an old teacher, Dr. Kothari, as the Chairman of the University Grants Commission. We are proud of his probity, of his scholarship and of his devotion to duty and we feel that under his able guidance the University Grants Commission would be able to render increasing service to the cause of education in this country. I am glad to know from the Education Minister that the University Grants Commission and the Education Ministry are functioning harmoniously but I wish to point out that in the last Report of the University Grants Commission, the Commission pointed out certain difficulties in carrying out its responsibilities. I do not know what steps were taken afterwards to remove those difficulties and to ensure to the University Grants Commission autonomy which is its due. Sir, we are holding conferences of the Ministers of Education and conferences of the Vice-Chancellors of the Universities and I feel that we should also hold conferences of the Chairmen of the University Grants Commission of various States. I have reason to believe that a State University Grants Commission . . .

SHRI K. M. PANTKKAR (Nominated): Are there State Commissions?

PROF. M. B. LAL: There were some appointments in certain States, but I was coming to that question. Now, University Grants Commissions are needed not only for a few Central Universities but they are needed for all universities in the country. We cannot talk of the autonomy of universities unless we ensure autonomy to the universities which are controlled and run by the State Governments.

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: But the Central Government has no jurisdiction over the State universities.

PROF. M. B. LAL: In spite of that jurisdiction, we are holding conferences of Vice-Chancellors of universities and we are holding conferences of the Ministers of Education of various States and in these conferences we are dealing with various educational questions. If there are