

[Shri Anil K. Chanda.]  
the time shall be discontinued. The Chief Minister, West Bengal, has written acquainting us with the basic facts of the incident—we received it on the 2nd December—and the steps taken by the District Authorities in respect of the inquiry as envisaged under section 9 of the Explosives Act. Having regard, however, to the immensity of the tragedy, the Government of India have decided to hold an inquiry under section 9A of the Act and have appointed, in consultation with the Chief Minister, West Bengal, Shri I.B. S. R. Surita, IAS, Commissioner, Burdwan Division, West Bengal, to hold the inquiry with Shri T. K. Lahiri, Deputy Chief Inspector of the Explosives as an assessor. The Commissioner, Burdwan Division, has been directed to hold the inquiry with the utmost expedition. Shri T. K. Lahiri, Deputy Chief Inspector of Explosives, has already reached Asansol.

It is obvious that we have to await the findings of this inquiry to be fully seized of the causes and circumstances of this grievous accident.

This tragedy has been an extremely distressing and regrettable one and I would like to express on behalf of the Government our deepest condolences to the bereaved families.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR BASU: Sir, I am giving notice of a motion. that the statement of the Minister may be taken into consideration. You will kindly see whether it is admissible or not.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know, Sir, what happened to the two brothers who were in the unlawful possession of this gunpowder?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: Our information goes that they have not yet been traced.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: Are they living or are they dead? What is the information of the Government?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: As far as the information goes, their dead bodies have not been found and it is presumed, therefore, that they have run away.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Will the hon. Minister please lay on the Table of the House the Chief Minister's letter also in which this reference has been made, because the entire thing has to be discussed? I am not going into . . .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You may raise a discussion later on.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I do not want to say anything at this stage.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You may go through the statement and take whatever action you want under the rules.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING 7TH DECEMBER, 1959

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA NARAIN SINHA): Sir, with your permission, I rise to announce that the Government business in this House for the next week will consist of—

1. Consideration and passing of the Constitution (Eighth Amendment) Bill, 1959, as passed by Lok Sabha.
2. Discussion on White Paper II and subsequent correspondence between the Governments of India and China on a motion to be moved by the Prime Minister on 8th December.
3. Consideration and return of the Kerala Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 1959, as passed by Lok Sabha.

4. Consideration of a motion for the concurrence of the House to join a Joint Committee of the two Houses on the Legal Practitioners Bill, 1959.
5. Consideration and passing of the Kerala State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Bill, 1959, as passed by Lok Sabha.
6. Discussion on the food situation on a motion to be moved by the Minister of Food and Agriculture on 10th December, 1959.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned till, 2-30.

The House then adjourned for lunch at fourteen minutes past one of the clock.

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

#### THE REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1959—continued

SRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Mr. Deputy Chairman, before we adjourned for lunch, I was coming to Mr. Santosh Kumar Basu but I was told by my friend, Mr. Bisht that I had not answered what he considered to be two of his important points. He said in his speech—and I find that he did say this—that when only 40 or 45 per cent. people come for the pool, how is it that I am providing for recall by two-third of the constituents in a particular constituency? I thought that this simple proposition he would easily understand. Yes, in a multi-party system, it is possible for one to get elected even without getting a majority. We accept that position and we function under that situation. It is precisely because I do not want to upset directly or indirectly this arrangement, that I provide for the signatures by two-thirds of the electors. Otherwise, there may be a frivolous use of this

kind of recall. What does it mean when we provide that? Assuming that he had been elected with 45 per cent. of the electorate, it means that not only those who had supported him but very many others also had gone against him or the situation is such that two-thirds are so much against him that they sign the paper, they activate themselves to bring them together and the whole process comes in. That process would not normally come in even if two-thirds were not much in favour of a candidate except for the fact that they disliked him so much that now they have to come together, that is to say, an element of compulsion of good urges and conscience coming in when so many people act. Therefore, I make it difficult for the recall to operate and I provide for the two-thirds proportion. He might say, suppose one gets elected by one-third, the remaining two-thirds will always upset it. Normally such things do not happen. In any case, if the candidate is good, the remaining two-thirds may have divided in voting and they will not have combined to oust him. Therefore this is a hypothetical proposition when we judge it from that angle. Two-third means more people are against the candidate, more people feel that he should go and only then is the process of recall set in motion. I do not know whether my friend, Mr. Bisht, would be convinced by such arguments because when one adopts an argument, especially when they are lawyers, they do not abandon it, at least when they speak publicly, I know it. But in their heart of hearts, they may feel that this appeals to them.

I now come to Mr. Basu who comes from my State and is a co-Bengalee that way. He said that I convulse the House with my ideologies and ideas. I do not know if I convulse the House but assuming that I had or I do convulse the House, with my ideas, they do not seem to have any effect on him. My convulsion does not seem to have effect on him whatsoever. Therefore I am a little sorry