

[Prof. Humayun Kabir.]

I would, if I may, like to mention some of the reasons why this type of undemocratic solution of some of our problems is attempted. There is in every democracy genuine room for difference of opinion and every democracy must evolve forms through which these differences can be expressed in a constitutional, democratic, peaceful manner. Any attempt to suppress differences can only lead to explosions, any attempt to obliterate genuine differences of opinion always creates greater opposition. But why is it that instead of expressing this opposition, these differences in a constitutional, peaceful, democratic manner, we sometimes take those violent steps? To my mind, there are three main reasons for this. The first reason is that though we have laid down the rule of law as the basic principle of our constitution, we have not yet accepted fully the rule of law as one of the fundamental ingredients of our life. It certainly is in the Constitution. The rule of law is an accepted ideal which we have set before ourselves and the rule of laws is.....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You need not go into generalisations. It is a very limited Bill and the time also is limited.

PROF. HUMAYUN KABIR: In that case I will conclude, though I feel these considerations are important now and for the future.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There are nine speakers from Bengal and Bihar. There are four more speakers from other States.

PROF. HUMAYUN KABIR: I shall not attempt the analysis which I thought might be useful in this connection. But I will simply say that now that all the stages of discussion have been passed, and a solution has been suggested which has been, I believe, unanimously accepted by the Lok Sabha—I am not quite sure—we should also concur. The two main principles which are involved in this redistribution are (i) that there shall be a compact State of West Bengal and (ii) that some of the territories adjoining it and which for linguistic and other reasons ought to be attached to the State of West Bengal should be so attached. I think we should accept the Bill in its present form, particularly because as a result of the concessions, the modifications which have been made by the

Joint Select Committee, the Bill today is far more acceptable to our friends in Bihar than it was in its original form. I think there should be sacrifices on both sides. Bengal has given up a good deal from its own original demand and even from what the States Reorganisation Commission recommended. It has given up one area after another, things which it could legitimately claim and from that point of view Bengal has in a sense made the necessary concessions and I hope that friends from Bihar also....

SHRI T. BODRA (Bihar): What sacrifice has Bengal made?

PROF. HUMAYUN KABIR: Bengal wanted the whole area in the north and in the south recommended by the Commission but the Bill has excluded all areas to the west of the national highway and also the town of Kishanganj in the north as well as several police stations in the Purulia area in the south. In view of all this, I hope that my friends from Bihar will now agree and let us have the Bill passed unanimously as was suggested by the hon. Home Minister.

1 P.M.

STATEMENT REGARDING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

THE MINISTER FOR PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA NARAYAN SINHA): Sir, with your permission, I rise to announce Government business for this House for the current week and the dates for certain important items of business thereafter. The following legislative measures will be brought forward after the conclusion of business entered in the order paper for 27th and 28th August 1956:—

(1) Consideration and return of the Appropriation Bills as passed by Lok Sabha relating to—

(a) Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1956-57 in respect of Central Government;

(b) Demands for Excess Grants for 1951-52 in respect of Central Government; and

(c) Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1956-57 in respect of the State of Travancore-Cochin.

(2) Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill. (Motion for concurrence to the reference of the Bill to a Joint Committee.)

(3) National Highways Bill, as passed by Lok Sabha. (For consideration and passing).

(4) Indian Coconut Committee (Amendment) Bill, as passed by Lok Sabha. (For consideration and passing).

(5) Government Premises (Eviction) Amendment Bill, as passed by Lok Sabha. (For consideration and passing).

(6) Standards of Weights and Measures Bill. (Motion for concurrence to the reference of the Bill to a Joint Committee).

(7) Indian Institute of Technology (Kharagpur) Bill, as passed by Lok Sabha. (For consideration and passing).

(8) State Financial Corporations (Amendment) Bill. (For consideration and passing).

(9) National Volunteer Force Bill. (For consideration and passing).

I am also in a position, Sir, to inform the House that further discussion on the Second Five Year Plan is expected to be provided for in this House on or about 5th, 6th and 7th September 1956, and the Constitution (Ninth Amendment) Bill is expected to be brought forward for consideration and passing on 10th and 11th September 1956.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, I have a suggestion to make. I think that in this session we should have an opportunity of discussing the results of the Suez Canal Conference and the issues arising out of this matter. I made this suggestion before and we have not heard anything from the Government. I think that in this House before we adjourn there should be some opportunity given for discussing so important a development in the international scene, and I think we may take it up towards the end of the session, if not earlier. I feel that we should discuss this thing, because the British Parliament has discussed it and our country belongs to the Commonwealth. I would like to know from the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs as to how he reacts to a suggestion of this sort. I know this matter is engaging their attention, but it is necessary for Parliament to have an opportunity to discuss such subjects, and they should be interested in knowing the opinion of the Members of Parliament.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have made the suggestion. You cannot make a speech.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Will the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs kindly tell us as to how he views the suggestion that I have made?

SHRI SATYA NARAYAN SINHA: A similar request was made by the Business Advisory Committee and I communicated it to the Prime Minister, and he regretted, Sir, that on account of the delicate situation it was not proper, not at all proper to discuss the matter on the floor of the House.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, may I.....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order. Please resume your seat.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I am entitled to make a suggestion. Can't I make a suggestion to the Chair?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have made your suggestion. Please resume your seat.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: As we belong to an opposition party, if you treat the opposition group like this, then we will have to make a strong protest.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have got the reply; Government has given the reply.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Can I not plead before Government? Is it going against parliamentary etiquette?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order. Please resume your seat.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I will submit to your ruling, but whenever we make a submission.....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have already made a submission.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I speak for an opposition party and I expect that our words are given the attention they deserve.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have got other ways of doing it.