

[Shri Swapan Dasgupta]

very grave issue of all the reports on the ground. I just want to mention one particular report which came, which was quoting about a meeting in Qaimoh, which is the main market of Kulgam district, of what one person of the Hurriyat Conference said. This is what he said, "We are all together and we will fight for Azadi. India wants to establish *Pandit* colonies here, India wants to set up *Sainik* colonies and we are not feeling safe in Kashmir." This is a complete travesty of reality, but this is the type of propaganda which is going on there, which has been fuelled from across the border by having special trains going from Lahore, which is carrying exaggerated pictures of boys dressed up in bandages saying that we have got pellets. This is the type of gruesome incidents there. Therefore, while agreeing with Shri Sitaram Yechury that we need a political approach to this, I would like to say that what form of political approach and when is a very, very important question. According to community mythology, political power is seized in two ways. But one of the first methods is by establishing, what they call, dual power. It means, there must be a challenge to the legitimacy of the State by creating parallel authorities. And, today, in Kashmir, we are seeing precisely that is happening — an attempt to create dual power. Sharad Yadavji spoke very well about how this message spread to villages. And, that is precisely what it means. Therefore, when we talk about initiating a political dialogue, when we talk about sending all-party missions to Kashmir, yes, certainly, it must be done. But, let us remember that it cannot be done if we have to tie the hands of the Executive and restrict their operational freedom to, actually, conduct what is necessary, because the threat we face today is qualitatively different. It is not a mere question of autonomy or it is not a question of pre-1953 status. I am glad that Shri Narasimha Rao had said 'sky is the limit' which you have referred here. The question is, here is a threat, an orchestrated terrorist threat to, actually, integrated it in Pakistan. That is what it is all about. Sir, glorification of terrorism, bleeding hearts that we see in the media are all willy-nilly, actually, succumbing to those designs and not realizing that, sometimes, to actually maintain the integrity of India we have to do certain harsh things. But harshness is only to facilitate a process of greater love.

Thank you.

**RE. DEMAND FOR RULING IN RESPECT OF HOLDING MEETINGS OF
COMMITTEES DURING THE SESSION OF PARLIAMENT**

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, I seek your protection.

Yesterday, my senior colleagues, Shri Digvijaya Singh, had raised an important point, while debates are going on and Parliament is in session, not to conduct meetings of the Standing Committees. One minute, Sir. He said yesterday that Standing Committee meetings are very important. But, they should not be scheduled while Parliament is in session. We were all here. Now, it is five minutes to three. We are listening to some stirring speeches where everyone is rising above politics. We all want to listen to them.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: They are all good speeches.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Yes, Sir. In Rajya Sabha, you always have good speeches.

Sir, at 3.00 p.m. today, there is a Standing Committee meeting of Home Affairs. It is meeting to adopt a Report on the current situation in Kashmir. I would seek your protection and the protection of the hon. Chairman to appeal to the Chairmen of all the Standing Committees, across parties, not to fix meetings. Otherwise, this will be toeing between the two rooms — this room and the Committee room.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes. It is correct.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes. You are right.

SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD: Sir, why only meetings of the Standing Committees, even meetings of Select Committees should not be held. If Members of both the Select Committees and the Standing Committees go for meeting, the House will be empty.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Derek, yesterday itself, I said in the House that as far as possible the meetings of the Select Committee or the Standing Committees should not be held when the House is in session. I had already said this yesterday. Now, I request the Chairmen of the Committees to avoid meetings as far as possible.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, we have a meeting now at 3 o' clock and it is going to start now. We are all here. We are sitting here. We can have meeting at 4 o' clock or at 4.30 p.m. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. 3 o'clock meeting is on.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, at 5 o' clock there is a meeting of the Select Committee.

SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Sir, at 3 o' clock there is a meeting of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, I would request that all meetings scheduled for today should be cancelled.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I can only request. I would request the Chairmen of all Committees, at least for today, to cancel meetings since this debate being a very, very serious and important issue. Let us take up the discussion seriously and let the Members participate in the discussion. This is my request to the Chairmen.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, you kindly talk to the hon. Chairman.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have already done it.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Sir, ordinarily, all these meetings should be held when Parliament is not in session. But, if there is a great urgency, then the Standing Committee or Select Committee can meet after the Parliament hours.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me tell you. Yesterday, the matter was raised here. I had already conveyed to the hon. Chairman the feelings of the House, but the hitch is, as I said yesterday, there is an earlier direction that meeting can be held.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: That can be changed.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have already requested the hon. Chairman to change it also. Yesterday I made a request that meetings, as far as possible, should not be held. Now, I am requesting all the Chairmen not to have meetings today. Let us have this very important discussion and let all Members participate in this. I congratulate all the hon. Members for speaking very seriously, rising above the party politics.

Now, Mr. Laway.

**DISCUSSION ON THE PREVAILING SITUATION IN
KASHMIR VALLEY - Contd.**

श्री नज़ीर अहमद लवाय (जम्मू और कश्मीर): मोहतरम डिप्टी चेयरमैन साहब, मैं आपका बहुत शुक्रगुजार हूँ कि आपने इस विषय पर मुझे बोलने का समय दिया। जम्मू और कश्मीर का मसला ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please listen to him. He is from Kashmir. Everybody should listen to him.