

### मुगले धाड़म

२७०५. श्री जगदीश चवस्थी : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि महारानी एलिजाबेथ की भारत यात्रा के अवसर पर उन्हें दिखाने के लिए मुगले ब्राडम फिल्म का अश्रेणी रूपान्तर तैयार किया गया था ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, उस पर कितना समय और कितना धन खर्च हुआ; और

(ग) क्या उक्त फिल्म महारानी को लंदन में दिखाने का विचार है ?

प्रधान मंत्री तथा वरदेशिक कार्य-मंत्री (श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू) : (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

(ग) फिल्म का ऐसा विचार नहीं है।

12.04 hrs.

### MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT SITUATION IN BASTAR

Mr. Speaker: I have received notices of three adjournment motions and two calling attention notices relating to, as it is put here, "the utter failure of law and order in MP as evidenced by large scale communal carnage and most recently brutal attack on peaceful Adivasi demonstration." This is purely a matter of law and order and is a State subject. But in as much as Adivasis are involved in this matter I am inclined to admit the calling attention notice. However, if the hon. Minister is willing to make a statement immediately, I will allow him to do so; or, if he wants some time, it will come up tomorrow.

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): The hon. Home Minister was there in Madhya Pradesh.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry and Home Affairs (Shri Lal

Bahadur Shastri): As I am returning from Bhopal—I have just now arrived—I have got some information about this incident. So, if you permit me, I shall make a brief statement.

Mr. Speaker: Just now?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: Very well.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: During the past few days, the Tribals of Bastar had been agitating for the release and restoration of the ex-Ruler of Bastar who is at present detained under the Preventive Detention Act in the Narsingarh jail. After the detention some of the Tribals were restive on account of the propaganda made by the associates of the Maharaja. On the 27th at Tokpal market, a place about 12 miles from Jagdalpur, the Adivasis had shouted slogans and had pelted stones at the Police officers for refusing to release the two arrested persons, consequent on which the Police had to use tear smoke to disperse the crowd. On the same night a crowd of Adivasis had attacked a liquor shop at Sirasguda and consumed the liquor. The district authorities had been doing their best to meet the sporadic trouble by the Adivasis by persuasive and peaceful means in spite of the provocations from the Adivasis.

31st March was the market day at Lohandiguda. A large crowd of Tribals armed with bows, arrows, spears, swords and axes had assembled at the market place. Anticipating trouble the authorities had posted a fairly strong police force there. A magistrate had also been posted. At about 12.30 in the afternoon the Deputy Inspector General of Police, the Collector and the Superintendent of Police had also arrived there. The mob of Adivasis was intercepted at a distance of about half a mile from the Police Station, Lohandiguda by the district authorities. The mob was leaderless and appeared to be agitated. They demanded that the ex-Ruler of Bastar should be brought to Bastar by the following

morning. The district authorities unsuccessfully tried to reason with them. About 25 of the Adivasis who were talked to by the Collector and the Deputy Inspector General of Police expressed their inability to negotiate on behalf of the crowd and had suggested that one representative from each village should be contacted by the authorities. This was agreed to. The Superintendent of Police, the Collector and the DIG of Police talked to them for about 40 minutes without producing any visible result. The new Ruler of Bastar who had been requested to come earlier had arrived and was requested to address the crowd.

All efforts to make the Adivasis see reason failed. It was evident that the Adivasis were trying to encircle the officers and danger to the lives of the officers from the Adivasis who were armed seemed imminent. The District Magistrate, sensing the crowd to be getting violent, declared the assembly unlawful and the Additional District Magistrate, through loudspeakers, asked the Adivasis to disperse. This failed to produce the desired result. The Adivasis started whistling which is considered the traditional sign for attack. A few arrows were also shot. On this, tear gas was used to disperse the crowd. The crowd failed to respond favourably to this. On the contrary, they charged at the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Shri Jank Kumar, who fired five rounds from his revolver in self-defence. Apprehending imminent danger to the Police Station and the lives of the Police officers from the surging mob, 40 rounds were fired by the Special Armed Forces personnel in self-defence. I do not know what exactly is the latest figure, but in all ten persons died as a result of the Police firing on the spot and six persons were injured. Of the six, two more succumbed to their injuries later, thus bringing the total number of death to 12.

This is the factual statement that I have to make, Sir, and I can only say

that the situation is fully under control.

**Shri Braj Raj Singh (Ferozabad):** We have been hearing this so far. The situation was under control, and we had to kill twelve persons.

**Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati):** And forty rounds were fired because the tear gas did not work.

**Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri:** Hon. Members will see from the statement that every effort was first made to persuade the people not to try to reach near the police station or use their arrows and other weapons which they had.

**Shri Rajendra Singh (Chapra):** May I know whether anybody was hurt by the arrows? (*Interruptions*).

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. Not all Members together.

**An Hon. Member:** This is a very serious matter.

**Shri Hem Barua:** And twelve people killed.

**Mr. Speaker:** This hon. Member, Shri Hem Barua, is irrepressible. I am trying to give him as much indulgence as possible. Why should he go on interrupting? Let him wait patiently.

**Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri:** As I said, every effort was made to dissuade them. But that did not succeed. The crowd was very large. As has been stated in the papers also, the crowd consisted of about ten thousand people. Some papers have given it out as twenty thousand. But I cannot give the exact number. In any case, it was a very big crowd. That is what the police say. When they found that their life was in danger and the *thana* was going to be attacked, the police took this action. The people there, some of the people who are associated

[Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri]

with the ex-Maharaja have been indulging in all kinds of activities and preaching and advising the people there to indulge in violence, to attack the police station, to attack the officers, and they said, "Unless the Maharaja is released, we will go to any length." This kind of propaganda has been going on, and if people indulge in violence, there at least the police has to come forward and take action. (Interruptions.)

**Mr. Speaker:** I am not going to allow any discussion on this. This is purely a matter of law and order, and there is a responsible government in the State. As regards the intention of those ten thousand people who had gathered there, we are not in a position to say anything here. Let the whole matter be discussed there. It is their matter. What has the Central Government to do with this? (Interruptions). Unless hon. Members want the ex-Maharaja to be released and reinstated there is no question.....

**Shri Braj Raj Singh:** I do not think anybody will be having any sympathy with the ex-Maharaja.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. The hon. Member should not stand up like that and interrupt. The hon. Minister categorically said that the whole object of all the ten thousand people who had gathered there was to get the previous Maharaja released and reinstated. If I allow the adjournment motion we will have to go into that question whether he ought to be released and reinstated. (Interruptions). Hon. Members must allow me also to speak.

The second point is this. The other Maharaja, his own younger brother, I believe was called, and it was not possible even for the younger Maharaja to persuade the crowd to go back. (Interruption). Unless an hon. Member was personally present and wants

to say something I am not going to allow any Member to go on with this kind of interruptions. There is this official version.

The third point is, if tear gas had also been used and even that did not deter those people, what was to be done? (Interruptions).

Therefore, in view of the categorical statement made by the hon. Minister I do not think any further action is called for so far as this matter is concerned. There is a responsible government there. I will now proceed to the Calling Attention notice.

**Shri Rajendra Singh:** My contention is that law and order has broken down in the State and....

**Shri Braj Raj Singh:** How many more persons were detained after the ex-Maharaja was detained? It is the responsibility of the Government of India.

**Shri Rajendra Singh:** Is it not the constitutional responsibility and duty of this House to see that law and order does not break down in that particular State?

**Mr. Speaker:** I am not satisfied....

**Shri Rajendra Singh:** When this was done in the case of Kerala, why is discrimination being made in this case?

**Mr. Speaker:** I am not at all satisfied that law and order has broken down in that State. On the other hand I must congratulate the State Government for having maintained law and order.

**Shri Indrajit Gupta.** (Interruptions).

**Shri Tangaman:** There was a report that a judicial enquiry is going to be ordered. Is it proper for any pronouncement being made from the Chair pending this enquiry? (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: All hon. Members go on speaking! Order, order.

Sbri Nath Pai (Rajapur): Mr. Speaker, we are in your hands to be guided. Your word is final so far as procedure is concerned. But may I point out to you that you have made a statement that pertains to policy when you uttered the words "I congratulate the State Government". We are most concerned about it. When the hon. Member made the statement, it is not necessary to sympathise with the ex-Maharaja. One may be in agreement fully with the policy of the Government. But when there has been such a heavy toll of life, we expected a word of regret from the hon. Minister. But not a word of regret has been uttered. Mr. Speaker, do you expect us to congratulate the Government on such an occasion? It is not a matter to be proud of, but a matter of regret. If we cannot associate ourselves in denouncing this kind of incident, we will at least regret whenever an Indian is killed on the soil of India. Let not the impression be given that we are gloating with joy when our fellow-countrymen have died. With all respect to you, Mr. Speaker, and your authority we were awfully hurt and humiliated when the Chair of the Lok Sabha said the "we congratulate the State Government".

Shri Tyagi (Debra Dun): On a point of order. My point of order is that on matters controversial the Chair might not pass any remarks pertaining to the merits of the question. The Chair does not speak, Sir. I would therefore suggest that you might keep absolutely neutral in these matters.

Mr. Speaker: Very well.

Shri Radhelal Vyas (Ujjain): My friend Shri Nath Pai has raised a point and it has been supported by my friend Shri Tyagi. May I submit to you that it is some of the parties in opposition to the Congress who have been supporting... (Interruptions).

They have had their say, but they do not even want to hear. They must have patience. I said that it is the parties in opposition to the Congress who have been supporting this. (Interruption). I did not mention the name of any party. It is those parties who have been supporting this and making capital out of the situation there. In this particular place where this incident took place, there they have made out a programme and on every market day, wherever the market is held, the Advasis have been asked and persuaded to gather there and to carry on the agitation. (Interruption).

Shri Rajendra Singh: What is wrong about it?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Sbri Radhelal Vyas: There were only forty police persons there as against a huge crowd of ten thousand people. It is really a credit to the State Government that they have maintained law and order within five minutes.

Shri Nath Pai: It is shameful.

Some Hon. Members: Shame.

डा० गोविन्द दास (जबलपुर) : अध्यक्ष जी, मैं भी उसी प्रदेश से आता हूँ, जहाँ पर यह बात हुई। जो लोग भ्रमी बोल रहे थे, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उनमें से कितने लोग बस्तर गये हैं, कितने लोगों ने बस्तर की स्थिति देखी है और कितने लोग वहाँ की स्थिति से वाकिफ हैं। मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूँ कि बस्तर के आदिवासी जिस स्थिति में हैं, जैसा कि मेरे मित्र, श्री राधेलाल व्यास ने कहा है, बिरोध की अनेकनी पार्टियाँ हैं, दल हैं, उनको भड़का सकते हैं और वे भड़काए जा रहे हैं...

श्री मुहम्मद हसनदास (हायदा)

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डा० गोविन्द दास :.....श्रीर  
मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार ने इस प्रकार की  
कार्यवाही न की होती और अगर वह अग्रे इस  
प्रकार को कार्यवाही नहीं करेगी, तो  
बस्तर में और वहाँ चारों तरफ बढ़ा भारी  
उपद्रव हो सकता है। इस लिये हम को  
इस प्रश्न पर मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार को  
हृदय से बधाई देनी चाहिए और हृदय से  
धन्यवाद करना चाहिए।

Mr. Speaker: I have heard both  
sides.....

Raja Mahendra Pratap (Mathura):  
The House should not become a bat-  
tle-field. Here, the House should be  
united. A house divided against itself  
falls; so says Jesus Christ. (Interrup-  
tions).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I am  
really sorry that so much of heat  
should have been generated about this  
matter. It is true that nobody is in-  
terested in shedding innocent blood,  
and nobody requires advice in this  
matter that we ought not to shed in-  
nocent blood for any reason what-  
soever. I agree on that, and I am  
not very happy and it is not a matter  
for congratulation that ten people  
have been killed.

An Hon. Member: Twelve people  
have been killed.

Mr. Speaker: Whether it be ten or  
twelve, I am really sorry that so many  
people should have lost their lives,  
and this kind of thing should have oc-  
curred. But the point is this. As  
against this, shall we create chaos in  
this country and allow thousands of  
people to be murdered and slaughter-  
ed? The balance is between these  
two. The question is whether a lesser  
offence should be committed to save a  
greater calamity? Now, who is the  
person to decide it? I am really sur-  
prised at what hon. Members are say-  
ing. (Interruptions) I would not al-  
low hon. Members to go on interrupt-  
ing me like this.

The only question that I have to  
consider here is this. I have to  
balance the two things. I have been  
asked to allow a discussion on an ad-  
journment-motion, and I have also re-  
ceived a calling-attention-notice.  
Originally, I noted here on this  
adjournment motion that this was  
purely a State matter, and that I was  
not going to allow this matter to be  
brought up before the House, but  
in as much as it relates to Adivasis,  
and about ten or twelve people have  
been killed, and those people have  
died, and it is a serious matter, I  
wanted to have first-hand information  
from Government.

With respect to the rest, namely,  
what ought to be done, what the pro-  
cedure is, whether any enquiry ought  
to be started or not etc., there is a  
responsible Government there....

An Hon. Member: Most irresponsi-  
ble.

Mr. Speaker: There is also a Legis-  
lative Assembly there, and they will  
take up that matter.

So far as this House is concerned,  
if there is a general breakdown of  
law and order in any particular State,  
certainly, this House has got a right  
to enquire into that matter, but if it  
is only in one part of a State, and  
the matter has been brought under  
control, whether by force or other-  
wise, and the law and order situation  
in the State as a whole has not broken  
down and only some incident has oc-  
curred, then, it might have to be  
gone into by that State and by that  
Legislative Assembly. Why should we  
unnecessarily get lost in it.

I have only said that so far as this  
matter is concerned, we are also eq-  
ually interested in seeing that law and  
order is maintained. Of course, in the  
matter of maintenance of law and  
order, excesses might have been com-  
mitted by the police and it might not  
have been necessary to fire. That is a  
matter which we cannot decide here.

But if it is to be said generally, that, irrespective of any trouble, as has been stated here, we must keep quiet, and merely because ten people or twelve people have died, therefore, we must not congratulate, or we must put up with all that, then, I am against it. I am equally interested, and this House is also interested in seeing that law and order is maintained as a whole, and as much support is given to the Government, which is charged with the responsibility of maintaining law and order, as possible. But it is for that Legislative Assembly to find out whether excess has been committed or not and see what ought to be done. In that way, because we are all interested in maintaining law and order as a whole and the matter has been brought up before me. I said that I congratulated that Government for restoring law and order. That ought not to mean that I congratulate that Government for having killed ten people or twelve people; that is absolutely not so. Why should hon. Members unnecessarily draw any inference? We are equally interested in both. Of course, it is a matter for regret that twelve persons have died. I express our heart-felt sympathy for those persons that have died. But hon. Members should also remember one other thing. When Shri Radhelal Vyas said that there were some political parties, he did not mean hon. Members who are sitting in the House here; there are several political parties in the country....

**Shri Chintamani Panigrahi (Puri):** But who wants the Maharaja to be released?

**Mr. Speaker:** Why should they put on a cap which may or may not fit them?

There are two sets of people, and there are two views. When a Prince is removed, there are some persons who like him, and there are other persons who do not want him. Therefore, when any particular step is taken, there will be some partisans.

46(A)LS.—4.

Does that mean only the political parties sitting here in the Opposition? The hon. Member has never said so.

**Shri Goray (Poona):** But he said, non-Congress people.

**Mr. Speaker:** He said non-Congress people, because the Congress is in the Government, and, therefore, the non-Congress people alone must have done so. (*Interruptions*). Order, order. Let the matter be settled now. Now, calling-attention-notice.

**Shri Hem Barua:** On a point of order. May I point out humbly that firstly, you were pleased to say that excesses might have been committed by the police and secondly, you have hinted an enquiry into the entire matter? These things stand there. But I find some discrepancy in the statement of the hon. Minister. He said that tear-gas was used, but it did not work. But the experience is that tear-gas always works. It is in order to justify this firing that he has pointed that out. When you say that excesses might have been committed..

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member was not there to see whether the tear-gas was effective or not effective.

**Shri Hem Barua:** May I submit...

**Mr. Speaker:** I am not going to allow any discussion.

**Shri Hem Barua:** In the face of that, how can you say that the State Government has to be congratulated?

**Shri Tyagi:** How is that a point of order?

**Mr. Speaker:** For maintaining law and order, that Government ought to be congratulated. But, if there are excesses, Government will certainly look into this matter.

I do not give my consent to the adjournment motions.