

**665 Statement by Minister PHALGUNA 21, 1913 (SAKA) to assassination of 666
Video Cassettes relating Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi**

So far, the SIT has been able to seize only two video cassettes covering the public meeting at Sriperumbudur on May 21, 1991 prior to the assassination. One video cassette was videographed by one Babu who had been engaged to do so by Shri A. J. Dass, the organiser of the public meeting at Sriperumbudur on May 21, 1991. This cassette covers the function before the arrival of Shri Rajiv Gandhi at Sriperumbudur. It shows a music performance being rendered for the audience by Shanker Ganesh and party and thereafter, an announcement by Shri A. J. Das on the garlanding and presenting of shawls to Shri Rajiv Gandhi. The cassette then shows in a blurred manner a crowd willing around Shri Rajiv Gandhi and some shawls being put around him. The cassette then becomes totally blurred and thereafter shows Doordarshan coverage on the funeral, etc. that was subsequently recorded by the videographer.

All the connected persons including the videographer have been examined thoroughly and so far there is no evidence that the cassette was tampered. The SIT is also obtaining technical expert opinion from abroad on whether the cassette was tampered with any way.

The second cassette was videographed by one Pavun Raj who had been engaged by the Tamilnadu Congress Committee (I) for the same. This cassette covers the interview of Shri Rajiv Gandhi at Madras airport, the public meetings thereafter at Porur and Poonamallee and his arrival at the Sriperumbudur public meeting. At Sriperumbudur, the cassette covers the music programme of Shanker Ganesh and party and stops at this point. As regards this cassette also, all the connected persons, including the videographer have been thoroughly examined and so far there is no evidence to show that this cassette was tampered with. However, expert opinion on this cassette also is being obtained.

The SIT has stated categorically that both these cassettes are now Court property and have not been tampered with at all after

they were seized by the SIT.

SHRI P. G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam): Sir, I want some clarifications.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are no clarifications now. The rules do not permit that.

SHRI A. ASOKARAJ (Perabalur): There are so any precedents.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): It is the discretion of the Chair to allow it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing any clarification. We have a lot of other business to do. Kindly sit down.

SHRI A. ASOKARAJ: But the thing is there are so many precedents.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can raise the issue by other methods, by giving suitable notice.

17.46 hrs.

**RAILWAY BUDGET 1992-93- GENERAL
DISCUSSION;
RESOLUTION RE. RECOMMEN-
DATIONS OF RAILWAY CONVENTION
COMMITTEE;
DEMANDS FOR GRANTS-RAILWAYS;
AND
DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY
GRANTS - (RAILWAYS) 1992-93**

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is an announcement. Before the House takes up the next item on the Agenda, I have to inform the House that at the meeting of Business Advisory Committee held today, it was decided that discussions on following items may be taken up together:-

- (i) General discussion on the Budget (Railways) for - 1992-93;

667 *Railway Budget, 1992-93-
General Discussion; Resolution re.
recommendations of RCC; Demands* MARCH 11, 1992 *for Grants (Rlys.) 668
1992-93; and Supplementary
Demands for Grants (Rlys.), 1991-92*

(ii) Discussion on the Resolution regarding recommendation of the Railway Convention Committee; include that this is a part of the acceptance of the House.

(iii) Discussion and Voting on the Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1992-93; and

(iv) Discussion and Voting on the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1991-92.

Business Advisory Committee have recommended 10 hours for all these items.

Hons. Members who want to give notices of Cut Motions may do so by 12.00 P. M. on Thursday, 12th March, 1992. The Cut Motions received upto that time only will be circulated.

The Cut Motions will be moved by Members who might be present in the House on 13th March, 1992 before the House resumes further discussion on these items.

I hope the House agrees.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: With this, there is Resolution.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): The time is inadequate. You have said that the House agrees to it. But my submission is that the time is wholly inadequate.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): At least there should be a minimum of 12 hours.

SHRI RAM NAIK: The House has to agree about the suggestions which are made. Now, the time has been allotted by the Business Advisory Committee. That has to be accepted.

(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Do not

MR. CHAIRMAN: That has been decided by the Business Advisory Committee.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: We cannot go on having constant adjournments, postponements or extensions.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDABARAM) : You cannot disagree with it. The Business Advisory Committee has decided that.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED (Lakshadweep): The normal practice is that we always exceed the time allotted by the Business Advisory Committee.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUARAMANGALAM): If I may inform the hon. Members, through you, Sir, I do not think that the time of 10 hours is in question now. Tomorrow when the Business Advisory Committee Report comes up for adoption, you may raise your point at that particular time. I think there would be no problem even at that time. There is nothing called the Golden Line with 10 hours. *(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): Sir, I beg to move the following Resolution:

"That this House approves the recommendations made in paragraphs 12, 13, 16, 19 and 22 contained in the First Report of Railway Convention Committee, 1991, appointed to review the rate of dividend payable by the Railway Undertaking to General Revenues as well as other ancillary matters in connection with the Railway finance and General Finance, which was presented

669 *Railway Budget, 1992-93- PHALGUNA 21, 1913 (SAKA) for Grants (Rtys.) 670*
General Discussion; Resolution re. 1992-93; and Supplementary
recommendations of RCC; Demands Demands for Grants (Rtys.), 1991-92
to Lok Sabha on 24th February, 1992".
in today's agenda nor any supplementary
agenda has been circulated. [Interruptions]

Sir, by a resolution adopted in the Lok Sabha on 16th September, 1991 and concurred in by the Rajya Sabha on the same day, the Railway Convention Committee, 1991 was constituted on 25th November, 1991. The Committee was appointed to review the rate of dividend which is at present payable by the railway undertaking to General Revenues as well as other ancillary matters in connection with the Railway Finance vis-a-vis the General Finance and make recommendations thereon for the Eighth Five Year Plan.

The Ministry of Railway submitted an interim memorandum requesting the Committee to permit continuance of the financial arrangements between the Railways and the General Finance for the year 1992-93 by and large, on the same basis as adopted for the year 1991-92, in the manner recommended by the Railway Convention Committee in their Third Report pending their final recommendation for the Eighth Five Year Plan, for which memoranda to the Committee will be submitted. The Railway Convention Committee in 1991 have considered the interim memorandum and have as an interim measure largely agreed to the proposals made therein by the Ministry of Railways. The Committee's observation contained in para 16 of the said Report in regard to re-assessing the value of the assets held by the railways by an Expert Committee has been noted.

With these words, I commend the Resolution for the consideration of this House.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Chairman, Sir, you have just now said that the discussion will be not only on these who items e.g. General Discussion on the Budget and Resolution but also on supplementary demands and appropriation Bill, simultaneously. But neither both these items are not

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is why we should start a discussion on Railway Budget.

SHRIGEORGE FERNANDES: Now you have told that the discussion will be held on all the four items simultaneously. How is it possible? We should understand the dignity of the House it is not a Panchayat Samiti, it is the Parliament of the country and has its own rules and regulations. You should have circulated supplementary agenda and it could have been approved by your permission. But you even did not do so. How the discussion can take place? [Interruptions]

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (bankura) : Only the General Discussion on the Budget is there in the agenda paper. [Interruptions]

SHRIGEORGE FERNANDES: Now you have decided that the discussion will be on all the four items. How is it possible? [Interruptions] You have to adjourn the House.

[Interruptions]

[Translation]

SHRIGEORGE FERNANDES: Please, you try to understand me.

[Interruptions]

MR. CHAIRMAN: First you complete your point only then I will give my ruling.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is no question of ruling. [Interruptions] You have known the opinion of the House that all the four items will be discussed simultaneously. But where are the other two items? [Interruptions]

SHRI P. M. SAYEED (Lakshadweep): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it was introduced in the presence of the hon. Members. In my opinion this situation would not have arisen if the

[Sh. P.M. Sayeed]

agenda of the Business Advisory Committee would have been circulated. (*Interruptions*) The House has accepted it. After that my friend's objection about it, in my opinion, is not proper. [*Interruptions*]

[*English*]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It is the decision taken by the Business Advisory Committee. But the agenda should be circulated. [*Interruptions*]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): What I want to draw your attention to is that in the course of the last three days, we have discovered the casualness, first in regard to the Bill on the Pesticides and now here. There is a casualness in the approach of the Government even in drafting the Bills and even in writing out the objectives of the Bill. And the House should thank him that on each of these issues, he has drawn the attention of the House. This is the third time in the course of the last three days that we saw the casual approach of the Government in relation to the House and in relation to the country. An therefore, Sir, let the House be adjourned now and let them send the revised list tomorrow. Then only let us take it up. [*Interruptions*]

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: Sir, I have a lot of respect for the hon. Members on the other side. [*Interruptions*]

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: What about the Members from this side?

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: And also to the Members on this side, if they have committed the same mistake.

When the Chairman announces something, they should hear what was announced. The Chairman, very categorically announced, just now and not long ago, that four items will be taken up together, that is, general discus-

sion on the Railway Budget for 1992-93; discussion on the Resolution regarding the recommendation of the Railway Convention Committee; discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants of Railways for 1992-93 and discussion and voting on the Supplementary Grants of Railways for 1991-92. And the Business Advisory Committee has said that his should be taken up together. Now the point is that you said yes and you only objected to the time of ten hours. [*Interruptions*]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): When the Chairman announced, what should we say? We have no other course but to say yes. We are drawing your attention... [*Interruptions*]

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GLAM: When the Chairman asked for the sense of the House, you said yes. You cannot go back now. [*Interruptions*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly resume your seats. The House has already agreed for discussing all these four items together. you said you agree.

[*Interruptions*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaf-farpur): Where are the other two items?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly listen to me.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Where is the Agenda? Please circulate it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will explain to you. When the Chairman stands, you should kindly sit down.

[*Interruptions*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: We are ready to discuss. But where are the other two items.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will explain to you. Kindly resume your seats.

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR (Manglore): Sir, can we take the recommendations of the Business Advisory Committee as the Agenda? *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly sit down. The issue is very simple Now, we have agreed to the announcement which the Chair had announced just now. In that, I have read the four items. One is the resumption which the Railway Minister has read and which was part of the Agenda and that was also include. So, on all the four items, we are now starting the discussion. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, you cannot start the discussion? How can you start the discussion, when you have not given it in the Agenda? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: By your own voice, you said yes. You cannot change your voice after evert two minutes. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: When the Chairman is standing, you should sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seats.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Kindly allow us to be on our legs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seats. The Minister would like to make a suggestion.

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: Sir, in order to sort out the present

atmosphere, may I make a suggestion. My submission is that just a minute is left and they are saying that it is not there in the list of business...

(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: We did not know that you are going to take up all the four items. We do not have the revised list of business. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly resume your seats. Shri Fernandes, kindly take your seat. All the objections that have been raise, I am overruling them. Now, Shri Kashiram Rana to speak.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I protest. This is not permissible.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Rana may please start his speech.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM: Mr. Chairman Sir, since it is already 6 o'clock, may I make a suggestion that we will list all the items in the agenda tomorrow and we will take up all these items together tomorrow?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly sit down. It is already 6 o'clock now. The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11 a.m.

18.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, March 12, 1992/ Phalguna 22, 1913 (Saka)

© 1992 BY LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

Published under Rules 379 and 382 of the Rules of Procedure and
Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha (Seventh Edition) and printed
by S. Narayan & Sons, Delhi-110006
