

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : That is different question. All the parties have agreed to it. You please do not ask me only about it. This is a party decision including your party. A meeting was held and in that meeting, topmost leaders of your party were present and everybody unanimously agreed and welcomed the fact that elections were going to be held and appealed to all parties to cooperate in making the elections successful. So, why are you raking up that question again? If something happens which you think may require the whole position to be reviewed again, that can be done but we do not think such a situation has developed yet and we hope that it will not develop. We are also taking necessary measures. So, Sir, this is the position.

As regards labourers, their families, dependents, their bodies and all that, I can assure the House that we will find out the full facts very soon and see what can be done so that their families can recover their bodies.

[Translation]

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr Home Minister, I would like to ask a question from you. Mr Chaman Lal Gupta has raised the question you yourself said that law and order situation there is not good. Despite this, forces are being withdrawn from there. What have you to say about it?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I said that forces have not been withdrawn. It is a wrong information.

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Sir I wish to bring it to the notice of the hon'ble Home Minister that he has perhaps not been able to go to Kashmir in the recent past. My submission is that these are two altogether different matters. The border incident, referred to, has taken place on the Pakistan border and as for withdrawing the forces, these have been withdrawn from Doda district which is about 400 kms. away from the border. The forces deployed at the posts have been withdrawn from the interior. This has triggered off migration from there. Thus, these are two different matters. At the Pakistan borders, our forces have been facing the situation quite creditably. It is a matter of great satisfaction for us but we are not able to cultivate thousands of acres of our land. You will have to pay attention to this aspect.

Sir, the other thing I wish to state is that the forces have been withdrawn some the interior of Doda district. As a result of withdrawal of forces from the post of Mahor in Udhampur and that of Chanar in Doda, 3-4 thousand families have come on the roads. That is why I say that these two issues are altogether different. If you give me time, I shall clarify further our forces say that they are not there to protect the posts and it is for the local police to protect these posts. But the local police have no means to do so. Therefore, do not mix up these two issues. You will have to give a categorical order not to withdraw the forces deployed there.

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, I have taken full and serious note of what Shri Chaman Lal Gupta is saying regarding certain parts of Doda district and what is happening there. He has repeated his allegations that the security forces have been withdrawn from some areas. That was not my information. I will look into it again and if you want further detailed discussion on this matter, it cannot be done in this way. Sir, I would invite him to please come to my Chamber and I will invite some other senior officials also there who are keeping constant touch with the Jammu and Kashmir situation.

Let him repeat all his detailed information there. It would immediately be checked up and we would go into the whole matter. It cannot be done just by raising a question. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, The hon. Railway Minister is present here. People have been sitting on a peaceful dhama since 7.00 A.M. today G R P F opened fire. Two persons were killed in Sonepur. More than 15 persons have been injured. The movement of trains under the N.E. Railway has been suspended. The hon. Minister has made an announcement on the question of Railway bridge. The Bihar Chief Minister had said that the railway bridge would be constructed at Sonepur between Pahaleja and Digha. Saran district was agitated over this issue. In Sonepur, people were staying a peaceful dhama on the railway tracks. Today morning, Government Railway Protection Force opened fire there. The persons have been killed. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will allow all of you. Please sit down now.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Many persons have been seriously injured. They have been admitted in P.M.C.H. Dead bodies are still lying on the railway tracks. The movement of tracing in N.E. Railways has been suspended. The hon. Minister is sitting here. After killing people the police have tried to remove their dead bodies from the tracks. More than 10,000 people are standing on the railway lines. More than twenty persons are admitted in the railway hospital or in P.M.C.H. The condition of all of them is very serious. I would like to know the circumstances under which the Government Railway Protection Force opened fire today at 7 A.M. on the people demonstrating peacefully and why the entire district is agitated. I would request the hon. Railway Minister to visit Sonepur where a railway bridge is to be constructed, without delay and arrange to pay

by way of compensation, Rs. 5 lakh to the next of kin of each of those killed, and Rs. 1 lakh to each of those injured and also offer condolences to the families of the deceased and provide jobs to the members of these families and thus solve this problem. He should also take necessary action against the officers of the Government Railway Police Protection Force who opened fire on the peaceful demonstrations. I would request the hon. Minister to give his reply in this regard...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, my question is very important. There is a danger to our lives...*(Interruptions)*

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (Allahabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, I would like to know the attention of the House to a very important matter. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have allowed him.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMED ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbanga) : Under which rule, do you allot time? Are we not members here?...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It is my discretion.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have got a list. Please sit down.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Sir, I am requesting you since yesterday...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have been supplied a list by the Office and I am selecting from that.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : There must be some system...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : How do you say that?

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Sir, there must be some system. There was a system in the last Session.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am allowing a system which is already in force.

(Interruptions)

RE : COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY (CTBT)

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (Allahabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the House and the Government to a very important question.

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

This question pertains not only to the dignity of this House but also to the sovereignty and integrity of the country.

It was, of late reported in the newspapers that the USA sent a notice to the Government of India on the 2nd July, threatening therein that if the Government of India did not amend its patent laws in the manner desired by the USA the latter would not try to penalise India but would also take the matter to the W.T.O. The USA had given 15 days time to India for doing the needful. I do not know how our Government reacted to it and why it did not inform this House and the country about it so far? Nobody knows the shape of things to come. It is also reported that the Government of India has invited Mr. Canter, U.S. Commerce Secretary to India for talks in this regard. Now, as reported in some sections of the press the USA has deliberately chosen to pressurise India for shaping our patent laws as per their wishes at a time when India is refusing to sign the CTBT. As reported in the 'Business Standard', it is apprehended that the USA has deliberately and wilfully chosen this time for the purpose. I do not know the reaction of the Government of India in this regard. Will it agree to change our patent laws in Deference to the wishes of the USA? The USA has kept India and all the countries in their priority-watch-list, as per the documents brought out by the U.S.I.S. It appears that the USA wants to act as an international policeman in the matter of TRIPS and the intellectual property Rights and wants every country to adjust its laws according to the wishes of the USA. Otherwise it would impose all sorts of sanctions and penalties on countries choosing not to toe their lines. I would like to know as to how our Government reported to this sorry state of affairs during these 15 days and why it did not take the country into confidence as regards its response to the situation. Parliament is in session these days. Within 60 days of its response. The Government of India would either have to go to the W.T.O. with the US Government or would have to talk over the matter with the USA. We would like to know what negotiations the Government of India propose to enter into with the USA and how far it proposes to compromise with the sovereignty of the country.

I wish to draw the attention of all the members towards the serious situation. Paswanji, Indrajit Guptaji, Somnath Chatterjee and Nirmal Kantiji have all along been raising this issue and impressing upon the Government of India never to agree to amend our patent laws under pressure from the USA and thus compromise with the sovereignty and integrity of the country.

I can understand that keeping in view our international commitments, we may have to amend our patent laws. But it is only this House and our Government to decide as to what those reforms should be and how they are to be brought about. No other country can dictate terms to us in this regard and if any country has dared to do so. If our Government should tell us as to how it proposes to meet the situation.