

that, whatever Shri Joshi says, he should not be behind Vajpayeeji, he should be with Vajpayeeji, because in politics if you are behind, you can stab easily! That is very bad thing.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : The Congress history is not repeated here. It is with you.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : With these words I request the Prime Minister to say something.

MR. SPEAKER : Would the Prime Minister like to say something?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, with your kind permission, I would like to make the following statement with regard to the Gujarat issue which was the main ingredient for stalling the proceedings of the House for nearly two days.

At least today, the hon. Leader of the Opposition and his Party have cooperated to have the Question Hour. Now, he wanted to know the reaction of the Government. There is no need for me to hesitate so far as the Government side is concerned. I have made it clear yesterday in the Press conference. I am going to read the same thing here today.

Hon. Speaker, Sir, the recent developments in the Gujarat Assembly are a matter of concern for all, including the Government of India. However, as far as the Government of India is concerned, while it has a responsibility to monitor the developments in all the States including Gujarat, since developments of this nature would have an impact on the law and order situation, I wish to make it clear that there is no question of interference in the political affairs of Gujarat by the Government of India. The present situation in Gujarat is something which needs to be sorted out by the political parties in Gujarat and by the State Government.

The Government of India comes into the picture only if it is convinced that there is a break down of Constitutional machinery in the State. Even here, the matter is very much within the jurisdiction of the State Governor. The question of any interference from the Government of India, therefore, does not arise.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai-North) : Sir, I have given a notice about Shri Sukh Ram... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I think, I have received your notice. Since I do not have the facts with me, I have called for the facts from the Ministry of Home Affairs and since the hon. Member is a Member of the present House, it is only fair on my part to have his comments also. So, I have asked for his comments, that is the comments of the hon. Member, as

well as the report from the Government of India. After receiving them, this matter could be discussed.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (South Delhi) : Is he available for giving comments?

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, so much of time has already been lost. If you do not allow me today, I can understand that. I think, I would be allowed at least on Monday. If the Member does not reply... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let us hope that by Monday the reply would be coming.

SHRI RAM NAIK : The point is that we are trying to judge his conduct. If he does not reply, we should not be deprived of discussing his conduct. So, if you want, you can allow me on Monday. But it should not be just... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am not trying to reject it at all. I am only saying that I am waiting for the report of the Government of India, that is from the CBI and also the comments of the hon. Member. Once I get these two, ...

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : And if the hon. Member is not available for giving his comments, how would you obtain his comments?

MR. SPEAKER : In order to give his comments, the hon. Member need not be here.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : How will you get the comments of a person who is completely underground? He is not available.

MR. SPEAKER : We have sent the message to him, wherever he is.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, I hope I will be allowed on Monday.

MR. SPEAKER : All right.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am going to allow all those hon. Members, who have given notices for the Zero Hour. Everybody would be allowed. Please be short and brief, so that everybody gets a chance.

12.34 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad) : Sir, I had raised a question on 2nd August... (Interruptions)