

**Title:** Regarding Israel's bombing on Palestinian liberation organisation headquarters.

**12.04 hrs**

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the House shall take up Zero Hour.

Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Mr. Speaker Sir! (Interruptions)

कुंवर अखिलेश सिंह (महाराजगंज, उ.प्र.) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, प्रधान मंत्री ग्रामीण सड़क योजना का उत्तर प्रदेश में बड़े पैमाने पर दुरुपयोग हो रहा है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : रोज-रोज ऐसा करना ठीक नहीं है। आज सबको चांस मिलेगा।

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have called the name of Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the House and the attention of the Government, especially the hon. Minister of External Affairs to a very important issue.

For the last three days, things which are happening and the developments which are taking very fast in the West Asia especially, in Palestine, are causing concern.

India has been a significant contributor of world peace right from the days of our freedom. India has been espousing the cause, the just cause and the struggle of Palestine right from the day of our first Prime Minister. It has been our consistent policy to see that Palestinians get justice.

Now, in the global war against terrorism, everyone in the world has played their roles and expressed their concerns.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is a lot of disturbance from the Treasury Benches today. What is happening?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : But it appears that the war against terrorism is now getting a new twist in the shape of 'war against sovereignty, just cause and struggle' of a country like Palestine. It is amazing that the development took place in such a dimension that the leader of that Sovereign State, Mr. Yasser Arafat was supposed to be attacked, while he was in his office. Even the house and the palace were supposed to be destroyed. Yesterday, Mr. Mohammed Assadi from Ramallah, the official headquarters of Yasser Arafat, reported from West Bank that the Coalition Government's Foreign Minister, Mr. Peres walked out from the Cabinet on this issue.

Since we are equally concerned over the stability and the final success of the West Asian peace process including the problem in West Bank and Gaza Strip, did the Government of India express its concern over the way the things are taking shape against the people of Palestine and its leader? Did the Government of India take note of this development? For the last four days, we see that there is no sign of any reaction and there is no response from the Government of India's Foreign Minister over this very significant development in West Asia. It is not against any country or against any individual. Our total commitment is there for peace process in West Asia, which is now being totally destroyed.

I would like to know from the Government, through you, Sir, as to how it is going to react to the situation and interpret the situation. Will the Government of India consider this as a matter of very great importance and a significant development? Will it ensure that it takes initiative to see that the peace process starts again and also to see that the violence which is now being perpetrated and engineered by the Israeli Government is not getting any more momentum? Will it also ensure the sovereignty of Palestine?

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (ULUBERIA): As Shri Dasmunsi said, it is a serious matter and a matter of great concern for our country. For ages, we stood firmly by the liberation struggle. The struggle of the Palestinian people is one of the great liberation struggles that is going on in the world.

Now, under the cover of fight against terrorism, the imperialist forces are trying to crush the liberation movement. We know how barbaric the attack was, to kill the leader of the liberation movement who is a very close friend of our country. We are fighting in support of him for several years. What is happening now? America even supported the Israeli's heinous act, on the ground that it is their right to self-defence. What is this? In the name of war against terrorism, they are trying to crush the liberation struggle. It should be condemned by this House unanimously and the Government must condemn it. The Government should take a serious note of this and ask for a clarification from its new-found ally as to why they are resorting to such barbaric attacks. ...(*Interruptions*)

श्री राशिद अलवी (अमरोहा) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा इश्यू भी इसी से जुड़ा है।<sup>â€</sup>(व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rashid Alvi, you have not given any notice on this subject.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The problem is that every day, the senior Members are not giving any chance to other junior Members. Shri Banatwalla has given notice on this issue. On the same issue, Shri Banatwalla has given notice. So, Shri Banatwalla.

श्री जी.एम.बनातवाला (पोन्नानी) : स्पीकर साहब, वेस्ट एशिया के अंदर हालात संगीन, सीरियस और धमाकाखैज हैं और यह जरूरी है कि हिन्दुस्तान शुरू से, अपनी आज़ादी से पहले से हम पैलिस्टीनियन कॉज की हिमाकत करते रहे हैं और आज हालात ये हैं कि इज़रायल वहां बमबारी कर रहा है, पैलिस्टीनियन ऑथोरिटी को खत्म करने की कोशिश कर रहा है।

वहां बम गिरे हैं। गाज़ा में हैडक्वार्ट पर यासिर अराफात को निशाना बनाया गया है। यहां तक कि उनके आफिस से चन्द किलोमीटर के फासले पर भी बम गिरे हैं। उनका मामला भी तहफ़ुज़ में नहीं है। आम शहरियों को परेशानी हैं, लोग हलाक़ किए जा रहे हैं। जख्मी हो रहे हैं, जिनमें बच्चे भी शामिल हैं। आज तो एक अलग बात हो गई, टैरिज्म के नाम पर मूल्कों की सोवरेनिटी के उमर हमले किए जा रहे हैं। यह एक बहुत ही नाजुक और गम्भीर सवाल है। हमें इसकी मज़मूत करनी चाहिए। हुकूमत बताये कि <sup>â€</sup>(व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Banatwalla, please conclude.

...(*Interruptions*)

**श्री जी.एम.बनातवाला :** हुकूमत बताये कि फिलीस्तीनियों के लिए क्या करने जा रही है। वहां पर अमन-अमान कायम होना चाहिए। यह जरूरी है कि फिलीस्तीनियों के मामलात को समझकर और उनके हुकूक को बरकरार रखा जाए। **â€** (व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER : Now the Minister will reply.

**श्री राज बब्बर (आगरा) :** महोदय, यह तात्कालिक महत्व का विषय है **â€** (व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: I have 35 notices. I have to call other names also. How is it possible to continue like this? This will be injustice to others.

...(Interruptions)

**श्री मुलायम सिंह यादव (सम्मल) :** महोदय, एक नए मैम्बर खड़े हैं, आप उधर देख रहे हैं। **â€** (व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: You wish to just raise the issue but not allowing the Minister to reply.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You may tell me, what should I do with these notices?

...(Interruptions)

**श्री मुलायम सिंह यादव :** यह आपकी प्रापर्टी है। **â€** (व्यवधान)

**श्री राज बब्बर :** महोदय, यह गम्भीर विषय है। **â€** (व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record.

(Interruptions) **â€** \*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Raj Babbar, before speaking you have to take the permission of the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): Sir, I fully share the concerns raised by the hon. Members....(Interruptions)

**श्री मुलायम सिंह यादव :** आप सही जवाब दीजिए।

**\* Not Recorded**

**श्री जसवन्त सिंह :** संसद में बोल रहा हूँ, गलत कैसे हो सकता है।

Perhaps the Government's reaction has not come to the attention of the hon. Member. Let me repeat it. We are deeply concerned at the recent escalation of violence in the area. The terrorists' attacks have led to a large number of casualties and injuries to very many innocent people. We condemn such acts. There can be no justification for them. The need of the hour is restraint to break this vicious cycle of violence and hatred. We have taken note of President Arafat's condemnation of such acts of terrorists' violence and steps taken by the Palestinian National Authority to arrest the people with the history of terrorist violence. We sincerely hope that nothing will be done to undermine President Arafat and Palestine National Authority as the alternatives are fraught with dangers and serious implications for regional peace and security.

Sir, as recently as 27<sup>th</sup> of November, the Prime Minister had sent a message of support, on the International Day of Solidarity, with the Palestinian people and I find it only necessary because the hon. Member has said that the

Government has done nothing. I will read out a brief excerpt from the statement of the Prime Minister as this fully illustrates the principles and consistent position.

"India fully supports all efforts to break the cycle of violence, bring about a ceasefire and to build mutual trust and confidence through the steps outlined in the Mitchell Report and the Tenant Plan. "

"A definitive resolution of the Palestine-Israel dispute should result in the creation of a viable State of Palestine along side Israel within the secured and recognised borders in implementation of the UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and of the principle of land for peace that has underpinned the peace process in West Asia. We call on both sides to immediately resume negotiations focussed on confidence building and with a vision for the future."

I would also like to inform the hon. Members of the House that the Government of India is in fact today observing the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people. In fact, in the ICWA we have a function taking place this evening.

So far as the aerial attacks on the Palestine ground concerned, whether it is on Ramallah or on President Arafat's headquarters, we strongly condemn such aerial attacks. They are completely unjustified. We believe that it is such attacks that defeat the entire peace process. One violent attack results in another violent attack resulting in a cycle of violence. That is why we have constantly urged that for the sake of resumption of the peace process this cycle of violence must end. The Government has made known this position and has consistently said what it has to say. There is no deviation in the Government's position.

मुलायम सिंह जी ने जो कहा है, वह सही कहा है, उसमें कोई गलत नहीं है। (व्यवधान)

**श्री मुलायम सिंह यादव :** महोदय, एक बात और कहनी चाहिए, जब हमला हुआ तो अमेरिका बोला नहीं। इज़राइल के मामले पर उसे अपनी रक्षा करने का अधिकार है। दो बातों को नहीं होना चाहिए। (व्यवधान) जब जर्मनी पर हमला हुआ तो वे चुपचाप रहे और जब इज़राइल हमला करे तो अमेरिका कहता है कि उसे अपनी रक्षा करने का अधिकार है। विदेश मंत्री जी, इसे गंभीरता से लीजिए और इस पर प्रोटेस्ट कीजिए।

**SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (MAYILADUTURAI):** I would like to add a sentence in support of what Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav has said. India's voice must be raised against double standards where America asked the whole world to join in condemning the air attack on WTC, but does not raise its voice against air attacks made by Israel on the Palestine authority and its leader President Yasser Arafat.

**SHRI JASWANT SINGH:** This Government has made it quite clear. As far as the Government of India is concerned, there are no two interpretations either on the sovereignty or on the right of self-preservation and self-defence. Irrespective of what the United States of America thinks or says or does not say, Government of India's position is quite clear. Sovereignty is sovereignty and an attack on sovereignty is an attack on sovereignty. We have recognised Palestinian authority, we have recognised President Arafat also. There is no ambiguity in so far as the Government's position is concerned.

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