

[Shri Jaswant Singh]

*Through Public Interest Litigation, we, the courts will now monitor the further progress of this issue as well' as it has happend in the case of Indian Bank. It is just today or yesterday, the Apex Court has ruled in the case of Indian Bank, as has happened in the case of Chandraswami, as has happend in the case of the havala matter and many other matters.*

SHRI A.C. JOS (Idukki) : You are giving a hint to the Court.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I am not giving any hint to the Court. I am giving a direct suggestion to the Parliament. It is not a hint to the Court. I am appealing to the Parliament. The Parliament has sufficient ability and sufficient powers. This Committee is not a Committee of Inquiry. It will act as a distillate of the Parliament to ensure that the Government continues to remian on the straight and the narrow, that the Government continues to act with despatch.

13.00 hrs.

I appeal, therefore for this Committee—which as I said has to be constituted—really to study, to scrutinise, to recommend and to ensure implementation through the cooperation of all.

I feel now that there does exist, if not total unanimity, a certain basic unanimity, in the House as far as this Bofors matter is concerned. All of us want to finally get at the truth. All of us want finally to be rid of the curse of Bofors and there is no way that we can reconcile both the aspects, the Government simultaneously claiming privilege about the papers and we, as representatives in this House wanting that we with our rights and responsibilities of Parliament must continue to perform to provide checks and balances in this Parliament. The only way out is the Constitution of such a Committee and the only way that such a Committee can be formed is through the Motion that I have moved under Rule 184, I appeal to all of you that if the substance of what I am saying is acceptable to you we can re-define the Motion, we can lay down the purpose of the Committee. But let us now, please, take a decision because the taking of such a decision itself will, I think, be a singular example. It will send all the right message that need to be sent across, not simply the investigative agencies, not simply the judicial structure of the Republic; it will also send some constructive message also to the body politic of the country.

Sir, the entire House wants the facts. Finally, therefore, let us get at the truth and let us get at that truth for justice. That is why I have moved this Motion.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is a very important issue. Before calling another hon. Member, I want to seek the consensus of the House. Would you like to continue the discussion or adjourn for Lunch?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : No lunch need be there

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All right; agreed. There will be no lunch. Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Is there no lunch?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : There should be a lunch.

AN HON. MEMBER : There will be lunch.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : We want to fully participate in the debate. What happens is, if you do not give a lunch hour we may be absent when something important is being discussed. We can come back and then discuss.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : So, you want a lunch hour.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : We come back and discuss.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All right. Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : When I stand up I will not make a debate like Shri Jaswant Singh.

MR. DEPTY-SPEAKER : You can start after lunch.

The House stands adjourned for Lunch till 2 P.M.

13.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till  
Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.07 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Seven  
Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

MEMBER SWORN

[English]

Shri Neil Aloysius O'Brien (Nominated Anglo-Indian)