

Stat. by Minister re. his recent

With these words, I would like to thank all the hon. Members.

18·07 hours

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Statement made by the Minister of External Affairs regarding his recent visit to Moscow, Washington, Amman, Baghdad and Kuwait in connection with the situation in the Gulf of Oman

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now we resume discussion under Rule 193. Before I request Shri Samarendra Kundu to continue, I would like to bring to the notice of all the Members that I have a very long list of Members who want to speak. May I request all the hon. Members to be pointed, pertinent to the subject and brief, and speak without giving any preface or any historical background, so that all Members can be accommodated.

SHRI IBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT (Manjeri): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, how long will this discussion continue?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We have two hours for this discussion.

SHRI IBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: That means up to eight o'clock.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, we have already consumed some time before.

SHRI IBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: But I do not think this can end by 7 o'clock or something like that today itself. It may have to be continued on Monday also because all must be interested in this.

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MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I leave it to the Whips of the parties to discuss and let me know what they want to do. They might discuss outside the House so that the hon. Members, at the same time, can continue. Hon. Minister, you hear what they are saying and you can discuss with them. You decide and let me know. I have no objection to anything you decide. Let it be discussed by the Whips outside the House and let me know what they decide...

(Interruptions)

Mr. Sait, you can also participate in the discussion.

PROF. P. J. KURIAN: Sir, we can have one hour discussion today and then carry forward to Monday because so many Members may have to speak. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK: What problem is there. I do not understand (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is exactly what I am saying that if they have a point of view and you have a point of view, instead of discussing it on the floor of the House, the Whips and other important members of the parties can decide as to what has to be done, and if you let me know what is to be done, we will do that. At the same time, we can carry on with the discussion. Now you can please go to our chamber or your chamber or over a cup of tea and decide.

Yes, Samarendra Kunduji.

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU (Balasore): Sir, I was saying that our hon. Minister for External Affairs has done a very creditable job. In a very critical situation in the country, he has been able, through his

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diplomatic skill, to get kerosene, petrol, diesel from other countries, even from America and Soviet Russia. This is no mean job because the country has now some sort of fear, fear psychosis is developing and it will have repercussions which will lead to blackmarketing in oil and other things. At the same time, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that a list of 3000 persons the Minister has brought from Kuwait and Iraq about their living condition there and all that. So far, these informations have not reached their people. At least I am a victim of it. I had given two names. I have been trying to find out their whereabouts. I have not been able to get that information and you can imagine that, as I said on that day, it is a national issue. What anxiety it might be causing in the families here? So, on this aspect, while thanking the hon. Minister for making an effort, getting into an area where perhaps he was prohibited to go and trying to get some names, some information. I would like to say still much more has to be done and I feel that he must use his full energy and vigour to get this informations.

Having said this, I would like to refer to emerging global scenario. I share with the Minister's visualising the entire global situation. He said that India will be affected if this sort of crisis in the Middle East continues and not only in India, but it might have far reaching consequences in other parts of globe also. Therefore, he rightly says that we must also do something to intervene to see that peace and stability come there, to save India from a destabilisation process. But on the next breath, I do not know why he thought himself not very confident and said "I am not going to mediate". Well, perhaps it is true that nobody has asked us to mediate. India's per-

sonality is something different. Nobody need ask India to mediate. Our effort to bring about peace in any part of the world should be the foremost because peace is *sine quo non*. When there is a global danger to peace and an explosive situation exists in the Middle East, when there is danger to India and its neighbouring countries also i.e., two of our neighbouring countries have sent their troops to Saudi Arabia India cannot afford to be quiet I think the Minister must also move and see that India's personality is projected correctly. He might be having a quiet diplomacy. It looks like that. It appears from his statement. Perhaps he is trying to contact Non-Aligned countries. But at the same time, he has kept Non-aligned movement and Arab League at a low key. I do not know why he thinks Non-aligned movement and Arab League will have a low profile. It is said that a country has permanent interests, not permanent friends. This statement was made by an astute politician. But somehow I do not like this statement because it appears selfish viz., We have only permanent interests and not permanent friends. This is the line advanced by some politicians who do not believe in projecting real moral values in international understanding. I know the present crisis it is a critical situation. Iraq is our good friend. Iraq stood all along with us. Iraq was one of the countries who introduced Bangladesh to Arab League. Our crores of rupees of work are involved in Iraq. Iraq had supported our position in Kashmir. I consider these are the advantages which we have in Iraq, and therefore, we can have direct line of communication with Saddam Hussien. We must utilise the direct communication i.e. our friendship to see that Iraq withdraw its forces from Kuwait, to see that de-escalation process starts and peace returns in the Gulf region. To do this, India should also take lead in the Non-Aligned Movement. Call for

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a meeting immediately some of the important leaders of the Non-Aligned countries and start telling them to take effort to defuse the situation. If you delay the process, I think perhaps we might get defeated in espousing our cause.

Coming to another point about the United Nations, I do not know what happened actually and why America defied the Security Council's Resolutions and had a blockade. The blockade was not authorised, I am told, but I do not know. Even America did not agree to call a Security Council's Meeting to discuss about the withdrawal of foreign citizens in these two countries. But when some of the Americans were put in hostage, America decided to call the Security Council's Meeting. But what exactly is the position? What is the position of the blockade, whether the Security Council by now has sanctioned this blockade? This position should also be told to us because we had different reports from newspapers.

Sir, I feel the Non-aligned Movement should be activated and the solution should be found out through the aegis of the United Nations. The Non-aligned Movement should activate the United Nations to act courageously to bring about peace and stability in this area. No unilateral action should be supported.

Having said these things, I am told the value of Kuwait currency has fallen and it does not have any purchasing power. What is the exact situation? Are Iraqis prepared to compensate or is Iraq prepared to give us the corresponding value of the Kuwait currency because our Indians hold millions of Kuwait currency in foreign banks? On this point also we will benefit if peace come to this area and de-escalation takes place surely in the interest of our own country, we must have

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peace in the sub-region. I would like that more energetic and dynamic action to be taken and it should be taken by a very dynamic and articulate diplomat Minister. Shri I. K. Gujral.

SHRI YADVENDRA DATT (Jaunpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will not make any speech about it, but I will put 6 or 7 questions. There are two aspects of this. What is the human action? That is, how to get our people out from this war zone, specially women, children, the old and the sick, because Jordan's exit gates are also closed, as reported in the press? I do not know. May I suggest a method to the hon. Foreign Minister that when he sends supplies of foodgrains and medicines etc. in ships to Kuwait, would he consider evacuating the remaining women and children, the sick and the old by the same ship if it returns after unloading the goods there? Would he also consider another route by road, not through Amman, but on the borders of Jordan through the Gulf and the Port of Aquaba by chartering ships and evacuating the people? Would he also consider sending medicines for which there is supposed to be a great scarcity in Kuwait, as reported in the press, by which our own people will be affected in Kuwait? As cholera has broken out, would he care to send a team of doctors to treat the cholera cases and give injections to protect people from cholera and stop spreading of cholera?

Coming to the political side of it, it looks to be a repetition of the old, old history again. The old Assyria—modern Iraq—dominated the fertile crescent in the North because of the agricultural domination of these areas. Now the very fertile crescent has moved South because of petrol and crude oil. The struggle is; who is to dominate petrol and

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crude oil fertile crescent now? If Iraq dominates the fertile crescent of petrol and crude oil, then it will hold the industrially developed and developing nations to ransom. If the Americans dominate then they will hold the Arabs under their domination. That is the struggle for the domination of petrol. The Arab league itself is now feeling very incompetent because the Arabs themselves are divided. The Non-Aligned nations like Egypt, Syria and Morocco have come out openly in support of the Americans in Saudi Arabia. Libiya and Jordan have come out openly in support of President Saddam Hussein. Iran is playing its own game. Iran has got the liberation of its own prisoners of war. I do not know, but it is my guess that probably the support of Iran has been bought by Iraq by offering the old bait, which Iran always desired. The domination of Tacial coast i.e. U.E. of Arabia. Now, the Americans, the French and the British are in the game because their industrial base depends entirely on crude oil and petrol. So, they will have to fight. The fight is going to be a long one now; it is not going to be a short affair. It is purely naked power politics and we have to look into that. There is a danger signal for us also. I would not say much about it. I am leaving the things to Mr. Gujral to guess at it because the things are so sensitive and what we say here may have a bad effect. Pakistan has sent its troops to Saudi Arabia. Bangladesh has also sent it. Under the guise of sending troops, they will be heavily armed and heavily equipped. With that heavy armaments and equipments, our flanks are again threatened. We must look into it. To my mind, India being one of the leaders of the Non-Aligned Movement, should take up the lead in consultation with them and stand up with our moral stand that a small nation cannot be cobbled by a powerful nation by its tanks and

by its armaments. The vacation must come. Then, with the vacation, the foreign troops must withdraw, because if troops are there, you can never say when the clash will come up. Thirdly, they should rally all Non-Aligned nations and all nations who are dependent on petrol for their life to see that they do not come in this power struggle, because if this power struggle goes on, we will face a crunch. Fourthly, for meeting our own petrol demand, why should not the Foreign Minister approach our neighbour, Burma? They have plenty of crude oil. I will suggest that for oil, we can give them goods of their need and we should rally the Indonesians, the Malaysians and other small nations of South America like Mexico, Venezuela. The Foreign Minister should take out a trip straight away to Moscow, Washington, Berlin or Bonn, whatever it is, and Paris and try, after raising this Non-Aligned group movement, to bring them round to this view. There is another great danger. Blockade has been imposed; embargo has been imposed. Embargo and blockade will have no meaning unless interdiction takes place and interdiction means, naval force will be used. Jordan has gone to Iraq side and that is my guess. They have the old ambition of the Shareefa of Hejaz from which his great grandfather was driven away by Ibne Said, the ruler of Nejd who united both the kingdoms and formed Saudi Arabia. Probably Iraq has given hint because the latest information I have is—I may be wrong—that King Hussein has started calling himself as Shareefa of Hejaz. This is the power politics developing there. May I ask the Foreign Minister—I may be wrong—but what I heard was, those people who have come back, their passports are probably impounded under one pretext or the other. Will you please look into this and see that the passports are not impounded and people are not put to any hardship. These are five or six questions addressed to the Minister.

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When we were talking about Iraq and Iran, two days back I suggested to the Minister that a high-secretariat level team should go round and see there. But he said, our Ambassador is having everything in hand. If our Ambassador is having everything in hand, why all these people are going round now?

I will put one more question on this. Had we been taken by this invasion by surprise? No nation could move two or three divisions of army in secrecy. Rumours were floated about the size of troubles that were coming. Then, there was a rumour, Iraq refused the compensation from Kuwait of 20 million dollars or a billion or whatever it is, for the so-called stolen petrol. There was a signal of coming for attack. Did our Embassy inform us early? Were we informed properly? Rumours might be going around in Baghdad or Basrah or in Kuwait because after all, when troop movement takes place, everything is known. Did our Embassy contact the Americans and Russians to find out from the Spy Satellite in the sky whether there was concentration of military or we were taken by surprise? If we were taken by surprise, then this *ad hocism* will not do. Unfortunately, I give three weeks' time for this crisis to develop into a war and the three weeks are very crucial.

I hope our External Affairs Minister will take proper and shrewd steps to meet the game of power-politics so that our country is safe, our borders are safe and the troubles do not erupt into our side and peace is restored into the Middle East.

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA
(Madhubani): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this incident has not occurred suddenly as our hon. friend said that situation was very tense for the last two-three weeks, but I would like to say

that every tension does not result in war. But if we see it broad perspective, the incident of annexation of Kuwait occurred suddenly. A number of persons of our country were living there and our embassies, Government and particularly our hon. friend Shri Gujral did a creditable job. There is no doubt that our people have faced some problems, that was natural because they were living in an another country. If our own country faced such a catastrophe, they would have to face the problems and they were not ready for this situation also. That is why so many problems are before them and perhaps they will have to confront more problems. The Government will make its best possible efforts to solve these problems by keeping in mind those suggestions which have been given in this regard.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to point out that death of any family member is not so painful as this menace is. I feel that the way America has deployed its army there, it has not occurred suddenly. Long time back, when oil-producing countries particularly Arab countries raised the prices of oil, America openly declared that she would capture the oil wells, at which U.S.S.R. said if it happened, she would not remain neutral. Now she gets an opportunity to capture oil wells. The British imperialism for hundreds of years and particularly after the first world war divided the Arabs and the situation which was prevailing for centuries under British imperialism, is being created again under the leadership of America in which Britain is also a part and it is a signal of danger. U.N.O. and its Security Council decided that Kuwait should be vacated. But Iraq rejected it. The Government of India has taken a stand that it accepts the decision of the Security Council in spite of its problems and friendship with Iraq. But America and Britain have deployed their armies

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there by violating that decision. That is a very dangerous thing. I am not talking only about non-aligned countries. We are on the one side of Arabian Sea and our Arab friends are on the other side. Arabian Sea is a part of the Indian Ocean. Despite a UNO decision to make Indian Ocean a peace of zone, America has never shown any interest or to hold a conference on this issue. Now it has pushed it on the brink of making it a battle field.

Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia are neighbouring countries and amity and discord among neighbours is a common thing. But who has authorised the U.S.A. to act militarily. This amounts to a form of sea piracy as was practiced in olden days. In this sort of a situation, U.S. forces will get a free hand to act in a similar manner in any other country of the region. Whatever has been said by our Foreign Minister is not enough. The feelings of all the people of this country must be conveyed that we are against military intervention by U.S. and other countries outside the limitations set by the U.N. As we want Iraqi forces to withdraw from Kuwait similarly we want U.S. forces to withdraw from the region.

Sir, the U.N. proposed a boycott of South Africa but the U.S. or other countries never sent their forces there. Despite resolutions passed repeatedly at the U.N., Israel is occupying Jerusalem and the Gaza strip, and Jordan is occupying the western part of Libya. Leave alone sending its forces, the U.S. has not even condemned the Israeli action because Israel is nowhere without U.S. support. President Saddam Hussein has clearly stated that Iraq will withdraw its forces from Kuwait if Israel vacates the Arab territory it took under its control in 1967. The hon. Minister has not mentioned it at any

time. I would like the hon. Minister to clarify as to what is the hitch in our supporting this stand of Iraq.

We want Iraqi forces to withdraw from Kuwait and this is what the U.N. also wants. But what Iraq wants is quite simple. The evacuation of Arab territories by Israel would be a major step towards peace in the Middle East. So India should support Iraq's stand. Our Parliament could pass a Resolution that Israel should withdraw from occupied Arab territory if Iraq is to withdraw from Kuwait.

Sir, apart from this there are other issues also. U.S. forces are already in the region to effect an economic blockade against Iraq. The decision of sending foodgrains to Iraq was a good decision, but it has not been made clear that this foodgrain is being sent for the use of Indians only or it will be used by others also. This point must be clarified because I don't think it is proper that the foodgrain should be used by Indians alone. Nationals of other countries too are sick and in dire need of foodstuffs. Such aid should be disbursed on humanitarian grounds and this makes nationals of all countries eligible. We should extend help on humanitarian grounds and we should take initiative towards providing aid other than military aid. Non-aligned nations have been mentioned just for namesake in yesterday's speech. I don't know whether the relevant newspaper reports are authentic or not, but I would like to say that now there is no such thing as polarisation of super powers. The two super powers are co-operating in several matters. So, there is a lot of scope for change in our foreign policy. Changes are taking place all over the world. The neo-colonialist countries of the world, economically and militarily dominate over the countries of the Third World. Now the neo-colonialist countries will send their troops to other countries on

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MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please say it in points and conclude your speech.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: We need not play the role of mediator in this crisis. We have to fulfill our duty as a peace-loving neighbouring country. We have to see that India's role does not diminish in the climate of increasing co-operation among super-powers. It should be clarified that India favours the path of peace. I conclude my speech with the hope that the hon. Minister will take appropriate action.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYAPAL MALIK): Sir, today the House will sit upto 7.00 P.M. Then the discussion will continue on Monday.

[English]

SHRI T. BASHEER (Chirayinkil): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I don't want to make a speech here. I will confine myself to certain points, especially about Indians in Kuwait. The occupation of Kuwait happened on August 2nd. Our session started on August 7th.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is not necessary. I will give you as much time as you want on points, but I will not give you time on history. Leave that aside please, I am trying to help you. On points I will give you as much time as you want.

SHRI T. BASHEER: In the beginning the Government was very stagnant. After that the Government moved and I am happy that the hon. Minister went to Kuwait. In his long statement he had given a picture of the situation there and the condition of Indians in Kuwait.

Sir, I wish to confine myself to some points relating to Indians in Kuwait. Still the communication system is not available. The most important aspect is the information so far as the relatives are concerned. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has taken up the point of resuming the communication system. If it is not yet taken up, I would like to know as to when this communication system will be resumed. I am happy that the Minister has collected a lot of letters from the Indians working there. That is also important. What steps are our Embassy people taking after collecting letters from them to send the same to their relatives in India? Has any arrangement been made? If so, what is the arrangement?

The second point that I would like to make is that I will be pleased if the Minister will clarify the position of Indians working there in private firms, in Government services and in many other jobs. I would like to know whether they are still continuing in their works, whether any of the Indians who are in large numbers lost their jobs. If so, what is their plight there now. I would like to get a clarification from the hon. Minister on this point.

The next point is very important. Some of our friends raised the point about the Kuwaiti Dinars. Earlier also before these events happened, they sent drafts to India. After 2nd or 3rd, our Banks are not accepting these drafts—not only Kuwaiti drafts, but drafts from other Gulf countries also. So I would like to know what steps the Government proposes to take to deal with this problem. I would like to know whether the Government is going to give any direction to our banks to receive and encash these drafts.

Sir, you know that the Indians have huge assets in Kuwait. I am told that

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the people from my State of Kerala have assets worth about Rs. 800 crores there. I would like to know whether the Minister has discussed this point with the Kuwait authorities and what will be the position of these assets of Indians there.

The next point, I would like to make is this. Now, a report came that the Amman route is closed and the alternative route of Basrah has been opened. Many friends have said that they are doing this work there with the limited staff in our Embassies and in our Consulates. In such a situation, they are doing a good work and I appreciate that. But the fact is that in a situation like this, the staff could not do the work speedily and effectively. So, to improve this, what steps the Government is going to take? My humble suggestion is this. We have well experienced officers in our Ministries who had experience of working in those Gulf countries. You should send these officers to our Baghdad and other Embassies immediately and to our Consulate in Basrah. You should send such useful and experienced officers immediately to those places. I would like to know the reaction of the Government in this regard. This will strengthen our Embassies and this will help to take speedy action. Actually what is needed now is speedy action. We have to take all the steps within a short span of time. The time factor is very important. We have to take steps to evacuate the people who want to come to our country, at the earliest possible time. That arrangement should be made. More staff should be provided and our Embassies should be strengthened.

When he made the Statement, the hon. External Affairs Minister said that the Iraqi authorities asked us to close the Embassy in Kuwait. So we may also have to close our Embassy in Kuwait. I would like to know whether our Embassy is closed now or still working there. Are the

staff in the Embassy still assisting our people there? In his statement, it has been stated that the Government kitchens have been set up for the people of Indian community—for the most needy, and that over six thousand persons are being regularly fed by these kitchens. This shows that the situation is bad. Food scarcity is there; lack of shelter is there and the lack of purchasing power is also there. That sentence itself shows the pitiable condition. So, I would like to know the present position in this regard. What steps we are going to take to improve this situation?

He also said that we are sending our flights, to Basrah and Amman to evacuate the people. Here, I would like to make a suggestion. When you send the flights to Amman and Basrah, you can send food articles to those places from here, by these flights and bring the people back from there, by the same flights. I would like to request the Minister to consider this suggestion. I do not want to take much time. Not only outside, but also in this country, you have to take some steps. The Government have to take some steps. Many boys and girls are coming. They were students there. They have to continue their studies here. So, Government should give necessary instructions to the institutions and to the State Governments to provide them seats and to provide facilities for continuing their education in our country.

Last but not the least, I would like to tell that this problem will have serious repercussions, of course, in the country, especially in my State. I am not quoting the figure. You know it. Thousands of people are working in the Gulf countries from my home State, Kerala. Actually, at a point of time, the remittance from the Gulf countries to Kerala was about Rs. 700 crore per year. You know it. Now, with this development

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in the Gulf countries, surely, the exodus from there will start. This influx will definitely have repercussions on the economy of the Kerala State. That is why we had been arguing all this time to chalk out some schemes for rehabilitating the people who have come from the Gulf countries. In this context, I would like to tell you that the State Government has chalked out a project of about Rs. 750 crore for rehabilitating the Indians coming from the Gulf countries. (*Interruptions*) It was before this crisis. Any how, I would like to urge upon the Minister with all the command at my disposal that the Government should take up the matter and approve the scheme. I know, this is not directly concerned with the Minister of External Affairs. But you can take up with the Ministries concerned at the earliest. Government have to approve this project. Steps should be taken to implement these schemes in Kerala.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think, other Members may speak on Monday, and they may have a time to present their views. But hon. Minister wants to say a few things today itself. An elaborate and detailed reply on points which are made today and all other points that would be made on Monday also may be given on that day. But he would like to intervene now.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): Thank you very much. I will not take more time of the House. My idea is not to reply to the debate just now.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): I would like to share an information with you for your consideration. I have a telephone call from Abu Dhabi that one friend of mine, who belongs to Kerala, Mr. Suleman, telephoned that in Baghdad, thousands of our Indians are stranded. After you returned from Kuwait, a

large number of people have gone to Baghdad.

According to him, this number comes to more than 20,000. They are stranded. They do not get shelter. They have problem of food. The arrangements made by our Embassy are not adequate.

19.00 hrs.

So, he has asked me to request you to give a direction to the Baghdad Ambassador to do whatever is possible. He also said from Abu Dhabi that they were arranging to send some money to Baghdad through our Embassy. And when they approached our Embassy in Abu Dhabi, the Second Secretary, with some dollars, he refused to transfer it to the Baghdad Embassy. So, I request you to kindly give an urgent message to see as to how many are stranded in Baghdad and take care of those people.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: I do not intend to reply to this debate at this stage and I do not think it fair for the House if I do so because many hon. Members have still to speak. But I take this opportunity only to say one or two things because I do not want that some impressions on some very vital issues should remain unreplyed for the next two days as our people are concerned in this matter.

To begin with, I had made an announcement in the other House and I want to reiterate that the unfortunate people whose death I had announced yesterday will be given an *ex gratia* grant of Rs. 25,000 by the Government. Now, that has since been raised to Rs. 1,00,000. This is one of the points which I wanted to make.

There is some confusion about the closure of the Embassy. I would like to make it clear that the closure of the Embassy, in the given circumstances, could not be helped. In this

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So far as our sending flights of Air India into Iraq are concerned, this has implications. We are examining it and trying to find alternative methods of doing it. We are also examining the possibility of using some other airports in addition to the Jordan Amman airport. But if Iran kindly co-operates and Iran Government gives us permission to let our people start, then it would be much easier for us because the distance is much shorter; and also then from Iran airport and Iran seaport, perhaps evacuation will become easier.

At this stage, I would only say this much, but I must not sit down without saying a word of thanks to all my hon. friends who have been so kind to me. I will, of course, more elaborately and with more gratitude thank them on Monday.

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling): One hon. Member wanted the Minister to give the names of those who have been killed so as to clarify matters and end speculation.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: Names are available; I would give them just now.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: There is one person, George, from my place; his dead body is there for the last about two weeks. He died on the 1st or 2nd day of the attack; may be due to shock; it has nothing to do with the war. But his dead body is still there. He died in Kuwait.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: You kindly give me details.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: I have sent you a letter yesterday.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: I will attend to it immediately.

Shri George's body was buried in Kuwait. This information is there. The names of our two nationals, who were caught most unfortunately in the cross-fire were Shri Sunny John and Shri Hassan. Both hail from the State of Kerala.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Which part of Kerala?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: These details I will give you later.

As we have announced, we are going to give an *ex gratia* grant of Rs. 1 lakh.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Shri George is from my place, Kumbanad, only 50 kms away. Can you tell me on which date his dead body was buried?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: I will get the details and give you by tonight itself.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House now stands adjourned to meet again on Monday, the 27th August, 1990.

19.08 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, August 27, 1990/Bhadra 5, 1912 (Suka)