

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

[Translation]

Wednesday, April 4, 1990/Chaitra 14,
1912 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of shame for us that terrorists have killed dozens and injured hundreds of people by planting a bomb at the site of a religious function at Batala. It is a very serious matter. It should be discussed right now.

[English]

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): Sir, we have given an adjournment motion. In Batala, they have killed people.....(Interruptions)..... We should express our serious concern on this....(Interruptions)....

MR. SPEAKER: I am on my legs, please. Mr. Rawat, I am on my legs.

....(Interruptions)....

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. I am on my legs, Mr. Rawat. Mr. Agarwal, please take your seat. When the Speaker is on his legs, you should take your seat.

SHRI J.P. AGARWAL: Where have all the Members of Bhartiya Janata Party disappeared today?

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat, Mr. Joshi, please sit down.

....(Interruptions)....

11.02 hrs.

WELCOME TO PARLIAMENTARY
DELEGATION FROM U.S.S.R.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, at the outset, I have to make an announcement.

On my own behalf and on behalf of the hon. Members of the House, I have great pleasure in welcoming His Excellency Mr. Anatoly I. Lukyanov, Chairman of the Supreme Soviet of USSR and Mrs. Ludmila D. Lukyanova and the hon. Members of the Soviet Parliamentary Delegation who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests.

The other hon. Members of the Delegation are:

1. Mr. Yury P. Platonov
2. Mr. Valentin I. Pokrovsky
3. Mr. Yury V. Skokov
4. Mr. Yuly M. Vorontsov

The Delegation arrived Delhi on 4 April, 1990 morning. They are now seated in the Special Box. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country. Through them we convey our greetings and best wishes to the President, the Parliament, the Government and the friendly people of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

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(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Vasant Sathe.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We want the Government to take the strongest possible action. (Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: We want the suspension of the Question Hour. You know it, Sir, that we have given today an adjournment motion. What is happening in Batala is an unprecedented thing. It has never happened before—an attack on a religious procession. (Interruptions) They are not bothered about this most serious occurrence. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: That is enough, now you take your seat.

[English]

SHRI VASANT SATHE: It will have repercussions all over the country. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You can give a Calling Attention on that.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: No, Sir. You allow an adjournment motion.

MR. SPEAKER: I know the urgency of this matter. I agree about its urgency. We can take it up. But this is the Question Hour, Mr. Sathe. I agree it is a serious thing. We can take it up after the Question Hour is over.

Let me proceed with the Question Hour.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Vijay, I am not preventing you from taking up the matter, I totally agree that it is an important thing but it can be taken up only after the Question Hour is over. Let Question Hour proceed first.

MR. SPEAKER: These are important matters. I will take it up after Question Hour is over.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Acharia please take your seat. I agree with you that it is an urgent matter. Let us take it up after the Question Hour is over.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: This is a very serious situation. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sathe, how will I be able to hear when 10-12 people are standing and speaking at the same time.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let me proceed with the Question Hour.

....(Interruptions)....

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Do you want that the Question Hour be suspended?

....(Interruptions)....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: No notice has been given to suspend the Question Hour.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I will give notice just now. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Not like that. I think there is no need to suspend the Question Hour. I do not agree. It is upto the Government to give a statement after the Question Hour is over. Let us proceed with the Question Hour.

....(*Interruptions*)....

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Question Hour can be suspended.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Khurana please sit down.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, we can suspend the Question Hour.... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Poojary, I am not able to hear you. All of you are standing up and speaking at the same time. Please take your seats.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I want to run the House as per the rules. Mr. Upendra.

(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI J.P. AGARWAL: Now we cannot call for a Delhi Bandh. What are you doing?.... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Notice should have been given before 10 o'Clock.

(*Interruptions*)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): This is a very serious incident and very unfortunate. The whole House joins in expressing the condolences to the bereaved families. If the hon. members want a statement, it can be made in the afternoon. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: Why can't you move a condolence resolution? (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Listen to me, you please sit down.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: That can also be considered.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. We will consider it afterwards.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: We are unanimous on this issue. Why don't you hear him? Let us first hear him. I will take it up afterwards.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: An Adjournment Motion has been given. (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sathe, wait for a second, please take your seat.

(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have seen your motion to suspend the Question Hour. Though it is time-barred, if the House wants you can give your opinion and we will decide. I have no objection.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I can put Mr. Sathe's motion. His motion is about suspension of Question hour.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: If you are not worried, you oppose that. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, yes. Mr. Upendra.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): I have a suggestion to make. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: My suggestion is that a condolence Motion be moved and the Question Hour be suspended. How long we can let people die there like that.

[English]

SHRI P. UPENDRA: Sir, immediately after the Question Hour we can jointly introduce a motion condemning the incident and expressing our condolences and if more details are required then the Home Minister can make a statement in the afternoon. (Interruptions)

SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY (Hoshiarpur): We donot want just a condolence motion. Just a condolence will not do. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Dinesh Singh.

Yes, Dinesh Babu.

SHRIDINESH SINGH (Pratapgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you will appreciate that. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: First you move a condolence Motion. Mr. Speaker, you please suspend the Question Hour and move a Condolence Motion and it is as per the rules only.

[English]

SHRI DINESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you will appreciate that we have gone to the utmost limit to accommodate the Government in the issue concerning Punjab. We said, we will co-operate with them in extending the time for elections. They could not show majority in the House. Even then we agreed to suspend the rules. Please listen me first. But there are certain issues on which it is not possible for us not to have a debate in the House. Merely passing a condolence resolution is of no use. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Constitution Amendment is also coming up. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DINESH SINGH: My request is that we will extend our full cooperation to the Constitution Amendment Bill which is likely to be introduced. You please allow us to move the Adjournment Motion. We will agree to this Amendment. Let this Amendment Bill be introduced and it can be discussed afterwards. This is a Censure Motion and we will definitely press it as it has become a daily routine. It is no longer a question of one or two days. The Government has not spelt out its policy on Punjab in this House as to what action it is contemplating to take to improve the situation in Punjab. If the condition in Punjab continues to deteriorate, then how long can we keep quite and go on cooperating with the present Government. If inno-

cent people are being killed there without any check, we are not ready to cooperate any longer. I am greatly surprised that B.J.P. which used to express great concern over this issue, has now started thinking that only a condolence Motion will be more than sufficient.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: We have Calling Attention Motion after that.

11.13 hrs.

[English]

CONDOLENCE ON BATALA KILLINGS

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): Let the condolence motion be moved and accepted first. After that, if you like, we do not want to come in the way of the introduction of the Bill about Punjab which has to come. And then, Sir, I would beg of you to take up the Adjournment Motion in all seriousness to discuss the Batala incident. This is how I would propose the things to be done.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): We have also given notice for discussion under Rule 193.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now place the condolence resolution before the House.

"This House is deeply grieved over the ghastly killing of a large number of people due to a bomb blast in Batala yesterday and conveys its heartfelt sympathies to the families of the deceased."

I am sure the entire House agrees with it.

I would request the Members to stand in silence for a short while.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, this is a very serious matter, no doubt about it. We have already condemned and shown our concern. We have given a notice already for discussion under Rule 193. But that discussion can start immediately after the introduction of the Constitution Amendment Bill. That is our suggestion. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us proceed with the Question Hour.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: We have also given a notice for discussion under Rule 193.... (Interruptions)....

SHRI NATHU SINGH: We have given notices for a Calling Attention and for discussion under Rule 193.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: There can be a Calling Attention also.

MR. SPEAKER:

Shri Harin Pathak .. Not present

Shrimati Basava
Rajeswari .. Not present

[Translation]

They given notice of questions and then are not present in the House.