

ing members of the Rajya Sabha have been duly elected to the said Committee:—

1. Shri Ajit P.K.Jogi
2. Shri Syed Sibtey Razi
3. Prof. Chandresh P. Thakur
4. Shri Virendra Verma
5. Shri Dipen Ghosh
6. Dr. G. Vijaya Mohan Reddy
7. Shri Pramod Mahajan.

iii) 'I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Wednesday, the 2nd May, 1990 adopted the following motion in regard to the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes:—

"That this House resolves that the Rajya Sabha do join the Committee of both the Houses on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the term ending on the 30th April, 1991, and do proceed to elect in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, ten members from among the members of the House to serve on the said Committee."

2) I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that in pursuance of the above motion, the following members of the Rajya Sabha have been duly elected to the said Committee:—

1. Shri S.K.T. Ramachandran
2. Shri Khyomo Lotha
3. Shri Rajubhai A. Parmar
4. Shrimati Kailashpati

5. Kumari Sushila Tiria
6. Shri M. Vincent
7. Shri Raj Mohan Gandhi
8. Shri Ranjan Prasad Yadav
9. Shri Sangh Priya Gautam
10. Shri N.E. Balaram.

13.24 1/4 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

[English]

Fifth Report

SHRISIVAJIPATNAIK (Bhubaneswar): Sir, I beg to present the Fifth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

13.24 1/2 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

[English]

Contract for Sale of 50 Mirage III aircraft by Australia to Pakistan

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of External Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

"That situation arising out of contract for sale of 50 Mirage III aircraft by Australia to Pakistan."

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): On April 15, 1990 the Australian Government signed a

[Sh. I.K. Gujaral]

contract worth Australian \$ 36 million (US\$ 27 million) for the sale of 50 Mirage-III aircraft to Pakistan. This information was conveyed to our High Commissioner in Australia only on 24.4.1990. On the same day, the sale was announced by the Australian Minister of Defence, Senator Robert Ray. The Australian-built Mirages were constructed under licence by the Australian Government aircraft factory. The Commonwealth Corporation also built the engines for the Mirages under licences.

13.26 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

The Government of India has conveyed its serious concern to the Australian authorities in New Delhi and in Canberra over the decision to sell Mirage-III aircraft to Pakistan. It was conveyed to the Australian High Commissioner that this is a most unfortunate and regrettable decision, particularly in the context of the current tension prevailing in the Sub-continent. It is not calculated to send a message of restraint to Pakistan, nor will it contribute to the stabilisation of the situation, which is the stated aim of Australian policy in the region. It was also pointed out that the decision is particularly unfortunate in the context of the traditional friendly ties between India and Australia. The Australian decision to provide Mirage- aircraft to Pakistan, particularly at this juncture, ignoring the interest of peace and stability, is a negative development in the context of bilateral relations between India and Australia.

On 26.4.1990, the Australian Action Foreign Minister, Mr. Neil Blewett, stated in a Radio interview that "if there is any deterioration in relations between India and Pakistan, then we would reconsider the arrangement." Mr. Blewett stated that "the planes would not be operationally available to Pakistan for atleast six months and may be upto nine months."

On 3.5.1990, our Foreign Secretary

reiterated India's serious concern and regret to a senior Australian official. Mr Costello.

I wrote to the Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Senator Gareth Evans, on 11.5.1990 communicating our strong objections and requesting review of the sale.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in response to the statement made by the hon. Minister, I submit that in the present world, it is not the war, but the continued negotiations and dialogues which can resolve disputes and solve problems arising among sovereign nation. The possession of highly sophisticated weapons by some nations in a clear indicator to this theory. Burours in a non-aligned country and we believe firmly in this theory whereas Pakistan is not willing to pay heed to this view. That is why she has been piling up highly sophisticated weapons and on 15th of April, She entered into a contract with the Austrian Government for the purchase of 50 Mirage-III fighter jet aircrafts. Pakistan had earlier acquired one gearing destroyer from USA in 1983. In 1984 it acquire 3 Type 21 Frigates from UK, 100 Quiang 5 FGA-AC from China, 16 RGM 84 Harpoon from USA, 4 Huang Fen FAC-G from China and 100 M 45 A 5 Tanks from USA. In 1985, it acquired 500 AIM-92 Side Winter AAN from USA.

100 Singer SAM from USA.

MI 09 A2 155 mm. SP from the USA.

110 M 113 An ADC HO from USA.

110 AF Fanton Strike AC from China.

In 1986, RD 5 70 SAM Glrafee AD Radar from Sweden,

2030 BGM 71C from USA.

In 1987. 3 Type 23 AFG frm From UK.

Probably, this account is a tip of the iceberg. During the last six months, Pakistan has acquired a good number of Theatre

Cruise Missiles, 20 M 113 A 2 armoured personnel carrier kits, 44 Harpoon missiles, F 16 Fighter jets, all from USA. Shri has also acquired to numbers of F7 fighter jets from China.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are giving information. As per the rules, if the statement has some element of ambiguity, you are expected to ask for clarification. But, you are giving information to the House.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: I am making all the relevant points.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What happens, is a bad precedent is laid and then it is followed, and then you do not have the time for discussion on other important issues. It is in the interest of the Members to make the points.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: In addition to these deadly weapons, Pakistan is in possession of the know-how and basic ingredients of atom bomb. This is of serious concern not only to us but to all the neighbouring nations. Today, Pakistan has assumed the position of exporting arms to the foreign countries. The number of such countries worked out to about 30. By this, I do not mean to say that Pakistan has acquired superiority over India in respect of military strength. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is not correct. You should not indulge in discussion of other matters here in the House.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Further, it is very difficult to objectively assess the military strength of Pakistan because those countries have not published their Defence Budget in detail. However, from London based journal, it comes to us that the military strength of our country is 21:17. But the facts should be borne in our mind that however small a country may be, it can strike hard if it has military strength. This reminds us of Israel which is a small State but which has created a havoc and made a disaster in the Arab world.

Pakistan has been maintaining perceived Indian threat. While India is following a policy of self-reliance Pakistan has opted for instant capability. It is assumed that Pakistan's total arms build up consists of 80 per cent import and 20 per cent indigenous. The countries which export arms to Pakistan are mainly USA, Sweden, France China, U.K. and Australia. We understand the motive of the USA of supplying arms to Pakistan because the vital interests of the USA are involved in this region. Even with the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, we expected that the pressure of the Americans would be lessened in this region. But that has not happened. The reasons is very clear. Karachi has become a centre for coordinating the central command and Rapid Development Force activities by the USA. The USA is dependent on the Indian Ocean region for supply of many highly valuable raw material which are required for her defence industry. Moreover, 25 per cent of all the oil used by USA do come from this region. The Americans are very interested in this region. Furthermore, they are in the move for creating a separate block of the Muslim countries including Turkey, Pakistan etc. So, the imperialists and in particular the USA would like to encourage Pakistan to create obstacles in the path of united India. That is why, they have been creating some communal problems and secessionist activities in our region. Against this thing, the Central Government has to take steps to commensurate with the defensives of Pakistan. However, a few days back, Pakistan held the biggest army exercise known as 'Zarb-e-momin'. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Giri, Pakistan has acquired an aircraft and situation has been created.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: What I am going to say is that Pakistan has strengthened its army. And what is the position of our country?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I do agree that all these points are important. But not when you are discussing a matter like this.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: I am coming to that. I am just making the background.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Really, you do not have to. You have to ask the question to elicit the information to strengthen it. Otherwise, it becomes a bad precedent.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: In the background of the Kashmir and Punjab situation as well as the communal violence in our country, we agree with the hon. Minister that when in the Indian sub-continent, the peace and stability is at stake because of the Pakistan's help and active support to terrorists, the selling of battle aircraft to Pakistan is definitely a negative development. The hon. Minister has made this statement. What are the principal factors which led to such negative development? May I know from the hon. Minister which are these factors? Otherwise, the opposition would certainly term it as a draw back on the part of the Government. But I would submit that this is a part of the game of the imperialists. The imperialists have been trying to disintegrate the country for a long time. Operation Brahmputra is one such mischievous plan. It has been stated by the Australian Government that if there is any deterioration in the relations between India and Pakistan, then they would reconsider the arrangement. From the statement of the Australian Government, it appears that as if they were not aware of the extended relations between Pakistan and India. May I simply know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact or not? Is it that the Government has not contacted the Australian Government before the contract for selling these 50 aircrafts was signed? If that is the case, it is very unfortunate on the part of the Government. However, I would urge upon the Government to pursue the matter further with the Australian Government so that the contract as signed by the Australian Government can be revoked.

It is not only with the Australian Government; but I would urge upon the Government to contact diplomatically all the Governments of the world and apprise them of the situation which has been created by Pakistan and the

Indian sub-continent.

We should also see that the Pakistani Prime Minister cannot succeed in attracting the Muslim nations against India. For this purpose diplomatic contacts may be intensified and strengthened so that other countries do not misunderstand us and help us in restoring peace and stability in the Indian sub-continent.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think Shri Harish Rawat is not present here. The hon. Minister may reply.

SHRI I.K. GUJARAL: The point made by the hon. Member are well taken. I want to admire his intensive study for the problem and I want to appreciate that he has really done hard work to understand the implications of our Defence vis-a-vis Pakistan.

I have in my statement given details of these 50 Mirage III aircraft. These were the planes which Australia put in their service in about 1964. Gradually they were phasing them out. In 1988 they called a world tender and some countries responded to them. Pakistan also responded to them. It seems that they decide to sell it to Pakistan. This is the situation as it stands.

We have, as I stated just now, taken a view on the situation and conveyed to the Government of Australia that this is something about which they must have a second view because of the impact that it has on our present situation in the sub-continent. I can assure my friend and this House that the Government of India is fully cognizant of the developments in the region and I can assure him that the security and Defence of India are our topmost priority.

Thank you.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: I would like to know whether the Australian Government had been contacted before this particular contract had been signed.

SHRI I.K. GUJARAL: In my reply I have

[Sh. I.K. Gujral]

[Translation]

stated that we have. As a matter of fact, the last letter that I wrote to my counterpart in Australia was on the 11th of this month.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He is trying to understand whether we had contacted the Government of Australia before the contract was signed.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: No. I don't want to pass on the buck; but it was the responsibility of the previous Government.

13.44 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (I) **Need to provide funds to Tamil Nadu carry out deep bore well works to met drinking water shortage in Salem district**

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): Due to lack of drinking water the people of Salem district are undergoing severe hardships. The drop of the water table has also made the conventional bore wells ineffective. The only solution is to bring into existence the 1000 to 1500 feet bore wells for which only the Central Ground Water Board is equipped. Further more, out of the Rs. 7.40 crores allotted under the drinking water minimission for technology only Rs. 1.30 crores has been disbursed. The Tamil Nadu Government is also reluctant to financially help. Widespread agitations due to severe drought conditions have become a matter of common place. In these conditions it is my personal request to the Ministry of Water Resources to sanction the necessary fund and carry out the deep bore well works, at least to the extent of three wells per revenue panchayat and give drinking water to the people of Salem.

- (II) **Need to set up a Circuit Bench of Allahabad High Court in Kumaun Uttar Pradesh**

DR. M.S. PAL (Nainital): In order to regulate the judicial system in Kumaun region of Uttar Pradesh and to provide economical and speedy justice to each and every person of the region it has become necessary to link the whole Kumaun regions with the Lucknow Division Bench of the High Court.

In this context, a circuit bench of the Allahabad High Court should be set-up at Kumaun in accordance with the recommendation of Justice Jaswant Singh Commission and necessary steps should be taken to implement these recommendation without delay.

- (III) **Need to increase the speed of Chetak Express**

SHRI GULAB CHAND KATARIA (Udaipur): Tribals dominated Udaipur (Rajasthan) is rich in mineral deposit and is a place of historical importance and a beg tourent centre remained neglected by the Railway department even after 43 years of independence. The number of trains that run on the railway lines constructed during Mewar province days is almost the same except one or two the speed of these trains too remains unchanged.

Separate trains run from the capital of Rajasthan, Jaipur, to all the big cities like Bikaner Ganganager, Ajmer, Jodhpur etc. but there is no such trains service for Udaipur. The only train, Chetak Express, which runs between Delhi and Udaipur is the most suitable one but this covers the distance of 734 kilometres in 20 long hours. It takes less time to reach Ahmedabad from Delhi but it takes more to reach Udaipur. In this context, the people how not only written to the concerned department and the hon. Minister our several occasions but submitted memoraranda also. I have myself tried to draw