

12.15 hrs.

**STATEMENT re : VISIT OF THE
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
TO VARIOUS COUNTRIES AS MEM-
BER OF THE GROUP OF NON-
ALIGNED FOREIGN MINI-
STERS ON COMPREHENSIVE
SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH
AFRICA**

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI NARAYAN DATI TIWARI): The Heads of State or Government of Nonaligned countries decided, at their 8th Summit meeting in Harare, to mandate the Foreign Ministers of Zimbabwe, India, Yugoslavia, Peru, Argentina, Nigeria, Congo and Algeria to visit key industrial countries to press them to agree to the imposition of comprehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa.

2. As a member of this Group of Nonaligned Foreign Ministries, I visited Rome, Brussels, Paris, London, Bonn and Tokyo to carry out the Harare mandate.
3. In each of these European countries we visited during the last week of October, and in the first week of November, 1986, we had prolonged meetings with their Foreign Ministers. In Japan, we were received by Prime Minister Nakasone in addition to our meetings with the Foreign Minister of Japan.
4. In all our discussions, we indicated that we bring a strong and unanimous message from 101 Heads of State of Nonaligned countries to press them to consider imposition of comprehensive mandatory economic sanctions on South Africa. While we recognised that each of those countries had moved some way

towards imposing a few sanctions, we did not think that the package adopted by these countries was sufficient to meet the demands of the situation.

5. We conveyed the NAM assessment that the situation in South Africa and Namibia was deteriorating rapidly. To arrest this deteriorating situation and to achieve the objective of eliminating apartheid, the Nonaligned Heads of State believed that urgent efforts should be made by the world community to bring about an end to apartheid in South Africa. Since all other attempts to end apartheid had failed, and there was increasing pressure to seek military solutions, the only peaceful alternative left for the world community was imposition of comprehensive economic sanctions. We urged the Governments of these industrialised countries to immediately impose comprehensive sanctions and to agree to make them mandatory under chapter VII of the United Nations Charter. We told them that continuance of apartheid was the key moral issue facing our generation. We emphasised that their commitment to human rights and dignity, and their attempts to bring about human rights in different parts of the world, would remain hollow and motivated if they do not take immediate steps to end the pernicious doctrine and practice of apartheid. We pointed out that comprehensive sanctions would need to be imposed immediately if a disaster of gigantic proportions in Southern Africa was to be averted.
6. I emphasised to them that India banned all trade with South Africa long ago in 1946 at a time when India's exports to South Africa were 5.6% of its total exports. Even though the ban on

trade involved considerable sacrifices on our part, we were willing to shoulder its consequences, because of our commitment to fundamental human rights, to democracy and to freedom everywhere and our support for the struggling people of Africa.

7. We found that there was a coincidence of similarity in the responses given by the Foreign Ministers of the countries we visited. They share our abhorrence for apartheid and agree that it cannot be reformed and must be abolished. Their assessment regarding the deteriorating situation in Southern Africa and its potential for violence and bloodshed were similar to ours. While the goals were similar, they differed with us on the manner in which these goals could be achieved. They had not given up hope of arranging a political dialogue within South Africa through persuasion and felt that limited voluntary sanctions would nudge the South African regime to negotiate with the majority. They said that they opposed mandatory sanctions under the United Nations Charter as a matter of principle. They argued that comprehensive sanctions could make the white South African regime more intransigent and much less willing to negotiate.

8. Some of them tried to argue that comprehensive sanctions would be unworkable. We pointed out that in the face of overwhelming evidence that sanctions had worked in other situations and with other countries against whom some of the Western countries had not hesitated to impose sanctions, this argument should not be pressed.

9. There are strong vested interests within the industrialised countries

wishing to maintain trade and economic links with the white South African regime. The initiative of the Heads of Governments of the Nonaligned countries and the visit of the Group of Foreign Ministers has undoubtedly focussed attention on this most important issue of our times. I believe that our efforts will strengthen not only those within the governments who have a more liberal outlook on human rights and who show greater concern in regard to the situation in Southern Africa but will also encourage the strong public opinion which exists in Europe in favour of definitive action to end apartheid.

10. The decision of the Prime Minister to send me to join the delegation even though I had just taken over as External Affairs Minister symbolises our country's decisive commitment to nonalignment and the principled unanimous stand of our parliament on the South African issue. Our policy in regard to apartheid remains clear and firm that it is absolutely immoral and has to be demolished at the earliest. The world community must not allow itself to be diverted by short term economic or political considerations from availing itself of the only peaceful option now left by imposing comprehensive mandatory sanctions under Chapter VII of the UN Charter to bring about an early end to apartheid. The Nonaligned Movement has, for the first time, opened a dialogue with the industrialised countries on this key moral issue. It is our firm belief that this dialogue should continue and the Nonaligned Movement should play its due role in bringing about a peaceful change in South Africa and Namibia. I am sure that these efforts will continue to have the

[Shri

full support of the Hon. Mem-
bers of this august House.

12.18 hrs.

ATOMIC ENERGY (AMENDMENT)
BILL, 1986*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECH-
NOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN
DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY,
ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.
R. NARAYANAN) : I beg to move for
leave to introduce a Bill further to amend
the Atomic Energy Act, 1962.

MR. SPEAKER : The question
is :

"That leave be granted to introduce
a Bill further to amend the Atomic
Energy Act, 1962."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN : I
introduce the Bill.

INDIAN POST OFFICE (AMEND-
MENT) * BILL 1986

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION
(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) :
I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill
further to amend the Indian Post Office
Act, 1898.

* Published in the Gazette of India
Extraordinary Pt. II section 2, dated
10.11.1986.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce
a Bill further to amend the Indian
Post Office Act, 1898."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : I
introduce the Bill.

12 20 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

- (i) Need to open a Rural University
in Bihar during the Seventh Five
Year Plan.

PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI
(Balua) : There is a proposal for sett-
ing up five rural universities during the
Seventh Five Year Plan. Besides, there
is a scheme for the upgradation of the
existing five rural universities. It is esti-
mated that about Rs. 20 crores will be
spent on it. While briefing the Press
about it, a member of the University
Grants Commission has recently said that
one of these universities will be established
at Sewagram in Wardha.

I would urge the hon. Minister of
Education to set up a rural university in
Bihar, because Bihar is predominantly an
agricultural State and also most of its
people live in the villages.

[English]

- (ii) Reported offer of non-residents
of Indian Origin in Hong Kong to
develop the Andaman Nicobar
Islands on the pattern of Hong
Kong.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : (Vai-
shali) : Residents of Hong Kong of