

NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). The Central Government makes only bulk allocation to the State Governments every month, who arrange and control its distribution through the Public Distribution System. Only Kerosene supplied for domestic consumption is sold at subsidised rates. Supplies to small scale industries as per allocations made by State Governments are made at the industrial rate. In view of the increasing availability of kerosene in the open market through parallel marketing, State Governments have been advised not to allot Kerosene to industries out of allocation made by Central Government and instead direct them to parallel marketing.

12.00 hrs.

RE: ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have received many notices of Adjournment Motion on killing of 70 persons by Bodo terrorists in Barpeta. There are Adjournment Motion notices given by Shri Vajpayeeji, Shri Mohan Singhji, Shri Chandra Jeet Yadavji, Shri Sharad Yadavji and there are other aspects also on which I have received Adjournment Motion notices. I will have to hear as to how they can be admitted.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, sir, with your kind permission I would like to make one more submission before I come to the notice of adjournment motion given to you. Our minds, like the cloudy sky outside, are also clouded with many questions which are striving for ventilation.

MR. SPEAKER: Would all the questions like to get ventilated on one and the same day?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: It is for you to decide how and when should they be given went to.

I had written a letter to you. Three Members of this House were assaulted in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar during the last few days. Ours is the largest democracy in the world, a multi party democracy. being a pluralistic nation, we enter into agreements and treaties with other states but what condition prevails on our home front? One can easily visualise the security conditions of a common man, the predicament of his life, when the Members of this Parliament are not safe. I am pointing towards the assaults made on the lives of Shri Advaniji, Shri George Fernandes and a Member of Janata Dal (Bomma), Shri Ram Prasad Kushwaha.

It is not a question of law and order alone and, thus, I do not want to project it as a matter of breach of privilege but should not there be a proper arrangement for allowing the Members of Parliament to carry on their work and political activities freely and uninterruptedly throughout the country? Should not they get an assurance to this effect in this House? The unfortunate part of it is that the assailants of both UP and Bihar have direct or indirect connection with the ruling party of these States. This is a matter of concern. I would like this House to discuss this matter and that is why I have given you this notice...
(Interruptions)

Therefore, I had urged you to direct the hon. Home Minister to come before the House with all the facts related to these incidents. It is for you to decide

as to under which rules this matter should be discussed, but it is a very serious matter.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have also given a notice of another question *i.e.* the sugar scandal. The Parliamentary Committee is conducting an inquiry into the matter and the Government simultaneously, made an announcement regarding an Administrative preliminary Enquiry. What does it mean? The Parliamentary Committee is an all-party committee. Does not the Government have faith in that committee. That committee was going to record the depositions but in the meanwhile you declared a Government inquiry. We had demanded a judicial, non-partisan enquiry. What do you mean by this. There was such a great scandal and still a cover up operation is going on. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is also an important matter and I want that the 'adjournment motion' about which you made a mention of should be taken up today.

Whatever happened in Assam is a matter of concern for the whole nation and the House should take notice of it. The language of my adjournment motion does not speak of the massacre along but the Government of Assam has failed miserably in its duty and it is not I alone who says that. Shri Pilot would agree with me if he is present in the House. He had been there yesterday for an on-the-spot assessment. I congratulate him for his prompt action. His comment was that the Government did not do the relief work. People were killed in the relief camps. Mr. Speaker, Sir, people ran into the relief camps for the safety of their lives and they were killed there only. There was no police arrangement. The massacre lasted for 3 full hours.

MR. SPEAKER: Vajpayee Ji, this is not the time for regular discussion.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, by telling all this, I am making my case. You might say that this matter is related to the State Government but I say that the Central Government did not intervene into the Assam affair on time. That is why the situation is slipping out of hand and see the language of my adjournment action. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you, are aware that I lay a great emphasis on the proper language.

MR. SPEAKER: That is why I made a mention of that at the very outset.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: But you are reading out something else.

MR. SPEAKER: That I am telling on behalf of everybody.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Central Government has failed in its duty and for that we denounce it and want a leave to be granted for moving an adjournment motion on this question.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the leader of the Opposition, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee has raised three questions and I agree that these are very important questions. The situation in Assam is very serious today and I suppose that many people have given notices of adjournment motion on it. Leave may kindly be granted to move these motions. This matter has acquired serious dimension because the people who ran for their lives into the relief camps were massacred in the

camps themselves due to inactiveness of the State administration. The Government failed to provide security to the people who came into these relief camps from villages and other areas. There will be no other matching example of the inertness and callousness of the State administration of the Government of Assam in History. Therefore, it is a serious matter and demands that leave for moving the adjournment motion to be granted. The situation in the whole North-East has turned serious due to this inertness of the state administration of Assam.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the other issue is that of Sugar scandal. There was a loss of public money to the tune of Rs. 10,000 crores due to the procrastinated decision by the Central Government and its disorderly functioning. The poor people of the country are very perplexed due to it and have come to know how money and assets are being looted in India in the name of public works.

Due to this Government, the people are today faced with the question as to what type of relationship should prevail between the Ministers and the bureaucrats. The minister issues a statement that the decision was taken while he was on tour. Then the Secretary to Government, the officer makes a press statement. During all this the P.M.O. maintained silence. Thus it is a serious matter and as a result of all this the innocent people of India are being churned under the pressure of inflation.

The assault on our colleagues calls for a comprehensive debate. Atalji was saying that he does not want to discuss this issue. There are not only these three instances of assault. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I may tell you that I do not want to point

out the names of the members of the Governments and parties that come to surface whose hands were there behind the Bhopal incident; there is an inquiry committee for that. But a Government existed in Bhopal and the former Prime Minister Shri V.P. Singh and I visited the place. Our vans were broken and acid was thrown on us. A tumour had emerged on my head that was removed with the help of an operation. The rostrum was burnt to ashes. I was a victim of brickbating at Gorakhpur which resulted in four wounds on my body. The house of Shri Paswan was torched at Betur.

I agree that violence in whatever form it may be is the manifestation of an attempt to veil the truth by stopping a debate in a democracy. All the parties should not only condemn this but also try to check it. We should not blame each other and should appreciate the fact that emotions of some people are easily aroused whereas for other it is a weakness. Emotions should not pave way to partisan attitude but should be dealt in a judicious manner.

I request you to kindly admit the adjournment motion on Assam. One hundred people are feared killed there.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, there are very many important issues undoubtedly and we had also given Adjournment Motion on this question of sugar, what you call, scandal. But, Sir, what has happened in Assam, yesterday, is extremely shocking and is of dangerous proportions; it is an explosive situation. Our Member, Mr. Barman, represents that area—Barpeta; he has been there. Mr. Pilot was there:

I am happy that he had rushed to Barpeta.

Sir, I demand that immediately a statement should be made and we can start discussion on that statement. This is not a matter which we should go into by formalities only because in that part of the country the situation is such that people who had taken shelter are being almost butchered and that too with impugny. Instead of getting relief they have got the bullets and they have been killed. I cannot recall any such situation in the past where in a relief camp people have been killed. People who had gone there for the protection of their lives had been killed. There is a Government there; there are paramilitary forces there; army has been brought in already, but in spite of that people have been massacred like this. This is a matter where we must express our greatest concern about it.

Sir, I request the Government to make a statement immediately. Let it be at 2 O'clock. And as soon as that statement is made, let us begin the discussion on it. We do not mind that. Sir, you can provide a time limit. Let this Parliament show its greatest concern about the situation that is prevailing there and see what should be done and what the Government proposes to do.

So far as other matter is concerned, I also strongly support this Adjournment Motion on this sugar question. We also wish to raise other important issues. But I earnestly request you to kindly allow a discussion on this. I believe the Government is prepared, from the nodding of their heads, to make a statement on this. They are prepared to make a statement on this. After that let us start the discussion on this issue.

Kindly treat this matter as of utmost urgency.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, all the three issues are very important but Shri Vajpayee ji has made them three-in-one. It would be better if we take up each issue separately. Whatever has happened at Barpata is a matter of great sorrow and anxiety for the nation. Nearly, 60-70 persons have been killed in a refugee camp. Recently, two days back 22 persons were killed in an incident. Even then the State Government did not take precautionary measures. The Chief Minister had been visiting the camp for three days but even then he could not protect them. Only after the meassacre, he asked for the assistance of Army and the Central Government. Earlier he was keeping quiet over this matter. There has been an unanimous demand that Chief Minister should take moral responsibility for it and resign. Secondly, the Government of India should also take the responsibility of this incident. I am saying this because these are very sensitive areas. If we do not take proper care and make effective security arrangement, such incidents can take dangerous turn and that can pose a challenge for our national unity in future. Therefore, I would like to say that this Adjournment motion should be taken up.

Secondly, our three senior Members have been assaulted. I do agree with Shri Sharad Yadav that such assaults have taken place earlier also. These things should be looked into and some decorum should be maintained so that democratic system could work smoothly. I condemn the attacks on Shri Advani, Shri George Fernandes and Shri Kushwaha ji. The

attack on Shri George Fernandes is of different nature. He was going to his constituency and Parliamentary session was about to commence. Other six Members of Parliament—Shri Abdul Ghafoor, Shri Syed Shahabuddin, Shri Nitish Kumar, Shri Manjay Lal and Shri Brishin Patel—were accompanying him. The State Government knew about it that....(Interruptions) It was announced there that Shri George Fernandes would not be allowed to enter his Constituency. I am saying it as an allegation. The car of Shri George ji was stoned. At that time D.S.P. and S.D.M. were present there and anti-social elements continued to attack his car. My allegation is that the State Chief Minister had gone there two days ago and he has not made any security arrangement for Shri George Fernandes. Under the conspiracy of the Bihar Government, he was attacked. (Interruptions) We have also met the President in this regard. I would like to say that this incident should be condemned. It is a matter of breach of privilege.

So far as sugar scandal is concerned, I demand that a judicial inquiry should be conducted into this whole affair. The assurance given by the Government to conduct an inquiry into it, would not create confidence among the people. Big scandals are taking place but there is no accountability, no culprit is arrested and no body is punished. Corruption is rampant. I, therefore, demand that the presenting inquiry should be stopped and a judicial inquiry should be conducted into this sugar scandal. All the facts should be brought before the country and the House and the culprits should be penalised.

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA
(Midnapore): Without going into the

contents of each of these issues, I would suggest that every one of them—these three or four issues which have been raised—must be discussed in the House. You have called a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee this afternoon. I would suggest that all these issues which have been raised—if any of them is permitted by you to be brought by way of adjournment, it is a different matter—but they must all be discussed in this House.

But I would say that on the opening day of Parliament when we are confronted with this horrifying massacre which has taken place in Barpeta, I think that should be given priority. In this case, they have an advantage because the Minister of Internal Security reached that spot. He had made a first-hand study, I am sure, of the situation. They can make a statement here, which they must make. On the basis of that statement, there should be a discussion. Otherwise, if this massacre is not taken up today, we do not know what is going to happen tomorrow or in the following days. The reaction in the country will be very bad. The reaction will be very bad. People will ask; What is the Parliament doing? A large-scale massacre takes place like this and we do not say anything about it. Therefore, I think, this should be given a priority.

The other issues of physical assaults on Members, the sugar scandal all these issues must be taken up one by one in this House. I would request you to please see to it that the business is arranged in such a way through the Business Advisory Committee that in a day or two, we can go through all these items and discussions can be held. (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF WATER
RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): We share the anxiety of the Members which they have expressed on these issues. Without going into the merits of the question, we will discuss the matter in the Business Advisory Committee and decide about that. But the Government is ready to make a statement on the Assam massacre. If you permit us, we can make it right now. I suppose the Minister of Internal Security is ready with the Statement. Or, it can be made at two of the Clock and it can be followed by a discussion, if you so permit it. I think it would be in the fitness of things that after the statement, a discussion of short duration follows. We can decide at what time it can be taken up for discussion. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): But in view of seriousness of the issue, it should be taken up in Adjournment Motion... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir a discussion on Assam is very important and it is also equally important on as to how the discussion is taken up. The Government can make statement during Adjournment Motion also. Please take up the Adjournment Motion and we are pressing for it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let me decide the issues one after the other.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Various senior hon. Members have suggested that after the statement of the Government, a discussion can follow. I think that is a more sensible thing to do.

This particular matter calls for a dispassionate discussion. A dispassionate discussion can take place in the form of a discussion. You know, Sir, the implications of an Adjournment Motion. Then, they are sharply divided on party lines. In order to have a purposeful and a dispassionate discussion on this serious problem, we should have a discussion after the statement by the Minister.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh): I entirely agree with the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that there is a special meaning to an Adjournment Motion. Why I pleading for an Adjournment Motion on the question, situation in Assam, is because in an Adjournment Motion, there is an inherent aspect of censure of the Central Government.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Jaswant Singhji, I am not giving any decision on this point right now. I will give my decision on this later. But you shall have to convince me as to how it can be taken up as an Adjournment Motion. I am asking that question.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Indeed. Would you permit me only a minute to convince you?

SPEAKER: How is the Central Government more responsible than the State Government?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Indeed. Here is a situation in the State of Assam. I am not going into the aspect that the State of Assam is governed by the same party as is governing the Union Government at Delhi. That is not the point. But the point is that the situation in Assam has not deteriorate only yesterday. Progressively, over the past

so many months, the situation in Assam is deteriorating. The State Government does nothing; the Central Government does nothing until finally a situation culminates in the massacre.

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to know one thing. Can the Central Government interfere in these matters if the State Government is in existence there?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: The failure of the State Government cannot be an explanation for inaction by the Central Government... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Can they do it constitutionally?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: My point is this. The failure of the State Government cannot be cited as a reason for inactivity or inaction by the Central Government. There is a responsibility, a continuing responsibility that the Union Government has... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have understood please.

(Interruptions)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: We wish to highlight the failure of the Central Government... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir it is my motion and I should be allowed to speak.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed you, then you may speak. Shri Chandra Jeet.

[Translation]

If I allow you, then you may speak. Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav has submitted it more precisely.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not good.

There are so many points before me today and I do agree with the hon. Members that these are the point on which there should be a discussion in one form or the other on the floor of the House. As to how and when and in what form we can taken up these matters for discussion. We can certainly decide in the Business Advisory Committee in consultation with and with the advice given here by the hon. Members. I am not saying what I am going to do on the BARPETA issue. But before that I would like to say that there are other issues like floods and so on. I am going to take them up afterwards. Please do not feel agitated. Now as far as this BARPETA issue is concerned, I have received so many notices. It would be necessary to find out who can move this Motion and all those things. This is a very important matter. But whatever we do in the House has to be done in such a fashion that it does not create bad precedent for us in future. This is an important matter and I think, the Members have one and the same opinion on this matter. I am looking to this matter not only from the point of view of killings that have taken place over there but I attach a greater importance to what has happened over there. And because of that, I am inclined to give the consent to the notice given by the hon. Members to move this Adjournment Motion. I would like to hon. Minister to make a statement.

(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): That show how the State Government is functioning.

MR. SPEAKER: That would also be taken into consideration while making the statement and if the statement is made at the initial stage only, the discussion can be very very pointed. But please do not insist on a procedure which can derail our proceedings in the House. If follows the rules, that will help us. If we do not follow the rules that will not help us.

As far as other issues are concerned, I have received a letter from Shri Vajpayeeji. I have sent that latter to the Home Minister for information on what has happened to the hon. Members. After I receive the information, I will certainly consult the leaders of the parties and then discuss the matter with them and we will find out as to what is to be done, how it is to be discussed, what is to be done in this matter. We can have a detailed discussion on that matter. On other issues also, you please study the rules, you study the Constitution, you study the law and please advise me as to what you expect me to do. If it is within the rules, I am ready to do anything you want. If it is not within the rules, all of you sitting here should decide what to do, I will do that. I have no objection. But either it should be within the rules or all of you should decide what is to be done on the floor of the House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): It is an Adjournment Motion or a Call Attention? I have given notice for a Call Attention.

MR. SPEAKER: This will be balloted and we will find out who can move the Motion.

SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS (Mysore): Due to unusual and

unprecedented rains, heavy floods have caused a lot of damage to the standing crops in Karnataka State, particularly in some of the districts like Mangalore, Mysore, Chikmagalore and Hassan. Standing crops worth about Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 crore in each of these districts have been damaged.

MR. SPEAKER: May I suggest to you that I will ask the hon. Minister to collect the information and make a statement? After the statement is made, I will give you and others also an opportunity to speak on that. We may discuss it in a proper manner.

SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Heavy damage and unprecedented havoc have occurred there resulting in deaths. There are damages to the houses. People there say that in the last 35 years they have not seen such a flood. The whole lot of standing crops have been damaged.

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you make that statement afterwards.

SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Thank you.

SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY (Coimbatore): (Original Speech in Tamil) I would like to bring to the notice of this august House the sorry plight and the sad story of Adivasi Harijan women and the injustice done to them and the violence let loose on them. This is not an isolated or an ordinary matter but this warrants the attention of the Government. I would like to draw your attention to what had happened in a small village Chinnampathi which comes under Mavittipatti Panchayat in Mudukkarai union near Coimbatore. The simple villagers who live in that hill side village live on the spoils of the woods nearby. There had been a gang rape of Harijan and tribal women at knife-point.. I

have visited the area and they narrated me the sad incident which has been reported in almost all the Newspapers published in Tamil Nadu. I request all the Members and leaders present in this House including the Leader of the Opposition to take up this matter to provide justice to those helpless women. I am not trying to gain political mileage out of this. Since it concerns the SCs and STs I would like to request the Union Home Minister to probe the matter and come out with a statement on this issue before this House. Those women should get justice and a judicial probe should be ordered. I request the Centre to initiate action and give adequate protection to Adivasi Harijan women who are treated in an indifferent fashion by the authorities over there.

SHRI P. G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam): The State Government is taking proper action. There is nothing to worry about it. The Hon. Member, instead of raising this here, ought to have brought this issue to the notice of the State Government, if there is any lapse.

MR. SPEAKER: I thank you very much. Half an hour is over. Now Papers to be Laid on the Table... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Tomorrow.

12.33 hrs.

[*English*]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notifications under Merchant Shipping Act, 1958

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE

TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 458 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958:—

- (1) The Merchant Shipping (Registration of Indian Ships) Amendment Rules, 1994 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 160 in Gazette of India dated the 2nd April, 1994.
- (2) The Merchant Shipping (Registration of Indian Fishing Boats) Amendment Rules, 1994 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 218 in Gazette of India dated the 7th May, 1994.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6075/94]

Memorandum of Understanding between National Mineral Development Corporation and Ministry of Steel for the year 1994-95

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the National Mineral Development Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 1994-95.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6076/94]

Notification under Income Tax Act, 1961 and Customs Act, 1962

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V.