

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, August 1, 1994,
Sravana 10, 1916 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Re: Action Taken Report on the recommendations of Joint Parliamentary Committee on irregularities in securities and Banking transactions.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : I am grateful to you for cooperating.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (BOLPUR) : Sir, we are cooperating with the principle of Parliamentary democracy. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (TRICHUR) : You are ridiculing it. (*interruptions.*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (KOTA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, maintaining the dignity of the Parliament is now in your hand and we hope

that you will do this (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Joshi if you go on speaking, no one will be able to hear me. Please ensure that I am audible.

[*English*]

I think that this Parliament has been able to solve very many difficult issues, very tricky problems and it should not be difficult for us to overcome some difficulties which may momentarily be faced by all of us. The JPC Report is before us and the Action Taken Report is also before us.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (ROSERA) : It is No Action Taken Report since no action has been taken by the Government

MR. SPEAKER : Members have their own views. Some Members think that no action has been taken and Shri Paswan is one of them.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (GARHWAL) : Sir, all of us think so. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I think you have a right, not only a right but a duty to point out to this Parliament, and the people outside that this Action Taken Report has not taken any action at all. If you do not do it on the floor of the House, well, you do not have as

good a forum as this House outside. That is why I do think that we would like to respect your feelings, your judgements, your opinions and your views. But at the same time we should give opportunities to the other side also to express their views, their opinions and express what are their judgement on it is.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: A report, presented by a Senior most Member of the House is being suppressed. What he would be feeling about? Instead of accepting the report, allegations are being levelled against him. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Now what you do in this House will be a sort of model for other Houses to follow. What you do today will be followed tomorrow. So, we have a very very difficult task to perform. We have to walk on the razor's edge.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: At least allow me to speak. I do think that you have not only been cooperating not only with different Members in the House and with the ruling party but you have also been cooperating in the best possible manner with the Presiding Officers. You will, this time also, cooperate. My proposal to you is that we should not get stuck up with one item of the Agenda and deny ourselves the responsibility, the right and the duty to discuss other items on the Agenda. That is one thing.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARINATHAK (AHMEDABAD)
 : Rs. 7000 crore of the poor people of this

country have been embezzled...

MR. SPEAKER: You are interrupting me too.

(*English*)

You have every right to say these things, every word that you will say will be recorded; it will be a part of the record. But if you do not say anything or if you say things jointly, standing up together, nothing will be recorded. Nothing goes on record and there will be a distorted picture. That is why one by one you should speak. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You hear me first. Let me complete whatever I want to say and then you say whatever you want to say. My proposal is that... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: If you do not want to work in the House, I do not want to prolong the agony. I would just adjourn the House. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: It would be better if you adjourn the House. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: We have discussed this matter with the Leaders of the parties. Now anything you want to do in this House should either be done by consensus among the different parties or by following the rules or by taking the vote.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: They do not believe in consensus. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: If you are not able to arrive at a consensus, then you do it by following the rules.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (BARH): Mr. Speaker, Sir there is consensus on the report of JPC ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Goddess of democracy is being stripped and you are keeping silence over it. If you take a decision today itself and extend your cooperation in saving the democracy that would create history in your name. People will say that the Goddess of democracy was being stripped and the hon. Speaker of Lok Sabha saved her. Your name would go down in the annals of history. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is the kind of words which the Members are expressing. Probably, they are ignorant of the procedure. I excuse them. But please do not repeat it.

What I am saying is that either do it by consensus or do it by following the rules or do it by taking the vote or leave it to the Speaker to deal with it. If you leave it to the Speaker to deal with it, he will deal with this matter after consulting all the Members.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: You had three days at your disposal. What happened during that time?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We have to make certain things clear on the floor of the House. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is a House for expressing views. Every Member has a right to express his views.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: It is not that we do not want a discussion at all; that is not the point at all. I am sure, we yield to non in saying that the glory of this Parliament should be maintained. But the question is that certain basic issues are there. If this matter is going to be decided by the Government on their manipulated and contrived and procured majority, let them decide. It is very well.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: In the beginning, we told you that until the Report, was withdrawn, this House would not be able to function. You were in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER: Let this House say by vote that it should be withdrawn, then it will be withdrawn.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, you are 'Malik' (master) of the House

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am not the *malik*. The House is the *malik*.

[Translation]

When you alone do not listen to me how the entire House will listen to me?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: There can be no bigger issue than the issue of corruption. The Prime Minister and Ministers are involved in it. The House cannot function until the report is withdrawn by the Government *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: When the JPC submitted its Report, even

then they were in a minority. Now, when they have laid on the Table of the House their Action Taken Report, after six months, they have contrived their majority.

Therefore, the consensus, the unity and the unanimity of the Parliamentary Committee is being thwarted by issuing a whip to the contrived majority. The House really is being stalled by them and by nobody else. The Parliament is not allowed to function by this contrived majority. Therefore, if they do not want the Committees and the Parliament to be respected by them, let us dissolve the House, let us go to the people. The people are sovereign, people are above the Parliament. They will teach them a lesson about how the Parliament should function. That is all, that is open before us. That is all that they should do. That is the only alternative left before the Parliament.

... (Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (CALCUTTA SOUTH): Sir, we want discussion...(Interruptions). We want full discussion...(Interruptions). We want discussion because whosoever is guilty should be punished by the Government. We want that this House should run...(Interruptions). Sir, please allow us to explain ... (Interruptions). Sir, why do you not allow the discussion?... (Interruptions). They do not want the House to continue. But we want to discuss and whosoever is guilty should be punished... (Interruptions). Sir, why are the Opposition Members afraid to discuss? (Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Why can they not withdraw the report?

...(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: There

are other important subjects also before the House. This is also important... (Interruptions). we want to discuss them...(Interruptions). Why are they afraid of discussing this?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : They can withdraw the report here itself.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am adjourning the House. But before I adjourn the House, may I request the hon. Members to maintain the dignity of this House and may I request the leaders to meet outside the House and decide as to how this House should transact the Business?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not correct.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not correct. You should have the patience and strength of character to hear the other side also.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): I thank the hon. Speaker for taking this initiative to break the impasse. After hearing the various viewpoints of the Members, if you are not able to agree on certain course of action and if differences persist after the debate, it is gracious of you to take upon yourself the onerous responsibility to decide which viewpoint requires your attention. Then you will give appropriate direction on those points. It

is not the question of the majority, minority or anything else. Once you take a decision, I can give an undertaking on behalf of the Government that whatever directions you give in the House will be accepted by the Government and action will be initiated on it
(Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER The House stands adjourned to meet again at 11 00 A M tomorrow

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Maltreatment of Indian Diplomats

* 101 SHRI PANKAJ
 CHOWDHARY
 SHRI DATTATRAYA
 BANDARU

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether there is a large scale increase in the incidents of torture, maltreatment and detention of Indian diplomats and employees of Indian Missions in Pakistan

(b) if so the brief details of such incidents occurred during the last six months and the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter

(c) whether any proposal was forwarded by the Government for review of all issues connected with the implementation of the code of conduct governing diplomatic behaviour between the two countries and for Indo-Pak joint secretary level talks for this purpose and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED) (a) to (d) During the last six months approximately 80 incidents have occurred involving obtrusive and intimidatory surveillance and harassment of our personnel posted in the Missions in Pakistan. These incidents which are in violation of Pakistan's commitments and obligations under the Code of conduct for Treatment of Diplomatic/Consular personnel in India and Pakistan have been taken up on a case-by-case basis with the Pakistani authorities

Government proposed on April 7, 1994 to the Government of Pakistan that consultations between the two Foreign Offices may be held for a review of the implementation of the Code of Conduct. This proposal has not yet found favour with Islamabad. Meanwhile, discussions were recently held in New Delhi and in Islamabad between officials of the concerned Mission and Ministry to discuss the range of issues involved. Several suggestions were made on ways and means of improving implementation of the Code of Conduct in letter and spirit. Both sides also agreed to hold further discussions on this subject.

[English]

Anti-India Role of Pakistan

* 102 SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN
 SHRI SRIKANTA JENA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are aware of the document "Kashmir connection" placed on record in the US Congress giving details of the anti-India role of Pakistan and