

Secondly, under you say here: "I would, however, assure the hon. Member that we are prepared to meet any contingency arising from the non-supply of fuel," what are the alternative arrangements? Are we in a position today to tell the Americans, 'listen fellows, we have had enough of you; we do not need your fuel, go to hell.' If you are in a position to say that, let us say it once and for all let us not go through this exercise. Instead of simply appealing and requesting, is any alternative attempt made with any other country? I would request the hon. Minister to take us into confidence and reply to these three or four points.

13.00 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: I have just said that all the alternative methods available are known to the Government I only stated that, according to the Government, the time has not come to take a decision and go ahead in regard to the alternatives; the alternatives are known.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES. Why do you not exert pressure?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: There is no need for pressure. Here is an agreement. We cannot go out of it; they cannot go out of it. Outright repudiation is possible. What I have said is, according to us, the time for such a step has not come.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: For over years the Americans have been playing their game. What is the time, in the opinion of the Minister, that he needs to take a final decision that enough is enough, we shall now go ahead.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: The time even to say enough is enough has not come.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
Will it come only in 1985?

SHRI ARJUN SETHI (Bhaarak): The hon. Minister in his statement has said that it is a well-known fact that there has been inordinate delay in the supply of nuclear fuel to our Tarapur plant. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether due to this inordinate delay in the supply of nuclear fuel, the Tarapur plant is suffering from under-utilisation and whether it is also a fact that the US Government is trying to stop the re-processing of our fuel?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: The question of re-processing is a part of the agreement. The rest of the question I have already answered.

13 03 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE Third Report

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Third Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 19th March, 1980."

SHRI A. K. ROY (Dhanbad): Under rule 290 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha. I would like to give the following amendment to Third Report of the Business Advisory Committee, as inserted in item 11 of today's List of Business:

"That the Report be referred back to the Committee, suggesting following modifications:

[Shri A. K. Roy]

(a) In this item (4) of the para 2 in place of "rape on women", "atrocities on women" may be substituted;

(b) Item (5) of para (2) may be omitted and in its place the following may be substituted: "Discussion on the frequent reports of police atrocities on the public and need to change the attitude of the police towards the society."

(c) Para 3, seeking to extend time of sitting may be omitted."

I would like to make a few comments on each of them. So far as the discussion on rape of women is concerned, the womenfolk, of our country are subjected to...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He has already moved his amendment.

SHRI A. K. ROY: Sir, I want to make a submission on this. What I say is that when we are to discuss the fate of the women or the conditions of the womenfolk, I would say that here 'rape' is only a small part of the tortures which our womenfolk in our country are subjected to and so we say that 'atrocities' is a generalised term because we know from what we have seen in Narainpur or Parasbigha or Dhulia or Pipra and also in our coalfields, that the condition of womenfolk in our country to what we profess here. They are subjected to all sorts of heinous atrocities and rape is only a part of that though it may be the most heinous. That is why, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, when we are discussing atrocities Harijans and Adivasis etc., this House should discuss the atrocities on the womenfolk, the social, cultural, political, economic and all sorts of tortures and subjugations to which the womenfolk in our country are subjected. So, I propose that instead of rape on women, let us discuss the

atrocities on women, of which rape would be a part, maybe a vital part though I know, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, in the famous Mathura case the whole thing has come out. But I say that in this way we will do better justice to our womenfolk by discussing on that.

About the second point Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would say that we have spent about two-and-a-half years discussing on Indira Gandhi during the Janata regime. We do not want to repeat the performance by discussing another two-and-a-half years—I do not know how many years they will stay here—by discussing. Mr. Morarji Desai in the Congress regime. We, politicians, are neither archeologists nor anthropologists. We are not interested in dissecting the fossils, we are interested in the living things. That is why, I say that the Vaidialingam Committee Report should die or remain where it is. We should discuss the most vital part, the atrocities of the police, the tortures of the police. Every day you will hear that some prisoners have been killed in custody, some people had been lathi charged, the police manual is to be changed, the Prime Minister is writing very worried letters and all sorts of things. That is why I say that the point about crime and the police is a very important point. So, the Vaidialingam Committee Report may wait and the crime and the police should be discussed.

Thirdly, Sir, to make us sit for two half hours extra from 6 o'clock is a punishment. We do not deserve that punishment. Rather we say that we should be given time in some other way so that all these important items can be discussed at our convenience.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Sir, I think in the list of business for the next week, the situation in Assam has not been included. The situation in Assam is very much deplorable and is causing alarm to everybody. An additional dimension has been added because of

the decision of the Congress (I) to launch a movement for blockade of Assam. That will have a very severe reaction in Assam and outside Assam. There have been motions on this subject. I request the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to find time to include the discussion on the alarming and deteriorating situation in Assam. Sir, the situation has become all the more serious because of the decision of the All Assam Students' Union and Gana Sangram Parishad to go on an all Assam bandh on 26th of March. This will have an adverse effect and add to tension.

I also want another point to be included, and that is the action taken by the Government on the Report of the Shah Commission. There is a report today in the *Statesman* which says that the Government of India has issued a circular banning the sale and distribution of the three volumes of the Report of the Shah Commission. With your permission, I may read out the relevant portion of the circular which has been published in the *Statesman* today:

"It has been decided by the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi, that further distribution and sale of all the 3 volumes of Shah Commission Reports printed in all regional languages be stopped forthwith. You are therefore, requested to stop the sale and distribution of the said publication forthwith and return the available stock to this Department immediately."

The circular is signed by Mr. R. A. Gaur, Deputy Controller of Publications.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please be very short. Then only it will be sweet also.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: This has also added a new dimension to the matter. I feel that the House should

discuss the entire report of the Shah Commission and the action taken by the Government.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Jadavpur): I would like to draw attention to certain matters of great importance which require to be discussed. One is the question of the total failure of the Damodar Valley Corporation to give adequate quantity of electrical energy. As a result thereof, electric supply to the coalfield areas, steel mills and particularly Calcutta has been affected. The DVC is obliged to supply 95 MW of electrical energy every day to the Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation. They have failed in this abjectly, and the total supply per day is not more than 30 to 35 MW, which is supposed to be their best performance. One this we have given a motion, and this is a very important matter because the new Minister is only talking and has not translated into action any of his outbursts. Therefore, this is a very serious matter which requires to be looked into immediately. Therefore, we must have a discussion.

The other thing is the failure of the Government of India to arrange for regular and equitable supply of kerosene and diesel oil to the eastern States, particularly to the State of West Bengal, which is seriously affecting agricultural production there. Transport operations are coming to a grinding halt. Not only is there irregular and inadequate supply, but when other parts are getting more supplies, there is discrimination so far as the eastern States are concerned. This requires to be immediately dealt with.

Last but not the least is the question of Assam. It is necessary that we should have a full discussion on it immediately. The Prime Minister has not found time still to visit Assam. So long as this question is kept unresolved, we will see more and more of what happened yesterday in Cal-

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

cutta. A section of the party which is ruling at the Centre provocation there, holding violent demonstrations.

As a result of it, the law and order is sought to be disturbed. The whole object is to find out some excuse to deal with the State Government there in the way they like.

Therefore, these are matters which are agitating the public mind very seriously. They should be discussed in the House. I agree with Mr. Roy that old things like reports on certain persons not get prominence over such important issues.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH (Dum Dum):

There were reports in the press that certain Governors had been asked to resign. That has been denied, but it is a fact that some Governors have been transferred. Then, I have a confidential report about the Governor of West Bengal, who, from my experience in the other House--he was a Member of the other House--I know is a non-partisan person. He is an impartial person and that is why attempts are being made to replace him or to transfer him elsewhere. If they treat the Governors as mere officials like this, making transfers, I do not know what to talk of it. Dangerous precedents are being set and the whole thing needs to be discussed.

I am also raising the Assam issue because the dimensions of this issue are far greater than indicated by the other two hon. members. The ruling party at the Centre is encouraging this; in Assam, the students are agitating and here, though the Prime Minister has denied and made a statement, how can they blockade the supply of oil, products from Assam? One chauvinism is being countermanded by another and this is quite dangerous because it would lead to the disintegration of the country. Further, stoppage of oil products from

Assam is a most dangerous thing. For two months, the Government is sitting idle.

The Government has no business to withdraw the Shah Commission Report. It will create suspicions all over the country because that Commission of Inquiry was appointed....

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH:

How is it relevant?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Ghosh, if you say what you want to be added or deleted, that would be proper.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: If the Report of a Commission of Inquiry, which has been legally constituted, is withdrawn, it is a slur on the Commission and it raises suspicions that this Government does not want justice is being totally suppressed.

We will not be satisfied with anything short of an adjournment motion and a fuller discussion on Assam situation. I want that these things should be added to the list of Business.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: He is a member of the Business Advisory Committee. He is a party to whatever decisions the Committee has taken. I do not think that the hon. member can speak on it here.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is your reply to that?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I can give a reply, but then he will be in difficulty.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Morugao): I am on a point of order. It is for our guidance that I am raising this point.

The members of a Committee of Parliament or for that matter that of a State Legislature, are parties to the decisions of the Committee and they have full opportunity to participate in decisions even if they do not agree. It is an unknown practice that the members of a Committee of Parliament or that of a State Legislature, whether it is Business Advisory Committee or Privileges Committee or any other Committee, can raise any issue against the Report on the floor of the House. On this matter, there are so many decisions in connection with the Privileges Committee, of which I am personally aware. Last time, when Mr. Samar Guha, who was the Chairman of the Privileges Committee, wanted to speak, on a Report of Privileges Committee he was not allowed and he did not speak. I would like to know the procedure that you would follow in this regard.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: As a Member of Parliament, Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu is participating in the discussion and not in his capacity as a Member of the Business Advisory Committee. As a Member of Parliament, he can participate.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: The matter under discussion is the Report of the B.A.C.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let us hear what he says.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): This is an appellate body. Sir, you are presiding over the appellate body.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There is no bar. I think that has happened previously also.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: If you want to oblige Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu, I have no objection.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Baserhat): Sir, your ruling will apply to all the members of the Business Ad-

visory Committee. We are also Members of Parliament.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I am deeply concerned and I am charging Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah and other members of his party who are in the Business Advisory Committee for going to the press before the Report was laid on the Table of the House and telling all the newspapers that the Vaidyalingam Commission's reports is going to be discussed. I am making that charge and I will bring a privilege motion against Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah and all those who have gone to the press. I made a demand for a discussion on the Maruti Report. But I am not raising that issue. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: The Report of the Business Advisory Committee was laid on the Table yesterday evening itself. How can a privilege motion arise? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: The convention has been that the motion, unless it is admitted and published—I am talking about the motions—cannot be released to the press. It has been communicated to the press. I congratulate my hon. friends of the press on that. They have done the job. They are meant to do the job. Why was not the whole story given to the press?

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: It is an insinuation. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: He is misleading the House. The motion was published a few days ago.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: If he wants to attract the attention of the press gallery, I have no objection. He is making an insinuation. The Report of the B.A.C. was laid on the Table of the House yesterday itself. How is he holding me responsible for that? It has come in the bulletin also.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: You have known me for years.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: We have to complete the business before the House. He is a member of the Business Advisory Committee,
(Interruptions)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Let me finish. My point is, why the whole story was not given to the press that there was also a pressure on the Business Advisory Committee to admit a discussion on the Maruti Report. Why was that not published? Why was only the Vaidyalingam Commission's Report mentioned? The Maruti Report should also be discussed.

SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT (Ahmedabad): The country has already answered Maruti in a befitting manner.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV (Azamgarh): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir....

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: He also participated.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: What do you mean by "participated"? If anything comes after that, have I no right to say anything? This is too much. I only went because I was invited by the Speaker to participate. It does not mean that if any important thing comes after that, I have no right to say anything.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: You have to give a ruling on that. He was invited by the Speaker to participate in the Business Advisory Committee. Certain decisions were taken in the Committee now; he says, as an invitee to the Committee, he has a right to speak on the Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: He is saying, after the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee, if a new development takes place why should he not raise it now?

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: This is not the proper time.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: I can raise it if something important happens after that. (Interruptions.)

SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT: We must have our say also.

If you are good enough to invite some of the Hon. Leaders of our Parties and something is worked out there they can press upon their points—whatever is of benefit and whatever they can think of. How are the recommendations of the Business Advisory Committee going to work? Let us have, somewhere a line drawn that, if by consensus, something is agreed upon, that should be respected, or one should reserve his right. Let the Business Advisory Committee insist on something and get it.... (Interruptions.)

I am a Member of the Business Advisory Committee. We should give and take. Something is given and something is taken.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The general convention is that those Members who have participated on behalf of their respective Parties do not participate in the discussion. That is the convention. I would like every Member of all Parties to respect that convention. Otherwise they may place some proposal before the Business Advisory Committee and if it is defeated they may raise it here also.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: Let me make my point. You have already called me.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You may refer only to the other thing. I give you only two minutes.

SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT: A point of order....

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: This Member is persisting. I am not yielding.

(Interruptions.)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He is not yielding. Let him speak. I will give my general ruling. (*Interruptions.*)

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV : This is a wrong tradition. I am in possession of the floor now.

I am saying that an important thing happened later on. We did not raise the question of Assam because the Prime Minister had taken the initiative and the Speaker was also good enough because this is a national matter. The matter is of national concern. It is a sensitive issue. The whole country was worked up on that issue and all opposition Party leaders agreed that they will not politicise the issue because this issue has to be sorted out through negotiation and consultation. But after that, after the meeting, we heard on the Radio... (*Interruptions*) that Members of the ruling Party... (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You say it is happening after the meeting. Then you can raise it in the form of a Calling Attention or any other form. It cannot be included... .

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV : It is not a question of Calling Attention. Do you think the Assam issue is a question of Calling Attention? (*Interruptions*). It is a grave, national issue: it cannot be answered to as a Calling Attention motion.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have stated your point. (*Interruptions*). He is on a point of order.

SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT : I want a ruling from the Hon. Chair on this. Wherever the Business Advisory Committee discusses a thing either with the Members of the Committee or with the invitees and some discussions take place, the convention of the House is -- and the Hon. Members, I think will support me -- (*Interruptions*).

I am member of the Business Advisory Committee. I have a right.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have already said that the convention in the House is that those who have participated in the Business Advisory Committee shall not participate in this discussion. I would request all members to see that that convention is not broken. I would very much like that that convention is not broken. I would appeal to all the Members. Even Mr Yadav, why should you alone raise it? Why not somebody else from your Party raise it?

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV. I am sorry (*Interruptions*). Then I am making another point of order.

My point of order is this. Suppose the Business Advisory Committee meets in the morning at 10 a.m. and after 10 a.m. something happens in the country which needs immediate discussion in the Parliament...

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: You can raise it in the form of call Attention or Short Notice question.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali): Why not move an adjournment motion?

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: This is not the way the members of the ruling Party should treat the Opposition Members. They will not allow anybody to make out his point. Sir, either you control the House or, if this is the way, then we are also not going to allow you.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: But you should be on a relevant point.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV : They do not want members to complete their points.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBIAH : Point of order—on what? On the report or on the matter under discussion?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have made a request to the hon. Members that this convention should not be broken. I would not like anybody break that convention and I would request Mr. Yadav also not to insist.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: You asked me to complete my point.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Because there is a convention, why should you break it?

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: You asked me to complete my point.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Only one point. What you want to be included—you say that. Hereafter nobody should break the convention.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBIAH : No, Sir. Point of order—on what? On the matter under discussion or on the report? Is it a point of order on the report?

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: You said that I must complete it and then I was permitted to speak. The Minister is all the time jumping on his feet.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Regarding his point of order, I have already given my decision that no hon. Member should break the convention which is in vogue.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I have to respectfully submit, Sir, that I am also a member of the Business Advisory Committee. I am not an invitee, I am a regular member. So, do not allow the Minister to confuse the matters. He is behaving as though somebody is challenging the report of the Business Advisory Committee. Nobody is challenging the report. Moreover, Mr. Yadav has no right to challenge the report of the Business Advisory Committee. But what is the convention? Why then does this item

come up every Friday? when the business of the next week is announced here by the Minister-in-charge, so many members who have given in writing before, are allowed to speak. What is that? Is it challenging the report? Not that. They make suggestions. They make suggestions that in the next week's business, such and such item which they consider to be important may also be given some time if possible. It is in that context that Mr. Yadav is saying that after the last meeting of the Business Advisory Committee—nobody challenges the report and if Mr. Yadav challenges, then I will fight against him—he is saying some developments have taken place around this issue of Assam which is very important. So, he may be suggesting—I think he wants to suggest that in the next week's business—this is the last week and after that the House will adjourn for a long time -- some time may be found for including that item for discussion because it is a very important issue which has cropped up after the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee.

SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT : He can give a notice.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He is going to make a statement tomorrow. Now, Mr. Yadav, please conclude in one sentence.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: I am saying this because the House will be in session. It is such a serious matter that when people are instigating the people of one State against the people of another State, there will be a serious confrontation. It is not a question of a particular agitation. It will seriously damage the national unity. Therefore, I am raising this because this is the last week and after that the House adjourns.

Now I do admit that this is beyond the discussion of the Leaders within a room. Let Parliament, the highest forum of the nation, take note of what is happening in Assam

and what solutions we can find for it. Otherwise the members of the ruling party give a call for the blockade and they create a serious situation and the people in that part of the country will say that if you are not allowing the essential goods to reach us, then hell with this country. Do you want this situation to be created in this country? Therefore, I am saying that this is a serious matter and the House must discuss this and so it must find a place in the next week agenda.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Rajan.

SHRI MAGANBHAI BĀROT: Sir, I rise on a point of order. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, we are in the budget session. We discussed the States; we discussed the law and order situation.

SHRI K. A. RAJAN (Trichur) : Under what rule is he making the point of order?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It is for me to say whether it is a point of order or not. Let him go on.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Durgapur): He is wasting the time.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is for me to decide whether it is a point of order or not.

SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT: We heard only yesterday on this very news about Calcutta. (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please don't address them. Please address me.

SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT: Yesterday, when this question was raised *suo motu* the hon. Prime Minister replied.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: She replied in response to a supplementary question.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Barot, what is your point of order?

SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT: My point of order is this. So far as the attitude of Government is concerned, its approach, policy and decision is known to this House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There is no point of order. Mr. Rajan.

SHRI K. A. RAJAN: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, on the Third Report of the Business Advisory Committee, I would like to give my suggestions. I have two important items to be added to this for discussion. One is regarding the Assam situation and the other is the one arising out of that situation, that is, the situation in Calcutta and the unhealthy trend. It is going against the integrity and the unity of the nation and this requires an immediate discussion. The third one which I would like to mention is regarding the alarming power situation. Everywhere we get a report about the power shortage—shedding of power—closing down of industries as a result. The production and economy are going to be hit very much. That also has to be taken up. This is my humble submission.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, the hon. Minister.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, about the wordings of the Resolution that is before the House I want to say something. There is a discussion before the House on the Motion regarding incidence of rape on women.

Sir, in the Business Advisory Committee, we have agreed to include this Resolution as has been worded by Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee. Sir, as it is, it has been incorporated. But, if the wording is to be modified or changed, then something has to be done. I will first read the Resolution:

“That this House expresses its grave concern at the alarming inci-

[Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah]

dence of rape on women particularly by anti-social elements engaged by the vested interests and on occasions even by the police in different parts of the country and urges upon the Government to take effective steps to prevent their recurrence”.

That is how it has been worded.

SHRI A. K. ROY rose

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let him complete it.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: With regard to the discussion regarding the rise in prices of essential commodities, the members made certain suggestions. All these matters can be discussed. There is nothing to modify. It is all there. It has been discussed at length and Mr. Kalyan Roy has been suggesting that it should be modified.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He is not Shri Kalyan Roy but he is Shri A. K. Roy.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: I am sorry. He is Shri A. K. Roy. He is Shri Roy all right.

Then, Sir, about the discussion on Assam, this is a matter on which, from the beginning of this session, various discussion have taken place. (Interruptions). I am coming to the point. There is the latest situation which has been mentioned by the hon. Members about the agitation of the people in Bengal.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Counter agitation.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: The Prime Minister has made the position very clear.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: No-body is listening to her. She has

made the statement all right, but nobody is listening to her. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please listen.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Please listen to me. Members mentioned about the latest situation in Calcutta. I will convey the feelings of the Members to the Prime Minister....

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: We have been discussing the agitation in Assam in various ways but now there is a counter-agitation. It is a new development. (Interruptions).

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Please allow me to complete the sentence....

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Please cut out the discussion on Vaidyalingam Report and make time available for discussing this counter-agitation..

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: The concern expressed by the hon. Members will be taken into consideration. This is all that I want to say now.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Are you withdrawing your amendment? Mr. Roy, are you withdrawing it?

SHRI A. K. ROY: I am not pressing for it in view of what he has stated. I seek leave of the House to withdraw my amendment.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Does he have the leave of the House to withdraw his amendment?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The amendment is withdrawn by leave

of the House. Now we come to the main motion, on the report of the BAC. The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Third Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 19th March, 1980."

The motion was adopted

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, Mr. Jaffer Sharief. He has to make a statement.

13.44 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. DERAILMENT OF BARAK VALLEY EXPRESS ON NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): Sir, with deep sense of regret I rise to inform the House that about 04.30 hours on 20th March, 1980 while 11 Down Barak Valley Express was on run between Dihakho and Mupa stations on Lumding—Badarpur Hill section of Northeast Frontier Railway, 4 coaches next to the engine derailed of which one capsized. According to the information so far available 8 persons are feared dead, 11 sustained grievous injuries and 13 simple injuries.

Immediately on receipt of information, medical relief van accompanied by Medical Superintendent, doctors, Divisional Railway Manager, and other railway officers, was rushed to the site. *Ex-gratia* relief has been arranged.

Chairman, Railway Board and Member Engineering, have flown to the site of accident.

I am sure the House will join me in conveying our heartfelt sympathies to the members of the bereaved families.

13.46 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Samar Mukherjee.

(1) REPORTED AGITATION BY YUVA CONGRESS AND CHHATRA PARISHAD IN WEST BENGAL DISRUPTING SUPPLIES OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES TO ASSAM.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howrah): In the morning, there was a hot discussion and the Speaker expressed the view that on this rule 377 matter, the Prime Minister will make a statement here, but, unfortunately, she is not here. In the House, many members demanded a special debate. And, without giving up our right to demand a full discussion on this issue, I am reading this statement under rule 377.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What you stated now, you have not stated in this written thing under rule 377.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: In the morning regarding this rule 377 matter, the Speaker expressed the desire, that the Prime Minister should reply.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is not found here.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV (Azamgarh): Before reading he is giving the background.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: It was supposed that the Prime Minister will give the reply, though it is not binding on her.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That only will come in the report.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: That I know. But the Speaker expressed a desire. The Prime Minister was present here. In her presence, the hon. Speaker said 'we hope the Prime Minister will make a statement on this'.