

17.59 hrs.

RE: LATE SITTING OF THE HOUSE

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I request the House to sit beyond 6 P.M. from Monday to Thursday to transact the business.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (New Delhi): May I know whether this proposal was discussed at the meeting convened by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs?

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: Today in the afternoon, in the informal meeting of the opposition leaders, it has been mentioned.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: To mention this is one thing. The question is whether the opposition was present. I was not present at the meeting. Did the opposition leaders agree to that proposal?

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: Yes, they have agreed. Ultimately, it was decided in the Business Advisory Committee. That is the forum where formal decision will be taken.

18.00 hrs.

This is for the period, from Monday to Thursday, not throughout.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: May I make a suggestion?

Let a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee be called on Monday. We could meet during lunch and then decide.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: If the hon. Member so insists, then it is a different thing. Otherwise, this can be accepted by the House.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I do not know why the Business Advisory Committee is being bypassed. You have a majority there. We are always there to cooperate. Let a meeting of the Committee be called.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: Because of the two days which we lost unexpectedly, we have to transact the business. In that context, the request is being made to the House to sit beyond 6 O'Clock from Monday to Thursday.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): Mr. Vajpayee has given a very constructive proposal. On Monday afternoon, during lunch, hon. Speaker can call a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee and there we can decide formally.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the Business Advisory Committee meet in the afternoon on Monday.

The House stands adjourned to meet again at 11.00 a.m. on the 9th March, 1981.

18.02 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, March 9, 1981/ Phalguna 18, 1902 (Saka).