

SHRI GEOGRE FERNANDES:
Kindly allow an adjournment motion or a discussion.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
What do you propose to allow? You are allowing neither an adjournment motion nor a discussion.

MR. SPEAKER: First see the result of statement under Rule 377. (*Interruptions*).

of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Assam Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1980, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 15th March, 1980, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

(iv) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Assam Appropriation Bill, 1980, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 15th March, 1980, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

12.28 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

(i) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Finance Bill, 1980, which was passed by the Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on the 14th March, 1980 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

(ii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Union Duties of Excise (Electricity) Distribution Bill, 1980 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 14th March, 1980, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

(iii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186

12.30 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

SUPPLY OF NUCLEAR FUEL BY THE U.S.A. FOR TARAPUR

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY (Nizamabad): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of External Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

"Reported fresh complications in the supply of nuclear fuel by the U.S.A. for Tarapur."

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: We have already discussed. The same thing cannot be discussed again. Nothing can be dis-

[MR. SPEAKER]

cussed again. This is wasting the time of the House.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER: No; don't record. It is not important. Very important questions are being discussed; if you want to take part, please....Mr. Rao, please start.

*(Interruptions)***

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: On a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Under which rule, please?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Under rule 376 (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) and (6). My point of order is this. Under your direction, we made submissions on the issue of Assam. And the submission was unanimous in that it invited a discussion on the same. We only want a clear ruling on this.

MR. SPEAKER: I have given my ruling.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: You have not.

MR. SPEAKER: I have given. I have told you. Nothing doing now.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing without my permission.

*(Interruptions)***

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): Mr. Speaker, Sir....

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is allowed except the statement which the hon. Minister is now reading out.

*(Interruptions)***

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: The calling attention Notice refers to the reported fresh complications in

the supply of fuel for the Tarapur Atomic Power Station by the Government of the United States. The factual position is that while the U.S. Government has not so far finally refused to make available supplies of fuel for the Tarapur Station, there have been persistent delays in fuel supplies during the past four years.

MR. SPEAKER: You are persistently trying to disturb the proceedings of the House. Mr. Paswan. It is too much.

*(Interruptions)***

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Two export licence applications, for 19.8 tonnes each, of enriched uranium for use as fuel by the Tarapur Atomic Power Station, are currently pending with the US authorities. One of these applications was filed nearly one and a half years ago on September 20, 1978, and the deliveries under this application were scheduled to have taken place between March and August, 1979. The other application was made on August 20, 1979, and deliveries under this application were scheduled to have commenced last month.

MR. SPEAKER: Everything has its limit, Mr. Paswan, I cannot repeat it every time.

*(Interruptions)***

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: The essence of the Cooperation Agreement between the Government of India and the Government of the United States, which came into force in October 1963, is that the US Government is committed to provide fuel supplies as needed through the lifetime of the Tarapur Station, limited by the period of the Agreement, namely, till October 1993, on the corresponding understanding that the Tarapur reactors would be operated on no other fuel except that made available by the United States.

The supplies of enriched uranium for use as fuel at Tarapur were being made fairly regularly until early 1976. Since then there have been considerable delays in fuel shipments.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Paswan is trying to transgress all the limits.

(Interruptions)**

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: We have repeatedly expressed our grave concern to the Government of the United States on the inordinate delays in approving fuel supplies for Tarapur. The terms of the Cooperation Agreement between India and the United States, which came into force in 1963 after fulfilling all statutory and constitutional requirements in both countries, cannot be changed unilaterally by either party. We have abided by this agreement in its letter and spirit and we expect the Government of the United States to honour their obligations.

MR. SPEAKER: Not allowed.

(Interruptions)**

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Over the last three years the U.S. Government has been making various requests for additional assurances from the Government of India regarding safeguards. In essence these amounted to our accepting full scope safeguards over all our nuclear facilities. The Government of India has consistently replied that it could not accede to these requests. On the last occasion on March 7th, 1980, in reply to requests for specific assurances in connection with the two outstanding shipments, the US Ambassador was informed that we would honour all existing agreements and obligations and that our policy on the use of nuclear experiments for peaceful purposes had already been made clear on January 30, 1980 in Parliament by the Prime Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: Under which rule? I cannot listen....

(Interruptions)**

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: It will thus be seen that these are only old and reiterated requests from the US Administration which we have never been able to accept, rather than fresh complications.

We have been in constant touch with the Government of the United States regarding the continued supply of fuel on a regular and timely basis for the entire duration of the Agreement, that is until 1993, in strict accordance with the provisions of the existing Cooperation Agreement between the two Governments.

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever is being said, nothing should be recorded without my permission.

(Interruptions)**

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: It continues to be our hope that the US Government will honour its obligations as we have always done. I would, however, like to assure the Honourable Members that we are prepared to meet any contingency arising from the non-supply of fuel.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri M. Ram Gopal Reddy.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: Please call a meeting of Leaders of Groups.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is a limit to everything. Nothing should be recorded without my permission. I have seen it. There are certain things and when they cross the limit, then it becomes obnoxious. I have heard to much now.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. You do not have any rule whatsoever.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Please look here. I am standing on my legs. (Interruptions) You want me to follow the rules and you do not follow yourself. (Interruptions) I do not know.

AN HON. MEMBER: Mr. Mandal, on whose hands the blood stains have not yet been cleansed, he is talking on Harijan atrocities.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order. Please, order. I have listened too much now.

(Interruptions)

I am one man and there are hundreds of voices all the time. I would like all the nation to watch this show that you are putting. Is it not shameful?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I know it. Order please. Mr. Ram Vilas, every hon. Member in this House (Interruptions)... Will you sit down? Every Member in this House knows his responsibility. Every Member of the House also feels that anybody who lifts a finger even touches him, I know that, every Member in this House, tell me the one who does not. (Interruptions) You are again standing up. We have had a discussion on this very subject. We had a discussion in this very House about four days back. (Interruptions). No, that incident is the same things. (Interruptions). Now please listen. You are always at once talking. Is there patience or restraint anywhere? Nation has put all things in our hands here.

What do we think we are. We should be responsible for every action we take here. This is a serious matter. We have once discussed one

thing. There is another Report here for discussion in which we have to take part. Furthermore, I can say what Mr. Yadav has put as a suggestion, that I can put and talk it over. So, let us pursue the matter. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur): You call a meeting of all the parties.

MR. SPEAKER: A suggestion has been given, I will talk it over. I cannot order, but I can initiate a thing. That is what I can do. That is what I say. Mr. Fernandes, this thing in this fashion will not reach any decision whatsoever. The way we are talking now, we can only reach a decision like this. So, let us proceed on this and I will initiate. (Interruptions) Order, please. Shri M. Ram Gopal Reddy.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY (Nizamabad): America has been promising all along for the supply of uranium but has failed to fulfil its contractual obligation.

MR. SPEAKER: Nobody should say anything to me now on that. (Interruptions). I treat everybody equal here. I keep no differentiation (Interruptions). It is all right. (Interruptions). What we prescribe for others, we should prescribe for ourselves too equally.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: We are a responsible nation. America knows it. In 1971 war with Pakistan, we had occupied 7,000 kilometres of Pakistan territory. We returned that on our own immediately after the war. We had captured over 1,00,000 Pakistani prisoners. We released them immediately after the war and negotiations America should know that we are a peaceful nation. America is a democratic country and we are also a democratic country. Unfortunately, America has been helping Pakistan.

That is the trouble. Now they want to scuttle the development of our country. We want uranium for Tarapur not for manufacture of atom bombs or any such thing. It has been repeatedly stated by our Prime Minister that we are using atomic energy only for peaceful purposes and for constructive purposes like creating lakes, digging tunnels and also in medicine etc. Shrimati Gandhi has been repeatedly telling the world that India's intention is to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes only. Unfortunately, America is not understanding our difficulties and delaying the supplies. Once Shri Morarji Desai unfortunately wavered on this point and agreed to the inspection of our installations. But later on he withdrew the steps. Mr. Vajpayee also was there. I want to know whether Mr. Desai agreed to the inspection of our installation on account of him or in spite of him. We never expected such a step from Mr. Vajpayee. I want to know what alternative arrangements the Government is going to make in this regard. I want to know whether there is going to be any recycling of this important item for Tarapur and whether the Government is going to try mixed oxide fuels as an alternative to uranium. They have promised 20 tonnes and two offers have already lapsed. I want to know whether Tarapur is going to be run or it is going to be stopped for want of uranium. I also want to know from the Minister whether he is exploring the chances of getting uranium from France and Soviet Union. We should not depend upon only one country. If we depend upon only one country, if they stop it in the eleventh hour, our important projects will come to a stop. I want to have a detailed reply from the hon. Minister on these points.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: The supplies of enriched uranium for use at Tarapur were being made fairly regularly until early 1976. But since then there has been considerable delay. (Interruption). We know that

there are alternative methods available, but we are still at a stage when we have not taken the decision to get this contract abrogated and go ahead with the other alternatives. We still hope that it will be possible for us to get the USA to honour their side of the obligation and go ahead with the shipments.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): This calling attention motion has arisen as a result of a statement which the American Ambassador to India made day before yesterday. The statement was very specific. It said that there are fresh complications which have arisen.

In the statement which the Minister laid before the House, he says:

"It will thus be seen that these are only old and reiterated requests from the US Administration which we have never been able to accept, rather than fresh complications."

The statement also says,

"On the last occasion on March 7th, 1980"—in other words, 11 days before the US Ambassador made this, shall I say, controversial statement—

"In reply to requests for specific assurances in connection with the two outstanding shipments, the US Ambassador was informed that we would honour all existing agreements..", etc.

One thing is very clear from the statement and also from the reply given by the Minister that the American Government has a policy which is not able to reconcile itself with the agreement that they have signed. I would not go into the reasons why the Americans have taken this view because my own understanding is that it is not only America but also other countries which have the nuclear technology and which can provide us with the fuel requirements, all of them have a uniform approach and, therefore, against that uniform

[Shri George Fernandes]

approach of these countries we will always be faced with the difficulty.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister if there is an agreement that is binding on both the countries which he has reiterated here, and which he has also said it cannot be changed by either of the parties. Is there no international agency through whom you can get this agreement implemented? The International Court is there at the Hague. Why don't you use the offices of that Court? Or why don't you get the non-aligned nations, for instance, to take a position because we had a demonstration of the aide of these industrialised advanced countries, the countries of the North, when the UNIDO Conference met here a few weeks ago? They were prepared to make no concession whatsoever even in matters of ordinary technology, what to talk of nuclear technology and the commitments which they have made to us on the Tarapur Atomic Power Unit. So, what are the international pressures which the Government intends to build because the statement makes a sad reading? 'We have repeatedly expressed our concern; we have repeatedly persuaded them. We are keeping on making our request. We hope the US Government will honour its obligation...' Now, you yourself say that for four years you have been making all these repeated requests and hoping...

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD:
(Interruptions)...

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Fair enough. I assume that you are the successor Government, Mr. Bhagwat Jha Azad. I hope you are taking responsibility.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: Yes. I am amazed at your saying this. This is not the Indian side. I am sorry to

say that. Do you want us to go to the International Court.....(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I hope you are taking responsibility. If we have failed, I want you to succeed. I do not want you to fail.

MR. SPEAKER: No Exchanges.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: We inherited your failures. We have returned them to you to succeed. Go ahead. The worst you can say is that we have returned them to you. Make a success of them.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: It is amazing (Interruption) Mr. Morarji Desai ..(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: What is the use of yelling here? Earlier you yelled at the Speaker, now you are yelling at me. Why don't you go outside and yell? If you have the compulsion to yell, why don't you go outside and yell? He earlier yelled at you, Sir, and now he is yelling at me. He must have got down from his bed on the wrong side this morning but he should not throw it on us here. If you are a compulsive yeller, go out; there is enough room for you to go and yell out.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Azad is a good friend of mine but earlier in the day he went on yelling at you. Now he is yelling at me.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: We are good friends, but we have to speak our mind. I speak for the country. Mr. Fernandes... (Interruptions) in the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Now the Minister will reply.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: So, Sir, what are the international pressures the Government would want to exert on the United States Govern-

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: