

13.40 hrs.

RE: DISSOLUTION OF DELHI METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee gave notice. Do you want to raise it?

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (नई दिल्ली)-
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, लोक तंत्र की और इस सदन की भी परिपाटी है कि जब सदन का सत्र चल रहा हो तो सरकार को महत्वपूर्ण घोषणायें सदन में करनी चाहियें, सदन से बाहर नहीं।

21 मार्च, शुक्रवार को राष्ट्रपति महोदय ने दिल्ली की मेट्रोपालिटन काउंसिल भंग करने का फैसला किया। मेरी जानकारी के अनुसार उन्होंने घोषणा पर तीन बजे दस्तक दिए और दिल्ली प्रशासन को चार बजे काउंसिल भंग करने की सूचना दी गयी। उस दिन यह सदन 6 बजे तक बंठा था। गृह मंत्री महोदय सदन में आ सकते थे और इस बात का एलान इस सदन में कर सकते थे। लेकिन उन्होंने ऐसा नहीं किया।

मैंने इस संबंध में विशेषाधिकार के उल्लंघन का प्रस्ताव दिया है। आप ये स्वीकार करेंगे कि यह सदन की भव्हेलना का मामला है। सदन के प्रति सभी को आदर की भावना दिखानी चाहिए जो कि इस मामले में नहीं दिखायी गयी। गृह मंत्री इम्प्रोप्रायटी के दोषी हैं और मैं चाहूंगा कि आप मंत्रियों को कहें कि वे सदन को गम्भीरता से लें और सदन के सम्मान की रक्षा करें। इस बारे में गृह मंत्री को चेतावनी देना बहुत जरूरी है।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: According to past precedents and rulings from the Chair, such a matter does not involve a question of privilege.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Priority is there.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: In the original notice, he said privilege. That is why I am replying to that.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I did say like that in the notice because there is no specific rule to raise question of propriety. You will appreciate that. (*Interruptions*).

आपको कुछ पता नहीं है, आप नये चुन कर आए है।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If you have raised it as a question of propriety, I am allowing it to be raised as a matter of propriety. You had raised it as a matter of privilege. I am allowing you to raise it as a matter of propriety.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I have already raised it. You have to ask the Minister to be more careful.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I presume that you, as the custodian of this House, have got some reaction to this matter. The House is in session. The Home Minister is present. Hang the rules; it is a matter of propriety.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You may do it; I cannot!

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Have you got any feelings on the question of propriety?

SHRI SANJAY GANDHI (Amethi): It is an irresponsible opposition we have. They say, hang the rules!

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: There are no rules in this matter.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY (Krishnagiri): The hon. member has raised an issue of privilege against the Home Minister. But in your wisdom you have disallowed that privilege issue. You say you are allowing it as a matter of propriety. He should give fresh notice for that.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have said that the matter of privilege is not allowed. He has himself appealed to consider it as a matter of propriety. I am, therefore, allowing it to be raised as a matter of propriety.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY. If you have disallowed the privilege issue and you are allowing it as a matter of propriety, that needs fresh notice.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have already said I am not allowing it as a matter of privilege. Let us hear the Home Minister.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): We do not show any disrespect to the House. We hold this House in high esteem. I would like to explain the matter to you. He has raised the question of propriety. I will say that the Government has not committed any breach of propriety also. The proclamation has been signed by the President in the afternoon of Friday. The process has to be carried on before the matter is placed before the Lok Sabha. We have taken the earliest opportunity of placing the proclamation on the Table of the House. So, we have given the greatest respect. I once again reiterate that there is no disrespect meant to this House.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: The hon. Minister has himself admitted that the notification was signed in the afternoon. The House was in session beyond 6 o'clock on that day. It was open to the Government and the Minister to come before the House and place the notification on that day. The Heavens would not have fallen, they could have waited till Tuesday to dissolve the Council.

13.46 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: DECISION TO ACCORD FULL DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION TO THE OFFICE OF PALESTINIAN LIBERATION ORGANISATION IN NEW DELHI

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): The House will be happy to know that the Government of India have decided to accord full diplomatic status to the office of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation in New Delhi. India was amongst the very first countries, outside the Arab world, to recognise the P.L.O. and to permit them to establish their office in New Delhi in 1975.

Over the years, not only by words but also by deeds the people of India have demonstrated their sympathy, affection and brotherly feelings for the Palestinian people. It is appropriate to recall that it was Mahatma Gandhi who first roused the conscience of the world by bringing the Palestinian problem to the attention of the international community. India has all along supported the Palestinian cause in the United Nations, and indeed in every international forum. Granting full diplomatic status to the P.L.O., therefore, is but another logical step.

We continue to maintain that no comprehensive settlement of the West Asian problems is possible without involvement of the P.L.O. as an equal partner in negotiations. That alone can bring about lasting peace. The inalienable rights of the Palestinians, including their right to a national State, must be fully restored.

Sir, may I also take this opportunity to announce that the Prime Minister has invited Mr. Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation, to pay us an official and friendly visit. He will be arriving in New Delhi on the 28th of this month for a two day stay. As the House knows, Mr. Arafat has earned the respect and admiration not only of the Arab people, but also of all freedom loving peoples. This will be his first visit to India. We expect that Chairman Arafat's visit to this country will symbolise not merely Indo-Palestinian friendship, but also indo-Arab solidarity.