

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA: What about the Calcutta flight? The timing is very bad.

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN: The only problem is, with the limited aircraft that we have, it is very difficult to meet all the requirements in all the regions. But we always ensure that minimum inconvenience is caused to the hon. Members and our passengers while finalising the time-schedule.

With these words, I once again thank the hon. Members who have made valuable contribution to the debate.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Aircraft Act, 1934, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We will now take up the Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That Clause, 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Home Minister to make a statement.

16 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: ASSAM

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): Sir, the House would recall that I had made a detailed statement on Assam on the 14th March, 1983 following which there was a discussion and at the conclusion of which I had replied to the various points raised by the hon. Members during the discussion.

At that time 58 police stations had been declared as disturbed areas by the State Government under the Assam Disturbed Areas Act 1955 and the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958. Since then 16 more police stations have been declared as disturbed areas by the State Government.

Notwithstanding the sporadic incidents, which continue to occur how then, there have been definite signs of improvement in law and order situation. According to the State Government who had reported on the basis of information received so far between 14th and 17th March 1983 there have been cases of 2 murders, one case of attempt to murder, one case of assault on public servant, 5 cases of arson of houses and 2 cases of arson of bridges. Number of bomb explosions during this period have been four.

Amongst the 2 murder cases, one related to the nephew of the Chief Minister who was stabbed to death at Tinsukia while returning from college.

Subsequently on 18.3.83 AASU/AAGSP gave a call for 24 hours 'total non-cooperation' from 0500 hours on 21-3-1983 to coincide with the opening day of the newly constituted Assembly. A number of highly provocative and inflammatory speeches by leaders of both Organisations and lot of highly objectionable posterings have also been reported. There was an up-swing in the number of violent incidents particularly in bomb explosions, deaths due to clashes of communal nature and destruction of houses by arson resulting in 30 murders, 8 bomb explosions and arson of over 800 houses

[Shri P. C. Sethi]

during the period from 18th to 20th March, 1983.

A series of serious incidents took place in Darrang District. According to information received from State Government, on March 17 one person with his sister and three nephews were forced to board a country boat by 10|15 boys while they went to board a ferry at Panpur in Darrang District. In the mid-stream the boys reportedly killed one of the nephews of the person. While the person jumped into the river and escaped, the other three survivors are missing and are suspected to have been killed. As a sequel to the above incident, on March 19, some persons armed with deadly weapons attacked the passengers of Panpur-Silghat ferry at Panpur. Four persons were killed while several others were injured. Five passengers are reportedly missing. Efforts are being made to trace them out. Again as a sequel to attack on the passengers of Silghat-Panpur ferry on 20th March, 1983 a large mob attacked inhabitants of Laltapu village and set fire to about 800 houses. 16 dead bodies were recovered at the village. Police and Army reinforcements rushed to the affected area. One of the dead happened to be the District President of Tezpur AASU unit.

On March 18 and 19, there were 5 bomb explosions in different places of Gauhati city. This was clearly with the intention of intimidating the office goers and serving as a notice to held the call for total non-cooperation for 21st March given by AASU/AAGSP. 9 persons were injured when a bomb exploded in the printing press at Bongaigaon in Gopalar District which is owned by a Congress(I) candidate at the last election. In the night of March 19 an explosion took place near Kuia railway bridge on Bongaigaon-Joieghopa B.G. line causing damage to a small portion of a slipper. In the night of March 18/19, another bomb exploded on the railway track near Udalguri, immediately after Arunachal Express had passed over the track causing slight damage to the railways line. An explosion occurred

inside a cinema house at Tezpur in the night of March 18 during interval. An unexploded hand made bomb was found in another cinema house at Tezpur on March 19. Similarly a bomb exploded at the DFO's office in Diphu in the night of March 18|19. An unexploded bomb was found inside a letter-box at Diphu Post Office on March 19.

Meanwhile relief and rehabilitation operations in respect of persons uprooted as a result of recent disturbances are in full swing. According to the information available now, there are now 284206 inmates in 226 camps set up by the State Government. Over 25,000 persons have gone back to their villages. 137 police pickets have been established to protect people returning to their villages. Food and medicines are adequate and no shortages of any kind have been reported. State Government has also supplied articles of clothing, blankets, tarpaulin etc. for the camps. No epidemic has been reported. A few cases of diahorrea which were reported from some camps have also been brought under control. It has been decided to increase the scale of distribution of free seeds from 5 Kgs per bigha to 10 Kgs per bigha subject to a maximum of 20 Kgs per family as part of package for rehabilitation. The monthly allocation of Kerosene for the State has been increased from about 12,000 kilo litres to 1400 kilo litres. The Government have acceded to the request of the State Government to extend the validity of the allocation for rice, wheat and controlled sugar for January and February 1983 which they were not able to lift because of disturbances. Despite obstruction by way of bunds and janta curfew etc., ministers of the State Government have been active in visiting the relief camps to supervise the relief operations.

The Budget session of the newly constituted Assembly commenced at Gauhati on 21-3-83.

State Government have been devoting all their attention to restoration of peace and normalcy and to relief and rehabilitation of those affected by the recent disturbances. While generally the law and

order situation has been showing definite signs of improvement, the call for non-cooperation programme was bound to aggravate the situation. More so, when it was preceded by desperate attempts to intimidate public servants and generally public by resorting to a spate of bomb explosions. While the State Government is taking steps to control the situation and normalise conditions all sections of society in Assam should cooperate with Government to bring about normalcy and do nothing which will complicate the efforts in that direction. Central Government will continue to give full support and necessary assistance to the State Government in this onerous task of restoration of normalcy and rehabilitation of affected people.

16.05 hrs.

MOTION RE: SEVENTH CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now we go to the next item.

Mr. Kamal Nath.

SHRI KAMAL NATH (Chhindwara): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to move the motion. . .

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat): How much time is allotted for this debate?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Two hours.

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR (Gorakhpur): Mr. Kamal Nath should be congratulated for successfully manipulating the situation to get his name included in the Delegation.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: This motion we shall pass to start with, and then I will accept that amendment.

Sir, I rise to move the motion under item 24. I beg to move:

"This House notes with satisfaction and pride that the Seventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries held in New

Delhi has concluded its deliberations successfully. The New Delhi Summit has reinforced the unity and the international role of the non-aligned community.

This House requests the Government of India to convey its thanks and appreciation to the Heads of State and Government and leaders of various delegations who, through their presence and positive contribution, ensured the success of the Summit. It also places on record its appreciation of the work of the Indian delegation and the leadership provided by the Chairperson Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

India has been given the responsibility of chairing the Movement. This House believes that our country will be able to discharge this responsibility in the best traditions of anti-imperialism and self-reliance of our national movement.

This House welcomes the Declaration adopted by the Summit and the "New Delhi Message", which has called for an end to the production and stockpiling of nuclear arms as also for more purposive efforts to launch a North-South dialogue, to enlarge South-South co-operation and to usher in a New International Economic Order, and believes that these have strengthened the hands of all those who stand for independence, peace, disarmament and development."

While moving this Motion, I would like to say a few words.

When I came into the Lok Sabha over three years ago I had never contemplated that, during my first tenure, I would have an opportunity to move a motion and to rise to speak on a subject which instills in us so much pride, satisfaction and heart-warming sense of accomplishment which would, and I hope should, cut across all party lines. When we met on the 14th March after the adjournment of the House on the 5th March, we met as legislators of a nation whose stature had grown immeasurably. The whole world is gazing at us now, and I do not say this as a member of my Party or as a member of the Treasury Benches. I say: this as