

12.00 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. CALTEX [ACQUISITION OF SHARES OF CALTEX OIL REFINING (INDIA) LIMITED AND OF THE UNDERTAKINGS IN INDIA OF CALTEX (INDIA) LIMITED] ORDINANCE, 1976

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Caltex [Acquisition of Shares of Caltex Oil Refining (India) Limited and of the Undertakings in India of Caltex (India) Limited] Ordinance, 1976. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-30/77].

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12.01 hrs.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER

SHRI YASHVANTRAO CHAVAN (Satara): I beg to move:

“That Shri Godey Murahari, a member of this House, be chosen as the Deputy Speaker of this House.”

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): I second it.

MR. SPEAKER: There are no other names before the House.

Anyway I will put the motion to the House. The question is:

“That Shri Godey Murahari, a member of this House, be chosen as the Deputy Speaker of this House.”

The motion was adopted.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): I offer my con-

gratulations to Shri Godey Murahari on his election as Deputy Speaker. I hope and trust that he will conduct the proceedings of this House with fairness and in true democratic parliamentary traditions.

I assure him of the full co-operation from all members of this House.

SHRI YASHVANTRAO CHAVAN: May I join in offering my congratulations to the Deputy Speaker, Shri Murahari.

Shri Godey Murahari is not new to the parliamentary life. Though he is sitting in this House for the first time, he has been a Member of the other House where he has functioned as the Presiding Officer and that too, very fairly and effectively and to the satisfaction of all sections of the House. I have no doubt that the same traditions he will continue to maintain and I can assure him, as the Prime Minister did, of our full co-operation.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howrah): On behalf of my Party, the CPI(M), I congratulate Mr. Murahari on his being elected unanimously as the Deputy Speaker.

I will request Mr. Murahari to keep in view the conditions under which he has been elected, the new background of the national situation and the hopes raised in the people. I hope he will prove himself worthy of the expectations raised in the minds of the people. I offer him the full co-operation of our Party in discharging his responsibility.

MR. SPEAKER: Anybody from AIADMK?

All right, Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN (Coimbatore): On behalf of CPI I would like to extend our warmest felicitations to Mr. Murahari and assure him of our fullest co-operation.

We have had close associations with him outside the House and we are aware of his very affable and equable temperament and I am sure he will bring great dignity to the office he is about to enter upon.

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT (Manjeri): On behalf of the Muslim League I would like to extend my greetings and felicitations to Mr. Godey Murahari on his election as Deputy Speaker.

Shri Murahari is a person of very charming habits and he has discharged his duties as Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha previously. I hope he will do justice to all sections and Parties in this House and I convey my greetings to him and wish him all success.

MR. SPEAKER: I am happy to join hon. Members in felicitating Shri Godey Murahari on his election as the Deputy Speaker of this august House. My congratulations to him. Shri Murahari comes to this House with a rich experience of parliamentary life in the other House.

To me personally, it is a matter of satisfaction to have an experienced colleague like Shri Murahari to share the responsibilities of the Chair. In parliamentary democracy, Presiding officers are naturally expected to maintain high standards of impartiality and integrity in the performance of their duties so as to inspire confidence among all sections of the House and among all members irrespective of their party affiliations. While ensuring the orderly conduct of the business and its timely completion, we have to take particular care to see that all sections of the House have adequate opportunity to put forward their view-points and have no legitimate cause for grievance on that count.

I again heartily congratulate Shri Murahari and wish him well.

SHRI GODEY MURAHARI (Vijaywada): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am deeply grateful to all the colleagues who have just spoken as well to you.

I know that as the Deputy Speaker of this House I will have to exercise the utmost impartiality that is expected of a Presiding Officer and I shall endeavour to do so as I did in the other House. Let me assure everybody in this House—whether they are sitting on the other side or this side—that as far as I am concerned, henceforward I belong to all sections of the House and not to any particular section.

As far as you are concerned, I have had some association with you while being in Parliamentary delegations or otherwise and all my experiences has been very pleasant. I know that in the conduct of my duties here as Deputy Speaker you will be guiding me as an elder brother and giving me the utmost affection that I can get from anybody, especially in view of the earlier association that we have had while you were Speaker of this House.

We have just passed through one of the greatest experiments in democracy and come out as one of the biggest democracies that have experimental in the general election in a free and fair manner. I am sure the will of the people as reflected in this House will be respected by all sections of political opinion. I am sure, in the conduct of business in this House, we as Presiding Officers have a very onerous task because we have to keep a very delicate balance between what goes on in the House and the aspirations of the people outside. I am very conscious that even while serving as Presiding Officer, I must be conscious of the people's aspirations and try to see that this House reflects the aspirations of the people outside. And, therefore, I can assure you with whatever little capacity I may be

[Shri Godey Murahari]

-serving here I shall endeavour to keep these ideals in view and try to make the experiment of parliamentary democracy in this country as successful as it should be and I expect all sections of the House would give me their co-operation because I know many people sitting on the other side are friends and colleagues with whom I have worked even outside this House. As a matter of fact, with many of them I had started my politics, and, therefore, I am very confident that in the conduct of my duties as Deputy Speaker, I shall not only get the co-operation from the Treasury Benches but also the side to which I belong now. At the same time I am conscious of the fact that it is not always the Opposition that needs protection from the Chair, sometimes it is the Treasury Benches—I think, many times it is the Treasury Benches that require protection from the Chair, because when the Opposition forms the Ministry it is often times the Chair which has to protect the Treasury Benches. I am conscious of all these factors while I take up the duties of the Deputy Speaker.

I once again thank everyone of those who have spoken as also you for felicitations.

12.10 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE ADDRESS BY THE VICE-PRESIDENT ACTING AS PRESIDENT—Contd.

MR. SPEAKER: Now we will take up further discussion on the President's Address. We have taken 4 hours 45 minutes. Hitherto the leaders of the parties were speaking. Naturally, I gave them enough time. I did not want to disturb them. But at least from now if we reduce the time limit, and if each Member can take five to ten minutes, larger number of people will be able to speak.

To facilitate more new members to have the opportunity to take part in the debate I am suggesting that ten minutes may be taken by each one of you, so that large number of members can be accommodated. Mr. Yamuna Prasad Shastri has already taken 26 minutes. I would request him to conclude quickly so that others may get a chance.

श्री यमुना प्रसाद शास्त्री (रीवा) :
माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, कल मैं जब बोल रहा था तो मैंने आप के माध्यम से सदन में यह अनुरोध किया था कि जनता पार्टी की सरकार वैदेशिक मामलों में वास्तविक रूप में गुट निरपेक्षता की नीति को मांगेगी। लेकिन उस के लिये दो मापदण्ड नहीं होंगे कि कहीं पर अगर मानव अधिकारों का हनन हो तो उस के विरुद्ध तो आवाज उठाये लेकिन अगर दूसरे गुटों के देशों में मानवता की हत्या हो तो उस के लिये हम कुछ न बोलें। इस को हम गुट निरपेक्षता की नीति नहीं मानने। जनता पार्टी की सरकार मानवाधिकारों के हनन के विरोध में अपनी आवाज बुलन्द करेगी चाहे वह रूसी ब्लाक के देशों में हो या अमरीकी ब्लाक के देशों में हो। जहां पर भी मानवाधिकारों का हनन किया जायगा उसकी गुंज जनता पार्टी की सरकार सारे विश्व के सामने रखेगी, और यही सच्ची गुट निरपेक्षता का मापदण्ड रहेगा।

इसके अतिरिक्त मैं ने कल प्रतिपक्ष के नेता से यह सुना कि संविधान के 42वें संशोधन में हमने संसद की प्रभुसत्ता की स्वीकार किया है और उसमें हम पीछे नहीं हटेंगे। यह सुनकर मुझे आश्चर्य हुआ। संसद की प्रभुसत्ता के लिये आप ने 42वें संशोधन में क्या किया है? आप लोगों ने संसद की प्रभुसत्ता की निर्मम हत्या की है। पिछले 20 महीनों के अन्दर/संसद के अन्दर माननीय सदस्य कुछ बात कहें