

[Shri Samar Guha]

he was the Supreme Commander of the INA, the head of the Provisional Government of Free India, there was not a single Bengali in his personal or household staff. Every one of them naturally came from the other parts of the country because he did not divide one part from the other. India as a whole was his motherland. He never used the word "India" to mean a country; whenever he mentioned India he referred to it as motherland, *janani, janmabhumi*. Therefore, to him, India was a concept, much more than a geographical entity. It was something else to him. Whoever came from any part of the country was his brother, as any brother from Orissa or Bengal.

I particularly mention that the Bengal Government has done a wrong and an injustice by declaring 23rd January as an official holiday. They should have made a demand; they should have waited; they should have struggled; they should have made a demand; they should have tried to influence the Government of India that until and unless the Government of India declared 23rd January as a national holiday, no State, what to speak of Bengal, can separately declare 23rd January as an official holiday.

The question will naturally arise why only the birthday of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose should be observed as a national holiday. During the freedom struggle of our country, there had been many great men. India had produced many great leaders who had made immense contribution to the freedom struggle of our country. Why not the birthdays of all great men should be observed as national holidays? This is a very pertinent question, a very reasonable question. Besides a national holiday that is being observed on the birthday of the Father of the Nation, why I want that the birthday of Netaji should be observed as a national holiday. I have to justify it, as I used the word, I use

it again, historically, philosophic and politically too.

With this poser, why the birth of Netaji should be observed as national holiday, I will plead to you, Sir, next time that at least I have to take enough time to justify the reason for my pleading that birthday of our greatest hero of freedom struggle should be observed as a national holiday.

With these introductory remarks just postpone my speech to the next day.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may continue your speech on the next day.

17.33 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
NINTH REPORT

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contd.): I wish to present the Ninth Report of Business Advisory Committee.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PENSIONS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. P. V. KIRPAL SINHA): Mr. Chairman, about the Report which has been presented, I have to make a submission.

As agreed to in the Committee, discussion on the recent cyclone which hit the Southern parts of the country and relief measures will be taken between 5 P.M. and 7 P.M. on Tuesday, the 6th December, 1977. Consequently, the discussion on the Fars Agreement which was proposed to be put down for that day will now be taken up on the 15th December. I hope, the House will agree with consequential re-adjustment of the agenda.

17.35 hrs.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

DEVELOPMENT OF FORESTS

MR. CHAIRMAN: We now take up the Half-An-Hour Discussion. I will give the floor to Mr. Yuvraj.