

Shri Menon joined the Central Cabinet in 1956 and was Minister without Portfolio during 1956-57 and Minister of Defence during 1957-62. In this House, he left an impact of a great parliamentarian who was always heard with reverence and care. In his death, we have lost a great son of India, a forceful contemporary who has left a distinctive mark on our political life and our history.

Shri Tajamul Hussain was a Member of the Constituent Assembly and Provisional Parliament during the years 1946-52. Earlier, he had been a Member of the Bihar Legislative Assembly during the years 1937-50 and was Deputy Leader of the Opposition there. He was elected to Rajya Sabha in 1952 and was its Member till 1962. An eminent lawyer, a sound parliamentarian and an active social worker, he was associated with a number of educational, religious and welfare organisations. He was a Member of the Indian Delegation at Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference, Stockholm. He passed away in U.S.A., where he had gone for treatment, on the 14th September, 1974.

Shri Bholu Nath Master was a Member of the Fourth Lok Sabha during the years 1967-70 representing Alwar Constituency of Rajasthan. Earlier, he was Member of the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly during 1952-62, and was a Minister in Rajasthan Government during 1952-54. An agriculturist and a social worker, he was associated with a number of social organisations and co-operative movements. He organised Satyagrahas against the erstwhile princely States. He took keen interest in the welfare of working classes. He worked for the development of handlooms and actively propagated for the use of khadi. He passed away at Jaipur on the 17th September, 1974 at the age of 58.

Shri Khub Chand Sodhi was a Member of First Lok Sabha during the years 1952-57, representing Sagar Constituency of Madhya Pradesh. He passed away on the 30th October, 1974 at the age of 83. An agriculturist and

teacher he took keen interest in the welfare of farmers and introduction of modern agricultural methods.

We deeply mourn the loss of these distinguished friends and I am sure the House will join me in expressing our condolences at the sad demise of these hon. friends.

The House may stand in silence for a short while to express its sorrow.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

MR. SPEAKER: The Members of this House will have an opportunity on another day to mourn the loss of Shri V. K. Krishna Menon. Notice will be given to you regarding the time and date.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Sir, I have given notice for the suspension of the Question Hour to discuss the situation arising out of the formation of the Indo-US Joint Commission, and the occurrence in Shillong which were not covered in yesterday's meeting.

MR. SPEAKER: Please wait for a while.

INTRODUCTION OF MINISTERS

MR. SPEAKER: The Prime Minister will now introduce the new Ministers before we take up anything else.

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have pleasure in introducing to you and through you to the House my new colleagues: Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma, Cabinet Minister, who is Minister of Communications; the Minister of State. Shri Chandrajit Yadav, Minister of Steel and Mines; three of my colleagues who were previously Deputy Ministers and who are now Ministers of State: Shri A. C. George, the Minister of State in the Ministry of

Industry and Civil Supplies; Shri Pranab Kumar Mukherjee, Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance; Shri Mohd. Shafi Qureshi Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways;

Shri A. P. Sharma, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry and Civil Supplies; Shri H. M. Trivedi, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Shipping and Transport; the Deputy Ministers Shri Bipinpal Das, the Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri A. K. M. Ishaque, the Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Health and Family Planning; Shri C. P. Majhi, the Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals; Shri Prabhudas Patel, the Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation; Shri Buta Singh, the Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways and Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, the Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): Sir, before you take up the questions I want to submit that I have given a notice under rule 388, seeking to move a motion to suspend the question hour, because of the serious situation in Bihar. The CRP and BSF have indulged in unnecessary violence and no less a person than Shri Jayaprakash Narayan has been assaulted. There is documentary evidence to show that they are indulging in repression and there is documentary evidence to show that they wanted to attack Shri Jayaprakash Narayan. We are very much exercised over this issue and so we want the question hour to be suspended to discuss that issue. (Interruptions)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): I want to draw attention to the Joint Commission agreement with the USA under which the US private sector will be coming in a dominating way in the major spheres of our national life. The country has been sold by Shrimati Gandhi to the USA and we want to discuss that. (Interruptions).

श्री मधु लिमये : (वांका): अध्यक्ष महोदय, चुनाव-खर्च के सम्बन्ध में सुप्रीम कोर्ट के फैसले के बाद एक ग्राडिनेंस जारी कर के प्रधान मंत्री ने अपने चुनाव के विरुद्ध दायर की गई चुनाव-याचिका से बचने का प्रयत्न किया है। यह बहुत शर्म की बात है। इस लिए मेरी मांग है कि प्रश्नोत्तर काल को स्थगित कर के तत्काल इस ग्राडिनेंस के सम्बन्ध में मेरे प्रस्ताव पर बहस होनी चाहिये। प्रधान मंत्री सत्ता का दुरुपयोग कर रही है।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (वालियर): अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने एक नोटिस के द्वारा यह मांग की थी कि आप आज प्रश्न-काल को स्थगित कर दें और हमें बिहार की स्थिति पर चर्चा करने का मौका दें। परन्तु जब कल आप ने बिहार के सम्बन्ध में स्थगन-प्रस्ताव पर विचार करने का अवसर देना शर्कार कर लिया तो यह फैसला हुआ कि यह मामला नहीं उठाया जायेगा। इस लिए मैं इस को नहीं उठा रहा हूँ। लेकिन अगर और सदस्य इस मामले को उठाते हैं, तो मैं भी उठाता हूँ।

श्री मधु लिमये : सुप्रीम कोर्ट के फैसले को बदलने के लिए सरकार द्वारा एक ग्राडिनेंस जारी किया गया है। यह सत्ता के दुरुपयोग का एक नंगा उदाहरण है। प्रधान मंत्री ने स्वयं अदालत के सामने यह कबूल किया है कि उन के चुनाव के सम्बन्ध में 35 जीपों का इस्तेमाल किया गया था, लेकिन उस का खर्च कांग्रेस पार्टी ने किया था। अपने को बचाने के लिए उन के द्वारा यह ग्राडिनेंस जारी किया गया है। इस लिए मैं चाहता हूँ कि क्वेश्चन आवर को सस्पेंड कर के तत्काल इस ग्राडिनेंस के बारे में मेरे प्रस्ताव पर बहस करने की इजाजत दी जाये। वह फ्री एंड फेयर इलैक्शन को समाप्त करना चाहती हैं।

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: She should resign. She is talking of pro-

priety and such things are coming out about elections....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: May I bring to your notice that when we met yesterday....

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Then there were your derogatory remarks about Shri Jayaprakash Narayan that "Shri Jayaprakash Narayan had adopted norms against all civilised conduct and fundamentals of democratic behaviour."

We resent this. You have no right to say that.

MR. SPEAKER: I will reply to everything.

Yesterday, when we discussed about suspending the Question Hour, the consensus was that the Question Hour should be there. After all, this is also your own Question Hour. It is not somebody else's. There will be enough further opportunities for you to raise these matters. I think, we should stick to what we decided yesterday.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: About your utterances that there should be one-party rule, we decided that we will not raise it. We are not raising that. You have categorically denied it....(Interruptions). /

MR. SPEAKER: I cleared everything to the leaders of the Opposition yesterday. I gave the printed copies of my speeches made during 6-7 days. The only lesson I have learnt is that for the Speaker even to go to social and club functions is very dangerous. It is not to speak only in the House but outside also. I think, I should not talk even to my wife and I have decided not to talk even to my wife about parliamentary affairs or political affairs. No one knows that there may be a press man under the pillow or under the *charpoyi*! The Rotary Club, by rule and convention, is never open

to press. The Presiding Officers' Conference is held in camera. Still, statements are coming in my name which I explained to the leaders of the Opposition that they are absolutely wrong.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: What about your remarks on J.P.'s movement?

MR. SPEAKER: There was a statement about intimidation and all that. All I said was that if this could be done in an individual case, what about the collective case? I never commented on the movement or anything like that.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA (Serampore): In this connection, may I draw your attention that the *Hindustan Times* dated 8th November, 1974 while publishing your speech has also quoted the transcript of the speech which was released to the press by your Secretariat?

MR. SPEAKER: I have made it sure that our Secretariat did not give anything. I have enquired from them.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: Here is the paper....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no question of any transcript being given when I say it was not given. I never met any press reporter; I never addressed any press meeting nor I issued anything to the press. My speeches are printed. I told you that yesterday. If in some club I spoke something or at home or in my bed room and if it leaks out, even then, I thought it my duty to contradict it, I explained it to you yesterday. I think, that is enough. I have enquired from my Secretary this morning. They did not do it. I do not know; somebody else at Shillong may have done it; but our Secretariat did not do.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contoi): I want to draw your attention to the remark that you have made about

Shri Jayaprakash Narayan, may be even in the form of an example....

MR. SPEAKER: I have explained it.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: But it was derogatory.

MR. SPEAKER: There was nothing derogatory from me. I never intended that. I respect him. He is known to me personally. At two meetings I did not mention it. They had asked me to comment on it. Unfortunately I had drawn the name; otherwise, all that I have said is that it does not look nice... (Interruption)

Shri Kakodkar.

श्री मधु लिमये : मेरे प्रस्ताव का क्या हुआ ? मेरा प्रस्ताव लीजिए और आडिनेंस पर वहम कराइए ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : वह बाद में देखेंगे । अभी तो क्वेश्चन आवर है ?

I have been asked by a number of friends in the Conference that the speed of coverage of questions should be more; more questions should be covered. Therefore, at the very beginning of the Session I would request my dear hon. colleagues to put only questions and not make speeches.

Shri Kakodkar.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Food aid from U.S.A.

*1. SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAKODKAR:

SHRI M. M. JOSEPH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India had approached the Government of U.S.A. for food aid to India; and

(b) if so, the response of U.S.A. Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). The Governments of U.S. and other food-grain surplus exporting countries have been approached for finding out how much of foodgrains can be made available by them to India and on what terms. The response of those countries is awaited.

SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAKODKAR: May I know from the hon. Minister when the first approach was made and whether it was repeated and if it was repeated what was the reason and when was the last approach made.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I have not got the date-wise information with me. But recently the U.S. Government has been approached by us to explore the possibility. As I have replied, there has been no specific response from them.

SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAKODKAR: In the past we have received foodgrains and other commodities from the United States. Is there any difficulty in the terms? What is the reason for the delay?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: It is for the U.S. administration to respond. We have only suggested to them that we are interested in having foodgrains from them and that we would like to know the terms on which they are likely to offer and what would be the quantity that they would be able to offer. There has been no specific response from them. I think, today our national situation demands that such a possibility should be explored from all food-grain surplus exporting countries.