

[Mr. Speaker]

factor—rush and hurry—involved in condensing or summarising these speeches of honourable members. Moreover, we have to keep an eye on the time schedule followed by language papers subscribers, who are in a position to publish only summary or condensed service. In this rush and hurry slight discrepancy creeps in at times without any *mala fide* involved in it.

We sincerely regret for any misunderstanding caused on account of some sort of discrepancy which unknowingly (unwittingly) has crept in the said report published in *Aryavarta*, dated August 23rd, 1968.

On hearing from you, as per your direction, we would be willing to release necessary clarification, which will enable removal of misunderstanding caused by the publication of earlier said 'summary' report."

Subsequently, as directed by me, the news agency issued the necessary clarification to all its subscribers on the 28th September, 1968, and the *Aryavarta*, Patna, published the correct version of Shri Yogendra Sharma's relevant speech, together with its regret for the earlier mistake, in its issue of the 6th October, 1968.

I then had all these papers shown to the Committee of Privileges who have recommended that in view of the clarification issued by the concerned news agency and the correction and regret published by the *Aryavarta*, Patna, the matter may be treated as closed.

I take it that the House agrees.

HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

12.45 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

The MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : Sir, Government Business in this House during the week commencing 18th November, 1968, will consist of :—

- (1) Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.
- (2) Discussion on the Resolution by Shri George Fernandes and others seeking disapproval of the Indian Railways (Amendment) Ordinance, 1968 and consideration and passing of the Indian Railways (Amendment) Bill, 1968.
- (3) Discussion on the Resolution regarding constitution of Railway Convention Committee, 1968.
- (4) Consideration and passing of the State Agricultural Credit Corporations Bill, 1968.
- (5) Further discussion on the Report of the Road Transport Taxation Enquiry Committee.
- (6) Discussion on the statement on the flood situation in the country on a motion to be moved by the Minister of Irrigation and Power on Monday, the 18th November at 4 p.m.
- (7) Discussion on the motion for modification of the Civil Defence Rules 1968, given notice of by Shri Srinibas Mishra on Wednesday, the 20th November, 1968 4-30 p.m.

Regarding item (6), namely, discussion on the flood situation, we have received letters....

MR. SPEAKER : I shall explain....
(Interruptions)

श्री ओंकार लाल बरैया (कोटा) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, राजस्थान के सूखे के बारे में कोई जिक्र नहीं आया है, बाढ़ नियन्त्रण का तो आ गया है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं बोल रहा हूँ। फिर आप क्यों गड़बड़ कर रहे हैं।

The Food Minister has to make a statement. I myself proposed about famine and floods. A statement on floods has already been made and, therefore, we fixed the discussion for Monday, the 18th November. But the leaders of

almost all the Groups have written that they would like the discussion to be postponed..... (*Interruptions*) Let me explain in full. Prof. Ranga has written to me; Mr. Vajpayee, Mr. Mukerjee, Mr. Ramamurti and Mr. Rabi Ray have written; I do not know whether Mr. Dwi. vedy has written.....

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY *Rose*—

MR. SPEAKER : I will just explain. All of them want the discussion to be postponed to the next Monday instead of the coming Monday, so that they could go to the flood-affected areas. Some of them want to go now to the flood-affected areas. It is already late now because one month is over since the floods occurred. Whatever it is, since all of them desired that, I am placing it before the House. I do not take any decision now. We have fixed it up on Monday. On Monday we have fixed up to have a discussion. I thought it is an urgent matter; if it is held over further it may become stale and so I thought we could fix it up on Monday. Therefore we have fixed this up on Monday evening. Instead of two hours, we may go up to seven or seven-thirty. Since all of them came to me, I leave it to the House. After all, it makes no difference.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY (*Kendrapara*) : Sir, this statement of the hon. Minister does not concern only to North Bengal. As you know, there are other areas also which are affected by this. And, it is good that some Members of Parliament are visiting those areas. We might have a further discussion when they come and if they find something we can have a discussion on that. But, Sir, on that account the debate should not be postponed. Already it is delayed. I think, Sir, we should have a discussion on Monday. Even the official report regarding North Bengal flood that has come out is sufficient and then the Members may get some information as to what is going on now. I think, Sir, we should have the discussion on Monday. It should not be postponed.

55LSS (CP)/68

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE (*Calcutta North-East*) : I had myself asked for as early a discussion as possible. Since these fellow Members of ours are going and they are likely to return by the 21st, perhaps not much harm would be done by a little postponement. So, I thought, it would be better if we have it on the 22nd, on Friday. If it could be fixed on the 22nd, we would have the better of both the worlds.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (*Bhubaneswar*) : Even when the first round of distress is not over, the second round of distress has started in Orissa. We have fixed it up on the 18th and we must stick to that. Millions of people are homeless and this is an urgent matter. Actually this debate should have been taken up on the 11th itself, but since other business was there, you have fixed it on the 18th. We should stick to that. It would be better to have it on the 18th,

SHRI SHEO NARAIN—*rose*.....

MR. SPEAKER : Are there floods in U.P. also ?.....

श्री शिव नारायण (बस्ती) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं बाँडर पर हूँ, बिहार और बंगाल हमारे पड़ोसी हैं। 11 तारीख को जब पार्लमेंट स्टार्ट हुई, उस दिन यहाँ पर फ्लड की आवाज उठी थी लेकिन फिर नो-कान्फीडेंस मोशन आ गया। अब इसके लिए अगर आप और टाइम एक्सटेन्ड करेंगे तो फिर पब्लिक क्या समझेगी? सिलीगुड़ी में बीस हजार आदमी बह गए। हम सरकार को इस स्थिति से अबगत कराना चाहते हैं कि उनकी क्या गति हुई है और आज वे कितनी परेशानी की हालत में हैं। अगर अपोजिशन वाले इसको और डिले करना चाहते हैं तो फिर इसका मतलब यही है कि वे पब्लिक के बेलविशर नहीं हैं लेकिन हम तो पब्लिक के बेलविशर हैं।

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK (*South Delhi*) : This is a very important subject. Millions of people are involved. This House must discuss all these things and make concrete suggestions which

[Shri Bal Raj Madhok]

can be put into practice. It is not a question of having post-mortem; something concrete must be done and this is very important. If we do not want flood debate, let us have the debate on the famine in Rajasthan. These debates should not be postponed.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Conati) : The most calamitous flood has happened there; it was almost a deluge, a 'pralaya' that overwhelmed N. Bengal. Even after 40 days we have not been able to draw the attention of the highest forum of our nation to the serious crisis there. I wrote two letters to the Home Minister to convene a meeting of the Members of Parliament from West Bengal. At the time of the July floods in Bengal, within ten days, the Home Minister convened a meeting of the Members of Parliament and within about fifteen days a meeting of the consultative committee. If the Members were so anxious to go there, they had enough time during these 40 days to go there. If the Members were so serious and they were so anxious and they felt that something urgent was there, then they should have gone there to see things with their own eyes. But for 40 days they have been sitting and now they are asking for time to go there. I just cannot understand this. I am getting telegrams and letters and memorandum every day asking me 'What has happened to India? Such a great calamity has overwhelmed that area, but you are not able to draw the attention of Government or of the Home Minister to that? The Home Minister has not convened a meeting of the Members of Parliament from West Bengal nor has he convened any meeting of the consultative committee. If the matter was very urgent, then certainly the Members had 40 days to go and see things for themselves. They cannot now suggest that we should postpone it by another week.

SHRI S. KUNDU (Balasore) : This is an urgent matter and it must be discussed immediately.

MR. SPEAKER : I had called his leader and then Shri Samar Guha. Now, he also wants to say the same thing again.

SHRI S. KUNDU : Again, the deluge has been repeated. Therefore, it is an urgent matter and it should be discussed immediately.

MR. SPEAKER : I agree with the hon. Member. That was why it was included in the agenda. I am trying to find the sense of the House. After all, it is not as though it can be forced on anybody. Shri Surendranath Dwiday has said that it must be taken up immediately; Shri Samar Guha has also said the same thing. Some Congress Members have also said the same thing. I shall now ascertain the opinion of some Independents also. Shri Bal Raj Madhok has already spoken for the Jan Sangh.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shri Prakash Vir Shastri.

SHRI M. L. SONDHI (New Delhi) : What about the situation in Viet Nam?
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MR. SPEAKER : I have called Shri Prakash Vir Shastri.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री (हापुड़) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जो बातें यहाँ राजस्थान, बंगाल और उड़ीसा के सम्बन्ध में कही गई हैं उन के अतिरिक्त मैं एक दूसरी बात की ओर आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहूँगा, और आप के द्वारा संसद् कार्य-मंत्री से विशेष रूप में कहना चाहता हूँ कि अनियत दिन वाले प्रस्तावों को स्वीकार करने वाली समिति ने कुछ प्रस्ताव स्वीकार किये हैं जिस की बैठक में संसद् कार्य-मंत्री स्वयं उपस्थित थे। उनकी उपस्थिति में मैंने कहा था, और संसद् के पिछले अधिवेशन में भी इस बात की चर्चा आई थी, कि हमारी सीमाओं के ऊपर चीन और पाकिस्तान की सैनिक गतिविधियाँ बढ़ रही हैं। इस जैसे महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न पर संसद् में अवश्य चर्चा होनी चाहिये। इस प्रस्ताव को स्वीकार भी कर लिया गया था। लेकिन अगले सप्ताह के लिये जो कार्य सूची की घोषणा की गई है, उस में इस प्रस्ताव को नहीं रखा गया है। मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि यदि अगले सप्ताह में नहीं

तो कम से कम उस से, अगले सप्ताह के लिये उस को अवश्य स्वीकार कर लिया जाये।

दूसरी बात जो मैं आप के द्वारा कहना चाहूंगा वह यह कि परसों उप-विदेश मंत्री जब खान अब्दुल गफ्फार खां सम्बन्धी सरकार की नीति का स्पष्टीकरण कर रहे थे, उस समय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय चेअर में थे। किसी कारणवश उन को भाषण बीच में ही रोक देना पड़ा। उपाध्यक्ष महोदय ने कहा था कि उप-मंत्री महोदय को सरकार की नीति के सम्बन्ध में जो कुछ और कहना हो वह सदन की मेज पर लिखित रूप में रख दें। परन्तु आज तक वह बातें सदन के सामने नहीं आई हैं। मैं आप के द्वारा निवेदन करूंगा कि यह बड़ी महत्वपूर्ण बात है और यह वह सदन के मेज पर शीघ्र आनी चाहिये।

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH : I am in the hands of the House and I shall accept whatever the House says or whatever you say. Floods as well as cyclones are two distinct matters. I myself had noticed that some Members were keen on having this debate as early as possible, and in deference to their wishes, the Business Advisory Committee under your chairmanship had taken that decision. Anyway you have now heard the Members, and I shall abide by whatever the House decides.

मैं उप-विदेश मंत्री से निवेदन करूंगा कि जो वादा उन्होंने किया था उसे उनको पूरा करना चाहिये। चूँकि खान अब्दुल गफ्फार खां के निमित्त प्रधान मंत्री से भी बात करनी होगी इस लिये उन से बात करने के बाद यहाँ पर उस के बारे में बतलाऊंगा।

MR. SPEAKER : Now, I do not want to proceed with this controversy.....

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU (Diamond Harbour) : The whole position is this. A team of parliamentarians has visited North Bengal. The members of that team had been drawn from almost all the Opposition Parties and had been

drawn from all over India. There are Members who come from different parts of India, and we do not assemble together till the Parliament session starts. We are going to collect first-hand information. We are going to have a debate on a motion here based on first-hand reports. We do not want second-hand stories drafted by bureaucrats to throw dust on our eyes. We shall have the discussion on the basis of first-hand reports. We shall be back on the 21st evening. So if we defer the discussion till the 22nd, what does it matter ?

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR CHATTERJI (Howrah) : I insisted that because of the extent of the devastation that took place in North Bengal, the matter should be immediately discussed. At your request, we agreed to having it on Monday. This kind sending a parliamentary team now is absolutely useless unless it has some political motivation behind it. Therefore, we insist that the debate should take place as now agreed so that a useful discussion may be held and useful suggestions made.

MR. SPEAKER : It is the Business Advisory Committee that took that decision, not me. After all, the members must have gone to Bengal already.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : They are going.

MR. SPEAKER : Therefore, I presume that this arrangement will go through.

12.56 Hrs.

MOTION FOR ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

COURT OF UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. TRIGUNA SEN) : I beg to move the following :

"That in pursuance of clause (1) (xvi) of Statute 2 of the Statutes of the University of Delhi, the members of Lok Sabha do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, one member from among themselves to serve as member of the Court