

[Shri G. S. Dhillon]

final decision on this town, why should the Central Government spend Rs. 7 crores on it? It is a strange position. There are some institutions in Chandigarh. The University of Punjab was brought from Lahore to Solan and from Solan again it was shifted to Chandigarh. In the course of many years, we built up this university on the basis of one unit State. Now, there are four States: Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and the Union Territory of Chandigarh. It is being financed by the four States and yet it is a Central University. I happen to be an old member of the Senate and also a Syndicate and associated with law faculty for sometime. I am very much interested in the future of this university.

Now, immediately after the recent reorganisation of the State, Himachal which had Punjabi as the second regional language substituted it by Urdu. You can imagine when you speak to Dr. Karan Singh. Punjabi dialect is the language of the hill areas; he speaks such good Punjabi and it is spoken by all the hill people. Himachal replaced it by Urdu. In Punjab University, we have so many interests clashing: Punjab for Punjabi, Himachal for Urdu and Haryana for Hindi and Chandigarh Union territory being bilingual; there are other conflicts also such as sectional and regional and communal and conflicts of interests of the State. Something must be done to decide about them, about the future of this university, its status and inclusion in one of these States. The University at Patiala and the Kurukshetra University in Haryana are both non-affiliating while the Punjab University is an affiliating university. If at all it has to be kept in the Union Territory, serious thought should be given to the future of this university. If the universities at Patiala and Kurukshetra are to be kept as non-affiliating universities, Punjab University must go to Punjab State and other States should be allowed to have an affiliating university of their own. Himachal can have it at Simla and Haryana can have it at the of their

choice. That is the problem that has arisen out of the political reorganisation of Punjab. I was personally opposed to the reorganisation of the State of Punjab and perhaps I was the only victim of the fury of the protagonists of linguistic partition. Reorganisation of Punjab has done no good to any of the States. On the other hand, we are experiencing political instability in that area. Immediately after the reorganisation, the instability was so much that the people of Kangra and Kulu who got merged with Himachal Pradesh started feeling that they committed a blunder. I cannot say whether the M.P.s. here will bear me out. I met some of my old friends who were members of the legislature. They said so. The Haryana people meet us every day. They had the experience of President's rule, and now Punjab is heading towards that.

18 Hrs.

SHRI NAMBIAR: In that both will be united: Haryana as well as Punjab.

MR. SPEAKER: There are two separate Governors.

SHRI G. S. DHILLON: Well, there is the classic instance of Speakership as we experience in West Bengal and Punjab. If it goes on like this, a time is coming when we have to realise our folly.

Then, I want to say a few words about the border areas that exist in Punjab. We are the only people in the North Indian State which bore the brunt of the last war, and when I go to the other parts of India, I am seeing that most parts of the Indian continent are unaware of it.

18.1 Hrs.

STATEMENT RE: ASSAULT ON THE JUDGE OF SUPREME COURT

MR. SPEAKER: Just one minute, Mr. Dhillon. I heard a very bad news which one hon. Member has brought to my notice: some judge in the Supreme Court has been stabbed in the court. Now that the Home Minister has come, the House would like to know if he has any information to give and likes to say something.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : Sir, About 2.30 PM today (13-3-68) Chief Justice Hidayatullah was dictating the judgment in a case No. 162/65, namely, State of Gujarat versus Chunnibhai Gopaldas. There were two justices of the Supreme Court on either side—Justice A. N. Grover on the left and Justice C. A. Vaidyalingam on the right. Besides there were two court masters, who were also on either side of the Justices, one of them taking down the dictation while the other was watching. Suddenly the assailant rushed upon the dais of the court room with an open knife in his hand. As he approached the Justices, one of the court masters moved to a side avoiding the assailant and immediately he jumped on the table in front of the Chief Justice. The Chief Justice took hold of a heavy article on the table presumably with a view to defending himself. However the assailant turned his attention to Justice Grover, jumped on him and both fell down. The Librarian, one of the writer masters and the Chief Justice grappled with the assailant and caught hold of him.

Justice Grover was immediately removed to the hospital whose authorities have informed that Justice Grover received a superficial wound on the scalp which has been stitched up and he is out of danger. He is, however, being requested to rest in the hospital for observation.

The assailant's name as ascertained from him is Manmohan Das s/o Gopalcharan Das, village Chhutkalia, P.O. Jangipur, Distt. Murshidabad, West Bengal. The Inspector General of Police is personally supervising the investigation of the case along with a team of senior police officials. Adequate security measures for the protection of the judges of the Supreme Court have been taken.

SHRI NAMBIAR (Tiruchirappalli) : Sir, this is a very serious incident, and it has occurred for the first time. I request that an opportunity must be given, at least tomorrow, to discuss it, because this is for the first time that a Supreme Court judge has been stabbed,

and we will have to consider this question.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes.

SHRI D. C. SHARMA (Gurdaspur) : It is a very rare thing that has been heard of in this country as well as from any other country. I think we must take serious note of it.

MR. SPEAKER : All right, Mr. Sharma.

SHRI G. S. DHILLON (Taran Taran) : I have been shocked to learn of this from the Home Minister. Justice Grover comes from Punjab and he is an old friend of mine, and it is really very shocking that such a thing has happened. The incident has robbed me of my mood to speak and I do not want to continue the speech. I will take up the subject at the time of the discussion of the Finance Bill or Demands.

GENERAL BUDGET—GENERAL DISCUSSION—Contd.

SHRI M. N. REDDY (Nizamabad) : Sir, I welcome the budget taking it on its own merits, because compared to the previous budgets, it is much better and it has given greater attention to agriculture as well as defence and defence personnel. For that reason, I appreciate the good intentions of the Finance Minister.

18.5 Hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

At the same time, the unanimous opinion of the members is against the postal levies and I hope they will be withdrawn. Otherwise, the whole debate on this point will become farcical and pointless. This levy has been made to yield some Rs. 24 or Rs. 25 crores only, presumably on the recommendations of the P & T Tariffs Enquiry Committee that the postal department should pay its own way. To increase the levies in such matters is an easy thing and may perhaps be considered a painless remedy, but I suggest that this small amount could be made up by better management by effecting economies in the department