

treat the House and the Members? Is it a farce that we are playing here? We are not informed that a Minister has ceased to hold office or that he has been dismissed.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: I rise on a point of order. Earlier, when any Minister is appointed by the Hon Prime Minister, he is introduced to the House. The House comes to know that a particular Member is now a Minister and therefore, the House deals with that Member as a Minister accordingly. The House has again the right to know when a particular Member has been withdrawn from the Council of Ministers. Otherwise the House cannot reckon with that. The whole point is whether the House deserves a communication from the Government or not. This is a communication to the Chair for the purposes of the business on the agenda, but the main thing is that the House deserves a communication from the Government.

MR. SPEAKER: I admire your fertile brain.

जब कोई मिनिस्टर बनता है तो ख़ुशी के मौके पर उस को इंट्रोड्यूस करते हैं। जाते हुए को क्या करना है।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : नहीं अध्यक्ष जी, मातम की भी खबर देनी चाहिये।

श्री श्यामनन्दन मिश्र . फातिहा का भी लड्डू बटता है।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष जी, आप ने कहा कि प्राइम मिनिस्टर का प्रेरोगेटिव है। तो क्या यह भी प्रेरोगेटिव है कि ईमानदार मिनिस्ट्रो को निकाल दे और जिन के खिलाफ अप्टाचार के आरोप हैं उन को बनाए रखे ?

13 22 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

MR. SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that I have received the

following message dated the 28th February, 1975 from the President:

"I have received with great satisfaction the expression of thanks by the Members of the Lok Sabha for the Address which I delivered to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 17th February, 1975."

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (ग्वालियर) अध्यक्ष महोदय, हम ने समझा कि धारिया साहब को हटा दिया इसलिए बड़ा सेटिस्फेक्शन है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जो उस में लिखा हुआ है वही मैं ने पढ़ा है।

13.23 hrs.

MOTION RE. PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT ON JAMMU AND KASHMIR

MR. SPEAKER: We will now take up the discussion on the Prime Minister's statement on Jammu and Kashmir. Four hours have been allotted for this. We can have some marginal adjustment.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA (Begusarai): It can flow over to the next day.

MR. PEAKER: It has to be finished today.

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS, MINISTER OF SPACE, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move:

"That this House do consider the statement made by the Prime Minister in the House on the 27th February, 1975 in relation to the State of Jammu and Kashmir."

[Shrimati Indira Gandhi.]

My task has been made easier because of the warm and widespread welcome which the understanding with Sheikh Abdullah and my statement of February 24 have received in the House and in the country at large. In the week that has gone by, the Statement has been analysed and commented upon by the Press and the public. And, with the exception of groups which have had a closed mind on Kashmir (or which do not like the Government to do anything right) the reaction has been one of relief and rejoicing.

Why have the people welcome this accord? Because they feel that a controversy, which had been with them for two decades and which had caused much misunderstanding and defied solution, had now ended through an act of reconciliation. Any act of vision and statemanship appeals to people, especially the people of India.

So, something which was becoming chronic has been settled through discussion, through dialogue, through an exercise of political courage and personal accommodation on both sides. It is particularly praiseworthy that Sheikh Abdullah, overcoming whatever bitterness he might have had, should have clasped the hand of friendship extended to him. He has done this in the larger interest of Kashmir and of the country as a whole and of the cause which is dear to him, namely the strengthening of democracy and secularism.

This new political understanding is worthy of a person of Sheikh Abdullah's long record of service to the people and our cherished values. About forty years ago Sheikh Abdullah became the foremost leader of the Kashmir people's fight against feudalism and he made his struggle a part of the larger national struggle for freedom and secularism. In the forties he stood out against the divisive policies of the Muslim League. In 1947 when the State was invaded by Pakistan, he rallied the people in the defence of

the State and promoted the accession of Jammu and Kashmir to India.

How right this accord is can be judged if we see what elements are opposed to it and why Pakistan is not happy, because the accord has strengthened India and deprived Pakistan of a pretext to mislead world opinion. Mr. Bhutto gave almost ill-advised call for hartal on Friday. But the people of Jammu and Kashmir ignored this call, and rebuffed this blatant interference in our internal affairs. This shows their good sense and patriotism. The small group of pro-Pakistan elements which has not taken kindly to the agreement, will, I hope, draw the appropriate lesson. Pakistan should realise that it cannot exploit persons in the State and continue to mislead world opinion.

Another group which has been unhappy with the agreement is the Jan Sangh. When I made my statement on February 24 the Jan Sangh spokesman was quick to call it a "surrender". I hope that in the intervening week the party would have tried to find out the value of the understanding and why the people have welcomed it.

Hon. Members might have read of the two explosions in Srinagar, one on the 24th and another on Saturday night. These are pitiful demonstrations of the frustration of anti-national elements, a confession of their failure. Fortunately, they did not cause much damage. Such acts will not affect the morale of the people of Kashmir and of India. On the contrary they will arouse indignation. I warn the wrong doers that they will be sternly dealt with.

I do not propose to go into the details of the understanding. Some of my colleagues will deal with these in the course of the debate. As I said in the House the other day, it is not so much the legal niceties involved in the accord which matter as much as the substance of the achievement which Sheikh Abdullah has described as the re-establishment of trust and confidence. We believe we

have established a solid foundation for mutual cooperation. I am sure the House will also view it as a great essay in harmony.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That this House do consider the statement made by the Prime Minister in the House on the 24th February, 1975 in relation to the State of Jammu and Kashmir:

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GO-SWAMI (Gauhati): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:—

"This House, having considered the Statement made by the Prime Minister in the House on the 24th February, 1975 in relation to the State of Jammu and Kashmir, approves of it." (1)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Gwalior): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:—

"This House, having considered the Statement made by the Prime Minister in the House on the 24th February, 1975 in relation to the State of Jammu and Kashmir, resolves that the process of integration of Jammu and Kashmir with the rest of India going on during last more than two decades be carried further and the State be brought at par with the other States of India." (2).

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY (Kendrapura): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:—

"This House, having considered the Statement made by the Prime Minister in the House on the 24th February, 1975 in relation to the State of Jammu and Kashmir, resolves that the other States of

the Indian Union should be accorded the same amount of autonomy granted to the State of Jammu and Kashmir so that the State Governments in the matters of the Concurrent List such as social welfare measures, cultural matters, social security, procedural laws and the like may get larger freedom of action so that there should be uniformity in Centre-State relationship." (4)

11.30 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till thirty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at thirty-three minutes past fourteen of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): Sir with your permission, I have to make a submission. As you are aware, thousands of teachers in the higher secondary schools and colleges in Delhi are on stay-in strike. They have also threatened to boycott the forthcoming higher secondary examinations, which means that 80,000 students who are preparing for this examination are going to find themselves in a chaotic situation at a time when the examination is fast approaching. So, Sir, I would request you, and through you the Education Minister, to intervene effectively and immediately so that the situation may be avoided.

14.35 hrs.

MOTION RE. PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT ON JAMMU AND KASHMIR—Contd.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howrah): Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, our Party has already welcomed the accord arrived at between the leaders