

[Shri H. M. Mukerjee]

we are adjourning. The Prime Minister does not say a word about it. We, Members of Parliament are going back to wherever we are...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot do it like this. Why are you shouting at the top of your voice ? *(Interruptions)*. She has replied to the points raised in the debate.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : She wants to evade the issue.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI : I purposely did not refer to East Bengal in my speech. Hon. members know of our deep concern. I do not know what move I can say. These are matters which, as I have remarked on an earlier occasion, we can discuss with the leaders of the opposition... *(Interruptions)*. Well, as I said, it is a little difficult to discuss these matters in the House. Hon. Members have most of the information as it has appeared in the newspapers. Fighting is going on there; the people are suffering great hardship; we are aware of all these matters and we had expressed our sentiments firmly and in a dignified manner, in the Resolution which was passed unanimously in the House. If hon. Members would like any special information, I am willing to meet leaders of the opposition, as we did before, and answer any questions they would like to ask.

MR. SPEAKER : Two hundred and sixty-five amendments have been moved to the Motion of Thanks. I shall now put all these amendments to the vote of the House together.

All the amendments were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER : I now come to the main motion.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : Sir, I rise on a point of order. You should have asked the hon. Members which amendments they wish to move.

MR. SPEAKER : They have been moved already.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I want amendment No. 12 to be put separately, I

want a voice vote on that. Why should I be deprived of my right.

MR. SPEAKER : It should have been brought to my notice when I was putting them to the vote. Now it is too late. I am sorry, I cannot revise my decision...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI A. K. GOPALAN (Palghat) : Sir, this is very bad. It has never happened in the House... *(Interruptions)*. As a protest, we are walking out.

(Shri A. K. Gopalan and some other hon. Members left the House)

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That an Address be presented to the President in the following terms :

"That the Members of Lok Sabha assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 23rd March, 1971."

The motion was adopted.

13.20 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]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have to inform the House that the Speaker has received intimation from Shri Samar Guha, M.P. that Shri Dharendra Nath Datta who was Member of the Constituent Assembly during the years 1946-47 has been killed by the Pakistan Army at Comilla in East Bengal.

It is a tragic death which we deeply mourn. Shri Datta played a prominent role in the freedom struggle before independence and later he was a prominent figure in the political life of East Bengal. I am sure the

House will join me in expressing our sorrow at his sad demise.

Before I call the Members to speak, may I say, that however much emotionally involved we may feel in the events in East Bengal, we may avoid making reference to them on a sad and solemn occasion as this one.

Now, the House may stand in silence for a short while to express its sorrow.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : On a point of order, Sir. The latest information is that the CENTO powers are assisting the West Pakistan Government and 65 ships are coming to East Pakistan loaded with arms and ammunitions. If the CENTO powers are involving themselves in the freedom struggle of Bangala Desh, the Government must take a note of that and apprise this House of their attitude to the whole happening.

14.35 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—Contd.

Revocation of Proclamation in Relation to West Bengal

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS, DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI K. C. PANT) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Proclamation (Hindi and English versions) dated the 2nd April, 1971 issued by the President under clause (2) of Article 356 of the Constitution revoking the Proclamation issued by him on the 19th March, 1970 in relation to the State of West Bengal, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 493 in Gazette of India dated the 2nd April, 1971, under article 356(3) of the Constitution. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—133/1971.*]

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU (Diamond Harbour) : This is a fraud on the people's verdict. This is a marriage of Convenience.

You have made a marriage with a person who only enjoys the support of five persons in a House of 280, and the Governor, under the directive of the Central Government, did not call the majority leader, Mr. Jyoti Basu.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY (Cooch Bihar) : A popular Ministry is installed.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

14.38 hrs.

LABOUR PROVIDENT FUND LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : Sir, before I make a formal motion, I would like to give briefly the background:

Social security benefits are at present available to industrial employees under certain Central and State Acts.

The Coal Mines Provident Fund and Bonus Schemes Act, 1948 and the Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952 provide for the institution of provident funds for employees in coal mines, factories and other establishments. The institution of Provident Funds, on a statutory footings, has been in operation for about 22 years. While Provident Fund is an effective old-age and survivorship benefit, the accumulations therein are too small to render adequate and long-term protection to the family of the industrial employee in the event of his premature death. What a view to providing long-term protection to the family of the industrial employee in the event of his premature death, a Scheme of Family Pension was announced as part of the budgetary proposals for 1970-71, for the employees covered under the Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952, who are paying provident fund contributions at the rate of 8 per cent of pay.

The Scheme was considered by the Standing Labour Committee when the