

SHRI DASARATHA DEB (Tripura East) : Time has to be found for this.

श्री राज बहादुर : इसके लिए सदन के इस पक्ष के लोग भी शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट और शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स के हितों के लिये और उनके कल्याण के लिए उतने ही उत्साही हैं लेकिन इस बारे में परामर्श करके फिर मैं आप से निवेदन करूंगा।

श्री ओंकार लाल बेरबा : हम समय निकाल कर इसके लिये बैठने को तैयार हैं, रात के दस बजे तक बैठने को तैयार हैं।

श्री रामाबतार शास्त्री (पटना) : पिछले अधिवेशन में कहा गया था कि इस पर बहस होगी.....

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह क्या कह रहे हैं, जिस की मर्जी होती है, खड़ा हो जाता है। तीन मामले रखे गये थे, प्लड कन्ट्रोल बगैरह। उसके लिये एक तो सैटर्ड रखा गया था.....

श्री राजबहादुर : जी हां, इसके लिये फिर एक सैटर्ड और बैठना होगा।

श्री रामाबतार शास्त्री : बिजनेस एडवाइजरी कमेटी स्वीकार कर चुकी है कि उस पर तीन घंटे बहस होगी। अब आप को समय निकालना है।

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : Sir, I am in your hands and in the hand of the House.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN (Wandiwaah) : Sir, in the decision taken by the Business Advisory Committee, you must give priority to the question of floods.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is every thing would have been adjusted had we not extended time everyday.

12.22 hours

STATEMENT BY MEMBER UNDER DIRECTION 115

LAND FOR RADIO STATION BUILDING AT
CUTTACK

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Surendra Mohanty.

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA (Barmer) : Sir, I rise on a point of order. The Order Paper says you are allowing Mr. Mohanty to make a statement under Direction 115. May I draw your attention to Direction 115? It says :

"A member wishing to point out any mistake or inaccuracy in a statement made by a Minister or any other member shall, before referring to the matter in the House, write to the Speaker pointing out the particulars of the mistake or inaccuracy and seek his permission to raise the matter in the House. The member may place before the Speaker such evidence as he may have in support of his allegation. The Speaker may, if he thinks fit, bring the matter to the notice of the Minister or the member concerned for the purpose of ascertaining the factual position in regard to the allegation made. The Speaker may then, if he thinks it necessary, permit the member...."

Sir, I want to know whether you have sought the information from the hon. Member and whether you are satisfied that this petty matter should take such valuable time of this House?

MR. SPEAKER : It was all gone through before it comes here.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY (Kendra-para) : Sir, I take exception to the fact that the hon. Member has referred this matter as 'petty matter'. I beg of you that he must withdraw it. He cannot say it is a petty matter. The words 'petty matter' should be withdrawn.

SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalahandi) : Sir, I rise on a point of order. I would like to submit in this regard that it is not a question of petty matter. It is a question of mutual recrimination between Orissa Legislative Assembly and Parliament which strikes at the root of Centre-State relationship. Orissa is the only State where Congress (R) is sitting in the Opposition. Taking into account all these things it is a question of life and death of the federal character of the constitution. He will have to withdraw the words 'petty matter'. Petty men are concerned about petty matters.

MR. SPEAKER : This is no point of order.

SHRI P. K. DEO : Only petty men think of petty matters ! He should withdrawn this 'petty thing' (interruption)

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA : I only wanted to know whether you have satisfied yourself about these pre-conditions.

MR. SPEAKER : He wrote to me ; I sent that to the Minister and the Minister's reply was sent to him. He says that there is contradiction and he is not satisfied with that. Therefore, there is no alternative except to let us know what he wants to say.

SHRI P. K. DEO : It should go to the Privileges Committee. It is a matter of privilege, misguiding the House. It cannot be disposed of in such a manner, just by correcting a wrong statement. The Privileges Committee is the only answer.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (Bhubaneswar) : Sir, some extraneous matters are being brought in by the hon. Member, Shri P. K. Deo, whom, Sir, you always call Maharaja. He says that efforts are being made by Centre to topple the Orissa Government that is functioning there. But the fact is that they themselves are fighting and trying to topple. Who is toppling them ?

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA : Sir, the wording of the direction is slightly different. It says that the Speaker should ascertain that the factual position exists for the admission. Have you kindly ascertained it ?

MR. SPEAKER : He has produced evidence with the date along with it and also the contents thereof, which are at variance with the statement of the Minister. What can the Speaker do ? He has nothing in his power to bridge it.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY : Sir, I am grateful to you for allowing me to make a statement regarding certain information given by the Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting in the House on the 8th July, 1971 about land for constructing the radio station building at Cuttack.

The House may recall that on 8.7.1971 replying to a point raised by me in the course of the debate on Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, the Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting had said

MR. SPEAKER : Are you reading exactly what you have given ?

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY : Yes, what has been approved by you.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : It should be laid on the Table of the House.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY : Why should it be laid ?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : To save time.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY : On 8.7.1971 replying to a point raised by me in the course of Debate on Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, the Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting had said "In Orissa itself, unfortunately, the progress of our development plans has been held up on account of irresponsible attitude of the State Government. For instance, the State Government have not given us the possession of the land at Cuttack which we need for constructing the Radio Station Building". (Uncorrected proceedings pages 17314-17315).

When this matter came up in the shape of a Calling Attention Motion in the Orissa Assembly on 15.7.1971, the Minister Incharge of the Revenue Department had said :

(i) The draft deed for the transfer of land measuring 4.467 acres was sent to the Station Director of All India Radio on 10.2.1971 for obtaining the concurrence of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to the terms and conditions of the transfer.

(ii) Since the money was deposited and the draft transfer deed sent to the Station Director of All India Radio, Cuttack, for transmission to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for concurrence, the Revenue Divisional Commissioner, Central Division and the Collector, Cuttack were requested to make over the land to the Station Director or any other person authorised by him in anticipation of the acceptance of the terms and conditions of the lease deed by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

[Shri Surendra Mohanty]

- (iii) Since there was some minor encroachment on the land by a Tea-Stall owner and a Milk-man, the Station Director, All Indi Radio required them to be cleared up before taking legal possession. Accordingly, they had been removed in no time.
- (iv) The draft lease-deed which was sent to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on 10.2.1971 had not yet been returned to the State Government even on 15th July, 1971.
- (v) The Government of Orissa was awaiting acceptance of the terms and conditions of the draft lease deed from the Government of India.
- (vi) Notwithstanding the fact that the Collector, Cuttack had already requested the Station Director, All India Radio, to take physical possession of the land and building in anticipation of the acceptance of the terms and conditions of the deed, the Station Director has informed to take delivery only on 18.7.1971.

Thus it will be seen the unresponsiveness of the State Government as alleged by the Minister has no basis in fact : inasmuch as,

- (a) Though the Ministry was requested as late as on 10th February, 1971 to finalise the draft transfer deed, the Ministry slept over it till the 8th of July, 1971 when the Minister of Information and Broadcasting was making allegations of unresponsiveness of the State Government.
- (b) The distinction between possession and vacant possessions in absolutely meaningless, inasmuch as, the Government of Orissa had offered the Information and Broadcasting Ministry to take advance possession of the land pending finalisation of the deed.

It will be seen, the Government of Orissa was anxious and there was an eagerness on its part to transfer the land to the Information and Broadcasting Ministry as quickly as possible so that the Radio Station at Cuttack could be expanded.

Be that as it may, the Minister's allegations of unresponsiveness on the part of the State Government is baseless. Such unverified allegations against a State Government will further embitter the delicate Centre-State relationship which we are all eager and anxious to maintain.

This also emphasizes the credibility gap in the information policy of the Government of India which has been referred to by no less a paper than the *National Herald* which says in an editorial....

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing beyond the statement.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY :
that most press men are still impressed by credibility, not by Scotch.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY) : Shri Surendra Mohanty, MP, has alleged that an incorrect statement was made by me on the 8th July, 1971 in the course of the debate on demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The portion of my speech containing the alleged mis-statement is as follows :

'In Orissa itself, unfortunately, the progress of our development plans has been held up on account of the unresponsive attitude of the State Government. For instance, the State Government have not given us the possession of the land at Cuttack which we need for constructing the Radio Station building'

My remarks about the unresponsiveness referred to the State Government's delay in handing over vacant possession of the land required for the radio station building at Cuttack.

We have accepted the price of the land as intimated by the Government of Orissa and deposited the amount in full on 16th February, 1971. We had also requested that the land might be transferred pending finalisation of the transfer deed.

In his statement, Shri Mohanty, has dwelt

mainly on the time taken in the acceptance of the transfer deed. This, however, is not pertinent as the acceptance of the deed was not been made a pre-condition for handing over the possession of the land. On the contrary, the State Government in their letter dated 24.3.71 has stated categorically that the land was to be handed over pending finalization of the terms.

Our Station Director at Cuttack has been in constant touch with the local officials of the State Government. In spite of his best efforts, the Station Director had not succeeded in obtaining vacant possession of the land till the date on which I made the statement. In fact, according to the reports I have received since vacant possession has not been delivered even up-to-date.

The reasons for the failure of the State Government to hand over vacant possession were that, firstly, a State Government official, a civil surgeon, was occupying a portion of the building on the land and, secondly there were other encroachments too on the land by certain members of the public.

In April, after the Civil Surgeon vacated the bungalow, the State Government allotted it to another officer, a Forest Officer, inspite of the Station Director's written request on 12.4.1971 to the contrary.

The State Government's failure to evict the Forest Officer and remove the encroachments cannot be regarded as due to any event or circumstance beyond their control.

It has been communicated to me, after I made the statement in Parliament on the 8th July that the Bungalow was vacated by the State Government Officer on the 10th July—I made the statement on 8th July; this was on 10th July—and that the other encroachments were removed on 17th July. I have, however, further been informed that the State Government had told the Station Director that the land would be handed over only if he gave and undertaking to abide by the terms and conditions of the transfer and all other matters as may be finalised by the State Government. I am awaiting confirmation of those communications as well as further details thereof in writing. If these communications are fully confirmed I would welcome the fact that the

land has at last been vacated, but would have to point out with regret that in asking for an undertaking the State Government have gone back on their earlier decision conveyed to us that possession of the land would be handed over pending settlement of the terms of the transfer.

These are, however, subsequent developments which do not affect statement I made in Parliament on the 8th July, 1971. The unresponsiveness of the State Government to which I had referred then lay in the fact that the State Government had failed till that date to transfer vacant possession of the land to the Central Government inspite of their having agreed to do so on 24.3.71 and specially in the fact that they failed to have the land and the structures thereon vacated not only by the members of the public who had encroached on the land, but even by their own officers.

The points I have enumerated will make it amply clear that the statement I made on 8.7.1971 stands fully supported by facts.

SHRI P. K. DEO : The Orissa Government has made a good gesture. (*Interruption*)

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN (Wandinash) : Will they be cautious in making allegations against the State Governments? Very recently a statement was made which was resented by the Assam Government also. They should be very careful in making allegations against any of the State Governments. (*Interruption*)

SHRI DHANDAPANI (Dharapuram) : Similar statement was made in Coimbatore making certain allegation also against the State (*Interruption*).

MR. SPEAKER : I am not allowing questions. Order, please.

Now, Shri Yadav.

ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEES

(i) CENTRAL ADVISORY BOARD OF ARCHAEOLOGY

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND
SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI D. P.