

the Government with their two-thirds majority in this House, should not be hesitant in amending the Constitution of India if they think it very essential to implement progressive measures for the welfare and upliftment of the poor and backward sections of our society.

13 hrs

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch Till Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha Re-assembled after Lunch at four minutes past fourteen of the Clock.

[SHRI R. D. BHANDARI *in the Chair*]

Re. DEVELOPMENTS IN EAST BENGAL :

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contd) Sir I want to draw your attention to a very urgent matter. It is also a very important matter. Just now we have heard the radio news that civil war has started in Bangla Desh. After landing 60,000 troops from West Pakistan the army has taken position in almost all the big cities and in all key positions.

Yahya Khan declared the Martial Law. His Government have promulgated curfew in Dacca and in all other big cities. They have taken possession of the Dacca Betar Kendra. They have issued orders to shoot at sight all Bengali people there. Not only so. The East Pakistan Rifle is in the midst of a grim battle with the Pakistan Army there.

My report is that hundreds of people are being butchered and killed. An order has been issued to shoot at sight anybody in the street. There is another report that at the Karachi airport, hundreds and thousands of Bengali people have assembled to have passage to East Pakistan. There also hundreds of people have been killed.

I want to draw the attention of the Government that there is an apprehension that either Mujibur Rahman and other big leaders will be shot or they will be immediately arrested and flown to West Pakistan by using Colombo airport. Therefore, my immediate submission to you and, through you to the Prime Minister, is that the Government of India should write to the Government of Ceylon that no passage should be given either to the Pakistani Air Force plane or to Pakistani civilian plane to carry any military personnel from West Pakistan to East Bengal via Ceylon.

There is also another thing. The Dacca Betar Kendra has been forcibly closed. The All-India Radio is the only source of information from the people of Bengal. The All-India Radio should broadcast the news.....(*Interruption*) Let me finish. This is the first time that the Sangram Parishad of Bangla Desh has issued an appeal to India and to Ceylon to immediately mobilise international opinion in favour of the Liberation Movement. I would request the Government to raise this matter in the UNO in combination with other Asian countries.

I would also request the Government to give facilities for the movement of the Bengalis who have assembled at the Karachi airport.

Lastly, I have already given a Call Attention Notice on the subject and I have also given notice of a short duration discussion on it. The matter is very vital and urgent. I have said many times in this House that the Key to the solution of Indo-Pak problems lies in the success of the Liberation Movement of Bangla Desh. This is a very vital issue; this is a very crucial issue. We cannot sit quiet. Our Government should take serious note of it and do something in the matter.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : Sir, not only the Martial law has been promulgated but orders have been issued to shoot people at sight. Even the press correspondents who wanted to know something

[Shri S. M. Banerjee]

about it have been asked by the Army (Colonels and Generals not to come out of the hotel and that they will be shot at if they come out. This reign of terror is going on and this conspiracy has been hatched up by all those who are agents of imperialist forces who never wanted Mujibur Rahman to thrive in East Pakistan. The victory of the common people in East Pakistan who defeated the communal forces and other reactionary forces is not to their liking.

The suggestion is this. Democracy is being murdered in East Pakistan by fascists. Let us pledge our support and say that we shall defend the right of the people in other countries also. We also believe in human rights. I would request you and through you the Prime Minister to uphold the banner of democracy and to give more support to Mujibur Rahman. If Mujibur Rahman is dead, naturally, again, Yahya Khan regime, fascist regime, will come into being. We are opposed to this. Let the people of Pakistan know that India stands solidly behind Mujibur Rahman and that we condemn any action of the Yahya Khan.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU (Diamond Harbour): This is a matter involving the people who are the same flesh and blood. It was the conspiracy of the imperialists that the country was divided. On that pretext, we cannot shut our eyes and adopt an ostrich like policy. What is happening today in East Pakistan? Although we have repeatedly tried to get a statement from this Government about their attitude and policy in regard to that, we have failed in that. Neither the Chair has come forward to get this House this information to-day. After all that has been said on the radio and by different speakers in the House, will you be so good as to direct the Government immediately to make a statement forth with on the floor of the House giving fuller details through their own sources of information and also what they are going to do with regard to this merciless killing of people of Bangla Desh?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): The Government naturally share the feelings of anxiety expressed by members opposite at the happenings in the Bangla Desh. We would collect all possible information from our own sources...

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: You have not so far?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: We are collecting and we will collect.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: Let us have it.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: And we shall be watchful and a statement would be made as and when needed.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: Right now.....(Interruptions).

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: At the earliest opportunity.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: If you do not make a statement forth with, our solidarity with the Liberation Movement there.....(Interruptions).

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I am not yielding. You have interrupted me before I conclude. We shall certainly make a fuller statement at the earliest opportunity.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: Why not to-day?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: If it is to-day, then to-day, if it is at this moment, then at this moment...(Interruptions) We should not act in excitement or in haste. We have to weigh the situation carefully and consciously and then make a statement.

श्री इत्हाक सम्भली (अनरोड़ा) : बेगमदीन साहब, मिनिस्टर साहब ने यह कहा है कि मुवासिब टाइम पर गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से स्टेटमेंट दिया जायेगा। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि आखिर वह टाइम कब आयेगा।

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : We want your ruling on this, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will convey your wish to the Minister.

श्री इत्हाक सम्भली : हमें सुबहा है कि किसी भी वक्त वेस्ट पाकिस्तान की फौजों के हाथों मुजीबुर्रहमान को किल कर दिया जायेगा।

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly resume your seat Mr. Sambhali.

श्री इत्हाक सम्भली : इस वक्त सबाल नसल-कुशी का है। वेस्ट पाकिस्तान की फौजों के हाथों बंगला देश को किल किया जा रहा है। इस वक्त देर करने का मौका नहीं है।

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : Sir, may I add that we have to collect all the facts and unless and until...

श्री इत्हाक सम्भली : हम इस से पहले भी नसल-कुशी के बारे में और मुल्को के मुनात्लिक सबाल उठाते रहे हैं। उसी तरह आज जब कि वेस्ट पाकिस्तानी फौजों के हाथों बंगला देश की नसल-कुशी की जा रही है, हमको बर्गर देर किये इस सबाल को मुनाइटिड नेक्शज में उठाना चाहिए और बंगला देश के लोगों के साथ अपनी हमदर्दी का इकहार करना चाहिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon Member may kindly resume his seat now.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : I only want to draw your attention to one important matter. The matter is very urgent for the

reason that Sheikh Mujibur Rahman may be shot dead any moment. Only international opinion and opinion from the neighbouring countries like India and Ceylon can save his life. The matter is very urgent. He may be shot dead any moment. I would like to make a submission. Does the Government consider the matter urgent and important or not ?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : Sir, you are unfair...

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have always been fair to you. You must be very careful in the use of your words. Don't accuse me that I have not been fair to you.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has already taken notice of it and he will convey the matter to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the necessary statement will be made in this House either to-day or tomorrow.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : This is a vital matter for Prime Minister also, not only to the External Affairs Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly resume your seat.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : Sir, it is in your hands to direct the Government to make a statement to-day. If they are not in possession of the facts, they are not fit to sit on the Treasury Benches.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : Even for making a statement, it requires to go before the Cabinet, then the Cabinet meets, considers all the facts and then only a statement can be made.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : But the House will rise tomorrow.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Only to member that the life of Sheikh Mujibur

[Shri Samar Guha]

Rahman is in the hands of the people of India and Ceylon.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : We are second to none in regard to our anxiety about this situation.....[Interruptions]**

MR CHAIRMAN Nothing will go on record. Nothing that is being said now will go on record.....[Interruptions]**

The Minister has already taken note of what has been stated. He has told you categorically.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : This is a sensitive issue in a sensitive region and for the sake of freedom and democracy, we would have to proceed with due care and caution. We will certainly make a statement, after going into all these things

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Narain Chand

14. 18 hrs

GENERAL BUDGET, 1971-72-GENERAL DISCUSSION AND DEMANDS FOR GRANTS ON ACCOUNT (GENERAL), 1971-72- *Contd.*

SHRI NARAIN CHAND (Hamirpur)
Sir, I want to congratulate the Finance Minister on the bold incentives he has offered in regard to the economic life of our country. There are certain new incentives. One significant thing is the awareness of the seriousness of the problem of the unemployed. A provision of Rs. 50 crores is being made for the programme of creating employment opportunities. This is a welcome step. There is an assurance of immediate implementation of this programme. The scheme will start in right earnest

from the next month. There is compassion for the poor, for the unemployed.

Certain elements in West Bengal have been whipping up regionalism and parochialism shouting

“आमार देश तोमार देश, बंगला देव,”

‘आमार नाम तोमार नाम, बियतनाम’

Whereas, it should have been

“आमार देश तोमार देश भारत देश”

There is provision in the Budget for setting up a new industrial Corporation in Calcutta, for that Calcutta where the industry is withering away wherefrom the capital is flying to Haryana and Punjab, for that part of the country, there is a bold provision of an Industrial Corporation. I welcome this step, and I support the Finance Minister and the Government of India on this step. I am sure that this step will stay the flight of capital and check the outflow of money from the State of Bengal which has been reduced to an utter state of dejection and depression where there is economic depression because of regionalism and parochialism and a kind of ideology that cuts across the barriers and where some anti-national elements draw inspiration from a country where even the telephone calls are answered in Chinese with the reply “Power flows out of the barrel of a gun” I have studied a few books in the Chinese language and literature and I know what sort of people they are. I know certain anti-national elements derive inspirations from them and following them, there are cries of

Amar Desh, Tomar Desh, Bangla Desh

—not Bharat Desh, but Bangla Desh—
‘Amar Naam, Tomar Naam, Viet Nam’

**Not recorded.