

as to the millions, who have fled from a reign of terror to take temporary refuge here.

All this imposes on us heavy obligations and the need for stern national discipline. We shall have to make many sacrifices. Our factories and farms must produce more. Our railways and our entire transport and communication system must work uninterruptedly. This is no time for any interplay of regional or sectional interests. Everything must be subordinated to sustain our economic, social and political fabric and to reinforce national solidarity. I appeal to every citizen, every man, woman and child to be imbued with the spirit of service and sacrifice of which, I know, this nation is capable.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai) : All the opposition leaders met the Speaker in the morning when we pressed for the admission of our adjournment motion. The Speaker told us that he would allow some discussion on the issue of Bangla Desh. Then we were informed that the Prime Minister would make a statement. I want to know whether there will be a discussion on the basis of the statement.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You know the rules. If you want a discussion, and the Speaker has agreed, you send a notice.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : He said today or tomorrow.

SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalahandi) : The statement may be circulated.

15.13 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE. PROCLAMATION IN RELATION TO THE STATE OF MYSORE—Contd.

श्री धार० बी० बड़े : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी पंत जी जो रैजोल्यूशन लाए हैं, उसके द्वारा वह जो मैसूर में प्रोमलेशन आफ प्रेसीडेंट्स रूल हुआ है उसका सदन से अप्रूवल

चाहते हैं। मैसूर पहले से एक प्रोग्रेसिव स्टेट थी। जब से यह स्टेट बनी, तभी से यह प्रोग्रेसिव स्टेट रही है। तो ऐसी प्रोग्रेसिव स्टेट में जब वह प्रोमलेशन लाए तो उस का कारण क्या है, यह हमें देखना चाहिए। वहाँ पर यह प्रेसीडेंट्स रूल का प्रोमलेशन डिफेन्स के कारण हुआ। लेकिन मैसूर में यह डिफेन्स क्यों हुए और डिफेन्स को बन्द करने के लिए कोई कानून आना चाहिए या नहीं, यह चीज हमें देखनी है। डिफेन्स जो होते हैं, यह दलदलधनुओं की और आयाराम और गयाराम की जो पद्धति चल रही है उस पद्धति को खत्म नहीं किया गया, इसे बन्द नहीं किया गया तो हर प्रदेश में एक दिन प्रेसीडेंट्स रूल लागू हो जाएगा। मैसूर में हमने देखा कि 18 मार्च को पहले बीरेन्द्र पाटिल साहब ने त्याग-पत्र दिया और इसके बाद 27 मार्च को असेम्बली सेस्पेंड हो गई और प्रेसीडेंट्स रूल लागू हो गया। लेकिन प्रेसीडेंट्स रूल लागू होने के बाद भी यह देखा गया कि मिनिस्ट्री बन सकती है या नहीं। तो बीरेन्द्र पाटिल ने कहा कि मैं इस प्रकार की मिनिस्ट्री फार्म करने के लिए तैयार नहीं हूँ जिसमें कि डिफेन्स हों। जो सदस्य कल तक कांग्रेस (ओ०) में थे, वह मिनिस्ट्री मिले, इसके लिए दल बदलते हैं तो उनको लेकर मिनिस्ट्री बनाना बहुत गलत पद्धति है। लेकिन कांग्रेस का पूरा ढाँचे का ढाँचा जो है राष्ट्रपति चुनाव से लेकर आज तक, वह दल-बदलुओं से भरा हुआ चला आ रहा है। मेरा कहना यह है कि यह प्रथा बन्द होनी चाहिए और इसके लिए कोई कानून बनाना चाहिए। नहीं तो आप देखें इतनी प्रोग्रेसिव स्टेट मैसूर जैसी केवल डिफेन्स की वजह से प्रेसीडेंट्स रूल वहाँ पर लागू हो गया। मैसूर स्टेट में गवर्नर जो हैं वह धर्मवीर जी हैं। गवर्नर्स के बारे में पहले एक प्रथा थी कि पहले यह केवल डेकोरेटिव होते थे। लेकिन 1967 के बाद से इनके ऊपर एक जिम्मेदारी आने लग गई। इनके बारे में एक बिल भी पहले

[आर० वी० बड़े]

आया था। इसके ऊपर 'स्वराज्य' में यह लिखा है :

"It may be recalled in this connection that there was a Bill in the last Parliament which sought to lay down norms for the selection of Governors, the idea being that the Government should not have unfettered discretion to indulge in brazen political jobbery. It was felt that if the appointment could be formally ratified either by Parliament, or the leaders of all political parties, the Government would be more cautious in making such appointments. It will be interesting to see whether the present Government will revive that Bill, or formally codify any guidelines for Governors which will clamp its own freedom of action. At any rate, there is certainly a case for appointing persons with administrative experience as Governors."

तो गवर्नर कौन हो कौन न हो, इसके बारे में पार्लियामेंट को कंसल्ट करना चाहिए या इसके लिए पहले जो बिल आया था, उसको रिवाइव करना चाहिए। मंसूर में धर्मवीर गवर्नर गए हैं। उनके बारे में जो रिपोर्ट पेपर्स में आई है, वह अच्छी आई है कि उनका काम ठीक चल रहा है। उसमें यह कहा गया है :

"It is a sad experience in the districts that everything comes to a standstill when a Minister visits the place, with the district authorities waiting on him throughout the duration of the visit."

तो इस प्रकार गवर्नर के हाथ में शासन जहाँ है वहाँ का ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेशन खराब हो रहा है। तो उसके वास्ते, गवर्नर्स के अप्वाइंटमेंट के लिए कोई कानून बनना चाहिए जिससे कि गवर्नर अच्छे जा सकें। मंसूर का अच्छा भाग्य है कि धर्मवीर वहाँ गवर्नर होकर गए हैं। उनके बारे में गुटान्पा एक कवि है, उन्होंने लिखा है—

"Let democracy have a long holiday and the good administrator a long working day"

इस प्रकार की राय उनके बारे में है। लेकिन बाकी जगह मैंने देखा कि जो गवर्नर्स होते हैं वह कांग्रेस का काम करने के लिए जाते हैं। उनका ध्यान अपोजीशन की तरफ नहीं होता है। तो मेरा यही कहना है कि यह जो डिफेक्ट्स की, आयाराम गयाराम की प्रथा है इसके विरुद्ध कोई कानून बन गया तब तो ठीक है वरना इसी प्रकार के प्रोमोशन हर एक प्रदेश के लिए लाने पड़ेगे।

दूसरी बात मंसूर के बारे में मुझे यह कड़नी है कि अभी जब वहाँ प्रेसीडेंट्स रूल है तो सेटर को यह देखना चाहिए कि महाराष्ट्र और मंसूर का वादविवाद बहुत दिनों से चल रहा है। महाजन कमीशन की रिपोर्ट बेलगाव के बारे में आ गई है। वह रिपोर्ट महाराष्ट्र को मंजूर नहीं है, मंसूर को मंजूर है। तो इस शासन में जबकि गवर्नर रूल वहाँ है, केन्द्र को यह देखना चाहिए कि महाजन कमीशन की रिपोर्ट मंसूर को मंजूर है और महाराष्ट्र को मंजूर नहीं है तो उसकी तरफ उसे ध्यान देना चाहिए क्योंकि यही दशा कायम रही तो और झगड़े बढ़ेंगे मंसूर और महाराष्ट्र के बीच में। यह बन्दरबाट की जो नीति है केन्द्र की कि दोनों को लड़ने देना और उसमें से अपना स्वार्थ निकाल लेना, यह ठीक नहीं है। उन्हें कुछ अपने रूल बनाने चाहिए, कुछ नियम बनाने चाहिए कि अगर दो स्टेट्स के बीच में इस तरह के झगड़े चलते हैं तो उनके लिए क्या करना चाहिए। जैसे कि मध्य प्रदेश और गुजरात का झगड़ा है नर्मदा के पानी के ऊपर और मंसूर और तमिलनाडु का झगड़ा है कावेरी नदी के पानी के ऊपर। कावेरी नदी का पानी तमिलनाडु को मिलता है। यदि वह उसको नहीं मिले तो तमिलनाडु का धान सूख जायगा। तो इसके बारे में मंसूर और तमिलनाडु का झगड़ा चल रहा है लेकिन केन्द्र ने इस के ऊपर भी कोई मार्ग-दर्शन नहीं दिया।

केन्द्रीय सरकार को इसके ऊपर कोई नार्म तैयार करना चाहिए। अगर नहीं करेंगे तो दोनों प्रदेशों में झगड़े बढ़ेंगे। फिर वहाँ मंसूर में प्रेसीडेंट्स रूल है तो केन्द्र को यह आदेश देना चाहिए कि यह जो दो झगड़े हैं मंसूर और महाराष्ट्र के और मंसूर और तमिलनाडु के उनको समाप्त किया जाय। इतना ही मुझे निवेदन करना है।

15.20 hrs.

[SHRI K. N. TIWARY *in the Chair*]

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (TUMKUR) : Sir, it is my privilege to commend the imposition of President's rule in Mysore after the Government of Mysore headed by Mr. Virendra Patil collapsed after the mid-term poll to the Lok Sabha. There were inner contradictions in the Government. It was a discredited and corrupt Government that was ruling Mysore for a long time. The aspiration of the people of Mysore to remove that Government was fulfilled after the Lok Sabha mid-term poll.

I am very happy that the President's rule has been imposed in Mysore, but unfortunately, after that, certain things have been happening there which are not good. The Governor has made several attempts to see that discredited politicians who are followers and henchmen of Mr. Nijalingappa and Mr. Virendra Patil are appointed as Chairmen of various corporations, etc. I would like to bring it to the notice of this House that the Governor is not expected to use his position in this manner, taking advantage of President's rule. He must know his limitations and he must exercise his powers under the Constitution. But this is an utter disgrace that even after the President's rule has been imposed there, the Governor has made several attempts to do such things in league with the discredited politicians, who are the followers and henchmen of Mr. Nijalingappa, during whose period so many irregularities and corrupt practices have taken place in Mysore. Again this has been continuing there and the Central Government should take care of the situation there.

The members of the dissolved Mysore Assembly and the Members of Parliament from Mysore have several times drawn the attention of this Government to the pitiable condition of Mysore, so far as developmental activities are concerned. Central assistance is so meagre. I would like to take this opportunity to urge on the Government to see that the various problems confronting Mysore are solved. Regarding the border dispute between Maharashtra and Mysore and Kerala and Mysore, I submit that the recommendations of the Mahajan Commission should be implemented *in toto*.

The Cauvery river water dispute is hanging in the air and has not been settled. Mysore is suffering without food. The problems of Mysore have not been looked into in the correct perspective, because all the while under the leadership of Mr. Nijalingappa and Mr. Virendra Patil, they have helped only their own districts and they encouraged regionalism, casteism and communalism in Mysore. Therefore, to obviate the difficulties of Mysore, the river dispute should be settled. Also, there are more than 20 to 25 projects pending before the Central Government for sanction. I hope and trust that the Irrigation Ministry would look into this matter and see that all these projects are sanctioned.

I also demand that an enquiry should be held against the Governor of Mysore regarding the appointments made by him during the President's rule. I also want that early elections should be held in Mysore in view of the peculiar situation developing there. We will no longer tolerate President's Rule in Mysore State. So, we would urge on this government that early elections should be held, so far as the Mysore legislature is concerned. I think the revision of the voters' list has been completed or it is under progress. Therefore, by October/November, which would be a suitable period, elections should be held.

SHRI S. M. KRISHNA (Mandya) : Sir, I welcome the promulgation of President's Rule in Mysore State. With that will come to an end the nightmarish rule by a coterie of politicians, whose prime and sole aim was the perpetuation of an administration which was corrupt and caste-oriented. It so happens that

[Shri S. M. Krishna]

wherever Shri Dharma Vira goes, President's Rule follows him.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Gwalior) : Dharma Chakra.

SHRI S. M. KRISHNA : Yes, Dharma Chakra and Dharma Vira go together. In the circumstances that prevailed in Mysore in the month of March there was not much of an alternative for the Governor. A government which continued in power with manipulations and manoeuvres could not last long, because the times have changed. The people of Mysore had given a verdict against Virendra Patil Ministry for the last few years. With the cumulative effect of the recent general elections, the days of the Patil Ministry were numbered. But even the bitter critics of Shri Virendra Patil and Shri Nijalingappa did not expect that this Ministry would collapse so soon and so quickly.

Let me remind the House that not long ago 35 members of the State Legislature had presented memorandum to the Prime Minister, urging her to initiate a series of inquiries and investigations into many irregularities committed by Shri Virendra Patil and his henchmen. When 35 elected representatives of the people present a memorandum to the government, I think it is the bounded duty of the government to initiate a judicial probe. Even now it is not too late. We know very many instances where the government succeeding the one that has fallen has initiated judicial inquiries into the various irregularities committed by the Ministers during their tenure of office. I feel that it is only fit and proper that the charge-sheet has got to be looked into by an independent agency. No useful purpose would be served by entrusting the whole matter to the Vigilance Commissioner of the State, because that would be only a limited inquiry. What the legislators have urged upon the Prime Minister and the Government of India is a Kairon type of inquiry into the maladministration of Mysore State.

My hon friend, Shri Lakkappa, has drawn the attention of the House to some of the happenings after the advent of Governor's rule

in Mysore State. When the people have given their verdict and have thrown out Shri Virendra Patil's government, it does not befit the Governor to nominate ex-ministers to head the new corporations that have been founded in Mysore State. To quote a few instances, a former Minister of State has been nominated to be the Chairman of the Fisheries Development Corporation of Mysore; a former Minister of State, who resigned along with Shri Virendra Patil, has been nominated to be the Chairman of the Forest Development Corporation; and a former Minister has been named to be the Chairman of the Mysore State Development Corporation. I would like to pose this question : Could not the Governor find other suitable men to head these corporations than those who resigned office only yesterday ?

These are some of the things which the people of Mysore are asking the elected representatives and, naturally, we as elected representatives from Mysore have got in turn to pose these questions to the Central Government.

The Governor has also been taking very many administrative decisions. Recently, the working hours of the Government of Mysore have been curtailed. The five-day week working formula has been promulgated in Mysore State by the Governor. Representing the rural areas in Mysore State, I know how difficult it is for a man from a village to come up to the district or taluka headquarters. We also know that in Government offices delay has been a matter of routine. If Government offices are closed even on Saturdays, naturally, our officers and Government employees would work only for four days in the week. They start very late on Mondays, go on till Friday and they are off on Saturdays and Sundays.

There has been great public criticism of the actions of the Governor. I am not one of those who are going to judge the actions of the Governor from the way he has functioned in the last one month, but I would like to caution the Governor that he has got to take public sentiment also into his consideration, has got to realise that this is only a stopgap

or a transitory arrangement and, as Shri Lakkappa has pointed out, has got to realise the limitations within which he has to function.

There is no substitute for popular rule. Popular rule might be good; it might be bad. It might be efficient or it might not be efficient. But, as votaries of democracy, we do realise that there is no substitute for a popular government. So, I urge upon the Central Government and the Election Commission that they should immediately go ahead with elections in Mysore State.

It is said that elections could not be held till about November. The excuse given is that the monsoon would still be prevalent in very many areas. Coming as we do from Mysore State we know that the monsoon does occur in the months of June and July but by about the middle of October the monsoon, for all practical purposes, would have ceased. We learn from the Election Commissioner that the revision of electoral rolls has started and will probably be over in a month or two. Therefore, by the first week or the middle of October elections have got to be held in Mysore State so that by the end of October a popular government could be established in Mysore State and the people could have confidence that at long last a really popular elected government will be in power.

Shri Lakkappa has also mentioned some of the projects that are pending with the Central Government. Mysore State has, no doubt, been the recipient of some of the Centrally sponsored industries. But as compared to the Central aid given to other States in the Union, Mysore State's quota falls far short of it. Simply because the Indian Telephones Industry, the Hindustan Aircraft Limited, the Bharat Electricals Limited and the Hindustan Machines Tools, all these industries, are located in and around Bangalore, an impression is sought to be created in the country that all Central industries are being located in and around Bangalore. If you compare the Central assistance given to any other State, you will find that the Central assistances to Mysore State falls far short of it. So, I make out a case on behalf of the Mysore State that more Central assistance has got to be given to Mysore which is very much needed.

Again, let me make a passing reference to the river water dispute. The percentage of irrigation in Mysore is hardly 8 per cent as compared to 38 per cent in Andhra, 32 per cent in Tamil Nadu and about 30 per cent in Maharashtra. But in the case of Mysore it is only 8 per cent. In the Cauvery basin, the Mysore State has brought under irrigation about 2 lakh acres of land as compared to 14 lakh acres of land by the Government of Tamil Nadu. The river Cauvery takes birth in the Mysore State. Naturally, we have got to urge upon the Central Government for clearance of some of our projects which have been pending for quite sometime.

At times, when I was sitting on that side, I have been a very bitter critic of the present Minister of Irrigation. I had also declared that so long as he continues to head that Ministry, I am afraid, the Mysore State may not get its due. Since then, much water has flowed under the bridge and I have come to this side and the same Minister continues as the Minister of Irrigation. Either Dr. K. L. Rao has become wiser or I have become wiser. I hope, in the next few months, Dr. Rao would make up his mind to give Central clearance, even under the 1924 Agreement, to some of our very vital projects like Hemavati Project which caters to the needs of chronically drought-stricken areas of Mysore State, Hasan, Mandia and Mysore districts. All these areas have been named by the Planning Commission as backward areas and these areas will have to be given greater assistance.

I urge upon the Central Government to give clearance to some of these projects without any more delay because the delay has already cost us very much. We have taken up the Hemavati Project. No Central assistance has been given to us and the State's Resources are not adequate to meet the commitments or the Hemavati Project. I again urge upon the Central Government and the Prime Minister in particular that the people have shown their affection for the Prime Minister and they have all their hopes that the Prime Minister will be the deliverer of goods so far as Mysore State is concerned. By one stroke, they have got rid of the Virendra Patil Government and strengthened the hands of the Prime Minister. It is very necessary that the Prime Minister should

[Shri S. M. Krishna]

reciprocate the good will that the people of Mysore have shown to her, and the minimum that she could do is to provide Central assistance and their clearance to the Hemavati Project. I am sure that the House will appreciate Mysore's case in this regard.

Before I conclude, let me caution once again that the Governor has got to take note of the change of times. He has to take note of the change in the mood of the people of Mysore. He has also got to take note of the constitutional limitations that have been put on the Governor. After all, he is not an elected Governor. He is nominated by the President. Now, the Governor has taken upon himself to rule the Mysore State without the aid of advisers. If he had asked for the advisers, probably, the Home Ministry would have sent some senior civil servants from Delhi to advise and assist the Governor. But the Governor himself who was a civil servant of quite a good reputation feels that he is big enough to man the entire administration singlehanded. I hope, the Governor will seriously look into some of the questions we have raised.

With these words, I whole-heartedly support the promulgation of the President's Rule in Mysore State and I only hope that during the Governor's regime, the administration will get toned up, the administration will get geared up, to take upon the gigantic tasks that lie ahead of the people of Mysore State.

SHRI M. K. KRISHNAN (Ponnani) : *Sir, I take this opportunity, and I think it is my privilege, to speak in my own mother tongue—Malayalam.

- Sir, the Resolution that has been introduced here is that this House should approve the Proclamation made by the president on 27th March taking over the administration of Mysore State. Taking part in this debate my hon. friend Shri Krishna said that wherever Shri Dharma Vira goes, he is followed by president's Rule and that is why Mysore has been faced with this unfortunate situation. After the Indian Constitution came into existence we have had several general elec-

tions and if we examine those elections, not in detail but even in a general way, we will find that from the first general elections in 1952 to the elections held in 1971, Article 356 of the Constitution has been made use of by the Ruling Party to topple those governments in States which were formed by parties other than the Ruling Party at the Centre.

After the general elections in 1952 this Article was used in PEPSU for the first time. Shri Dharma Vira was not the Governor there. After 1952 it was used in the State of Travancore-Cochin. There also Shri Dharma Vira was not there. After that, in all elections, especially after the elections in 1967, in the States where non-Congress Governments came into power this Article was used to topple those Governments. In all those States, Shri Dharma Vira was not there. After the 1967 elections in several States, governments belonging to parties other than the Congress came into power. In all those States this Article 356 was used to bring in President's Rule. Today, Bihar and Gujarat are also passing through a similar situation.

Therefore, the use of article 356, as far as our country is concerned, has been resorted to only as a result of the policy followed by the Ruling Party not to allow any other party to come into power. This is the first point I want to make and this is what I want to tell Shri Krishna also.

When the Mysore Budget was discussed in the previous session of this House, I had the opportunity of making certain comments. I want to repeat them now. The Ruling Party does not want any other party to be in power in any State and if there is any State where any other party is in power, the Ruling Party at the Centre does everything to topple it. After the 1967 elections, as I said before, in many States non-Congress Governments came into power either as UF governments or in any other form. The policy of the Ruling Party has changed now. The Ruling Party makes members defect from the State Governments and thus makes them to have only a

*The original speech was delivered in Malayalam.

minority support. Mysore is an example of that.

What happened in Mysore? In Mysore the Government was of the Congress (O). Some Members [of Congress (O)] were made to defect to Congress (R) and thus it became a minority government. The defectors were promised that a new government would be formed by Congress (R). Wisely Shri Virendra Patil, said that because the majority was on his side he had the right to form another Government and those who defected from his party should go back to give him support. When this was done he said that he did not want to form a Government and advised the Governor to dissolve the assembly and order fresh election.

Sir, to prevent defection why is it that the Government is not thinking of bringing a legislation? Those who defect should be made to resign their seats and face the electorate again. If such a legislation is brought then only we will be able to stop defection. We have made this suggestion on earlier occasions also but the Ruling Party is not prepared to bring such a legislation. Only when they are prepared to bring such a legislation the elected governments in States will be able to function properly. I emphasise that my party is of the view that such a legislation should be brought in immediately. With these words, Sir, I conclude my speech.

SHRI BALATHANDAYUTHAM (Coimbatore): Mr. Chairman, Sir nobody need shed a tear over the fall of the Virendra Patil Government in Mysore. It was in conformity with the mandate of the people. Still as my hon. friend Shri Krishnan has said, President's rule or Governor's raj cannot be a substitute for a popular government, however inefficient and however unpopular the latter may be. So I would like to stress this point that since they are taking over the government there, the Central Government should give an assurance along with this taking over that elections will be held soon, and they should give a firm dead-line so that the tendency to continue the Governor's rule would be avoided.

If we take Mysore particularly, I feel that a popular government could have been there if the alternative had been explored and the

lack of unity which was manifested had been overcome.

I am afraid, after the Delhi Corporation elections, the tendency to postpone elections may be there. So I would like Parliament to have an assurance from Government that elections will be held in the near future without undue delay. As Shri Lakkappa said, everything is ready; the electoral rolls are ready, and there is no reason why the elections should be postponed.

Secondly, it was urged that a settlement of the Kavery waters dispute should not be postponed. I suppose they do not mean to say that unilaterally the impetuous Governor should go ahead with the construction of the Hamavati dam. All the parties in Mysore may support Shri Dharma Vira on this. But it should be a settlement of the dispute as between Mysore and Tamil Nadu by discussion, and not in the interest of one as against the other. Since there is no popular government in Mysore now, a settlement of the dispute need not be postponed. The Governor's rule should not be trotted out as an excuse for dragging on this dispute. In spite of Governor's rule, the Centre can effectively intervene and help settle it.

So stressing these two points, that elections must be held without undue delay and an assurance should be given to that effect, and that the Kavery waters dispute should not be dragged on but settled as quickly as possible in spite of President's rule, I support the Resolution as the Virendra Patil Government could not continue.

SHRI K. C. PANT: I am thankful to the hon. members who participated in the debate and for the support they have given to the Resolution, I had the privilege of moving earlier.

My hon. friend who spoke last, in Malayalam, alone of all the speakers seemed to have ignored the realities of the situation that existed in March in Mysore. If he had gone over the facts carefully—and I had recapitulated them in my opening statement today—he would have seen that there was hardly any alternative, as Shri Krishna said, to the

[Shri K. C. Pant]

issue of the Presidential Proclamation under Art. 356 of the Constitution, in relation to the State of Mysore. I need hardly go over the facts which I placed before the House in my opening statement; I can only say that the Governor, after satisfying himself that a Government could not be formed, recommended that the President do issue a Proclamation, and that recommendation was accepted.

Shri Balathandajutham referred to the Kavery waters dispute with some feeling. He alluded to the possibility of another government being formed, if only further explorations had been held. I do not at all want even by implication to question the judgement of the Governor. We accepted it. But if the House will recall the situation that existed then, the only possible Government that could have been formed was of our party; there was very little possibility of any opposition party being able to form a government. If at all a government was not formed and further explorations were not held, it was not to deny an opposition party the chance to form the government; if at all anyone was denied this chance, it was our party. I think that, in the context of what has been said in the House today and in the past about the need to take some action to discourage defections, it was a healthy thing that was done and it was the right thing that was done.

Many Members have referred to the need to bring forward a law about defections. Members of the House who were in the previous Lok Sabha will recall that a Committee which had been set up to go into this question made certain recommendations and a Bill was drafted on the basis of the consensus which was evolved in the Committee, and this draft Bill was discussed with the leaders of the opposition by the Prime Minister. After that, the leaders of the opposition were requested to let us have their specific and concrete suggestions in regard to the Defections Bill. We have been issuing reminders to the opposition leaders so that all of them may reply and give us the benefit of their suggestions. Some of them have replied, but not all of them, and that is the position

at the moment. We have not received replies from all of them, we have sent them reminders and we hope that it will be possible for us to have a consensus on this Defections Bill and to bring forward a Bill as early as possible. We would like to do so. That is why we held discussions even before the elections in the matter at the level of the Prime Minister, but since at that particular meeting there were differences of opinion and further suggestions were promised, we thought it proper to await those suggestions from the leaders of the opposition.

Then there was a reference by Shri Bade to certain guidelines or norms that were evolved after the 1967 General Elections for the Governors in the discharge of their discretionary functions. The House will recall that the then Home Minister Shri Chavan had consulted five leading Jurists of the country and he later held discussions with the leaders of the opposition, leaders of various political parties, on the result of his consultations with the jurists and there appears to have been a certain measure of agreement at their meeting and three points of consensus emerged at that meeting.

SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalahandi) : What are those three ?

SHRI K. C. PANT : You know them, they have come before the House in the past.

Before commending these particular points to the Governors, the Government wrote to the leaders of the opposition and sought their consent in this matter. Despite many reminders, replies from only a few leaders have been received, and in spite of this, the points of consensus have been conveyed by us to the Governors and the points which were mentioned by the jurists have been brought to their notice.

On the other issues like the water dispute, boundary dispute and so on, I hope the House will agree with me that this is hardly the occasion to go into these very complex issues. I would only like to say that I hope that these disputes are resolved in a spirit of amity

and co-operation and that, whether it is the Maharashtra-Mysore dispute or the water dispute, we, that is our Government here, will be very happy to find solutions emerging which would bring satisfaction to all concerned. It is not a question, as one Member put it, of our taking advantage of these disputes. The Centre is only interested in trying to find an amicable solution to these disputes and it is only when the parties cannot come to a settlement amongst themselves that we try to help out in arriving at solutions.

Two or three Members referred to the fact that we should have early elections. We would like to have as early an election as we can. We are never interested in extending the President's rule, and we do hold elections in all the States where President's rule is promulgated as early as the circumstances permit. Shri S. M. Krishna said that we should have an immediate election, but then he himself went on to say that the monsoons would end in mid-October, and suggested that we should have the elections then. Even if the process is started today, it takes six-weeks to two months in order to actually hold the elections. Therefore, all these factors have to be kept in mind in deciding upon a particular date.

I have already said in my opening statement that the Election Commission is revising the rolls. The House is aware that in many areas in the country I cannot speak for all the rolls were defective during the last elections and most of us are aware that the rolls were defective and this has been brought to the Election Commission's notice by various persons concerned, and therefore, they are trying to revise the electoral rolls, in other States including Mysore, and this revision is expected to be completed in October this year, and steps will be taken to hold fresh elections to the Legislative Assemblies of the States on the basis of the revised rolls. It is only this factor that will have to be taken into account. Subject to this, we are of course as interested as any hon. Member of this House in seeing that the elections are held there as early as possible.

Sir, certain references were made to the development of Mysore. Shri S. M. Krishna

referred to the fact that he used to criticise Dr. Rao when he sat opposite, but now that he has come over to this side, he sees it in a new light. Both Shri Krishna and Shri Lakkappa perform a dual function which suits Shri Lakkappa particularly when there is no opposition Member from the State of Mysore. Therefore these friends in our party have to perform a dual function and it is in recognition of this dual function that I appreciate their references to the developmental needs of Mysore.

Sir, Mysore is a beautiful State with a great deal of potential for development. I would only hope that during the President's rule, it will be our lot to assist the State in its development and to be effective in however small a measure to promote the welfare and the well-being of the people of Mysore.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That this House approves the Proclamation issued by the President on the 27th March, 1971, under article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Mysore."

The motion was adopted.

16.0 hrs.

MOTION RE : ANNUAL REPORT OF
UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION FOR 1968-69

SHIKSHA AUR SAMAJ KALYAN MANTRALAYA MEN UP-MANTRI (SHRI D. P. YADAVA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Annual Report of the University Grants Commission for the year 1968-69, laid on the Table of the House on the 15th May, 1970, be taken into consideration."

Though the report was laid on the table of the House nearly twelve months ago, it was not found possible to have it discussed earlier for want of time.