

[Shri Dinan Bhattacharyya]

but most of the naxalites were utilised by the ruling party, that is, the Congress, and these naxalites created terror in some areas to the extent that the people dared not come out. Now, these same naxalites have either joined the Congress ruling party or most of them have been put in jails. Independently, if you go into the country throughout West Bengal, you cannot find so many naxalites everywhere. But for the trouble that is still there, the Congress ruling party is mainly responsible. The police is working in a partisan way as if they are paid volunteers of the Congress ruling party. That is the behaviour of a big section of the police and the administration. We have brought this matter to the notice of the Governor, to the notice of the other officers, but to no avail.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member's time is up.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: If you will permit me, I will continue on Monday.

MR. SPEAKER: We are finishing it today.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: There are so many Members waiting to speak. You can take it up again on Monday. *(Interruption)*

17.39 hrs.

ANNOUNCEMENT *RE. TIMINGS OF THE HOUSE*

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order.

Before the Defence Minister starts speaking, I have to say that I have received this intimation that at the meeting which the Prime Minister had with the leaders of the opposition today at 4.30 p.m. it was decided that the Lok Sabha should sit from 10 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. from Monday, the 6th December.

I , and there shall be no Question Hour or Calling Attention from that day, to which I have agreed. *(Interruption)* I have already agreed. This is just for your information.

17.40 hrs.

STATEMENT ON THE SITUATION *RE. ATTACK BY PAKISTAN ON INDIA*

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): You are aware that Pakistan has thrust a war upon us.

The Pakistani Air Force launched pre-emptive air strikes on our airfields from 5.45 p.m. yesterday. Pakistani aircraft have attacked 12 of our airfields, namely Amritsar, Patialkot, Srinagar, Faridkot, Halwara, Ambala, Agra, Uttarlai, Jodhpur, Jamnagar, Sarsa and Sarsawa. The railway junction of Godra Road, Jammu and Barmer were also attacked. Four of the attacking aircraft have been shot down. Some of our runways were slightly damaged; no aircraft on the ground was affected; in one area the installation was slightly damaged. All our airfields are fully operational. The Pakistani objective of inflicting substantial damage through a pre-meditated pre-emptive attack has been frustrated.

The Indian Air Force responded with retaliatory attacks on Pakistani airfields, the first strike materialising last night at 11.50 p.m. Chanderi, Sherkot, Sargodha, Murid, Mianwali, Musroor (near Karachi), Risalwala (near Rawalpindi) and Changa Manga (near Lahore) have been attacked. The crew have reported to have achieved good results. They hit a number of Pak aircraft on the ground and petrol tanks were set on fire. Sargodha airfield has been damaged. The radar station in Badin (Kutch) has also been damaged. All our aircraft except one Hunter one HF-24 and one Sukoi have returned to the base.