

18.00 hrs.

**STATEMENT RE: ORDER OF GUJARAT GOVERNOR DISSOLVING THE ASSEMBLY**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Now the Home Minister will make a statement.

**THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT):** Mr. Chairman, when the President made his proclamation in relation to Gujarat on 9-2-1974, he also made an order delegating to the Governor all the powers of the Governor which the President had assumed to himself. A copy of the proclamation and of the order had been placed on the Table of the House. The President's Order clearly states that the powers exercisable by the Governor of Gujarat, which have been assumed by the President, shall be exercisable also by the Governor.

In view of the President Order, there is no constitutional or legal infirmity in the order of the Governor dissolving the Assembly. The President was in touch with developments in Gujarat and the Prime Minister had sought the President's advice on these developments.

18.01 hrs.

**RE: SITUATION IN BIHAR—contd.**

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour):** Sir, this morning we had made a submission before the hon. Speaker that the Home Minister may please be requested to make a statement on the situation in Bihar and the indication that was given to us was that he was going to make a statement. In fact, when the Home Minister was coming here just now we thought that he would be making a statement on the developments in Bihar.

**THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT):** No such instructions have been given to me.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** Then there is something wrong somewhere.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** You may take it up with the Speaker tomorrow.

**SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra):** There was firing in the lobby of the Vidhan Sabha.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** This point was raised a little earlier. If the Minister wants to make a statement, I do not mind it. But if he has not been communicated this information....

**SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT:** I am coming from the Rajya Sabha now. I have not received any such instruction. If any instruction is issued to me, I will certainly carry it out.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** Then we want to know why Shri Raghu Ramaiah has not communicated this to the Home Minister.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** We cannot disbelieve the Home Minister.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** I am not disbelieving anybody. They are correct and truthful. But this morning the whole House was unanimous in expressing its anxiety with regard to what is happening in Bihar. I am told it is a spontaneous movement. People's wrath has taken shape in Bihar. The Government have moved six battalions of the infantry units and also 12 Companies of the CRP. Free firing is going on and people must have been killed by scores; also, within the Assembly House itself, within the chamber, firing has taken place. Sir, you put yourself in our position. After all, you are a member of the House. Do you not think that the House should be informed about this? Why do the Government want to hide this from the House?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I do not think there is any question of hiding. As you will appreciate, if the Home Minister was not given the information that he should come forward

with a statement, you cannot expect him to come here and make a statement. As he said, he is just now coming from the other House.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is here. He should have conveyed it to the Home Minister.

**SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai):** Just now the hon. Minister said that he does not know about any directive given by the Speaker to make a statement on the situation developing in Bihar. This is something surprising. It is the natural duty of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to convey it to the Home Minister.

**SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT:** A reference was made to the directive. That is why I said that no such direction has been given to me by the Speaker. I am not saying that no information should be given to the House. If I have full information with me, I shall certainly give it.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** May I know whether the hon. Minister is in possession of adequate information? If so, let him take the House into confidence and give us whatever information he has got, instead of keeping us in darkness.

**SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT:** No, Sir. I do not have adequate information.

डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पट्टेयाय (मंडसौर) :  
 यद्यपि उन के पास सूचना नहीं पहुँची, लेकिन बिहार में जो घटनायें घट रही हैं, क्या उन के बारे में मंत्री महोदय को वक्तव्य नहीं देना चाहिए ? बिहार में कई स्थानों पर गोलियाँ चल रही हैं, लोग मर रहे हैं ।

**MR CHAIRMAN:** They do not have adequate information. When he says that he does not have the information,

he has to be trusted in the same way as we trust the other side. Therefore, let us not impute motives.

**SHRI SAMAR GUHA:** I am not imputing motives.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I know you are not.

Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu urged upon the Minister that if he had the information, he should take the House into confidence. He said that he had not got adequate information. I cannot force him to say something which he does not know.

**SHRI SAMAR GUHA:** It was the duty of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to send a communication to him. As soon as the Speaker makes an observation, that is tantamount to a directive. We are very much anxious about it. In the morning I said that when I was at Patna. I was surprised to find about half a mile area around the Secretariat not only barriaded but it was barricaded with barbed-wire. It gave an appearance that it was a battlefield. But then we found it was not so. The situation is worsening. There was a firing in the Assembly area. I do not want to make a strong observation. But I should say that such a lack of communication, as also an attitude of indifference to such an alarming situation that is developing in Bihar is not expected from the Home Minister.

**THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH):** The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs' name has been brought in here. Frankly speaking, I was not aware of any directive from the Speaker. I will look into the records. If there is any directive, I shall communicate it.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I think, you have sufficiently brought it to the notice of the Home Minister.

We now take up the Half-An-Hour Discussion.