

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Your Party has raised it.

SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT: Then do not listen to such questions. Mr. Choudhuri said that they were peaceful picketers. Have they the right to peacefully picket or not? If they have the right, then, why were they interfered with? This is what I understood to be his question. How, what happened was this. So long as they remained peaceful picketeers nothing was done to them for three days. It is only when Mr. Bose and two ladies were taken into custody, who were not allowing anybody to go in and the working of the entire telephone exchange had come to a standstill, at that time when the others prevented this van with these three prisoners to be taken out, action had to be taken. One hon. Member here said that they lay down on the road just in front of it. Now if that happens—and that is what happened—action has to be taken. So, that is my answer to his first question.

Now I come to the question about "shoot at sight". My friend—not so friendly a friend,—hon. Member Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu takes particular pleasure in finding a case for breach of privilege. He is in search for some breach or other even if it does not exist. And that day, to make a long story short, I said, with due respect to Members that I was sorry if anything wrong had happened and I said that I did not mean any harm or to mislead the House. The hon. gentleman intervened and then I made a statement. In his letter, he quoted only part of the relevant portion, the upper portion only and not the lower portion. Anyway, I will write that in my reply to him. I wanted to give the facts. The facts are clear. No order was given to shoot at sight. The question was whether such an order was given to shoot at sight.

Now, these English words mean something according to the English Dictionary. The words 'shoot at sight' mean, 'shoot at sight' and nothing else. So, I have said, no order was given to shoot at sight.

Further, no announcement was made telling the people that those who violate the curfew would be shot at. Curfew on the 12th was not there; it came later on. A warning was however given that those indulging in loot and arson were likely to be shot at. And, the A.I.R., Patna did not make any announcement regarding shoot at sight. That is all, Sir, that I have to say.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now we will take up Introduction of Private Members' Bills, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh.

17.34 hrs.

RETIRED ARMY SOLDIERS RE-EMPLOYMENT BILL*

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH (Phulpur): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the re-employment of retired Army soldiers in the various forces constituted and maintained by the Central and the State Governments.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the re-employment of retired Army soldiers in the various forces constituted and maintained by the Central and the State Governments."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I introduce the Bill.

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