

[Shri S. M. Banerjee]

intends to try them for acts of genocide and crimes against humanity.... the statement said ; Pakistan was contending that only Pakistan had the right to exercise jurisdiction over these persons by virtue of the 1948 Geneva convention on the prevention and punishment of the crime of genocide."

The Bangla Desh Foreign Minister Dr. Kamal Hossain, according to press reports, described as the latest 'stunt' of Pakistan the application made by Islamabad to the world Court seeking to prevent the transfer of prisoners of war from India to Bangla Desh for trial. The report goes on :

"He told newsmen at the Foreign Office that by doing so Pakistan was merely seeking to divert attention and heap 'those who had committed' the worst atrocities Justice would, nevertheless, take its course, he added"

I expected a statement from the hon. Minister of External Affairs. I expected him to be present because I sent a slip on Friday itself. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is not here. The External Affairs Minister should be asked to make a statement as early as possible, today or tomorrow. On this question under no circumstances should we be bullied by Pakistan, and Bangla Desh should be consulted in this matter.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contd.) :

It is a very serious matter in the sense that it amounts to a violation of the Simla Pact. Pakistan is trying to have some kind of injection to stop us sending some persons for being tried in Bangla Desh. The Indo-Bangla Desh joint communique mentions the details about the release of prisoners of war and exchanging of civilians on both sides of Pakistan and Bangla Desh which was appreciated all over the world as a humanitarian move. What steps do the Government propose to take in this matter ? Are they also going to contest the matter in the World court ? We want the Minister of External Affairs to make a statement as early as possible clarifying the whole position and the stand of the Government of India in this matter.

(ii) HARASSMENT OF AGRICULTURISTS BY BANKS IN TELANGANA

SHRI MALLIKARJUN (Medak) : It is extremely painful to note the conditions in Telangana. In these conditions the agriculturists have had to face unparalleled harassment by the banks. It is true that the State Bank of Hyderabad and other district co-operative banks and agricultural credit societies have been advancing loans to the agriculturists.

Now, they are pressing for the recovery. Drought conditions are prevailing; famine is prevailing and there is no drinking water. Even cattle are dying. There is no fodder available. People are moving from one village to another. Under these prevailing circumstances, why are the Banks pressing for the recovery of loans in spite of the fact that the agriculturists have made repeated representations to the Government of Andhra Pradesh. I do not know why the Advisers to the Governors are not attending to the needs of these agriculturists. Irresponsible attitude of the Advisers towards agriculturists in Telangana is highly deplorable.

I make a humble submission in this House on one more thing. Just now the Home Minister is only available. Both the Finance Minister and the Minister of State for Agriculture have left the House. I feel that these Ministers, by mutual consultation, should take some measures to instruct the Bank people in order to avoid the harassment in Telangana. After all, the agriculturists are under very heavy stresses and strains. After some time they will probably be able to pay the loan with interest. After all, these loans are given to the agriculturists for their betterment when they are in great difficulties due to famine etc. in regular way.

MR. SPEAKER : You just draw the attention of the Minister and do not make a speech. Kindly sit down.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN : Why should they press for the recovery ? They are issuing notices for the recovery of the loans and to auction their land. Is this a service to the society ? Lastly, Sir, I request the hon. Minister to instruct the two Advisers, against whom I have framed allegations for having not attended to their problems, to do the needful in the matter.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Bosu.