

SOME HON. MEMBERS *rose*—

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Considering the high feelings of members, I will allow each one or two minutes to make a statement only one for each subject, not, two or three for every subject. Otherwise, it becomes a debate which I cannot allow. Only one for each subject—just mention it, that is all.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : This fortnightly paper in Kerala *Nawab* had published a photostat in which the PA to the Home Minister of Kerala, Shri Karunakaran, says that the Minister had instructed Shri B. B. John, son-in-law ..

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He will realise that this is a State subject.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Gwalior) : Freedom of the press is involved.

SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalabandi) : He should be allowed to complete his sentence.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have listened to him. He is mentioning about the name of a Minister in Kerala. If we start this precedent of discussing about Ministers of the States here, it will not be proper.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Photostat copy is here

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It is for the Kerala Assembly to look into it. We can not set this precedent of discussing such matters here.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : It is a different issue altogether.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : These are matters coming within the responsibility and purview of the State Assembly. If we start discussing these things about them, they will do likewise in their Assemblies about us. Then where does parliamentary democracy go ? I cannot allow it.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : ***

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing that Shri Bosu says will go on record.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : ***

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He will kindly co-operate. I cannot allow such matters to be discussed here. An editor has been taken into custody. It is the responsibility of the State Government.

SHRI P. K. DEO : On a point of order. This is on the point raised by Shri Bosu. This House has on many occasions discussed the conduct of Chief Ministers of Various States. There was a historic ruling ..

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It does not matter. I am not going to be drawn into a discussion on this. If he is not satisfied with my ruling, he might meet me in my Chamber.

SHRI P. K. DEO ***

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What Shri Deo says will not go on record.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : If you want our co-operation, do not overdo it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I want his co-operation. But I cannot allow this.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I have not come here to sit dumb.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Of course, he is a very vocal and powerful member here. (*Interruptions*) Order, please. Mr. Bhogendra Jha.

12.35 hrs

Re. RAILWAYMEN'S STRIKE IN BARAUNI AREA FOR GRANT OF PROJECT ALLOWANCE

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Jainagar) : Sir, on the 8th February, 1971, the Railway Board through its letter agreed that the Barauni railwaymen will get a project allowance in accordance with the decision of the Board of Arbitration on the issue. Thereafter, the present Railway Minister violated this order of the Railway Board, and because of this, there has been a strike for 33 days in the Barauni area. (*Interruption*) thereafter, on the written, signed assurance of the Labour Minister that there would be no victimisation and that the demands would be granted according to the directive of the Board, the railway strike was withdrawn, and

[SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA]

on the assurance of the Labour Minister, we persuaded the workers to resume duty and they did. Thereafter, 4,000 Employees have been victimised for the last one year. During the Bangla Desh crisis, they forgot all their families and they performed their duty well, because the Barauni area is the lifeline in that part of our country. Now, the Railway Minister is adamant. The families of those workers are starving; their children are starving; the workers remain suspended. The Labour Minister has accepted in the House and said-to quote his own words—"I have given the assurance; I tried my best; I plead helplessness." The Railway Minister is not prepared to hear the Labour Minister's words. I want to know whether there is only one Government or two Governments here. (*Interruptions*) I request you to direct that the Prime Minister herself come and tell us whether there are two governments or one government here, and whether the Labour Minister's own, signed assurance is going to be honoured or not. I request that the Prime Minister should come before the House and let us know (*Interruptions*) I seek your permission to lay on the Table of the House the copy of the assurance given by the Labour Minister. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Order, please. You know I agreed that I would allow the Member to make a statement. But, that should not lead to any debate, in which case, the other Members would also like to have their say, it becomes a regular debate. Now, it is on record and the Government's attention has been drawn to it, and it is for the Government to take note of it.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : (स्वाभाविक)
उपाध्यक्ष जी, 17 तारीख के हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स में अमेरिका से श्री कृष्ण भाटिया का एक लेख छपा है जिस में कहा गया है कि राष्ट्रपति निक्सन के विशेष दूत मिस्टर किंसिजर विल्ली जाएं, यहां आकर वह विदेश मंत्री से वार्ता कर के गए हैं। उन की यात्रा गुप्त थी। उसे पढ़ने के बाद पहले तो ऐसा लगा कि यह मजाक है...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It sounds like a fairy tale.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore) : then he roamed about in Chandni Chowk.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : लेकिन इस का खण्डन होना चाहिए। श्री कृष्ण भाटिया फेयरी टेल्स नहीं लिखा करते। मैं चाहूंगा कि इस का खंडन किया जाय या इसकी पुष्टि की जाय।

12.39 hrs.

RE. DROUGHT AND WATER SCARCITY CONDITIONS IN WEST BENGAL

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, for the last several days, I have been trying to draw the attention, of the Speaker, through requests and also through Calling Attention notices, to the serious conditions that have developed in West Bengal due to unprecedented drought and scarcity of water and starvation deaths. Already, there have been 16 deaths due to starvation. In certain rural areas, the situation has developed to such an extent that the tanks have dried up and hundreds of tube-wells have dried up. The people in the rural areas are facing acute scarcity of water. I have written to the Chief Minister of West Bengal about the steps to be taken. No reply has come so far. I want to know from the Government. The former Chief Minister, Profulla Chandra Sen has said that he would fast unto death unless some provision is made for the supply of water in the rural areas.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : We have given a call attention notice ; it is a serious matter.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Because the Members are so anxious I have gone out of my way and I have allowed Members to mention, although strictly speaking it is the responsibility of the State Government.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : No, Sir,

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Since it is a big humanitarian problem, I have allowed him to make a statement.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : It is a concurrent subject. Drought in the eastern