

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** We are now well-acquainted with Mr Nixon's designs. He is trying to bring treaty organisations and involve them as far as the Indo-Pak conflict and the Bangla Desh liberation movement is concerned. Would you be so kind to ask the Government to make a statement in this House? The Prime Minister has said something about it elsewhere but that does not involve this House. She should make a statement before the House, so that we may discuss it.

**SHRI S. M BANERJEE :** Either the Prime Minister or the External Affairs Minister or the Defence Minister should make a statement. (*Interruptions*).

**MR. SPEAKER :** I have not given you permission. Those members who did not give notice should not rise.

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE :** It is said :

"The United States considers the thrust of Indian troops virtually occupying East Pakistan, as an attack on the very existence of a member State of the UN".

We can give a fitting reply to this. (*Interruptions*).

**श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (ग्वालियर) :** अध्यक्ष जी, यह बड़े महत्व का मामला है, इसमें नोटिस का सवाल नहीं है। इसमें केवल अमरीका का ही सवाल नहीं है बल्कि चीन भी पदों के पीछे है। हम चाहेंगे कि सरकार इसके बारे में इस सदन को और देश को विश्वास में ले। पहले सरकार की ओर से एक ब्यौरे का वक्तव्य आना चाहिए और फिर अगर आप आवश्यक समझें तो चर्चा की इजाजत दे सकते हैं लेकिन यूनाइटेड नेशंस में ज़्यादा हो रहा है वह हम जानना चाहेंगे।

**SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA (Begu-sarai) :** After all, this House has been sitting for a certain purpose during this emergency. If the House is not taken into confidence about international reactions and threats, how are we going to advise the Government properly in this matter and what is the use of our continuing in session?

**SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD (Bhagapur) :** It is a question of judgment, whether we should take note of the imperialist Nixon's undemocratic utterances. We feel we should ignore them, rather than take note of them in this House. That is also an attitude to be taken into account.

SOME HON. MEMBERS *rose*—

**MR. SPEAKER :** The Minister of Food and Agriculture will make a statement now.

**SHRI S. A. SHAMIM (Srinagar) :** Have you decided about the request of the members for a discussion?

**MR. SPEAKER :** I am not to decide it. I will convey it.

11.06 hrs.

#### STATEMENT *RE* SUGAR POLICY

**THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI F. A. AHMED) :** As the House is aware, the sharp rise in sugar prices in recent weeks has caused widespread concern. The Government feel that there is hardly any justification for this rise. On the 1st October, 1971 there was an opening stock of 14.0 lakh tonnes, which together with an estimated production of 33 to 34 lakh tonnes during the current season, will make a total of 47 to 48 lakh tonnes of sugar available to meet the requirement of about 40.0 lakh tonnes for internal consumption. Discussions were, therefore, held with the representatives of the industry, both in the joint stock and the co-operative sectors. It was emphasised that in the current situation there was an imperative need to hold the sugar price line, and at the same time to ensure payment of higher sugarcane price to the growers than the minimum fixed by the Government, so that the sugar production which had declined since 1969-70 might pick up again in 1972-73.

I am happy to announce that the sugar industry has been quick to appreciate the seriousness of the situation and the need to pay higher sugarcane price to the growers than the minimum fixed by Government, It has also agreed to make 60% of the monthly

[Shri F. A. Ahmed]

releases available to the Government for meeting emergent requirements and for distribution through fair price shops to domestic consumers at a fixed ex-factory price of Rs. 150/- per quintal exclusive of excise duty. The Government have agreed to this price taking into account the overall interests of the cane-grower, the industry and the consumer. Under this arrangement, it will be possible for the domestic consumers in most places to get a reasonable part of their requirements at about Rs 2 per kg. In Delhi, it will be slightly higher on account of the higher octroi duty here. This arrangement is likely to be put into operation very soon. If this measure does not bring about the desired result, the Government would not hesitate to take such stringent steps as the situation may call for.

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JOINT COMMITTEE ON AMENDMENTS TO ELECTION LAW

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO : (Chattrapur) : I beg to move :

"That this House do further extend the time for the presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee on amendments to election law upto the last day of the first week of the Budget Session (1972)"

MR. SPEAKER : I think this is very correct. Now the elections are being postponed, you will have more time. You need not make it too rigid. The question is :

"That this House do further extend the time for the presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee on amendments to election law up to the last day of the first week of the Budget Session (1972)."

*The motion was adopted.*

11.09 hrs.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

MR. SPEAKER : Before we take up the regular discussion I have to make one

announcement. Government want to bring up for discussion and immediate passing a Bill entitled Naval and Aircrafts Prizes Bill 1971. According to the reasons given, at present our navy is unable to enforce the stoppage of war-like materials carried by foreign ships to ports in Pakistan because there is no law on the subject. They want this law to be passed immediately. I have informed government that they can introduce and pass that Bill either today or tomorrow, as they like and there will be no difficulty from our side. Copies of the Bill will be made available to members.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Gwalior) : Will it be discussed today or tomorrow ?

MR. SPEAKER : Perhaps tommorrow. I will ask the Defence Minister to move it today. It will be taken up tomorrow and all the other formalities will follow.

11.10 hrs.

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COKING COAL MINES (EMERGENCY PROVISIONS) BILL *CONTD.*

MR. SPEAKER : Now we shall take up further consideration of the Coking Coal Mines (Emergency Provisions) Bill. We have already taken 20 minutes over it. There is so much urgent business pending and we have very little time available. When the time was allotted in the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee, it was fixed on the basis of the House sitting for the whole day. But now that has been reduced almost to half. Therefore, Members should kindly take lesser time than they had originally planned to take.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : Let us sit one hour extra.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Gwalior) : We are prepared to sit for the whole day.

MR. SPEAKER : They want their officers to be free and they want to be free themselves for many other things. For us it is all right ; we are doing nothing else.

SHRI DASARATHA DEB (Tripura East) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is good that the