

terday, there is no option left for us but to sit for another day, that is, on the 2nd of September, 1972, to complete the business

MR SPEAKER I hope you agree that we sit on the 2nd September also

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STATEMENT RE MEETING OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF INDIA AND PAKISTAN IN NEW DELHI

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) The Prime Minister sent a letter to the President of Pakistan on August, 19 suggesting that representatives of the two governments might meet to exchange views on the developments that have taken place since the Simla Agreement was signed and to resolve any doubts about the future prospects of settling the outstanding problems in the spirit of mutual confidence as contemplated in the Simla Agreement. In response, the President of Pakistan sent a reply on August, 22 that Pakistan is determined to ensure that the Simla Agreement is implemented in its letter and spirit and that the Agreement should constitute the basis of future relationship between our two countries. He suggested that his Special Envoy, Mr Aziz Ahmed, assisted by the Special Assistant to the President, Mr Rafi Raza and a small team of senior officials from the Foreign Office would arrive in New Delhi on the 25th August.

Mr Aziz Ahmed and the Members of his Delegation held frank and comprehensive discussions from 25th to 29th August, 1972 with the Indian Delegation led by Shri P N Haksar, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister on the developments since the Simla Agreement with a view to resolving any doubts that may have arisen. The text of a Joint Statement to the press issued on the conclusion of the discussions is laid on the Table of the House.

I should also like to inform the Honourable Members that the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister had written to the Special Assistant to the President of Pakistan, Mr Rafi Raza on the 14th July regarding the need to ensure the safety of the person and property of the Pakistani nationals who had been affected by the war and who had remained in the territories of Pakistan occupied by our forces in Sind or crossed into the territory of India. When no reply was received, I wrote on this subject to the Minister of Political Affairs and Communications of the Government of Pakistan, Mr Ghulam Mustafa Khan Jatoi, on the 4th August. Mr Jatoi sent me his reply on the 22nd August stating categorically that the President of Pakistan and his Government are most keen to ensure that the persons affected by war return to their homes in Pakistan at the earliest possible opportunity. Pakistan has decided to send Rana Chandar Singh, a member of the Sind Provincial Assembly and two Members of Parliament from Thaparkar to visit the area even while it is under the occupation of the Indian Army, to reassure the people who are still residing there and also to invite a number of their prominent leaders who are currently in India so that they could speak to them with a view to persuading the affected persons to return. The President of Pakistan has also assured our Prime Minister in his letter that these affected persons would not only be welcome to return to their homes but would be assured of safety of life and dignity as Pakistani nationals.

The Government of India have agreed to this suggestion in the hope that this will create the necessary atmosphere and conditions to enable the affected persons to remain in or return to their homes in Pakistan and live there in safety of person and property.

Some differences had arisen in the discussions between the Indian military com-

mander and the Pakistan military commander regarding the delineation of the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir resulting from the ceasefire of December 17, 1971. The discussions held between the Indian and Pakistani delegations have resolved these differences and it has been agreed that the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir will be delineated along its entire length and maps showing this line will be exchanged by both sides. The delineation of the line will be completed by the 4th September, 1972. The inviolability of this line will be ensured by both sides in terms of the Simla Agreement. Withdrawals in terms of the Simla Agreement will now be completed by the 15th September, 1972 as mutually agreed by the two delegations.

As for the question of return of prisoners of war and civilian internees, we have reiterated to the Pakistan Delegation that this question cannot be settled without the participation and agreement of the Government of Bangladesh. We have impressed on the Government of Pakistan that any delay in the recognition of Bangladesh by them will hamper the process of durable peace and normalisation of relations and delay the achievement of the objectives set out in the Simla Agreement. It is our earnest hope that Pakistan will not further delay the recognition of the realities of the new situation on the subcontinent. It is in the interest of the three countries of the Subcontinent to resolve their differences by mutual discussion.

*Joint Statement to the Press.*

In pursuance of the recent exchange of letters between the Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan, the representatives of the two sides met in New Delhi from 25th to 29th August 1972. The Pakistan Delegation comprised Mr. Aziz Ahmed, Special Envoy of the President of Pakistan, Mr. Rafi Raza, Special Assistant to the

President of Pakistan and Mr. Abdul Sattar, Director-General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Indian Delegation comprised Mr. P. N. Haksar, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister of India, Mr. T.N. Kaul, Foreign Secretary, Mr. S. K. Banerji, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs and Mr. A. S. Chib, Joint Secretary.

2. The two sides reviewed the developments since the signing of the Simla Agreement and the need to resolve any doubts that may have arisen on either side and to ensure the smooth implementation of the Agreement. They reaffirmed the determination of the two Governments to implement the provisions of the Simla Agreement in letter and in spirit for the establishment of durable peace in the sub-continent.

3. The two sides made the following recommendations to their respective Governments :

(i) The line of control in Jammu & Kashmir resulting from the cease-fire of December 17, 1971 will be delineated along its entire length and respected by both sides without prejudice to the recognised positions of either side. Maps showing this line will be exchanged by both sides. The inviolability of the line of control will be ensured by both sides in accordance with paragraph 4(ii) of the Simla Agreement. It was agreed that the delineation of the line will be completed by the 4th of September, 1972.

(ii) In view of certain practical difficulties that have arisen, it may not be possible to complete the process of withdrawals within the period specified in the Simla Agreement. Accordingly, the withdrawals to the international border will be completed by the 15th of September, 1972.

(iii) Political leaders from Tharparkar will visit the areas of Sind occupied by the Indian Forces in order to assure the

[Shri Swaran Singh]

inhabitants of the area that they will be welcomed to remain in or return to their homes in Pakistan in safety and dignity from camps in India in accordance with the Plan given by the Director of Military Operations of Pakistan to the Director of Military Operations of India on August 21, 1972 (vide Annexure). The Indian side will give the necessary facilities to ensure full implementation of the Plan.

#### Annexure

Outline Plan for the re-settlement in Sind of Sections of the minority community displaced as a result of war, handed over by the D.M.O. of Pakistan to the D.M.O. of India on 21-8-1972.

1. The President of Pakistan is anxious that all persons displaced as a result of war shall be rehabilitated in their homes as soon as possible and that the lives, properties and rights of the affected minorities are to be fully safeguarded to enable them to resume life where it was disturbed by war.

2. To this end, under the direction of the President, necessary machinery has been set up, plans made and material resources allotted to enable speedy resettlement of displaced persons.

3. This plan, in outline, is based on the following :—

(a) That Indian authorities have agreed in the first instance that they will arrange for as many as possible of the displaced Pakistani nationals who left for India during and after the war to return to their homes before vacating areas in Sind.

(b) That the remaining Pakistani nationals who are unable to return for any reason in the first instance are kept temporarily in camps on the Indian side.

(c) That as soon as Indian forces vacate areas in Sind, Pakistan forces shall move forward to re-occupy these areas. Immediately afterwards the Civil Administration shall be established which will have a special component organised to implement resettlement and rehabilitation.

(d) Simultaneous with re-establishment of the Civil Administration, police and para-military forces will establish a net work of Posts with mobile reserves at Union level for enforcing necessary authority to deal with any hostile activities against the returning minorities.

(e) Relief Committees, social welfare bodies and teams consisting of members of the National and Provincial Assemblies of all denominations from the affected area and other notables will move in to ensure harmony between all sections of the people.

(f) The next step will be to establish reception centres at suitable places near the border inside Pakistan to receive the balance of displaced persons held in Indian camps.

(g) Displaced persons received in these Reception Centres will be gradually moved to their homes.

(h) As far as possible, only after steps in para 3(a) to (f) have been completed that displaced persons of the majority community presently held in camps in the interior of Sind, who belong to areas where the minority community is also living will be brought forward and resettled.

(i) The strength of Police Command, other law enforcing agencies is to be substantially increased in the affected area with a view to pro-

viding more effective protection to the minority community.

*Footnote regarding para 3(b) above.*

The Indian authorities will be intimated when these Reception Centres are ready to receive.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contd.) : On a point of submission. We have expressed our inexhaustible faith in the credibility of Mr. Bhutto...

MR. SPEAKER : No questions after the hon. Minister's statement.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : There are many gaps . . .

MR. SPEAKER : I am not calling him. Let him not obstruct.

13.06 hrs.

UNTOUCHABILITY (OFFENCES)  
AMENDMENT AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISION BILL

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE (Bombay Central) : I beg to move :—

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do appoint a member of Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee on the Bill to amend the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955, and further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951, the vacancy caused by the resignation of Shri Jamna Lal Berwa from the membership of the said Joint Committee and do communicate to this House the name of the member so appointed by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :—

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do appoint a member of Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee on the Bill to amend the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955 and further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951, in the vacancy caused by the resignation of Shri Jamna Lal Berwa from the membership of the said Joint Committee and do communicate to this House the name of the member so appointed by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee.

*The motion was adopted.*

FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE  
SERVICE OFFICERS (CONDITIONS  
OF SERVICE) BILL\*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the variation or revocation of the conditions of service of former Secretary of State Service officers in respect of certain matters and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the variation or revocation of the conditions of service of former Secretary of State Service officers in respect of certain matters and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : I introduce the Bill.

\*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, Dated 30-8-72  
†Introduced with the recommendation of the President.