

pro-India. So it is better to leave the matter to the Prime Minister, And I have no doubt that he will be able to assess the position accurately. We will not go to war unless Pakistan commits aggression on us.

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling) : We need to take serious note of two grave developments. Both have been mentioned by the Leader of the Opposition. One is in regard to the reported statement of Pakistan's Prime Minister. Pakistan has already unleashed a proxy war on us. Now it is threatening an open war. I therefore support the demand made for a comprehensive statement from the Prime Minister on this particular subject. I am happy that the Prime Minister did clarify from the Red Fort that there is no question of any third party intervention in regard to the Kashmir issue. But this matter needs to be made abundantly clear from the floor of the House, and also in regard to the visit of Mr. Kaufman and related matters.

MR. SPEAKER : I am not allowing that matter to go on record. You will not make any general reference.

SHRI INDER JIT*.

MR. SPEAKER : I am not allowing any reference to be made to that point unless it is confirmed.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now please let me say something on the point which has already been raised.

The issue is vital. We should deal with it with the attention it deserves. The representative of the Government

of Pakistan is in India. He would certainly be treated as an honoured guest as is our practice. We would not depend only on what has appeared in the newspapers and magazines. By adopting appropriate methods, the text and tenor of it should be ascertained. And I am sure, the House is interested in knowing the factual position on this.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I have given notice of an adjournment motion on the Meghalaya situation, where the Government is all set to topple the Lyngdoh Government. We had raised this matter here before the House was adjourned for the weekend. Sir, this Government have refused to give any answer. Some noise was made from the other side, but I heard, on the authority of the Leader of my Party that the Prime Minister had assured him in a private discussion—two days ago I raised the matter on the floor of the House on Thursday—that nothing will be done in Meghalaya to disturb the present Government. It seems to me now that the Government is being toppled, all arrangements have been made for it, and I want, Sir, to move my motion for adjournment of the House to discuss this very important matter.

MR. SPEAKER : You can do it only after I give my consent.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I think you have taken one hour and 15 minutes for raising matters.

*Nor recorded.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEV ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, an elected Government would be destabilised, it is being disturbed in Meghalaya. . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Despite what has happened in Tamil Nadu, we have not asked for anything. But what is going to happen in Meghalaya today? The entire democratic fabric of the country is at stake . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You must realise that you have taken one hour and 15 minutes on matters which are not on the agenda.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Everybody can talk on that. The atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are all important, which are going to come up.

(Interruptions)

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat) : We have also written to you about the developments in Meghalaya *(Interruptions)*.

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the matter raised by Shri George Fernandes regarding Meghalaya is indeed serious and is gaining ground since the last seven or eight days and the most unfortunate issue is that the leader of the Congress Party is the Speaker of the House and you should also take this fact into

consideration. He is the Speaker of the House.

[*English*]

He is the Speaker of the House.
MR. SPEAKER : Can I do it?

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI : You can do it not officially, but even as the Chairman of the Presiding Officers' Conference you can safely exercise your good offices and see that this kind of situation does not develop.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, till date anything, that can be called constitutional crisis has yet not cropped up but whatever is happening politically, repeals the anti-defection law. It puts the sanctity of Parliamentary institution to an end and it appears that the House is helpless about it. We expected that the Prime Minister, who is the head of Government and the president of Congress Party, would play a key role in giving right direction to the activities but it appears that he will not be able to do the same and consequently the elected Government there will be thrown out of power and a new Government will be formed in their place, this should not happen.

Through the leader of the House I request the Prime Minister to intervene in this matter and do what is justified and prevent anything wrong. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the matter related to Meghalaya is a matter concerning the north east states. Sir . . .

MR. SPEAKER : Members from your party have already spoken.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I have a point. The states lying in Purvanchal are sensitive states and we have been raising this issue for the last ten days. Now the Congress Party wants to form its Government there by hook or by crook. The Congress wants to form Government. As such I want to tell you that constitutional crisis has arisen there. It is a matter pertaining to North East. It is a very sensitive state. We have to control the situation somehow. (*Interruptions*) No such action should be taken by the ruling party or by the Centre which . . . (*Interruptions*).

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will call you. Your Member from your Party spoke now. You should take no more time.

Your own motion is going to come up after this. (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : As such we urge upon you to direct the Government to make a statement on the situation in that state and to assure that no such action would be taken by the Government which results in the outbreak of a constitutional crisis and there may not be a instable Government in Purvanchal.

[English]

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG (Shillong) : Sir, a few days ago, I spoke in this House about the action of the Governor that took place in Meghalaya. The Governor had directed the Speaker of the Meghalaya Assembly to convene the House on

7th of this month for a vote of confidence in the Council of Ministers. At 10 O'Clock on the 5th of this month, the Congress leaders met the Governor and informed that they had come to know that two MLAs would be sworn in as Ministers and they requested the Governor not to swear them in, because the Speaker had called for a confidence motion on the 7th. At 4.30 PM on the same day, one of the MLAs who was sick in the hospital was forcefully brought to the Governor's residence and both the MLAs were sworn in by the Governor as Ministers and the appointment order was issued by the Chief Minister himself and not by the Governor.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : It is not illegal.

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG : It is illegal and it is not conventional to swear in any MLAs as Ministers when the House was summoned for test of strength.

All this was done by the Janata Dal Government to topple the democratically elected Congress Government in Meghalaya in 1990. I was there. What was given to this House was misinformation. The Governor did not issue the appointment letter to the MLAs to be sworn in as Ministers. That was done by the Chief Minister himself.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : It is the beginning of the week. We are discussing from 12 Noon. But you are impatient with us. I request you to bear with us.

MR. SPEAKER : Time is not there. Don't give long lectures. Already one

hour and fifteen minutes have been spent on subjects which are not in the List.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : The democratic fabric and the integrity of India is at stake. The first was in Tamil Nadu. Then it is Meghalaya. What is happening? Can you imagine yourself as the Leader of the House? This is happening in a part of the country and that part of the country is feeling alienated again and again. If the Parliament at Delhi cannot pay attention to that, if we cannot send any message, then it will not only mean a crumbling down of the parliamentary fabric but it will also mean secession and disintegration of the country.

I do not want the Governments to be toppled or not to be toppled. We did not ask for it in Tamil Nadu/ The Congress-I is responsible for this development in Meghalaya. Is it not threat to the parliamentary democracy of the country? We, therefore, make this request in this House to that party. Let them restrain their people there.

MR. SPEAKER : Please be brief.

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG : The Congress party also has a right to form a Government in the North Eastern region. This right of forming the Government does not rest only with the non-Congress parties.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Let them not be responsible to be accused by future generations that they were responsible for the disintegration of the country and secession of the North-Eastern States from the country as a whole. It is

this kind of responsibility that they must undertake and every section of the people should tell them to do that.

If they do not do that, then issue a joint appeal under your leadership to all legislators that it is unwise that a leader of the House should remain the Speaker of the Legislature. Let us make this appeal to all the legislators of the country. We can do this much at least. We owe this much to the country as the Central Legislature.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to bring a case of scandal to your notice and to the notice of this House. (*Interruptions*). Four times I stood to raise this issue but I was not given a chance to speak. (*Interruptions*) The Industrial Finance Corporation of India is indulging in gross irregularities in the matter of distribution of loans worth crores of rupees. Violating the rules, a sum of rupees ninteen crore fifty five lakh has been given to the Reliance Industries and the interest has been waived in order to give them benefit. Besides this, I want to inform you that Samrat bicycle company has been given crores of rupees as foreign exchange by the Industrial Finance Corporation of India. Not only this, there is one Ansal Company—a sum of several hundred crore rupees was outstanding against this company along with a sum of rupees seventy seven lakh as interest but the said amount has also been waived.

MR. SPEAKER : You will have to take the responsibility of whatever you are saying.