

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, March 5, 1991/Phalgun 14,
1912 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

PROF. P. J. KURIEN (Maveli-
kara): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have to
make a submission...(Interrup-
tions).

MR. SPEAKER: This is Ques-
tion Hour.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Sir, you
must have assessed that...(Interrup-
tions).

MR. SPEAKER: What is the
point?

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Please let
me formulate. Sir, you must have
assessed the mood of the House yes-
terday over the spying at the residence
of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, our leader...
(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: That is no
point.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: It is
clear...(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Please let me
know what is the point.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Sir, it is
clear that it could not have happened
without the sanction of the political
authority and here we are concerned
with the Central Government and the
Prime Minister. This kind of func-
tioning cuts at the very root of parlia-
mentary democracy and free func-
tioning of political parties... (Inter-
ruptions).

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHAT-
TERJEE (Dumdum): But that is
what you are supporting...(Interrup-
tions).

MR. SPEAKER: Order please.
This is Question Hour, Mr. Kurien...
(Interruptions)

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Sir, we
demand adequate action immediately
against all those who are responsible
for this and till such action is taken,
we are compelled to walk out and
abstain from the House.

*At this stage Prof. P.J. Kurten
and some other hon. Members
left the House.*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Chhedi
Paswan.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Report of Judicial Committee on Air Accident at Bangalore

*121. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN:
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIA-
TION be pleased to state:

(a) the main recommendations of
the Judicial Committee appointed to
enquire into the air crash at Banga-
lore in February, 1990;

(b) the action taken by the Govern-
ment thereon; and

(c) the details of pending recom-
mendations on which action is yet to
be taken by the Government?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIA-
TION (SHRI HARMOHAN DHA-
WAN): (a) to (c) The Court of

Inquiry has made 62 recommendations. The Report of the Court of Inquiry along with the Government's decisions thereon has been tabled in the House on 10-1-1991. Action has been initiated to implement the recommendations accepted by the Government.

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Biplab Dasgupta, this is Question Hour. Please resume your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has appeared in the Indian Express of today.....(Interruptions) I am on a point of order. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: No point of order.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us go with the business. Mr. Patnaik, let us proceed with the business.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Biplab Babu and Mr. Sivaji Patnaik, would you please resume your seats?

(Interruptions)

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (Jagatsinghpur): Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Lokanath Choudhury, no point of order. Take your seat.

(Interruptions)

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (Calcutta South): Sir, we are giving an adjournment motion. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I seek assistance of Shri Advani in conducting the proceedings of the House properly...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: He is the leader of the opposition.

SHRI L. K. ADVANI (New Delhi): Ordinarily I would not have raised any other issue during the Question Hour and I would have requested you to proceed with the Question Hour. But what has happened today is something very serious and unprecedented. After all, opposition is not responsible to maintain quorum in the House. For that matter either the Government or their supporting party holds this responsibility. This issue had been discussed yesterday and the entire House had expressed their concern over it. With this statement of the Prime Minister that the matter was being investigated and the Members would be apprised of the outcome thereof, the entire House had taken the chapter as closed for ever. However, by raising the same issue again to boycott the proceedings of the House on a lame excuse today, the Congress has acted very irresponsibly. I would like to make a submission to the Government. Will the Government and their supporting party be able to maintain their cohesion? Due to this present uncooperation neither the Parliamentary proceedings are being conducted properly, nor the Government is working properly. Also the country is not going in the right direction. Therefore, the matter should be reviewed, at least the existing strained relations are not conducive for smooth functioning of the House. Keeping all these things in view I have made these remarks.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Indrajit, please sit down. I will call you.

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): Sir, I have just now submitted a motion "that this House condemns the Government for its inability to stop surveillance of the house of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, M.P. of Lok Sabha". I demand that this

should be taken up immediately. Sir, what is your Ruling on this? It is a very serious thing. *(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, don't you think, as Shri Advani has just now pointed out, that in spite of the assurance given by the Prime Minister yesterday to hold the enquiry into the matter, Congress Members walked out merely to put pressure on the Central Government for the dismissal of the Haryana Government. Is the Government concerned about it? With the dismissal of the Government of Haryana the Congress Members will be coming back to the House.

[*English*]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: Sir, you suspend the Question Hour and take up the motion I have submitted. *(Interruptions)*. You suspend the Question Hour and take up the motion. Now, see where the Government stands. It is the most irresponsible behaviour. This is a crisis. What is the way out of this crisis? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Sir, you cannot treat this in a very light manner. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You know the rules. Let us proceed with the Question Hour.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, what is the use of telling us the rules? Instead, you should tell all these things to the ruling party. It is their responsibility to maintain the quorum here for that matter. You should give them a warning, admonish them for it..... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: There will be no discussion on it.

[*English*]

Let me, with your cooperation, proceed with the Question Hour.

(Interruptions)

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Sir, the House cannot take this thing lightly. *(Interruptions)* The main supporting party has staged a walk-out on an issue upon which an assurance was given. I know, at the present moment, there is no motion before you. This is the Question Hour. There is no doubt about it. The majority or the minority is not going to be determined just now. But, it also indicates that the Government has got no majority if the Congress(I) does not extend its support.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Of course, everybody knows it.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: This has been made explicit by demonstrating it. What is the guarantee that this Government enjoys the majority support of this House? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: Sir, please suspend the Question Hour and take up my Adjournment Motion. It is a crisis. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let me proceed with the Question Hour.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: Sir, it is a very serious matter. I have given notice for suspension of Question Hour. Please take up my notice for suspension of Question Hour and then I will insist on taking up my motion for censuring the Government.

MR. SPEAKER: The suspension of Question Hour cannot be taken up at the spur of the moment.

(Interruptions)

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, two motions are being

moved before the House; one Adjournment Motion has been moved and one motion for the suspension of Question Hour has also been moved. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (Delhi Sadar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Now the Deputy Prime Minister is here. He should make it clear whether they have got surveillance done on the House of Shri Rajiv Gandhi in this respect.....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: Sir, please give your ruling on my motion for suspension of Question Hour. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Why to give ruling at the time of Question Hour.

[*English*]

My ruling is, let us proceed with the Question Hour.

(*Interruptions*)

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Sir, it is an unprecedented situation. We are in a situation where the Government does not have the majority support; we are in a situation where the country has no Government; we are in a situation where this Government does not have the support of the main supporting party. This is an extraordinary situation. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us go along with the Question Hour.

(*Interruptions*)

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: It is a very serious matter. (*Interruptions*) We demand discussion on the adjournment motion.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHURY: Please take up my Motion for Suspension for Question Hour first in order to discuss the adjournment-motion to censure the Government.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: The main body of the Government has walked out. Why should the tail remain here? They should also walk-out! Have they submitted the resignation? Have the Congress-I withdrawn their support?

Therefore, what we want is that this Government should immediately submit its resignation. There is no other go for this Government.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): The Government has lost the support. They have no moral right to sit in power. (*Interruptions*)

We demand that this Government should place the CBI report on telephone tapping on the Table of the House.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: This Government cannot provide even quorum. We demand that the CBI report should be placed on the Table of the House. Otherwise, Sir, we would be forced to walk-out. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: You have not given your ruling.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us proceed with the Question Hour.

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): We have demanded that the CBI report should be placed on the Table of the House. Out of that another privilege issue against Shri Rajiv Gandhi has also come. So, unless we are able to have the CBI report on the Table, it will be difficult to solve the problem. We have already given a copy of the CBI report. Mr. Saifuddin Chowdhury has already given an authenticated copy to you. In the mean time, let them lay the CBI report on the Table of the House. That will solve many problems. If they are not able to lay it on the Table of the House, then we would have to go out as protest. I do not know what will happen to the Government in the House.

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: On the issue of surveillance, the Government has become a laughing stock. It ridicules the whole Government. The issue is surveillance and phone tapping. The Opposition have been demanding from day before yesterday that the CBI report on phone tapping be laid on the Table of the House. Yesterday surveillance issue has come up. I think this House cannot function properly: this Government cannot function properly unless this issue is taken up first of all and the Government is willing to lay the report of the CBI on the Table of the House. Unless the Government is willing to assure the House, I think, there is no point in the Opposition participating in the discussion.

[*Translation*]

Today the Deputy Prime Minister is present here and he has been in the focus of the surveillance issue. So it would be better if he gives a clarification in this regard. (*Interruptions*)

Let the Hon. Deputy Prime Minister reply.....(*Interruptions*)..... If the Government does not come out with a clarification, we will stage at walk out.. (*Interruptions*).

[*English*]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: This Government has no mandate. This Government is condemned by all sections of the House. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): You suspend the Question Hour.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: You should clarify. The Deputy Prime Minister is here. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: In protest we are walking out. The CBI report should be placed on the Table of the House.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: There is no quorum in the House. We demand quorum.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: There is no Government. (*Interruptions*)

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: This Government has no moral authority to continue. The only supporting party has withdrawn its support. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: There is a proper procedure to raise the issue of quorum. Are you walking out or are you raising the issue of quorum?

At this stage, Shri L. K. Advani and some other hon. Members left the House.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K. C. TYAGI (Hapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no quorum in the House. How will the business be conducted? First of all there should be quorum. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Are you walking out or are you raising the question of quorum?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU (Balasore): I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Please resume your seat, Mr. Kundu. Then I will hear you. You are not in your seat, Mr. Kundu. You resume your seat. Then I will give you a hearing.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU: I am raising a very moot point.

MR. SPEAKER: I can only tell you to go to your seat and raise your point of order in an orderly manner.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI K. C. TYAGI: There is no quorum in the House. First of all there should be quorum. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI A. K. ROY (Dhanbad): May I point out, Sir, that there is no quorum in the House? I am formally raising the question of quorum.

MR. SPEAKER: The bell is being rung—

The House stands adjourned for want of quorum to meet again at 11.45 A.M.

11.26 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till forty-five minutes past Eleven of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at fifty-five minutes past Eleven of the Clock.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY SECRETARY-GENERAL

SECRETARY-GENERAL. Hon. Members, since there is no quorum in the House, the hon. Speaker has directed that the House shall now meet at 2.30 p.m.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till thirty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Electrification of Rail Lines in Kerala

*122. PROF. P. J. KURIEN:

PROF. K. V. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start electrification of railway lines in Kerala during 1991-92; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Railway Overbridges in Sonapat and Panipat

*123 SHRI KAPIL DEV SHASTRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are proposals for construction of Railway overbridges in Sonapat and Panipat cities on Delhi-Ambala railway line;

(b) if so, the expenditure to be incurred thereon separately in each case;

(c) whether the Government are facing any difficulty in the execution of these projects and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the progress made so far in acquisition of land etc. for these projects?