

12-01 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE
REPORTED RESIGNATION OF ONE OF
THE ADVISORS TO THE WEST BENGAL
GOVERNOR

SHRI JOYTIRMOY BASU (Dimond Harbour) : I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon :

'Reported resignation of one of the advisers to the Governor of West Bengal.'

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, to assist him in the exercise of functions and powers while the Proclamation under article 356 is in force, the Governor of West Bengal has appointed Sarvashri B. E. Ghosh, K. K. Sen, M. M. Basu and A. K. Ghosh as his Advisers. A fifth Adviser, Shri A. N. Kidwai has also been appointed.

There was some misunderstanding about the organisation of work as a result of which Shri B. B. Ghosh expressed doubts about the utility of his services. The position has since been clarified. The Governor, West Bengal has made appropriate arrangements for the organisation of work and the services of Shri B. B. Ghosh will be available to the Governor.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : This is an unusual case where the State Government under President's Rule has appointed five advisers. Will the Home Minister tell us in how many States since 1952 when the President's Rule was in force the Governor had as many as five advisers? The Governor's job is caretaking and preparing the State for immediate mid-term poll. Why is it that they are trying to have a permanent settlement by organising something on top of the existing machinery there? Is it that they are waiting for Shri Giri's election verdict, to come out. Because for the election, if it comes, they will need votes from West Bengal? Or, are they manoeuvring to form a mini front? We know that the monopolists want the continuation of the President's Rule. The Birlas have been going on removing their files from Bengal. The jotedars want to grab all the land. All this is happening. But certainly, you cannot hoodwink the people; you cannot deprive the people of their democratic rights and, at the same time, burden them with the additional expenditure of keeping

the Assembly alive and keep alive all this paraphernalia. The tight-party splinter UF group has also declared day before yesterday that a mid-term poll is the only answer. Will the hon. Home Minister tell us here and now when they propose to hold the mid-term poll and dissolve the Assembly?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : There is no question of deciding any date of a poll etc. This is not the time to consider that. This is not a matter concerning the running of the present administration. The other issues raised by Shri Jyotirmoy Basu may be interesting to him but to me they are irrelevant.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : My question was specific : In how many States since 1952, where President's rule had been imposed, you have five advisers for the Governor on top of the topheavy administration that is there?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : The administration is not topheavy. The administration which was being run by nearly 20 ministers is now run by five advisers. How can you say that it is topheavy?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : I take it that this is the first State where they have got five advisers when President's rule has been imposed. Nowhere else was it done. When you go to the polls, the people will wipe you out.

DR. MAITREYEE BASU (Darjeeling) : The Home Minister has said that there was some misunderstanding. We are actually very eager to know what that misunderstanding was. Was the misunderstanding due to the fact that Shri B. B. Ghosh, who is very well conversant with the problems of Calcutta, wanted more funds and wanted to be sure of the funds allocated for the improvement of the situation in Calcutta which is already intolerable, or was it due to the fact that he was not allotted the right portfolio? Also, I would like to know from the Home Minister whether it is always with a protest of this kind that they will come forward to ameliorate it.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : I do not think it is necessary to go into the cause of the misunderstanding when the misunderstanding has been removed, the work has been allotted now and the things are moving. I think, we should not do something which will give further cause for misunderstanding.

DR. MAITREYEE BASU : I do not know whether we are satisfied with this answer but he is determined not to enlighten us and I should not like to press him further about it.

श्री शिवचन्द्र झा (मधुवनी) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, खास परिस्थितियों की वजह से राष्ट्र-पति शासन लागू किया जाता है। जनता की उम्मीद रहती है कि राष्ट्रपति शासन क्लीन होगा, भ्रष्टाचार से ऊपर होगा और अफसरशाही की कमी होगी, लेकिन हकीकत यह है कि इस से उल्टा होता है, अफसरशाही बढ़ जाती है, भ्रष्टाचार बढ़ता है और तमाम खराबियाँ आ जाती हैं। जब राष्ट्रपति शासन में एड-मिनिस्ट्रेशन आता है तो इसकी खराबियों की दो वजह होती है—पहली वजह यह है कि सिविल-सर्वेन्ट्स के हाथ में एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन आता है। सिविल सर्वेन्ट्स जैसा कि आप जानते हैं—न सिविल रहे और न सर्वेन्ट रहे, उनके प्रशासन को डोमिनेशन कहिए या टोटैलिटेरियन कहिए—मैं उसके अन्दर नहीं जाऊँगा। लेकिन राष्ट्रपति शासन में जिन सिविल सर्वेन्ट्स को बहाल किया जाता है, वे प्रायः वहाँ के होते हैं, जिससे भ्रष्टाचार बढ़ता है, फेवरेटिज्म बढ़ता है। ऐसा ही बिहार में हुआ और ऐसा ही अभी बंगाल में हुआ। अच्छा तो यह होगा—अगर सिविल सर्वेन्ट्स ही बहाल किए जाने हैं, तो वे वहाँ के न हों, दूसरी स्टेट्स के हों, उसी स्टेट के न हों। उसी स्टेट के होने से इन खराबियों के बढ़ने की संभावना बढ़ जाती है।

तीसरी बात—एम० पीज की जो कन्सल्टेटिव कमेटी बनाई जाती है, वह एक प्रकार से टाकेटिव बोडी हो जाती है, उसमें उनको किसी प्रकार की पावर नहीं दी जाती है। अच्छा यह होगा कि सिविल सर्वेन्ट्स को पावर न देकर, एम० पीज की जो कमेटी बनती है, उसको पावर दी जाय। मेम्बरों को पोर्टफोलियो बाँट दिए जायें और उनको पावर देकर उनसे काम लिया जाय, इससे जनता का रिप्रेजेन्टेशन भी हो जायगा और शासन का काम भी ठीक तरह से चलेगा, यदि यह रास्ता अख्तियार किया जाय, लेकिन सरकार ऐसा नहीं करती है और प्रशासन भ्रष्ट हो जाता है।

इसी सन्दर्भ—में सरकार से पूछना चाहता हूँ मैं बिहार में जब राष्ट्रपति शासन हुआ तो वहाँ आप ने केवल एडवाइजर्स दिये, जब कि बंगाल में पाँच दिए हैं— आप ने वहाँ पाँच क्यों दिए यदि डिवीजन आफ लेबर की बात है, तो वहाँ पाँच से ज्यादा भी हो सकते हैं, इसलिए पाँच ही क्यों बनायें? इनकी क्या जरूरत है, जबकि बिहार में दो ही काम कर सकते थे।

दूसरा सवाल—क्या यह बात सही है कि श्री बी० बी० घोष को जो पोर्ट-फोलियो दिया गया उसकी रूपरेखा केन्द्र सरकार ने बनाई थी? चूँकि उनको इंजीनियरिंग का थोड़ा बहुत बैक-ग्राउण्ड है, इसलिए सेन्टर का फैसला था कि उनको इस तरह का पोर्टफोलियो दिया जाय, लेकिन धवन ने उसको डिनाई किया और अपने मन के मुताबिक फैसला किया। जिससे मिसअन्ड-स्टैंडिंग और खराबियाँ पैदा हुईं।

मेरा चौथा सवाल यह है कि क्या श्री बी० बी० घोष यहाँ आये, आप से और प्राइम मिनिस्टर से मिले और फिर आप को और प्राइम मिनिस्टर को प्रेशराइज करने की वजह से फिर उसके मुताबिक आपने उनको पोर्टफोलियो देने का वायदा किया और इस वजह से अब मिसअन्ड-स्टैंडिंग कम होने जा रही है?

पाँचवाँ सवाल यह है कि क्या आप सिविल सर्वेन्ट्स के हाथ में शासन न दे करके एम पीज की जो कन्सल्टेटिव कमेटी बनायेंगे उसके सदस्यों को अलग-अलग पोर्टफोलियो और कुछ पावर्स देंगे ताकि राष्ट्रपति शासन सिविल सर्वेन्ट्स से हाथ में होने के बजाय जनता के रिप्रेजेन्टेटिव्स के हाथ में रहे?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: The hon. Member expressed his opinion about the system of President's rule. We have never pleaded that President's rule is the better form of government. It is in a way an unpleasant inevitability. We are trying to do the best that we can do under the circumstances. So, there is no question of our holding any special brief

[SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN]

for President's rule against any other system of government. Then, about Shri B. B. Ghosh...

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : बिहार में दो एडवाइजर दिये थे फिर बंगाल में पाँच क्यों दिये ?

श्री यशवन्तराव चव्हाण : बिहार में दो रखे क्योंकि वह बिहार था, बंगाल में पाँच रखे क्योंकि वह बंगाल है।

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : यह क्या चार्जिडिंग जवाब देते हैं ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : One has to make an assessment about it. There cannot be any rigid rule in this matter. One has to go according to the conditions prevalent there. The present Governor thinks that possibly he could do justice and ensure more efficient administration with the help of five people.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : Manoeuvring need-based.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : There are some people from Bengal also who know the Bengal administration. When the question of running the administration comes, it requires knowledge of the language of the people also. That is why we thought of having some Bengali knowing people in charge. We have appointed one engineer who has got engineering background so that the Governor can have better advice about problems of irrigation and other matters like that. Therefore he will be of some use there.

Then, his question was whether Shri B. B. Ghosh visited Delhi or not. He did visit Delhi and saw me and the Prime Minister. What is wrong about it ? We are responsible ultimately for the administration of Bengal and, naturally, we have to look into the matter, help the advisers and the Governor to clear matters if there are any problems. There is nothing wrong about it. There is no question of pressuring the Governor.

Then the question was whether it would be left to the Consultative Committee to distribute the work. It is normally not done.

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, एक सवाल का जबाब नहीं दिया गया। क्या यह बात सही है कि श्री बी० बी० घोष को इंजीनियरिंग का पोर्टफोलियो, जिसकी कि उनके पास बैकग्राउन्ड

है वह देने के लिए कहा गया था लेकिन घवन साहब ने नहीं दिया, इसी वजह से मिसअंडर-स्टैंडिंग पैदा हुई ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : I cannot give all the details and justification for this particular distribution of work.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : Shri B. B. Ghosh belonged to Finance; he never was an engineering man.

SHRI S. M. KRISHNA (Maudya) : Since the day the present Governor of West Bengal took an oath of office, quite a big controversy revolves around him. The Home Minister has very politely and very cleverly camouflaged the whole issue when he says I quote : "there have been some misunderstandings." The Governor has a very special knack of creating misunderstandings where there could be none. For a change, will it be possible for the Home Minister to advise the Governor to observe the rule of golden silence ? Whenever he goes on the A. I. R. or whenever he issues a statement to the press and the perennial dialogue that has been going on with a particular section of politicians of West Bengal, who have been responsible for the present misery of West Bengal. Will the Government of India call upon the Governor to stop this nonsense there ?

MR. SPEAKER : Please use a proper word.

SHRI NATH PAI (Rajapur) : How is he wrong ? He is absolutely within his right in saying that. The misunderstandings are a speciality of the present Governor. This is in the statement.

MR. SPEAKER : When you are there, I need not explain it. I have no objection to any other part of his speech. When he says, "nonsense" I say, it is not in good taste. He can use some other word. If you are there to justify...

SHRI NATH PAI : It is not upto me to justify. May I submit to you, because you have raised an important issue not only to Mr. Krishna but to the House, according to Erskine May, the word "nonsense" is absolutely a paragon of parliamentary etiquette.

MR. SPEAKER : When you are there, I need not explain it.

SHRI NATH PAI : Not according to me; I am no authority. May I respectfully submit this word has been used any number of times here ?

MR. SPEAKER I may say one thing . . .

SHRI NATH PAI : We have so much used it in this House that we cannot make it unparliamentary.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not a question of what is being used in this House. Even that I do not approve. Here, the Governor is occupying two positions, as the head of the State and also as a gentleman in-charge of the running of administration under the President's Rule. I wonder if you can use this word with reference to him in his capacity as the head of the State. Anyway, I do not think, this word should be used. It is not in good taste.

SHRI NATH PAI : There is a mixture of issues. So far as taste is concerned, it should be left to the individual Member. So far as rectitude is concerned, it is absolutely your prerogative. If you say, it is a matter of taste what is good taste or good manner should be left to the individual Member. May I submit to you in all humility, to say of certain views or pronouncements coming from anywhere as nonsense is not at all derogatory or unparliamentary.

MR. SPEAKER : I am sorry you think like that. I do not approve of it. In the case of the Governor, I do not approve of it.

SHRI S. M. KRISHNA I have used the word only with reference to the dialogue that has been going on between the Governor and a section of people in West Bengal who have been largely responsible for the misery of West Bengal.

Sir, the major responsibility that the Governor is charged with is the maintenance of law and order. Day in and day out we still have been getting information from West Bengal that the Governor and his administration have not as yet a firm grip over the law and order situation in West Bengal and one of the reasons why Mr. B. B. Ghosh was unwilling to be an Adviser is the fact that West Bengal is not getting adequate Central Government assistance and with the meagre Central Government assistance, the fear of Mr. B. B. Ghosh was that they would not be able to do a good job in West Bengal. Has Government of India taken this into consideration? Are they going to rectify this matter?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : In spite of his long speech, only one question he has asked, if I

am correct. That is : whether Mr. B. B. Ghosh had any doubts on the assistance that the Central Government may give West Bengal or not and whether that was not the cause of his unwillingness to take over? I would definitely say no.

SHRI S. M. KRISHNA : Was he not advised by the Home Minister or the Prime Minister?

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur) : He is not answering properly.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : If necessary, I would answer again. The hon. Member made many observations to begin with. I am not supposed to reply to those observations because that is not necessary. The specific question that he asked me was : whether Mr. B. B. Ghosh resigned or refused to take over the job only because there was a feeling that the Central Government may not be willing to give them proper assistance in this matter.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA : You are not answering that.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : My answer to that question was that there was no such reason. Really he felt that his services could be better utilised. He had some misunderstanding as to whether his abilities will be properly used. That was the main reason why he was rather doubtful whether he should take over or not. That misunderstanding has been removed.

As far as the other part is concerned, some incidents of law and order are still taking place. Partly it is true. We must give some time to the West Bengal administration to improve.

SHRI NATH PAI : He has raised a specific question. He asked a very important question : that instead of wasting his energies and resources on writing correspondence which is not likely to achieve anything, if he would give that limited time to his duties, perhaps, the number of advisers could be reduced. What is the Minister's reply to that?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : If the Governor has to communicate with the Government of India and other people

SHRI NATH PAI : Everyday ideological conversation is going on.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : As far as communication to the Government of India is concerned, if he has to write, he has to write.

SHRI NATH PAI : He has been indulging in ideological dialogue everyday with Mr. Promode Das Gupta.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : As far as the requirements of the administration, we are convinced that he needed assistance of at least 4 or 5 people. He selected them.

SHRI LOBO PRABHU (Udipi) : This is basically a question of relationship of the Governor with the Advisers and the Administration. But I don't think this question has been raised for the first time and last time. This question is going to be raised frequently. Therefore, we have to identify certain factors.

The first factor to be identified is that Bengal is a seriously wounded State. Its economics has been wounded. Enterprises are folding up. Its agriculture is now subject to a grievous dispute about the land which has been occupied. Its law and order is in such a bad condition that the house of an important member of the Opposition Party could be raided openly only two days ago, apart from the murders that are being committed by our friends.

Thirdly, this State is suffering from a grievous condition in respect of its administration. It has been politicalised and demoralised. This is a very important factor which has to be reckoned with in the relationship of the Governor with the administration. This Governor has committed himself. He made a statement on the radio that he wants the Marxist Government back. This is a disqualification in a Governor that he identifies himself with any one Party and that he tries to bring that Party back. A Governor's role is that of complete impartiality between the Parties. Having failed to play that role—I am not here to criticise him—I am not going to use any term even less derogatory than those which have been used before, but I would like to make a constructive suggestion and I would like to have a reply from the Home Minister. Why don't you transfer this Governor to another State? There are very competent Governors. The Governor of Kerala is acceptable to the Communists there. The Governor of Kashmir is acceptable to the Government there. Nearby there is the Governor of Assam. He can come to Calcutta and you can send Mr. Dhavan to Shillong where he can cool off for some time. So, Sir, I would like to know whether the Government will seriously consider the question of the transfer of the Governor, so that

this wounded State of Bengal has a fair chance to rehabilitate itself, has a fair chance to give to the people the benefit of the President's rule after a period of very bad rule earlier.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : As far as identifying the important problems of Bengal State is concerned, it is certainly a very important suggestion that he has made. We will have to identify the problems of economic development, law and order situation, and there are some important issues which will have to be identified and concentrated upon. He raised another point about the Governor's role. I would like to politely submit for the consideration of the honourable House that the Governor has not identified himself with any political party. There is no question of transferring the Governor.

श्री एम० एस० जोशी (पूना) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने ध्यानाकर्षण के लिए एक प्रस्ताव दिया था, और वह यह था कि हमारे शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स के भाइयों को, जो साउथ बिहार के मुंगेर जिले में एक बड़िया गाँव है, वहाँ पर दो आदमियों को चार मार्च को मारा और उनका अभी तक पता नहीं है। मैंने इस बारे में खत भी लिखा है, मैं चाहता हूँ कि उस पर कुछ कार्यवाही हो।

MR. SPEAKER : I am sending it to the Home Minister. I will ask him.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : I gave a Calling Attention Motion. This is regarding the U. S. Ambassador's preaching against the Government of India. Government must take drastic steps against this U. S. Ambassador who has been preaching against the Government of India. The U. S. Cultural Centres which the Government of India has decided to close down are indulging in all undesirable activities.

श्री ब्रेवेन सेन (आसनसोल) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं गृह मंत्री जी से सोशलिस्ट कार्यकर्ताओं और माननीय राज नारायण तथा माननीय जार्ज फरनेंडीज के स्वास्थ्य के बारे में एक बयान चाहता हूँ। मैं अस्पताल गया था और देखा कि माननीय राजनारायण की टांग में तथा माननीय जार्ज फरनेंडीज के सिर में काफी दर्द है। मैं चाहूँगा कि गृह मंत्री इस बारे में एक स्टेटमेंट दें। हम लोग किसी की जिन्दगी से नहीं खेल सकते।

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Let the Health Minister make a statement.

MR. SPEAKER : Papers laid on the Table.

12.28 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER THE MINES ACT

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI S. C. JAMIR) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (7) of section 59 of the Mines Act, 1952 :—

- (1) The Coal Mines (Amendment) Regulations, 1970, published in Notification No. G. S. R. 526 in Gazette of India dated the 4th April, 1970.
- (2) The Metalliferous Mines (Amendment) Regulations, 1970, published in Notification No. G. S. R. 527 in Gazette of India dated the 4th April, 1970.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—3199/70]

12.29 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FORTY-EIGHTH REPORT

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS' AND SHIPPING & TRANSPORT (SHRI RAGHU RAMALAH) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That this House do agree with the Forty-eighth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 14th April, 1970."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is : . . .

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : While I agree with the Report of the Business Advisory Committee, I wish to state that some days back I wrote to you a very humble letter requesting that it is a very important matter . . .

MR. SPEAKER : We will have another meeting so far as these Demands are concerned. It is all right; we will have another meeting where we can decide.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : But, Sir, by that it will be too late. Lenin Centenary starts on the 22nd of this month. I requested you, Sir, that the House should adopt a unanimous

Resolution paying homage to V. I. Lenin who is looked upon throughout the world as a great leader of the toiling millions of the world. Therefore, Sir, I request you to call a meeting of all the Opposition leaders—including the ruling party—so that a non-controversial Resolution may be adopted by this House, just as we adopted a Resolution on Gandhiji on the occasion of the Gandhiji Centenary Celebrations. Certainly, I hope, in all fairness, this House should adopt such a Resolution on Lenin, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : I will consult the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

श्री शिवचन्द्र झा (मधुबनी) : जैसा माननीय बनर्जी साहब ने कहा है, मैं भी इसका समर्थन करता हूँ।

मैं बनर्जी साहब के कथन का समर्थन करता हूँ। दूसरे मेरा निवेदन है कि यह चौथी योजना देश के लिए कितनी अहम और महत्वपूर्ण है और इस नाते मैं चाहूंगा कि जैसा मालूम दे रहा है बहुत सी मिनिस्ट्रीज की बजट डिमांड्स समयाभाव के कारण गिलेटिन हो जायेंगी, इसलिए प्लानिंग कमिशन पर सदन में इसी बजट डिमांड्स पर बहस हो सके इसके लिए कुछ समय अवश्य निकाला जाय भले ही इसके लिए सदन को चाहे शनिवार को या इतवार को भी क्यों न बैठना पड़े लेकिन प्लानिंग कमिशन पर सदन में बहस अवश्य हो भले ही अन्य मिनिस्ट्रीज की बजट डिमांड्स गिलेटिन हो जायें।

श्री रामचरण (खुर्जा) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स कमिश्नर की 3 रिपोर्ट सबमिट हो चुकी हैं। उसके अलावा श्री परिमल घोष की अनटचेबिलिटी की रिपोर्ट भी सबमिट हो चुकी है लेकिन अभी तक इनमें किसी भी रिपोर्ट पर इस हाउस में विचार नहीं हुआ है। इसलिए मैं आप के माध्यम से सरकार से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इस सेशन में इन तीनों शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स कमिश्नर की रिपोर्ट्स और श्री परिमल घोष की अनटचेबिलिटी रिपोर्ट्स पर किसी पर बहस होगी या नहीं ?

श्री झटल बिहारी बाजपेयी (बलरामपुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा इस सम्बन्ध में एक सुझाव