

[Shri Hem Barua]

ticular reference by Shri Yadav about the dropping of bombs on the Naga hostiles, on the basis of which Rev. Michael Scot and Shri Phizo are carrying on their false propoganda abroad, that is just not done. Therefore, I think it would be better if it is expunged from the proceedings. Or, alternatively, the Prime Minister can say that it is not done.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order order.

(ii) FIRING BY PAKISTANI TROOPS AT LATITILLA

**Mr. Speaker:** I have received fresh notice from Shri Hem Barua and Shri S. M. Banerjee of an adjournment motion and from Dr. Singhvi, Shri Braj Raj Singh, Shri U. M. Trivedi and some others a calling attention notice on the same continued firing on the Karimganj border. Since we have dealt with that question yesterday, I would not have mentioned it here. But I wanted to know whether there have been some fresh information received by the Prime Minister about the situation in the border which he would like to convey to the House.

**Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** The press says so.

**Mr. Speaker:** Yes, the press report says that there have been fresh assaults.

**Shri Hem Barua:** Sir, may I submit a few words?

**Mr. Speaker:** No, no. Normally, I would not have admitted, because it has been dealt with yesterday. I only wanted to know from the Prime Minister whether any fresh information was available.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Yes, Sir. A further telegram was received from the Assam Government today morning, from which it appears that intermittent firing by Pakistani forces continued in several areas in Latitilla group of villages, as on September 15 and 16, by rifles and light machine

guns. No fresh casualties have been reported from our side. Our border patrols replied to the firings from the Pakistan troops. Reports have also been received that Pakistanis are renewing and repairing the bunkers and constructing fresh posts opposite to our border posts, at Harinagar and Chandinagar. The Deputy Commissioner, Cachar, has visited the areas of firing with police and other officials. Local officials are arranging for such relief and assistance as necessary there. We are awaiting an assessment from our brigade commander in regard to the seriousness of the situation in that area.

Our High Commissioner in Pakistan has received our instructions to take this matter up strongly with the Government of Pakistan. He has also been requested to try and elicit a decision from Pakistan to the proposals made by us some time ago for a fresh demarcation of the area. We made this suggestion with the belief that a permanent solution of the problem of the disputed areas lies in early and final demarcation. Pakistan has not replied to our proposals, despite several reminders.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri Hem Barua.

**Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** There is one thing that I would like to know.

**Mr. Speaker:** Only one member at a time.

**Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** Sir, I am not asking a question.

**Mr. Speaker:** I will give him an opportunity. I have called Shri Hem Barua.

**Shri Hem Barua:** From the statement of the Prime Minister it is evident that the situation on the Assam-East Pakistan border is very serious and very grave. They have built bunkers, they are using machine guns and they have injured as many as four Indian up till now, during these three

days, and what the Prime Minister said yesterday when he made the statement of the floor of this House was about the incident of the first case. But, on the other hand, Pakistani riflemen have not stopped firing up till now, and we are told by the press notes of the Assam Government that our people, our security men, who are returning the fire, are doing it only in minimum quantities. They have not taken it up very seriously up till now.

**Mr. Speaker:** What is the question?

**Shri Hem Barua:** Sir, it is very important.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Go on.

**Mr. Speaker:** Now he should come to what he wants to know.

**Shri Hem Barua:** The Pakistanis have hoisted their national flag.

**Mr. Speaker:** The whole story cannot be gone into again at this stage. He should come straight to the question, if he wants to put it.

**Shri Hem Barua:** No, no. May I point out . . .

**Mr. Speaker:** I am very sorry. Shri Hem Barua should realise that this cannot become a practice that as soon as an opportunity has come for putting a question, a detailed and elaborate elucidation should be given every time. It cannot be tolerated every time.

**Shri Hem Barua:** Sir, it pains me also to say that I often feel, rightly or wrongly, that you are not at all sympathetic to our people living in the border areas (*Interruptions*).

**Shri Raghunath Singh (Varanasi):** It is most objectionable.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. I am very sorry that I have also been involved in this and that I am not sympathetic towards the people living on the border.

**Shri Raghunath Singh:** It should be expunged.

**Mr. Speaker:** There ought to be some limit to the observations that hon. Members make in this House.

**Shri Hem Barua:** I have been feeling like that.

**Mr. Speaker:** If really he feels like that, I am very sorry. That is all that I can say. But I cannot allow him to go on any further in this manner.

**Shri Hem Barua:** May I submit . . .

**Mr. Speaker:** Now he would not.

**Shri Hem Barua:** It is about your ruling.

**Mr. Speaker:** I have not given any ruling.

**Shri Hem Barua:** About your comments. May I submit that rightly or wrongly I said, that was my impression? I did not have any mind to cast aspersion on you. I shall be the last man to do that. If you are distressed, I am very, very sorry. Now. . . (*Interruption*).

**Mr. Speaker:** Nothing now.

**Shri Hem Barua:** I might ask a question.

**Mr. Speaker:** We will see it afterwards; nothing now. He will kindly resume his seat.

**Shri Hem Barua:** But then you said that you will allow me to ask a question. In the meanwhile this thing cropped up.

**Mr. Speaker:** If he goes on flouting my direction, he cannot have an opportunity and I would not recognise him. If he obeys then certainly he will have every opportunity. Whatever is due to him shall be given to him.

**Shri Hem Barua:** I did not have the opportunity. Now you say that if I obey you, I shall have an opportunity.

[Shri Hem Barua]

You might do anything but I submit that the trouble is that I am concerned with this particular matter and I want to place it before you and before the House. But at the same time you come with your rulings, judgments, comments and all that and there are these people to support you by shouting and all that.

**Shri Raghunath Singh:** There is no question of supporting him . . . (Interruption).

**Mr. Speaker:** I will ask the Leader of the House just to take note of the situation. If the leaders of groups cannot control their members, certainly I shall have to consider them as individuals.

**Shri Hem Barua:** It is not a matter of control.

**Mr. Speaker:** Does his leader think that all this is justified?

**Shri Surendranath Dwivedy (Kendrapara):** Since you have made a reference. I think, it is better that we realise in the House itself it is not possible for the leader of any party to control his members. It is for you to do that.

**An Hon. Member:** Why?

**Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:** I am not here to control Members. If he departs from the Party's policy, if he goes beyond the Party's discipline, certainly the leader has to take notice. But it must be understood that every hon. Member here belonging to my Party is perfectly within his rights to function within the limits of the rights and privileges that he has in the House as a Member and it is for you to do as you think proper.

**Mr. Speaker:** Does he think that he has acted within the precincts that the Party requires of him?

**Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:** We bow to your ruling and judgment,

whatever it is; but sometimes Members are emotionally exercised on certain matters and, I think, you have been very patient at times to tolerate that. It may be a matter of that nature.

**Mr. Speaker:** That leniency of mine, the fact that I have tolerated that for some time, might be a mistake; but I told him twice or thrice that he should obey, that he should sit down and that I will give him an opportunity. But then he flouts my directions and stands up, and casts aspersions and goes on speaking.

**Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:** For that he expressed regret.... (Interruption).

**Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur):** He was pleading with you.

**Mr. Speaker:** Even after expressing regret, he repeated the same attitude.

**Shri Hem Barua:** No. I just reminded you that I am receiving telegrams and letters.

**Mr. Speaker:** Now order, order. Shri Banerjee.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Shri Chaliha, the Chief Minister of Assam, who was here, held a Cabinet meeting when he went back. It has come out in the newspapers. He pointed out that Pakistan of late had been setting up aggressive preparations, like heavy reinforcements on the border, construction of bunkers and digging trenches along the borders of Laitilla-Dumba-bari area in flagrant violation of the existing agreement and the ground rules. So, I want to know whether this entire question which, according to the Chief Minister of Assam, is really explosive was discussed here and what instructions were issued to the Chief Minister to safeguard the interests of those who are on the border.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** The question was discussed with the Chief Minister of Assam. The instructions were that any such activity on the part of Pakistan should be countered, first of all, as it is by the forces there, the armed Police and other forces roundabout, and as soon as an opportunity comes to send their further forces there.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri Hem Barua — Shri Nath Pai.

**Shri Hem Barua:** May I stand up?

**Mr. Speaker:** I called him but he did not stand up. Now I have called Shri Nath Pai.

**Shri Nath Pai:** In view of the growing truculence of Pakistan in the context of the rumbling of what is called a joint defence pact between Pindi and Peking, may we know, apart from what the hon. Prime Minister has said, whether Government is seized of the seriousness of the situation and is alive since it may be that it may be a prelude to something more serious on the part of Pakistan?

**Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun):** Of course, we are alive.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** The fact that firing goes on on our border is serious. But I would submit that, as I said yesterday, this firing should be seen in its context. In spite of days and days of firing and tens of thousands of bullets being shot, the casualties are remarkably few. They are astoundingly few.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** On which side? On both sides?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** On both sides. They are remarkably few. There is no casualty on this occasion at all. It seems to mean that this is done more to upset the nerves of the people on the other side of the border and elsewhere, to excite them and keep a feeling of tension there. But,

of course, this has to be met and should be met. We have put it in the hands of our military and other folk there whose responsibility it is. The military normally do not rush up when there is a little firing. It is for them to judge when and what action to take.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** They return the fire?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Of course, they return the fire. What I mean by 'rushing up' is large numbers of military. They have to decide when and where to send them. The local people there have to return the fire, of course. It is important and it should be dealt with; but I do not think it will help us to give it much more seriousness than it deserves.

**Shri Nath Pai:** We welcome the statement, but do not let us be told then, when it is too late, that we were taken unawares and suddenly, as it happened in the case of China. That is the only plea.

**Mr. Speaker:** Yesterday a statement was made by the hon. Minister of Irrigation. Some questions may have to be asked on that; so, I will take it up at 5 o'clock.

**Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** I wanted to ask some questions on this. When I rose you said that you will give me an opportunity.

**Mr. Speaker:** It had been dealt with yesterday.

**Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** No, on this matter. When I rose you said that you will give me an opportunity.

**Mr. Speaker:** I had said just in the beginning that this question had been dealt with yesterday and there was no need of admitting any further adjournment motions or 'calling attention' notices because we had dealt with it only yesterday. I only wanted to see whether any further information had been received. If **Shri Trivedi** wants to ask a question, I will allow him.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi** (Mandsaur): I always bow to what you say. Here I have felt it very pertinent to ask one question. The hon. Prime Minister has just now said that there are very few casualties on both sides.

**Shri Hem Barua**: There are no casualties on the other side.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi**: Whatever it may be. I have yet to come across a single report in the press which indicates or shows that we have been able to inflict any casualties on the other side.

**Shri Hem Barua**: Not a single one.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi**: Not once. I would, therefore, like to know this and it will satisfy the public mind. The public feels that the casualties are always on our side and we are the persons who are always oppressed and we simply run away. We are killed and we have absolutely nothing to do. Therefore, I would like to know if there are really any casualties on the other side and how many there are.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru**: Many statements have been made in this House giving the number of casualties on this side and on the other side. About this particular occasion, I cannot give the figure. Naturally, it is easier to find out the casualties on your side than on the other side unless you march your forces and capture the dead and the wounded. It is difficult to say that. I do not know in this particular case, there were no casualties on our side. There has been none except for the last few days two or three casualties occurred on our side. On the other side they may have occurred. But that can only be found out by the evidence of the people on the other side.

**Dr. L. M. Singhvi**: Before I put a small question, I would like to submit to you that because of the threat of breach of peace on our borders being a continuing one and because there is no fresh and detailed information as yet available, you might

direct the Government to apprise this House of the situation on the last day or the day before last when the House is to adjourn *sine die*. This is a matter which is causing perhaps more than due concern and I think it would be right that the country is taken into confidence.

**Mr. Speaker**: I will request the Prime Minister to give any additional information that he might receive. Shri Hem Barua. I called him, but he did not stand up. Was he excited then?

**Shri Hem Barua**: I might be excited Sir,....

**Dr. L. M. Singhvi**: I suppose I was in possession of the floor.

**Mr. Speaker**: I had informed him that I will ask the Prime Minister to give any additional information that he might receive by that time.

**Dr. L. M. Singhvi**: That was by way of suggestion. I wanted to know if the Prime Minister considers that the purpose of this unceasing firing is to unnerve the people on our side, what is being done to soothe the nerves of the people on our side and restore their morale in terms of propaganda, in terms of administrative action and in terms of diplomatic action, particularly the first two things?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru**: Certainly, Sir, as you were pleased to observe, I shall give any further information that I receive.

**Mr. Speaker**: Is there anything being done to soothe the feelings of the people on this side by propaganda or other things so that they might not lose their moral, so that they might maintain their morale?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru**: I can't give details of that. The local authorities surely are looking after that.

**Public Importance**

My own information is that their morale is pretty good.

**Shri Hem Barua:** There has been not a single casualty....

**Some Hon. Members** rose—

**Mr. Speaker:** Those who were not signatories cannot have the opportunity.

**Shri Hem Barua:** There has not been a single casualty so far as Pakistan side is concerned. Is it not a fact that this is due to the fact that the Pakistan Government, Pakistan is have evacuated the population, I mean, from the border before resorting to firing against us? If so, may I know whether we have also instructed the Assam Government to evacuate all the population from the border and keep the area safe for firing operations?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I do not know that the Pakistan Government has evacuated its population from that border. Sometimes they have. I do not know.

**Mr. Speaker:** It was in some press.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** May be. I would personally not advise the Assam Government to evacuate our people. That is one of the particular things which decrease the morale and frightens people—some measures of that type.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** May I make a request? Would you kindly direct the Government, the Prime Minister, to make a statement, during the next three or four days of the session, on the border situation every morning?

**Mr. Speaker:** On the last day, he will make that statement.

12.54 hrs.

**RE. INCORRECT REPORTING OF PROCEEDINGS BY A NEWSPAPER**

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri Ram Sewak Yadav has written to me this. He might take one minute.

1256 (Ai) LSD.—5

**श्री रामसेवक यादव (बाराबंकी) :**  
अध्यक्ष महोदय . . . .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आज को देर है, मैं कहे देता हूँ। श्री रामसेवक यादव ने मुझे यह लिखा था कि जब डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया ने प्राइम मिनिस्टर से कहा कि वे हिन्दी में जवाब दें तो उस की रिपोर्ट जो “इंडियन एक्सप्रेस” अखबार में निकली उसमें यह कहा गया कि डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया ने यह कहा कि वे हिन्दी के सिवाय और किसी जवान में न बोलें और सिर्फ हिन्दी में ही वह जवाब दें, यह ठीक है न ?

**श्री रामसेवक यादव :** उन्होंने मातृभाषा में जवाब देने के लिए कहा था। डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया ने मातृभाषा शब्द का प्रयोग किया था, शब्द “हिन्दी” का प्रयोग उन्होंने नहीं किया था।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** ठीक है लेकिन जो “इंडियन एक्सप्रेस” में खबर निकली उसमें यह कहा गया कि उन्होंने कहा था कि वह हिन्दी के सिवाय और किसी जवान में जवाब न दें। इस शिकायत के आने पर कि अखबार ने मातृभाषा के शब्द के स्थान पर हिन्दी लिख दिया है जब कि डा० साहब ने मातृभाषा शब्द का प्रयोग किया था, इंडियन एक्सप्रेस को लिखा गया। उन्होंने जवाब दिया कि हम आमतौर पर डिस्पैशनेट रिपोर्टिंग करते हैं और मातृभाषा शब्द के बजाय जो हिन्दी शब्द लिख दिया गया और इस तरह जो गलती हो गयी उसको हम रिप्रेट करते हैं। मैंने इसको काफी समझा और इससे ज्यादा और कुछ करने की जरूरत नहीं है।

**श्री रामसेवक यादव :** एक निवेदन करना चाहता था . . . . .

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** अब क्या बाकी रहता है ? उन्होंने रिप्रेट जाहिर कर तो दिया है।

**श्री रामसेवक यादव :** यह तो ठीक है और मैं अपनी शिकायत वापिस लेता हूँ।