

grand fathers were born in Goa does not in any way emotionally or rationally attach them to the territory of Goa nor have they any affinity with Goa. I am a Rajput and I am proud I am one. Does it mean that my opinion should count as to who should be the Chief Minister of Rajasthan or what should be the fate of Rajasthan Government? My opinion would be irrelevant. The amendments of Mr. Kamath, I believe, should be withdrawn.

I have very carefully listened to the intellectual discourse of Mr. Hanumanthiaya. According to him Maharashtrians taking the name of Shivaji smacks of regional and tribal trait. If at all there is any trait, it is a patriotic trait. Whosoever speaks of Sivaji, cannot have a regional trait. Since the epic days till today, Hanumanth has been associated with animal trait. In an attempt to move from tree to tree.

**Mr. Chairman:** Order, order. He should conclude now.

**Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh:** He tried to have his own prejudices and tried to incorporate them in what is essentially a national question. I urge on him to think on this point. It is not merely from the narrow interest of either Maharashtra or Mysore but from the interest of Goa itself. Instead of others saying that Goa should go to Maharashtra, the Maharashtrians say that the people of Goa should decide and that decision should be respected, not ours.

**Shri Bade:** Sir, I oppose the amendments of Shri Kamath and Shri Dandekar because it is like expressing feelings of incompetence and no confidence in the services. They have taken the oath that they will be loyal to the Constitution. Then, why should there be difference between Maharashtrian and Gujarati. I do not understand why Mr. Kamath did not say that there should be no Mysorean... (Interruptions). So, I oppose this amendment. At the same time, I

want to say, just as Shri Kamath said, that Shri Morarji is going to have a referendum or a poll like this for prohibition. Then, why not they have a poll on cow-slaughter? If they want to take a poll or referendum on cow-slaughter, I think there will be no cow-slaughter at all.

18.00 hrs.

**Mr. Chairman:** Order, order. The discussion on the clauses will take place tomorrow. We have to take up the next business.

**Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:** Let us finish it.

**Mr. Chairman:** We have to take up the other business at 6 o'clock. We have to take up the Call Attention Notice at 6 o'clock and then, after the Minister's reply to it, we have to take up the half-an-hour discussion. So, further discussion on this Bill will be postponed to tomorrow.

18.01 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO  
MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC  
IMPORTANCE—contd.

PROPOSED STRIKE OF ENGINEERS IN  
KERALA

**Shri A. V. Raghavan (Badagara):** 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:

"The proposed strike of all engineers in Government service in Kerala on the 5th December, 1968."

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri P. S. Naskar):** Reports received from the State Government indicate that the Joint Action Council of the Engineering Service Association of Kerala had submitted a memorandum to the

[Shri P. S. Naskar]

Governor regarding revision of the pay scales and allowances, status of Engineers, system of recording confidential reports etc. The Governor of Kerala had agreed to grant an interview to the Joint Action Council on 5th December, 1966 to discuss matters arising out of the memorandum. Subsequently it was learnt that after the interview with the Governor was fixed, the Joint Action Council had decided to resort to direct action if the interview with the Governor on 5th December did not yield results satisfactory to them. The Governor of Kerala felt that no useful purpose will be served by meeting the Joint Action Council under such a threat. The Governor has, therefore, cancelled the interview.

From newspaper reports, it appears that the Joint Action Council is planning to resort to mass abstention from work without permission, which is wrongly called 'mass leave' and also to direct the Engineers to tender their resignations from service *en masse* on a future date.

Government servants may legitimately make representations to Government for redress of grievances and for better conditions of service. Government would not doubt be prepared to consider sympathetically the reasonable demands of their employees and to hold discussions and negotiations with their representatives. However, no fruitful negotiation can be held under threat of direct action. Strike action of any kind amounts to indiscipline under the Conduct Rules of Government employees and if such action is resorted to, Government would have no option but to deal firmly with indisciplined conduct. Particularly for Gazetted officers who are in any case better off than the lower grades of Government employees, any kind of direct action becomes all the more regrettable.

The Government of Kerala are watching the situation carefully and will take such action as may be necessary.

**Shri A. V. Raghavan:** May I know whether it is a fact that the engineering personnel in Kerala have been lowered in status and emoluments while the executive personnel have been upgraded and, if so, the reasons which prompted the Government for making such a discrimination?

**Shri P. S. Naskar:** I do not know whether in comparison to other services, it is lower. But a Pay Commission was appointed in the State of Kerala and they gave a certain award and from January, 1966, the engineers' pay has been revised for the better and not been lowered from the original scale. That much I can tell the House.

**Shri P. Kunhan (Palghat):** May I know whether the Engineers' Association of Kerala have submitted a memorandum to the Government and what action has been taken by the Government on that memorandum?

**Shri P. S. Naskar:** A memorandum was submitted by the association on 8th September. Then the association's representatives wanted an interview with the Governor. As I said, the interview was fixed for 5th December. But when they held out the threat of direct action, the Governor said that they are behaving in a bad manner and no useful purpose would be served by meeting them.

**Shri Umanath (Pudukkottai):** Sir, at the district level, the Executive Engineers are now subordinate to the District Collector. Collectors are to write the confidential reports of the Executive Engineers and the Secretary is to write the confidential report of the Superintending Engineers and Chief Engineers. Then, there seems to be an order of the Government requiring Chief Engineers to call on the

District Collector while on tour. This is a humiliating position of subordinating technical staff to non-technical people, which is not done in Madras State at least I would like to know how this position of subordination came about and whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to redress this grievance?

**Shri P. S. Naskar:** Conditions of service formed part of the representation. This was supposed to be discussed with the Governor on the 5th December. I am not going into the merits or details of the grievances just now. The Governor was prepared to meet them, but when they held out the threat of direct action if the interview did not yield any results, the Governor cancelled the appointment. If this strike threat is taken, off, I am sure the Governor will meet them and listen to their grievances.

**Mr. Chairman:** Mr. Imbichibava.

**Shri Nambiar (Tiruchirappalli):** He will put the question in Malayalam and I will translate it into English.

**Mr. Chairman:** Kindly tell him that he should put only a question.

**Shri Umanath:** He is putting a question, but because you do not know Malayalam, you cannot follow.

**Mr. Chairman:** I plead guilty to it.

**Shri Imbichibava (Ponnani):**—spoke in Malayalam.

**Shri Nambiar:** This is the English translation of Mr. Imbichibava's question: May I know whether (a) Government has considered the points raised by the engineers in their memorandum which made them think about the strike and, if so, what action has been taken on that; (b) whether it is proper on the part of the Governor to discard or to deny the interview on the plea that there was a strike threat which was following; and, (c) whether the Government has advised the Governor to consider the demands

irrespective of the fact that there is a strike threat or not for the reason that better relations are to be established between the two?

**Shri P. S. Naskar:** Sir, should I reply tomorrow after getting an official translation of the hon. Member's question, or should I accept Shri Nambiar's translation and reply now?

**Mr. Chairman:** As far as the sense that is conveyed by the question as translated by Shri Nambiar is concerned, it is in order and, therefore, it may be replied to now.

**Shri P. S. Naskar:** I do not want to go into the merits of the demands. As I said, the Governor was prepared to meet their representatives, the representatives of their association. But they gave the threat of direct action, and the Governor thought that under those circumstances no fruitful purpose would be served by negotiating with them. I would ask hon. Members, if they have any hold on the association, to advise them not to give such threats, meet the Governor and negotiate peacefully (*Interruptions*).

**Mr. Chairman:** Has any directive gone from the Centre or is any directive being sent to the Governor to look into the grievances of the engineers?

**Shri A. V. Baghavan:** Sir, the engineers have submitted a memorandum to the Governor. There is now a threat of direct action. Irrespective of that, I would like to know whether the Government is going to consider their demands and grant the legitimate demands of the engineers?

**Mr. Chairman:** The hon. Deputy Minister has made it clear that it is within the jurisdiction of the Governor there to go into the grievances of the engineers. Now that the strike threat is there, the hon. Minister has explained he is receiving their demands and going into them. He is not prepared to say anything more. It is for the hon. Members who are interested in those engineers to see how

[Mr. Chairman]

best to advise them and see how best their demands can be met.

**Shri Umanath:** They have sent a telegram saying that their strike threat is because the Governor has rejected the promised interview. They decided on the strike on 5th because the Governor cancelled the interview. This is what they say:

**"GOVERNOR CANCELLED INTERVIEW ON FIFTH DECEMBER DIRECT ACTION FIFTH ONWARDS"**

They say because he cancelled the interview, they have decided to strike

**The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Y. B. Chavan):** Sir, there is some confusion on facts. I would request hon. Members to verify the facts. The Governor certainly communicated the time of interview. At that time, the executive committee or action committee, whatever it was, said: "Certainly we will meet the Governor, but if the results are not fruitful we will take direct action".

**Shri Umanath:** That is just normal.

**Shri Y. B. Chavan:** That is our difficulty. What is normal for them is abnormal for us. (*Interruptions*). This is not normal at all. You cannot go to a Governor saying that if nothing comes out we will go on direct action or something like that.

**श्री बागडो (हिमार):** जो जवाब दिया गया है वह अन्यायित से बिल्कुल दूर है। यह कोई सरकार का नीति है कि फर्ज करो कि कार्ड

**सभापति महोदय:** पहली बार सवाल कर रहे हैं, इन मामले में आप को इजाजत दे रहा हूँ, नहीं तो मैं न देता।

**श्री बागडो:** संघ का कोई नोटिस दे दे तो क्या यह सरकार का नीति है कि उससे बात ही न करे? यह तो कोई दलील न हुई।

यह दलील बिल्कुल घटिया है और यह तो टालने वाली बात हुई। फर्ज करो कि इंजीनियरों ने हड़ताल और संघर्ष का नोटिस दिया लेकिन उन से बात करने में क्या हर्ज है? गवर्नर कोई शहनशाह तो नहीं है कि बात ही नहीं करेगा।

**Mr. Chairman:** No, there is no point of order. Now, the Home Minister will make the statement.

18.15 hrs.

**STATEMENT RE. DEATH OF SHRI RISHI SWARUP BRAHAMACHARI**

**The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Y. B. Chavan):** Sir, Shri Rishi Swarup Brahmachari, aged about 74, had undertaken a fast on the night between 22nd and 23rd November, 1966 in the Office of the All India Dharam Sangh, Delhi. Shri Rishi Swarup Brahmachari was reported to be a resident of Meerut District of Uttar Pradesh. He was found dead yesterday morning at about 4 A.M. The district authorities had suggested a *post mortem* examination but on account of the opposition of the members of the Dharam Sangh, it was not performed.

As desired by the members of the Dharam Sangh, the body of Shri Rishi Swarup Brahmachari was taken by truck to Garh Mukteshwar for cremation. The truck left the Dharam Sangh Office at 3.15 P.M. The cremation took place at about 10.30 A.M. today at Garh Mukteshwar. The last rites were performed by the grandson of the deceased in the presence of other relations.

**श्री प्रकाशचौर शारंगी (त्रिजरीर):** दिल्ली के डिप्टी कमिश्नर ने आज के स्टेट्समैन में जो वक्तव्य दिया है उस में यह कहा है कि शव को ले जाते हुए ट्रक जिस समय गाहदरा के रेलवे क्रॉसिंग पर जा कर रुका तो उस समय जो कुछ कार्यकर्ता साथ जा रहे थे वे