

PROF. N. G. RANGA: He is right.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY:  
One thing they can do is to resign.

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE:  
One correction, Sir. The hon. Member, instead of destiny, has said Restination.

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF:  
The hon Member has expressed his anguish about not taking up the lines proposed by him...

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY:  
We support him.

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF:  
As he himself rightly pointed out, one of the reasons is that we have not taken up timely renewal of the tracks. That is why in the Sixth Plan which we have called as a Rehabilitation Plan, our effort will be to spend more for renewal of tracks and also replacement of the rolling stock, etc.

So far as the safety aspect is concerned, we have already said—even yesterday in the Rajya Sabha I have said—that we have now bifurcated the safety aspects concerning the suburban trains from the safety aspects concerning the longdistance trains. Sir, the study teams have been appointed. They have gone round. There is a team headed by the Minister himself and that team has visited the accident place in Calcutta to study the entire aspect. It is our effect to see that the accidents come down to nil. Sir, with regard to the security aspect the trains are being escorted by the RPF and GRP also but much depends on the support of the local governments and also the hon. Members of this House and the general public with regard to these measures.

श्रीमती संयोगिता राणे : अध्यक्ष जी  
में यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि क्या मिनिस्टर

साहब यह बताई कि आर० पी० एफ० के लोग रात में अपनी राइफल पास में रख कर सो जाते हैं ?

These people just sleep keeping their rifles besides. They are for the protection of the passengers but they themselves sleep. Many of them are old. They should be sent on retirement and new hands recruited.

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF: I am not holding brief to the RPF personnel as a whole. It is not proper to blame the entire RPF personnel for one or two individuals if they are committing wrong. If the hon. Member has any specific instances let her report to us and we will look into it.

#### Political solution of Afghan problem

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\*374. SHRI ATAL BIHARI  
VAJPAYEE:

SHRI SURAJ BHAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in finding a political solution to the Afghanistan problem; and

(b) what new moves India proposed so as to help effect withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) The Non-Aligned Summit has reiterated the urgent call for a political settlement of the Afghanistan question. Earlier Mr. Cordovez, the personal representative of the U.N. Secretary-General visited Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran to discuss further the elements of a political solution and the inter-relationships between them. The next round of talks is expected to be held in Geneva in April, 1983.

(b) India actively participated in evolving the non-aligned formulation on the Afghanistan issue. India also supports the efforts made by the UN Secretary General to further a political solution.

**श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी :** अध्यक्ष महोदय मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह सच है कि अफगानिस्तान के सवाल पर पाकिस्तान और ईरान के रवैये में थोड़ा सा परिवर्तन हुआ है और उस परिवर्तन के कारण कोई राजनीतिक हल अधिक निकट आया है ?

**विदेश मंत्री श्री पी० वी० नरसिंह राव) :** जहाँ तक अफगानिस्तान का सवाल है, मेरी समझ में उनके दृष्टिकोण में थोड़ा परिवर्तन इस मायने में हुआ है कि उन्होंने, जेनेवा में जिस वार्ता का प्रस्ताव हुआ था, उसे स्वीकार किया है। पहले तो वे इसे स्वीकार करने के लिये तैयार नहीं थे, बाद में उन्होंने इसको स्वीकार किया जिसके परिणामस्वरूप वह वार्ता शुरू हुई। सैक्रेटरी जनरल का कहना है कि वार्ता ठीक ढंग से चल रही है। इसमें कोई भ्रम नहीं है कि यह लम्बी चलेगी, बहुत जल्दी इसका हल नहीं निकलेगा। लेकिन यह ठीक ढंग से चल रही है, ठीक रास्ते पर चल रही है। इसका एक कारण है कि पाकिस्तान के रवैये में थोड़ा परिवर्तन हुआ है।

**श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी :** जब अफगानिस्तान का सवाल पहली बार संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ में उठा था जिसको कितनी साल होने को आया है, तो उस समय भारत के प्रतिनिधि ने भाषण देते हुए कहा था कि सोवियत रूस की ओर से भारत को यह कहा गया है कि अफगानिस्तान में सोवियत रूस को सैनिकों जरूरत से एक दिन भी ज्यादा नहीं रहेंगे। उस बात को एक हजार

दिन से ज्यादा हो गया है और रूस हमारा मित्र है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या हमने सोवियत रूस का मित्र होने के नाते यह पता लगाने का प्रयत्न किया है कि उन्हें कितने दिन और अफगानिस्तान में रुकना पड़ेगा।

**श्री पी० वी० नरसिंह राव :** यह सवाल तो पुराना पड़ गया है। चूँकि वार्ता शुरू हो गयी है और राजनीतिक हल ढूँढने की ओर हम आगे बढ़ रहे हैं। यह हल कब मिलेगा, यह कोई नहीं बता सकता। यह हम जानते हैं कि जब इसका हल मिलेगा तो उसके अन्तर्गत विदेशी सेना की वापसी हो जायेगी।

**DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY:** Hon. Minister Mr. Rahim in his reply referred to the non-aligned conference resolution. First of all, before putting my question, I would like to draw the Minister's attention to the fact that the non aligned nations, when they go to the United Nations, vote quite differently from what they have agreed to in the non aligned conference. There they specifically voted for the resolution calling for the Soviet troops' withdrawn from Afghanistan. And India finds itself in an embarrassing position of abstaining in the United Nations. I would like to know from the Government what is their exact policy because there seems to be a haphazard dilly-dallying approach to this problem? At one time there was the United Nations statement which Mr. Vajpayee just referred to. After that there was a change. Then there was a very healthy change when the Prime Minister went to Moscow and made a statement which was censored by the Soviet Press. That of course the Minister knows about. They censored it. They did not allow her statement to be published and broadcast over their TV and radio. Now, just before the Non aligned conference the Prime Minister has gone back to the old

policy in her interview to the Financial Times. She said that poor Barak Kermal will ask the Soviet troops to go out if the foreign intervention would stop. I would like to know from the Government: Do you have a specific policy? Are you very explicitly. (like in the case of Lebanon and the earlier case of Vietnam and other places) in favour of the unconditional withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan or not?

**SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO:** Our policy has been clear, specific, healthy and whatever Dr. Subramaniam Swamy would like it to be. The only thing is, when a question is put an answer has to be given within the framework of the question. So different aspects are emphasised in different questions and therefore the response would have to be different. This is very clear. Our position has been made clear right from the beginning and we stick to that position. In regard to the differences in the voting pattern it is clear that if we are not in agreement with the text of the resolution. When it comes before the UN, if we are in agreement partly, partly we are not in agreement; then the only course open for us is to abstain. In the Non aligned we have a clear position. We have been involved in formulating that position. We have been taking an active part in the formulation of that position. Therefore our national position is generally on all fours with the position as expressed in the movement. This is the reason for the difference in voting pattern. About other countries I cannot say.

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:** Anybody who has followed the proceedings as reported of the non-aligned summit conference will not but be impressed by the fact that Pakistan's stand this time on the Afghanistan question was much more muted. I should say, than it had ever been before: in fact much more 'muted' than the stand which was taken by some

members in this House. I would like to know because the Minister has explained in the beginning that there has been some shift or change in Pakistan's attitude, whether our Government stands firmly on this position, namely, that any political solution of this problem cannot be one sided, cannot be based only on the question of unconditional withdrawal of Soviet troops. Soviet troops obviously have to withdraw. But the question is whether or not it has to be part of overall resolution which will include the question of giving reliable guarantees against foreign intervention in the internal affairs of Afghanistan including of course, primarily attacks which have been carried on from Pakistani soil with the help of arms and equipments provided by so many countries. The Prime Minister said herself in the conference, that the late President Anwar Sadat of Egypt had confessed to her that he had been supplying arms and ammunition to the so-called rebels there. So, may I know whether the Government stand continues to be or not that there must be a solution which will include all these aspects together and there cannot be one-sided answer to this problem?

**DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY:** Here he is in favour of equation.

**SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO:** Guptaji has made it a little more difficult for me to answer him 'Yes' or 'No'. Therefore, I cannot do better than reiterating our position as it has been formulated. India's stand on the Afghanistan situation is guided by the following principles, namely:—

(a) There should be no interference or intervention in the affairs of one country by another by the use of armed force;

(b) There should be no effort to destabilise the existing regimes by interference or subversion from outside;

(c) There should be no destabilisation of our region by excessive induction of arms, the entry of great power influence and resultant confrontation.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Was he reading out from the document or is it a policy statement? (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO:** I was reading out from my notes.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that the contention of the Soviet Russia vis-a-vis the occupation of Afghanistan by the Soviet Army is that since their withdrawal from Afghanistan at this stage will create a vacuum in Afghanistan and probably encourage other forces to intervene and fill up that vacuum, that is the reason why the Soviet armed forces do not want to withdraw at this stage? If so, I would also further like to know from the hon. Minister that in the Second World War in 1942 when Mahatma Gandhi gave a call to the Britishers to quit India, the contention of Mr. Winston Churchill was that in the midst of the War "if we withdraw from the Indian land, the Japanese are likely to fill up the vacuum and other forces are likely to take advantage and there is likely to be anarchy in India" and is it not true that Mahatma Gandhi told Mr. Churchill "I prefer anarchy of tomorrow than the anarchy that is existing today and, therefore, please quit"? Will you tell Soviet Russia also, please quit on the same basis what the Mahatma told the Britishers to quit?

**DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY:** It is a very good question. Please give a detailed reply.

**SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO:** Do I answer about Mahatma Gandhi or about Afghanistan?

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** Please do not misunderstand the principles underlying my question.

**SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO:** That pun we have come across many times from you. As far as I can recall, the Soviet Union has not said that if they withdraw certain developments will take place and therefore they are not withdrawing. Their case has been that they have been there at the invitation of the Afghan Government and they will continue to be there as long as their continuance is necessary. It has nothing to do with Mahatma Gandhi, Winston Churchill or the Second World War.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** There were loyalists also in the British days who wanted the Britishers to stay in India.

**PROF. K. K. TIWARI:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the deliberations held at the last Seventh Summit of the Non-aligned countries, it is obvious that there has been a thaw in the attitude of the present Government of Afghanistan vis-a-vis Russian Forces in Afghanistan and the Minister has stated that our policy is very open, very clear that we will not counterence any attempt at de-stabilisation in our region. Is it not vindication of constant position of the Government of India, namely, that withdrawal of the Soviet troops should be preceded by a political settlement as also Government of India, would like the process of destabilisation in the region to be linked with the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan?

**SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO:** Sir, this is my difficulty. Every Hon. Member puts his own gloss on it and asks the question on the basis of that gloss. That is why I have stated my position and that should suffice.

**DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY:** You can have Sutras written on it.