

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

he was going to act in a manner prejudicial to the maintenance of public safety and peace it was with regret that Deputy Inspector General of Police, Kashmir, had to put him in preventive detention under Jammu and Kashmir Public Security Act on 24th August 1953 for an initial period of two months".

MOTION RE DEATH OF DR. S. P. MOOKERJEE

Shri N. C. Chatterjee (Hooghly): Sir, on the 27th July I had tabled a motion along with Dr. Lanka Sundaram under rule 171 for discussion of a matter of general public interest. The matter that we wanted to discuss was the death of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee in detention at Srinagar, and we wanted to move that there should be an immediate appointment of an impartial commission of inquiry to inquire into the circumstances leading to the death of Dr. Mookerjee. You know, Sir, public feeling has been very much agitated over this issue, not only in Bengal but in different parts of India. Very eminent leaders of public opinion including Shri Purushottamdas Tandon, Dr. Kunzru, Dr. Jayakar, Acharya Kripalani and other persons of great eminence have all supported this demand and we thought that the least that Parliament could do in this matter to assuage public feeling was to agree to the immediate appointment of an impartial Commission. We also wrote to you a letter the next day explaining how the matter was of great importance—general interest—and that it complied with all the requirements of our rules. Then, Sir, you intimated us that under rule 174 you decided that the motion was in order and you had admitted the motion.

We had approached the Government for the allotment of an early date for the discussion of this motion, having regard to the state of public feeling in the country and having regard to the fact that an outstanding Leader of

the Opposition had died in such tragic and suspicious circumstances. Up till now we have got no response and I am appealing to you and to the Government to give us an early date. Under rule 176, Sir, we look up to you to give us an early date for the discussion of this matter. This is the least you can do in respect of our late lamented colleague. I am pressing, Sir, that you be good enough to give an early date and no more time should be wasted so that we can have a full discussion of this matter. I hope all sections of the House will be good enough to support this demand.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Since this motion was sent to me, I have received notice of another motion also from Dr. Jaisooriya saying that under the circumstances a Medical Mission may be sent to look into this matter and find out what exactly the cause was.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram (Visakhapatnam): Medical Mission?

Dr. Jaisooriya (Medak): Medical Commission.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am sorry, Medical Commission. In the normal course, both of them are being considered by me as to which of them will suit the circumstances. Many events are happening now and have been happening all along. The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is here and he will convey this matter to the Leader of the House. I shall do all I can in this matter as early as possible and try to inform the hon. Member.

Dr. N. B. Khare (Gwalior): I had given notice of a number of questions on this matter a month ago and I do not know what has happened to it.

Shri Frank Anthony (Nominated—Anglo-Indians): May we know whether Mr. Chatterjee had observed that the motion was actually admitted by you? May we know, if that is correct, exactly the date on which the motion was admitted?

P. Mookerjee

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The motion was given to me. I thought, having regard to the fact that Dr. Mookerjee was an eminent person and there was so much of controversy in the Press and doubts raised on this matter, it might be raised on the floor of the House. The admission of the motion largely depends upon the time that is available. The time has to be fixed by the Government; I cannot fix the time. When once a matter is before the House from time to time I can adjourn it—instead of in the morning I can take it to evening and then send it to some other day and so on; but I have no right under the rules to fix a particular time myself. That is why I suggested to the hon. Member who tabled the motion to see the Leader of the House and try to get some time. Since I have received the other one, of course, I am considering both. I am sure I will be able to inform the House as to where exactly the matter stands at present.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani (New Delhi): As far as I remember, this motion was sent to you nearly three weeks ago. If we delay this motion, the utility of it will be frustrated. So I feel that if the House agrees we can fix it on Saturday when we can consider and discuss this motion—if the Government is agreeable.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members will kindly look into the rules. It is the Government that must consent to fixing a time. I have no right to fix a particular date, superseding official days and non-official days. Under the rules, we have made it convenient for Members to discuss non-official business on Fridays. But all the other time is at the disposal of the Government. They must agree. I wish the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.....

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): I shall look into it, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He will consider it.

Sri T. K. Chaudhuri (Berhampore): May I draw your attention to one thing, Sir? If you have already admitted this motion, then it should have been circulated in the Bulletins and Circulars as a 'no-date-yet-named' motion.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have been receiving from other hon. Members—Dr. Khare and others—this motion in various shapes and forms. Therefore, I am considering as to how best this matter may be brought before the House. That is why I have not notified it in the Bulletins. This is a serious matter and must be taken up. Of course, all the Members are interested in it. It has got other repercussions also. The question is how best we may get the maximum result out of this without causing unnecessary provocation or other unnecessary troubles. That is what is passing in my mind. I will certainly look into this matter as early as possible.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: May I make a submission, Sir? The desire seems to be not for a half-hour discussion or one-hour discussion, but for a full-dress discussion on this motion and allotment of possibly a whole day. I hope, Sir, you will take this point also into consideration.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes.

Acharya Kripalani (Bhagalpur-cum-Purnea): I have to submit, Sir, that of the two proposals that you have received, the one from Dr. Jaisoorya is of a limited character. I feel that in what has happened the Government of India are greatly involved. I would suggest that you consider only the larger question and Dr. Jaisoorya's motion will also be covered.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Very well.

ANDHRA STATE BILL—Contd.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now take up further consideration of the Andhra State Bill.

Both clause 47 and the amendments thereon were under discussion. Those