

has been a newspaper report, which I shall send to you presently, to the effect that the Congress Party has sent an s.o.s. telegram to all its Members to come and vote, and the opportunity has been given by the weekend supervening between the forced continuation of the debate and the voting.

I consider this to be an infraction of privilege, and I hope you will let me raise this matter later on, if warranted to do so.

Mr. Speaker: At any rate, there is no evidence before the House that there were telegrams and all that. As for newspaper reports, one is very conversant as to how far they could be reliable. But I am not concerned with that. That would be an extraneous matter. If we are prepared to assume all the motives attributed, then, of course, there may be some meaning, but let us proceed without assumption of any motives or attributing any motives to anyone.

I was saying that there is no charm in having a motion. Even here, the hon. Member will see that the rule speaks of not a motion, but rule 39 says:

"No variation in the Allocation of Time Order shall be made except on the request of the Leader of the House....."

Shri S. S. More: Did he request? (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order, no interferences. I am able to read the English as it is in the rules.

All that has to be done is a request by the hon. Leader of the House who shall notify orally to the House that there was general agreement for such variation, which shall be enforced by the Speaker after taking the sense of the House. But where the House was unanimous....

Some Hon. Members: No, no.

Mr. Speaker: ...to go on with the flood debate beyond 5 P.M.

Some Hon. Members: No, no. (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: ...the usual sitting time.. (Interruptions). I do not propose to answer these interruptions. I may have their questions or answers. They may have their own views about it. But it is a procedure, a rough and ready procedure to enable the House to conduct its business in a proper manner. There is no meaning, or there is no charm in having a motion.

There is another point which was raised on Saturday—I do not propose to discuss it now—on the interpretation of rules Nos. 38 and 39. But one thing which I may say is that though I allowed the Members of the Opposition to have their arguments, it is not proper to challenge the ruling of the Chair. The matter was concluded by the ruling of the Chairman on Saturday; ~~it cannot be reopened by anyone, not even by me. It is not a desirable practice that the ruling of the Chair should be revised off and on. If the ruling is wrong, the House may have other remedies.~~

Shri S. S. More: What other remedies?

Mr. Speaker: It is not my business; it is for the hon. Member, who is so much conversant with the rules and in such detail, to see to that. If there are no rules, he can suggest rules, and if the House so likes, it may accept the rules.

So the matter is concluded (nat way, to my mind).

MOTION RE: FLOOD SITUATION IN INDIA—Concl'd.

Mr. Speaker: Now, I would like to know the wishes of the House regarding the unfinished speech of the hon. Minister regarding the flood situation in the country. Would the House like the hon. Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power to finish the reply to the debate?

Several Hon. Members: Yes, yes.

Mr. Speaker: That will be an amendment of the allocation order. Let me take the sense of the House first and then I shall request the hon. the Leader of the House to make a request.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Gurgaon): May I submit one thing....

Mr. Speaker: I would again take the sense of the House.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: ...for the consideration of the House. This is not a matter of special importance which has only cropped up today. Everyday it happens. Supposing at 4 P.M. a business was to have been concluded and vote taken...

Mr. Speaker: Let us not carry on the argument further; otherwise, it will be lurch time again.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: It happens everyday. If we do not come to some decision on this question, it will be difficult to continue the business of the House.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Defence (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I have listened naturally with interest to what hon. Members have said and, with all respect, to what you have said. I was not present here in the House at that time, although I was not far and could be available. I was not personally aware of what happened at that time. But anyhow, having spent the last three quarters of an hour over this debate, I think it will not be right for me to make any further request for time to continue the debate. We have spent quite enough time over it....

Dr. N. B. Khare (Gwalior): It is not necessary because there are enough Members present in the House for voting!

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Therefore I would propose that the debate do conclude now.

Shri V. G. Deshpande (Guna): We are very eager to listen to the Minister.

Mr. Speaker: Now, I will put the amendments to the original motion.

Shri S .S. More (Sholapur): There is a motion which stands in the name of Mr. Nanda. It has to be put.

Mr. Speaker: First, I am taking up for voting the amendments to the motion moved by the hon. Minister.

The question is:

That for the original motion the following be substituted, namely:

"This House having considered the flood situation in the country, is of opinion that—

- (a) the approach of planning must be duly modified by laying proper emphasis upon the training and mobilisation of our man-power for flood-control, anti-erosion, irrigation and allied schemes;
- (b) the policy of importing machinery from outside for implementing various programmes be reviewed and reduced to absolutely necessary items;
- (c) the surplus defence stores in the Depots and the services of the Military Engineering Organisation be utilised for flood-control and allied measures;
- (d) a positive and dynamic programme be chalked out for enlisting popular co-operation in the envisaged work;
- (e) all long-range plans for control of floods and erosion by construction of dams, embankments, rivetments and spurs be investigated into; and
- (f) short-range measures for relief, rehabilitation and protection be urgently adopted

by co-operation and co-ordination at all levels."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Speaker: The next amendment is in the name of Shri A. P. Sinha. Does he wish me to put it to the House?

Shri A. P. Sinha (Muzaffarpur East): Yes, I want to press it, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

That for the original motion the following be substituted, namely:

"This House having considered the flood situation in the country approves of the programme and the steps taken by the Central Government regarding flood-control measures and financial and other aids assured to the State Governments for relief to the victims of unprecedented floods."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: The other amendments fall to the ground because the main motion has been substituted.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta North-East): I have an amendment which does not fall to the ground because it very well supplements the purport of the amendment already accepted by the House. I do not suggest anything more than Government's agreement to co-operation with everybody....

Mr. Speaker: I want to know whether he wants me to put it to the vote of the House.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Yes, to a voice vote.

Mr. Speaker: I would not enter into that discussion as to whether it survives or not.

The question is:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:

"This House having considered the flood situation in the country is of opinion that—

(a) the present situation should be considered to be one of national emergency and every effort should be made to rouse and organise the people in the carrying out of schemes for flood and river control etc., and

(b) the immediate measures for providing adequate relief to flood and erosion victims, and schemes for their rehabilitation should be adopted and implemented with the cooperation of non-official organisations irrespective of party affiliation."

The motion was negatived.

CONSTITUTION (THIRD
AMENDMENT) BILL—*Concl'd.*

Mr. Speaker: Now, I will put the motion moved by Shri T. T. Krishnamachari on the 10th September 1954 on the Bill to further amend the Constitution of India.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): May I make a submission? In regard to the original motion that I moved, the date for submission of the report is the 17th September. The House will realise that they are now on the 13th. The motion will have to go before the Rajya Sabha and the date fixed is 14th. I would, therefore, humbly suggest that, if the House will permit me, the date for submission of the report may be changed to the 20th September.

Shri S. S. More (Sholapur): Can there be any amendment after the conclusion of the debate?

Mr. Speaker: Obviously, this is a formal one, that they shall make a report by the 20th September. I will put it as an amendment.

Now, there are two amendments which I shall first put to the vote. The first one is by Mr. Vallatharas.