

[Shri Jawaharlal Nehru.]

they were indulging in against people in favour of merger. This news has come today and we have immediately taken action and communicated with the French Ambassador here and with the authorities in Pondicherry. We shall communicate with the French Government also. We have demanded also the immediate return not only of the Indian citizens but the Mayor who was taken away, and punishment of the policemen who had perpetrated this outrage on Indian territory. We have also taken measures, that is, through the Madras Government, the armed police of the Madras State, to prevent any armed people policemen or any persons with arms entering Indian territory from those French Settlements. That is all that I have to state before the House.

The situation is obviously a changing and developing one and if anything important occurs I shall come before the House and place the information before it.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF
MEMBERS FROM SITTINGS OF
THE HOUSE

PRESENTATION OF FIRST REPORT

Shri Altekar (North Satara): Sir, I beg to present the first Report of the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 64.]

*DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—contd.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now take up the Demands for Grants of the Defence Ministry.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Basirhat): Sir, I would like to make a submission. In view of the fact that the Congress Party and the Treasury Benches will be supporting the Government policy, and in view of the fact there are so many Ministers who will

be taking part in the discussion, may I suggest that the time as between the Congress Party and the Opposition may be allotted on a fifty-fifty basis?

Shri Nambiar (Mayuram): They have no cut motions to their credit; we have tabled all the cut motions.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I thought the hon. lady Member was about to say that the Ministers' time ought to be excluded from the time taken by the Congress; that is what they have been doing. (*Interruptions*).

I shall try to adjust. I have been giving an opportunity to the leaders of the various groups.....

An Hon. Member: May I suggest that the matter may be taken up by the Business Advisory Committee?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have already divided the time and I shall see to it that no representatives of the groups are unrepresented in the debate. That is what I can do. Now, let us proceed with the Demands. The House will now proceed with the consideration of the Demands for Grants Nos. 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 114.

Members and leaders of groups may hand over the numbers of the cut motions which they select to the Secretary in fifteen minutes. I will treat them as moved if those hon. Members in whose names those cut motions stand are present in the House and they are otherwise in order.

These numbers of selected cut motions have been received *Praja-Socialist Party*: Nos. 63, 65, 67, 68 and 69.

Communist Party: Nos. 530, 531, 532, 542, 837, 838, 510, 826, 710 and 839.

Democratic Group: Nos. 842 and 822.

On behalf of Independent Members Parliamentary Group the following cut motions will be moved:

Shri G. S. Singh:...No. 715.

*Moved with the previous sanction of the President.