

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Tuesday, 3rd March, 1953

The House met at Two of the
Clock

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

3 P.M.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

VISIT OF U.S. DESTROYERS TO CALCUTTA

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have received notice of an adjournment motion. The subject is: "The situation arising out of the visit of four U.S. Destroyers to Calcutta". What is the information of the hon. Member?

The Minister of Revenue and Expenditure (Shri Tyagi): U.S. phobia.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta North-East): I will tell you. The information is based on reports in the Press to the effect that four U.S. Navy Destroyers which have participated in the war in Korea have come to Calcutta. They are called McGowan, McNair, Hailey and Hickox. They came to Calcutta port on the 28th February. They are returning, according to the reports, to the Korean war front after re-fuelling at the Budge Budge Depot of the Standard Vacuum Oil Company and stocking themselves with provisions. Meanwhile, public functions are being arranged on board the Destroyers. Indian Navy personnel are looking after the four ships, and the American officers were invited to dinner by the local Commander of our Navy. The American naval personnel are seeing the sights of Calcutta in State buses. This is the kind of report we have, and it is a very illu-

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minating comment on our independent foreign policy.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Wherefrom is the hon. Member reading?

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: It is in today's *Statesman*. You will find a report there. A Report also appears in certain Bengali papers, and there you will find photographs also. These are reports which I can supply to the Ministry if they are interested.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Apart from that, what is the objection? (*Laughter*). I could not follow.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: The laughing philosophers on the other side will remember that it is a very illuminating example of our independent foreign policy. We do not want our country's ports to be sullied by the presence of these Destroyers. They are taking part in a war against which we have expressed ourselves clearly. If we are indirectly, in this fashion, going to help people who are participating in the prolongation of this carnage, then surely it is something of which we should take note.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I confess that I have not been able to understand or appreciate the hon. Member's point of view. It was his rather fertile imagination that made him say the other day that 3,200 American planes had landed at the Dum Dum air port. (*Interruption.*)

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Let him answer this point straight. Why does he refer to something else? (*Interruptions.*) The Prime Minister denied there was Gurkha recruitment in India and got away with it. There is no example of a similar case in constitutional history. (*Interruptions.*)

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order please. Hon. Members should wait for a complete answer.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Let him answer my point straight.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: On a prior occasion the hon. Member alleged that some 3,200 and odd aeroplanes had landed at Dum Dum airport. The hon. Prime Minister looked into the matter and said that whatever might be the nature of the aircraft, such a large number of aeroplanes did not land at that aerodrome.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Basirhat): He denied that there were no personnel in military uniform, but I saw them myself.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. She will resume her seat. There is no good trying to interrupt the proceedings of the House. Hon. Members will be a little patient. There is no good losing temper over this matter. Hon. Members should know that an hon. Minister is entitled to say that such and such a statement of an hon. Member is wrong. He has equal right as other hon. Members to say so. I think it is quite parliamentary. The hon. Prime Minister must be allowed to get on. There ought to be no interruption.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru rose:—

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: He went on denying Gurkha recruitment for months.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members on the Opposition side have been saying so many things. They have been saying that so many statements of hon. Ministers are wrong or are incorrect. It is equally open to the hon. Prime Minister to say that their statements are wrong or that this information is quite wrong. If he says so, I have absolutely no objection to allow him to go on.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It is not a question of right or wrong. I was referring to facts. The hon. Member gave some facts which were fantastically wrong and fantastically absurd on the last occasion. (*Interruptions.*)

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: The Prime Minister denied that there was anyone in military uniform...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members must take their seats. I have heard, unfortunately, a number of things from the Acting Leader of the Communist Party on several occasions. He always says, "disgusting", "nauseating" and so on. Now, when hon. Members use such expressions, they must be prepared to take similar expressions from the other side.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I submit, Sir, that I have used no expressions which by any stretch of imagination can be called unparliamentary. In regard to certain facts which the hon. Member gave, I stated that they were completely fantastic, and I should like the House to remember that I have had no expression of regret from him yet.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee ,rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members will observe the rules of the House, and they will allow me to regulate the proceedings. If there is any personal explanation which Shri H. N. Mukerjee wants to make, I will allow him.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: I am going to give it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No, not immediately. Hon. Members cannot have their own way in this House. Let the hon. Prime Minister complete his statement. He must have an opportunity to say what he has to say regarding this matter. If after that the hon. Member wants to make a personal explanation regarding any particular matter, I will allow him to do so, but not now.

Shri Nambiar (Mayuram): What is this shouting on the other side?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, please. Let the Prime Minister complete his answer.

Shri Namdhari (Fazilka-Sirsa): On a point of order. (*Interruptions.*)

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let me hear the point of order. Will the hon. Members not allow me to regulate the proceedings? Will they take the law into their own hands? If it is a point of order, I will have to hear it, from whichever quarter it might come. What is the point of order?

Shri Namdhari: When all Communist Members get up without the permission of the Chair, I want to ask are they fitted with an electric switch? (*Laughter.*)

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. The Prime Minister. Let there be no heat.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Evidently, Sir, hon. Members both on this side and on the other side have not recovered from the *Holi* atmosphere. In regard to this matter, I really do not understand what I am supposed to answer. There are certainly rules and regulations governing the coming of ships into harbour and they are being allowed to refuel—except in wartime. I do not even know about

this case. Naturally, how am I to know? Ships come and go, and so far as this matter is concerned, my only information—which I got just before coming here—was that these ships are going to America.

An Hon. Member: No. Back to Korea.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: They are westward bound. That is the information I have received. I am not certain. We are bound, so far as I know of international usage and convention, when a ship comes to us from any country—the Soviet Union, China or any other country you can mention—to treat that ship exactly in the same way. That is, it is allowed to refuel and go away.

The second part of the hon. Member's question was about some entertainments or showing round of the U.S. naval personnel that was going on in Calcutta. Really, I know nothing about it, and I do not see why if sailors or airmen wish to meet each other and entertain each other that should be objected to. It is but normal usage. (*Interruption.*) In this country, let me tell my hon. friends, we do not cultivate the cult of hatred.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now, Mr. H. N. Mukerjee, any personal explanation?

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: The hon. Prime Minister said a little while ago that there was no expression of regret on my part in regard to what he called a misstatement which I had made in the course of my speech. If he wanted me to regret, I am sorry I cannot oblige, but he will remember that when he quoted the report of my speech from the records...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Just one minute.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Let me complete my sentence, Sir—you cannot stop me by just getting up in that way—now, from the proceedings of the House which the hon. Prime Minister read...

Shri Natesan (Tiruvallur): On a point of order, Sir...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let him complete his sentence.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy (Salem): On a point of order, Sir...

Shri H. N. Mukerjee:the hon. Prime Minister himself read the records of the House and in the sentence wherein that particular statement was included, I had actually included a clause to the effect that "if I am wrong, I hope the Prime Minister

will correct me". He read it out at that time, and if he now wants me regret he will not have it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: And the Prime Minister also, when he found the hon. Member's facts to be wrong, said that they were not correct. That is all he said.

Shrimati Renn Chakravartty: The Prime Minister's statement on that occasion was wrong. He said that there were no personnel in uniform. I saw with my own eyes personnel in military dress. But I could not take photographs.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will have to stop this. Enough has been said on this matter. I find that so far as this matter is concerned. . .

Shri P. T. Chacko (Meenachil): The hon. Member stated when the Chair was on its legs that the Chair cannot prevent him from proceeding. Is it in order for him to have said so?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am very sorry that such an expression should have been used. After all I have no colour: I am only interested in regulating the debate, and give an opportunity to all Members to speak. That is why I told the hon. the Leader of the Communist Group that he will have an opportunity. Even when the Leader says this, I do not know what his followers will say. I am very sorry that such an expression should have been used: I did not hear.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Gurgaon): It is not a matter over which the Chair should be sorry; in fact, the hon. Member who used those expressions should feel sorry.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: I did not mean any criticism of your conduct. I only wanted to complete my sentence, if you would give me a chance.

Shri P. T. Chacko: He said that the Chair 'cannot prevent him in this way'.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I hope the hon. Member will have no hesitation in withdrawing those words, if he made them.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: If you wish me to withdraw that expression, I shall certainly do it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I do not think anything was meant.

Now, so far as this matter is concerned, it is unfortunate that it has provoked so much of heat. Now I have heard both sides. It appears that in usual course destroyers or other

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

ships come and berth for refuelling, and so far there is nothing so important as to need the interruption of the proceedings of this House, so far as this matter is concerned. It does not appear from what the hon. the Prime Minister has said that this indicates any particular tendency or any provocation for any world war—nothing of the sort. Under such circumstances, I do not give my consent.

Now the other thing I have received relates to law and order. The House will proceed to other business.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTIFICATIONS MAKING AMENDMENTS TO CINEMATOGRAPH (CENSORSHIP) RULES, 1951

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): I beg to lay on the Table under section 8(3) of the Cinematograph Act, 1952, a copy of each of the following Notifications making certain further amendments to the Cinematograph (Censorship) Rules, 1951:

- (1) Notification No. 35/23/51-F (C.C.R.A/4), dated 29th December 1952, S.R.O. 85. [Placed in Library. See No. S-9/53.]
- (2) Notification No. 35/23/51-F (C.C.R. A/5), dated 12th January 1953, S.R.O. 143. [Placed in Library. See No. S-9/53.]
- (3) Notification No. 6/1/53-FII. (C.C.R.A/6) dated 6th February 1953, S.R.O. 309. [Placed in Library. See No. S-9/53.]

NOTIFICATIONS ISSUED UNDER THE REQUISITIONING AND ACQUISITION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY ACT, 1952

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): I beg to lay on the Table, under subsection (2) of section 17 of the Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property Act, 1952, a copy of each of the following notifications issued by the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply:

- (i) Notification No. 10739-WII/52, dated the 29th December, 1952. [Placed in Library. See No. S-8/53.]
- (ii) Notification No. 665-WII/53, dated the 16th January, 1953. [Placed in Library. See No. S-8/53.]

(iii) Notification No. 1526-WII/53, dated the 5th February, 1953. [Placed in Library. See No. S-8/53.]

APPROPRIATION (RAILWAYS) BILL

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): I beg to move*:

“That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the service of the financial year 1953-54 for the purposes of Railways be taken into consideration.”

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

“That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the service of the financial year 1953-54, for the purposes of Railways be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 1, 2, 3 and the Schedule, the Title and the Enacting Formula were added to the Bill.

Shri L. B. Shastri: I beg to move:

“That the Bill be passed.”

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

“That the Bill be passed.”

The motion was adopted.

GENERAL BUDGET, 1953-54

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS ON ACCOUNT

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

“That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, on account, for or towards defraying the charges during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of the corresponding heads of all the Demands, entered in the second column thereof.”

The motion was adopted.

*Moved with the previous sanction of the President.