

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) to (d). A statement is placed on the Table [See Appendix II annexure No 25]

12.08 hrs

DEATH OF SHRI VADLAPATLA GANGARAJU

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the House of the sad demise of Shri Vadlapatla Gangaraju who passed away on the 6th February, 1959 at Kovvahi in W Godavari.

Shri Vadlapatla Gangaraju was Member of the former Legislative Assembly in the years 1945-46. I am sure the House will join with me in conveying our condolence to the family of Shri Gangaraju. The House may stand in silence for a minute to express its sorrow.

The Members then stood in silence for a minute.

12.09 hrs

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

FIRING BY PAKISTAN TROOPS

Mr. Speaker: I have received notice of an adjournment motion from Shri Hem Barua regarding the serious and grave situation arising out of Pakistan troops firing resulting in death of an Indian national. This is a continuing affair and it is stated that all steps are being taken. Has the hon Prime Minister anything further to say in the matter?

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): May I make a humble submission, Sir? It is very often said that this is a continuing matter. It is a continuing matter and it has resulted in the death of an Indian national on the 18th February due to injuries sustained from firing—his name is Munwar Ali. The news is that a woman in the kitchen is also having injuries due to Pakistan bullets coming in on the 21st February. There is dislocation of normal life

there, and people are evacuating from those areas, and every day telegrams are pouring in. I have got those telegrams. And there are telegrams even from the Chairman of the Local Board in Karimganj which say that normal life is completely dislocated, and there is dislocation of even postal service. If matters are allowed to continue like this—and continuance of a matter like this is reflection on the Government as well—people there are sure to lose morale and they are sure to lose faith in the Government. This is what is happening.

In Kanpur the Defence Minister made a statement that we can tolerate foolishness to a degree on the part of others. This is not a case of tolerating foolishness on the part of Pakistan. This is a case of adopting measures to stop this altogether, because the conditions prevailing there are of utter helplessness and of insecurity to life and property. Those conditions cannot be judged from the citadels of Delhi. It is the people there who are suffering, people are dying. Munwar Ali has died on the 18th and a woman is about to die. There is complete dislocation of normal life.

I would like the Prime Minister to go to that area. Often I feel, rightly or wrongly I do not know, it is because that frontier is so much neglected that it has not been able to attract the attention of the Prime Minister or of the Home Minister or of the Government. If it were any other State in the Republic of India, possibly the Prime Minister would have rushed to the place to give succour and relief to the people there.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): First of all, as regards the facts, as you were pleased to say, firing has been continuing for some time. There is no doubt that, as a result of this firing, one person named Mohonar Ali

Shri Hem Barua: Munwar Ali.