

## RE. MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT

**Shri Muhammed Elias (Howrah):** Before you take up the next item on the agenda, may I make a short submission regarding the two Adjournment Motions? You have been pleased to convert one of them and admit it as a Calling Attention Notice. That was with regard to the accident to the *Dara*, in which hundreds of Indian nationals have sustained injuries or died. About the second item, no reason has been stated as to why it has been rejected. It is a very serious matter. The Minister concerned is also present here. Thousands of factories are being closed down in Calcutta and Howrah. The whole city life has been disrupted as the authorities have failed to supply power.

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Members in their enthusiasm want to resort to Adjournment Motions. The hon. Member wants to know why power is not supplied to Calcutta. Only the other day, there has been a question with respect to the DVC as to how far it is able to produce sufficient power and so on. It is a continuing affair. Hon. Members must know that they can bring up by way of Adjournment Motions only those things which are of recent occurrence, say, yesterday or the day before. Secondly, it must be of urgent public importance, and it ought not to be a continuing affair, etc. This is a continuing affair and cannot be disposed of by way of an Adjournment Motion. That is one of the reasons for my disallowing it. I do not give all the reasons. If I mention one reason, immediately, hon. Members will go on discussing whether that reason is right or wrong! Then they will apply themselves to these reasons and exhaust them.

**Shri Muhammed Elias:** It is not a continuing matter. Last week, suddenly, the whole power has been stopped, and the whole city life has been disrupted. Hundreds of factories have closed down and hundreds of thousands of workers have been

thrown out of employment there. It is the duty of the Government to intervene with the DVC and other authorities to restore the supply of power. The hon. Minister is present here and at least let him make a statement.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri Hathi was here and I asked him about a similar question possibly put by the same hon. Member regarding the supply of power to Calcutta. There is a Government there and they will write to them. They will know their difficulties. Once again every day he is putting that question. I am aware that the hon. Member is very much interested in his constituency and he comes from that constituency. (*Interruptions*). Let him hold his soul in patience.

12.12 hrs.

## STATEMENT RE. COL. BHATTACHARJEE

**The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):** I shall say a few words as to how Col. Bhattacharjee is. The House was anxious to know. No one on our behalf has been able to interview Col. Bhattacharjee, but the Pakistan Government has stated that Col. Bhattacharjee has received only a minor injury and that he is well and is able to walk about in a normal manner. They have also stated that he is being properly looked after.

Some Hon. Members rose—

**Mr. Speaker:** That is all the information he has. The hon. Minister said he will get the information. No-body can force....

**Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati):** It appears that Pakistan has rejected our protest. They have said, he was apprehended inside their territory while engaged in spying. These charges were made and the hon. Minister is silent on that.

**Mr. Speaker:** Does the hon. Member want our Minister to accept it?