

Early transfer of power urged

Bhutto & Qayyum criticised

Asghar's plea to transfer power to majority party

Karachi Bar's draft Mufti Mahmood's resolution call to preserve country's integrity

The general body meeting of the Karachi Bar Association is meeting on March 16 to consider a resolution which says that power should be transferred to the representatives of the people after securing an undertaking of compliance with the Legal Framework Order.

A Press release issued here yesterday said that the resolution to be tabled before the meeting says: "It is high time that the elected representatives of the people were encouraged to resolve their differences in open debates in the National Assembly so that the whole nation should be able to weight the reasonableness or otherwise of the viewpoints of everyone and every party. This

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LAHORE, March 13: Maulana Mufti Mahmood, General Secretary Jamiat Ulama-i-Islam observed here today that it was the responsibility of the entire nation to put forward the best efforts to preserve the country's solidarity and integrity.

Speaking at the meeting of the leaders of minority parties, he said, certain elements had deliberately tried to wreck the country's unity and it was the duty of the patriotic forces to frustrate their nefarious designs.

Commenting on the condition of PML chief, Khan Abdul Qayyum Khan, that if the Pakistan People's Party was to participate in the meeting then his party was ready to attend it, he maintained that the PPP was a party to the conflict between the two major parties, therefore, it could not be invited to participate in the deliberations. PPL

RAWALPINDI, March 13: Air Marshal (Retd) Asghar Khan, chief of the Tehrik-i-Istiqal, said here today that power should be transferred immediately to the majority party, which would itself go ahead with the process of framing of constitution by the Assembly

Addressing members of the Rawalpindi Bar Association, he said that constitutional matters were at present not as important as the unity of Pakistan.

He said that only two or three days were now left for "sanity to prevail" and hoped that realising the gravity of the situation, the President would act accordingly.

The Tehrik leader said that things had gone beyond six points and it was not the time to get involved in legal points about the question of transfer of power.

Assuring that East Pakistan people did want to live with their West Wing brethren, he said it was "our duty" to understand their feelings which had behind them a long period of exploita-

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Pleas to hand power to people's representatives

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may involve some bitterness and confusion in the beginning, but will eventually lead to smooth working of democracy.

"This resolution should not be interpreted to suggest that this Bar Association approves of the Six Points, but wants an open and dispassionate debate on the same in the Assembly.

"This Association also condemns the stabbings, arson and looting which was resorted to by some mischief-mongers. We demand an inquiry into those incidents and further demand payment of compensation to the affected persons. We are, however, thankful that Shaikh Mujib had condemned such incidents and has promised compensation and relief to those who suffered on this account.

The resolution further said:

"This general body of the Bar Association is of the view that the further worsening of the situation should be at once resisted by every patriotic citizen in the country and in order to do so we call upon the President to please immediately accept the demand of enquiry into the firing which should also include enquiry into riots. The demand of sending the army back to the barracks should also be accepted as the law and order situation is completely normal now. The other two demands of Shaikh Mujib, for removal of Martial Law and transfer of power to the elected representatives of the people, should also be given a fair and immediate consideration as they are quite democratic demands and can hardly be objected to in principle by any democratic-minded person or party. In this respect, we would demand that transfer of power should take place on the provincial level as well so that democratic institutions may start functioning. The only categorical assurance which can reasonably be demanded from the majority party should be that they will comply with the spirit and substance of the Legal Framework Order'

A. L. LEADER

Mr Mohammad Mahmood, former General Secretary of the All Pakistan Awami League called upon the people of West Pakistan to stand united with the people of East Pakistan in their demand to transfer power to the representatives of the people.

Addressing a meeting of the Awami League workers on Friday night, Mr Mahmood said that Mr Bhutto and Khan Qayyum were creating difficulties in the way of transfer of power to the people. It was still time, he said, for Mr Bhutto and Khan Abdul Qayyum Khan to join the people's movement for democracy.

It was wrong to say he added, that the people of West Pakistan were opposed to transfer of power to Shaikh Mujibur Rehman who was not only the undisputed leader of East Pakistan but more and more people were coming around the leadership of Shaikh Sahib in West Pakistan.

Mr Mahmood urged the MNAs and MPAs belonging to the People's Party and Qayyum League to leave their parties and assert themselves like great patriots and join the battle of democracy.

PPP LEADER

if he was taken in the Central Government, he would like Morarji Desai, indulge in further manipulations to capture top political seat of the Government.

Maulana Ishaadul Haq appealed the members of People's Party to rise to the occasion and to replace Mr Bhutto by a peaceful patriot who should join hands with the Awami League chief to cement the ties between East and West Wing"—PPI.

Donations

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reconstruction, for which the East Pakistan Government has prepared a "reconstruction programme" at a total cost of Rs. 86 crore. The programme was approved in principle by the Cabinet in the last week of November, i.e., within the two weeks of cyclonic disaster. This programme is to be implemented by a high-powered reconstruction Board located at Dacca set up under the chairmanship of the Governor of East Pakistan. The Secretariat of the Board is located in the Planning and Development Department of the East Pakistan Government at Dacca.

With a view to enabling the Board to take prompt action on the implementation of the reconstruction programme, the normal procedure of getting projects approved by the Central Development Working Party and the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council have been dispensed with and the Board has been given full powers to approve all projects and sanction expenditure within the framework of the reconstruction programme.

The Central Government has also placed at the disposal of the Reconstruction Board a sum of Rs. 2 crore as a revolving fund to meet rupee expenditure.

The Government of Pakistan have requested the friendly countries for assistance in the completion of the reconstruction programme. So far the following offers have been received from friendly countries and organisations:—

(i) IDA credit of dollar 25 million (already effective from 8.2.1971.

(ii) UK credit of dollar 4.8 million.

(iii) USA commodity grant of dollar 7.5 million.

(iv) UNICEF grant of dollar 1.385 million.

(v) British Charitable Organisation have still some unspent balance out of the donations collected for cyclone relief which they would like to spend towards the reconstruction programme.

(vi) The International Red Cross has indicated that it would (a) build up a cyclone warning system, (b) construct godowns for storing Red Cross relief materials for use in future emergencies, and (c) supply medical and surgical goods to physicians of affected areas.

(vi) Save the Children Fund have indicated that they would (a) set up maternity and child welfare centres in co-operation with UNICEF and International Union of Child Welfare, (b)

PPF LEADER

Syed Hasan Askari, Secretary, West Pakistan Democratic Party and other PDP leaders have said that Mr Z. A. Bhutto's recent move to have negotiations with Shaikh Mujibur Rehman is quite unwarranted.

The statement said that in representing himself as leader of West Pakistan, he always forgets that hardly 38 per cent voters were in his favour. The statement continued: 'He should be realistic, cease to be a hypocrite and not pose as the exclusive leader of the people of West Pakistan. He must also keep in mind the fact that the people of West Pakistan have totally rejected him after his recent involvement in delaying, rather defeating, the democratic process'.

'The proper parties to the negotiations are only Awami League, which has to take power and President General A. M. Yahya Khan who has to transfer power. It is not understandable where Mr Bhutto stands in the transaction and why should he interfere in the affairs'.

KARACHI AWAMI ULEMA

Karachi Awami Ulema Party observed on Friday 'save Pakistan Day' and held special prayers after Namaz-e-Jumma for an early Yahya-Mujib meeting and for its success.

Later, addressing a largely attended workers' meeting which was held after Isha prayers to observe 'Save Pakistan Day', Maulana Irshadul Haq Thanvi, Chairman, West Pakistan Awami Ulema Party, said that Mr Bhutto who was once Foreign Minister, had misapplied his confrontation policy against Bharat to the poor people of East Pakistan only to influence Awami League for his inclusion in the Central Cabinet. He added, in fact Mr Bhutto had become Morarji Desai of Pakistan for his great lust of power and even

Jamaat leader blames Bhutto for present crisis

LAHORE, March 14: Syed Siddiqui Hasan Gilani, chief of the parliamentary affairs of the Jamaat-i-Islami, said here today that the responsibility for the present crisis lay with Mr. Z. A. Bhutto, the People's Party chief, who had aggravated the situation by threatening to boycott the National Assembly session on March 8.

In a Press statement here today, he maintained that the present constitutional deadlock had been created by the PPF chief after his failure to get any share in Sheikh Mujibur Rehman's Government at the Centre. The dispute, which was basically between Sheikh Mujibur Rehman and Mr Bhutto, he said, had now brought the two wings of the country in confrontation.

The country's unity and integrity was now being threatened seriously while the PPF leaders were trying to hoodwink the people on one pretext or the other and hiding their intrigues against the country.—PPL