

# President urged to visit E. Wing

## *Bugti slates Bhutto*

From NISAR OSMANI

LAHORE, March 14: The Baluch political leader, Nawab Akbar Khan Bugti, today called upon President Yahya Khan to transfer power immediately to the leader of the majority party, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, before the commencement of the National Assembly session.

He expressed the view that President Yahya should leave for Dacca at the earliest to have a threadbare discussion with the Awami League leader over the constitutional crisis. If the President could meet a minority party leader, Mr. Bhutto, quite a few times during the last weeks, there was no reasons why he should not see the majority party chief, he added.

Addressing a Press conference, Mr. Bugti said he had had thorough discussion with the East Pakistani leaders during his recent visit to Dacca and had found that Maulana Bhashani was the only leader who advocated separation of East Pakistan. Sheikh Mujib was interested in keeping the country united, but also believed that the rights of all the nationalities should be safeguarded and secured. The people and the leaders of the Eastern Wing felt that vested interests Mr Bhutto

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# Bugti

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the and other forces wanted to drive them out.

Mr. Bugti added: When Sheikh Mujib can rule the whole country why should he be content with only half of it."

He said that all the four demands of Sheikh Mujib should be accepted. So far as the mechanism of the transfer of power was concerned, it could be based on any Constitution — even on the Act of 1935.

## BALUCHISTAN'S EARNINGS

Replying to a question about the future prospects of Baluchistan, he said at present Baluchistan was earning only Rs. 5.5 crores—as against the annual expenditure of Rs. 12 crores. This was because major sources of income were with the centre. According to him, the new Province could earn Rs. 12 crores annually from Sul gas and another two crores from the minerals like coal and Gypsum. Last year, the Province earned foreign exchange in worth about Rs. 2.75 crores by exporting shrimp. That would mean that Baluchistan would be the richest Province after some time.

He said Baluchistan was interested in having a modern port—a free port, which would be of great economic benefit to the Province.

He said the first bill which the Baluchistan Government would pass soon after it was set up would be about abolition of Sardari system in the Province.

## BHUTTO CRITICISED

The Baluch leader alleged that Mr Bhutto had not even touched upon constitutional problem during his parleys with Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, but had confined his talks only "to sharing power at the Centre".

He said in fact, the meeting between Mr Bhutto and Sheikh Mujib lasted only for 40 minutes and after that it was just a formality. The boat trip was just a joy ride.

He said Mr Bhutto had demanded from Awami League chief that the portfolio of foreign affairs should be given to him. He did not even ask for the draft Constitution of the Awami League.

Answering a question, he said that he had gathered this information from some quarters in East Pakistan and had got it "confirmed from People's Party quarters with whom we have contact".

## CONTRAST

He charged that Mr Bhutto did not believe in democracy, was a product of dictatorship and would go to the extent of even breaking up the unity of the country to come into power. Mr Bhutto, he alleged, would like to be the Prime Minister of Pakistan, but if that was not possible, he would be contented with the Premiership of West Pakistan.

He said that Mr Bhutto would prove to be "worse and more ruthless than former President Ayub Khan" so much so that people would talk of Ayub nostalgically.

He said Mr Bhutto had never advocated for parliamentary democracy. He had demanded the removal of Ayub Khan — only to succeed him under an autocratic presidential set-up.

Mr Bugti also held Mr Bhutto responsible for recent bloodshed, sorrow and grief in Bangla Desh" and said that the latter would stand convicted before the bar of public opinion.