

Shock expressed over Bhutto's demand

Transfer of power to 'two majority parties'

LAHORE, March 14: Mufti Mahmud, General Secretary of Jamiat-e Ulema-e Islam, referring to the demand of PPP Chairman Z. A. Bhutto's demand for the transfer of power to the respective majority parties in the two wings of the country said 'it was quite incomprehensible how power could be transferred to "two majority parties."

He reiterated his stand that the President must call upon Shaikh Mujibur Rahman to form the Government. There could be only one majority party in the Assembly and that was the Pakistan Awami League he added.

He said after the break up of One-Unit there were four provinces in West Pakistan and Mr. Bhutto could claim to be the leader of the majority party only in two provinces, the Punjab and Sind. Mr. Bhutto did not represent Baluchistan and NWFP, he added.

He, however, expressed the opinion that from every province the Ministers should be taken in the Central Cabinet. He also called for the formation of an interim government in all provinces.

Malik Hansa Sarfraz, General Secretary, Punjab Awami League, said it was shocking to learn that Mr. Z. A. Bhutto, in the course of his speech at the Karachi public meeting, had demanded that power in East Pakistan and West Pakistan should be transferred to the respective majority parties via Awami League and People's Party.

He said: "I am dumbfounded to hear that Mr. Bhutto, the erstwhile sole protagonist of the solidarity of Pakistan in his craze for power has thus demanded virtual secession of the two wings of the country."

"I hope now the people of Pakistan shall be better equipped to comprehend the conspiracy of secession and its real author Mr. Bhutto," he said. "I certainly be-

lieve that this shall be forthwith rejected by the patriotic people of Pakistan."

Nawabzada Sher Ali Khan, former Minister for Information and National Affairs, when contacted by PPI to comment on Chairman Bhutto's Karachi speech, said he had not read it in detail so he could not make a comprehensive comment.

Nevertheless, he said he was not ready to accept that any sensible and patriotic Muslim would present a proposal envisaging the break up of Pakistan into two countries as was evidently implied by this move to transfer power to the respective majority parties in the two wings.

He said if the proposal had been correctly reported, he could say that its consequences would

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Early transfer

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 Presi-

Shock expressed

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be far more catastrophic for the Muslims of the sub-continent than the tragedies that befell them at the battles of Plassey and Seringapatam. Such a proposal could only fulfil the hopes of those who were opposed to establishment and continued existence of Pakistan. It would please its enemies who forced a war on us in 1965.

He hoped and prayed that the reported demand should be incorrect. He said he had full faith that God Almighty, the Almighty, who blessed us with this sovereign homeland and gave strength and courage to our armed forces to put the enemy to rout during the critical days of the September 1965 war, would frustrate all such proposals and would not let any harm come to the country's integrity and solidarity.

He was confident that the Muslims of East as well as West Pakistan would never allow to succeed a conspiracy to tear the country to pieces.

Syed Ali Asghar Shah a former MNA, and President of Convention Muslim League, Rawalpindi, said tonight that the demand made by Mr. Bhutto that power should be transferred to his party in West Pakistan and to Awami League in East Pakistan, clearly proved that the PPP Chairman was only interested in capturing power. He said today the basic issue is how to save Pakistan and other matters are of secondary nature. But it seems, he added, that Mr. Bhutto "could not live without getting into power". He suggested that Shaikh Mujibur Rahman and Mr. Bhutto should settle their differences through negotiations.

Malik Ghulam Jillani, Convener, Punjab Pakistan Front, said Mr. Bhutto had at last come out and exposed himself.

Malik Jillani said: "Mr. Bhutto's Karachi declaration is a clarion

call for the division of Pakistan. The Legal Framework Order and Martial Law as a whole should be competent to deal with such a demand".—PPI.

Bugti

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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 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