

Transfer of power to AL and PPP in the two Wings

Bhutto's demand in case of pre-constitution changes

Denies being consulted about March 3 session postponement

Mr. Zulfikar All Bhutto, Chairman of the Pakistan People's Party said in Karachi yesterday that if power was to be transferred to the people before any constitutional settlement, as demanded by Sheikh Mujibur-Rahman, it should be transferred to the majority party in East Pakistan "and the majority party here".

Addressing a public meeting in Nishtar Park here, the P.P.P. leader said that there were two Wings of the country. The People's Party was in majority in this Wing and the Awami League in East Pakistan.

If power was to be transferred to the majority parties of the two Wings, it should be given to the Awami League in East Pakistan and to People's Party in West Wing.

Mr. Bhutto strongly advocated for "one Pakistan". He said that how democratic principles were applicable to a country divided into two parts. In the situation of Pakistan with the background of Six Point demand, the majority parties of both the Wings of the country have to arrive at a general settlement, Mr. Bhutto said.

He added that the rule of majority for the whole country would become applicable only if the Six

Point demand was dropped. Since that is not being done, the rationale and logic of this Six Point demand necessitates agreement of the majority parties of both the Wings, he added.

Mr. Bhutto, in his 85-minute speech, dealt in detail with the events following last general elections. He also spoke on the stand of his party on the constitution-making.

Mr. Bhutto said the People's Party insisted that there should be an end to exploitation in both Wings of the country. This, he said, could be done only if the capitalistic pattern of society was done away with and socialism was introduced.

He said that the Awami League had shown itself against discussing outside the Assembly and its leader insisted on resolving all issues within the Assembly. In this context, Mr. Bhutto wondered why the Awami League had now come forward with four "conditions" outside the Assembly.

UTMOST EFFORTS

He said that his party had made "utmost efforts" to arrive at some understanding and settlement with the majority party outside the Assembly on the constitutional issue. "If the Awami League is not willing to this, we are helpless", he added.

Mr. Bhutto said his party was willing to sit with the majority party in the Assembly to frame Pakistan's "comprehensive" constitution which would ensure solidarity of the country and prosperity of its people. He said he was still optimistic that there could be some settlement with Awami League on the constitutional issue.

He urged Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to ignore "advice and counsels" of those who had been rejected by the people in the last general election and even had their security deposits forfeited.

Mr. Bhutto said that the capitalists, reactionary elements and agents of imperialism were out to create misunderstanding bet-

China criticises US role in Africa

TOKYO, March 14: China accused the United States, on Sunday of intensifying its subversive, aggressive and sabotage activities against the independent African countries.

It has been US imperialism's consistent policy to maintain and expand its colonial interest in Africa by offering money and guns to suppress the African people's struggle for national liberation, said an article carried by official New China (Hsinhua) News Agency.

It said the statements by US President, Richard Nixon, that the United States is contributing to bring economic development and justice in Africa are out-and-out lies.—APA.

No-confidence moves

TEL AVIV, March 14: The Right-wing nationalist opposition Gahal Party today tabled a no-confidence motion in the Israeli Government following Premier Golda Meir's indications of peace borders Israel might accept.—Reuter. (Earlier report on back page)

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P. P. P. CHAIRMAN'S STAND

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ween the two majority parties. He said he was never hesitant or reluctant to meet Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to discuss the constitutional matters and was still prepared to go to Dacca to meet Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

If the Awami League talked of "Bangla Desh" his party he said could also talk of "Sind Desh" and "Punjab Desh". What would then happen to Qaulid-Asam's Pakistan, achieved through the sacrifices of 30 lakh Muslims of Indo-Pakistan sub-continent?

The People's Party leader said that it was the Awami League which took the issue of constitution-making to the streets.

The members-elect of the National Assembly belonging to the Awami League took oath that they would frame the constitution on the basis of the party's Six Point programme. In this case, Mr. Bhutto said, there was hardly any room left for debate on the constitution inside the Assembly. It was with this in view that the People's Party wanted some settlement or understanding with the majority party on the constitutional issue outside the Assembly.

ASSURANCES

He said that the People's Party wanted only "assurances" from the majority party that its view point would also be heard in the Assembly. It had not laid down any preconditions for attending the Assembly. The Awami League leadership had said that there should be no preconditions outside the Assembly. He said he (Mr. Bhutto) wondered why the Awami League had now laid down four preconditions for attending the National Assembly.

Mr. Bhutto said that all he had asked for was to get more time before his party went to the Assembly. This, he said, was necessary to seek the consent of the people on the Six Point programme. The People's Party, Mr. Bhutto said, had a mandate from the people only on its foreign policy and the socialist pattern of economy.

Mr. Bhutto said that in the event of acceptance of Six Point programme, Punjab and Sind would have to meet about 80 per cent revenues of the country. Besides, the Awami League maintained that the West Wing owed Rs. 3,100 crore to East Wing and about Rs. 2,871 crore out of 4,000 crore rupees of foreign aid should go to East Pakistan.

He said that if his party had conceded the Six Point programme against the wishes of the people of West Pakistan, the electorate in this wing would have been justified in impeaching the P.P.P. for this action.

CONFRONTATION

Mr. Bhutto said, the People's Party would have to forego its confrontation with India policy on the Kashmir issue if the provinces were vested with powers to have trade relations with foreign countries under the Six Point programme.

Mr. Bhutto said that had this situation arisen those very people who had now formed a front against People's Party, would have unleashed a wave of criticism against the PPP for accept-

ing the Six Point programme. Besides, Mr. Bhutto said, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman wanted a Zonal Federation for West Pakistan under students Eleven Point programme. This proposition, Mr. Bhutto said, was not at all acceptable to the people of Sind.

Mr. Bhutto said that with Awami League on the one side wanting more or less independence and the People's Party on the other side wanting an end to the exploitation, an extreme crisis was inevitable. This crisis, Mr. Bhutto said, had erupted now because the difference had come to surface. He said that this crisis had to be faced at some stage whether outside the Assembly or inside the house after that. He said that it was better that we should face this crisis right now. It would assume a more serious nature if the crisis was deferred.

TRADE AND AID

Mr. Bhutto said that his party had not adopted an uncompromising attitude on the Six Point programme. His party was trying its best to narrow down the differences on each and every point of the programme. The only debatable point was foreign trade and foreign aid.

The People's Party was still looking forward to further talks with the majority party when a sudden trade of accusations was hurled against the People's Party and its leadership. The Awami League leadership had alleged that the People's Party was conspiring and colluding with the "dark forces" to sabotage the transfer of power to the people.

Mr. Bhutto said that his party was striving to maintain "one Pakistan" and an Islamic Socialist Republic with sovereignty of the people.

He said his heart was bleeding for lives lost in the recent crisis in East Pakistan. He said it was on record that during the eight years of his ministership in the Ayub regime, he had always ensured that no injustice was done to any East Pakistani.

He said that recently, he had instructed his partymen to ensure that no harm done to any East Pakistani settler in the Ketri Barrage. The people of this Wing, Mr. Bhutto said, felt it incumbent upon them to protect the life and property of their East Pakistani brethren who were also their brothers in faith.

Mr. Bhutto dismissed outright the Awami League's allegation that the date of National Assembly's session was set by President General Yahya Khan after consulting him. He swore by 'Khalma' and his children, that President Yahya Khan did not consult him about the convening of the National Assembly session.

He said it was totally untrue that the present regime or capitalists were in any way supporting the People's Party. In this connection, Mr. Bhutto narrated certain Government measures, which he alleged were taken to harm the interests of the party. The arrests of PPP leaders before the election and the recent amendment in the Legal Frame-

work Order of 1970 were all done with a view to making the party suffer.

Mr. Bhutto alleged that a section of the Press, which he described as "reactionary", was unduly criticising him and his party. He said that he always believed that the people were supreme. "I am answerable to the people alone and today I am presenting myself before the tribunal of the masses to judge my conduct and my party's policies," he added.

Mr. Bhutto said that those politicians who were now clamouring for democracy, should have no right to represent the people since they lost election.

ADVERSARIES

Some of Mr. Bhutto's political adversaries including Mian Mumtaz Mohammad Khan Daultana, President of the Pakistan Council Muslim League, retired Air Marshal M. Asghar Khan, retired Air Marshal M. Nur Khan etc. came under sharp criticism by Mr. Bhutto.

He charged retired Air Marshal Asghar Khan with attributing wrong things to him in the past. It was just to avoid this happening again that he (Mr. Bhutto) refused to meet him when he was in Karachi on his way to Dacca to meet Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

He also criticised those who maintained that the People's Party had no mandate from the people to represent them on the constitutional matter. He said that the people of this wing had voted for the PPP to guide them on all fronts. The PPP, Mr. Bhutto said, stood for framing a constitution which reflected the aspirations of the working class and peasantry and guaranteed their fundamental rights.

Mr. Bhutto alleged that the elements defeated in the last election were out to create artificial problems in different parts of the West Wing so that the PPP did not implement its programme. Such elements, Mr. Bhutto said, recently created the language controversy in Sind and later fanned the issue of distribution of Indus waters between Sind and Punjab.

Mr. Bhutto said the question of distribution of Indus water had been amicably solved in the past and could be solved amicably even now.

Mr. Bhutto regretted the Awami League's indifference towards his recent telegram to Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

He said that he had sent the cable to the Awami League leader not in his personal capacity but as leader of the majority party of the West Wing. He said if there was any humiliation or insult, it was to the people of West Pakistan.

He also said that his party wanted power to bring an end to the exploitation and solve the problems of the people. The People's Party wanted to undo the injustices done to the people during the last 23 years. This could only be done if the People's Party came into power, Mr. Bhutto added.

Mr. Bhutto's speech was punctuated with slogans of "Bhutto Zindabad", "Pakistan Zindabad" and "Aik Rahega Pakistan."—APP.