

NO-TRUST MOTION REJECTED

Charan Singh Govt. win by 236 votes to 169

CM'S SPIRITED REPLY TO CRITICS

By Our Staff Reporter

LUCKNOW, March 21—The Congress (Organisation) confidence motion against the Charan Singh Ministry was rejected today by 236 votes to 169.

Since its installation the 33-day-old Bhartiya Kranti Dal Government demonstrated its overwhelming majority in the House. It was supported by the Congress (Ruling), CPI, CPM and Republican Party.

The announcement of the result of the voting—showing a majority of 67 for the Government—by the Speaker was received by the members of the BKD and its allies with cheers and loud thumping of desks. The visitors' galleries were packed to capacity.

How many members happened to be absentees, how many of them voted, and how many abstained from voting in the decisive division on the censure motion in a 426-member House the strength of which at the moment has been reduced to 421 because of one seat having been declared vacant and the court yet to decide whether two more are validly filled?

So far as the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker were concerned they did not participate in the voting, both being unattached to either half of the House.

As for the normal absences on health and six far unfavourable grounds, they numbered 7—four Congress (O) two Congress (R) and one Independent, Mr Mansingh Singh.

In addition, there were 18 SSP absentees, who stayed away on conscientious grounds as their conscience, so they claimed, did not allow them to follow the dictates of their party whip to vote against the motion.

So far as those who abstained from voting were concerned, they totalled three—one of the three P-SP members, Mr. Rasool Husain and two members of the Muslim Majlis.

So only 465 members took part in the voting—236 voting for Government and 169 against it—in the division demanded by Congress (O) Jan Sangh and the SSP.

After the Chief Minister, Mr. Charan Singh's reply to the three-day debate on the no-confidence motion against his Ministry the Speaker, Mr. AG Khur, put the motion to vote.

The tag end of the debate was marked by shouts and counter-shouts. The Chief Minister, who gave a spirited reply to the critics of his Government's policies, was frequently interrupted.

The six-point no-confidence motion, moved by Mr Gurcharan Lal, leader of the Opposition, regretted that the Government had failed to make holdings up to 6 1/4 acres revenue-free to abolish profession tax, to take the responsibility for the distribution of salary of aided secondary school teachers, to reserve 45 per cent of jobs in services for Harijans so that the percentage of their representation may speedily reach the

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and its allies-sponsored no-confidence motion against the Charan Singh Ministry was rejected today in the UP Legislative Assembly by 236 votes to 169.

NO-TRUST MOTION DEFEATED

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requisite level, to reduce the enhanced irrigation rates, and to replace English by Hindi as the official language, and also to provide necessary facilities for development of Urdu.

CM'S REPLY
The Chief Minister, in his reply, announced that the Government proposed to introduce total prohibition in Kumaon and Uttaranchal divisions, except Naini Tal district.

Mr Singh said he had already announced the Government's policy on the question of imposition of ceiling on land-holdings. There was no question of the Government backing out from that policy. A Bill would be formulated only after the issue had been discussed by the parties concerned at a point of view of those directly affected by the proposed legislation had been taken into account.

Referring to the Opposition criticism that the Government was dilly-dallying with the issue of lowering the ceiling, he said that the undivided Congress at its Nagpur session passed a resolution on ceiling on January 9 1959, and implemented it on August 18.

The Chief Minister said they should move with the times, otherwise they would lag behind. There was dissatisfaction among the rural folk in Bengal, Bihar, Andhra and Kerala because zamindari had not been abolished in these states.

Mr Singh said it was obvious as to why the Jan Sangh was opposing the abolition of profession tax. He declined to accept the demand for the abolition of the tax as it was being paid by those whose income was above the average income of Rs 250 per month in the country.

He said it was surprising that the members of the Congress (O) had become overnight advocates of abolition of land revenue on holdings up to 6 1/4 acres.

The ordinance exempting the land revenue on holdings up to 6 1/4 acres was issued by the previous Government in January 1970 in spite of the fact that the Assembly had been summoned to meet on January 11 last.

The Chief Minister pointed out that personally he was not in favour of exempting land revenue as the case of an unproductive holding had not been determined so far. However, he agreed to exempt holdings up to 12 1/2 acres as the exemption had made a political and sentimental issue by practically all parties.

Turning to the demand for reduction in the irrigation rates he said that the rates were increased by those who were occupying Opposition benches today and now they had chosen to make this demand.

He said that the Government wanted that the small secondary school teachers should be paid

the members of the BKD had done so.

He said that all of them were responsible for the backwardness of the eastern districts. It was not proper to create a lobby for any part of the State.

The Chief Minister regretted that a large number of Opposition members had indulged in personal attacks on him because they had no arguments to put forward.

Earlier, Mr Anant Ram Jaiswal, leader of the SSP said that the Government had failed to check the rise in prices in the past one month. The Government had a soft corner for traders, he added.

Mr Jaiswal demanded exemption of land revenue on holdings up to 6 1/4 acres and alleged that the BKD oppressed Harijans and prevented them from casting votes in the mid-term poll.

Mr Mahi Lal (BKD) said that in not a single election petition the petitioner could prove the allegation in the High Court that the BKD exploited caste loyalties in the mid-term poll.

Mr Ram Karan Singh (P-SP) said that the people had lost the confidence in the Government because the Chief Minister was backing out of his announcement that the ceiling on land-holdings would be reduced to 30 acres.

Mr Gurcharan Lal, leader of the Opposition pressing his motion said that the Chief Minister had expressed himself against imposition of ceiling on land-holdings at a session of the A-ICC in the past.

Mr Lal said that the teachers of aided secondary schools should be given salaries through treasury to ensure timely payment to them.

ABSTAINED
An SSP member Mr Manzoor Ahmed later told newsmen that he and 10 other SSP members had abstained from voting on the censure motion because the motions had been labelled by and reactionary parties like the Jan Sangh and Congress (O).

Mr Ahmed, against whom the State SSP executive has proposed disciplinary action, listed their names as Mr. TRN Singh, Mr. HS Faruqi, Mr. PL Shaikh, Mr. Dhama Prasad, Mr. Yashwanth, Mr. Dal Singh Yadav, Mr. HD Dubey, Mr. RR Pandey, Mr. Tej Bahan Singh, Mr. SP Pandey and Mr. KC Tripathi.

A Congress (O) member could not take part in the voting as he reached the assembly after the doors of the chamber had been closed for the division.

There was confusion for about five minutes when Mr. Chief Ram Chandra Singh protested that the speaker was allowing



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