

श्री एम एच सी-एच सी एनएस (एचसी)-११००-५,६०,००० (रं.)

सूचना (निरीक्षा) विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश, लखनऊ

श्री का विवरण National Herald, Lucknow / Delhi, dated १६-६-७३

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24-9-73

Rift In BKD-Congress Coalition Complete

P.M. Resents Charges Against Partymen

TALKS WITH CHARAN SINGH

LUCKNOW, Wednesday.

THE Congress-BKD coalition Government in Uttar Pradesh has virtually come to an end after the Chief Minister, Mr. Charan Singh's parleys with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi this evening.

Mr. Charan Singh announced to press men late tonight that both the partners in the coalition had decided to part company.

37 min 40 sec
for 18 min
24-9-73

The Chief Minister, it is learnt, accused Mr. H. N. Bahuguna, A-ICC general secretary, Mr. Uma Shankar Dixit, a member of the Congress Working Committee and Mr. Yashpal Kapoor, principal private secretary to the Prime Minister, for their attempt to "subvert the loyalty of BKD members", even when the Prime Minister was in town. This accusation was strongly resented by Mrs. Gandhi and the BKD leader ended the talks in a huff.

After getting a hint of the rift, the Congress (O) and the Jan Sangh leaders here decided to act like good Samaritans and help Mr. Charan Singh. Their objective is not to give the Congress a chance to invite the Congress for the formation of a new government.

CM's Lament

Mr. Charan Singh was aghast at the outcome of his three-minute talks with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi at East Avenue. He said the Chief Minister had refused to talk to press after the meeting with the Prime Minister at 7-30 p.m. but he agreed to say something when he had had consultation for 9-10 three hours with several of his colleagues at his residence.

Mr. Singh would not tell what talks he had with the Prime Minister but it was learnt that he

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National Herald, Lucknow / Delhi Edition

Rift In B.K.D. Congress Coalition Complete

Continued from page 1

said that the final decision of his party would be taken before October 5 (the Assembly is summoned to meet on October 6)

In reply to a question, Mr. Singh said that he had intended to go with the Prime Minister tomorrow on her flood tour but would not be able to do so on account of urgent work. The Revenue Minister, Mr. Shripal Misra, would accompany the Prime Minister.

The eleven persons with whom Mr. Charan Singh held consultations tonight included ministers Ja. Ram Verma, Sheoran Singh, Shripal Misra, Biswanath Dasgupta, Virendra Verma and state B.K.D. general secretary Saty Swarup Singh, secretary Raj Bahadur Dasgupta and Shyam Lal Yadav MP.

Elaborating his charges, he said that air. Chaitan Singh, a member of the Congress Working Committee, principal organic secretary to the Prime Minister, had today "contacted Mr. Sheoran Singh, a former B.K.D. M.L.A. with a view to tempting him to defect to the Congress." They were vainly trying for a meeting of air Sheoran Singh with the Prime Minister.

Mr. Charan Singh disclosed that Mr. Sheoran Singh, who had formed an independent group, had decided to return to the B.K.D. with five other M.L.As who had left the party. Mr. Sheoran Singh had told Mr. Dikshit that the group's quarrel with the B.K.D. was an internal matter.

Mr. Charan Singh said that this attempt by Mr. Dikshit and Mr. Kapoor to tempt defection in the B.K.D. had failed him and his party. We consider this as a setback on the part of the Congress to surmount the present situation. We consider it a setback, a culmination," he added.

A Congressman asked, Does this mean there is now no possibility of a rapprochement?

Mr. Singh replied, "They have closed their doors. The negotiations are not lost upon us. We feel that Mr. Dikshit and Mr. Kapoor contacted our supporters with the implied permission of the Prime Minister. This poses a great danger to the Indian democracy, particularly when the Prime Minister's party had introduced a bill prohibiting or regulating defections. The bill is pending before the Lok Sabha."

He added:

The scandal in the B.K.D. which favoured continuance of the present coalition and pleaded for a rapprochement with the Congress got a rude shock at the incident and looked annoyed and decided to drop any such attempt.

The S.P. leaders, who met Mr. C. U. Gupta earlier today also, met state Jan Singh, general secretary Mr. Ram Prakash and discussed the political situation and applied their party strategy.

flood damage in the state.

Preceding the official meeting was a tea meeting where Mrs. Gandhi had discussions with A-I.C. General Secretary H.N. Bahuguna, U.P.C. chief Kamalapati Tripathi and Mr. Uma Shankar Dikshit. Mr. Tripathi had joined Mrs. Gandhi at Kanpur and was with her during her aerial survey.

Mrs. Indira Gandhi plunged into intense talks with prominent Congress leaders, immediately after her arrival here for an overnight halt at Raj Bhawan to continue her two-day tour to rain-affected areas of the state.

Chief Minister Charan Singh and other ministers were sitting in another room in Raj Bhawan while Mrs. Gandhi had tea with her party leaders.

Mrs. Gandhi is understood to have heard from her party leaders the latest political situation in the state.

They were also stated to have reviewed steps taken by the state Congress leadership to meet the crisis in the E.K.D. coalition Government and the strategy to be evolved on the eve of the ensuing Assembly session.

'Meaningful Smile'

Earlier, Mr. Chaitan Singh and Mr. Kamalapati Tripathi found a few moments together under the shade of a helicopter for a warm shake-hand and exchange pleasantries.

They stole these few moments when Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was virtually mobbed by enthusiastic crowd who profusely garlanded her by breaking the barrier of the Amalshi airport tarmac here.

Mr. Charan Singh first to garland Mrs. Gandhi along with Governor B. Govila. He withdrew from the swirling cheering crowd and went near the shade of the helicopter where he found smiling Mr. Tripathi.

Amid hand-shaking Mr. Charan Singh asked Mr. Tripathi who was accompanying Mrs. Gandhi in her aerial tour "Did you go to all places?"



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with the party. Mr. Dasgupta said that his group's quarrel with the BKD was an internal matter.

Mr. Charan Singh said that this attempt by Mr. Dasgupta and Mr. Kapoor to effect defection in the Congress had pained him and his party. "We consider this as a final act on the part of the Congress to worsen the present situation. We consider it a climax, a culmination," he added.

A pressman asked, "Does this mean there is now no possibility of a rapprochement?" Mr. Singh replied, "The, have closed their doors. The indications are not just upon us. We feel that Mr. Dasgupta and Mr. Kapoor rejected our supporters with the highest permission of the Prime Minister. This poses a great danger to the Indian democracy, particularly when the Prime Minister's party had introduced a bill prohibiting or legalising defections. The bill is pending before the Lok Sabha."

He added, "The session in the BND which favoured continuance of the present coalition and picadieu for a rapprochement with the Congress got a rude shock of the incident and looked annoyed and decided to drop any such attempt."

The SSP leaders, who met Mr. C. B. Gupta earlier today, also met state Jan Sangh general secretary Mr. Tara Prakash and discussed the political situation. Mr. Prakash, who had been apprised of the party's stand, understood that to have the Jan Sangh leader, who had been the Charan Singh Government, could be saved, but the Jan Sangh, the Congress (O) and the SSP extended their support to the Congress. Mr. Prakash said that the coalition could not be formed with the four-party combination. The SSP also refused to join. They pointed out that a government headed by a leader other than Mr. Charan Singh formed by these parties would be acceptable to them.

Talks With PM
UNL news: Shortly after her arrival here, Mrs. Gandhi had a thirty-minute closed-door meeting with the Chief Minister.

Mr. Charan Singh refused to say anything to the waiting newsmen. He said he had decided not to say "even a word to the press."

When pressmen asked what conclusions should be drawn from his "smile" and "smiling face", he said any inference drawn were bound to be wrong.

When asked if he would accompany the Prime Minister tomorrow morning to her visit to the rain-affected areas, Mr. Charan Singh said it was a "strictly secret."

To persistent questions by newsmen Mr. Charan Singh repeated, "I am not the Prime Minister." Mr. Charan Singh, appeared agitated but he smiled to some of the pressmen's sharp remarks by non-answers. The meeting between Mr. Charan Singh and Mrs. Gandhi took place in the evening. Mr. Singh said that he had decided to accompany Mrs. Gandhi to the rain-affected areas.

pleasantly. They stole these few moments when Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was virtually mobbed by enthusiastic crowd who profusely garlanded her by breaking the police cordon at the Amal airport terminal here.

Mr. Charan Singh first to garland Mrs. Gandhi along with Governor B. Gomla Reddi, withdrew from the garland-wielding crowd and went near the shade of the helicopter where he found smiling Mr. Tripathi.

Amid hand-shaking Mr. Charan Singh asked Mr. Tripathi who was accompanying Mrs. Gandhi in her aerial tour "Did you go to all places?"

