PROCEEDINGS AND RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED DURING THE 40TH SESSION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF BHUTAN HELD ON THE 24TH DAY OF THE 3RD MONTH OF WOOD TIGER YEAR CORRESPONDING TO 1974

The House learnt that, for many years, some mischievous persons had been planning intrigues against the King and the Country. However, thanks to the blessings of the Triple Gem and the good fortune of His Majesty the King, nothing untoward had taken place.

As the main culprit behind the intrigue had been residing in another country, the Assembly arrived at the following decisions.

1. MATTER RELATING TO TIBETAN GELO DHENDUP.

It was understood that the mastermind behind the plot was Tibetan Gelo Dendup, presumably residing in India. Since Bhutan enjoyed a well established relationship with India, the House decided that the Government of India would be requested to hand over the culprit to the Royal Government of Bhutan even in the event that his present citizenship was unknown.

2. EXTRADITION OF GELO DHENDUP.

In case it was not possible for the Indian Government to hand over Gelo Dendup to Bhutan, a formal request would be made to restrict the culprit's stay in India in view of the friendship between the two countries.

3. MATTER RELATING TO CRIMINALS

It was learnt that all the accomplices of Gelo Dendup were Tibetan refugees residing in India. It was felt that in view of the cordial relations between the two countries, the Indian Government may not refuse to hand over the persons involved in the crime. The Assembly therefore resolved that the matter be taken up with the Indian Government at the earliest.

4. EXTRADITION OF YANGKI, KANEBO AND FAMILY

In view of their past dependence and close association with the country, it was deeply regretted that Yanki, Kanebo and their family were found to be the main persons behind the intrigue. As such it was decided that the Indian Government would be requested to hand them over to Bhutan at any cost.

5. TALKS WITH AMBASSADOR OF INDIA TO BHUTAN

In the above context it was further decided that the Hon'ble Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Communication, the Royal Advisory Councillors and the Assembly members Kado, Chekher Jamyang, Prithiman Ghaley, Shap Ugen and Yanglop Nidup would hold talks with the Ambassador of India in Bhutan.

6. CULPRITS TO BE PUNISHED.

It was decided that once the culprits were handed over, they should be tried and dealt with in accordance with the existing laws of the country with the knowledge of the public.

7. RESTRICTS ON FIRE - ARMS.

In view of the reported appearance of several firearms in the country and the risks that their presence involved, it was decided that the Royal Government should make sincere efforts to restrict them as far as possible.

8. PROPER CASE OF IDENTITY CARDS ISSUED TO TIBETAN

It was decided that proper care should be taken in regard to the identity cards issued to Tibetan refugees so that cards belonging to the deceased were not able to be handed over to others.

9. AUTHORITY TO CHANGE /AMEND DECISIONS

The Assembly resolved that only His Majesty would be empowered to change/amend the above decisions.

10. ELECTION OF THE NEW SPEAKER

It was reported that the three year term of the Speaker Dasho Shingkhar Lam (Secretary to His Majesty), who assumed the Speakership from 35th session of the National Assembly, was expiring. Therefore, a new Speaker was to be elected in accordance with Rule No. 8 of the Rules and Regulations of the National Assembly of Bhutan. Bhutan being a religious country, some of the members suggested that the new Speaker be elected from the Monks.

Therefore, three persons were nominated from the Monk Body to contest the election. Lopen Markho polled 15, Dalope Tshewang Pema 52 and Yanglop Nidup 65 votes. As such it was decided that Yanglop Nidup would take up the office of the new Speaker from the 41st Session of the National Assembly for a term of three years.

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