

M.R. Masani

Parliament House,
New Delhi.

August 1, 1968.

The Speaker
Lok Sabha.

1287

Sir,

I notice that there is a Calling Attention Notice coming up this morning regarding the Czech-Soviet dispute and the efforts made by the Government of India in regard thereto. As it happens, myself, Mr. Balraj Madhok, Mr. S.N. Dwivedi, Mr. D.K. Kunte and Prof. Humayun Kabir have given notice of a motion under 184 to discuss this subject (copy enclosed).

I shall be grateful if you will kindly allow me, after the three members who have tabled the Calling Attention Notice have asked their questions, to ask for permission of yourself and the House to follow up the Calling Attention Notice with a short duration discussion, say, of one hour within the next day or two.

Yours faithfully,


(M.R. Masani)

30th July 1968.

this House expresses its grave concern at Soviet interference in the internal affairs of Czechoslovakia and the attempt at intimidating the Czech Government into abandoning its measure of liberalisation through military pressures which constitute a threat to world peace.

The House calls upon the Government of India to take necessary steps including calling upon its Permanent Representative at the United Nations to request the immediate convening of the Security Council to deal with these developments.

Sd: M.R. Masani
Balraj Madhok
Humayn Kabir
D.K. Kunte
S.N. Dwivedi

1. The whole world has for some weeks now been watching with increasing apprehension the threatening posture adopted by the Soviet Government, its refusal to withdraw Warsaw Pact forces from Czech territory by the scheduled dates agreed upon by it, the massing of forces and military manoeuvres on the Czech frontiers.
2. What is particularly objectionable is that the purpose of these threatening moves is to force the Government of Czechoslovakia to abandon certain measures of liberalisation in the political and economic life of the country, such as the loosening of the censorship of the press and of publication, ~~and~~ the freedom of expression of writers, and the placing of the economy on a more rational and liberal basis.
3. These acts constitute not only an interference in the domestic affairs of one country by another but also a threat to world peace.
4. India has always taken the lead in mobilising world opinion against threats of imperialist and colonialist aggression of this nature and it is appropriate that Parliament should declare its concern at this development.