

LOK SABHA DEBATES

1

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*Monday, November 23, 1970 | Agrahana 2,
1892 (Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of
the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

WELCOME TO ASTRONAUTS ARMSTRONG AND CONRAD

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have pleasure in announcing to the House the presence in the President's Box of two of the astronauts, Neil Armstrong and Charles Conrad, who have ushered in the inter-stellar age. We extend to them a hearty welcome to our country. Through them we have the first touch of the moon in this Parliament. They belong to all humanity. We all differ, discuss and sometimes quarrel over earthly matters in this Parliament, which I propose we shall not do today. Parliament is itself at the moment feeling like the moon. They had come here to receive the space awards at the Sixty-third general conference of the Federation Aeronautique Internationale. Astronaut Armstrong as you know was the first human being to set foot on the moon so far considered as distant and unattainable. Capt. Conrad soon followed him in the next moon probe. We hope they will have a nice sojourn in our country, though it may not be as exciting as theirs on the moon. I propose we give them a standing ovation.

The Hon. Members gave a standing ovation.

SHRI RANDHIR SINGH (Rohtak) :
Salutations of the nation also go to them.

2

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) :
Could we have a sample of the moon rock laid on the Table ?

MR. SPEAKER: I would not mind if they take you to the moon next time.

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : May I, Mr. Speaker, share the sentiments which you have expressed regarding our distinguished guests, the astronauts. We have spoken on this matter earlier in this House and of our great admiration for their achievement and the achievements of American science in the exploration of space, especially of the moon landings. We give them our good wishes.

OBITUARY REFERENCE

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : After this pleasant interlude, I have a sorrowful duty to perform. As the House knows, the country, the House and every one of us mourn the death of Dr. C V Raman. He was the greatest scientist of Modern India and one of the finest intellects our country has produced in its long history. His mind was like the diamond, which he studied and explained. His life's work consisted in throwing light upon the nature of light, and the world honoured him in many ways, for the new knowledge which he won for science.

Dr Raman was a dedicated teacher, who believed that learning is not for hoarding but to be shared with all. He had an unsurpassed enthusiasm for explaining the phenomena of Nature in a manner that the most uninitiated could understand. I have personal experience of this, for, in

1937, I travelled to Europe on the same ship with him and with Dr. Homi Bhabha. It was a memorable journey during which many new vistas were opened for me. On this and the several other occasions when I met them, I had glimpses of the brilliant minds and wide-ranging interests of both these great scientists.

Dr. Raman inspired successive generations of young scientists in our country to new achievement. His immediate circle of students was almost as able as he himself. Once when he was asked what had brought him the Nobel prize, he replied, "My students."

Dr. Raman was an individualist who kept away from governmental committees and from mass politics. Yet he yielded to none in love of his country and in his pride in being an Indian. His own vast learning had not come from study abroad and he did not think that foreign education by itself was a mark of ability. He encouraged foreign scholars to come to India, and indeed many did come to study in the institution which he had founded and which he directed.

He was a true representative of integrated culture: his interest in music, in literature and in gardening is well known. It will be difficult for Nature to produce another combination of so much intellectual power, simplicity of manner and youthful enthusiasm.

A Bharat Ratna has gone from our midst, leaving us a great example of achievement to cherish and to emulate.

Our condolences go to Shrimati Lokasundari Raman and to other members of his family.

डा० राम सुभाग सिंह (बक्सर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जहाँ हमें श्री नील आर्मस्ट्रांग और श्री कोनरोड की इन सदन में उस्थिति पर अपार हर्ष हुआ है और मैं विरोधी पक्ष की ओर से उनको हार्दिक बधाई देना चाहता हूँ, वहाँ मुझे इस बात की गहरी संवेदना है कि भारतरत्न श्री सी० वी० रमन का परसों देहावसान हो गया। भारत की मान-मर्यादा जिस ढंग से न

केवल भारत में बल्कि सारे विश्व में उंची उठी, वे उसके अनुपम उदाहरण थे, उनकी तरह किसी दूसरे को पाना बहुत कठिन है, हालांकि भारत में एक से एक रत्न पैदा हुए हैं। उन्होंने भारतीय विद्यालयों में ही शिक्षा पाई, कहीं बाहर उनकी शिक्षा नहीं हुई थी, इतना होने पर भी उन्होंने विदेशों के विद्वानों में जो अनुपम ख्याति पाई, वह एक आदर्श है। उनका सब से बड़ा काम "रमन इफेक्ट" का सिद्धांत था, जिसकी बदौलत उनको नोबल प्राइज मिला, उससे न केवल उनकी, बल्कि इस देश की प्रतिष्ठा में चार-चांद लगे।

आज वे हमारे बीच में नहीं हैं, लेकिन उनकी स्थापित की हुई वैगलौर में इंडियन इंस्टीचूट आफ साइंसेज नामक संस्था है, जिसमें न केवल भारत के, बल्कि दुनिया के अन्य देशों के विद्वान आते हैं। जिस ढंग से श्री रमन ने अपनी अनोखी खोज की थी, वह कोई दूसरे के सिद्धांतों पर अमल करने वाली खोज नहीं थी, बल्कि स्वयं उन्होंने उस सिद्धांत का अनुसन्धान किया, जिससे आज अनेकों विद्वानों को प्रेरणा मिलती है और मुझे पूरा विश्वास है कि भारत सरकार उस संस्था को उनकी कितनी बे रूप में राष्ट्रीय संस्था का स्वरूप देगी। यों तो उसका राष्ट्रीय संस्था का स्वरूप ही श्री और श्री रमन ने न तो केवल विज्ञान की विद्वत्ता में बल्कि अन्य क्षेत्रों में भी उस संस्था में प्रतिष्ठा का प्रस्थापन किया जो विद्वानों के लिये अनुकरणीय है।

आज मैं विरोधी पक्ष की ओर से उनके प्रति श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करता हूँ और भगवान से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि उनकी दिवंगत आत्मा को शान्ति प्रदान करें।

MR. SPEAKER : I fully associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition on the loss of this great son of India. Dr. C V Raman's contributions in the field of science have been universally recognised. I have had the privilege to know him personally when I received him at Lahore when I was the President of the Students' Union when he

came to Government College, Lahore for offering his condolences on the occasion of the sad demise of one of the great scientists in India, Professor Keshav. Again, a second time I had the privilege of travelling with him by boat from England to Bombay. He was very unassuming, very amiable and very humble in his nature.

According to Dr. Raman himself science was his religion and he pursued it till his end. By his researches and earning international honours, including the coveted Nobel Prize, he had brought a great name for this country. At home also he was awarded the highest honour, Bharat Ratna. He was so devoted to his task that he used his own earnings in advancing the cause of science. Though he is gone, his career will always remain a shining example for the young scientists in the times to come.

We deeply mourn the loss of this great scientist and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

The House may stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the departed soul.

The House then stood in silence for a short while.

MR. SPEAKER : We will now take up question.

SHRI P. R. THAKUR : Before we proceed with the normal work, may I suggest that you may request the astronauts to say a few words ?

MR. SPEAKER : That is not the practice. आप क्यों एसी बात कह कर मुश्किल में डाल देते हैं, आप को पहले मुझ से बात करनी चाहिये थी।

11.13 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Refusal of permission to Nirankari Sikhs to visit Rawalpindi on Guru Nanak Birthday (1970)

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*271. SHRI RAM KISHAN GUPTA:
SHRI AMAT :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has refused to allow Nirankari Sikhs to visit their holy shrines at Rawalpindi on the occasion of the birthday of Guru Nanak;

(b) whether any complaint in this regard has been received from the Nirankari Sikhs; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) We are continuing our efforts to make the Government of Pakistan honour their solemn commitment under the Indo-Pakistan Agreements of 1953 and 1955 to provide all facilities to pilgrims from India to visit their holy places in Pakistan.

श्री रामकृष्ण गुप्त : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह पहली बार नहीं हुआ है, कई बार इस किस्म की शिकायतें आती हैं कि जब भी कोई डेलिगेशन तीर्थ स्थानों को देखने के लिये जाता है, तो इस किस्म की बाधाएँ डाली जाती हैं। मैं माननीय मंत्रीजी से जानना चाहता हूँ, जैसा उन्होंने कहा कि इस विषय में कोशिश की जा रही है, क्या वह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या क्या कोशिशों की जा रही हैं और इसके लिये खास तौर पर आपने क्या किया है ?