

श्री कंचर लाल गुप्त : सभी देशों में तरह तरह के धर्मों को मानने वाले लोग हैं। ऐसी भ्रष्टाचार में क्या सरकार यू० एन० में या कहीं और इस तरह की बात निश्चित करवायेगी कि जिससे नौकरियों में धर्म के आधार पर जो पाबन्दियां लगा दी जाती हैं वे न लगाई जायें और किसी के धर्म में इस तरह से हस्तक्षेप न हो ?

श्री सुरेन्द्रपाल सिंह : मैं इससे सहमत हूँ कि धर्म के लिहाज से पाबन्दियां नहीं होनी चाहिये कहीं भी। इस मामले में भी यह है कि जहाँ तक यू० के० की सरकार का ताल्लुक है वह इतिहास करती है कि ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिये। लेकिन बहुत से डेलीकेट मामले, लोकल बातें, लोगों के खयाल बीच में आ जाते हैं —

श्री कंचर लाल गुप्त : यू० एन० में ले जा कर इसको क्या प्राय तय करवाना चाहते हैं ?

श्री सुरेन्द्रपाल सिंह : यह इतना बड़ा मामला नहीं है। यहीं पर तय हो जाएगा और हो भी चुका है कई जगहों पर।

SHRI G. S. DHILLON: May I ask from the hon. Minister whether any Sikh organisations in Punjab, like the S.G.P.C., Chief, Khalsa Diwan and others have approached the Government of India to lodge a protest against this action by certain transport companies in U.K.?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH: This matter has been brought to the notice of the Government of India by various organisations. As I said earlier, we are taking suitable steps.
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Future Set-up of All-India Radio

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*35. DR. RANEN SEN:
SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR:
SHRI DHIRESWAR KALITA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any final decision has been taken regarding the future set-up of the All-India Radio; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SHAH): (a) and (b). The question regarding future set up of All India Radio is under active consideration and until a decision is reached, it is difficult to indicate its nature.

DR. RANEN SEN: Sometime back the Chanda Committee made certain recommendations and there was some discussion also in the House on those recommendations. May I know why does the Government of India take so much time to come to a decision? This is being discussed in public also.

SHRI K. K. SHAH: The Chanda Committee gave five reports. We have taken decisions on almost all the recommendations of four reports. Only 22 recommendations of this report remain. This is a very vital question in which Finance is also interested. The discussion is going on and we hope to take decision as soon as possible.

DR. RANEN SEN: One of the main recommendations was to form an autonomous body like the B.B.C. in England. Has the Government taken any decision in regard to this very important recommendation?

SHRI K. K. SHAH: As I said, it is under discussion between my Department and Finance. We hope to take a decision as soon as possible.

DR. RANEN SEN: He is taking a very long time to come to some deci-

sion. We want to know when the decision will be taken. He says that it will take sometime to take a decision. Why is the Government taking such a long time to come to a decision on such an important recommendation?

SHRI K. K. SHAH: It is because the implications are very and all the aspects of various implications are to be taken into consideration.

SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR: It is common knowledge that the All India Radio is being used by the Government of India and the ruling Party at the Centre for its own narrow propaganda purposes. Pending a final decision on making the All India Radio an autonomous body, I should like to know whether the Government propose to have some discussion with the leaders of all the other recognised parties in this country to have some consensus about the impartial and proper working of the All India Radio.

SHRI K. K. SHAH: I do not agree with the first suggestion made by my hon. friend.

SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR: You will never agree.

SHRI K. K. SHAH: On the contrary, I am glad to say that all State Governments are quite happy with the way in which the All India Radio is functioning. In my talk which I am carrying with the leaders of the Opposition parties also, what my learned friend has said has not been borne out.

SHRI RANGA: What the hon. Member has suggested is that they should have some discussion with the leaders of all the political parties to arrive at a consensus.

SHRI K. K. SHAH: My hon. Member has written to me and I have written to him for consultation.

SHRI DHIRESWAR KALITA: Just now the hon. Minister said that the Chanda Committee has made a num-

ber of recommendations and most of the recommendations have been accepted by the Government. May I know what are the recommendations accepted by the Government?

SHRI K. K. SHAH: Some of the decisions taken have been placed on the Table of the House and some will be placed on the Table of the House. They are about 500 recommendations out of which on 22 recommendations, we have not taken a decision.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I would like to know, apart from the various recommendations of the Chanda Committee to have an autonomous corporation, etc., whether the hon. Minister is also considering the various other aspects, that is, the service conditions, etc. of the A.I.R. artistes. Recently, Mr. Joshi, the News Reader in Kannada, one of the artistes of the A.I.R., died in an accident and his family is not being paid any compensation because, of course, he is a temporary artiste. I would like to know whether any decision has been taken to declare the A.I.R. artistes as permanent so that they become eligible for pension, etc.

SHRI K. K. SHAH: My hon. friend's inference is not correct.

First of all, Mr. Joshi's wife was paid Rs. 1000 on that day....

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Only Rs. 1000 for a life!

SHRI K. K. SHAH: I am saying; on the first day, she was paid Rs. 1000. The question of considering the grievances of the staff artistes is also under consideration.

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK: The hon. Minister just now said that the Opposition parties are being consulted. May I know whether that consultation has been formal or informal, in what form has it taken place? Secondly, I would like to know whether it is not a fact that all the Opposition parties have supported the suggestion

made by the Chanda Committee that the A.I.R. should be given the autonomous status like that of the B.B.C. When all the Opposition parties are united, what more consultation does he want from them?

SHRI K. K. SHAH: My hon. friend's inference is not correct. That is not the feeling of all the Opposition parties. I do not want to take advantage of that because these are informal discussions and I do not want to disclose all that. I am obliged to them for the help they are giving.

SHRI NATH PAI: In reply to the same question, the hon. Minister earlier said that he is taking into consideration all the implications of the Chanda Committee's recommendation regarding the creation of an autonomous corporation. I think, the Committee took into consideration all the implications of it and made a unanimous recommendation that an autonomous corporation should be created. We, of course, did not take into consideration one implication, that is, Mr. Morarjibhai Desai. Now, we are told that they are consulting the Finance Ministry. The consent of the Finance Ministry is only a very small part of the creation of an autonomous body. May we know whether you have made up your mind to accept it? The financial aspect of the recommendation is a secondary thing. The primary thing is the autonomy of the broadcasting system in India. May we know what you are doing and who is to take into consideration the financial implications, you or the Committee you appointed?

SHRI K. K. SHAH: The Committee's opinion will be given the highest consideration that is possible. The Committee had the advantage of looking into the evidence. Unluckily, the evidence is not available because it was destroyed as I have made it clear in the House. My hon. friend will understand the difficulties that I am facing. The material that was available to him, I have got to collect.

श्री श्रीचन्व गोयल : श्री मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि सारे विरोधी दल इस बात पर सहमत नहीं हैं कि स्वतन्त्र निगम ब्रॉड इंडिया रेडियो का बना दिया जाए। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि कौन सा दल है विरोधीदलों में से जिस ने इसका विरोध किया है और जो इस सिफारिश में रुकावट डाल रहा है ?

SHRI K. K. SHAH: What I said was that the statement is not correct. Beyond that, I have not said anything. It is an informal discussion.

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK: Don't beat about the bush. Give a clear answer.

SHRI K. K. SHAH: It is an informal discussion with me and I am pledged to secrecy with them. It will not be fair for me to say anything.

* **SHRI NATH PAI:** The Congress Party is the only party which is opposing it.

SHRI K. K. SHAH: I am prepared to take the responsibility of the final decision when it is placed before the House.

श्री तुलसी दास जायस : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जब हम ने देश में सोसलिज्म का नारा लगाया है, तो फिर एक प्राइवेट कार्पोरेशन स्थापित कर के आकाशवाणी को उसके हाथ में देने की क्या वजह है ?

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the question hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Development of Pakistan Troops on Assam-East Pak. Border

- *36. **SHRI LILADHAR KOTOKI:**
SHRI BENI SHANKER SHARMA:
SHRI SHRI GOPAL SABOO:
SHRI MANIBHAI J. PATEL:
SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD: