

Prohibition Study Team

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Shri Yashpal Singh:
 Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:
 Shri D. C. Sharma:
 Shri Bhakt Darshan
 { *271 Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
 | Shri P. C. Borooah:
 Shri Vishwanath Pandey:
 Shri P. K. Deo:
 Shri Mohan Nayak:

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether a prohibition study team has been appointed by government;

(b) if so, its terms of reference; and

(c) when the team will submit its report?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour and Employment and for Planning (Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A copy of the Planning Commission Resolution dated the 29th April, 1963 giving the terms of reference is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1550/63].

(c) The team is expected to submit its report by the end of December, 1963.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि जब कि हमारे आयोजना आयोग के मेम्बर श्री श्रीमन्नारायण जी, का पूरा बयान आ चुका था और उनकी पूरी रिपोर्ट पेश हो चुकी थी, तो फिर इस दल को दोबारा मुकर्रर करने का क्या फायदा हुआ ?

योजना तथा श्रम और रोजगार मंत्री (श्री नन्दा) : उस रिपोर्ट में उन्होंने जो सिफारिशें की थीं, उनको दूसरी पंच वर्षीय योजना में ध्यान में रखा गया था। उसके बाद की जो स्थिति थी, उस के अनुसार फिर इस एन्वयरी की जरूरत पड़ी।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि जब सरकार का इरादा इहिबिशन का नहीं है, जबकि वह इस बात पर तुली हुई है कि वह शराबबन्दी न करे, और जब यू० पी० के पुण्य तीर्थों में, जहां शराब नहीं बेची जाती थी, दोबारा शराब चालू कर दी गई है, तो फिर इस तरह की टीम को भेजने से क्या फायदा है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह तो दूसरी बात है।

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Is it a fact that some State Governments in the past, among which are Madhya Pradesh and Andhra, have appointed committees to investigate the working of prohibition and have recommended either relaxation or modification or scrapping of prohibition in those States; if so, may I know what are the terms of reference of the Committee now appointed by the Central Government?

Mr. Speaker: They are given in the statement. He should look into all those terms of reference and then come here.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: I have looked into those terms. Is it a fact that the Government has already queered the pitch for the working of this Committee by stipulating that the Committee should recommend only ways and methods for better and more effective implementation of prohibition and not scrapping it or modifying it?

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: The basic policy of national prohibition is given in article 41 of the Constitution and in the Directive Principles of State Policy. The whole matter was placed before the National Development Council and it has got its approval.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: It is not an answer to the question at all. I am sorry to say so. The Directive Principles are there about other

things also, but they are not being implemented.

Mr. Speaker: It gives a direction that it is to be implemented and not scrapped.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: If there is enough evidence before the Committee to justify it?

Shri Nanda: We do not presume anything before the report of the Committee is received. Our determination is to make it successful, and therefore the Committee has been asked to find out all the abuses and other things that are now coming in the way of the success of the policy.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: It has been a conspicuous failure.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमन्, क्या माननीय मंत्री जी के ध्यान में यह बात आई है कि इस कमेटी की रिपोर्ट आने से पहले ही कुछ राज्य सरकारों ने अपने मद्य निषेध कार्यक्रम में परिवर्तन कर दिये हैं, उदाहरणस्वरूप उत्तर प्रदेश के ११ जिलों में जो मद्य विनषध कर दिया गया था, वह समाप्त कर दिया गया है ? इस लिये क्या राज्य सरकारों को यह सलाह दी गई है कि जब तक कमेटी अपनी रिपोर्ट न दे और अखिल भारतीय दृष्टिकोण से कोई निर्णय न किया जाय, तब तक राज्य सरकारें वर्तमान कार्यक्रम को चालू रखें और उनमें कोई संशोधन, परिवर्तन या परिवर्द्धन न किया जाय ?

श्री नन्दा : जी हा, ऐसा किया गया है ।

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know whether the Government is aware of the fact that in certain areas which have been declared dry, production and consumption of illicit liquor is on the increase and it is for this purpose that this Committee has been appointed?

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: Illicit liquor consumption and production is itself one of the terms of reference.

They are going to make an elaborate study of it and state to what extent it has spread and how it can be checked.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि सभी स्टेटों में मादक-द्रव्यों से सरकार को कितनी आमदनी होती है और अगर मादक द्रव्यों को बन्द किया जाय, तो सरकार उस घाटे को कहां से पूरा करना चाहती है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह तो बहुत लम्बा सवाल है ।

Shri P. K. Deo: In paragraph (3) of the statement it is said:

"The Government of India recently reviewed the position in consultation with the State Governments"

May I know if the attention of the study team has been drawn to a statement:

"I and Raja Bahadur of Khalikote are a company of persons who proclaim that prohibition should be scrapped. I have the courage and conviction to feel that the provision made in the Constitution in this regard is wrong and outmoded."

made on the floor of the Orissa Assembly by the Chief Minister of that State who is stepping down to preach Congress gospels?

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: There are other opinions also expressed.

Shri P. K. Deo: I have not been able to follow.

Mr. Speaker: It was asked whether the Committee's attention was drawn to a statement and that was not objected to.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: May I know whether this Committee would be entrusted with the task of suggesting ways and means for rehabilitating many of these people who have been thrown out of employment?

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: The terms of reference are very wide.

Shri Man Sinh P. Patel: May I know whether it has come to the knowledge of the Government that while the team was touring the different States the experience of the Members of Parliament was not assessed by the study team; if so, how the experiences of Members of Parliament are going to be assessed by the team?

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: A questionnaire was issued and the replies were taken into consideration.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know what would be the position of the recommendations of the Prohibition Enquiry Committee as well as the recommendations made by the Central Prohibition Council? May I know whether this Committee is going to consider those recommendations and benefit itself from them or whether they will be considered as scrapped?

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: Sir, we have appointed a committee. Their recommendations are awaited with interest. I dare say that due consideration will be given to its recommendations.

Shri Ansar Harvani: Is the Government aware that in spite of the prohibition policy of the Government of India a licence has been given to Messrs. Dyer Meakin Company Limited to start a huge distillery in Ghaziabad; if so, may I know whether this Committee is going to take notice of it?

Mr. Speaker: That is a different thing altogether.

Shri Jashwant Mehta: In view of the fact that different laws are prevalent in different States and the Directive Principles of State Policy in the Constitution have not been implemented, may I know whether the Government is going to consider the ques-

tion of having a uniform policy all over the country?

Mr. Speaker: A team has been appointed. The supplementaries should relate to that team.

Shri Jashwant Mehta: My question is whether that team has got this as a special term of reference?

Shri Kapur Singh: Sir, may I know for what cogent reasons the Government have thought it fit specifically to exclude from the terms of reference the basically interesting question, namely, whether the prohibition policy has been anything like a success so far, and, further, whether there is any likelihood of its succeeding ever.

Shri Nanda: The very first term of reference is to make an assessment.

Mr. Speaker: Next Question.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: On a point of order, Sir. I find that—on an earlier occasion I invited your attention to this—sometimes a sufficient number of copies of the statements to be laid on the table of the House are not available. This has happened with me today. There was no copy of the statement available in the Notice Office.

Mr. Speaker: I will see that there is a sufficient number of copies available. Next Question.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: Sir, I request that Question 296 may also be taken along with Question 272.

Mr. Speaker: I have no objection. That might also be taken up along with this.

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Shri Bhakt Darshan:
Shri Harish Chandra:
Mathur:
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka: