

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know whether the conclusions arrived at in the survey some years before have been supported by statistics made available to Government during the mid-term appraisal of the Plan?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot understand this. The survey was started to provide statistics.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: That the condition of the middle-class has been worsening—is it not supported by the statistics available in the mid-term appraisal?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: When the reports are ready we will give a definite answer.

Shri Prabhat Kar: May I know whether the survey includes enquiries in the rural and urban sectors and also unemployment and under-employment of the middle-class?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: The survey covers 45 cities and deals only with the middle-class. Middle-class is defined as people living class mainly on incomes or non-manual employment. 36,000 sample families have been investigated. Some reports deal with living conditions, schedule A with family budget and B with conditions of working and living. Five tables have been received in respect of schedule A, and one other table was received in May 1963.

Shri D. N. Tiwary: Out of 45 cities, how many were in Bihar and what did they reveal?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Three district towns in Bihar were taken—Patna, Ranchi and Muzaffarpur.

Use of Harmonium on All India Radio

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- *581. { **Shri Bade:**
Shri R. G. Dubey:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
Shri Narasimha Reddy:
Shri Gokaran Prasad:
Shri Kachhavaia:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Advisory Board for Music and the Music Audition Board have decided to keep the harmonium away from the All India Radio; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Sham Nath): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following main considerations determined this decision:

- (i) The scale of the harmonium is not a natural one but is a tempered one i.e. the whole gamut has been divided artificially. The micro-tones which are an essential part of Indian Music cannot be brought out on this instrument at all;
- (ii) Only cut or straight notes can be produced on this instrument. Curves and slurs are impossible of production whereas it is such embellishments that bring out the real beauty and individuality of our music;
- (iii) It is very difficult to keep the harmonium in perfect tune constantly;
- (ix) It is a noisy instrument and drowns the voice of the singer;
- (v) Though it is a Western invention, it finds no place in any Western orchestra or even in a Western theatre;
- (vi) Music Academies, musicologists and many knowledgeable persons having expressed themselves strongly against the use of the harmonium in Indian Music.

श्री बड़े : क्या यह बात सही है कि भावखंडे ने जो कि म्यजक में एक्सपर्ट माने जाते हैं अपनी यह राय दी है कि हारमोनियम एक ऐसा बाजा है जो कि जितने भी अनेक बाजे हैं उन का अनुकरण कर सकता है, और इसलिये इस को आल इंडिया रेडियो के बाजों की सूची में घे निकाला न जाए ?

संसद-कार्य मंत्री (श्री सत्य नारायण सिंह) : यह सवाल ऐसा है जिस का जवाब देने के लिए सचमुच बहुत टैकनिकल नालिज की जरूरत है। मैं नहीं जानता कि सवाल पूछने वाले को इतनी नालिज है, मुझे तो नहीं है। लेकिन जहां तक हारमोनियम का सवाल है, यह आज से नहीं सन् १९३९ से, यानी २३ साल से बन्द है। इस बार इस की चर्चा फिर उठी थी। हिन्दुस्तान के जितने बड़े बड़े म्यूजिक कालिज हैं उन के प्रतिनिधियों की और अन्य बड़े म्यूजिशियन्स की एक कानफरेंस हुई थी, जिस की मैं ने सदारत की थी। बहुत सी बातें तो मेरी समझ में नहीं आयीं, ये लोग गमक आदि की बातें करते थे। लेकिन यह सही है कि दो एक आदमियों को छोड़ कर जितने म्यूजिशियन्स थे, इंस्ट्रूमेंटल या वोकल, सब ने कहा कि हारमोनियम ऐसी चीं है जोकि उन नमाम गानों के साथ नहीं चल सकती जोकि आल इंडिया रेडियो से दिए जाते हैं। भाटखंडे के स्कूल के दो एक आदमियों को छोड़ कर यह ओवरव्हैल्मिंग लोगों की राय थी कि इस को नहीं रखना चाहिए। और मैं हाउस को यह सूचना दे सकता हूँ कि हमारे देश के बहुत बड़े कलामर्मज्ञ रवीन्द्र नाथ ठाकुर ने भी हारमोनियम के खिलाफ अपनी बड़ी जबरदस्त राय दी थी। ग्राम म्यूजिशियन्स की यह राय है कि इस चीज को जोकि २३ बरस से बन्द है फिर न लाया जाय।

श्री बड़े : आल-इंडिया रेडियो में तो सरकार ने हारमोनियम के इस्तेमाल को बन्द कर दिया है, लेकिन देश में संगीत विद्यालयों और कालेजों आदि में लड़कों और आर्टिस्ट्स को हारमोनियम का जो शिक्षण दिया जाता है, क्या सरकार उस को भी बन्द करने जा रही है ?

श्री सत्य नारायण सिंह : आल-इंडिया रेडियो में तो वह पिछले २३ साल से बन्द है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मानदीय सदस्य यह जानना चाहते हैं कि स्कूलों और कालेजों में हारमोनियम की जो शिक्षा दी जाती है, क्या वह भी बन्द कर दी जायेगी या नहीं।

श्री सत्य नारायण सिंह : वह तो हमारे हाथ में नहीं है। अगर वह हमारे हाथ में होती, तो हम उस को भी बन्द कर देते।

श्री बड़े : माननीय मंत्री ने कहा है कि वह उस को भी बन्द कर देते। मैं ने उस के बारे में एक सवाल पूछना है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उन्होंने ने कहा है कि यह उनके बस की बात नहीं है। अगर होती, तो वह बन्द कर देते।

Shri Nath Pai: May I know to what extent the deep-seated and well-known prejudice of the Prime Minister against the harmonium has influenced the decision of the Ministry, in spite of the fact that millions of whom he calls laymen love the harmonium and there is a very strong school of musicians who think that the harmonium is a good and popular instrument?

Mr. Speaker: He cannot argue.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: I can tell the hon. Member that the Prime Minister's opinion had nothing to do with it. I do not even know whether the Prime Minister was for or against it.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: He is seated very close to him.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: But, as I said, for the last 23 years, it had been banned. I had also cited the opinion of the late Rabindranath Tagore.

श्री स० मो० बनर्जी : क्या यह बात सच है कि आज से २३ साल पहले पंडित नारायणराव व्यास ने हारमोनियम के खिलाफ इस वजह से आन्दोलन किया था कि बोकलिस्ट्स के गले की आवाज हारमोनियम की

आवाज में दब जाती है ; यदि हाँ तो क्या क्लासिकल म्यूजिक को छोड़ कर लाइट म्यूजिक और टुमरी में हार्मोनियम को इस्तेमाल करने की इजाजत दी जायेगी ?

श्री सत्य नारायण सिंह : अभी किसी चीज में उस की इजाजत नहीं है—न टुमरी के लिये और न गज़ल के लिए ।

Shri Prabhat Kar: If the decision had been taken 23 years ago, may I know what was the necessity again for considering this matter at this stage? Was there any representation by any musician about it? (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: Why should there be so much of noise?

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: I could not follow the question. Will the hon. Member kindly repeat it?

Mr. Speaker: His question was, where was the necessity for raising it again now.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: I do not know. During the period of my predecessor, somebody, when he went to Bombay, broached this question to him. He said, "let us examine it." Therefore, this matter came up before us.

Shri Kapur Singh: The hon. Minister has informed the House that the harmonium has been banned from the precincts of the AIR because it is considered musicologically inappropriate for rendition of the tonal frequencies of Shastraic music, but for non-classical music, with which also the AIR is concerned, may I know whether there are any peculiar reasons for banning the harmonium for the popular music?

Mr. Speaker: All these reasons have been read out; not only one but there were several reasons mentioned.

Shri Kapur Singh: Do they consider that the harmonium is inappropriate for the rendition of non-classical Indian music also? That is the question which I want to be answered.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: All these aspects were taken into consideration. I am a layman. But all the experts were there. They all sat together and discussed it. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He says he does not know it. Shri Ansar Harvani.

Shri Ansar Harvani: Sometime back the All India Radio had banned film music, but as a result of strong public opinion film music had got to be introduced. So, is the Minister aware that the film records which are played by All India Radio contain harmonium music also?

Mr. Speaker: Arguments are being entered into. Shri Chaturvedi.

Shri S. N. Chaturvedi: May I know, why a total ban has been placed on this instrument and why has it not been left to the discretion of the musician to have the accompaniment that he likes for his performance?

Mr. Speaker: He has already given the answer.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या यह सही है कि रवि बाबू हार्मोनियम के खिलाफ़ इसलिए ये कि मनुष्य के अन्दर जो संगीत की स्वाभाविक शक्ति होती है, वह हार्मोनियम के जरिये दब जाती है ?

श्री सत्य नारायण सिंह : जरूर ऐसा होगा । रवि बाबू मामूली तौर से तो अपनी राय जाहिर नहीं कर रहे होंगे ।

Bonus Commission

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*582. { Shri Yaspal Singh:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Sarjoo Pandey:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to refer to