15.33 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS

Thirteenth Report

[English]

SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL (Godhra): Sir, I beg to present the Thirteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of Standing Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals on the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research Bill, 1997.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Sir, you have very correctly permitted him to lay the Paper on the Table of the House. But we should criticise ourselves and say that we should be present at the right time to lay it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have taken more time than he has taken!

Now, we can continue our discussion on Maharashtra issue. Shri Ram Naik.

15.34 hrs.

MOTION RE: ATROCITIES COMMITTED ON DALITS IN MUMBAI, NAGPUR AND OTHER PLACES IN THE STATE OF MAHARASHTRA AND IN OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY-*Contd.*

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai North) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is third day of dicussion today on the atrocities committed on dalits in and outside Maharashtra. Earlier, he discussed Bihar too and that lasted for four days. The peculiarity of debate on Bihar was that political activities used to change there very fast. The situation of today used to change day after today and the situation of tomorrow used to change day after tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Ram Naikji, how much time will you take?

SHRI RAM NAIK : I will take 25 minutes.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is all right.

SHRI RAM NAIK : I will take as much time as Shri Prithviraj Chavan has taken. That would be enough.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why do you compare? You tell me how much time you want to finish your speech.

SHRI RAM NAIK : I will conclude. As is my usual nature, I would not go outside the issue under discussion.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you can, kindly complete your speech within fifteen minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : As the discussion on Bihar was taking a new turn each day and the situation was changing, it seems to me that some change, some turn the discussion on Maharashtra has also taken although with not that speed as it took in the case of Bihar. The discussion which took place in the Rajya Sabha yesterday, I have gone through the yesterday's proceedings of the Rajya Sabha today. One point was clear in that and that is policy of the Government atleast for yesterday was that it did not like to resort to Article 356 in Maharashtra. They do not like to proclaim President's rule in Maharashtra. This stood until yesterday. There has been a change in that backdrop. I want to submit that point before the House. Shri Prithviraj D. Chavan should have been present in the House. He has come now. Prithviraj D. Chavan ji said at the end of his speech that the Maharashtra Government should be dismissed and the leader of the same party, hon. S.B. Chavan who is not only a national leader but had also been a Home Minister and had earlier dismissed many State Governments using Article 356, also said yesterday that the case of Maharashtra did not deserve dismissal but there might have been some communication gap between Shri S.B. Chavan and Prithviraj D. Chavan. And such type of communication gap between old and new generation is but natural but this gap is discernible and in this backdrop I understand that the Congress should rethink on it. I will not confine my speech to Maharashtra only as the hon. Members did. We should also talk about other parts of the country. Therefore, I would like to talk something beyond Maharashtra.

Sharad Pawarji has special affection for dalits. We have heard about that. Therefore wording of his proposal is very good. It is well drafted. If it is put to vote, we should support it. But the views he has put forward, there seems to be no similarity between his views and drafting of the proposal. The point is not clear which is quite evident. There is an adage in Marathi "otha dekho, potha dekho" and in Hindi "munh mein Ram bagal mein chhuri" which means sweet tongue, honey gall. It is said so. It is like to create smoke screen.

[English]

Give a dog a bad name and shoot it.