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Title: Regarding reported large scale conversion in the country.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): Sir, I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity for inviting the attention of the august House to such an important issue. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have called Shri Venugopal and not you. Please take your seat. Let him finish.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL : Sir, there are massive forcible conversions taking place. Lot of agony and pain has been created in the minds of the people due to the reported forcible religious conversions happening day by day in various parts of the country. Yesterday two incidents had been reported in Kerala, one in Cheppad, Alappuzha – my constituency - and the other in Kollam district, which is the constituency of hon. Member, Shri Premachandran. The same type of conversion function was reported from Valsad in the State of Gujarat, the state the hon. Prime Minister comes from.

Certainly, this indicates the purposeful movement of the Sangh Parivar which is organising these types of massive forcible conversions. As per the reports, around 100 Christians were converted to Hinduism at a tribal village, 350 kilometres south of State Capital, Ahmedabad.

Sir, I am coming to the fact. The fact is that the Chengannur Unit of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad in Alappuzha has itself claimed to have converted 30 Christians belonging to eight families to Hinduism at a ceremony.

Everybody has the freedom to choose his own religion according to his own faith. We all believe in that, but giving false promises and converting people is creating tension among the people and it will disturb the communal harmony of the country. This is not an innocent move. These massive functions are being held with huge publicity by the organisers themselves as Vishwa Hindu Parishad's people are themselves claiming that such and such persons are already converted Hindus. This is a clear indication of their agenda. The aggressive speeches made by the leaders of the VHP are also hurting the sentiments of the secular people. ...(*Interruptions*)

श्री केशव प्रसाद मोर्य (फूलपुर): आप बार-बार विश्व हिन्दू परिषद का नाम क्यों ले रहे हैं?...(*व्यवधान*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL : Sir, I am quoting. ...(*Interruptions*)

You just hear I am quoting. ...(*Interruptions*)

Sir, you have to protect me. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You come to the point that you want to make.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL : Sir, I am quoting a statement just asserting that the whole world was one inhabited by Hindus. VHP leader अरवि *declared that the right wing organisation will ensure that the population of Hindus in the country should be increased from 82 per cent to 100 per cent. What is this? This is the statement given by अरवि, the VHP leader.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The name cannot go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL : Sir, I would like to ask a specific question to the Government, through you. Hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is sitting here. Is the Minister going to condemn this statement? Is the Government going to condemn this statement? Last week hon. Shri Venkaiah Naidu had told this House 'I am really proud of being a member of Sangh Parivar.' Sir, last week, the hon. Minister proudly stated that he is really proud of being a part of the *Sangh Parivar* family. ...(*Interruptions*) Therefore, you must condemn it. ...(*Interruptions*) You must have a duty ...(*Interruptions*) Sir, I have to complete. ...(*Interruptions*)

श्री राजेश रंजन (मधेपुरा) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, पहले मेरी बात सुन ली जाए, उसके बाद मंत्री जी का जवाब हो। ...(*व्यवधान*)

शहरी विकास मंत्री, आवास और शहरी गरीबी उपशमन मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्री (श्री एम. वैकैर्या नायडू) : आप बैठिये। Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there is a time limit during the 'Zero Hour'. He has made his point. ...(*Interruptions*) He wanted a statement from the Government. If the Members have a right to express their views, then the Government also has a duty to express its views and then inform the House. ...(*Interruptions*) My point is very simple. ...(*Interruptions*) Do not quote names of people who are not there in the House. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have already expunged their names.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : So, they have to be expunged. ...(*Interruptions*)

Secondly, the Government is nowhere in the picture. ...(*Interruptions*) The Party is nowhere in the picture. ...(*Interruptions*) If an individual does it and if anybody violates the law, then law must take its own course. ...(*Interruptions*)

In Kerala, in Shri Venugopal's State, it is a Congress Government. ...(*Interruptions*) Who has stopped the Congress Government from taking action if at all they want to take action? ...(*Interruptions*) You are also aware that action has to be taken by the State Government. There is a State

Government elected in Kerala that unfortunately belongs to Shri Venugopal's Party. ...(*Interruptions*) They have not taken action. ...(*Interruptions*)

Secondly, the Government made it very clear that the Government does not involve itself in conversion or re-conversion. ...(*Interruptions*) The entire country is peaceful, and people are living in harmony. ...(*Interruptions*) Do not create ...(*Interruptions*) They want to say something and then they do not want to hear the Government. ...(*Interruptions*) यह क्या तरीका है? You say whatever you want to say, and then you do not want to hear from the Government. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay, let him say.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): You should first hear us. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : How much time ...(*Interruptions*) We have heard you. ...(*Interruptions*) The entire country is peaceful. ...(*Interruptions*) Some people are unhappy about it. What can we do? ...(*Interruptions*) पूरे देश में शांति है। कुछ लोग इसे पसंद नहीं कर रहे हैं। हम क्या करें? Let us not unnecessarily create tension in the country. ...(*Interruptions*)

The Government does not support conversion or re-conversion. ...(*Interruptions*) If you want to make a political issue, then you can make it a political issue outside. ...(*Interruptions*) If you want to make it political ...(*Interruptions*) I can myself answer all these people. You do not worry on that account. ...(*Interruptions*)

मैं अकेला इनको संभाल सकता हूँ, आप चिन्ता मत करिये जो भी होगा। ...(*व्यवधान*) आप लोग हमारी बात सुनने के लिए तैयार नहीं हैं तो हम क्या करें? हमको देश ने चुना है। The people have elected us. We have a duty to govern the country, and we are governing it effectively. ...(*Interruptions*) The people are with us, and people are happy. ...(*Interruptions*) But you cannot go on making allegations against us. ...(*Interruptions*) यह पद्धति नहीं है। आपने 50 साल राज किया। You cannot go on doing like this. ऐसी पद्धति नहीं है। आपने जो भी कहना है कह दिया, हमने जो जवाब देना है दे दिया। ...(*व्यवधान*)

13.24 hrs.

*At this stage, Shri Rajesh Ranjan came and stood
on the floor near the Table.*

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is not allowed. Only the Leader is allowed, and that is all.

...(*Interruptions*)

श्री महिलकार्जुन खड़गे : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, हर दिन, हर रोज़ सोशल मीडिया में, सभी अखबारों में और सभी जगह यह बात चल रही है और घर वापसी की बात को सरकार इनडायरेक्टली सपोर्ट कर रही है। ...(*व्यवधान*) आज हमारी सब बात सुनने के बाद सरकार का यह कर्तव्य होता है कि इसका रिप्लाय करें। ...(*व्यवधान*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.25 pm.

13.25 hrs

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Twenty-Five Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.28 hrs

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at
Twenty-Eight Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(Hon. Deputy-Speaker *in the Chair*)

...(*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up matters under Rule 377, Shri Maheish Girri.

...(*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Already Shri Venugopal spoke and it was answered. What more do you want? You can raise it after six o'clock during the 'Zero Hour'.

...(*Interruptions*)

14.28½ hrs

At this stage, Shri Rajesh Ranjan, Shri Rajeev Satav, Shri Kalyan Banerjee and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

...(Interruptions)