

5. The Caltex (Acquisition Shares of Caltex Oil Refining (India) Limited and of the Undertakings in India of Caltex (India) Limited] Bill, 1977.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil): Hear me for a minute, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: My point is that it will continue. You will take only one minute; but every other Member will get in. No, please. I am now taking up Calling-Attention. I am on my own legs now. Hear me at least before you do anything. You are not the only one here. There are a number of people. The moment I permit you to do that, everyone will get up. Where will it lead to? Can we then do anything in this House? Please tell me.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: There is a precedent in this House when Calling-Attention has been postponed for a discussion.

MR. SPEAKER: You have a right to ask for it, if the reply to the Calling Attention is not satisfactory; if the information is not properly given to you, you have a right to ask for a discussion and convince the Speaker at least and then have a discussion some time later. Absolutely no objection. But if you get up now, everybody gets up. What else can I do now?

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: 26 people have died, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: For instance, Mr. Qureshi was good enough to come to me about the atrocities and about 100 people getting injuries and houses being burnt. I immediately brought it to the notice of the Minister; and he is making a statement on the 15th. If something is brought to my notice, I can help you; I am here to help you. But if you get up every time, it will help only others in getting up.

SHRI B. P. MANDAL (Madhepura): I have given notice of an adjournment.

MR. SPEAKER: All notices are with me; but all cannot be taken up at the same time. You will have to

sit down now and wait till I call you about your notice.

Now about the Calling-Attention.

Mr. Halder is not here. Mrs. Parvati Krishnan.

12.03 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE REPORTED BURNING ALIVE OF HARIJANS IN BELCHI VILLAGE OF BIHAR ON 27TH MAY, 1977

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN (Coimbatore): I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the reported incident of 13 Harijans having been burnt alive and one shot dead in Belchi village of Patna district, Bihar on 27th May, 1977.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (CHAUDHURI CHARAN SINGH): Sir, the unfortunate incident referred to by the Honourable Members has been widely reported in the Press as a case of atrocity on Harijans. According to the information received from the Government of Bihar, this was a case of a clash between two groups of hardened criminals having long standing rivalry. The incident took place on the 27th May, 1977 in which 8 Harijans and 3 non-Harijans were killed in a clash between rival groups and the bodies of the dead were burnt by an armed mob of 50 to 60 persons. A number of victims of this incident were involved in murders of members of the rival group led by Mahavir Mahto and Parsuram Dhanuk who are also well known hardened criminals involved in cases of murder and dacoity. These two groups have been attempting to eliminate one another and gain exclusive control of the area of their operations and there have been several encounters between them in the past involving use of fire arms and murders.

According to the Government of Bihar, this incident has no caste, communal, agrarian or political overtones

and has nothing to do with atrocities on weaker sections of the society as reported in certain sections of the Press. The State Government have taken prompt action. The Commissioner and the DIG have visited the spot and a case under sections 148/149/302/201 IPC and section 27 of the Arms Act has been registered. Two police Officers have been suspended for alleged negligence. 19 accused persons have been taken into custody and the investigation is in progress. I may assure the House that no effort will be spared in taking firm action against those responsible for the heinous crime.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN:

Sir, I am really amazed at the manner in which this incident is sought to be brushed aside as a long-standing warfare between two gangs. Sir, throughout the last few weeks, we have been seeing more than once, reports in the press of the manner in which harijans are being harassed and being tortured. In fact, even the Governor of Gujarat has stated in a meeting that though he has submitted reports, no action has been taken on them, no notice has been taken of them.

This is really amazing because we have a Government which says that it has come in order to restore democracy and freedom. Is it the freedom for the harijans to be harassed and tortured? Because I do not understand what sort of freedom is being given to whom. If it is a long-standing dispute, if it is a fact that it erupts from time to time, should dacoities be allowed to erupt like this? It is amazing.

I expected that the House would be taken into confidence and given more details than this. Why is it that the police reached there five to six hours after the first report was sent to the police? Why did they take five to six hours to reach the place where people have been first shot, then kerosene poured on them and then their bodies burnt? All sorts of reports are being given to us. This is really not paying

sufficient attention to the House and not taking the House into confidence. As far as the newspaper reports go, there has been no contradiction by those journalists and representatives who have been to the spot for finding out the truth, while there is discrepancy between the cooked-up reports of the Government and the reports that have been reaching us. That is why in all seriousness we have given this Calling Attention Notice in the hope that the Minister would give some grounds for us to feel that something effective is being done.

Therefore, I want to know whether the Government will set up a Commission, an impartial judicial commission of inquiry, to go into the whole incident so that the whole matter is thrashed out and such eye-wash reports from the Government side are not put before us.

CHAUDHURI CHARAN SINGH:

Sir, I am really surprised at the statement of the hon. Member, disputing my statement that it is a case of clash between two groups of hardened criminals. Because some of them happen to be harijans, it does not follow that it is a clash between caste Hindus and harijans on the ground of caste. Nothing of the kind. There have been several cases of clash between the two groups before. I will cite five cases just now. Sideswar Paswan, one of the deceased in this case, was involved in murder of one Basant Paswan, belonging to the gang of the accused. Sarveswar Paswan and two others, namely, Naval Paswan and Uday Paswan, were wanted in another police case for being involved in attacking Dhanpat Paswan of the rival group. Both the victims in this case were criminals who took the initiative in other cases.

Deceased Nawal Paswan and Uday Sonar had also been charge-sheeted in two different dacoity cases.

Accused Mahabir Mahto was responsible for the murder of Gopal Saran Singh, Sarpanch, during a dacoity.

Accused Parsuram Dhanuk is involved in the murder of one Devender Yadav.

Accused Mahabir Mahto and Parsuram Dhanuk have also been accused of other offences involving attempted murder and use of fire arms.

I think this narration should convince Hon. Members that it is not a case of members of one caste attacking members of another caste but it is a case of two groups.

This is clear from another aspect. Of the eleven people who have been murdered, three are Sonars, as I said in my original statement also, and out of the nine attackers, seven belong to the caste of Mahto, one is a Dhanuk and another a Dussar. So, it is not a case of clash between members of two castes at all, and there is nothing like a dispute, agrarian, political, communal or anything of that kind.

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त (दिल्ली सदर) :
अध्यक्ष महोदय, एक दर्शन तो वह है जो माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने स्टेटमेंट दिया है और दूसरा दर्शन वह है जो समाचार-पत्रों में छपा है जिसमें यह कहा गया है कि इन दो गैंगों की लड़ाई में एक गैंग वह है जो पहले इन्दिरा ब्रिगेड था और जिसने जयप्रकाश जी पर आक्रमण किया और बाद में वह बन्दूकधारी पार्टी में कन्वर्ट हो गया। इस गैंग ने दो बच्चों को बांधक आग में फेंक दिया। इस तरह से दो गैंगों की लड़ाई में भी जो क्राइम हुआ है वह ऐसा हुआ है कि दो बच्चों के हाथ-पैर बांधकर आग में फेंक दिया गया और वह जल गये। मंत्री महोदय ने जो स्टेटमेंट दिया है, उसमें लिखा है कि—स्टेट गवर्नमेंट हैज टेकन प्राम्प्ट एक्शन। मेरा मंत्री महोदय से कहना यह है कि क्या यह सही है कि स्टेट गवर्नमेंट ने प्राम्प्ट एक्शन नहीं लिया, क्योंकि जो पटवारी है उसको 17 मील

पैदल चलकर अगले दिन अपनी रिपोर्ट लिखवानी पड़ी। जब पुलिस वहा पर आई तो उसका क्लीकल भी खराब हो गया और टूट गया जिसकी वजह से उसे भी 13 मील पैदल चलकर आना पड़ा। आपने एस० आई० और ए०एस० आई० को सस्पेंड किया है। इस गांव में मई के महीने में भी इसी तरह से फायर हुआ है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि जो बड़े अप्सर हैं, उनके खिलाफ मंत्री महोदय ने एक्शन क्यों नहीं लिया? क्या सरकार अब सेंट्रल एजेंसी के जरिये से इसकी इन्वैस्टिगेशन करायेंगी कि जो अखबारों में दिया गया है वह कितने मायने में सही है और इन्दिरा ब्रिगेड व बन्दूकधारी पार्टी की इसमें कितनी इन्वाल्वमेंट है? ला एंड आर्डर में जो ये लोग इतने सौफिस्टिकेटेड और साइन्टिफिक तरीके से गड़बड़ कर रहे हैं, उसी तरह से सरकार पुलिस को माडर्नाइज करने के लिये और वैल-इक्विपड करने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही करेगी? क्या खोसला कमीशन की पूरी रिपोर्ट अमल में नहीं आई है और पहली सरकार ने इस पर कार्यवाही नहीं की और इसके लिये श्री यशवन्त राव चन्हाण जिम्मेदार हैं?

श्री श्री चरण सिंह : माननीय सदस्य ने जो अभी कहा है उसमें मैं और किसी बात से सहमत नहीं हूँ लेकिन बाद में जो एक वाक्य कहा गया कि माननीय चन्हाण साहब इसके लिये रिस्पोसिबल हैं, इस बात से मैं सहमत हूँ। देश में जो ला एंड आर्डर की स्थिति है, जो लोग 30 साल से सरकार में रहे हैं, वह इसके जिम्मेवार हैं, देश की डैस्टिनी उनके हाथ में रही है। मैं माननीय चन्हाण साहब से निवेदन करूंगा कि वह अपनी जिम्मेदारी से भागने की कोशिश न करें।

श्री यशवन्तराव चव्हाण (सतारा) :
आप भी जिम्मेदारी से भाग रहे हैं।

बौधरी चरण सिंह : उत्तर प्रदेश में
ऐसे कांड नहीं होते। मेरे 12 साल वहां
ठहरने के दौरान भी नहीं हुए।.. (व्यवधान)

जहां तक सी बी आई के तहकीकात
की आवश्यकता की बात है वह मैं जरूरी
नहीं समझता हूं। इन्वेस्टिगेशन बहुत अच्छा
चल रहा है। आफिसर्स उस से संतुष्ट हैं।
अगर बाद में गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया ने
आवश्यकता समझी तो हमें सी बी आई
के सुपुर्द करने में कोई हिचकिचाहट नहीं
येगी। लेकिन इसकी जरूरत नहीं है।
सी बी आई के सुपुर्द करने में हमें कोई हिच-
किचाहट नहीं थी, लेकिन गवर्नमेंट इस की
जरूरत महसूस नहीं करती।

एक बात आप ने कही कि क्या पुलिस
को माडर्नाइज वगैरह करने की कोशिश
की जाएगी, तो यह तो ठीक है। यह हमारी
कोशिश है और बराबर रहेगी। लेकिन
यह कोई एक दिन या 6 महीने का काम नहीं
है। इस में फंड्स वगैरह की आवश्यकता होगी
और ट्रेनिंग वगैरह के कोर्सेज तय करने होंगे।
कुछ लोगों को बाहर भी भेजना पड़ेगा।
कुछ हमारे ऐसे आफिसर्स हैं जिन को बाहर
का भी तजुर्बा है। एफ बी आई और स्काटलैंड
यार्ड वगैरह का तजुर्बा उन को है।
माडर्नाइजेशन और सुधार की बात जैसे हर
डिपार्टमेंट और हर गवर्नमेंट के सामने है
वैसे ही पुलिस के संबंध में भी है।

SHRI B. P. MANDAL (Madhe-
pura): Sir, I have been notice of an
important matter.....

MR. SPEAKER: You are a senior
Member, you should know the rules.
Unless the Speaker admits it, it does
not come before the House. So, no-
body should get up like this. If you
will raise it here, it will not be taken
up. We will consider only one calling
attention everyday. I have already

accepted two or three. Therefore, it
will be considered.

SHRI B. P. MANDAL: This is a
very important matter. 22 persons
have been killed in Bihar.

MR. SPEAKER: You have wasted
the time. If it is such an important
matter, the Speaker has some sense of
proportion. You should not get up
like this. If you think, it is of such
an importance you can come to me
for a minute or two and we will
discuss.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI
(Anantnag). I would request the
hon. Minister that he should try to
link up all the incidents that have
happened in Kashmir over the last two
months after Sheikh Abdullah's resig-
nation from Chief Ministership. There
was an attack by Sheikh Abdula's men
on a Girls' College in Anantnag. The
girls were molested and property was
burnt. Dr. Jagat Mohini was attacked
by National Conference people. Her 3
teeth and jaws were broken. Yester-
day on the National Highway, 20 hous-
es have been burnt.

The hon. Home Minister should
know that there is private army
which Sheikh Abdullah is financing.
There are more than 5000 people who
are being paid money by Sheikh
Abdullah to indulge in goondaism. If
this type of thing is allowed to con-
tinue in the State of Jammu and
Kashmir I do not think there will be
free and fair elections. The hon. Mi-
nister has promised that he will see
that law and order is maintained in
Kashmir. If this is the type of law
and order which he wants to have in
Kashmir, I do not know what is going
to happen. (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Home
Minister to make a statement.