

If licensed arms have been used, then you should withdraw the licence of such people who have used the arms for this kind of purpose. By restricting the number of arms that a person can hold, in what way are you going to achieve this purpose? If a person is entitled to hold one weapon, logically he is entitled to hold three or five or half a dozen weapons. One weapon itself is enough for a person to make a nuisance of himself with that weapon if he so desires, and therefore, I do not think number is going to make any difference as far as this is concerned. By asking the weapons-holders, those who are holding in excess of three weapons, to deposit the rest in *malkhana*, you are only making a provision for your bureaucrats and others who are interested to take these weapons at a cheaper cost. Therefore, there is no logic behind this at all. I still maintain that a person who is considered safe enough to hold one weapon can also hold more than three weapons, and a person who is not fit to hold any weapon should not be given

15.00 Hrs.

any licence at all. Now, how will you control, as said over here, the use of licensed arms as their use in crime has also been on the increase? Now, why restrict the man to possess 3 weapons only instead of 5 or 6? How are you going to eliminate this sort of involvement of licensed arms for use in criminal purposes? So, unless this Government realises the spirit behind this kind of an amendment, there is no point in just haphazardly bringing a legislation like this.

Secondly, it is also contravening Art. 14 of the Constitution. Art. 14 of the Constitution states that the State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws within the territory of India. Here are you giving unguided discretion to the Magistrate to give weapons to any citizen of the country. We know how these things are done. Therefore, I urge upon the hon. Minister to either withdraw this Bill or at least send it to a Select Committee and let the Committee go into the various amendments which the Government is seeking to move. I think that stage has not come, but I am just suggesting as a sort of forewarning.

SHRI N.K. SHEJWALKAR (Gwalior): I am not saying anything. I have said that at this stage also I am opposing the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You opposed only the withdrawal. You oppose introduction also? Both. All right.

SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR: In fact what Mr. Kishore Chandra Deo was telling is that he was discussing the entire gamut of this Bill. At this stage, I do not think that is necessary. This House also knows very well as to on what points you can oppose introduction—that is whether we have the legislative competence. That is the only point to be discussed. But he is discussing the entire gamut of the Bill. This is not the time. When the Bill is discussed, he can say all these things. There is no ground at all.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Arms Act, 1959.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR: I introduce the Bill.

15.05 Hrs

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to give appropriate status to the youth of the country.

SHRI KAMAL NATH (Chhindwara): It is unfortunate that though a large number of communities are granted special rights to represent their constituencies under the Constitution of India, the youth as a group has no such right. This is despite the fact that all those who had laid the foundation of independent India—Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad—had repeatedly emphasized the special status of the youth and the role it was destined to play in the country's effort at modernisation.

A large percentage of our work-force in the organised sector—about 40 per cent—comprise men and women below 35 years. In the unorganised sector the figures would be even larger. Clearly, therefore, the youth in

India has been playing a significant role in all aspects of nation-building, including capital formation and creation of assets.

However, the youth is disturbingly away from the decision-making process, including membership of the Parliament as well as the State Assemblies. This is against India's national ethos for we should not forget that Sankaracharya and Swami Vivekananda died in their thirties.

I suggest that all parties move in this direction and it be made mandatory that at least 25% of the candidates fielded by any political party in any election be from the youth. The People's Representation Act should be suitably amended to enforce this.

(ii) Shortage of Cement in Kerala

SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN *(Palghat) : Sir, the quota of cement allotted to Kerala after the partial decontrol of cement introduced on 28-2-82, has been substantially reduced for the quarterly period of three months, the total quantity fixed was 63,400 m.t. This will meet only a small fraction of the demand. Now, only half of the allotted quantity is actually being despatched. This has caused considerable hardship to the consumers. In 1982 while the quota allotted was 5,22,210 m.t., the actual quantity received was only 37,330 m.t. By the end of 1982, the cement shortage became more acute because of power cut. As a result of all this, Kerala is not in a position to supply even a small percentage of the actual requirement.

The problem of cement shortage can be solved to some extent if the companies are asked to supply it directly. But these companies are evading their responsibility by giving excuses of power-cut etc. The hon. Chief Minister of Kerala has requested the Centre to help the State. He has requested that the allotted cement should be made available from Andhra Pradesh and arrangement should be made to despatch the entire quantity of allotted cement. I would urge upon the Centre to accede to the request of the Chief Minister and help solve the problem of cement shortage in Kerala.

(iii) Measures to check infiltration of Chakmas and Nepalese in Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh.

SHRI HARIHAR[SOREN (Keonjhar)**: Sir, the unabated infiltration of Chakmas and Nepalese into Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh has caused a great concern in the Union Territories of Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh. As a result of this infiltration, Mizos have already become a minority in their own State in several places.

There are about 30,000 Chakmas now residing in each of these two areas as compared to the total population of 6,00,000 in Arunachal Pradesh and about 4,00,000 in Mizoram. This is really an alarming phenomenon.

The chakmas, who were Buddhist tribals from the Chittagong hill tracts of Bangladesh, kept on infiltrating into Mizoram taking advantage of the open order.

If steps are not taken immediately to curb the phenomenal increase in Chakma population, it might pose a serious problem in future. This issue deserves the special consideration of the Government of India.

In view of this, I request the Government to expedite the proposal of constructing the boundary wall along the border. The army should be deployed on the border to detect such infiltration and push back the chakmas forthwith.

(iv) Need for running Neelachal Express daily between New Delhi and Puri

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (Cuttack) : Sir, the people who intend to come to Delhi by train from Orissa are facing a great inconvenience in the absence of daily train services. The National Express which connects Puri/Bhubaneswar with New Delhi runs only thrice a week. This train was introduced only on 1-4-80 and since then, it has become very popular. It has also contributed to the increase in freight traffic particularly from Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Haryana and Punjab area. The accommodation remains full and many passengers do not get reservation on either side. It was earlier proposed for conversion of this train to daily Express Service between Puri and New Delhi. It is understood that line capacity between Allahabad and Banaras being a single line section, is standing in the way. This can be got over

*The Original Speech was delivered in Malayalam.

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