

COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES

Eighth Report

SHRI R. R. BHOLE (Bombay South Central) : I beg to present the Eighth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee of Privileges.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : Only if they shout, you listen, Sir. From now on, whenever we shout, we shall make it a point to lobby with everybody, so that they shout along with us.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Durgapur) : I am shouting with you.

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY (Calcutta South) : No shouting is necessary, Sir. Their voice is the voice of reason.

MR. SPEAKER : This is not the time for any more Calling Attention.

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPPLAN (Alleppey) : Actually, in the 6th Plan, they have not done justice to women.

MR. SPEAKER : Madam, there is no time now. You can talk to the Minister. I will forward your papers to them.

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY : You should always hear, if you want to maintain peace in your home front.

12.17 hrs.

Statement re: Arrests made at Moga on 3rd May, 1984:

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir.

In reply to the query in the House on 7th May, 1984 regarding events and arrests at Moga, the Union Home Minister Shri P. C. Sethi said :—

“Sir, as far as Moga incident is concerned, I would like to point out that 16 people were arrested on the 16th. Actually, on the day of the operation, 22 people were arrested and 13 arms were recovered. Later on, the Deputy Commissioner of Police, with three or four persons, visited the gurdwara and there with metallic detectors he found two hand grenades. This is the fact.”

The arrests at Moga took place on May, 3 1984. However, the Home Minister referred to arrests on the 16th April, 1984.

He also referred to the “day of operation”. obviously May 3, 1984 but stated that 22 persons were arrested that day.

On 4th May, 1984 the Home Minister had said :—

“As far as the question pertaining to yesterday’s incident is concerned, 16 persons were arrested. It is not correct to say that they were not arrested.”

It is thus clear that Minister has added to confusion over Moga through his incorrect statement in the House on 7th May, 1984.

I, therefore request the Minister to correct the information.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : I am thankful to Prof. Madhu Dandavate for making a correction in the statement which I had made.

With your permission I can say that on 7th May, 1984, I had given some information in this Hon'ble House regarding the arrest of persons in connection with the recent incidents at Moga. The matter had been brought up all of a sudden in the House and I am sorry that there was a slight inaccuracy in what I had said.

The correct position is that on 26th April, 1984, 10 persons had been arrested at Moga. On 3rd May, 1984, again 16 persons arrested these under section 188 IPC ; and 6 out of these were also arrested in a case under section 436/427 IPC. On 3rd May, 1984, 13 weapons were recovered. The Deputy Commissioner of the District later visited the Gurdwara Bibi Kahan Kaur. 2 hand grenades were recovered the next day.

Shri Madhu Dandavate has raised this issue and I appreciate his alert response to what I had stated, I may assure the House that in any case I had intended to correct the figures which I had inadvertently given out. I regret for the inaccuracy in my statement and beg pardon of the House for this inaccuracy which I had made.

12.19 hrs.

[MR DEPUTY SPEKAER in the Chair]

CALLING ATTENTION TO
MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC
IMPORTANCE

Reported distress sale and decline in the prices of wheat and other agricultural produce in various states and the need to provide remunerative prices to farmers.

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN (Kangra) : I call the attention of the Minister of Agriculture to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon :—

“Reported distress sale and decline in the prices of wheat and other agricultural produce in various States and the need to provide remunerative prices to farmers and the action taken by the Government in regard thereto.”

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : Sir, The Hon. Members have mentioned about the reported distress sale and decline in the prices of wheat and other agricultural produce in various States and the need to provide remunerative prices to the farmers and the action taken by the Government in regard thereto. The agricultural price policy of the Government is directed towards ensuring remunerative prices to the agricultural producers and safeguarding their inter interests. For this purpose, procurement/support prices are being announced for major agricultural commodities each year. For a large number of commodities purchases are organised at the support prices through public agencies.