

As regards books prescribed for the universities in different courses of study, University Grants Commission has written to the Vice Chancellors of all the universities to take appropriate action in this matter. We have got certain guidelines framed by the NCERT to review school text-books.

17.42 hrs.

MOTION RE. CONTEMPT OF THE HOUSE

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is some announcement.

As the House is aware, at about 15.50 hours to-day, six visitors calling themselves Vijay Pal Singh, Ram Mehar, Bhim Singh, Kurdiya, Rishan Singh and Jai Kavar shouted slogans from the visitors' gallery. The Watch & ward officer took them into custody immediately, and interrogated them. The visitors have made statements, but have not expressed any regret for their action.

I bring this to the notice of the House for such action as it may deem fit.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): Sir, with your permission, I would like to move this motion:

"This House resolves that the persons calling themselves Vijay Pal Singh, Ram Mehar, Bhim Singh, Kurdiya, Rishan Singh and Jai Kavar who shouted slogans at about 3.50 p.m. today from the visitors' gallery, and whom the Watch and Ward Officer took into custody immediately, have committed a grave offence and are guilty of the contempt of this House.

This House further resolves that they be let off with a stern warning on the rising of the House today."

I hope that in order to keep the dignity and decorum of the House, the Motion will be adopted.

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: What are the statements which they have made?

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Whatever the Chairman has to say, he has said it in the statement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Details are being looked into. But now the Minister has moved this Motion.

The question is:

"This House resolves that the persons calling themselves Vijay Pal Singh, Ram Mehar, Bhim Singh, Kurdiya, Rishan Singh and Jai Kavar who shouted slogans at about 3.50 p.m. today from the visitors' gallery, and whom the Watch and Ward officer took into custody immediately, have committed a grave offence and are guilty of the contempt of this House.

This House further resolves that they be let off with a stern warning on the rising of the House today."

The Motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now the Minister, Mrs. Sheila Kaul.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION—
Contd.

REVIEW OF HISTORY AND LANGUAGE
TEXT-BOOKS—*Contd.*

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: NCERT has given certain guidelines for reviewing school text-books; and all passages will be removed, which promote communalism, regionalism, linguism, casteism, obscurantism and superstition. And this will achieve the objective of a composite culture, as the hon. Member was saying. It will also bring in scientific temper, as referred to by the hon. Member. For

[Shrimati Sheila Kaul]

the composite culture, certain book-lets have been written for children, and the theme is national integration, and special attention is given to incorporate the ideas and concept of national integration in the textual and supplementary reading material, NCERT is doing it for school-going children.

I think it will be better for me to give the broad guidelines on which universities are to review other books—e.g. the history books.

(Interruptions)

They are that they conform broadly to the principles enshrined in the Constitution of India and in the laws of the land as was mentioned by the hon. member. That they are in conformity with the decision taken by the National Integration Council. That they conform to historical objectivity and do not present a distorted picture of the country's history. These are the guidelines which the history books of the university standard are supposed to follow.

श्री कमल मिश्र मधुकर (मोतीहारी) : आज देश में राष्ट्रीय सामाजिक, धार्मिक एकता और सहिष्णुता की सख्त जरूरत है। इस सब का आज भयंकर अभाव होना जा रहा है। देश के इतिहास को सही और वैज्ञानिक ढंग से लिखने की जरूरत निर्विवाद है। माननीय सदस्य ने बहुत अच्छा सवाल उठाया है। देश की एकता और अखंडता को अक्षुण्ण रखने के लिए यह बहुत आवश्यक सवाल है।

देश में जो आजादी का आन्दोलन चला उस में हिंसा और अहिंसा की प्रवृत्तियाँ भी चलीं। लेकिन उस सब के बावजूद आज बच्चों को प्राइमरी और उस के बाद की कक्षाओं में इस सब का ज्ञान नहीं कराया जाता है। राष्ट्रीय आजादी का आन्दोलन किस तरह

से पूरा हुआ इस का ज्ञान उन को कराया जाना बहुत जरूरी है। इतिहास केवल व्यक्ति से नहीं बनता है। वह नियमों के आधार पर बनता है। उन के आधार पर उसका निर्माण हुआ है और वह चला रहा है। हमारी इच्छाओं से उस का बिल्कुल कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं है। इतिहास में व्यक्ति की भूमिका होती है लेकिन ऐसी नहीं होती कि इतिहास के चक्र को ही वह बदल दे। कुछ व्यक्ति होते हैं जो इतिहास के चक्र को ही बदल देते हैं या बदलने में सहायक होते हैं जैसे लेनिन, कार्ल मार्क्स, गांधी आदि। ऐसे लेखकों ने जिन्होंने मध्य युगीन इतिहास लिखा या बाद का इतिहास लिखा अपनी रचनाओं में, अपने ग्रन्थों में, अपनी पाठ्य-पुस्तकों में ऐसे महात्माओं को बहू-स्थान नहीं दिया जो उनको दिया जाना चाहिये, जो तथ्य थे उन को दबाया। क्या आप नहीं समझते हैं कि इतिहास की पुस्तकों वैज्ञानिक तरीके से लिखने को प्रोत्साहन मिलना चाहिये और ऐसे लोगों की किताबों को फिर से पाठ्य पुस्तकों में शामिल किया जाय जिन्होंने इनके साथ न्याय किया है ?

क्या आप यह भी नहीं समझते हैं कि राष्ट्रीय आन्दोलन की सही और वैज्ञानिक तस्वीर बच्चों की पाठ्य पुस्तकों में लाने की जरूरत है ?

क्या ऐसी पाठ्य पुस्तकों के लेखन व. जरूरत नहीं है ताकि राष्ट्रीय एकता तमाम धर्मों के प्रति सहिष्णुता की भावना बढ़े और कम्युनलिज्म की भावना, क्षेत्रवाद जातिवाद आदि की भावना को समाप्त करने में मदद मिले ? क्या इस के बारे में कोई योजना सरकार के पास है और अगर नहीं है तो क्या किसी कालावधि के अन्दर आप ऐसी योजना बनाने जा रहे हैं ? साथ ही बच्चों में से नैराश्य की जो भावना है उस को भी दूर करने की जरूरत है।

समग्र शिक्षण व्यवस्था को एक वैज्ञानिक आधार दिए जाने की क्या जरूरत नहीं है

ताकि अंध विश्वास और कठमुल्लापन दूर हो सके ? इस दिशा में आप कौन से कदम उठाने जा रहे हैं ?

क्या शिक्षण व्यवस्था की पुनर्रचना की जरूरत नहीं ताकि वैज्ञानिक आधार पर हम आगे बढ़ सकें और गंगा स्नान या माला पहन लेने जैसे अंध विश्वासों को दूर करने में मदद मिले और हम प्रगति के पथ पर अग्रसर हो सकें और दुनिया के प्रगतिशील देश जो हैं उन के समकक्ष आ कर खड़े हो सकें, आगे बढ़ सकें ? क्या इस दिशा में भी आप कोई कार्रवाई करने जा रहे हैं ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Mukunda Mandal. After all these Members put the questions, Minister can answer.

SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL (Mathurapur): Our country is a Sovereign Socialist Secular Democratic Republic. Are we prepared to say that the socialist ideas are upheld in our text-books? You know, in our history and in some other text-books some distortions are taking place and by that national integration has been affected to a large extent. I want to know from the hon. Minister what efforts the Government are taking to correct all those distortions and mistakes and errors which have taken place in the text-books in history to cause prejudices in the minds of our people. I want to know from the Minister, as casteism is a disease in the text-books which is slow-poisoning us, whether Government is taking the necessary measures to remove all those sentiments of casteism and also the sense of communalism from the history text-books. These are the questions.

MR CHAIRMAN: Shri Satyasadhan Chakraborty.

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY (Calcutta South): Let the Minister reply to the questions.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You put the questions.

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY: Mr. Chairman, the subject which we are discussing is very important. It is supremely important that we evolve certain policies regarding our education and also the text-books. And I agree with our friend, Mr. Faleiro that the need of the hour is to fight communalism, casteism and also obscurantist ideas. You will agree that during our freedom struggle we fought for our independence, but we also fought for certain values and the most important one is harmony among our people, brotherhood, fraternity and as you know ours is a country where there are many languages, many religions and we must have a composite culture, the culture which will propagate respect for everything which is good in our country. Unfortunately, it is not during Janata regime only, even earlier to that, books which were openly propagating communal ideas were allowed to be taught in the schools. I am always in favour of objectivity, scientific evaluation, but the question is that when this operates for communalism, casteism and all these things spread with certain and in view it endangers the unity of our nation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Put the question.

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY: My question is, Mr. Chairman, when the principles are enshrined in our Constitution, particularly in the Preamble, that India is a Secular, socialist democratic Republic, why is the Government not trying to encourage teachings of socialism, and why is the Government not taking constructive steps? I am in favour of keeping Education in the State List. I am in favour of certain guidelines being given by the Central Government. Why is it that the Government is not trying to provide these guidelines? It should be done immediately. My second question is, in Aligarh

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a person who was known for his secularism has been suspended because of the movement of communal forces. The Government succumbs to the pressure of the communal forces in a university like the Aligarh Muslim University. How can that Government succumb to such pressures? Actually, you may propagate all these things. I agree with Shri Faleiro that this thing should be done. But for getting votes and for wooing the communal forces, you are doing it. My question is, when is the Government actually going to suppress the communal, casteist and obscurantist forces?

श्री मनीराम बागड़ी (हिंसार) : सभापति महोदय, मैंने आपके सामने किसानों का मामला उठाया था। आपने कहा कि आखिर मैं लेंगे। मैं बाहर चला गया था। उसके बाद उन लोगों को छः बजे तक डीटने कर दिया। अगर किसान यहाँ आ गए और हरियाणा में बिजली न मिलने के बारे में कहा,

MR. CHAIRMAN: This was the motion before the House.

श्री मनीराम बागड़ी : किसानों के साथ सारे हाउस का सम्बन्ध है। श्री रंगा की मजिदगी में तो ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिए था।

(Bombay North East)

MR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: On a point of order, Sir. Kindly see rule 355 along with rule 196. I am permitted to ask a question for the purpose of explanation. It says:

"When, for the purposes of explanation during discussion or for any other sufficient reason"—I have plenty of sufficient reasons—"any member has occasion to ask a question of another member on any matter then under the considera-

tion of the House he shall ask the question through the Speaker."

Can I ask a question? I am not asking a fresh question but only a clarification.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not allowed. The Direction is already there.

Now, the Minister.

SHRIMATI SHEILA Kaul: After the speech of the hon. member. Shri Faleiro, the other hon. members I have taken up the same points which I have already replied to. If they need to be repeated, I can repeat them. About the guidelines, I have already explained the guidelines under which the books are to be written. We are giving the guidelines according to the constitution, as Mr. Faleiro knows.

Shri Madhukar asked whether Government will review books prescribed during the previous regime. I did mention that these books are being reviewed. There is a committee and instructions have gone. The work is in progress. But since it is a stupendous task, it will take some time and some patience is needed. We hope that in the next academic year, these books, after being reviewed, will be available. Each State agency will appoint evaluators who will do these objective studies. 18 hrs.

During the review, the objectionable passages will be taken away. About communalism, regionalism, etc. I have already said that note will be taken and wherever there is mention about these things in a direct or indirect manner, those passages will be taken out.

I had spoken about the composite culture also. I think the hon. Member was not present at that time. Small booklets are available in the market for the young students. Some new books are also being printed. After reading these books the younger generation can get inspiration for national integration.

(Interruptions)