

## CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

### REPORTED ANTI-MALAYALEE AND ANTI-TAMILIAN POSTERS IN BANGALORE AND INCIDENTS IN BOMBAY

PROF. P. J. KURIEN (Mavelikara):

I call the attention of the Hon. Minister to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The reports of anti-Malayalee and anti-Tamilian posters appearing in Bangalore as also the alleged rampage against South Indian hotels in Bombay causing damage to properties."

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): Sir, according to the information received from the Government of Karnataka, posters appeared in some colleges and public colonies in Bangalore on 8th March, 1981 to the effect that Malayalees and Tamilians should be sent away from Karnataka State with in a week failing which they will be denied water, lights and rations and would be subjected to social boycott. The State Government have further informed that the matter was raised in the State Legislative Assembly on 9th March, 1981. The Finance Minister, Karnataka, while deprecating the appearance of such posters stated that the safety of linguistic minorities in the State would be ensured. He further assured the Assembly that all measures to prevent any untoward incident have been taken by the State Government. The whole matter is being inquired into by the State authorities. The State Government are earnestly engaged in maintenance of cordial relations amongst different linguistic groups and there is no sense of insecurity in the minds of linguistic minorities in that State.

15.00 hrs.

[SHRI GULSHAN AHMED in the Chair]

As regards the alleged rampage by Shiv Sena against South Indians hotels and other properties in Bombay, the facts as ascertained from the Government of Maharashtra are as follows:

On 9-3-1981 a 'Morcha' of Shiv Sena and Maharashtra Ekikaran Samity consisting of about 50,000 persons was taken to the Council Hall where the State Legislature meets. The 'Morcha' was to urge the State Government to resolve the border issue between the States of Maharashtra and Karnataka. The 'Morcha' dispersed at about 6.00 P.M. Some of the participants in the Morcha, while dispersing, pelted stones on the signboards of some shops, broke down the wooden stalls fixed to the wall and set fire to the empty racks of hawkers kept on the footpath of Dr. D. N. Road. Another section of the participants damaged the showcases at the Victoria Terminus and Church Gate Railway Stations and removed the articles displayed in the showcases. They also pelted stones at showcases at some Railway Stations in the suburbs causing minor damage. One of the shops looted was that of a South Indian.

The State Government has reported that the police resorted to mild lathi-charge at trouble spots in Dr. D. N. Road and at the Victoria Terminus Railway Station on the morchasists indulging in such activities. So far 39 persons in all have been arrested by the Bombay Police in various parts of the city. During these incidents two Police Officers including one Superintendent and four policemen sustained injuries due to stone-throwing. Offences have been registered under various sections of the Indian Penal Code for rioting and looting. The State Government have reported that calm has been restored in all areas of the city.

I would like to make it clear that the Government views these manifestations of mob hooliganism with

seriousness and such as the display of posters in Bangalore and the hooliganism in Bombay by misguided and anti-social elements should be dealt with with a firm hand. The State Government concerned, namely, Karnataka and Maharashtra have taken suitable and adequate steps to deal with the situation and will continue to do so.

**PROF. P. J. KURIEN:** First of all, I thank the hon. Speaker, though he is not in the Chair, for having permitted this, Call-Attention. This is, of course, a very sensitive and important subject. But I do not know why the priority has been changed; is it because it is thought that this is less important than the other topics? I had to give up my lunch and sit here all the time. Anyway, I crave the indulgence of this House to give me a patient hearing.

I am not raising this issue for taking any political advantage at all. I am also aware that, fortunately, these mischief-makers have not succeeded in a bigger way in Karnataka or in Bombay. But we all know that our country has suffered much due to linguistic and other caste divisions. Actually our country was divided in the name of religion. Further, at present, we see that, in the north-eastern region, class war is going on on the basis of language. In Gujarat also what is going on is a class war. I had the opportunity of visiting some parts of Gujarat, and I personally found that a lot of atrocities were being committed on the Harijans in Gujarat. Now, this is the position in the north-east and in the west. More or less, the south was free of this so far, but I am sorry to say that at present attempts are being made to spread the fire on the south also. I would not have raised this issue at all because raising the issue of the anti-Malayalee and Tamilian posters in Bangalore or what happened in Bombay will give unnecessary publicity to those miscreants. So I

would not have raised it at all. But what prompted me to raise this issue in this House in the form of a calling attention is the irresponsibility shown by those who are in position of responsibility.

Sir, language has never been a point of contact in our country in the past. But we all know where I am sorry to say, actually the Shiv Sena started in the mid-sixties. There was a national leader. He was born in Kerala and some of his colleagues wanted to fight him and wanted to defeat him. So Shiv Sena was encouraged in the mid-sixties in Bombay. That is a fact. But in other parts of the country, again I am saying and in the South and especially in Karnataka or Kerala or Tamil-Nadu these feelings were not there so much. You may be aware that in the Kerala Council of Ministers there is a Minister who is a Kannada-speaking man. Again in the Karnataka Cabinet there is a Minister who is a Malayalee-speaking man. All these are there and we are proud of that . . . . .

AN HON. MEMBER: Tamil Nadu Chief Minister.

**PROF. P. J. KURIEN:** I did not want to refer to it. Against the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, what I understand is, a pro-ganda is going on in the name of parentage but it has not been accepted by the people there. That is what I am saying. But there is that pro-ganda. But, by and large, what we are seeing in the South is that there is no such rancour as it is there in some other places. But unfortunately, the people in the political party, especially, in the ruling Party there are trying to whip up linguistic regional feelings.

I am coming to the poster issue in Bangalore. But this was preceded by two incidents. One is a public pronouncement by the Chief Minister of Karnataka about an issue that was closed or that was a non-issue. That was discussed at length and that was

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no more in the light. And that is the boundary dispute between Kerala and Karnataka—the Kasargod issue. I have no objection to the Chief Minister holding his own view but he made a pronouncement in a public meeting about that boundary dispute between the two States as if a boundary dispute between two States is more important than disputes of our national boundary itself, which we have yet to settle. We are having so many problems there but this minor point has been raised.

Secondly, we all know that there was a strike in the Bangalore public undertaking. I am not going into the merits of the case. I am not going to justify the strike or otherwise. That was not my purpose. But an attempt was made by the ruling Party in Karnataka to divide the workers on the basis of language... (Interruptions) Yes on the basis of caste and language. These two incidents and these two public positions taken by the ruling Party there indicate certain things. I do not want to bring any political thing into this, I am not saying that. I am talking on a wider basis. Sir, I am not blaming the ruling Party also. Sometimes the Opposition people also are doing these things but I can understand the Opposition doing it. But what is the purpose of the ruling Party doing it? When they themselves do it, what will be the position of the country? Anyhow the Chief Minister encouraged all this and encouraged a boundary dispute which is a non-issue. He brought it into light and created issues to the ruling Party. Then, the Students' Union President of the ruling Congress (I) there issues a statement. All this is because of the encouragement of the ruling Party and the Chief Minister of Karnataka. What is the result? The result is that the NSUI which is the organisation of the Students' Wing of the ruling Congress (I) came forward and they have displayed posters in

the City of Bangalore giving ultimatum to Tamilians and Malayalees to leave the city within one week falling which electricity will be curtailed, water will be curtailed and also they will be subjected to social boycott and rations will also be stopped. This has appeared there and it is in the name of the Congress(I), political wing of the students' union—NSUI President. Not even that... The President dares—I do not know whether he was prompted—to write to the Prime Minister of this country about whose outlook I never question and, I think it is beyond dispute. He dares to write to the Prime Minister of this country that she should take steps to evict these Keralites and Tamilians from Karnataka. What a plight it is to this country? That is what I am saying. This is all encouraged by a Chief Minister and I do not want to make comments on this because I do not want to aggravate the situation at all. But, if anybody on the other side, has doubt about this—I have got a pamphlet here which is distributed in the name of Shri F. M. Khan, M.P. whose name is also there and the name of the NSUI President is also there—I have also got the poster with me. Now, the N.S.U.I. President's name is mentioned there. This is a Congress(I) Union. You may dispute this that somebody else might have done this mischief. His name is there and it is your duty to find out under whose mischief it was done. If you refuse that N.S.U.I. has not done it or if you refutes that Congress (I) has no role in it, then, it is naturally your duty to find out who has done this. Now, the Centre is setting up Commissions of Inquiries, C.B.I. enquiry is there. Let them do that in this case also. I do not want to say anything more on this. I do not want to aggravate the situation. I do not want to fan the fire which is already there. Coming to Bombay you know what happened. You would have read the papers. In Bombay, none other than the Chief Minister of Bombay, a big leader of the Congress

(I)—he was also a Secretary of the Congress(I) before such a man should have a national outlook—is receiving the Shiv Sena. You know what they have done. You know when police has registered cases at least they arrest the people. That is not so here. Look at the attitude of the ruling party here? How do you deal with it? How are you going to solve the problem? Who has encouraged this? In Bombay, you know, we have a problem as mentioned earlier. Same is the case with regard to Gujarat. That is spread to Rajasthan. Do you want such problems in the South too? Why do you encourage all this? I do not want to take more time. I can only restrict myself to asking certain specific questions. We expect the Prime Minister also to be here. This is a very important matter and I hope the House will agree with me on this. It is in the press that the President of the NSUI, Karnataka has written..

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are still four speakers. At 15-30, there is a Private Members' business.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: You have changed the priority. Is it my fault? This should have been taken at 12 noon. Anyway I will take two or three minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are four speakers to speak. At 15-30 the Private Members' business is coming up.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: It was in the press. The N.S.U.I. President has written to the Congress (I) President such a letter against the Tamilians and Malayalees. The Congress(I) President happens to be the Prime Minister of this country and so, we are all concerned about it and it is for her to tell us whether such a letter was at all received and, if so, what is the reaction of the Prime Minister? And also what action she is going to take on such a miscreant matter in the Karnataka State. This is my first question. I appeal to the Prime Minister—both in her capacity as the Congress(I) President and the Prime Minister of the country—that she should advise her Party leaders both in Karnataka and Maharashtra not to indulge

in these cheap political stunts creating division in the country on the basis of language, caste and religion.

Coming to the Home Minister I want to know whether he is prepared to write to the Chief Ministers of the concerned States to refrain from encouraging this sort of thing. For example, there are inter-State water disputes and boundary disputes. Whether the Chief Ministers will address themselves to the fact that they will not make public pronouncements in respect of inter-State disputes without the concurrence of the Home Minister. Instead of making public pronouncements they can come to the negotiating table. I would specifically like to know from the Home Minister whether he would write to all the Chief Ministers in this respect. Secondly, what steps have been taken by the Centre to protect the minorities both in Karnataka and Maharashtra. I would also like to know whether the Government have made some enquiry through their own machinery and, if so, what steps have been initiated by the Government.

How are you going to protect both the language and caste minorities in these two States ruled by the Congress(I) Governments.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): Sir, the hon. Member throughout his speech was saying that he did not want to take any political advantage or make any allegations but I find throughout his speech he did that.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: No. I challenge it.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: You have mentioned of Congress (I) party....

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: That is a factual statement.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: The hon. Member said that some posters were pasted on the walls. I have referred to that in my state-

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ment also. Many things were attributed to Congress (I) in Gujarat also.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: I did not say about Gujarat.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: I am only giving an example. Please have patience. I just want to give an example that a raid was carried out in which some pamphlets were found from the students which were attributed in the name of Harijans just to incite the caste Hindus. This is being done by many people and many parties. Who does it? God knows....

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: How the Home Minister of a country can say that?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: You hear me.

श्री जगपाल सिंह (हरिद्वार) : जब आप को यह मालूम ही नहीं है कि यह कौन करता है, तो यह कैसे मालूम होगा ? आप कह रहे हैं कि मालूम नहीं है, आ ! को मालूम करना चाहिये ।

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: I am giving a simple example. In Gujarat it was found out from the doctors that the literature which was attributed to Harijans was in fact emanating from the caste Hindus; it was printed by them and circulated in the name of Harijans. Likewise in Karnataka also they are attributed to Congress (I) and NSUI etc., but it is not done by them. On the contrary... (Interruptions) Please hear me. I did not interrupt him. Why should he interrupt me?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has not interrupted the member when he spoke. Let him complete his reply.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: NSUI President has made a public statement. He has openly denied it.

He said he has no hand in this poster. It appeared in Deccan Herald on 12-3-81. Again it appeared in the Kannada Prabha on 12th March. He has made his position very clear saying he has no hand in these posters. Sir, I have got it verified from the Prime Minister's Secretariat, from my party office etc. No such letter is received in the name of either the Prime Minister or as Congress President in the party office. No such letter has been received. The first question which the hon. Member has put is about the letter and then he said, if the letter is received, what is the attitude and this and that. I say, there is no such letter. Therefore, the question does not arise.

Secondly, he asked a question about the public pronouncements of Chief Ministers and so on. May I point out to the hon. Member that the Chief Ministers in Kerala and West Bengal, and Tamil Nadu, also, many a time make certain public pronouncements. We have no control over the C.Ms. Of course we can advise the States. But we cannot force the State Governments. We cannot force the Chief Ministers to speak or not to speak. Also I can assure the hon. Member that in the Home Ministry there is a Communal Harmony Cell which is looking after such things. It is there in the Home Ministry itself which looks after all these matters and drawing attention of the State Governments from time to time when any such incidents happen. There is the Minorities Commission also. There is the Commissioner for Linguistic and Religious Minorities also. All these three organisations are there. One is in the Home Ministry itself, this is that Monitoring Cell. There are these other two organisations. One is the Commissioner and the other is the Commission. They also look into all these matters. Whenever there is an incident they received complaints and they enquire into them. They investigate into such matters. And they send their Reports to the Central Government. One such

Reports to the Central Government. One such report was placed on the Table of the House also.

Now, Sir, the third question which the hon. Member put is about the steps taken to stop such incidents in the States of Karnataka and Maharashtra. Sir, I can assure the hon. Members of this House that time and again we write to all the State Governments about these things. We have already written to both the State Governments to take the necessary steps in this case also.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Please clarify one point. I asked him one question; he has denied the letter. I accept it. Does it mean that all these mischiefs are done by somebody else? I asked a question. I asked this of him, not as a leader of the Congress (I) Party but as the Home Minister. If it is denied and it was not written as Congress (I) President, then, who has done it? Has he conducted any enquiry into the matter? Was any such thing done? If so, will he reveal the position to the House? (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. He is replying to it. (Interruptions)

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: So far as the question of the letter is concerned, I am coming to it. No such letter was received. So far as the question of posters is concerned, the Government of Karnataka has registered a case under Section 153-A of IPC in R. K. Puram Police Station on 10th March, 1980, Criminal Case No 90 of 81. That is in respect of posters. They are investigating into the matter. They have registered the offence; they are proceeding in the matter; once they find out the person they will punish him.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Against whom is the case?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: My dear friend, there is nobody. It is a case registered against an offence.

It might have been committed by anybody.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: My specific question is about the security of the minorities in the State. Are the Government prepared to conduct an enquiry into it with the help of the C.B.I.?

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is too general a question to answer.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Sir, this is a specific question. Otherwise what is the use giving Calling Attention Notice on this subject?

(Interruptions)

15.26 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): We have not completed the Calling Attention Notice. There are still some Members to speak on this. Thereafter, the hon. Minister has to reply. Now, it is going to be 3.30 P.M. At half-past-three you have to take up the Private Members' business.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We have got to take up the Private Members' business at 3.30 P.M. We have to sit late after 6 O'clock to finish the Calling Attention business.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: So, we can take up after 6 O'clock. The Minister for Parliamentary Affairs has to present the report of the business Advisory Committee for the next week's programme.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): I have to make a statement regarding the next week's business at 6 O'clock.

जी राज बिल्लाच पासवान (हाजीपुर) :  
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, गृह राज्य मंत्री जी ने जो सदन को बताया है और इन्होंने जो जवाब दिया है उसको पढ़ने से तो उचित लगा लेकिन इन्होंने जो सप्लीमेंट्री क्वेश्चन का उत्तर दिया है उस से ऐसा लगा है कि शायद वस्तुस्थिति को जानबूझ कर, दल के हित में नजरअन्दाज कर रहे हैं। यदि उन की इस स्टेटमेंट को पढ़ें तो उस में मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि यह मामला 9 तारीख को वहां की विधान सभा में भी उठाया गया था। वहां के फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर ने इस का जवाब दिया था। अगर इसमें कांग्रेस आई के लोगों का हाथ नहीं था तो उन्होंने ने वहां इस का कंट्राडिक्शन क्यों नहीं किया ?

यह जो पैम्पलेट निकाला गया है उस में मंत्री का नाम नागभूषण अरादिद्या और प्रेजीडेंट का नाम दिया गया है। यह मामूली बात नहीं है। जब विधान सभा में यह प्रश्न आया होगा तो वहां के मंत्री ने जानकारी जरूर की होगी। अगर थोड़ा सा भी इस में डाउट होता तो वह वहां के सदन के पटल पर कह दिया जाता लेकिन इस सारी रिपोर्ट को देखने के बाद कहीं पर यह नहीं लगता कि वहां के मंत्री द्वारा वहां पर यह कहा गया हो कि इसमें कांग्रेस आई का हाथ नहीं है। इसलिये यह लाजमी हो जाता है कि इसमें उन का हाथ है।

यह मामला एक स्टेट में नहीं कई स्टेटों में हो रहा है। असम का मामला आपके सामने है। उस की बुनियाद भी इसी आधार पर है। फिर यह मामला बंगलौर में चला। फिर बम्बई में चल रहा है। यह भाषायी आधार पर कमजोर लोगों को, पापुलेशन के आधार पर कमजोर लोगों के मन में दहसत पैदा करने वाला है। पूरे देश में इस से बहुमत पैदा हो रही है। इन सारी चीजों की निश्चित रूप से आपको ध्यान करवानी चाहिए।

इसलिए उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने यह कहा है कि गृह राज्य मंत्री जी के जवाब में श्रीर स्टेट में जो वहां मंत्री जी ने उत्तर दिया है दोनों में कंट्राडिक्शन है।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Passwan, you can continue after 6 O'clock. Now, we will take up the Private Members' Business.

15.30 hrs.

#### COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

##### SEVENTEENTH REPORT

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (Bhubaneshwar): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Seventeenth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 11th March, 1981."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Seventeenth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 11th March, 1981".

*The motion was adopted.*

15.32 hrs.

#### RESOLUTION RE: STEPS TO INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION— contd.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up further consideration of the following Resolution moved by Prof. Satya Deo Sinha on 27th February, 1981:

"In view of the fact that about three-fourth of the population of the country is dependent on agriculture and has a vital role in the economy of the country, this House recommends to the Government to give proper incentives to the farmers by reducing the prices of fertilizers, seeds and farm implements, pro-