

things. In Britain where pre-marital sex is almost very common, they have taken recourse to this method of virginity test. This is the ninth case and eight cases have already taken place. This examination by a male gynaecologist is a criminal assault on the women....

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing more. Calling Attention. Shri Bal. He is not there. Shri Kacharulal Hemraj Jain.

12.15 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED VIRGINITY TEST ON AN INDIAN WOMAN AT HEATHROW AIRPORT IN LONDON

श्री कचरुलाल हेमराज जैन (बालाघाट) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं अविलम्बनीय लोक महत्व के निम्नलिखित विषय की घोर विदेश मंत्री जी का ध्यान दिलाता हूँ और उन से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि वे इस बारे में एक वक्तव्य दें—

“लन्दन के हीथरो हवाई अड्डे पर एक भारतीय महिला का कोमल परीक्षण किये जाने के समाचार और उस पर सरकार की प्रतिक्रिया”

SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM (Tiruchirapalli): Sir, I want to make a submission regarding the Order Paper. Yesterday after Question Hour when the Members on this side wanted to raise a debate on the Chinese invasion of Vietnam, you were good enough to assure that this matter would come up for discussion in the House. Today, I find that the statement to be made by the External Affairs Minister is with regard to his visit to China and not their invasion of Vietnam.

MR. SPEAKER: A discussion about the Chinese aggression is there at 4.00 p.m. It is there in the Order Paper. Mr. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJ-PAYEE): Mr. Speaker, Sir, As the House. . .

श्री विनायक प्रसाद यादव (महरा): यह हिन्दी में दिया गया है, इसका उतर भी हिन्दी में आना चाहिए। (व्यवधान)

श्री राम बेब सिंह (महाराजगंज) : उन्होंने हिन्दी में किया है।

MR. SPEAKER: The first name in the Calling Attention is that of Mr. Bal.

MR. SPEAKER: Don't record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, if you answer anybody else, I will be in difficulty. Don't record anything.

MR. SPEAKER: Record only the Minister, nobody else.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJ-PAYEE): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the House is aware, deep feelings of indignation and concern have been aroused all over India by the gross indignity recently inflicted on an Indian lady at Heathrow Airport in Britain. We share these feelings and convey our sympathies to the victim for the humiliation she was subjected to. We applaud her courage in bringing this painful experience to our notice and thank the British paper which first called public attention to it. The only consolation is that her case has put a stop to certain obnoxious practices which were resorted to by the British officials in the name of controlling immigration from the sub-continent.

The facts of the case are as follows:—

An Indian lady, accompanied by her fiance, an Indian who has been resident in U. K. since 1962, arrived from

*Not recorded.

[Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee]

India at Heathrow Airport, London, on 24th January 1979. This lady, a school teacher, aged 35 was made to undergo a gynaecological examination because the Immigration Officer did not accept her statement that she was coming to Britain to get married. She was asked to disrobe completely and her request to be provided with a dressing-gown was refused. A male doctor entered the room some time later to conduct the examination. Greatly embarrassed, she requested that the examination, if necessary, may be carried out by a lady doctor. She was informed that no lady doctor was on duty. She had, therefore, to submit herself to a medical examination by a male doctor.

On 1st February, when the incident came to light through a report in *The Guardian*, the Indian High Commission informed us immediately. On 2nd February, a strong protest was registered both in London and in New Delhi. The British Government were informed that the lady had suffered intense shock and that a great deal of concern and resentment had been aroused in the Indian community in U.K. The public reaction in India has been, unitedly expressed, especially by women's and youth organisations. Many British MPs also deplored the shameful treatment meted out to the Indian lady.

As a result of the public outcry both in Britain and India, over this incident, the British Home Secretary gave explicit instructions the next day, viz., 2nd February, that immigration officers should not ask Medical Inspectors to examine passengers with a view to establishing whether they had borne children or had had sexual relations. On 5th February, the British Home Secretary made a statement in the House of Commons to this effect. The British Government conveyed their "deep regret" over the incident on 9th February in a letter from the British Parliamentary Under Secretary in the Foreign Office to the Indian High Commissioner in London wherein he

further stated that steps taken by the British Government would ensure that no such incident would occur again. A copy of this letter was given to the Ministry of External Affairs by the British Deputy High Commissioner on 13th February.

Enquiries reveal that gynaecological tests for fiances applying to go to Britain, which have presumably been conducted for several years, have also been occasionally carried out in India. In reply to a question in the House of Commons on 9th February, the British Parliamentary Under Secretary in the Foreign Office is quoted to have said that in the past few years there had been only two such cases in British Posts abroad. This, we regret to say, does not reflect the correct position, since it excludes another and larger category of women applicants, namely, dependents. It has been confirmed after further enquiries that there were at least 34 cases last year in New Delhi alone where the British High Commission requested medical opinion on the marital status of women applicants from a lady doctor. Following our protest, such tests for the purpose have been discontinued with immediate effect also in India.

It has also come to light that British immigration officers sometimes require X-Ray examination of applicants for entry into Britain. This question has also been taken up with the British authorities. The British High Commission have clarified that chest X-Rays are primarily for checking on TB and that X-Rays for assessment of age are normally at the wrist and called for rarely. We are examining the matter further in consultation with our own health authorities.

We have decided to make a reference at the U.N. Human Rights Commission on the racially discriminatory manner in which the gynaecological test has been employed by the British immigration authorities. The point came up in the House of Commons on 5th February when the British Home Sec-

retary was asked for figures of such test on prospective, women immigrants from a number of countries including Australia, Canada, Rhodesia and Spain. The Home Secretary replied that the information requested was not available. We intend to pursue the matter further and call on the British Government to conduct a full investigation. Britain is no doubt free to restrict immigrants and visitors from any country, but if its rules or the manner of applying them are patently discriminatory on a racial basis to our detriment, it cannot but cast a shadow on our thriving friendship as equal nations and peoples.

There can be no two opinions that the case raises serious doubts about the British Government's immigration policy. While we welcome the prompt action taken by the British Home Secretary to stop the gynaecological tests, we hope that Britain will also remove all grounds for any suspicion of racial discrimination. This case has been an affront not only to an individual but also to womanhood and to human dignity. We would urge that an atmosphere of true racial harmony be established in Britain whereby people of Indian origin can live in peace and honour in that country and visit Britain without fear of harassment and embarrassment.

श्री कचरलाल हेमराज जैन (बालाघाट) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, विदेश मंत्री जी ने जो अभी इस घटना पर अपना उत्तर दिया है हमारी भारतीय संस्कृति में कहावत है दिया तल्ले भंधेरा। लेकिन हम देख रहे हैं कि यह सूरज के तले भंधेरा है। हमारे विदेश मंत्री जी स्वयं कुंवारे हैं और जब से इन्होंने मंत्रिपद संभाला है तो सारे मुल्कों में इनको जाना पड़ रहा है। तो हमें तो यह खतरा पैदा हो गया है कि कहीं इनका परीक्षण भी शुरू न हो जाय।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, बड़ी गम्भीर बात है। हमें इस पर सोचना होगा कि यह घटना ब्रिटेन में घटी, और यह ब्रिटेन वाले हमारे भारतीयों के साथ कैसा व्यवहार करते हैं यह भारत का एक एक नागरिक जानता है। हमारे देश को 200 साल गुलाम रखने के बाद, महारानी शांसी का इतिहास हमारे सामने है उनके साथ इन्होंने कैसा बरताव किया, हमारे देशवासियों के साथ कैसा बरताव किया। और आजादी के तीस साल बाद भी जब कि हमारा देश कामनवेल्थ में हमसे दोस्ती का हाथ बढ़ाये हुये है फिर भी ब्रिटेन ऐसी अर्थनाक घटनायें करता है। पञ्जाबों में तो यह भी छपा है कि एक 65 वर्षीय महिला

के स्तनों की, जिसका दूध हमने और आपने पीया है, उसको भी मसल कर परेशान किया गया है। ऐसी भी खबरों का समाचार है। इस गंभीर घटना पर हमें बड़ी कड़ाई का रुख अपनाना चाहिये। ऐसी दोस्ती हमारे काम नहीं आयगी। यह ब्रिटेन वाले हमारे कैसे दोस्त हैं, इन्होंने संसार में कितनी धोखाघड़ी की है ?

मंत्री महोदय ने अपने ही उत्तर में बताया कि भारत में दिल्ली में इनके हाई कमिशन के द्वारा पिछले वर्ष इस तरीके के परीक्षण करने की मांग की गई। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि आपका मंत्रालय क्या कर रहा है और इंग्लैंड स्थित हमारे दूतावास के कर्मचारी क्या कर रहे हैं ? आपने इसमें कोई उल्लेख नहीं किया है। आपने ब्रिटेन की सरकार के प्रति अपना विरोध प्रकट किया, लेकिन आपके मंत्रालय में और इंग्लैंड में हमारे दूतावास में जो कर्मचारी बैठे हैं, वह क्या केवल तनब्याह ही ले रहे हैं ? मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने क्या कार्यवाही की, उन्होंने इस पर प्रकाश क्यों नहीं डाला ? ब्रिटेन के पेपर्स तो लिखें, लेकिन वहाँ के हमारे अधिकारी चैन की सांस लेते रहें, यह कहाँ तक उचित है ?

मैं इस बात को बड़ी गम्भीर घटना मानता हूँ। मेरा विदेश मंत्री और प्रधान मंत्री से निवेदन है कि हथे ब्रिटेन के इस व्यवहार के प्रति कड़ा विरोध प्रकट करना चाहिये और अविष्य के लिये उन्हें बिल्कुल चेतावनी देनी होगी कि हमें ऐसी दोस्ती नहीं पीसायेगी जैसी कि अभी तक चली आई है। अगर उन्होंने हमारे गौरव और मान व शान पर बहूरा लगाने की चेष्टा की तो हम उनको कुचल देंगे। हम ऐसी दोस्ती नहीं चाहेंगे, कामन-वेल्थ में हम इस तरीके के व्यवहार के साथ नहीं रह सकेंगे, ऐसा कड़ा विरोध प्रकट करना चाहिये, यह मेरा निवेदन है।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह मामला बहुत गम्भीर है, मैं नहीं चाहता कि मेरे अविवाहित होने के तथ्य को यहाँ लाकर इस विषय को गम्भीरता को कम किया जाये। जो कुछ हुआ, है, वह सारी दुनिया की प्रतिष्ठा और नारीत्व के लिये एक चुनौती है। हमने इसे बड़ी गंभीर दृष्टि से देखा है। प्रधान मंत्री ने स्वयं 10 फरवरी को इस सम्बन्ध में एक पत्र ब्रिटेन के प्रधान मंत्री श्री कैलहून को लिखा, मैं उसका एक अंश सदन के सामने उद्धृत करना चाहता—

"You are probably aware that the attitude of the British immigration authorities has been constantly giving rise to justifiable complaints. In this particular case, however, they seem to have broken all rules of propriety and prudence. It would be in the interest of our relation and Britain's good name if you could immediately have a thorough enquiry ordered into the unjustifiable practices adopted in the

[श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपयी]

name of immigration control and assuage public opinion both in Britain and in India."

भारत की भावनाएं इस पत्र के द्वारा बड़ी प्रखरता के साथ प्रकट की गई हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, एक अफ़्साई की बात है जिसकी ओर मैं सदन का ध्यान खींचना चाहूंगा कि जो कुछ हुआ है और होता रहा है, उसके विरुद्ध आज स्वयं ब्रिटेन में आवाज उठ रही है। ब्रिटेन में एक कमीशन ग्रान रेगियल इक्वैलिटी है। इस कमीशन ने 15 फरवरी को यह मांग की है कि

एक माननीय सदस्य : इससे पहले क्या हुआ ?

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपयी : घटना जब प्रकाश में आई, (स्वचालन)

अध्यक्ष महोदय, टोकाटाकी कर के माननीय सदस्य इस मामले में सदन की भावनाओं को ठीक ढंग से प्रकट करने में मदद नहीं दे रहे हैं।

The Chairman of the Commission, Mr. David Lane, in a letter to the Home Secretary, Mr. Merlyn Rees, has called for further public assurances to repair the damage done and to satisfy the minority communities that steps will be taken to avoid any repetition.

"Mr. Lane told the Home Secretary that from the information available today, the Commission was satisfied that there are features to the immigration laws and their administration which are racially discriminatory and, therefore, totally unacceptable to the Commission."

यह बात ब्रिटेन के कमीशन की ओर से कही गई है।

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): It is a criminal assault.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपयी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं अपने बक्तब्य में उस महिला को बघाई बंधुका हूँ इस साहस के लिए कि उसने पहली बार तप्यों का इकट्टीकरण किया, जिससे हमारा ध्यान गया, ब्रिटेन की जनता का ध्यान गया, और यह जो प्रक्रिया चल रही थी, इस पर विराम-चिह्न लग गया है।

SHRI A. R. BADRI NARAYAN (Shimoga): Sir, it is a matter of some satisfaction that the Government of Great Britain has expressed its deep regret to the Government of India about this abominable examination of Indian women when they go there as immigrants. It is also a matter of great satisfaction that they have given an assurance that in future it will not be resorted to. But, I am told, this practice has been in existence for more than six to seven years and, in fact, it is part of the policy of the British Government to have the immigrants examined gynaecologically. In that case, has this practice not come to the notice of our High Commission? Were they not aware that this practice has been resorted to for six or seven years? They should have protested against it and seen to it that it is abolished. It is only when somebody chose to inform the authorities about this matter and the news appeared in the *Manchester Guardian* that our High Commission took up the matter and protested. Why did they sleep over the matter all these years? The External Affairs Minister should explain why they did not protest against this abominable crime all these years.

In fact, this is racial discrimination. When a question was put in the House of Commons, they have very cleverly replied that they have no figures. They were afraid that if the figures were disclosed, they would reveal that only brown people were examined and not others. So, it is racial discrimination. Why were the officials of our High Commission not alert on this matter? This is a very important matter and Indian womanhood is very sensitive to such practices. So, this point must be explained by the hon. Minister.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I would like to make it very clear that our High Commissioner in London was the first to lodge a protest, as soon as. . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: He was saying that this is in existence for the last so many years.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I have already said that this was the first time that a lady... (*Interruptions*) She had the courage to come out openly and the paper reported it. Immediately we decided to take up the matter, but there is no question of. . .

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA (Begusarai): What has been done to repair the damage done to her?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: That question is being pursued separately.

MR. SPEAKER: You are creating difficulty for me by answering others also.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: It is for you to control the House.

MR. SPEAKER: This is a Calling Attention. Only five are allowed.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: As soon as the matter was brought to our notice. . .

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA (Serampore): Not to your notice, but the High Commission.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: When I say to our notice, I speak on behalf of the Government, and the High Commission is a part of the Government.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: You did not do that.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: We did, I do not accept that. We lodged a protest. A protest was lodged both in London and in New Delhi. There is no question of sleeping over the matter. This matter was not brought to our notice or to the notice of the press or the public before. The Commission has been in touch, but I would not like to say. . .

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: What is this gynaecological examination?

MR. SPEAKER: I am calling the next Member.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: My friend Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu. . .

MR. SPEAKER: Don't record anything.***

(*Interruptions*)**

SHRI A. R. BADRI NARAYAN: He has not answered.

MR. SPEAKER: He has said it did not come to their notice.

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY (Kanakapura): As earlier pointed out, a 35 year old Indian woman, a school teacher, was subjected to the virginity test at Heathrow Airport on 24th January, 1979. She went to marry a London widower, 40 years old. As you know, the Indian woman has the highest honoured place in Indian society. The action of the British immigration officials is highly condemnable by all persons of the world. This Indian woman pleaded to be examined by a lady doctor, but her request was turned down. She was subjected to barbarous treatment. Even the liberal element of the British society has protested against the internal gynaecological examination of the immigrant women. Even old ladies are being subjected to such monstrous tests to discover if they have any communicable disease. Even immigrant small children were x-rayed to ascertain their age.

I want to ask a specific question on this delicate issue. Is it a fact that eight Hindu women in 1968 were subjected to the virginity test at the same Heathrow Airport, and whether the Government of India had protested, and if so, what was the reaction of the British Government then?

***Not recorded.

[Shri M. V. Chandrasekhar Murthy]

Also, in this connection. I would like to draw the attention of the Minister to the fact that the British Government so far have not taken action against the responsible officers, i.e., Immigration officials. I also request the hon. Minister of External Affairs to take up this issue in the UNO and request the British Government to change their immigration policy, so that this abnoxious practice is put an end to. If the British Government fails to amend its immigration laws, I suggest to the hon. Minister that it is better to cut our diplomatic relations with the British Government for keeping the honour and dignity of the Indian people.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: The hon. Member wanted to know whether any cases of this nature happened in 1968 and, if so, whether any protest was lodged. I have already said that for the first time this case came to light and immediately we protested. A former junior Minister, Mr. Alex Lyon, is reported to have said that such tests had been performed in Dacca even in 1968....

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: What a consolation!

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: It is not a matter of consolation. India, Bangladesh and Pakistan are united on this question.

MR. SPEAKER: You are walking into his trap.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: It is a matter of racial discrimination.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar): Do they form part of the Immigration Rules?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: If a question is put, I will answer that.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: He is answering many other interruptions. Let him answer this interruption also.

MR. SPEAKER: That is the difficulty.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Are there any rules for this kind of test under the Immigration Rules?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: There are no such rules.

Mr. Lyon is reported to have said recently:

"They did it frequently in Dacca to discover whether a women was or was not virgin if she claimed to be a wife. I told them that they have to stop it...."

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Jadavpur): It was done only to insult us.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: He referred to 1968. That is why I am answering to that.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Don't make a simple thing complicated....

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Don't record.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** *(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER: This is a Call Attention notice. The difficulty arises when the Minister answers some interruptions and does not answer other interruptions. It is a rule that on Call Attention notice no interruptions are to be answered. This is not a debate at all. *(Interruptions)* Don't record. Mr. Jyotirmoy osu wants to interfere in every matter.

*(Interruptions)***

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
A definite question has been put and I am trying to reply to that (*Interruptions*) Can't we discuss this question in an orderly manner? I am really surprised. We share your agitation; we share your indignation. But this is not the way to conduct the debate in the House. A definite question has been put and I am trying to give a reply to that question. If there are other questions, I am willing to give replies.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA:
Sir, may I seek one clarification?

MR. SPEAKER: If it is a proper motion, if you want to discuss it that is a different matter. We are now on a Call Attention notice. We must stick to the rule. If a debate is needed, that is a different matter. On a Call Attention notice, I do not allow.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA:
We are not seeking a debate on this Call-Attention; we know the limited scope of a Call Attention Motion. But you would certainly agree with us in this matter that we have to be satisfied with regard to certain aspects of this delicate matter....

MR. SPEAKER: Who is to judge it? Every Member thinks that he is not satisfied. If you are not satisfied, there are other methods to be invoked.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAUGATA ROY (Barrack-pore): It is not a question of Indian women alone. It is a question of our relationship with Britain, whether we should stay in the Commonwealth or not. Why don't you say that you will allow a full-fledged discussion on this?

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA:
If the answers given by the Minister are not clear to the Members, then is it not the duty of the Chair to ask the Minister to give clear and definite answers?

MR. SPEAKER: The whole difficulty is that, even before he makes a statement, hundreds of interruptions are made. If the answer is not to the point, then it is the duty of the Speaker to ask him to answer to the point. But the difficulty is that at every stage, whenever a Member puts a question, other Members also put their questions. (*Interruptions*) Whenever it is not clear—I know my duty—I will attend to it.

SHRI K. GOPAL (Karur): May I make a submission. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Every Member thinks that he has an important point to make. I understand and appreciate the importance of the point. But there is a limitation here; we cannot have a debate.

SHRI K. GOPAL: My submission is this. This Call Attention is confined only to a particular incident where a school teacher was involved. What we want is a discussion on the wider question of relationship with Britain. Our request to you is to allow a full-fledged discussion on this.

MR. SPEAKER: That is a different matter. That will be appropriately considered.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
Under the rules, the medical test is permitted. But there is no specific rule about the gynaecological test. The whole trouble is that the guidelines which should have been issued....

AN HON. MEMBER: By whom?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
Of course, by the British Government. They have not been issued so far. That is why, we had taken this question, and the practice has been stopped. I was referring to 1968 simply because the hon. Member had referred to that year.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Ram Gopal Reddy.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record.

Mr. Ram Gopal Reddy.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY (Nizamabad): I want to know from the hon. Minister whether they have studied the immigration rules of Britain or not. For the last one month a lot of protest has been raised not only in our country but throughout the world and the British Parliament is also seized of it.

I want to know whether our Indian High Commissioner there has studied the rules and, if somebody has exceeded the rules, has the British government taken any action against those officers and have they at least been suspended?

Sir, the chastity of Indian women is something supreme and is dearer to her more than her life....

SHRIMATI AHILYA P. RANGNEKAR (Bombay North-Central): Why Indian women, for all women.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: To protect the honour of our womanhood, the bloodiest wars of history were fought in this ancient land like the wars of Mahabharata and Ramayana. When such wars were fought on this soil and on account of our association with them, the British know our feelings, it is atrocious that they should subject our women to such indignities and humiliation.

I want to know whether the Government is going to be content simply with the protest they have lodged and the apology or regret they have given. The Government has got to do something more. Will the hon. Minister kindly tell us if the Government is

going to tell the British Government that for this violation of the cherished principles of our country, we are going to take some serious action like our dissociation from the Commonwealth because it is only Indian women who have been subjected to such tests and not any other women. Will the Government lodge such a strong protest with the British government?

I am satisfied with one aspect, that the Prime Minister himself has taken interest in the matter....

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU. Get out of the shackles of the Commonwealth.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: But he should have included one more sentence which he has not done, that for this sort of treatment, the Indian government is thinking of dissociating itself from the Commonwealth. Sir, the Commonwealth is there because we are there. India out of Commonwealth, there will be no Commonwealth and it will be broken, and this is the desire of the entire people of this country.

I want a direct reply from the hon. Minister.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: I am on a point of order. I rise before the Minister replies, because Mr. Reddy is the last questioner and after that, the matter will be over....

MR. SPEAKER: That is not a point of order.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: My point of order will come at this stage because after this, the matter will be over.

Earlier in his reply to the various questions hon. Minister for External Affairs quoted from a letter of the hon. Prime Minister of our country to the British Prime Minister. My point of order is: would you not direct him,

*Not recorded.

on the basis of the established practice that the letter from which he has quoted the paragraph, the entire communication should be placed on the Table of the House....

SHRI ATAL BHARI VAJPAYEE: I am prepared to do so.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: I would suggest, apart from that letter, all other documents and communications that passed between our government and the British government on this matter must be placed on the Table of the House so that the country may know what exchanges of communications took place between our government and the British government on this vital matter.

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a point of order. It is up to the government to place it on the Table of the House so that the entire country may know. Even if he quotes a particular portion of a letter, it is not the rule that he should place it.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: But the Minister is prepared to do that.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Under the normal circumstances, when a woman patient goes to a gynaecologist for examination, her consent has to be taken....

MR. SPEAKER: That is not a point of order. You want to make a speech and I am allowing that.... (*Interruptions*). Everybody wants to make a speech under the garb of point of order.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: About the immigration law, according to the law, the officials are....

MR. SPEAKER: You had been a senior Minister for a number of years, you should know this is not a point of order.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: He is not answering that.

MR. SPEAKER: He would not answer it. I am not going to allow him to answer that.

Mr. Minister, have you got anything more to say?

PROF. SAMAR GUHA (Contd): I am not on a point of order. Half a minutes submission.

MR. SPEAKER: No, please. Kindly excuse me. I have not allowed anybody at all.

PROF. SAMAR GUHA: This is a matter which is exercising the whole mind of the Indian people.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Guha, this is a calling attention.

PROF. SAMAR GUHA:**

MR. SPEAKER: Don't record.

(*Interruptions*)**

Please answer only the questions by Shri Ram Gopal Reddy and nothing more. Mr. Guha, you have not been recorded. Why are you unnecessarily troubling yourself?

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: I want to raise a point of order which concerns the prestige of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: About what?

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: I am raising the question of virginity. I am questioning the statement which he is going to make on which I rise on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: That has not yet come. We have not yet crossed the bridge. You do that when it comes. Mr. Minister, please answer only Shri Ram Gopal Reddy's questions. The rest is not yours.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
What is your ruling on the points of orders raised?

MR. SPEAKER: The points of orders have been ruled out.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
Sir, as I said, first of all, the rules do not specifically lay down that the passengers who alight at the Heathrow Airport will be subject to a gynaecological test.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Medical test.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Bosu, you are interrupting every minute. Half the time of the House is taken by you. There must be some orderliness Mr. Bosu.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
Sir, we have demanded a full enquiry into the whole matter and I am happy to say that this demand has been supported by British Members of Parliament.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Very good.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
The Race Relations Action Group Chairman, Mr. John Tillay, M.P. said and I quote:

"The recent revelation are only a small part of the system of inhuman and humiliating procedures which the would-be immigrants have to undergo."

He had also demanded an inquiry into the Immigration Service following the row over the virginity test over Asian woman. My friend also has asked about the question whether India will leave the Commonwealth or not.

Sir, the Commonwealth is no longer British. It is a multi-national, multi-racial multi-religious, multi-lingual Association of free countries. Instead of leaving the Commonwealth, India would like to enlist the support of all those countries whose citizens are

likely to be humiliated by the wrong implementation of the Immigration Laws.

12.57 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS, BILL AND RESOLUTIONS

TWENTY-SEVENTH REPORT

श्री राम बिलास पासवान (हाजीपुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपकी अनुमति से गैर-सरकारी सदस्यों के विषयको तथा संकल्पों सम्बन्धी समिति का 27वां प्रतिवेदन प्रस्तुत करता हूँ।

MR. SPEAKER: If the House so pleases, I shall permit the Minister to make the statement so that it will be useful for the debate a 4 O' Clock.

12.58 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS' VISIT TO CHINA

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): Mr. Speaker Sir.....

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR (Trivandrum): rose.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Govindan Nair has a point of order.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, our Foreign Minister who was on tour in China had to cut short his journey and come back. But, unfortunately, after the whole question has been discussed everywhere else, he has now come out with this statement. I think this is an insult to the House that he did not immediately come to this House and report both about Chinese aggression and about his visit to China. We are the direct representatives of the people. On topical issues which agitate the mind of the entire people,