

REPLY.

RE. NOTICE OF MOTION FOR APPOINTMENT OF A COMMISSION OF INQUIRY TO GO INTO ALLEGED LAND DEAL IN UTTAR PRADESH

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Idukki): Before you pass on to the next item, there is a matter to which I would like to draw the attention of Government through you.

I had given notice of a statutory motion under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, which is pending with you. I had expected the Finance Minister to make a statement today here, even as he made a statement in the Rajya Sabha.

MR. SPEAKER: I have not asked him to.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: My motion, as you know, is for a Commission of Inquiry against Shri Charan Singh and his relatives with respect to certain deals which are talked about.

Mr. Charan Singh had taken the position earlier in his letter to the Prime Minister, that if there was any allegation against his relatives, a Commission of Inquiry must be appointed immediately. I do not know why Government did not accept it and go ahead with it. Subsequently in the Rajya Sabha he has gone on record saying that these deals can be enquired into, and if it is found that he has got any connection with them, he is prepared to resign. That statement he has made.

Here is a Minister who wants to get cleared, asks for an enquiry, and here is a Government which refuses to make that enquiry. Therefore, I want a policy statement from the Government whether they are prepared to institute an enquiry as asked for by us and as asked for by the Finance Minister.

There are two aspects to this question. I am not going into the details

of this matter of this land deal in U.P. One is Mr. Charan Singh says that the deal is disgusting. He has said this is absolutely unacceptable. He went to the extent of saying, "cancel the deal". Therefore, he concedes that in his judgment there is something fishy about the deal, and he goes further and says "annul the deal".

The persons who are involved are public servants under the definition of the Anti-Corruption Act, and an enquiry is necessary. Now, a further revelation has come to the effect that the evaluation was made by the Evaluation Officer, which means that the Evaluation Officer also comes into the picture. A complete conspiratorial picture is emerging. So, an enquiry is absolutely necessary. It cannot be escaped.

As far as Mr. Charan Singh is concerned, a question arises. Rupees nine lakhs was the price fixed for three acres of land. I would like to know whether in the returns filed before the Income-tax Officer, this particular property was mentioned, whether this Rs. 9 lakhs was mentioned, and if so, whether Wealth Tax has been paid on it. If Wealth Tax has not been paid on it, there is a clear case prosecution, against the assessee for suppressing this wealth.

What has happened subsequently? Subsequently they say the deal is cancelled. I do not know if it can be cancelled. Anyway Mr. Charan Singh orders "cancel the deal"; Mr. Charan Singh orders "return the money"; and the money is returned; Rs. 9 lakhs or a part of the money is returned. It has been said that between the nephew and Mr. Charan Singh there is no connection, they are living separately, there is no economic connection. A person who is not connected with another person economically comes in and pays out the money of the bid. The inference is irresistible that the deal is *benami*.

MR. SPEAKER: You are making a statement long before the matter has been admitted.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: So, I want a statement from the Government, whether they are prepared to institute an enquiry as requested by Mr. Charan Singh, as demanded by Members of Parliament and as I am demanding here on the floor of the House and if they are not prepared to institute an enquiry, I would beseech of you to give us an early opportunity to discuss this particular motion.

Finally, if they refuse to institute an enquiry, the inference will be irresistible that they are refusing it because they fear that that would be opening the Pandoras box, meaning thereby an enquiry into the other deal, I mean the deal of Kanti Desai about which also a motion is pending with you. That would be pressed, and in order to save him, they are refusing to have this enquiry. Such an inference will be irresistible.

So, I call upon the Government to make a statement whether they will institute an enquiry, and I appeal to you if they do not, to give this House an early opportunity to discuss this matter. Do not place us under the constraint of silence. Give us an opportunity.

MR. SPEAKER: Matters under Rule 377.

श्री राम विलास पासवान (हाजीपुर): अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है। ग़राब-बन्दी की नीति के विरुद्ध नयी नयी दूकानें खोली जा रही हैं।

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a point of order. (*Interruptions*) Don't record.

SHRI RAJ KRISHNA DAWN (Burdwan):**

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:**

SHRI VINAYAK PRASAD YADAV (Saharsa): (Interruptions).**

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is recorded. Shri Vijaykumar N. Pati—not present.

Shri Baldev Singh Jasrotia.

12.46 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) PROBLEMS OF REFUGEES IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR.

SHRI BALDEV SINGH JASROTIA (Jammu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to raise the following matter under Rule 377.

The Division of the country gave the problem of refugees in this country on a very large scale. The Congress Government could not solve it for 30 years, rather passed it on to times to come.

In Jammu and Kashmir, the problem is very acute. Thousands of refugees like 1947, 1965 and 1971 and even Tibetan refugees of 1962 are facing problems. The State Government was not honest in solving the issue; rather handling has been poor. Even Central Government was not so active in this connection, as expected of a good Government. Anyway, for the solution of their just demands, the refugees started satyagraha both at Delhi and Jammu from 19th February and 1st March, 1979 respectively as a result of which some of them are in Tihar Jail and are on hunger strike for the mal-treatment which they are getting in Jail. There is discrimination going on in the Jail. They are not treated as political prisoners. The condition of two of them is serious as per information received. I hope, the Government will call for an immediate suitable action in this behalf to solve all these problems.