

**CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO U. S. Q.
NO. 3854 DATED 20.3.1969 RE. AD-
VANCE INCREMENTS TO ENGI-
NEERING SUPERVISORS IN
ALL INDIA RADIO**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING, AND IN THE DEPART-
MENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI
I. K. GUJRAL) : In answer to Unstarred
Question No. 3854, dated 20th March, 1969
it was stated :

- (a) In P&T Department, the grade of
Engineering Supervisor is Rs. 180-
10-290-EB-15-380. But persons who
are Engineering graduates when first
appointed to this grade or become
Engineering graduates while in service
in this grade are allowed three
advance increments or an increase
of pay upto Rs. 240/- p.m., which-
ever is more beneficial. In All
India Radio, the lowest grade to
which Graduate Engineers are
appointed is that of Assistant Engi-
neers which is Class II gazetted
post in the scale of Rs. 350-25-500-
30-590-EB-30-800 EB-30 830-35-900.
It is not correct that Graduate
Engineers start on a salary of
Rs. 210/- in All India Radio. This
is the starting salary of Engineering
Assistants who are not Graduate
Engineers.

(b) Does not arise.

The Correct Position is, however, as under :

- (a) In P&T Department, the grade of
Engineering Supervisors is Rs. 180-
10-290-EB-15-380. But persons who
are Engineering Graduates when
first appointed to this grade or
become Engineering Graduates while
in service in this grade are allowed
three advance increments or an
increase pay upto Rs. 240/- per
month whichever is more beneficial.
Graduate Engineers who are
appointed to the grade of Engineer-
ing Assistant in A. I. R. are not
given any advance increments and
their basic pay is fixed at Rs. 210/-
in the scale of pay of Rs. 210-10-
290-15 320-EB-15-425-EB-15-470.

(b) Rs 210/- is the starting salary of

Engineering Assistant in All India
Radio irrespective of whether they
are Graduate Engineers or not.
There is no provision for granting
advance increments to Engineering
Assistants who are Graduate Engi-
neers.

To that extent the reply stands amended.

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12.10 hrs.

**CALLING-ATTENTION TO MATTER OF
URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

Closure of BBC unit in India

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA
(Barh) : Before I read out the calling-
attention-notice, may I make one submis-
sion ? Earlier, there was a practice of dis-
tributing the statement in reply to the
calling-attention notice, a few minutes
earlier, but it seems that that practice has
not been continued today. I understand
that it has been distributed just now. At
least the person who tables the notice must
be allowed to have the copy earlier. I
would, therefore, request that this may be
taken up after some time...

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH (Buxar) :
It is an incompetent Government.

SHRI BALRAJ MADHOK (South-
Delhi) : Let him read out the statement.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (उज्जैन) :
अध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे वक्तव्य की हिन्दी प्रति
नहीं मिली है।

AN HON. MEMBER : The statement
has come too late.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : I am
ready to read out the statement in reply to
the calling-attention.

MR. SPEAKER : The complaint is that
the reply has been circulated only just now.
So, I think the hon. Minister may read it
out.

श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी (भोपाल) :

अध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय सदस्य, श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय, को मन्त्री महोदय के वक्तव्य का हिन्दी अनुवाद मिलना चाहिए।

SHRI HEM BARUA (Mangaldai) : On a point of order. Besides the fact that the statement was supplied late, may I submit that this notice was tabled by certain other Members but they were told that it had not been selected? But now I find that this is there on the Order Paper. If it was not selected when it was tabled by some Members like Shri Nath Pai and myself, how is it that it has been selected for today?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : Unfortunately, our names also did not come. But I have compromised with it. But he has not.

SHRI BALRAJ MADHOK : We were told that it had been selected but the date had not been specified.

MR. SPEAKER : I have the file here before me, and I find the names of the hon. Members are there in the ballot...

SHRI HEM BARUA : I do not quarrel about the name not coming. I do not bother about my name not coming in the list. But what I bother about is this. Shri Nath Pai and I had tabled this, but we were informed that this calling-attention-notice had not been selected by you. But we find that it has been selected now.

MR. SPEAKER : On that day, it was kept pending in view of a much more important notice already there. I kept it pending and I accepted it only yesterday. I did not reject it, but I kept it pending. It was balloted yesterday, and the hon. Member's name was also there.

SHRI HEM BARUA : The nuns intervened possibly.

MR. SPEAKER : The ballot was there, and the hon. Member's name was also there in it.

SHRI HEM BARUA : Probably my stars were not auspicious and therefore, my name could not come.

श्री कंवरलाल गुप्त (दिल्ली सदर) : माननीय सदस्य को पूजा करवानी चाहिए, सत्यनारायण की कथा करवानी चाहिए। तब इन का नाम आयेगा।

SHRI HEM BARUA : I did not bother about the name not being there. But what I bother about is that we were told that day that it had not been selected, but now we find that it has been selected.

श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री महोदय का वक्तव्य काफी लम्बा है लेकिन उस की हिन्दी प्रति नहीं दी गई है। 'इस ध्यानाकर्षण प्रस्ताव का नोटिस देने वालों में श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय का नाम भी है। हिन्दी प्रति न होने के कारण वह कैसे सवाल करेंगे?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जब मंत्री महोदय अपना स्टेटमेंट पढ़ें, तो माननीय सदस्य ईश्वरफोन से उसका हिन्दी ट्रांसलेशन सुन लें।

श्री कंवरलाल गुप्त : अध्यक्ष महोदय, आप दो तीन बार कह चुके हैं कि यह स्टेटमेंट 11 बजे तक सदस्यों को मिलना चाहिए, लेकिन फिर भी वह हमेशा देर से मिलता है। इसका कोई इलाज होना चाहिए। आप इन को जरा खींचिये।

MR. SPEAKER : This was admitted yesterday, and if the information could not be given in time, I should have been informed so that I could inform the members about it. In future, I would again like that the statements must come before an hour.

Now he might read it so that other members may also hear it, and then questions might be asked.

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA : I call the attention of the Minister of External Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon :

"The reported expulsion of the BBC Correspondent and the decision to close down BBC unit in India."

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : Before making the statement, may I express my regret and apology for the delay in distribution of the statement. Some delay did take place ; it was not prepared in time. I assure you in future it will not happen.

The House is aware that in recent months there has been dissatisfaction and adverse comment in the country, in the press and in the Parliament about BBC TV having shown several films which portray India, its life and culture in a tendentious and distorted manner.

In the month of June, the BBC showed a colour film called "Calcutta" on the 10th, directed and produced by Louis Malle, and another colour film called "The Bewildered Giant", by Dom Moraes on 23rd June.

Our High Commission in London received a large number of letters from Indians and others in Britain expressing their concern at these films being derogatory too and highly biased against India. Our High Commission on 1st July wrote to the BBC, and also spoke to the British Foreign Office bringing to their attention the distorted and unfair image of India projected by these films. It was also pointed out that showing of such films was not conducive to the promotion of good relations between India and the U. K. The U. K. Foreign Office, while appreciating our point of view, expressed their inability to intervene in the matter as, according to them, the BBC was an autonomous Corporation. Instead of appreciating our approach the BBC wrote to our High Commission and made the impertinent remark that Louis Malle's film "Calcutta" did not give the impression that "India is unredeemable as such".

Notwithstanding our representations, the BBC TV on 22nd July started showing a serialised film of seven parts, called "Inde Fantome" (Ghost of India), also by Louis Malle. In the context of the two earlier films shown in June, the impact of the new series was one of injury and insult to the feelings about India in the minds of those who saw them.

On 3rd August, our High Commissioner spoke about this matter to senior officials of the British Foreign Office, and wrote to the Director-General of the BBC, requesting them to consider discontinuing the Louis Malle series in the interest of Indo-British goodwill and understanding.

The British Foreign Office appreciated our feelings and agreed that programmes which come in the way of cooperation between the two countries should not be projected, but repeated their plea that BBC was an autonomous body. Our High Commissioner indicated, at a high level, to the U. K. Foreign Office on 3rd August that the functioning of the BBC representative in India would become not only superfluous but harmful if such programmes continued to vitiate the minds of the British people against India.

The reply from the BBC Director-General dated 5th August was unsatisfactory and suggested that they had no intention of suspending the screening of this film. Thereafter, we informed the U. K. High Commission in New Delhi on 7th August that failure by the BBC to understand and respect India's feelings in the matter and their refusal to stop further showing of the series would lead us to the conclusion that further functioning of the BBC in India was neither necessary nor desirable.

While these discussions were going on, the BBC continued screening the serials of the Louis Malle series one after the other, every week from 22nd July onwards.

After they had shown the fourth part of the serial, despite our strong representations the Government served notice, both orally and in writing, on 14th August, on the BBC representative and correspondent in India, asking him to wind up his operations here in a fortnight's time. The UK High Commissioner in New Delhi was kept informed and so were UK and BBC authorities in London, through our High Commissioner there.

On 18th August, the U. K. High Commissioner here transmitted a number of proposals, made by the BBC, to resolve the situation. These included the despatch of a high level emissary by the BBC to India to discuss the situation. But simultaneously they informed us through our High Commissioner in London that the Board of Governors of the BBC had, after full consideration, decided not to stop the series. Government of India suggested that instead of a high-level representative of the BBC coming here, BBC's discussions should be conducted with our High Commissioner in London.

The BBC representatives have had several discussions with our High Commissioner, in which they have refused to meet our basic request that the further screening of this series be stopped.

In view of BBC's refusal to stop further showing of the series, Government have informed the U. K. High Commissioner here and the BBC authorities in London that Government's decision which was conveyed on 14th August, 1970, that the BBC operations in India should cease from 29th August, 1970, will now be enforced.

I should like to say that this decision of the Government does not mean that we have any animus against the British Government or people; on the contrary, we value their friendship and do not wish such misrepresentations of our life and culture, as in this series of films, to adversely affect our relations.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai) : Louis Malle should have been arrested when he was here.

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA : Nobody can take any objection to the effort of the Government of India which wants to uphold the prestige and dignity of this country and to discourage scurrilous attacks on the prestige of the people of this country and the country itself. I commend the action of the Government of India so far as this matter is concerned, but I would like to ask what the policy of the Government is. Is it that the Government of India decides a policy varying from country to country, because when other radios have been making scurrilous attacks on the people of India, on our political parties, on the dignitaries of this country and even most respectable institutions like the Supreme Court, the Government of India accepted the bland explanation of a country like the Soviet Union that it is not within their jurisdiction, that the Radio Peace and Progress is a free institution and they can do anything? Agreeing with what the Government of India has done in this case, I would like to ask specifically why their policy varies from country to country, why the Government of India maintains a double standard.

Secondly, I would like to ask the Government if there is any reciprocity about this. When the International Film Festival was

organised here, films not conducive to our national interests, actually affecting the interests of the nation, affecting the morals of the nation, were shown. It was said that it was a free festival and the films were neo-realistic which is in vogue in the world, and, therefore, these films should be shown. All the boys and girls and teen-agers were going and seeing the pictures. (*Interruptions.*) Including Mr. Kalita. I had seen Mr. Kalita there a number of times.

AN HON. MEMBER : He is not a teen-ager.

SHRI HEM BARUA : Even Members of Parliament went there.

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA : Of course. I know that certain Members of Parliament are in their second childhood, I have no wonder.

These films had been shown here on the plea that that they were realistic pictures in vogue in the world. The Government did not at all realise at that time that those films were not conducive or good to the spirit and the culture of our national life. Instead of banning such films, the Government went out of their way to provide hospitality to those producers, including the gentleman whose film they are now objecting. I understand that when Mr. Malle came here he was shown all the courtesy and given all the encouragement for producing the documentaries. I would have liked them to have told the producers who come here to make documentaries that the films made by them would be subject to pre-censorship before being shown abroad. That would have been understandable. Now the Government take this attitude in respect of one particular broadcasting corporation, while that standard is not maintained in respect of the Moscow Radio Peace and Progress which made a damaging and scurrilous attack on our Supreme Court, the highest judicial body in our country and one of the most fundamental institutions in our national life. The Government did not bother and when we asked a question they said that they protested and that that was the end of the matter. Why should there be this kind of discrimination between two radios, two broadcasting institutions? Why should there be this kind of complete subservience to one Government? Why do they not even allow them to

[Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha]

take up this question and discuss it? From the statement of the hon. Minister it appears that the British Government put forward a number of proposals made by the BBC to resolve the difference, including the proposal to send a high level emissary of the BBC to India to discuss the situation. The Government should have in fact agreed to see that deputation and could have at least waited for that deputation because whatever they may say about such steps not affecting the relationship between the two people; they certainly affect such relationship.

Secondly, they want to avoid Mr. Molle's film being shown and limit its circulation. The whole thing has gone away and Mr. Molle's film will now be the most popular film and will be shown in the whole world; it had been given a boost up by this kind of action of the Government of India. I would have understood the Government trying to persuade the BBC not to show this film when their representative came here. All these things could have been discussed and pre-censorship could have been brought into existence (*Interruptions.*)

SHRI V. KRISHNAMOORTHY (Cuddalore): Is she putting the question for the BBC?

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: Are you the spokesman for the Government? I know what I am asking and you better show patience and listen to me? Nobody has appointed you the legal guardian... (*Interruptions.*)

SHRI V. KRISHNAMOORTHY: On a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sitting here to judge everything; you leave it to me. Why are you so much worried about it.

SHRI V. KRISHNAMOORTHY: I am raising a point of order under rule 376 for your consideration. You may rule it out but yet it is a point of order. The question to be asked should be one relevant to the subject before the House. The question now is whether the Government of India have taken steps to stop the BBC functioning in India. It is not connected with Radio Peace and Progress.

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra): He does not know his ABC, and so how is he going to understand the BBC? You give him a translation later on. (*Interruption.*)

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: I raised this question because the decision of the Government of India cannot be a decision on the basis of *ad hocism*. The decision of the Government of India is a decision which affects every decision of the Government of India, and that is why I have raised the question of discrimination between one broadcasting corporation and another broadcasting corporation.

Secondly, I asked the question whether the Government of India is still going to meet the BBC deputation or whether the talks with the BBC deputation have been cancelled and whether the Government of India has taken the decision to stop such institutions if they indulge in scurrilous attacks on our people, on our countrymen, on our institutions so far as any country or any broadcasting is concerned. I would like to have a specific answer.

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH: The hon. Member has asked a number of questions, and shall try to answer all of them. The first question asked by the hon. Member is whether we have used some persuasive methods with the BBC before taking this action, because it is unnecessarily giving publicity to this whole activity. As I have already said in the statement, I have made it perfectly clear that we took up this matter with the BBC on a number of occasions when we were discussing it since July last. We did our best to persuade them to give up the whole programme and cancel it. But as I said, they turned down our request and rejected our proposal, and that is why we were forced to take this action.

As to the main question about the Government of India applying double standards and varying our policies regarding broadcasts by different countries, obviously the hon. Member is referring to the broadcast by Radio Peace and Progress.

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: Radio Moscow and the attack on the Supreme Court. (*Interruption.*)

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : Here, a distinction has to be made between broadcasts which criticise our political leaders and our political life in the country and broadcasts which malign our whole nation and denigrate the whole country. (*Interruption*) Broadcasts over Radio Peace and Progress, as we have said in the past, (*Interruption*)—they may be undesirable.

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA : Kindly reply to the points I have raised.

श्री कंवर लाल गुप्त : आपकी यूनीफार्म पालिसी होनी चाहिए। सुप्रीम कोर्ट के बारे में आपको क्या कहना है, क्या देश की मर्यादा के साथ उसका सम्बन्ध नहीं है।

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE rose— (*Interruption*.)

MR. SPEAKER : Order, order. Mr. Banerjee, Mr. Kanwar Lal Gupta and Mr. Sheo Narain—three of you are always interrupting.

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : What I was trying to submit is that a distinction has to be made between the nature of broadcasts which are relayed by Radio Moscow and Radio Peace and Progress, and this kind of thing which is before us now. In this particular programme,—the BBC films—the whole nation and the whole country has been maligned and denigrated, and what they have depicted in those films is really shameful, (*Interruption*.) I am prepared to say that if the same kind of thing happens in Russia or elsewhere, the Government will take similar action. (*Interruption*.)

SOME HON. MEMBERS rose—

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Banerjee, I am prepared to control Mr. Mody if you keep sitting. It is not for you to control him.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : With great difficulty he rises every time.

SHRI PILOO MODY : Whenever I rise he should sit down immediately knowing the difficulty I have.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA rose—

MR. SPEAKER : What is wrong with you ? (*Interruption*.) There is a very troublesome sector in front of me.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : This is the public sector ; that is a private sector.

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : The hon. Member also asked a question about certain films which were exhibited in the Film Festival in India. This question does not arise out of the question before the House. If she tables a separate question on it, if she poses a question to the relevant Ministry, she can get the information.

The other question which she put right at the very end was, whether we are prepared to carry on our discussion and negotiations with the BBC over this question. Here, I might inform the House that BBC has already taken a decision not to cancel this programme ; in fact they have finished the entire programme. So, the question of carrying on discussion with them does not arise.

SHRI PILOO MODY : I insist on seeing this film.

AN. HON. MEMBER : Let him go to London to see it ; not here.

श्री शशि भूषण (खारगोन) : अव्यक्त महोदय, यह बहुत बड़ा प्रश्न है इसके सम्बन्ध में सरकार ने जो कदम उठाया है, उसके लिए मैं सरकार को मुबारकबाद देता हूँ लेकिन दो-तीन प्रश्न मैं सरकार से पूछना चाहता हूँ। जब गोआ में भारतीय सेनाओं ने पुलिस एक्शन किया, उस समय बी० बी० सी० ने जो नाटक खेला—मिसाल के तौर पर डीम-मोरेस नामक व्यक्ति को टी०बी० पर ले गए और उसने अपना भारतीय पासपोर्ट वहाँ पर जलाया और कहा कि चूँकि भारत ने अतिक्रमण किया है, इस लिए मैं आज से भारतीय नागरिक नहीं हूँ, पिछले दिनों जब अहमदाबाद में हिन्दु-मुस्लिम राएट्स हुए और उधर रव्वात में कान्फ़ेस हो रही थी, उस समय बी० बी० सी० ने इतनी शर्मनाक बातें कही थीं कि उसके विरोध में हिन्दुस्तान के नौजवानों में 16

[श्री शशि भूषण]

नवम्बर को बी० बी० सी० के दफ्तर पर डिमोंस्ट्रेशन किया और सरकार से दरखास्त की कि इस को फौरन बंद किया जाय। इतना ही नहीं जब हिन्दुस्तान और पाकिस्तान की लड़ाई चल रही थी, मैं उन दिनों लन्दन में मौजूद था। उस समय इस बी० बी० सी० ने यहां कनाट-प्लेस में जितनी टूटी हुई बिल्डिंग थी, उन को वहां दिखाते हुए कहा कि हिन्दुस्तान की राजधानी तहस नहस हो गई है, फ्रांस और दूसरे मुलकों में, हर भाषा में, हिन्दुस्तान के खिलाफ प्रचार किया, हिन्दुस्तान के दुश्मनों की मदद करते रहे। लेकिन अफसोस यह है कि आज भी हिन्दुस्तान में ऐसे लोग मौजूद हैं जो प्रजातन्त्र के नाम पर, फ्रीडम आफ प्रेस के नाम पर उसके पक्ष में बातें करते हैं। मैं अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि अंगोला, मोजम्बिक और साउथ एफ्रीका को इस वक्त जो हथियार दिए जा रहे हैं... (व्यवधान)... अध्यक्ष महोदय, जहाँ तक अफ्रीका की अजादी का सवाल है, बी० बी० सी० उस अजादी का समर्थक नहीं है, वह वहां पर प्रजातन्त्र का समर्थक नहीं है। आज भी वह वहां पर नवसाम्राज्यवाद का स्वप्न ले रहा है, भारत में साम्प्रदायिक शक्तियों की मदद करता है। जब हम पिछले 10-12 सालों से लगातार देख रहे हैं कि बी० बी० सी० हमेशा हिन्दुस्तान के स्वार्थ के खिलाफ काम किया है, हिन्दुस्तान को अजादी मिलने के बाद से ब्रिटेन के लोग संतुष्ट नहीं हैं, वे आज तीन तरह से हिन्दुस्तान पर हमला करते हैं—एक तरफ लगातार बी० बी० सी० के जरिये, दूसरी तरफ—300 करोड़ रुपये के सोने से भारत पर हमला करते हैं, हिन्दुस्तान के दुश्मन पाकिस्तान की मदद करते हैं और लगातार हिन्दुस्तान की जड़ों को खोखला करने की कोशिश करते हैं। इसलिए मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार ने यह काम पहले क्यों नहीं किया? आपको यह काम पहले ही करना चाहिए था।

श्री सुरेन्द्रपाल सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस सवाल के जवाब की जरूरत तो नहीं है, लेकिन मैं इतना जरूर कहना चाहती हूँ कि यह बात सही है कि बी० बी० सी० के ऐसे बहुत से प्रोग्राम आते रहे हैं, जिन में हिन्दुस्तान की सही पत्रचर को डिपिक्ट नहीं किया गया, लेकिन फिर भी पहले ऐसी कोई बात नहीं थी, जिस पर ऐसा कदम उठाया जाता, लेकिन यह चीज बहुत ज्यादा आपत्तिजनक थी, इस लिए यह कदम उठाया गया।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, सरकार ने बी० बी० सी० के खिलाफ जो कदम उठाया है, वह बहुत अच्छा कदम है और सारा देश इसका समर्थन करेगा—इसमें दो रायें नहीं हैं। लेकिन यह नीति एक पक्षीय नीति है, यह नीति सब के साथ एक जैसी होनी चाहिए—इस पर सरकार को विचार करना चाहिये। उदाहरण के लिए पीस-एण्ड प्रोग्रेस से जो समाचार आये दिन प्रसारित होते हैं या मास्को रेडियो जो कुछ बकता रहता है, उसको सुनने के बाद हम को लज्जा आती है, जिस प्रकार से वह हमारी संस्कृति और महान व्यक्तियों की अवहेलना करता है, उसको सुन कर लज्जा आती है।

इतना ही नहीं रेडियो मास्को और रेडियो पीस एण्ड प्रोग्रेस द्वारा यहां के सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के बारे में जो बात कही गई है तो ऐसा कहना उसका काम नहीं था। उसे ऐसी कोई बात नहीं कहनी चाहिये थी लेकिन उसने यह बात कही है। इसलिए मेरा ऐसा कहना है कि जो इस तरह से हमारे घरेलू मामलों में दखल देते हैं जैसे कि पाकिस्तान रेडियो या मास्को रेडियो करते रहते हैं, यह पाकिस्तान रेडियो हमारे प्रति जिस प्रकार की भाषा का प्रयोग करता है, यहां के लोगों को, नेताओं को और सरकार को जैसी गाली आदि देता रहता है वह कदापि अच्छी बात नहीं है और वह

काफी लज्जाजनक है। दरअसल सब के प्रति एक जैसा व्यवहार हो तो उसके लिए क्या सरकार कोई एक नीति बनाने जा रही है लेकिन जैसा कि अभी सरकार द्वारा डबल स्टैंडर्ड बर्ता जा रहा है कि किसी के साथ तो अच्छा व्यवहार किया जाना और किसी अन्य के साथ बुरा व्यवहार करना तो यह एकदम अनुचित है। रेडियो मास्को और रेडियो पीस एंड प्रोग्रेस जिस तरह से अनापशानाप ब्रौडकास्ट करता रहता है और सरकार चुपचाप सुनती रहती है तो उसका सबब यह है कि वह रूस से काफी दबी हुई है और उस दबाव के कारण भारत सरकार उसके खिलाफ कोई ऐक्शन नहीं लेना चाहती है। मेरा यह कहना है कि भारत सरकार रूस की पिछलग्गू बनी हुई है तो वह अब अपनी यह रूस की पिछलग्गू बने रहने वाली नीति का परित्याग करके उनके खिलाफ भी वही कार्यवाही करे जोकि उसके द्वारा ब्रिटिश ब्राडकास्टिंग कारपोरेशन के विरुद्ध की गई है।

श्री सुरेन्द्रपाल सिंह : मुझे अफसोस है कि माननीय सदस्य ने भारत सरकार के लिए रूस का पिछलग्गू होने वाली बात कही और सरकार के पिछलग्गू होने वाले जैसे शब्दों का इस्तेमाल किया...(व्यवधान)

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : मंत्री महोदय को शर्म आनी चाहिए...(व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : हाउस में थोड़ा बहुत तो डिकोरम अवश्य बनाये रखना चाहिये। मन्त्री महोदय को जवाब दे लेने दिया जाय।

श्री सुरेन्द्रपाल सिंह : जैसा मैं पहले कह चुका हूँ हमारी नीति इस मामले में सब के लिए एक जैसी है। इसलिये यह कहना कि हमारी दो नीति है, अर्थात् रूस के लिये एक है और अन्य के लिये और है तो यह सही बात नहीं है...(व्यवधान)

एक माननीय सदस्य : रूस के हाथ देश को बेच रहे हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आर्डर, आर्डर। मैं पहले भी कह चुका हूँ कि शार्टिंग करते जाना अर्थात् दूसरे की बात को न सुनना यह तरीका गलत है। अपनी बात कह लेने के बाद दूसरों की भी बात को सबर के साथ सुनना चाहिये।

श्री सुरेन्द्रपाल सिंह : मैं यह अर्ज कर रहा था कि इन दोनों का मुकाबला करना सही नहीं है। जहां तक हमारी नीति का सवाल है वह सब के लिए एक जैसी है। जाहिर है कि अगर इस किस्म की बातें रूस की तरफ से या और किसी देश की तरफ से होती हैं जोकि हमारे देश के हित के विरुद्ध जाती हैं तो हम उनके खिलाफ भी वही ऐक्शन लेंगे जोकि अभी हमने बी० बी० सी० के खिलाफ लिया है। लेकिन अब तक अर्न्तों के द्वारा जो कुछ हुआ है वह ऐसा नहीं है कि उस तरीके का ऐक्शन उनके खिलाफ लिया जाय।

जहां तक रेडियो पीस एंड प्रोग्रेस द्वारा हमारे सुप्रीम कोर्ट के बारे में कहने सुनने का सवाल है वह उनका रेफेंस बहुत अफसोसनाक और गलत था। हमने उनके ध्यान में यह बात ला दी है और हमें यह विद्वास दिलाया गया है कि आयन्दा उनके रेडियो से ऐसी कोई चीज ब्रौडकास्ट नहीं होगी।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : पाकिस्तान जो आये दिन हमारे खिलाफ अनापशानाप बकता रहता है उसके बारे में सरकार ने क्या किया? पाकिस्तान रेडियो आये दिन भारत के खिलाफ जहरीला प्रचार करता रहता है, सरकार और यहां के नेताओं के खिलाफ गाली बकता रहता है उसके बारे में मन्त्री महोदय ने कोई जवाब नहीं दिया कि उसके बारे में उन्होंने क्या किया है?

SHRI N. K. SOMANI (Nagpur): Up to yesterday Sardar Swaran Singh was waxing eloquent in this House that ours is an open society and that we have nothing to hide as far as the affairs of this country are concerned, when we questioned the legality and the legitimacy of the Soviet journalists roaming about in this country right from Kashmir to Kanyakumari and this kind of double standards that have been exposed for which, of course, he has absolutely no answer, with the result that we allow the press correspondents and the news correspondents of Radio Moscow and Radio Peace and Progress to go about in Delhi in CD Cars with diplomatic privileges in spite of the scurrilous propaganda that their radios have been undertaking against this country. From yesterday's free society have we today become a classical iron country? Now we would like to control Indian censorship of foreign publication, I am not defending the film or the publication, but how do you in future wish to control the censorship of all productions that are produced by foreign countries?

I would like to ask one question. When they claim that the Radio Peace and Progress is an autonomous corporation, does the Government of India not know that the BBC has been from the very beginning an autonomous corporation to such an extent that during the last war, even Germany and Russia and other countries used to plug into the BBC news forgetting facts and figures?

You have been harsh enough, inconsiderate enough, here for no fault of the B.B.C. I would like the Government to remember that Mr. Louis Malle is not an employee of the B.B.C. He came here on his own assignment and produced a film. The B.B.C. is only a carrier. It is something like a Russian cultural centre tumbling down in Trivandrum and all other Western cultural centres being closed down in the country.

In view of the fact that the B.B.C. are now prepared to discuss the matter and they have even sent a letter of regret. I would like to know what is the problem or difficulty of the Government of India in discussing the whole matter with them again...*(Interruption)*

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: No discussion

before they cancel all their films. They have compromised the national honour by having talks with them.

SHRI N. K. SOMANI: If a particular foreign source, whether it is the B.B.C. or the Voice of America or the Moscow Radio, undertakes this propaganda, I would like to know what are the broadcasting programmes of the Government of India for putting in their own policies and programmes before the people of the world. We would certainly like to know if they have any specific programmes to combat all these activities.

Finally, the cancellation of the accreditation of the Delhi Correspondent of the B.B.C. in India has been absolutely irrelevant and harsh. It is Mr. Louis Malle who is responsible for producing this documentary. It is the B.B.C., London, that is exhibiting this documentary. And the action is being taken on the Delhi Correspondent of the B.B.C. and they have been asked to wind up.

The further facts are that yesterday Pakistan invited the B.B.C. to have an office in their country...

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Sir, I rise on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: We have the convention that no points of order should be raised during the Question Hour...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: This is not the Question Hour. We are on the Calling Attention Notice now.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry I cannot allow.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: On the Calling Attention Notice, a point of order can be raised.

SHRI N. K. SOMANI: I would like to ask whether we are a free and democratic country or not. This Government has always been saying that a totalitarian and closed society...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I rise on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: No please. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE (Calcutta North-East): On the Calling Attention motions, you allow long speeches. You must allow a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Your own Member has been setting up this example... (*Interrptions*)

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE: I do not want to say anything but I have seen that the Chair scuttles down points of order coming from certain sections of the House. If you allow long speeches to be made, you must allow points of order also.

MR. SPEAKER: You know yourself that there can be no point of order.

SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR (Peermade): We can quote any number of instances where points of order have been raised during the Calling Attention motions.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I rise on a point of order.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE: When you allow a long discussion, you cannot stop a point of order.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: There have been so many occasions when points of order have been raised during the Calling Attention motions. (*Interruptions*) I have a point of order.

SHRI HEM BARUA: Whatever the point of order is supposed to be raised by Shri Banerjee, you have to allow him to raise it. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: We had this consensus the other day and also followed it and the same gentlemen have been raising this issue that no points of order should be allowed during questions.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: There was no question. The consensus was that there should be no point of order during Question-Hour. This is no Question-Hour. Daily during Calling Attention motions points of order are allowed to be raised. Yesterday, Mr. Sreekantan Nair raised a point of order. Today Mr. Krishnamoorthi was allowed to raise a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: I have no objection. But again and again if I keep on allowing points of order during calling attention motion, you will not object to it from any other quarter? (*Interruptions*) When it suits somebody, you say 'no point of order'. When it does not suit him, he says that he has got a right to raise a point of order.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: When did I say that, Sir. Points of order have been raised. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI N. K. SOMANI: My last question that I was about to ask is: as far as the new development in Pakistan is concerned, how is the Government of India taking steps to explain to the world at large about its own image of a free democratic society?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I rise on a point of order. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. KUNDU (Balasore): Before the Minister replies, I want to bring one thing to your notice. (*Interruptions*)

SOME HON. MEMBERS: — rose

MR. SPEAKER: I have no power to listen to so many people at a time.

SHRI S. KUNDU: One after another. I will just take half a minute.

MR. SPEAKER: Will you please sit down?

SHRI PILOO MODY: Sir, I want to see the film.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Before making the point of order, I would like to make it clear that there was no agreement or consensus whatsoever in this House that no point of order will be raised during Calling Attention or after the Question-Hour. This may be made clear. Otherwise, the impression goes that we decide something and break it here. I am not one of those who always promise something and later on brake it here. I belong to that Party which always keeps its promises. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Banerjee, I quite agree with you that on a number of issues

[Mr. Speaker]

that came during the calling attention motion, I tried to confine the Members to the subject in question but they made a debating hour out of it. You know that in the case of few members of your Party, where is the question? And this was not stopped at that time. If I allow the points of order, that will facilitate my job. I will never allow speeches to be made. Only confine yourself to the question. I am going to enforce it very strictly.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : My point of order is...

MR. SPEAKER : I have allowed you this point of order only on the basis of the observation that I have made. (*Interruption*) I am going to be very strict. I am not going to convert this calling attention into a debating hour.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : My point of order is this that under the Rules in calling attention motions questions can be asked to elicit information, but no particular cause can be advocated.

SHRI LOBO PRABHU (Udipi) : What is the rule?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Rule 376.

MR. SPEAKER : Rule 376 does not allow it.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : The business before the House is this.

The subject matter before the House is Calling Attention Motion. The question before the House is the particular question put by hon. Member Shri N. K. Somani. My submission is this. It is a limited question which is involved, namely, the working of the BBC in India. Members are certainly entitled to put questions eliciting more information on any subject. But can any hon. Member say something and champion the cause of the BBC. Sir? This is something surprising to me. Otherwise people will judge all those as indulging in anti-national activities in our own country.

MR. SPEAKER : When it suits you,

you start something and bring in a number of other matters, which are not here. But here I accept your suggestion. In this case, if the BBC is being discussed, there is no harm if any Member asks what the general policy is.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : But he is defending BBC.

SHRI S. KUNDU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise on a point of order. Just half a minute. Sir, the Minister in his statement has not clarified one thing. He said about the name of one gentleman as Dom Moraes. He did not say what were his activities. He wrote a script for the film, and called Shivaji as a brigand. Is he still an Indian citizen? What action was taken?

MR. SPEAKER : Your name is not here. (*Interruptions*) I am sorry; if you go on speaking against my permission, this will not form part of the records.

SHRI S. KUNDU : *

MR. SPEAKER : If there is any point of order, that should be addressed to me and not to the Minister for clarification.

SHRI S. KUNDU : My point of order is this. He referred to the name Dom Moraes here in his statement. The allegation in the Press is that this gentleman, Dom Moraes wrote one of the scripts for the film. I want to know whether he is an Indian citizen or not. What are his activities? We should know the role and activities of Dom Moraes...

MR. SPEAKER : No. This is not a point of order.

श्री कंवर लाल गुप्त : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं भी प्वाइंट ऑफ आर्डर उठाना चाहता हूँ।

MR. SPEAKER : This is not a battle of points of orders. No please.

श्री कंवर लाल गुप्त : यह कैसे हो सकता है कि आप मुझ को प्वाइंट ऑफ आर्डर उठाने

(C.A.)
की आज्ञा नहीं देगे ? यह कोई तरीका नहीं है। मैं आप की बात मानता हूँ इसी लिए आप कहते हैं कि मैं बैठ जाऊँ। जो ज्यादा शोर मचाते हैं उनको आप आज्ञा दे देने हैं आप कहेंगे तो मैं बैठ जाऊंगा, लेकिन मुझे आप आज्ञा दीजिये।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं आप को आज्ञा देने से इन्कार नहीं किया। उनको जवाब देने दीजिये। मेरा विचार तो यह है कि आप का प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर कभी प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर होता ही नहीं। मैं आपको मुबारकबाद दूंगा अगर जो आप कहेंगे वह प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर होगा।

श्री कंवर लाल गुप्त : मेरा कहना यह है कि जो सवाल हो उसके मुताबिक रिलेवेंट क्वेश्चन होना चाहिये और रिलेवेंट आन्सर भी होना चाहिए। यह रूल के मुताबिक होगा। लेकिन देखना यह है कि जो कुछ फ्री सोसायटी के नाम से कहा गया है वह यू० के० गवर्नमेंट की फेवर करता है। एक पक्ष ऐसा है जो रशियन गवर्नमेंट को फेवर करता है। हिन्दुस्तान की लाबी नहीं बनती। इसी लिए मैं कहता हूँ कि रिलेवेंट बात होनी चाहिये, और किसी तरह की बात नहीं होनी चाहिये।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर नहीं है। इन मामलों में हमें थोड़ा शांति से काम लेना चाहिये। यह मसले गम्भीर होते हैं, लेकिन जब ज्यादा शोर शरावा होता है तब सारी बात खत्म हो जाती है। इतना गम्भीर मामला है और उसको आप शोर सार में ही खत्म कर रहे हैं।

13.00 hrs.

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : The hon. Member said that while on the one hand we say that we have an open society and the freedom of the press etc., yet we apply double standards in regard to our dealings with foreign correspondents, and

that we allow the Russian correspondents to pay a visit to a number of places within the country and they are free to go anywhere they like and the same facilities are not given to others. In this connection, may I say that this is not correct? We treat every body on equal terms, and all foreign correspondents are free to go wherever they like, and so long as their reporting is not false and malicious, we do not interfere.

In regard to the case of the BBC also, this action has not been taken against this particular individual who represents the BBC in this country. The action has been taken against the organisation, and for whatever they have done there, and we have nothing against the person concerned. But since the action has been taken against the BBC, it is natural that this gentleman should wind up his work here and give up the work altogether.

The other question was about whether there was any plan to reopen talks with the BBC. I have already said that there is no such intention, because they did not carry out the conditions that were laid down by us and therefore, the case is closed, and the question of reopening talks does not arise.

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13.02 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notification under Press and Registration of Books Act

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Registration of Newspapers (Central) Amendment Rules, 1970 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 721 in Gazette of India dated the 2nd May, 1970, under sub-section (2) of section 20A of the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4069/70]

Taxes, Entry of Goods into Calcutta Metropolitan Area Act, 1970

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PARIMAL GHOSH) : On behalf of Shri B.S.,