

(b) and (c). The Government do not propose to hold an inquiry as in their view the charges are baseless.

there... (Interruptions) I am on my legs. Therefore, anybody can go and be present there. I do not do it ; the office does it somewhere there. The same names have been put which were there on that day. The Minister is giving his reply to that call-attention which was put on Thursday or Friday.

12.38 hrs

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—
contd.

Reported Statement by Agriculture Minister of Andhra Pradesh against Harijans—contd.

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Home Minister.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had, in my statement made on April 25, 1968, indicated that the Chief Minister was going to look into the matter personally and would thereafter send me a report. I am awaiting his report.

SHRI MADHU LIMAYE (Monghyr) : Still ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : Mr. Speaker, Sir,...

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : Yes. However, the Agriculture Minister for Andhra Pradesh, Shri P. Thimma Reddy, has sent a communication to my Ministry which reads as follows :

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE (Bombay-Central) : On a point of order, Sir. Before the hon. Minister makes the statement, I would like to draw your attention to business before the House. Here, it is mentioned on the agenda : Questions on the statement to be asked by the following members and answers given.

Last time, we had given the notice of Call Attention and a number of members had signed. I do not know how they could be debarred from asking any question. We had given the notice...

SHRI SHIVAJIRAO S. DESHMUKH (Parbhani) : On the day when the Home Minister made the statement, he made it under Rule 197. Now, it is like any other statement upon to questions by all members.

"The report attributed to me that Harijans should be kicked is a fantastic lie, baseless malicious and mischievous. No person in any walk of life would have made such a statement much less a responsible Minister. There was no reference whatsoever of the alleged statement fastened on to me. So far as I know the correspondent of the Patriot was not present at the meeting nor did he contact me and verify from me about the alleged statement attributed to me. It is an elementary norm for a correspondent to verify the report before rushing it to the press."

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Rabi Ray.

MR. SPEAKER : That means nobody will be permitted to put a question when the Minister makes a statement. But, on the suggestion of the House, we postponed it. It is not a new thing which I have put here. On that day, the Home Minister had no information and we postponed it. It is the same Call Attention notice. I have not added anything. The same names are there. About 40 to 50 members give notice and lots are drawn. If some member wants to be there, he can be there when the lots are drawn. It is not as though somebody is doing it behind. It is done in the office. Any hon. Member can go and be present

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND (Chikodi) : Will the Central Government force the Minister to resign ? He should be dismissed.

श्री रवि राय (पुरी) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने पिछली मंतावा भी, दो दिन का समय लेने के वक्त, यह कहा था कि श्री अम्हाण इस तरह से फिर सदन को गुमराह करेंगे कि यह कहा ही नहीं है। यह मसला बड़ा गम्भीर है क्योंकि करोड़ों आदिवासी और हरिजन हमारे देश में रहते हैं, हम देख रहे हैं महीने भर से, कि किसी

[श्री रवि राय]

की हत्या हो रही है और किसी को कुछ और हो रहा है। मैं आप को बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि जिस "पेट्रियाट" में यह खबर निकली थी उसमें यह खबर भी निकली है जिसमें कहा गया है कि जो जर्नलिस्ट्स एसोसिएशन है, हैदराबाद में, उन्होंने यह प्रस्ताव पास किया है :

"City journalists at a meeting here today passed a resolution regretting the growing tendency of the authorities to openly attack and threaten journalists discharging their normal and legitimate duties."

"Latest instance of such an attack, the resolution said, was the statement by State Agriculture Minister, P. Thimma Reddy, that the journalists covering the recent incidents about the Harijans in the State 'deserved to be kicked'."

"The journalists unanimously felt that unless those in authority checked this tendency, 'freedom of the press will be jeopardised, affecting the functioning of the country's democratic apparatus'."

इसके बाद आप जानते हैं कि आन्ध्र प्रदेश में दो अखबार हैं। एक 'विशाल आन्ध्र' और दूसरा 'आन्ध्र पत्रिका', दोनों ने अपनी सम्पादकीय टिप्पणियाँ लिखी हैं। 'आन्ध्र पत्रिका' कहता है :

"'Andhra Patrike', the oldest Telugu daily, editorially took note of the 'loose talk' generally indulged in by Mr. Thimma Reddy. In a two-column editorial, it said, 'whether as Minister or as Pradesh Congress President, Mr. Thimma Reddy has been known for his loose talk'. His constant deriding of officials was demoralising the administration."

"विशाल आंध्र यह कहता है :

"It described him..."

This is another Telugu daily, *Visalandhra*.

"It described him as the 'embodiment of the arrogant feudal landlords'. Retention of such persons in the Cabi-

net, it said, would only embolden the landlord class to commit further atrocities on the Harijans and other down-trodden classes."

मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमें एक एक्सप्रेस चिट्ठी मिली है जिसमें मैसूर स्टेट के शिमोगा के एक हरिजन नेता कहते हैं :

"'To be born in a Harijan community is a sin'. Mr. N. K. Maruthi, a Harijan Leader of Shimoga stated in a complaint to the Fort Police and other superior authorities alleging ill-treatment and prevention from entry into the Town Club here recently. According to the report, the story goes..."

Mr. SPEAKER : This is about Shimoga. I will not allow this. This has nothing to do with Andhra Pradesh. This is about Mysore.

श्री रवि राय : वह एक ऐसा मसला है जिस का ताल्लुक होम मिनिस्ट्री से है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह स्थिति है कि आंध्र प्रदेश के कृषि मंत्री श्री थिम्मा रेड्डी साहब ने इस तरह कहा है। दो दिन के बाद जब हमने यहाँ आलोचना की तब वी० बी० राजू जो मंत्री हैं वह बाकामदा दिल्ली आये थे। फिर उन से कहा गया है कि वह कंट्रेडिक्ट करें।

"Mr. Thimma Reddy's statement was read out to newsmen..."

जिसको उन्होंने पढ़ा है।

"...after his meeting with Revenue Minister, V. B. Raju, who had just returned from Delhi.

"I learn that Mr. Reddy's statement was recast after he had talked to Mr. Raju."

मैं आरोप लगाता हूँ श्री चव्हाण के खिलाफ कि उन्होंने राजू साहब से कहा है कि वह इस तरह का बयान दे दें। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि पहले श्री थिम्मा रेड्डी को फोरन डिसमिस किया जाये और इस सारे मामले की न्यायिक जांच हो क्योंकि जर्नलिस्ट्स एसोसिएशन हैदराबाद का प्रस्ताव दूसरी तरह का है। अब

दोनों में से कौन सा ठीक है इसकी न्यायिक जांच की जाये। दूसरे श्रुति संविधान में गृह मंत्री महोदय के जो कर्तव्य हैं उन्होंने उनका पालन नहीं किया है। अर्थात् हरिजनों और आदिवासियों की जान की रक्षा करने का, इसलिए वह खुद इस्तीफा दे दें।

श्री रामसेवक यादव (बाराबंकी) : मेरे जिले में एक हरिजन के घर में चढ़ कर उसको गोली मारी गई है।

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : We are discussing an alleged irresponsible statement of a Minister... (Interruptions) We are discussing an alleged irresponsible statement of a Minister in Andhra Pradesh, but unfortunately the same treat is being performed here in this hon. House... (Interruptions).

श्री मधु लिमये : मंत्री महोदय अपना कर्तव्य पूरा नहीं कर रहे हैं।

श्री यशवन्त राव चव्हाण : मेरे कर्तव्यों के बारे में कहने का माननीय सदस्य को कोई अधिकार नहीं है, वह बैठ जायें।

When an allegation was made against me that I tutored Mr. Raju to go and tell him something, something, it was a height of irresponsibility. I am only making the position very clear. If at all we have to take any position on facts, as I mentioned that day, I discussed the matter with the Chief Minister and the Chief Minister... (Interruptions)

SHRI RANGA (Srikakulam) : Is it not strange that he did not care to send a reply to him ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : After that I again sent a wireless message. He also discussed the matter with me. He had already fixed his tour programmes to some of the riot-affected districts ; he had fixed his tour programmes before that and it was difficult for him to cancel those .

AN HON. MEMBER : Why ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : Why I cannot make a decision for him. I am only tell-

ing what he told me. He has told me that he would be able to send the report either on the 4th or on the 6th May. I can only make a statement on the basis of the information that I get from the State Government ; I just cannot depend on the report appearing anywhere and base my statement on that. This is what I want to say.

श्री रवि राय : क्या न्यायिक जांच करवाई जायेगी ?... (व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Kanwar Lal Gupta. This is the next name in the list. Mr. Kanwar Lal Gupta.

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त (दिल्ली सदर) : यह बड़े शर्म की बात है कि आंध्र प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री ने जो काण्ड यहां हुआ था उस को बड़ी शैली और लाइटली ट्रीट किया है। हालांकि आज से करीब तीन या चार दिन पहले यह बात सदन के सामने आई थी, उन्होंने सदन की मर्यादा को ठीक नहीं रक्खा और बड़े आहिस्ता से यह बात कह दी। मैंने सुना है कि यह ठीक है कि "पेट्रियाट" का कारेस्पॉण्डेंट वहां नहीं था, लेकिन जो चार कारेस्पॉण्डेंट वहां मौजूद थे उन्होंने लिख कर के—गृह मंत्री जी गुस्ता न करें क्योंकि वह फंस रहे हैं (व्यवधान).....

चार कारेस्पॉण्डेंट वहां मौजूद थे। मैंने सुना है कि उन्होंने लिख कर और अपने हस्ताक्षर करके पेट्रियाट के कारेस्पॉण्डेंट को दिया है। मैंने यह भी सुना है कि आपने कोई आदमी हैदराबाद भेजा था। आप आदमी भेजें या न भेजें, आपने क्या पेट्रियाट के कारेस्पॉण्डेंट को यह जो चार दूसरे कारेस्पॉण्डेंट वहां मौजूद थे या जो जरनलिस्ट्स एसोसिएशन जिन्होंने यह प्रस्ताव पास किया है, उन से काटेकट किया है और किया है तो उनकी क्या रिपोर्ट है ?

किसी रिपोर्ट को कंट्रैडिक्ट करना अध्यक्ष महोदय, पालिटिक्सांज के हाथ में आखिरी हथियार है। जब चारों तरफ से घिर जाते हैं तो उस घेराव से बचने के लिए यह एक रूटीन सा तरीका है जिस का वाक्य लिया जाता

[श्री कंचर लाल गुप्त]

है। यह कोई नई चीज नहीं है। जिस एग्जिक्यूटिव मिनिस्टर ने कहा कि वे चोर हैं उन एग्जिक्यूटिव मिनिस्टर में कोई कलचर नहीं थी, ऐसा मैं समझता हूँ। एग्जिक्यूटिव मिनिस्टर माइनस कलचर। वास्तव में हरिजन लोग चोर नहीं हैं, हम सब चोर हैं जिन्होंने इतने सालों तक उनको एक्सप्लायट किया है। उस में मैं भी शामिल हूँ और आप भी शामिल हैं। बीस साल की आजादी के बाद भी हमने केवल स्लोगन ही लगाया है, कागजों पर ही स्कीम बनाई हैं लेकिन कुछ किया नहीं है उनके लिए अभी एक भेरे पास टेलीग्राम आया है। मैं आपकी आज्ञा से उसको पढ़ देना चाहता हूँ। इसमें कहा गया है :

'Andhra Agriculture Minister pressed journalists to contradict. Pray appointment of a Parliamentary Commission.'

यह आंध्र से आया है। यह दलित जाति संघ की तरफ से आया है। एक और भी टेलीग्राम आया है, हरिजन सेवक संघ की तरफ से। उस में भी वही मांग की गई है। चीफ मिनिस्टर के खिलाफ भी एलीगेशंस हैं। आंध्र प्रदेश में एक डेढ़ महीने में दस बारह इंसीडेंट ऐसे हुए हैं इसका कारण यह है कि वहाँ की प्रवेश कांग्रेस कमेटी के अध्यक्ष और उनके जो और साथी हैं, जो एस एन एज हैं वे इन जमींदारों के साथ हैं जो भ्रष्टाचार हरिजनों पर करते हैं और सरकार ने कोई कार्रवाई उनके खिलाफ नहीं की है। जिस पुलिस कमिश्नरों ने या अधिकारियों ने उनके.....खिलाफ.....कार्रवाई की है, उन में से कुछ लोगों को इस बास्ते सस्पेंड कर दिया गया है कि उन्होंने क्यों कोई कार्रवाई की। एक तरह से कांग्रेस का पोलिटिकल प्रेशर उन जमींदारों की तरफ से पुलिस पर पड़ रहा है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारा विश्वास आंध्र प्रदेश के चीफ मिनिस्टर और उनकी सरकार पर इस बारे में बिल्कुल नहीं है। यह मैं सफ़ाई के साथ कहना चाहता हूँ। वह खुद मुल्जिम हैं

और एक मुल्जिम से आज्ञा करना कि वह ग्याय देगा, बिल्कुल गलत होगा। आंध्र में जो रोजाना इंसीडेंट्स की तादाद बढ़ रही है और यह जो प्रेशर वाली बात मैंने कही है, इस सब को देखते हुए क्या सरकार एक पार्लियामेंटरी कमेटी यहाँ से भेजेगी जो सी. बी. आई. की मदद से इसकी जांच करे और सदन को अपनी रिपोर्ट पेश करे ?

इस प्रकार के कांड सारे देश के लिए शर्म की बात है। इनको रोकने के लिए सारे देश में और आंध्र में खास तौर से क्या चीफ मिनिस्टर को कम्युनिकेशंस सरकार भेजेगी, राज्य सरकारों को क्या कुछ इंस्ट्रक्शंस देगी और क्या उनकी मीटिंग बुलायेगी ? साथ ही साथ क्या सोशल आर्गनाइजेशंस की और पोलिटिकल आर्गनाइजेशंस की मीटिंग बुलाकर क्या सरकार इस बीमारी को हमेशा हमेशा के लिए खत्म करने के लिये कोई व्यवस्था करेगी ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : I entirely agree with the hon. Member as far as the latter part of the question is concerned, that this problem of Harijans and the way it is coming up do need a very careful and anxious consideration of the country and of this government. And, Sir, I am not less angry about the general atmosphere that has been created about it. But, Sir, my only point is that hon. Members should try to distinguish between these two positions, Here, Sir, I have to say something or make a statement about certain statement of facts and allegations made. When facts are in dispute I have naturally to depend upon the Statement of the Minister himself.

AN HON. MEMBER : He is the accused.

SHR! Y. B. CHAVAN : Even if he is accused we have to prove against him. Only because he is the accused he is not hanged. (Interruption) Why don't you allow me to speak ?

श्री सुधु लिमबे : जिन मिनिस्टर को क्यों नहीं पूछा ?

श्री रायसेवक बरदव : अपने साधनों से जानकारी क्यों नहीं ली ?

SHRI RANGA : It is the Home Minister who is guilty. He has failed to get a reply from the Chief Minister. He has failed to make him realise the importance of this tragic affair. So, I accuse the Home Minister.

SHRI UMANATH (Pudukkottai) : In the face of the statement of the West Bengal Minister, the hon Home Minister relied on his own independent sources in West Bengal. Why can't he do the same thing here also and give us what his independent view is ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : My point is : we did not, naturally we cannot depend on the statement of the Minister concerned. That is exactly why I had asked the chief Minister himself to look into the matter. (Interruptions) I cannot take any other position.

SHRI HEM BARUA (Manga'dai) : This is callous indifference.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS *rose*.

MR. SPEAKER : If all of you get up, he will not answer. He is on his legs. This is not proper.

श्री महाराज सिंह भारती (मेरठ) : मिनिस्ट्री को वहां डिसमिस करो और प्रेजीडेंट्स हल लागू करो ।

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : I want your guidance in this matter. I am not even to get the report of the chief Minister ? What is the use ? (Interruptions)

The Chief Minister in his reply has suggested to me that he would be looking into the matter after his return from the tour and will get report either on the 4th or 5th of May. (Interruptions)

श्री मधु लिमये : चीफ मिनिस्टर का क्या सम्बन्ध है ? मेरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है ।

SHRI RANGA : It is the Home Minister who is has failed, Sir.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA : Why don't you make your own inquiries ? It is an insult of the House.

मैंने कहा कि क्या आपने कारिसपोर्डेंट्स को कॉन्टैक्ट किया है और क्या आप पार्लिमेंटरी कमेटी बिठायेंगे ? सी० बी० ग्राई० का कोई अफसर भेजा है या नहीं भेजा है ? दो बार इस सवाल को पोस्टपोन करने के बाद भी जवाब नहीं देते हैं ।

Is this not an insult of the House ? Sir, he wants guidance from the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER : What guidance ?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Balrampur) : Are you so helpless ?

SHRI MADHU LIMAYE : On a point of order, Sir.

SOME HON. MEMBERS *rose*.

MR. SPEAKER : All of you want to raise points of order. That means it will take one hour and it will lead us nowhere. My point is : whatever information the Home Minister has got, he has given.

SHRI MADHU LIMAYE : He has collected no information.

MR. SPEAKER : Whatever he has given, I think, he has given some information ; all of us can say. He himself says that he is awaiting the report of the Chief Minister. (Interruptions)

SHRI RANGA *rose* -

MR. SPEAKER : I am on my legs. I am not saying rather this or that.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : He is a Chief Minister who does not care for the Harijans and he is interested in his tour ; he should be dismissed, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : अरे बाप रे । If you can dismiss the Chief Minister so easily today...I think even the Home Minister cannot do it so easily.

What is your point of order ?

SHRI MADHU LIMAYE *rose*—

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai) : Sir you please first allow us to have our questions answered. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADHU LIMAYE : I have a right to make a point of order.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : You are rising every time. That is your habit.

MR. SPEAKER : May I request hon Members to kindly maintain order ? I will call hon Shri Samar Guha. If anybody before Shri Samar Guha and Shri Sreedharan is to ask questions and if anybody raises a point of order, it is the Speaker who will reply. I do not think the Minister has to reply to points of order. I protect your right Mr. Guha. My point is this. Before those Members whose names are here get up and ask questions, whether it be Shri Kanwarlal Gupta, or Shri Samar Guha, points of order are being raised. When a point of order is raised, it is not the Minister who is going to reply, but it is the Speaker that has to reply to the point of order. I am in a helpless position when a Member raises a point of order and I cannot shut him out. I have to hear what the point of order is and then give my answer. But I have made it very strict that a Minister shall not answer points of order, so the name of point of order Members may not ask questions which are answered by the Minister. It is the Speaker that ultimately answers a point of order.

SHRI HEM BARUA : You should make another thing also clear. After you exhaust the names on the list, you may hear the points of order.

श्री मधु लिमये : नियम के अनुसार व्यवस्था के प्रश्न को पहले सुनना चाहिए। ये खुद तो कभी व्यवस्था का प्रश्न उठाते नहीं हैं और अगर कोई दूसरा उठाता है, तो उसको दबाते हैं।

MR. SPEAKER : If that can be made as a convention, it would be very good. Anyway, at present, this is a check to some extent at least that Ministers are not to answer questions asked in the name of point of order and it is only the Speaker

that has to take the responsibility to answer it. Anyway, I would request Members to make it a convention that let the Members whose names are there put the questions first. Of course, there is no prohibition against points of order being raised. Suppose Shri Kanwar Lal Gupta puts a question and in that question and the reply to it there is something out of which a point arises, then certainly a member may get up and raise a point of order.

Now, let Shri Kanwar Lal Gupta put his question. Let us now proceed in an orderly way.

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त : मैं ने ये तीन सवाल पूछे थे : वहां पर जो चार कारेसपाइंट्स मौजूद थे, क्या मंत्री महोदय ने उन को कान्टेक्ट किया है या नहीं ? क्या मंत्री महोदय ने इस बारे में जांच करने के लिए कोई अफसर वहां भेजा है; अगर भेजा है, तो उस ने क्या रिपोर्ट दी है ? वृत्ति इस बारे में आन्ध्र प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री और सरकार का व्यवहार संदिग्ध है, इस लिए क्या सरकार इस मामले की जांच के लिए कोई पार्लियामेंटरी कमेटी बिठायेगी ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : I would like hon. Members to be a little more Patient. I would like them to understand the difficult position in which the Home Minister has to function in this matter. I would request them and plead with them to understand the correct position in this matter. Our intention is not to cover up anybody. But when a matter concerns the State Government, even a Minister of the Central Government has to function through the State Chief Minister as far as it is possible,

In this matter, a certain allegation was made about the statements made by that Minister. Naturally, we were expecting the Minister to say either 'Yes' or 'No'. I have quoted here the statement that he has made without any comments.

SHRI HEM BARUA : On a point of order...

MR. SPEAKER : But the hon. Member himself had suggested the convention that first those whose names appear on the list

should be permitted to ask questions and then only points of order should be heard. Now he himself is raising a point of order.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : I can very well understand the feelings of hon. Members on this matter. But I am not free to express my own personal feelings in this matter. Here I have to function in my capacity as the home Minister. I have said that I have requested the Chief Minister to look into the matter. And he has agreed to do it. Unfortunately, his other commitments have come in the way of his dealing with the matter. I very well understand the feelings of hon. Members. I would only request them to wait till the Chief Minister's report comes. Then it will be possible for me to give my own assessment of the matter.

श्री रवि राय : तब तक 10 मई का दिन बीत जायेगा और संसद का अधिवेशन खत्म हो जायेगा।

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : Naturally, we shall have to wait for the report. Then I shall certainly make an assessment of my own. Now, the report is expected; in fact, even this morning, I got a message from him again....

श्री रामसेवक यादव : प्रश्न यह है कि यह मंत्री ने या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने क्या किया है—उन को अपने साधनों के इस्तेमाल से क्या जानकारी मिली है ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : Naturally, the Government of India here certainly keep themselves informed about what is happening but that is not a substitute for an inquiry. One just cannot hold a formal inquiry about this matter from here. When the Chief Minister of a State is looking into a matter concerning certain remarks passed by his Minister, we have to be patient to wait for his report. It is very unfair to make a remark that the Chief Minister should be dismissed simply because he has asked for some time. I personally would plead that we should be patient in this matter, because the status of a State is involved here and let us not be in a hurry...

SHRI RANGA : He should understand our feelings also.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : Here is also a State Chief Minister who is responsible to his own legislature and we just cannot make remarks like that against him. That is what I would submit.

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे सवाल का जवाब नहीं दिया गया है ? मेरे सवाल का जवाब दिलाया जाये।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, अब मुझे अपना व्यवस्था का प्रश्न उठाने दीजिए।

श्री मधु लिमये : मैंने पहले उठाय है।

MR. SPEAKER : You asked whether he made inquiries. He said 'I have my own sources of information, but I cannot make a statement on that now'.

SHRI RANGA : Let him say whether he has inquired into it or not inquired into it (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER : How shall we proceed with so many hon. Members getting up and speaking and there are so many points of order raised.

श्री मधु लिमये : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे अपना पायंट आफ़ आर्डर फ़ार्मुलेट करने दीजिए।

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने मेरे सवालों का जवाब नहीं दिया है। मैं आप की प्रोटेक्शन चाहता हूँ। मैंने पूछा है कि क्या मंत्री महोदय ने चार अखबार वालों को कान्टैक्ट किया है या नहीं और इस बारे में जांच करने के लिए कोई अफसर वहाँ भजा है या नहीं भेजा है; अगर भेजा है, तो उस की रिपोर्ट क्या है। मंत्री महोदय "हां" या "न" में जवाब दें। वह टेढ़े-मेढ़े जवाब दे रहे हैं।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अखबारों में छपा है कि यहाँ से एक अफसर भेजा गया है।

SHRI RANAGA : Has he sent any officer there? Let him say.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : As I said, I have got my own sources of information. That of course I cannot disclose now. Certainly I have got my machinery of knowing what happened. But I have not taken the liberty of saying what exactly happened or not happened. Certainly, if the House wants me to give my own personal assessment, naturally I will do that after the Chief Minister's report is received. That is all I can say on this at this stage (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA : Has his officer confirmed the report?

असल में आन्ध्र के मिनिस्टर ने ऐसा कहा है और ये उस को हाइड करना चाहते हैं।

MR. SPEAKER : This is a call attention. I will have to call the members concerned first. Nobody else will be called. That is the convention we have been following.

SHRI SHIVAJI RAO S. DESHMUKH : On a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER : There are so many points of order. It will take one full hour for them. May I request members to allow those two members, Shri Sreedharan and Shri Samar Guha at least two questions.

श्री मधु लिमये : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह मैं नहीं मानता। आप नियम के अनुसार चलिये। नियम 376 के अनुसार मुझे पायंट ऑफ़ ऑर्डर उठाने का पूर्ण अधिकार है।

MR. SPEAKER : What about the others? No, no. I have to allow everybody, particularly leaders of parties.

SHRI SHIVAJI RAO S. DESHMUKH : Even before the hon. Member did so, I raised my point of order.

MR. SPEAKER : He has as much right as other members. He is also raising to a point of order. I know he has got his own notebook with him. I have

seen all. I would only request that the other two Members whose names are there be given a chance.

Shri Dange is on his legs. His name is not here.

श्री मधु लिमये : नाम क्या क्या सवाल है? मैं पायंट ऑफ़ ऑर्डर पर खड़ा हूँ। आप प्रक्रिया के अनुसार चलिये। मैं सब से पहले खड़ा हूँ।

मेरा व्यवस्था का सवाल सीधा है कि उस दिन आप ने गृह मंत्री जी को पूरी जानकारी हासिल कर जवाब देने के लिए कहा था या मुख्य मंत्री से बयान प्राप्त कर के जवाब देने के लिए कहा था। यह सवाल मैं आप से पूछ रहा हूँ। आपका डायरेक्शन क्या था? क्या आप इस का जवाब नहीं देंगे? आप इस के बारे में रूलिंग दीजिए।

MR. SPEAKER : I need not give a ruling here and now.

श्री मधु लिमये : कब देंगे?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : May I know what is his point of order?

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA (Barh) : Why should you give precedence to their point of order when points of order have been raised earlier on this side?

SHRI S. A. DANGE (Bombay Central South) : The Home Minister has said that he is making an inquiry.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : I did not say that.

SHRI S. A. DANGE : At the same time, he says that the Chief Minister is making inquiries. At the same time, the Chief Minister is absconding on tour (*Interruptions*). When he does not take a heinous murder seriously, how can he make inquiries? He should explain his procedure.

The second point is that abolition of untouchability is one of the principles of the Constitution. Therefore, this House is perfectly entitled to take note of this happening and demand that a Parliamentary Committee go into the affair and that Government agree to it. It does not become an exclusive subject of the State nor does it interfere with State affairs. It is not a State law and order question, but a violation of the Constitution, and in such a heinous way.

श्री चण्डीजीत यादव (भाजमगड़) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आप की व्यवस्था इस सवाल पर चाहता हूँ कि आपने हमारे नियम सं० 197 के अर्धन काल-एटेंशन स्वीकार किया है तथा काल-एटेंशन उस प्रश्न पर स्वीकार किया जाता है जो सार्वजनिक महत्व का प्रश्न होता है। एक जिम्मेदार मिनिस्टर देश की सात करोड़ जनता के सम्बन्ध में, किसी एक व्यक्ति के सम्बन्ध में नहीं डेरोगेटरी स्टेटमेंट देता है, एक ऐसे समाज के प्रति जो हमारा सब से कमजोर अंग है, जिसकी सहायता, जिसका सहयोग, जिसके प्रति सदभावना हमारा कर्तव्य है, इस संसद का कर्तव्य है, इस दृष्टि से आपने इसको स्वीकार किया। इस के सम्बन्ध में पहले दिन माननीय गृह मंत्री ने अपना कर्तव्य देने में असमर्थता प्रकट की, इसलिये कि उनके पास पूरी सूचना नहीं आई थी, ऐसे प्रश्न के सम्बन्ध में जिस पर पूरे देश में, पूरी संसद में एक भावना उठी हुई है। उस के बाद आपने उन को दूसरा मौका दिया, लेकिन आज भी इस मौके पर उन के पास पूरी सूचना नहीं आई और उस प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री अपने राज्य के अन्दर दौरा कर रहे हैं, जब कि यह प्रश्न यहां पर उठा हुआ है। मैं आप से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि अगर इस प्रश्न का जवाब नहीं आता है, एक बार नहीं आता है, दूसरी बार नहीं आता है, तो क्या इस संसद में कोई दूसरा तरीका है, जिससे कि संसद ऐसे सार्वजनिक महत्व के प्रश्न पर अविलम्ब जल्द से जल्द सूचना प्राप्त कर सके? मैं आपसे अनुरोध करता हूँ यदि आप बाजिन सब में तो आज ही

कोई संसदीय कमेटी का निर्माण करें ताकि हम वहां जा कर इस की जांच कर सकें ?

MR. SPEAKER : There is no point of order. You are all making suggestions.

SHRI SHIVAJI RAO S. DESHMUKH : My point of order arises out of analogous interpretation in law. In a trial, if a public servant is tried for committing a theft, he could not be deemed to have acted in an official capacity. So, if the Minister says that a Harijan should be kicked, it is out right violation of the Constitution and he could not be deemed to have acted in his capacity as a Minister. If he acts in his capacity as a Minister, on the principle of joint responsibility, the entire cabinet becomes responsible. Therefore, does it not amount to asking the accused to make his own enquiry and pass the award of guilty or not guilty, if we ask the Chief Minister to enquire into the conduct of one of his Ministers?...(Interruption^s).

MR. SPEAKER : I have heard Mr. Dange and Mr. Yadav and Mr. Deshmukh. They want a committee. The Speaker is not the person who appoints parliamentary committees; he has no authority. It is the House that can appoint a committee. May I request any one of them to move a motion? The House has full authority. If anybody thinks that a committee is necessary, he is free to move a motion. Therefore, it is unfair to throw the blame or responsibility on the Speaker. Anyone can move a motion and it will be considered by the House and we shall see what happens afterwards.

SHR. A. SREEDHARAN (Badagara) : The Home Minister has stated that he is waiting for the report of the Chief Minister. We have no faith in the Chief Minister. If he had any sense of proportion he would have caught this Minister by the scruff of his neck and thrown him out just as we throw out kittens stealing milk. The Chief Minister has not done that. If that Minister has come out with a statement denying what he openly said before the Press reporters, it is because he wants to save his own skin. He knows that those days are over when Harijans could be treated as *bewerks of wood and prayers of*

[Shri A. Sreedharan]

water and that those days are not distant when if anybody kicks a Harijan, he will kick back with double the force, whether he be a minister or a chief minister or a Union Minister. The country is going in that direction.

What surprises me is when such an incident of this nature has taken place, when even people in high positions have commented on that,—I am told that Kamaraj Nadar told Mr. Sanjiviah, the former Union Minister: I am quoting him: *Andhaappaya appadi solli irruppan; avan solli iruppan; avan soll: iruppan*—that fellow is in the habit of talking like that; he might have talked; he might have talked. And Mr. Chavan himself must be knowing it because Kamaraj talked to Sanjiviah when he came to the Congress Working Committee meeting. Here is a certificate given by Mr. Kamaraj Nadar to Thimma Reddy, the Minister in the Andhra Pradesh Cabinet. My question is this. All this has happened and Mr. Chavan says, "I have asked the Chief Minister," and he says "I am a post-office." "Here is what the Andhra Minister has told me and I am conveying it to the House". So, the Home Minister is a post office between Thimma Reddi and the Lok Sabha. This minister has violated article 15 of the Constitution, and neither the Chief Minister nor the Governor have taken any action against this Minister. It requires the Home Ministry, to wake up, the Governor as Rip Van Winkle and the Chief Minister there and ask him to enquire into it. So, I would like to ask the Home Minister, in view of the fact that the Governor of Andhra Pradesh has committed a serious dereliction of duty, and in view of the fact that he has not taken cognizance of a very serious conduct of a Minister in his State in respect of the Scheduled Castes in this country, will he advise the President to remove this Governor and appoint a new Governor, preferably one belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Samar Guha.

श्री मधु लिमये: अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस का जवाब दिलवाइये। यह क्या तरीका है, यह क्या उद्गड़ता है, ये सज़े होकर जवाब दें, हाँ

या ना कहे। क्या बैठ कर जवाब दिया जाता है? अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह हम बरदास्त नहीं करेंगे। यह इस तरह से हंस कर मामले को उड़ा देते हैं। श्री चवन जी ने सवाल पूछा है—क्या इसका जवाब नहीं आयेगा?

MR. SPEAKER: He referred to the question of removing Governor and all that. What can he reply?

SHRI P. R. THAKUR (Nabadwip): Sir, I may kindly be allowed to say a few words.

MR. SPEAKER: No, please. I can not allow everyone now.

SHRI P. R. THAKUR: I belong to the Scheduled Castes. I must be allowed to speak in this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: It does not matter I am not a Minister, and I do not know who is a Scheduled Caste and who is not.

SHRI P. R. THAKUR: As Speaker, you should know it.

MR. SPEAKER: I need not necessarily know it. Will you kindly sit down?

SHRI P. R. THAKUR: I shall sit down, but you must accept it.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: Sir, it is not a question of my replying or not. The point is, there was nothing to reply because he was talking of dismissal of the Governor and all that. One just cannot go on enjoying this type of observation.

SHRI P. R. THAKUR: I am leaving the House, as a protest.

(Shri P. R. Thakur then left the House)

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I have been not only shocked by the alleged statement made by the Minister of Agriculture in Andhra Pradesh, but I have been equally shocked by the attitude of the Central Government; either they have taken the whole matter in a very lighthearted way or this Central Government is not sensitive

enough to realise the depth of the wound that has been inflicted on the sense of national dignity by the utterance of that Agriculture Minister. As I have already said, either this Government is not sensitive enough to release the sense of human values and national values involved in this question or this Government is trying wilfully to cover the sin of that Agriculture Minister by dillydallying with the issue involved.

AN HON. MEMBER : What is the question.

MR. SPEAKER : He is coming to the question.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : What should the Government have done? I quite agree that just a press statement should not be taken as the whole truth. I quite agree that if a thief has committed a sin, he has right to demand justice. But what should this Government have done? Immediately when they got the report, they should have sent not only a Parliamentary Committee but the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Prof. Nirmal Kumar Bose, himself a Gandhian, should have been associated with this matter. He should have been sent immediately to make a first-hand enquiry. Will the Government agree to constitute a committee consisting of Members of Parliament, including the Commissioner of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to go to Andhra, enquire about the whole matter from the Chief Minister, the Minister concerned and those journalists and papers which made editorial comments on this and then submit a report to this House?

You will not allow every day a calling attention notice on such instances. Today I have received an express letter from a Harijan journalist...

MR. SPEAKER : Don't raise it now. That would not be answered.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : I want it to go on record, Sir. I have received this letter from a Harijan journalist, Mr. N. K. Maruthi, saying he was debarred to enter the Town Club. He complained to the police saying his life was being threatened,

but no action was taken. Government should enquire into this also.

MR. SPEAKER : This has absolutely nothing to do with it. The Home Minister may answer the question whether a committee would be constituted.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : This is also one of the suggestions for consideration.

13.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after lunch at five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair]

RESTRAINT AND REMOVAL AND ARREST OF MEMBERS

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (बलरामपुर) : क्या यह समझा जाय की आंध्र का मामला समाप्त हो गया ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Calling Attention is over.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष महोदय ने सुझाव दिया था हम को एक ममेटी के बारे में कि उस के लिए कोई प्रस्ताव आये तो वह उसे...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am told that you have submitted some motion or other. The Speaker will consider it at the proper time.

श्री रवि राय (पुरी) : मैं ने भी एक मोशन दिया है ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That is all right. That will also be considered by the Speaker.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : उस दिन कच्छ में जो संसद के सदस्य गिरफ्तार हुए थे उन के बारे में डी० एस० पी० का तार अध्यक्ष महोदय